

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XXI. NO. 7.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, APRIL 2, 1896.

WHOLE NO. 487.

Grange to Congress.

Memorial of the National Grange.

Washington, D. C., March 17, 1896.

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

In compliance with the instructions of The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, we submit for your consideration, the resolutions and reports adopted at the last session of that body, which have reference to matters of vital importance to farmers.

EQUAL PROTECTION.

It is not our purpose to make an argument in favor of protection, but to demand equal protection for agriculture so long as it is the prevailing policy of the government.

Extract from report of committee on foreign relations. See proceedings of the twenty-ninth annual session (1895), pages 134-5.

"If the system of protection is to be continued in our country, we demand that the mother of all remunerative industries shall have protection equal to the most favored in this line. Equal rights to all, special privileges to none, should be the watch word of a free and independent people.

"The conclusion reached by your committee from the foregoing premises is that equal, just and reciprocating laws between nations, based upon a true love of country, our individual sovereignty, and the responsibilities and high privileges growing from the same would at least start on the road to contentment and national prosperity."

Extract from the general report of the committee of agriculture, twenty-ninth session, 1895. See page 143, proceedings.

"Enlarged and extended markets are needed to aid the American agriculturist to secure profit and to enable him to furnish exports to meet the increased importations in this country, and we respectfully urge upon congress to secure reciprocal trade relations to provide a market for the products of American farms."

The following report from the committee on agriculture was adopted:

"Your committee on agriculture, to whom was referred a portion of the executive committee's report, has carefully considered the same, and heartily concurs and recommends the sentiments expressed. AARON JONES, Chairman.

"The principle of governmental aid has long since been established by our government in assisting other industries, developing their highest possibilities. The same principle has also been adopted in the supervision of the education of our children, the construction of our public roads, and the general alleviation of the poor and unfortunate, so that it can no longer be claimed as objectionable paternalism, but a need for the development of the highest system of civilization and prosperity. It has been by this system of fostering American industries that ours has become the greatest and most prosperous government in the world, and our people enjoying the largest liberty and the broadest intelligence of any people in the history of mankind. Respectfully submitted, LEONARD RHONE, R. R. HUTCHINSON, J. J. WOODMAN, J. H. BRIGHAM.

We are also instructed to present to the congress what is known as the Lubin proposition "for an export bounty upon staple agriculture, and urge an early and thorough investigation of the subject."

GAMBLING IN FUTURES.

Extract from a report of the committee on agriculture, twenty-ninth session. See page 182.

The following from the committee on agriculture was adopted:

"Worthy Master: The committee on agriculture, to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions of Bro. A. B. Judson, Worthy Master of the Iowa State Grange, have considered the same and recommend their adoption. AARON JONES, Chairman.

"Whereas, Gambling in futures and cornering the products of the soil enable the boards of trade to manipulate the grain markets of the United States, thereby unsettling values and destroying the law of supply and demand, so that producers do not receive legitimate prices for what they produce; therefore,

"Resolved, That the legislative committee of the National Grange be instructed to demand of congress the enactment of such laws as will forever prohibit the gambling in the necessities of life."

TARE ON COTTON.

Extract from a report of the committee on agriculture, twenty-ninth session (1895.) See page 183.

The following, from the committee on agriculture, was adopted:

"Your committee on agriculture, to whom was referred the following resolution, present-

ed by Bro. S. L. Wilson, Worthy Master of Mississippi State Grange, has fully considered the same and recommends its adoption. AARON JONES, Chairman.

"Whereas, The customary tare on cotton bales for market is 06 per cent in foreign markets, while the actual tare is only about .04 per cent., a clear loss to cotton raisers of 10 pounds per bale, equivalent last year to about 90,000,000 pounds, or 180,000 bales, which at the present price would amount to a loss to the cotton planters of America of \$1,440,000; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the executive committee of the National Grange be instructed to correspond with cotton exchanges of foreign markets, if in their judgment it is possible to secure a reduction of tare on cotton bales.

"Resolved, 2d, That the co-operation of the American cotton exchanges and the government, through its commercial consuls, be solicited."

We respectfully ask congress to investigate this subject and aid in righting what seems to be a wrong to the cotton planters.

FREE RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

Extracts from a report of the committee on agriculture, twenty-ninth session (1895). See proceedings, page 182.

The following, from the committee on agriculture, was adopted:

"Your committee on agriculture, to whom was referred the following resolution, presented by Bro. A. P. Reardon, the Worthy Master of Kansas State Grange, earnestly and heartily concurs in the resolution, and recommends its adoption. AARON JONES, Chairman.

"Resolved, That the National Grange memorialize Congress to so amend the postal laws of our country that the rural districts may have the benefit of free delivery of daily mail. A. P. REARDON.

Also the following:

"Whereas, A portion of the inhabitants of this government living in cities are having free mail delivery at the expense of all the people of this government, and

"Whereas, It is proposed to further reduce domestic postage; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we are opposed to any further reduction of domestic postage until free delivery of mail is accorded to our rural population; and be it further

Resolved, That we demand the same free delivery of mail for rural districts that is now accorded to residents of cities.

NICARAGUA CANALS.

Extracts from proceedings, twenty-ninth session (1895), page 131.

Bro. H. O. Devries, chairman, presented the following from the committee on foreign relations, which was adopted:

"Whereas, At the twenty-eighth session of this National Grange, P. of H., we declared in favor of a ship waterway across an isthmus of the American continent, to be built by contract, owned and controlled by the United States government; and

"Whereas, We notice in the daily papers an offer by an English banking syndicate to loan the necessary funds to complete said ship waterway; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we are opposed to any and all entangling alliance with any foreign corporation or government for the control of a ship canal across the Isthmus of Nicaragua. Your committee recommends that the legislative committee of this body be hereby instructed to press the passage of such law or laws on the above subject as will protect our national domain against the inroad of foreign nations."

PURE FOOD.

Extract from proceedings twenty-ninth Session (see pages 148 and 149).

The following from the committee on good of the order was adopted:

"Your committee on good of the order, to whom was referred the enclosed resolutions of Bro. A. J. Wederburn, of Virginia, on the subject of 'Pure Food,' has had the same under consideration and it heartily concurs therein. Respectfully submitted, T. R. SMITH, Chairman.

"Resolved, That the National Grange, P. of H., in twenty-ninth annual session at Worcester, hereby reaffirms its position on the subject of pure food, and demands of congress the passage of the pure food and pure lard bills heretofore endorsed, in the interest of morality, humanity and honest trade.

"Resolved, That our national legislative committee be directed to bring this matter to the attention of the next congress, and do all in their power to secure favorable action."

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The following extract from the report of the executive committee to the twenty-ninth session (1895) fully expresses the views of the National Grange, and we earnestly urge these views upon congress:

"It is of the highest importance, not only to every Patron, but every farmer, that he encourage all legitimate methods of legislation that will enhance the development of our agricultural industry, therefore the National Grange should give this matter its serious consideration. With a view of encouraging such a de-

velopment we would urge the National Grange to inquire into the methods of the national department of agriculture and make it an agency for information as to crops, stock, methods of production and the best and most reliable markets of the world. To this end the National Grange should interest congress to so amend the laws governing the appointments as to require the heads and employees of the Department to be selected from the agricultural people, who, by occupation and interest, would be especially fitted to make the most competent and enterprising officers and employees of the Department, and justly entitled to the appointments, as this should be the Farmers' department, thus vindicating the rights and honors of our class, as guaranteed under our democratic form of government.

ELECTION OF UNITED STATES SENATORS.

"Whereas, The National Grange has in years past put itself on record as favoring the free delivery of mail in rural districts, the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, and the demand that, so long as protection to American industries is the policy of the government, the agriculturists will demand an equal measure of benefit therefrom; therefore,

"Resolved, That we reiterate and re-avow our fealty to these questions as expressed in the past, and instruct our legislative committee to use its best endeavors in their behalf before congress."

IN CONCLUSION.

We desire to say that the continued depression among agriculturists is growing in intensity. The farmer is confronted with prices for his products which are below the cost of production. The receipts from his farm have been reduced, in many instances one half, whilst his necessary expenditures, for labor, repairs, taxes, etc., have not been reduced, but have, in many instances, been increased; the result is loss instead of profit, and a great depreciation in the value of land. These conditions apply so generally to farming sections that it is plain to be seen that serious results will follow if speedy relief is not afforded.

The interests of agriculture are so interwoven with every other legitimate industry that they cannot be sacrificed without involving in a common ruin all other industries. We therefore, in the name of millions of farmers, call upon the congress now in session, to take prompt action to avert a threatened great calamity. The sheriff's hammer is already uplifted over many farmers' homes. No interest will be subserved by sacrificing these homes except that of those who draw fees from the misfortunes which overtake others.

We are aware of the fact that it is much easier to cite existing conditions than it is to point, with unerring certainty, to the causes which have brought them upon us, or to specify the remedy that will cure these ills. We disclaim, for the farmer, responsibility for existing conditions. He has not suddenly become indolent, wasteful nor extravagant. The voice of the farmer has scarcely been heard in the halls of legislation. If mistakes have been made they are not his mistakes. So far as legislation is concerned, the farmer is not responsible, except, for his neglect in not securing a larger and fairer representation of agriculture, from among those who are directly associated with this all important industry of our country. If prosperity comes again to this country, it must commence at the foundation, which is agriculture. Neglect of, unjust discrimination against, failure to properly protect agriculture have brought disaster to many countries, and our own country cannot escape the inevitable results, if we pursue the same reckless policy. We cannot, as representatives of a great Order, composed of members of all political parties, discuss partisan questions, but we can and do ask for such relief as can be afforded by the legislation sought by the National Grange.

We are of the opinion that the present condition of doubt and uncertainty, as to the future policy of the government upon economic questions, is very detrimental to the interests of our people, and we urge a speedy settlement of the same.

"Justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power," is our motto. In all treaties and dealings with foreign countries, the welfare of our own people should be the first consideration. We long to see the time when every manufacturing center shall be a hive of industry, giving employment, at good wages, to all who desire to

work—these workers to be clothed and fed by the honest, unadulterated products of American farms, and the surplus of farm and factory to be carried abroad in ships, manned by American seamen and floating the stars and stripes, there to be exchanged for such articles as are not produced in our own country, under such treaty regulations as will not operate to the disadvantage of the American producers.

Such legislation, supplemented by wise laws, regulating immigration and providing for a stable currency of gold, silver and paper sufficient to meet all the needs of trade, will, we believe, speedily restore confidence and bring prosperity to all industrious and provident people.

Respectfully submitted,
J. H. BRIGHAM,
LEONARD RHONE,
H. O. DEVRIES,
Legislative Committee.

Woman's Work Circulars.

There has been sent to the Secretary of each Subordinate Grange a circular letter from the woman's work committee of the state to the local committee of the Subordinate and county Granges.

The plan of work for the year is brief in statement but broad as to scope. We have tried to make it comprehensive, and with such varied features that each Grange may be able to find from it plenty of work to be done. All may not be able to follow the scheme but we are sure they may be able to select from it work that they can do and do successfully and well.

Sisters, please bear in mind that you have been selected by your Masters to perform a specific duty. Look over the work well, canvass it thoroughly, select from it all you think you can accomplish and then push the work.

Officers and Patrons, will you bear a word of exhortation sent you in all kindness? Any and all committees that have been appointed by your Masters for any special work need your help. A committee is so much stronger, so much more effective when they know they have the sympathy and support of not only the officers, but every member.

All may not be of the same mind as to the best way to accomplish a given object, but the Grange has taught us some beautiful lessons. One is that we may differ in opinions, but these differences may be so adjusted that each shall only consider what is best, and putting aside all personal feelings strive to help on the work to the best of our abilities.

We are proud of the fact that in the past these committees have had the support of the members, and we expect the same in the future.

Let this be a hearty striving together; helpful spirits; hopeful hearts; strong hand clasps; kind, sympathetic words, brave faces, and who can say fail?

MARY A. MAYO.

[We shall print the circular above referred to in the woman's page of our next issue. The first recommendation is for the observance of Arbor Day, which this year occurs on Friday, May 1. ED.]

"And the presents?" He waited for a reply with bated breath. "Harold," she replied, placing a tiny hand on each shoulder and gazing soulfully into his eyes, "there are only three duplicates." "Great Scott!" he gasped. "I was figuring on 20 at least to sell. How shall we get through the year?" Then they both realized as never before that marriage was a lottery. —Boston Herald.

The mere accumulation of knowledge, though very valuable, is not the principal end of education. The mental discipline, the quickening and developing of the intellectual perceptions and powers, and the ability to "think straight and see clear," are worth far more to a man or woman in the actual work of life than the mere accumulation of fact. To understand principles and know how to apply them is far better than to have the mind stored with facts, a large proportion of which, though of interest in themselves, will never be used.—Practical Farmer.

Field and Stock

Apple Orchards of Michigan.

J. W. STEARNS.

I.

We believe farmers are making a great mistake in not planting new orchards, as the most of the apple orchards of southern Michigan are past their usefulness and no sort of treatment would make them profitable. Therefore the sooner the farmer realizes this and plants a new orchard, the better. But, he says, the old one did not pay. Let us see if we can discover the reason why it did not pay.

THE TROUBLE.

In the first place, in many cases, the trees were planted and only given care enough to barely keep them alive, perhaps for the first few years were cultivated so they got a good wood growth and then seeded down and allowed to care for themselves. Now let us see what the demand of the tree is, in order to be able to produce fruit. According to actual tests made at Cornell University, on a tree of sufficient size to produce five bushels of apples, was removed in that amount of fruit, in round numbers, eleven pounds of nitrogen, nearly one pound of phosphoric acid, and sixteen pounds of potash. And the leaves of a tree large enough to produce the above amount of apples would contain ten pounds of nitrogen, about three pounds of phosphoric acid and twenty-six pounds of potash. On this basis it is found that in twenty years an acre of apple orchard would require \$87 worth of plant food more than for wheat for the same length of time. Now, no farmer on the best of land, would expect even a fair crop of wheat for even three years, without a liberal application of fertilizer. Yet, how rarely do we see the apple orchard treated to any sort of plant food? Does not this point to one of the great reasons for the non-production of the apple orchards?

While I do not believe it would pay to depend on trying to renew the old and debilitated orchards of southern and central Michigan, I would select the best part of it and so treat it, to try and make it produce a supply until I could grow a young orchard. I would do that by the following treatment.

THE REMEDY.

In the first place, give it what would be called a pretty severe pruning, cutting out any low branches that would prevent the team going under the tree with the plow, and thinning out and heading back other branches sufficient to give all the vitality possible to what is left of top of tree. Then as soon as ground was in condition would plow the orchard, but no deeper than was necessary to do a good job. You will cut some roots then, but have no fear, you will do much more good than harm. After plowing, give thorough surface cultivation up to first of August.

In the fall or winter, give the orchard a liberal dressing of fertilizers. If soil is clayey I would use some barnyard manure. But I believe most orchards are suffering for want of potash, and this is best supplied by a good application of unleached wood ashes. I am frequently asked if wood ashes are very good? Yes, I think them valuable, but would rather have one bushel of unleached ashes than ten of leached.

I am shipping this week two car loads of ashes from Kalamazoo to South Haven to be used there on my fruit farm. Many of these ashes were bought of farmers for less than 2 cents per bushel when I consider every bushel worth to them from 20 to 25 cents for most any crop they raise. Is it any wonder that the farmer cries hard times? I will in my next give some further reasons for the failure of apple orchards.

Kalamazoo.

Clover.

I. N. COWDREY.

On our farm we prefer to wait until about the last of March to sow the seed. We want a still cold morning when the ground is frozen so that it is well cracked open, so the seed will fall down into the cracks and then when it thaws it will be well covered up. On sandy or gravelly soil it might be the ground will bear going on with a team and after sowing run a smoothing harrow over to cover the seed, at the same time the dragging will do the wheat some good. After the wheat is cut and before the weeds begin to ripen, I like to run over it with a mowing machine. This gets rid of all stubbles in the next year's hay crop, kills all the weed seed and thickens the clover by causing it to branch out where cut off. The weeds, stubble and young clover that are cut off, fall down and form a mulch that will protect the young clover during the following winter.

I don't want to pasture the young clover under any circumstances. It needs all the encouragement you can give it, and pasturing often is the cause of an entire failure. If the fall is favorable to growth, it may

need a second clipping, for if too large it will make a hiding place for ground mice that will cut roads all through the clover, ruining a large portion of it. It is a good plan to notice where the weak spots are in the cloverfield, and any time after wheat harvest draw some manure and spread it evenly over such spots, and the clover will soon be up with the rest. Clover should be cut for hay when it is in full bloom, and not wait for the heads to begin to turn brown. Clover cut when in full bloom and properly cured is almost a perfect feed, and does not require nearly so much grain to feed with it, as it does when left standing too long. Clover can be put in the mow quite green, provided there is no moisture on it aside from what is naturally in the stalk. It should be free from dew and rain water, reasonably well cured out, drawn and put in a tight barn, and then all windows and places of ventilation closed for some time.

In this way it acts somewhat on the principle of the silo. I used to, when unloading hay, when I came to a forkful that I thought was a little too green, put it next to the wall or on a scaffold to keep it from spoiling. I now do right the reverse—put right in the middle of the mow and tramp it down well. Remember this won't do if you draw in too late at night, or too early in the morning. If this is done your hay will surely spoil. If properly done you will have hay that is good for all kinds of stock. After you raise it feed it out on the farm and don't sell it, for nothing will make a farmer become poor faster than to sell his clover hay. Every time you sell a ton of clover hay you dispose of over nine dollars worth of fertility. Clover hay usually sells from \$5 to \$7 per ton; so it is easy to see just how rich you are getting when selling it.

I forgot to say that I sow as nearly as I can, one bushel of clover seed to five acres of ground. I always sow the common June clover. I never mix any timothy seed with it, but sow it clear. I don't want any timothy on my farm.

Ithaca.

[The above should have been published in last issue, but was crowded out.]

Cost of State Government.

The vast increase in expenses of governing certain states is astonishing. Coupled with unjust taxation, this extravagance is pressing an increasingly heavy burden upon farms and homes. We are collecting official data that more than confirms our strictures. In Connecticut, state expenses have increased ten fold since 1860, while neither population nor taxed wealth has doubled. Massachusetts pays out seven times as much each year as it cost to run her government before the war, while her population has only doubled and her taxed wealth trebled. Maine's population has been almost stationary and her grand list has only doubled while her state expenditures have increased three-fold. Michigan is an enterprising commonwealth and in the face of development since the war, an apparently abnormal increase in state expenditures might be justifiable. But Michigan's state expenses are now only five times greater than in 1860, while taxed property is eight times larger and population has trebled. The administration of Maryland costs almost double what it did before the war, but her taxed property has increased even more and her population has gained two-thirds. This shows a fair degree of economy in Michigan and Maryland, and a minimum of tax dodging in those states compared to Massachusetts and Connecticut, where evasion of taxes by holders of personal property has become a fine art. We fear that Illinois, New York and New Jersey will make an even worse exhibit than southern New England, while our returns for the other states will be awaited with keen interest. In Wisconsin, taxed wealth and population have increased faster than state expenditures, but Iowa makes a far worse showing, as will be seen from our detailed statement next week. Certainly the time has come to call a halt! Cut down expenses. Reduce the number and pay of public officials 33 per cent. Incomes from farms, from investments, from labor, imperatively demand the most rigid economy.—Orange Judd Farmer.

A Commendable Work.

Among the many hundreds who were graduated from the high schools of Michigan last summer there was a young man who had an idea. This may not seem at first thought very remarkable. High school graduates usually do have ideas in large numbers. But the peculiarity of this idea was that it was practicable. The young man in question lived in a farming community to which he returned after finishing school, and found that there were others who, like himself, were not willing that all mental advancement should end with school days. It was no great trouble to join together into a club which should include old and young, and this is what was done. The homes of different members made excellent places for the meetings, which were held fortnightly. The club is

now well under way and promises a long as well as useful career.

It was our good fortune to be at one of the meetings not long ago and we feel that the work can not be too highly commended. The first subject on the program was "grammar," about which there was an essay by a pupil from the district school, brief to be sure, but it bore the stamp of originality and was suggestive of future promise. The discussion that followed showed that each had something worth saying, though a few were still frightened by the sound of their own voices. "Arithmetic" followed, then a lively "question box," closing with an old fashioned "spelling down."

The programs will of course be varied greatly during the year. The natural sciences, geography, history, literature, and current events afford an inexhaustible list of interesting subjects. Teachers and others interested in educational work may also be easily obtained to enliven the meetings by an occasional lecture or talk upon some attractive subject, and at no distant day the club can have a small library of its own.

The same community has its farmers' club and Grange, but this club reaches the whole family and supplies a want which the others cannot. We can hardly suppose there are not other clubs of the kind, though we have never heard of one just like this. There are clubs without number, but they are usually beyond the younger people, and are not such as interest old and young alike. Here parents and grandparents too can join with the boys and girls without loss of dignity, and find that the little heads sometimes give them ideas worth having.

There may be a few such clubs but there are not many. Michigan has room for a thousand of them. The country might have twenty times that many and would be the better for it. The communities in this state that have not material enough for such a club are rare. But practical people are needed to set them going. There is no place for those high school graduates who sit down and think about the great things they are going to do. F. D. W.

Direct and Indirect Taxation.

The farmers are manifesting more than usual interest in the subject of taxation, realizing as they do that in every state the average farmer is unfairly burdened. For wealthy corporations, and individuals owning stocks, bonds, notes and mortgages there seems to be avenues of escape from this burden, or at least part of it. For the farmer, whose all is invested in land, tools and stock, there is no escape. His property is on the list for taxation—there every year.

Organized persistent efforts, will enable us to close some of the avenues through which much property escapes its fair share of this burden. If we neglect to use the means within our reach and under our own control, organized capital will continue to dominate those who make and execute the law, and no relief will be extended to the farmers.

Taxes levied indirectly seem to be less objectionable to the people. One form of indirect taxation is by duties imposed upon the products imported from foreign countries. There is no general objection to this form of taxation, but radical differences exist as to the manner of imposing such taxes. It is earnestly advocated by some of our people, that these duties shall be imposed for the sole purpose of raising revenue; others with equal earnestness, urge that these duties be so imposed as to serve a two-fold purpose, viz: that of raising revenue, and also for the purpose of encouraging and protecting home industries.

We must remember that there are differences of opinion upon these questions; and honest discussions will tend to the enlightenment, but bitter partisan controversy will only darken the intellect. We are too apt to assume that the right is the side espoused by our party, and blindly follow wherever we are led. I hope that under the good influence of the Grange we shall try to find out what is right, rather than accept the dictum of party without question. I think that we can and should, agree that when any policy is adopted, it shall apply to all classes and interests.

If labor must be protected in manufacturing interests then equal protection should be extended to those who work upon the farms and in the mines. If the manufacturer of cloth and leather is protected, so also should the men be who produce wool and hides. If the farmer must meet free competition, so, too, should the manufacturer. If a policy is thus equally applied to all industries, we shall soon be able to decide what is best for the great body of our people. Theories may answer for the theorist, but practical results will alone satisfy the masses.—J. H. Brigham.

Interest the boys in improved stock. Give them a pedigree colt, calf or pig and they will show you how to make live stock pay. It will keep them on the farm too.—Western Agriculturist.

Report of Steward.

Worthy Master and Members of Michigan State Grange:

Again the calendar of years has added one to its number and we meet to renew our acquaintance and render an account of our stewardship.

The history of the past year has taught us who reside in the northern counties, at least, to put our trust in God; to nurture hope in darkest hours; that we must dispense charity to the needy, and act with strict fidelity to all.

Though we have had an untoward season, yet our barns are reasonably well filled. Our potato bins are crowded and our pocket books are empty, yet we make no complaints of Hicks or of the administration, but strive to learn lessons from the past that will guide us to better results in the future.

The four Granges in Kalkaska county are not as strong in membership as formerly but were never in better working order. We recruit our members mostly from the young, and find that from them we obtain the most lasting benefits. The indiscriminate opening of the gates to all who can be induced to enter, has not worked well with us in the past. The principles of buying together and selling together have, I am sorry to say, been mostly lost sight of.

The educational features of the Grange are felt almost everywhere. At our farmers' institute held last month, it was observed that all Patrons appointed work responded to the call, and that most of the volunteer speakers were Patrons.

Our school meetings and caucuses feel the influence of the Grange. A business man remarked not long since, "We know the neighborhoods where the Granges are located by the conduct and appearance of the young people on our streets."

One great lesson learned from our farms and crops the past season has been to emphasize that "what we do we should strive to do well." GEO. L. CARLISLE.

Farm, Stock, and Home has repeatedly shown that when prices are low, when agriculture is depressed, when it is most difficult to make money on the farm, is when agricultural education is most needed. At such times farm schools, dairy schools, farmers' institutes, and good, practical farm papers should be most patronized. The farm paper that is worthy of the name is constantly laying before the farmers thoughts, suggestions, and directions that he needs most when the pressure upon him is severest. If properly utilized, there is contained in every number of the *Farm, Stock, and Home* several items each one of which is worth more than the cost of a whole year's subscription. "I can't afford to take a farm paper" is an expression most out of place when the difficulty of making both ends meet on the farm is greatest.—*Farm, Stock, and Home*.

Notwithstanding the fact that machinery has been introduced that does away with much of the hard labor that was performed on the farm by hand a few years since, laborers seem to grow scarcer year by year, and at times it is very difficult for the farmer to command all the help needed to push forward his work in busy seasons; and it is skilled farm laborers that are needed. The man who doesn't possess enough intelligence to hitch up to and operate most any sort of farm machinery isn't wanted any longer on most farms. In looking for a good hand, the farmer now counts skill worth as much as muscle. He knows, from sad experience, that in unskilled hands a machine will, in all probability, suffer injury and damage far beyond the amount of wages paid, and he strives to steer clear of this sort of unprofitable labor.—*Agricultural Epitomist*.

The Wool Business.

One of the encouraging features in the Chicago wool market is the removal of Messrs. Silberman Bros. from their present location at 208-14 Michigan St., to 122-8 Michigan St., at the corner of La-Salle avenue. This building contains some of the best wool lofts in the city. Three good sized commission houses vacate it and Messrs. Silberman Bros. take possession and will occupy the entire space heretofore used by the three—the 7 story building. Their large business requires them to seek larger quarters. They are anticipating plenty of consignments during the coming season.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, }
LUCAS COUNTY } ss

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

W. A. GLEASON,

Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by druggists. 75c.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Woman's Work.

To the Woman's Work Committees for 1896—
Greeting.

We presume by this time every delegate attendant at our last State Grange has fulfilled the obligations of their office, namely, visited each Subordinate Grange, made their report of the proceeding of the State Grange, and given all necessary instructions. One very important instruction to the new Masters was the necessity of appointing a woman's work committee in every Subordinate Grange in the state. This came up in form of a resolution and was passed unanimously by the State Grange. Masters, have you done this? If not, will you please do it at your next meeting, electing a good working force? Secretaries, will you not forward to me by postal card the names of this committee? This is very necessary, that we may know our workers so we may reach them with our plans and suggestions. We have received the names of fourteen standing committees on woman's work but we are anxious for the other "four hundred."

What lines of work shall be taken up this year? Sister Hinds, from her home in Montcalm county, will have as her special work, teaching patriotism in our common schools, along with her other school work. Her report on patriotic teaching should be read at least once a quarter in every Grange in the state. It will stir to life the patriotism of '61 and teach the children of today what this country has cost us, what the flag stands for, and that it must still stand. Sister Royce, we think, will co-operate with us in the fresh air work and also plan for special days and appropriate exercises for such.

Chairmen of the new committees, will you not call your committee together at the next meeting of your Grange and see if you have not some special work on hand that will be conducive to the best interests of the Order? Does your Grange home need any extra supplies this spring, or will you plan to economize in turning the carpet, rearranging the pictures and furniture, and making it look almost as well as new? Can you not now plan (none too early) to get out the brothers and plant a few trees, rose bushes, and a '96 tree, having some suitable exercises? Is your table linen, knives and forks, spoons and dishes, with the tables ready "on call" or do they need looking after? Have you as yet planned what you can do and how it shall be done to decrease that debt on your hall this year? Have you as a committee visited your school; if not, will you not do so the first day you can spare? Visit the outside as well as the inside and see if everything is pure and clean.

Can you aid in the circulation of the GRANGE VISITOR? Yours truly,
MARY. A. MAYO.

Battle Creek.

Some Recipes.

From the American Kitchen Magazine.

MRS. L. T. J.'S BAKED BEANS.

One quart pea beans soaked over night in cold water. In the morning put them into fresh water and simmer thirty minutes, then put them into fresh hot water and cook until they burst slightly on removing a few of them in a spoon and blowing on them. Then turn them into a colander and drain thoroughly. Place them in the bean pot, which must be a small-top earthen pot, known everywhere as the Boston bean pot. A shallow tin pan will not answer, although used in some places outside of New England. Wash one-quarter of a pound of salt pork, part fat and part lean, scrape the rind till white, and cut it one inch deep in half-inch strips. Bury the pork in the beans leaving only the rind in sight. Mix one teaspoonful each of salt and molasses, one-quarter cup each of butter and sugar, add one cup of hot water, mix until the sugar is dissolved, then pour it over the beans. Add enough more water to cover them, and keep adding hot water as needed until the last hour. Bake from eight to twelve hours in a slow oven, the longer the better, so long as the beans are kept moist.

I must add this word of caution as so many cooks are careless about it. Every drop of water in which beans are soaked or parboiled should be turned on to the ground as far from the house as possible, as there is nothing that will give a sink so vile a smell as bean water. But you ask, What are the people who live in suites or who have no ground, to do? Put a lump of washing soda over the pipe and let the water run until the pipes are thoroughly flushed.

WHOLE-WHEAT BREAD.

This makes one loaf. Dissolve half a yeast cake in quarter of a cup of warm water, add one cup warm milk, half a teaspoonful salt, one teaspoonful sugar and white flour sufficient to make a batter that breaks when you pour it. Let this rise an hour or until light, keeping the bowl in a pan of warm water, hot enough to bear the

hand. Then stir in fine, granulated wheat (Health Food Company's) until the dough will keep up round when you stop mixing. Mix it with a knife until smooth, then rise again until double its bulk. Cut it down, turn on to the board and shape into a loaf with as little kneading as possible. Let it rise in the pan until double, then bake in a hot oven about forty minutes.

WHOLE-WHEAT BREAD NO. 2.

The same as the first rule, only use all fine whole wheat flour (Franklin Mills), and mix at once into a dough stiff enough to knead. Knead, rise, shape, rise again and bake as above.

Organization and Leadership.

Is the Object of the Farmers' Club Exclusively for the Benefit of its Members, or has it a Broader Field in the Elevation of Agriculture as a Business? If so, how can this be Accomplished?

Paper by Mrs. A. A. Wood, before the Saline Farmers' Club.

For some time past the press of the state has been very free in its criticisms upon the state superintendent of instruction in regard to certain questions, which he has sent out for use at the examinations of teachers, and many of the teachers being unable to understand the questions, and quite ignorant as to how to answer them, have declared that the questions were sent out simply as "puzzlers" and have condemned the superintendent accordingly. I find myself in much the same predicament as do these teachers, as I do not quite understand the question given me, and am certainly unable to discuss it in an intelligent manner. Just why the ex-board should have given one of the weaker members of the club such a profound question to consider I am unable to say, but possibly they had the idea that in wrestling with the subject I should make such gigantic blunders and advance such fallacious arguments that I would be able to excite the argumentative powers of the brethren and stimulate them to action, and so accomplish the object of a paper. As I am unable to comprehend the question just as it has been given me, I warn you at the outset that I shall not attempt to confine myself to the legitimate discussion of the subject, but shall follow the prevailing custom of the club and wander into regions far remote from the territory assigned me. If it can be proven that a farmers' club is a benefit to its members, it seems to me that the second part of this question is at once answered, for anything which tends to improve the individuals of a class must have a beneficial influence upon the masses. How wide this influence may be depends upon the number of the clubs scattered through the country. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. If a farmers' club succeeds in accomplishing the object for which it was organized, it must improve and elevate its members, and the elevation of agriculture as a business must follow as a natural sequence. When one considers the benefits which have accrued to the members of this club since its organization, it seems a waste of time to discuss for a moment the question of the advantages of farmers banding themselves together in societies of this kind. Yet, there seems to be some doubt in the minds of many people as to what the object of such a club should be. There are those in this community, indeed I sometimes think in the club itself, who believe that the purpose of these meetings is mainly for social enjoyment. While I would not disparage or frown upon the social element in these gatherings, it should not be allowed to interfere in any way with the intellectual improvement of our members, and any farmers' club which makes the pleasure of sociability the main object of its meetings, will soon show signs of decay and die a premature death, for any society organized for the sole purpose of social enjoyment will have a brief existence and die an easy death, and its members will gladly sing its requiem. In order to perpetuate the life of any organization there must be a higher, better and nobler object than the gratification of the desires of our social nature. That the S. F. club has succeeded in carrying out the design of its founders is evidenced by the fact that after an active life of nine years it is still strong and vigorous and in as good working condition as at any time during its existence. Indeed it is doubtful if there has ever been a time when so large a per cent of its members have been so keenly alive to the advantages of such an organization, and so full of interest and enthusiasm in regard to its meetings as at the present time. Numbers do not always add strength intellectually, and if a man does not feel that he derives enough benefit from these meetings to compensate him for the time and trouble taken in attending them he is certainly no loss to the club when he retires from it. To be sure we might possibly gain new life and strength by the addition of a few new members of the right kind, but while there are many farmers in this immediate vicinity who would be a great help to the club and to whom these meetings would be of untold benefit, these men are strangely loth to avail themselves of the advantages to be derived therefrom. It is certainly inex-

plorable why farmers are so universally indifferent to the benefits to be derived from banding themselves together for their own protection and advancement. Any reasonable person conversant with the facts in the case, will admit that a farmers' club refines, elevates and educates to a certain extent any agricultural community which possess it. Yet the number of farmers belonging to such clubs or to a farmers' organization of any kind, when compared to the number of agriculturists throughout the country is surprisingly small. It is only our most enterprising and progressive farmers who fully appreciate the advantages of these societies. By reason of his situation the farmer is, in a measure, isolated from the rest of the world, and ought eagerly to seize upon any opportunity for improvement which presents itself, and the man who is an active, working member of a farmers' club elevates himself and his business, for these meetings month after month and year after year have a refining and cultivating influence upon him. They improve his intellect, enlarge his ideas, increase his self-respect, stimulate his pride, broaden his views and make him a better farmer, a better neighbor and a better citizen, in fact the benefits to be derived from these organizations can scarcely be over-estimated or exaggerated. Yet it is a deplorable fact that there are seemingly intelligent farmers who cannot be induced to join a society of this kind and the reasons they give for refusing to do so are so trivial compared to the good to be gained that one is astonished. One man refuses to join because he is not in favor of holding the meetings at the homes of the members. As well might a foreigner refuse to become a citizen of the United States because the capital city is not located in the geographical center of the country. Another man will not join because the trouble of entertaining the club is too much for himself and family. Probably he could entertain a pedro party twice as often without feeling that it was any great tax upon himself or his good wife. But it is so the world over, men must always be urged to do those things which are for their own best good. Of all people, it is most difficult for farmers to combine or co-operate and consolidate their power. In any other kind of business men combine to protect their own interests and fight other combinations. Even ignorant laborers in the cities show more shrewdness in this respect than do farmers. They join their labor unions and follow implicitly the directions of their leaders, and whether right or wrong they gain their own ends simply by working together. Farmers do not seem to realize that in union there is strength. They will denounce and condemn the so called trusts and combines as thieves and robbers, when if they themselves would unite as the members of these trusts have done, they would be vastly more powerful than they have ever been. What a power the agriculturists of this country would be if they would but consolidate their strength and work in unison. That they can do much that a few years ago was thought impossible has been shown by what has been accomplished by the Grange, an organization which stands out a bright and shining light, a notable exception to farmers' organizations in general. If the farmers' clubs and farmers' organizations throughout the country could be multiplied by the score it would do more than anything else to elevate agriculture as a business, but our own club is a fair illustration of the clubs everywhere. With a dozen members we have representatives from four towns when there should be at least one club in every township. Farmers seem to have such a strong aversion to being led that it is very hard work for them to combine. They seem to pride themselves upon having no leaders. It is difficult to understand why this is so. The average farmer does not appear to be a man who is unduly wise in his own conceits. Yet farmers are strangely distrustful of each other but not of other people. They are not in the least afraid of political bosses provided they are not farmers, and they never are. Every great thing in this world is done through organization and leadership, and the more perfect the organization the greater the results. This point is magnificently illustrated in the workings of the Roman Catholic church with its pontiff sitting on the banks of the Tiber, ruling millions of subservient subjects by a single word. So thorough is the organization and so perfect the system that the whole Catholic world works in perfect harmony, Farmers seem to feel that they are the most down-trodden of all people; they whine about the taxes and the hard times, and complain of the lack of legislation in their favor, but what do they do to help themselves? They stay at home and talk about the lobbying, and wire pulling, and scheming that is going on at Lansing and Washington for the benefit of all kinds of people save these hard working tillers of the soil. But do they spend one dollar or one day's time or make one single effort to help themselves? A meeting of sheep breeders and wool growers of the United States is in session this week at Washington for the purpose of taking measures to

secure wool tariff provisions great pleasure to the bill that may be passed. Michigan is one of our great wool-producing states; its sheep interests are worth hundreds of thousands to its farmers; the passage of a law placing a tariff upon wool would bring prosperity to thousands of our farmers, indeed there is no question before the country at the present time of such vital interest to our agricultural population as the subject of a tariff on wool. Yet how many representatives think you will be present at that meeting from Michigan? Will this state with its vast wool growing interests at stake send one delegate to Washington? Will the city be crowded with the sheep breeders and wool growers who have come to do what they can to advance their own interests? Will they make their power felt by their vast numbers? I trow not. No, farmers are not doing what they might for themselves nor their business. They plod too much, they make no effort to improve themselves nor their surroundings. But if they would have the world respect their calling they must themselves honor it by elevating and informing themselves, and I know of no better way than to be an active member of a live farmers' club, and hand in hand with their fellow farmers show all men that farming is an honest, honorable business followed by men who are "men amongst men."

The Juveniles.

Busy Days.

Busy days at school these,
With lessons to be done,
And every hour filled with work
Till falls the set of sun;
Yet John and Frank and Dorothy
Find lots and lots of fun.

There's the hurry in the morning
For nine o'clock don't wait,
There's the good-by kiss to mother,
And the skipping from the gate;
There's the pell mell rush along the road,
For fear of being late.

And when the week is over,
And dawns the Saturday,
When the scholars and the teachers
Have a perfect right to play,
What happiness for all of us,
In a sweet old-fashioned way.

—Margaret E. Sangster, in Christian Intelligencer.

Can Dogs Talk?

When engaged in locating a railway in New Brunswick, James Camden, a civil engineer, was compelled one night by a very severe snowstorm, to take refuge in a small farmhouse. The farmer owned two dogs, one an old Newfoundland and the other a collie. In due time the farmer and his family went to bed, the Newfoundland stretched himself out by the chimney corner, and Mr. Camden and the man with him had rolled themselves in their blankets on the floor in front of the fire.

The door of the house was closed by a wooden latch and fastened by a bar placed across it. Mr. Camden and his man were just falling asleep when they heard the latch of the door raised. They did not get up immediately, and in a short time the latch of the door was tried again. They waited a few minutes, and then Mr. Camden rose, unfastened the door and looked out. Seeing nothing, he returned to his blankets, but did not replace the bar across the door.

Two or three minutes later the latch was tried the third time. This time the door opened and the collie walked in. He pushed the door back, walked straight to the old Newfoundland and appeared to make some kind of a whispered communication to him. Mr. Camden lay still and watched. The old dog rose and followed the other out of the house. Both presently returned, driving before them a valuable ram belonging to the farmer, which had become separated from the rest of the flock and was in danger of perishing in the storm. Now, how did the collie impart to the other dog a knowledge of the situation unless through some supersense unknown to us?—School Days.

"I cawn't see," said Cholly, "what the doose the lettab 'ah' has to do with oysters"—Chicago Tribune.

"Your mamma's got awfully little hands, hasn't she, Jimmie?" "How do you know?" "She shook hands with me yesterday." "Well, you never had 'em spank you!"—Chicago Record.

A bad speculation: "A short time ago a publisher brought out a book entitled 'Advice to plain women.' Only one copy has yet been got rid of, and that was taken by the office boy to his mother for curl papers.—Ex.

What a beautiful new gown Jane has on. Did she bring it from abroad?" "No; it's her last season's dress. The dressmaker turned it inside out, and now she says she's brought it from the other side."—Boston Aeacon.

GRANGE VISITOR

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OUR WORK.

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

OUR OBJECT

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

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

- (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.
- (b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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.

The Grange Exponent is the title of a new Grange paper in Colorado. It is published monthly by the Colorado State Grange.

We acknowledge the receipt of the report of the proceedings of the Dominion Grange, which held its twenty-first annual session in London, Ontario, February 26-28, 1896.

Inequality of Taxation.

At our last county Grange inequality of taxation was taken up and the discussion based on the investigations of the Lecturer of Adams Grange. He had examined the tax receipts on six different farms, running back from five to twenty years. As a fair sample I give that of two comparisons. The first is that of a farm of forty acres on which there were no buildings nor had there been any improvement made on it other than keeping it in repair for the last twenty years.

TAXES.

Valuation.	State.	County.	Town.	School.	Total.	
1876	\$120	\$1.39	\$1.22	.45	\$1.35	\$4.34
1895	1200	4.43	2.84	1.51	1.70	10.48

The second is that of a farm of 276 acres whose improvements have remained practically the same for the last ten years:

TAXES.

Valuation.	State.	County.	Town.	School.	Total.	
1886	\$9,600	14.09	14.09	7.10	23.50	\$9,778
1895	9,600	32.48	20.63	11.09	16.22	80.62

It was found that for the last twenty years taxes had been gradually, though not always uniformly increasing. By comparing these two examples it will be found the increase on the same valuation was greater from '76 to '86 than from '86 to '95. It was also found that the school tax had remained about the same for the last twenty years unless a new schoolhouse or something of that kind caused an increase. This might not be so, however, in corporations. The further taxation was removed from the immediate surveillance of the people the more extravagant and reckless it seems to have become. For instance, in the school district every expenditure is itemized and comes under the supervision of every taxpayer, and this tax remains practically stationary. But this surveillance is not practical in the township and still less so in the county and state. So it was found that the conditions of taxation were worse in the township and still worse in the county and worse yet in the state, and when it gets to our general governmental government, the Lord pity us. It was found also that personal property other than notes and mortgages was pretty well wiped off the tax roll on account of the shrinkage in value of farm products. There is probably more than half of the farms on which there appears no personal property. In one instance it is found dropping from over \$1300 to \$120, though this was partly charged to favoritism. It was also found that notwithstanding the enormous shrinkage in the value of real estate the assessed valuation has remained nearly the same for the last twenty years. The aggregate valu-

ation of the six farms under consideration was \$16,600, yet the records show a cutting down of only \$250, while the condition of improvements has remained about the same. In some cases land is assessed for nearly double what it would bring at a forced sale. Here we find a great injustice in throwing the burden of taxation on real estate thus assessed, while personal property found principally within corporations is always under-assessed and much of it never found.

To show the farmer's ability to meet this increased taxation here given the relative value of farm products according to New York market reports for October in the years of 1876 and 1895.

	1875	1895	1876	1895
Wheat	\$1.10-\$1.30	95	Cows	\$40-\$75
Corn	80	35	Hogs	7 1/2c-8 1/2
Rye	87	40	Sheep	5c
Barley	98		Lambs	9 1/2c
Beans	\$2.25	\$1.70	Wool	35c-40c
Butter	40	17	Chickens	15c
Hay (best)	\$19.00	\$18.00	Horses not given	8c
Beaves	7 1/2-11c per lb.	4 1/2		

While we find our taxes doubled we find farm produce depreciated one-half, taking as much to pay our taxes as twenty years ago. Further investigations will undoubtedly reveal equally surprising condition of things, making it plain that "farming doesn't pay" W. KIRBY.

Hillsdale.

Michigan Good Roads League.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

The name of this organization shall be "THE MICHIGAN LEAGUE FOR GOOD ROADS."

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS.

The objects of the organization shall be to awaken general interest in the improvement of public roads; investigate the best methods of building and maintaining them; aid in securing such legislation as may be deemed necessary to that end, and to cause to be published and circulated such matter as may best promote these objects.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

Any citizen of Michigan may become a member of this League by signing its Constitution or giving its authority to the Secretary to sign it for him. There shall be no initiation fee, nor any membership dues. Each member shall keep the Secretary advised of his postoffice address.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS.

The officers of the League shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall serve for one year or until their successors shall be elected and qualify.

There shall also be appointed by the President, as soon as may be, a Vice President for each county in the State where a County League does not exist and when a County League shall be organized, in any County, the President thereof shall be Vice President of the State League.

ARTICLE V.

BRANCHES.

There may be organized in each county within this State County Leagues, to promote the same objects and to co-operate with the State League. There may be organized in each township a Township League to promote the same objects. Such Township Leagues may act in co-operation with the County League or direct with the State League, as they may deem best. The objects of the County Leagues and the Township Leagues shall be in substantial accord with the objects of the State League.

ARTICLE VI.

FUNDS.

As this League is formed for public purposes it will rely entirely upon voluntary contributions from members or others interested in the object, for such funds as may be necessary to pay for its publications and other necessary expenses.

ARTICLE VII.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the general executive officers and twelve other members, one from each Congressional District, to be elected by the members of the League. The majority of the executive officers and five other members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE VIII.

GOVERNMENT.

The Executive Committee shall have control of the affairs of the League when the general Board is not in session, but shall incur no debts, and there shall be no personal liability on the part of any of the officers or members of the League for League debts.

ARTICLE IX.

Meetings may be held at such points in the State as may be named by the Executive Committee from time to time.

ARTICLE X.

AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the League. At all meetings of the League twenty members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and a vote of a majority of those present shall govern.

By-Laws and other Rules may be adopted from time as found convenient.

Good Roads.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR: It is indeed gratifying to witness the growing interest manifest among all classes of our people in the permanent improvement of our country roads, and especially among farmers, who are benefited to a greater extent than any others. It is also gratifying and encouraging to notice the progress that has been made in such improvements within the past few years, and without any material change in our present township and district system. When the highway tax was "worked out" without any regard to beautifying the highways or making them permanent, but simply to make them passable for the time being, but little interest was taken in the work, and much of the labor often wasted or never applied. But not so now, where the system of grading and graveling for beauty, usefulness and permanency has been adopted. On the contrary the taxpayers in the country not only work out their taxes faithfully and cheerfully, but often vie with each other to excel in the public spirit which the new system has inspired in the neighborhood. When a farmer sees a good, straight, well graded permanent gravel road is being constructed by his premises, or over which he drives, if he is human and knowing it to be a good thing, will not only favor its construction but aid liberally with his means, muscle and teams to make it. A very large amount of good, durable gravel road has been built in this state with the highway tax aided by local enterprise in the way of subscriptions and joint voluntary work. Townships have also aided by a limited tax which has been applied where most needed. A very serious mistake has been made in many instances and considerable money and labor wasted in neglecting to properly grade and fit the roadbed for the gravel. In all cases, where practicable to do so, the center of the road should be established, and the grade made not less than twenty feet wide, rising gradually from the gutters to the center, which should be two feet above the gutters, and made smooth, well packed, or rolled down and flattened a little in the center for the gravel. The gutters should be cleaned out eight feet wide in grading, for extra wagon tracks to be used when needed. Not less than three good two-horse wagon loads of gravel should be put on to the road. Such a road will last many years, and be kept in good condition permanently with but little repair. The grade may seem too high to those who have not had experience with gravel roads, but it is not. To insure durability the roadbed must be high enough and oval enough to turn the water from the wagon tracks; and roadbeds settle continuously and gravel will spread. Hence the road scraper must be used occasionally to draw the gravel back to the center of the road. I have been requested to give my views of the "County road law and system," and have written the above as a preface to an article upon that subject which I will endeavor to prepare for the next issue of the VISITOR.

Paw Paw.

J. J. WOODMAN.

Two Good Books.

We have had on our table for some weeks two good books for farmers. The first one is called "The Soil," and is the work of Prof. F. H. King, who is professor of agricultural physics in the University of Wisconsin. It is the first book of a series called the "Rural Science Series." This series is to include books on all important phases of agriculture and horticulture by specialists, the general plan of editing being under the direction of Prof. L. H. Bailey. This first book is one of about three hundred pages, dealing with the fundamental thing in agriculture, namely, the soil. It is a popular treatise designed for the reading of the every-day farmer, but at the same time is thoroughly scientific in its arrangement and treatment. It is written in a clear, concise manner. A little idea of the scope of the book may be gained from the headings of a few chapters: Sunshine and its work; The atmosphere and its work; Water and its work; Living forms and their work; The nature of soil; Texture and composition of soil; Nitrogen of the soil; Capillarity; Conservation of soil moisture; Farm drainage; Physical effects of tillage and fertilizers. These are only a portion of the chapters. It will

thus be seen that the man who thoroughly reads this book will have an adequate knowledge of the processes of cultivation and the reasons for them. The price of the book is only 75 cents; it is published by McMillan & Co., New York. We believe this book should be in the hands of every progressive farmer, especially as the subject is one of intense interest. No topics presented at the institutes this last winter elicited more attention than "Tillage for Drouthy Seasons" and "Water in the Soil." This book covers all the ground presented at the institutes and much more, all in permanent form.

The other book should have been reviewed some time ago but has just come to us. It is called an "Agricultural Calendar," and while it contains a calendar, room for a diary for the year 1896, these are small features of the book. It is edited by Prof. F. W. Woll of the Wisconsin experiment station. In addition to the calendar and tables of wages, postage, etc., it contains chapters on the following subjects among other things: Feeding stuffs; farm animals; crops; manures and fertilizers; dairying; drainage, windmills and roads; agricultural statistics; directory of agricultural organizations. This book contains an immense amount of information in small compass, and so much of the material is of permanent value that a farmer can well afford to buy the calendar to keep. It is published by John Wiley & Sons, New York. As the name indicates, it is a reference book for farmers, and we cordially recommend it for the use of the same. We have seen it in the hands of some intelligent farmers, and they consult it frequently, finding it useful and valuable. The price is one dollar.

Commendatory.

Mr. EDITOR: I received my VISITOR last night, and when I read the article entitled "Wives had a share" by S. S. Bailey in Grand Rapids Democrat, I cried aloud, hallelujah! that one man had the moral courage and true-heartedness to raise his voice by his pen in behalf of "Woman's right and property." May every woman of the farm take up the refrain for the same. May his clarion note reach the heart of every man that they may justly vote that laws shall be made to give woman her rights in property.

HELEN A. BARNARD.

Grange News.

Manistee District Grange met with Col. on Grange, March 17, 1876. We had a very interesting meeting. A paper was read of which some of the articles were discussed, also several questions of interest to the farmer. The one which brought forth the most enthusiasm was one against the county road system. The Grange took action on the subject and had it posted.

IONIA POMONA.

Our February meeting was held with Ronold Grange. The weather was unfavorable, but the sturdy farmer and wife braved the cool breeze and numbered over sixty, and was greeted by Ronald brothers and sisters to a warm and bountiful dinner. The subjects of taxation and local option was discussed. As there was initiation of six in fifth degree the meeting was closed to meet with Woodard Lake Grange March 15th. In the evening there were eleven that took the fifth degree and six were reinstated, making seventeen in all, which is very encouraging for Ionia Pomona. The Ronald brothers and sisters had the honor of arranging the court very nicely and all acted their parts well. After dinner there was a short program by Woodard Lake Grange, consisting of music by the band, recitations, etc., which was thoroughly enjoyed, and by the way, Woodard Lake can boast of a full band that can furnish good music on a short notice. After the program the subject of "taxation" was discussed by Pomona Grange, all taking an interest in the subject, and there was a general expression that the meeting was a profitable one. The interest in the Grange is manifested by the fact that there are fourteen petitions for membership to be acted upon at the next meeting. Woodard Lake Grange is booming. The Secretary is R. L. Pierson.

ANTRIM POMONA.—A NEW ONE.

The Patrons of Antrim county held a very successful Grange institute at Alden, March 20-21, at which time a Pomona Grange was organized by E. B. Ward. The officers elected are as follows: Master, Dempster H. Stebbins; Overseer, Z. T. Swan; Lecturer, Geo. W. Leshar; Steward, Theodore Guyer; Assistant Steward, Wm. Church; Chaplain, Mary M. Childs; Treasurer, Geo. Suddes; Secretary, Leonard Armstrong; Gate Keeper, Frederick L. Church, Pomona, Mrs. Etta McCracken; Mrs. Sarah Blissett; Ceres, Mrs. Lucinda Guyer; L. A. Steward, Mrs. Lucy Stebbins.

Executive committee: F. H. Leshar,

Geo. Boundy, Thomas Guyer. Finance committee: John McCracken, Thomas Guyer, Mrs. M. A. Suddes. Committee on charity: Mrs. G. Boundy, Mary M. Childs, Mrs. L. G. Swan.

There are only twenty-four charter members, yet we think this number will be increased many times at our next meeting, which will be held at Mancelona in June, for the farmers of this county. Four new Granges have been organized this winter, thus making seven in all. Yes, Antrim is coming out of the woods, and she bids fair to become one of our leading agricultural counties. How much we are in need of the Grange to train the hand that swings the ax, to guide the plow! And as we have it, every farmer's heart rejoices.

GEO. W. LESHER, Lecturer.

FRATERNITY GRANGE, NO. 52, MARCH 29.

The best time and method of handling barnyard manure was discussed by Bros. Kelley and Hewens. Decision: In a droughty season it is an injury to corn, while with the normal rainfall, spring application is desirable. Top dressing of meadows was advocated, thus giving rich

sod to turn under for cultivated crops.

The Redfern Liquor Commission Bill was taken up a second time for discussion. Objections: There is nothing in the bill to forbid one or all of the commission being liquor men; the liquor power would dictate who should be placed on the commission; the liquor interests would buy the commissioners; big expense to prove what we already know; would stay off temperance work for six years; do not need such a bill—what we need is present action; bill is leaky, commissioners are not paid. A man cannot do thorough work without compensation; bill contemplates a great amount of work to prove that 2x2=4; impracticable, for when they ask a saloon man what are his profits, etc., he can reply "none of your business;" a boomerang that may turn and hit the temperance cause through false findings; Mr. Redfern's explanation of bill was offensive; the enormous proportions and expense of the New York state liquor commission and the impotence of the various state pure food commissions were urged as danger signals.

In favor of the bill it was urged that it would give us facts that could not be called in question; that six years was not long for

all the work contemplated; that present temperance laws were still in force and that temperance work need not wait; that it would be possible to find three honest men in the state; if not, there is nothing to hinder the selection of women. A vote showed the sentiment of the Grange unfavorable to the bill, only one voting in its favor.

EMMA A. CAMPBELL.

GOOD INSTITUTES.

We write to express our gratitude toward the institute people. Perhaps it's well enough to rise and explain. On January 15 we went to Fennville and attended the two day session. From start to finish it was very interesting. The good people of Fennville served a sumptuous dinner and supper both days in an adjoining hall. We heard so much about peaches while we were there that we could almost taste peaches and cream after we got home. We learned much from the very interesting papers of Messrs. Kellogg, Morrill, Redfern and others. In fact they were all interesting to the progressive minded man.

The round up at Grand Rapids capped the climax. Of course it is not necessary for me to mention to the readers of the VISITOR anything about the round up. There were met many of the faces for the first time of some of our Patrons, and we usually knew when they were talking. They could say what they wanted to without waiting to think. The program throughout was exceed-

ingly interesting. It gave us great pleasure to meet our old friend, C. G. Luce, who is known in every Patron's home in Michigan. Then there was uncle Thomas Mars. Although we had never met him before we knew him at sight. In fact we got some acquainted with nearly all the "big" Grange men and women. And when it came right down to entertaining an audience our good sister, Mrs. Mary Sherwood Hinds, of Stanton, rather "took the cake," at least it affected me in that way. Of course I was not fortunate enough to be in the woman's section and did not get an opportunity to listen to our esteemed Sister Mayo. However we had the pleasure of several short chats with her. We all felt well paid for our trip. We bespeak large audiences next winter at these institutes. We believe they are productive of great and lasting benefit to the farmers that go with the view of learning. Again we say many thanks to the M. A. C. and the faculty. We have learned much and want to learn more.

T. G. A.

Little Clarence—"Pa?" Mr. Callipers—"That will do, my son! I haven't time to listen to any more of your foolish questions." Little Clarence—"But this one isn't foolish, Pa; I only wanted to ask you why watermelons don't grow with handles on 'em."—Puck.

Your subscription is due.

A TOTAL ECLIPSE Of all Former Sales made by H. R. EAGLE & CO., 68 and 70 Wabash Av.

In scouring the world for trade increasing values, our buyer happened upon an assortment of the world famed "Regent True Fit Shirt Waists," which were offered him for a lower price than new, clean, fresh goods were ever offered before. Close investigation revealed no defects in the goods, and the manufacturer offered as his only excuse, "it is a big lot and I picked a few special numbers from each department and present you herewith an assortment of high grade goods at prices which we defy the world to meet.

The Regent is the Most Perfect Fitting Waist made. All these Waists have Laundered Collars and Cuffs.



No. 2008. All garments made to sell retail at 75 cts. we have put in this lot. Made of special grade of Arnold print in neat stripes and small dotted effects, with wide center plait in front, with 3 narrow plaits on each side of center plait, attached turn down collar with 4 1/2 in. and 3 1/2 in. cuffs, as you prefer, and full set of 9 gilt or silver studs. We offer choice selection at almost half price, 35 cts.



No. 2009. Made of fine quality Percale, in a variety of patterns, white ground with blue, pink and black stripes and dots blue ground with white dots, lavender and white, and pink and white, with plaited and puffed bosoms, attached turn down collar and 4 1/2 in. cuffs, full set of 9 gilt or silver studs. These were made to sell for \$1.00. Eclipse price 58 cts.



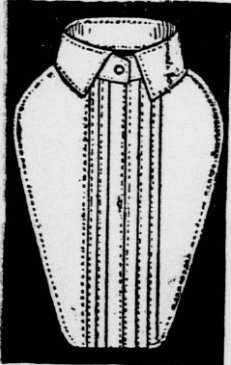
No. 2010. This lot comprises an assortment of all the latest creations in English cambric. White and blue stripes and dots, white and pink stripes and dots, most fitted effects in blue, lavender and other colors turn down attached collar, 4 1/2 in. and 3 1/2 in. cuffs, full set of 9 nickel studs. These are the \$1.25 goods. You get them at 73 cts.



No. 2011. Here you have all the waists made to retail at \$1.50 and \$1.75, made of fine madras plain pink and blue, with collar cuffs and both sides of front plait taped with white linen 1 1/2 in. wide. Broken effects on solid grounds of white, with turn down collar and turn back flaring cuffs, also pink and blue stripes on white grounds with turn down collar and straight 4 1/2 in. cuffs, as shown in cut They eclipse all competitors at 98 cts.

There are shirt waists and shirt waists. Any little store can sell you a shirt waist for 75 cents. But what is it? Generally made of the poorest kind of calico without any fit to it. The collar will bulge and hurt the neck. The shoulders are either too tight or too loose, and the first time you wash it it will fade. The Regent True Fit Waists are recognized to be the highest grade of this class of goods manufactured. Nothing is used but absolutely fast colored materials. They are made after the very latest models and the fit is perfect. A waist of this kind brings out the outline of a perfect figure and makes an awkward one look graceful.

LADIES LAUNDERED CHEMISETTES AND COLLARS.



No. 937.

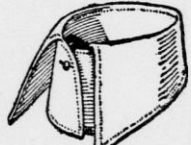
No. 937.—Chemisette. Rolled collar and full front, white ground, with stripes of pink and blue, back inside bib, with waist strings. 35 cent grade for 14 cents.

No. 662.—Chemisette. Turn-down collar and short front, white ground, with neat stripes of black. The 2 cent grade for 10 cents.

No. 689.—Turn-down collar, with back bib, stripes of white and lavender. 25 cent ones for 10 cents.

No. 677.—"The Imperial" roll collar, open at throat and short front, grounds of blue and pink, with white stripes. Also plain pink and blue. Made in one size, which will fit any neck. Regular price, 20 cents. Sale price, 9 cents.

No. 114.—Dickeys with cuffs to match and separable collars, slightly soiled but not damaged in any way, only they will require to be laundered before used. Blue grounds, with colored figures and stripes, plain blue-gray and a few white grounds, with small pink



No. 189.

Sale price, 5 cents.

No. 521.—Sailor collars, plain white, three cornered, also square, with heavy 1 1/2 inch lace edge, and white with colored figures. 7 cents.

No. 88.—Standing collar, with bib, plain pink and white, also black and white stripe 5 cents.

No. 189.—Turn back, flaring cuffs, pink, white and lavender, and white and blue stripes. 25 cent grade for 7 cents.

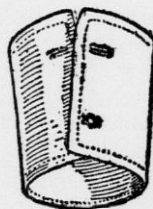
No. 118.—15 cent cuffs, plain white, reversible, also black and white stripes for 6 cents.

and white stripes and figures. Regular price, 45 cents. You get them for 9 cents.

No. 74.—Faunterly collars and cuffs to match. Made of fine Madras, with fluted edge 1 inch deep, navy blue, pink and light blue. Only a few left. 50 cent value for 19 cents.

No. 627.—Ladies' standing collars, with back and side bib and square corners. 15 cent quality for 5 cents.

No. 211.—White standing collar, short front, with three genuine pearl buttons. Regular price, 15 cents.



No. 118.

Sale price, 6 cents.

IS THERE A MAN IN YOUR FAMILY? If so, here are a few things that will interest him.

No. 3907.—Best silk finished, cotton half hose, solid black, with fancy silk embroidery in novelty design, 40 gauge, high spliced heel, with double sole and toe, elastic ribbed tops from Chemnitz, the home of fine hosiery, dyed by Louis Hermsdorf, the world renowned hosiery dyer. Every pair guaranteed absolutely fast. Sizes, 9 1/2 and 10 only. Sold the country over for 50 cents. Our eclipse price, 19 cents.

No. 5777.—\$4.00 cassimere pants, small grey stripe. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches. \$1.89.

No. 1277.—\$4.00 fancy worsted pants, black, with small, dark brown stripe. Sizes, 32 to 42 inches. \$1.89.

No. 712.—\$1.25 laundered white shirts, slightly soiled, extra well made, reinforced back and front, with continuous stays. Sizes, 14 1/2 to 17. 69 cents.

No. 650.—\$1.00 laundered shirts, slightly soiled, same sizes and style as No. 712. Price, 47 cents.

No. 260.—Teck scarfs, made very long, in plain black grosgrain silk, plain black satin, and the newest Persian effects. The grade that always sells at 50 cents. For, 25 cents.

LADIES' HOSIERY AND GLOVE BARGAINS.



No. 7166.—The finest cotton hose made. Seamless, beautiful soft finish, high spliced heels, double sole and toe. Made in Germany, Hermsdorf stainless dye. Guaranteed not to crack or fade. Sizes, 8 to 10. 65 cent quality for 23 cents.

No. 1825.—Full fashioned Saxony cashmere hose, high spliced heel, double sole and toe, elastic tops, Hermsdorf stainless dye. Sizes, 8 to 10. Regular price, \$1.00. Sale price, 45 cents.

No. 942.—Ladies' brown cotton hose, full fashioned, finished seams, elastic tops, guaranteed fast color. Sizes, 8 1/2 to 10. The 25 cent grade for 14 cents.

No. 1676.—Ladies' black cotton ribbed hose, Burlington fast dyed. Sizes, 8 1/2 to 10. Eclipse price, 10 cts.



No. 463.

No. 463 A.—Ladies' silk taffeta gauntlet gloves, very fine gauge, perfectly made, drab and tan only. Sizes, 7 1/2, 8 and 8 1/2. The 50 cent kind for 23 cents.

No. 463.—Black Berlin gloves, 11 inches long, special quality, fast black, three rows of stitching on back, double stitched inserted thumb full regular shape. 20 cent quality for 10 cents.

No. 465.—Black lisle thread mitts, 10 inches long, made in Saxony. Guaranteed stainless, three rows of silk stitching on back. Sizes, 7 to 8. 40 cent quality for 20 cents.

No. 370.—Royal black Berlin mitts, made of fine quality Egyptian cotton yarn, with silk finish and three rows stitching on back. Sizes, 7 to 9 1/2. The 25 cent quality for 12c.

No. 375.—Ladies' black lace mitts, 9 inches long, new Spanish effect. Sale price, 10 cents.

No. 790.—Pure silk mitts, extra fine gauge, embroidered backs, 11 inches long. Regular 50 cent value for 29 cents.

No. 9728.—Patent Suede gloves, made of fine Saxony cotton yarn, finished so that they resemble undressed kid. Very closely woven and will wear like iron. Colors gray and tan. Sizes, 8 and 8 1/2 only. Regular price, 35 cents. Eclipse price, 15 cents.

No. 9738.—Bargain extraordinary. French kid gloves, five hook, fine glace finish, real French kid, colors, slate, drab and grey. Sizes, 7, 7 1/2, and 7 3/4. Regular price \$1.25. Eclipse price 67 cts.



No. 9738.

The postage rate is one cent per ounce. The postage on a Shirt Waist is 10 cents, so if you order a Shirt Waist alone be sure to add that much for postage to your remittance.

H. R. EAGLE & CO.,

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Send us fifty cents and we will forward to you at once, a beautiful, genuine Japanese fan. This fan retails in the large stores at 50 cents each. It is of fine parchment and highly decorated. We have often obtained a special price upon this fan, and fully warrant it as being the best we have ever offered. To every purchaser of this fan we offer

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the American Home Journal for one year. This is a monthly paper and contains bright, fresh, and entertaining news. The regular subscription price for this paper is 50 cents for one year. We do not care so much about your money or about selling the fan, as we do to introduce to you the beautiful, illustrated American Home Journal. R. D. LEE Pub. Co., Lynn, Mass.

DOES QUALITY COUNT?

If you are particular about what kind of NURSERY STOCK you set—if you are anxious to get started right—if you want to feel easy knowing that what you buy will prove to be HEALTHY and TRUE TO NAME, write us to-day, or call on the SECRETARY of YOUR GRANGE and learn about us.

We have a large line of choice

Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherry, small fruit plants, and shrubs.

Our low prices may surprise you.

WEST MICHIGAN NURSERIES,

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R. MORRILL, President. O. E. FIFEELD, Sec'y and Treas. P. S.—See Confidential Trade Circular, p. 40.

FOR PARTICULARS regarding the prices of the famous fruit lands, general farms, and city property, write to E. H. ALLEN, Real Estate Agency, Frederick Block, Traverse City, Mich.

YOU CAN



MAKE MONEY

By buying your STRAWBERRY RASPBERRY and BLACKBERRY plants direct from grower, Warfield, Crescent, Michell's Early, and Lovett's Early, at \$2 per M. Others according. Catalogue free. R. J. STAHELIN, Bridgman, Mich. In writing please mention VISITOR.

WOVEN WIRE FENCE

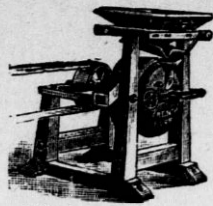
Over 50 Styles Best on earth. Horse-high, Bull-strong, Pig and Chicken tight. You can make 40 to 60 rods a day for \$12 to 20c. a Rod. Illustrated Catalogue Free. KITSLEMAN BROS., Ridgeville, Indiana.

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FRENCH BUHR MILLS

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Mills for Farmers and those doing a Custom Meal and Feed Grinding Business.



BECAUSE they grind more with same power, don't wear out or break down. Grind fine table meal and all kinds of grain, including ear corn for feed. A boy can keep them in order.

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Revised List of Grange Supplies

Table listing various supplies and their prices, including Michigan State Grange items like Porcelain ballot marbles, Secretary's ledger, Treasurer's orders, etc.

The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry.

Office of the Master. Delta, Ohio, March 14, 1896.

A PROCLAMATION. Whereas, I have been officially notified that the following amendments to the Constitution have been adopted by the Constitutional majority of State Granges, to wit:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

Amend Article IX, Section 2, of the Constitution, by striking out the words, "Nine men and four women, having received the four Subordinate Degrees, may receive a Dispensation to organize a Subordinate Grange," and inserting the words, "Thirteen (13) persons, having received the four Subordinate Degrees, of which there shall not be less than four (4) of either sex, may receive a Dispensation to organize a Subordinate Grange."

Amend Article IX, Section 4, by striking out the words, "Nine men and four women," and inserting the words, "Thirteen (13) of which there must be, at least, four (4) of either sex."

I therefore promulgate the same, and declare the said amendments to be component parts of the Constitution of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the seal of the National Grange to be affixed, this 14th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-six. J. H. BRIGHAM, Master of the National Grange, P. of H.; JOHN TRIMBLE, Secretary.

A Practical Suggestion for the Cure of our Financial Ills.

The crying need of this country, as Mr. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu so ably pointed out in his remarkable paper in the December Forum, is a stable unit. Once this need is provided for, the next important step is the centralization of our banking system so as to increase our bank-balance money, make it elastic according to the requirements of commerce, and thus act as a financial regulator and safety-valve to modify or prevent the frequent and violent fluctuations to which we are now subject. This centralization, I think, can best be brought about by careful development of our clearing-house system, in such a manner that the now disconnected banks of this country shall mutually unite for certain purposes and eventually form a National Clearing-House Bank, which would act for this country somewhat in the same manner as the great central banks of England, France, and Germany. The issuance of clearing-house certificates in New York, Chicago, Boston, and Philadelphia, by moderating the recent panic, prevented a general financial collapse; and it has certainly demonstrated the benefit of joint action. Why not, therefore, legalize what is acknowledged to be a necessity for the public good and extend the system until every bank in the country is a member of such a clearing-house combination, and by such union give the individual bank the strength—which it now lacks—safely to supply the money needed by trade for legitimate purposes? This would produce "more money" more and safer than any of the other "more money" prescriptions. It would be the ideal "elastic currency." It would even to a large extent operate as a natural anti-trust law, for it would give comparatively greater facilities to the merchant and manufacturer for legitimate requirements than to speculative individuals and corporations. It would materially help in solving all other financial questions, and would deprive the "gold shipment" bugaboo of many of its terrors. Ours is the richest country in the world. We should be and can be the most powerful nation financially and every other way; but, to accomplish this, we must dispel all doubt as to our financial unit, we must centralize our banking system, and we must manage our finances on scientific principles.—Mr. Adolph Ladenburg, in the January Forum.

How the Earth Loses Time.

The explanation of Lord Kelvin's estimate that the "set-back" of the earth in its daily rotation round its axis amounts to 22 seconds per century, is reported to be that such retardation is owing to the friction caused by the tides, the latter acting as a brake, and such action is calculated, according to the same authority, to be equal in weight to some 400,000 tons applied on the equator. Other causes, he says, have also to be taken into account, as, for example, the increase in the size of the earth, due to the falling on it of meteoric dust, which, if deposited at the rate of one foot in 4,000 years, would produce the observed retardation by itself. Further, such a phenomenon as the annual growth and melting of snow and ice at the poles, by abstracting water from the other parts of the ocean, introduces irregularities into the problem, the abstraction accelerating the earth's motion, the melting, by restoring the water, retarding it.—Popular Science News.

A Hundred and Twenty Miles an Hour.

It is generally conceded that 60 miles an hour is the practical limit of speed on steam railways, as at present constructed. It is rather startling, therefore, to be told that a company has been formed and that capital has been obtained for the purpose of erecting a railway which will bear trains at double this speed. A hundred and twenty miles an hour is a speed that, if maintained, would carry one around the world in a trifle over eight days. It is faster than the

hurricane, the carrier-pigeon, or anything else that moves upon this mundane sphere. Yet the National Rapid Transit Company is asking the United States Senate for privileges looking to the establishment of a line between New York and Washington, and specifying in the proposed bill that the schedule-time shall not be less than one hundred miles an hour, which necessitates a speed of a hundred and twenty miles per hour to cover loss from stops. Further, the General Electric Company of New York is willing to guarantee motors, generators, and other electric mechanism for such a road, warranting them to maintain a speed of one hundred and fifty (note the fifty) miles an hour when delivering a hundred horse-power motor with two motors per car.—Charles H. Cochrane, in November Lippincott's.

A Land Without Animals.

Japan is a land without the domestic animals. It is this lack which strikes the stranger so forcibly in looking upon Japanese landscapes. There are no cows—the Japanese neither drinks milk nor eats meat. There are but few horses, and these are imported mainly for the use of foreigners. The freight cars in the city streets are pulled and pushed by coolies, and the pleasure carriages are drawn by men. There are but few dogs, and these are neither used as watch dogs, beasts of burden nor in hunting, except by foreigners. There are no sheep in Japan, and wool is not used in clothing, silk and cotton being the staples. There are no pigs—pork is an unknown article of diet, and lard is not used in cooking. There are no goats, or mules, or donkeys. Wild animals there are, however, and in particular, bears of enormous size. One of these Mr. Finck saw stuffed, in a museum, he describes as "big as an ox." Beside another stuffed museum bear, is preserved, in alcohol, the mangled body of a child the bear had eaten just before being killed. War, of course, is acquainting the Japanese with the use of animals. The army has cavalry horses, and others to drag the field guns. The emperor, also, in obvious imitation of European royalties, is an expert horseman, and saddle horses are kept for her use.—Popular Science News.

Taking the whole country over we believe we are safe in saying that not more than one-fourth of the farmers are producing small fruits in sufficient quantity to supply the demand of their families. It seems strange indeed that a luxury so precious and so easily and so cheaply produced on the farm should not be looked after and generally more abundantly and generally than it is.—The Epitomist.

Magazine Notes.

The Atlantic Monthly for April contains the opening chapters of "The Old Things," a four part story, by Henry James, one of his delicate and yet dramatic delineations of character. Dr. T. C. Mendenhall, formerly at the head of the U. S. Geodetic and Coast Survey, contributes an able article upon the Alaska boundary line. Dr. Mendenhall was one of the government commissioners concerned in determining this line. Lafcadio Hearn, at the request of the editor of the Atlantic, seeks to set forth the great consequence of the Chinese-Japanese war and its bearing upon western civilization. His article, China and the Western World, will be read with wide spread interest. The second paper in the series of Race Characteristics in American Life is by Professor Shaler of Harvard University, on The Scotch Element in the American People. The Presidency and Senator Allison is the third paper in the series upon Presidential Candidates.

The April number of The Forum will have for its leader a noteworthy paper by Senator Sherman entitled "Deficiency of Revenue the Cause of Our Financial Ills." The Senator contends that the President and Secretary Carlisle mistake the cause of our present financial condition in attributing it to the demand for gold for United States notes, and he thinks that the facts which he submits in his paper will convince everyone that the true financial policy is to supply the Government with ample means to meet its current expenditures and to pay off each year a portion of the public debt. He criticises the Wilson bill severely; declares that it has produced a deficiency every hour since its enactment, and attributes our financial ills—especially the continued exports of gold—solely to its workings. He says that he prefers a law that will impartially protect and encourage all home industries, and he considers the Mc-

Kinley law infinitely better than the Wilson law. The disposition of silver certificates he believes to be a serious problem, and thinks that so long as they are maintained at a par with gold there can be no injustice in paying out silver dollars for them. But he regards the free coinage of silver as the most dangerous policy. In conclusion, he thinks that our present financial system—when cured of a few defects—founded upon the bimetallic coinage of gold and silver maintained at par with each other; with free national banks established in every important city in the United States, issuing their notes secured by the United States bonds or some equivalent security, and redeemable on demand in United States notes; and the issue of an amount of United States notes and Treasury notes equal to the amount now outstanding, always redeemable in coin and supported by an ample reserve of coin in the Treasury, not to be invaded by deficiencies of revenue and separated by the sub-treasury system from all connection with the receipts and expenditures of the government—such a system would, in Senator Sherman's opinion make our money the best in the world.

HARNESS!

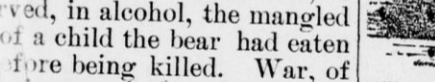
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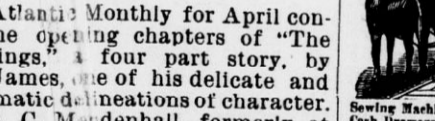
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Ask secretary of your Grange for our illustrated Catalogue. Aug. 15 '96

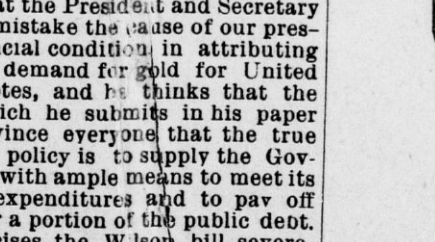
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Kathleen Hesselgrave, a pretty young English artist, and Arnold Willoughby, a Bohemian amateur, meet casually at the Royal Academy gallery in London. They hold mutual views upon art and upon the stupidity of the judges who have selected their pictures. Rufus Mortimer, a rich American idler, joins them. He is a friend of the Hesselgraves and is surprised to find Kathleen in the company of Willoughby, whom she knows as a common sailor dabbler in art. CHAPTER II—Kathleen lives with her mother in fashionable lodgings. The aristocracy visit there, and one day at a reception the company discuss the mystery of young Earl Axminster, who has fled the country disguised as a sailor. Canon Valentine, the lion of the party, thinks the aristocracy of England is well rid of him. His habits are too good. III—Willoughby is the earl. He is stranded by the failure of the picture. He refuses help from Mortimer and goes to sea to earn money to complete the study of art. IV—Mortimer pursues Kathleen on love's quest. She likes him and with difficulty holds him off. V—Mortimer, Willoughby and the Hesselgraves meet in Venice. Mrs. Hesselgrave is alarmed at Kathleen's enthusiasm over the sailor painter and his works. VI and VII—The young artists roam through romantic old palaces together. Willoughby is a guest at Kathleen's home. The violent half reveals her love for him, and both confess to themselves that they are in love. VIII and IX—Mortimer proposes and discovers Kathleen's passion for Willoughby. X—Canon Valentine appears in Venice with the news that the missing earl has been traced and has perished in the shipwreck. He recognizes Willoughby on sight, but promptly denies his purpose. Kathleen admits to her mother that she is certain of the identity of Willoughby with the missing earl, but will preserve the secret for her lover's sake. XII—Mrs. Hesselgrave finds the secret too good to keep, tells Willoughby that Kathleen knows it, and he leaves her house in anger. XIII—Willoughby abandons Venice suddenly without giving Kathleen a chance to explain. XIV—Parliament declares the missing earl officially dead and settles the inheritance on a distant relative. Willoughby resolves not to contest it, as he prefers to be taken by the world at his "Market Value." XV—Canon Valentine and Mrs. Hesselgrave die, thus leaving Willoughby's secret unguessed except by Kathleen. The remaining chapters show how Willoughby keeps his purpose. He is shipwrecked and makes a hit in literature, through which Mortimer traces him. Mortimer has promised to find him for Kathleen and prove to her that she has loved him before she knew his real character and has loved him through all. He scores a second literary success and marries Kathleen, but renounces all claims to his earldom.

CHAPTER XVII. THE HEART OF THE DECOY DUCK.

It was about these same days that the brand new Lord Axminster, strolling down the Row one afternoon, arm in arm with his impetuous friend Captain Bouchier, nodded a little familiarly to a very pretty girl on a neat chestnut mare, accompanied by a groom of the starchiest respectability. Lord Axminster's salute was too easy going indeed to be described as a bow. It resembled rather the half playful bob with which one touches one's hat to some man acquaintance. But the pretty girl considered a recognition, no matter how scanty, from a man in Lord Axminster's position too important a matter to be casually thrown away, and reining in her mount

she drew war to the rails and exclaimed in a saucy yet sleepy voice, "Well, how goes it this morning?"

"Oh, all right," Lord Axminster answered in a nonchalant tone. "Are you going to the Graham Pringles' hop this evening?"

"I don't think so," the pretty girl responded, with a careless smile. "Too hot, you know, for dancing," which was a graceful way for covering the unacknowledged truth that she had not in point of fact received an invitation.

Lord Axminster asked a few more of the usual useless society questions and then stifled a yawn. The pretty girl stroked her mare's glossy neck, and with an easy nod went on her way again rejoicing in the consciousness that she had attracted the attention of the loungers by the rails as the acquaintance of a genuine nobleman. As soon as she had gone Captain Bouchier turned to his friend.

"I say, Axminster," he observed, with a tinge of querulousness in his voice, "you might have introduced me. I call it beastly mean of a man to keep all his good things to himself like that. Who is the young woman? She's confoundedly good looking."

"Yes, she is a nice little thing," Axminster admitted, half grudgingly. "Nothing in her, of course, and a kind of sleepy Venus, but distinctly nice looking, if you care for them that way. A trifle vulgar, though, and more than a trifle silly. But she's good enough for a trip up the river, don't you know. The sort of girl one can endure from eighteen to eight and twenty."

"Who is she?" Captain Bouchier asked, looking after her with obvious interest.

"Who is she? Ah, there you come to the point. Well, that's just it, who is she? Why, Spider Clarke's daughter. You've heard of her—the Decoy Duck."

Captain Bouchier pursed his lips. The news of her interest in him. "So that's the Decoy Duck!" he repeated slowly, with a broadening smile. "So that's Spider Clarke's Decoy Duck! Well, I don't wonder she serves her purpose. She's as personable a girl as I've seen for a twelve-month."

"She is pretty," Lord Axminster admitted in the same grudging fashion.

"Any brothers?" Captain Bouchier asked, as though the question were one of not the slightest importance.

Lord Axminster smiled. "Ah, there you go straight to the point," he answered, "like a good man of business. That's just it, no brothers. She's the only child of her father, and he's a money lender. I admire you, Bouchier, for the frank and straightforward way you put your finger on the core of whatever subject you deal with. No beating about the bush or unnecessary sentimentality about you, dear boy. She has no brothers. She represents the entire reversionary interest at 14 per cent in old Spider Clarke's money."

Captain Bouchier assumed at once an apologetic air. "Well, you see," he said candidly, "if one's looking out for one's such a great point to find the tin combined with a young woman who isn't wholly and entirely distasteful to one. I don't go for sentiment, as you justly observe; but hang it all, I don't want to go and fling myself away upon the very first young woman that ever turns up with a few thousand pounds to her name irrespective of the question whether she's one-eyed or humpbacked, a woolly haired nigger or a candidate for a lunatic asylum. Now, this girl's good looking, she's straight and well made, and I suppose she has the f. So if one's going to give up one's freedom for a woman at all I should say the Decoy Duck was well worth inquiring about."

"Very possibly," Lord Axminster replied as one who dismisses an uninteresting subject.

"Well, has she the dibs? That's the question," Captain Bouchier continued, returning to the charge undismayed, as becomes a cavalry officer.

"Spider Clarke is rich, I suppose," Lord Axminster answered, with a little irritability. "He ought to be, I know. He's had enough out of me anyhow. I'm one of his flies. He did all those bills for me before anybody believed my cousin Reggie was really dead, and as it was very speculative business of course he did them at a heavy discount. He feathered his nest from me. His kites must have swallowed up five years at least of the Mansbury rent roll, I should think, before he was 'through with it,' as that American girl says. I know he's left me pretty well cleaned out. And Florrie will have it all, I suppose. The girl's name is Florrie."

"Do you think Lady Axminster would ask me to meet her?" Captain Bouchier inquired tentatively.

The new peer raised his eyebrows. "I'm sure I don't know," he replied, with a doubtful air, like one who could hardly answer for Lady Axminster's conduct. "They're not exactly the sort of people my wife cares to ask—not even before we'd got things set straight with them financially. Her acquaintance with Miss Florrie and Florrie's mamma was always of the most formal and perfunctory descrip-

tion. Besides, if you want to know the girl, there's no need to approach her as if she were a duchess. It's easy enough for anybody with a stiver to his name to pick up Florrie Clarke's acquaintance."

"Oh, yes, of course. I can see that for myself," Captain Bouchier went on, with the same cynical candor. "It's plain enough to any one she's the sort of young lady who's directly approachable from all quarters. But that's not what I want, don't you see. I want to be introduced to her fair and square, in the society way, and to judge for myself whether or not she'll do for me. If she does do, then I shall have to put things from the first upon a proper basis, so that her father and mother will understand at once in what spirit I approach her. Hang it all, you know, Axminster, when a man thinks it on the cards he may possibly marry a girl, why respect for the lady who may in the end become his wife makes him desire to conduct all his relations with her from the beginning decently and in order."

Lord Axminster's lips curled. "I appreciate the delicacy of your feelings, my dear boy," he answered, with a faint touch of irony, "and if Ethel doesn't mind you shall meet the girl at dinner."

It was a proud evening indeed for Mrs. Clarke and Florrie when first they dined at Lady Axminster's. To be sure, their hostess put up her tortoise shell eyeglasses more than once during the course of the dinner and surveyed the money lender's wife through them with a good long stony British stare, for all the world as if she were a specimen of some rare new genus just introduced from central Africa into the zoological gardens of English society. But Mrs. Clarke, who was too stout to notice these little things, lived on through the stares in the complacent satisfaction of the diamonds that glittered on her own expansive neck, while as for Florrie, with her short black hair even more frizzed and fluffy than ever, she was too deeply taken up with that charming Captain Bouchier to notice what was happening between her mamma and their hostess. Captain



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Bouchier, she felt, was quite the right sort of man—a perfect gentleman. He was older than Reggie Hesselgrave, of course, but very nearly as good looking, and then he was well connected and held such delightfully cynical views of life—in fact disbelieved in everybody and everything, which all the world knows is so extremely high toned. Miss Florrie was delighted with him. He wasn't rich, to be sure—that papa and mamma had heard—but he was the son of an honorable and the first cousin of a peer, not to mention remote chances of succeeding through his mother to a baronetcy in abeyance. Florrie felt at once this was a very different case from poor dear Reggie Hesselgrave's, and when at the end of the evening Captain Bouchier gave her hand the most delicately chivalrous pressure imaginable and trusted Mrs. Clarke would allow him to call some day soon at Rutland Gate Miss Florrie realized on the spot this was genuine business and responded with a maiden blush of the purest water. That dainty little baby face was always equal to such an emergency, for Miss Florrie had the manners of the most shrinking ingenuity, with the mind and soul which might reasonably be expected of Spider Clarke's daughter.

And yet not wholly so, as things turned out in the end, for after Captain Bouchier had called once or twice at Rutland Gate and had duly poured into Miss Florrie's ears his tale of artless love and been officially accepted by Miss Florrie's papa and mamma as the prospective inheritor of Miss Florrie's thousands a strange thing came to pass in the inmost recesses of Miss Florrie's heart—a thing that Miss Florrie herself could never possibly have counted upon—for when she came to tell Reggie Hesselgrave that she had received a most eligible offer from a captain in a cavalry regiment and had accepted it with the advice and consent of her parents poor Reggie's face grew so pale and downcast that Florrie fairly pitied him. And then with a flash of surprise the solemn discovery burst in upon her—in spite of papa and mamma and the principles they had instilled she and Reggie Hesselgrave were actually in love with one another!

It was true, quite true, so far as those two young people were capable of loving, they were actually in love with one another. The human heart, that very incalculable factor in the problem of life, had taken its revenge at last on Miss Florrie. She had been brought up to believe the heart was a thing to be lightly stifled in the interests of the highest bidder, social or mercantile, and now that she had accepted a most eligible bid, all things considered, she woke up all at once to sudden consciousness of the fact that her heart, too, had a word to say in this matter. What she had mistaken for the merest passing flirtation with Reggie Hesselgrave was in reality a vast deal more deep and serious than what she had been taught to regard as the grave business of life with Captain Bouchier. She had feelings a little profounder and more genuine than she suspected. The soul within her was not quite so dead as her careful upbringing had led her to believe it.

In point of fact, when real tears rose spontaneously at the announcement in Reggie Hesselgrave's eyes real tears rose to meet them in Miss Florrie's in turn. They were both astonished to find how much each thought of the other.

Not that Florrie had the faintest intention—just as yet—of throwing overboard her eligible cavalry officer. That would be the purest quixotism. But she recognized at the same time that the cavalry officer was business, society, convention, while Reggie Hesselgrave was now romance—a perilous delight she had never till that moment dreamed of. As romance she accepted him, therefore, and much romance she got out of him—risky romance of a sort that stirred in poor Florrie's sleepy, sluggish heart a strange throbbing and beating never before suspected. She was engaged to Captain Bouchier, of course, and she meant to marry him. One doesn't throw oneself at once in the very thick of good society. But week after week and month after month, while she met Captain Bouchier from time to time at dance or race course, she still went on writing in private most passionately despairing letters to Reggie Hesselgrave, whom she could never marry. As she put it herself, she was dead stuck on Reggie.

Week after week and month after month she made stolen opportunities for meeting him, unawares as it seemed, by Hyde Park corner or saying a few hurried words to him as she passed in Piccadilly. These interviews between them grew bolder and bolder. Florrie penciled a few hasty lines: "Will be at the academy with mamma tomorrow at 10. Meet me if you can in the architectural drawings—it's always empty. I'll leave mamma in one of the other rooms. She doesn't care to go round and look at all the pictures." And these fleeting moments grew dearer and ever dearer to Florrie Clarke's mind. They came as a revelation to her of a new force in her bosom. Till she got engaged to Captain Bouchier she had never herself suspected what profound capacity for a simple sort of everyday romance existed within her.

Moreover, 'tis a peculiarity of the thing we call love that it gets out of every man and every woman the very best that is in them. Reggie Hesselgrave began to feel himself in his relation to Florrie quite other than he had ever felt himself in any other relation of his poor wasted existence. He loved that girl with a love that for him was very nearly unselfish. He thought of her and dreamed of her. He lived day and night for her. He risked Kathleen's money recklessly for her sake on impossible outsiders and backed the favorite at race

after race in utter disregard of worldly circumstances in order to win her princely income. That was about the highest point Reggie's industry, affection and unselfishness could reach. In his way he was raised above his own normal level. For Florrie he would almost have consented to wear an unfashionable coat, or to turn down his trousers when Bond street turned them up, or to do anything, in fact, that a woman could wish, except curb his expenditure and lay by for the future.

So for about 18 months things went on in this way, and then flying rumors began to flit about town that Spider Clarke of late had not been doing quite so well in his money lending as usual. His star was waning. It was whispered at the clubs that, emboldened by his success with Algy Redburn, whom he was known to have financed during the tedious course of the Axminster peerage case, he had launched out too freely into similar speculations elsewhere and had burned his fingers over the monetary affairs of a very high personage. With bated breath people mentioned his serene highness the Duke of Saxe-Weinsichttwo. Whether this was so or not, it is certain at least that Spider Clarke was less in repute in St. James' than formerly. The ladies who returned Mrs. Clarke's bows so coldly at the theater returned them now with the very faintest of possible inclinations or affected to be turning their opera glasses in the opposite direction and not to notice her. Even Captain Bouchier himself, whose suit had been pressed hard and warm at first, began to fancy it was a precious good thing that innocent looking little Decoy Duck had played so fast and loose with him, for as things were turning out now he was confoundingly inclined to doubt whether the man who got her would get enough pickings with her to make it worth his while to give up that very mysterious entity he called his liberty. Henceforth he was seen less and less often at Rutland Gate and affected more and more at the Flamingo club to speak of his relations with the Spiderette as a mere passing flirtation that had never been meant to come to anything serious.

So matters went on till the end of the season. Meanwhile the less Florrie saw of the accepted lover the more and more did she see of the clandestine and romantic one. As for Reggie, he began to plan out a mighty scheme for winning himself fortune at a single stroke—a heroic investment of every penny he could raise by pledging his slender credit on a famous tip for the coming Cesarewitch. He intended to be rich, and to cut out that beastly Bouchier man, and to make himself a swell, and to marry Florrie. On the very afternoon when the news of his fortune was to reach London by telegram, however, he received a dispatch at his office in the city which considerably disquieted him. Just at the first blush, to be sure, he thought it must be meant to announce the triumph of Canterbury Bell, whom he had "backed for his pile," but when he opened it what he read was simply this: "Come round tonight to see me. Ask for me at the hall door. Important news. Must speak with you. Florrie."

Mr. Reginald wondered much what this message could portend. He determined to go round to Rutland Gate at the earliest possible moment as soon as he had satisfied himself that Canterbury Bell had behaved as he had a right to expect of such a filly, and that he was indeed the possessor of a marrying competence.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

It is a pleasure to notice from year to year the increasing interest displayed by everyone in our native trees and shrubs. Among the trees, oaks demand a large share of it, with a justice that no one disputes. The species hardy in the north, number 18 or 20. The beauty of many of them and indeed the number as well is a matter of great surprise to foreigners who are accustomed to but a few species in their own country—Country Gentleman.

The number of items requiring prompt attention at this season is large and there are many things that would better be done late than not to be done at all, but it would be far better if they were done at their proper time. The habit of promptness is an invaluable one for farmers of any age and one which every young farmer should make a special effort to form.—Practical Farmer.

We waste enough of the soil products of this country to make another nation rich, but we shall probably not mend our ways until our cheap lands are all taken up and the multitudes are compelled to look for new occupations. In some parts of Europe even the roots and stumps of trees undergo treatment for the valuable products in them—oil, turpentine, creosote, charcoal, etc.—Farmer's Guide.

In computing the profits from sheep raising we must not simply reckon on the sums that we get from them directly, we must also take into account the influence which they exert upon soil fertility and weed eradication.—Professor Thomas Shaw.

Dairy work cannot be done well one day and neglected the next, and when we begin to churn we must abide to the finish. I have seen a woman hover between her churn crank, her dinner and a gossip with a neighbor, until the poor abused cream turned hopelessly sour with discouragement and flatly refused to turn to anything but a mushy slop, unsightly and unpalatable.—Mrs. Mary Currie.

Professor Walters in his lecture on "Gumption on the farm" denounces the tirades against debt which are indulged in by many speakers and writers. While he does not advise going in debt recklessly, there is, he thinks, a farmer in a dozen in this country but who got his start by going in debt. Going in debt for productive and non-productive property are very different. Of all debts the store debt is the greatest abomination, and those who allow the storekeeper to carry them usually get what they deserve—inferior goods at high prices.—Etc.

Mr. Coulter's Courage.

Dover, Clare county, Mich., 6-7 1895
To the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co.:

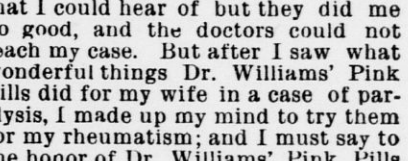
This is to certify that I have been a great sufferer from that dreaded disease, rheumatism, for many years. In the fall of '88, on the 7th day of November, I was taken down bed-fast with the rheumatism and was not out of the house again until the 28th of March, '89, and from that time on I have suffered beyond description. Every winter I could look for from three to six weeks that I could not get out of the house, and two different times since I was first taken with it I have been perfectly helpless for weeks at a time, so I had to be handled in a blanket. I tried almost everything that I could hear of but they did me no good, and the doctors could not reach my case. But after I saw what wonderful things Dr. Williams' Pink Pills did for my wife in a case of paralysis, I made up my mind to try them for my rheumatism; and I must say to the honor of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills that they have done for me what the doctors and all other medicines have failed to do. In the spring of '94 I took three boxes of these pills and I put in the best summer that I have for many years. But during the winter I caught cold and my rheumatism returned, and this spring I commenced on a half dozen boxes and have taken them, and must say that I have had less rheumatic pain this spring than I have had before since I was first taken down in the fall of '88.

I do not claim that I am entirely cured yet, but I do believe that they will drive it entirely out of the system, and I hope that Dr. Williams' Pills will find their way into many homes and do for others what they have done for us. Respectfully Yours,
JAMES W. COULTER.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain, in a condensed form, all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effect of a gripe, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexion, all forms of weakness either in male or female. Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price, (50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50—they are never sold in bulk, or by the 100) by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, New York.

TREES GROW WHILE YOU SLEEP, and cash returns come quickly! Ask for our low prices. 500 acre—10 greenhouses—best stock. Flower City Nursery Co., 20 Voorhes St., Rochester, N. Y.

Remember we pay the freight.



TURKEY SUBDUED AT LAST.

In spite of the common belief that she could not be restrained, an eastern man raised an immense drove, pent up with PAGE, from the egg to the oven. See picture in "Hustler." PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

Notices of Meetings.

The next meeting of Lowell District Council, P. of H., will be at South Lowell Grange hall in the village of Alto, on Friday, April 17. Afternoon session open to the general public. Every invited to attend and take part. WESLEY JOHNSON, Worthy Master.

A CORRECTION.

The dates of the next meeting of Berrien county Pomona Grange are April 28 and 29, instead of 9 and 10, as announced in the last VISITOR.

IONIA POMONA.

The next meeting is to be held at Banner Grange hall, April 16.

Question: "Is our country losing the stability that belongs to a nation of home owners and sacrificing the many joys of today in the mad rush for attainments to further happiness in the attainment of wealth or ambitions of this life which never comes, by recklessly wasting the happiness that might be ours today, when delightful would the inmates be to enjoy the same blessings?"

ALLEGAN POMONA

will meet with Moline Grange, April 16, at 10:30 a. m. Opening song, Moline Grange choir; address of welcome, Mrs. Emily Emmons; response, Mrs. James Kent; music, the Misses Hathaway; paper, "A Grave Question," N. W. Houser; recitation, Mrs. A. Bragg; discussion, "Immigration," T. G. Adams; paper on corn culture, J. Jordan; music, by Hopkins Grange choir; paper, Briggs Bradley; discussion on small fruits, J. Gilbert.

MRS. E. S. ALLEN, Lecturer.

GRANGE NEWS.

Allegan Central Grange No. 53, conferred the first and second degrees on six candidates March 18, and reinstated two old members. During recess the stewards distributed a box of fine oranges, the compliments of Brother and Sister Albert Stegman, of Paradise Valley, California. The 3d and 4th degrees were conferred April 1, followed by a Grange feast. The Grange is the great social and educational organization of the day. L. C. ROOT.

The afternoon of March 21 was known to Leonidas Grange as "School Day," arising from a recommendation of the State Grange of 1894. Reports from all schools situated in the township except two. These reports were made from actual visits paid the schools and gave the Grange very clearly the impressions that the several communities had received.

The reports were followed by a series of questions which gave rise to discussion on the school needs in our immediate vicinity and our ability to supply such needs. Recitations, readings and songs from the Knapsack were all appropriate to the occasion. SARA COVEY.

RURAL GRANGE NO. 566

held a mush and milk social and entertainment in their hall March 2, for the purpose of buying a supply of badges. Receipts, \$8.00. At our last meeting, March 14, we balloted for one candidate and initiated another. J. C. KERR.

MONTCALM GRANGE, NO. 318.

Sister Martha Monroe has been called to the great Grange above. Faithful till death, kind and brave. Thy faith hath triumphed o'er the boasting grave; Tho' strong the ties of earth which earth has riven, Bright was the crown that waited thee in heaven.

HARMONY GRANGE, NO. 337 KENT CO.

We read of the boom Grange work is having in other sections of the country and we want you to know we are not entirely asleep or dead. We have added forty-eight members to our roll since November 1. It has taken the most of the time we had at our regular meetings and at several specials for initiatory work this spring, but we hope to do more in the literary line. We have held several socials during the winter and have rebuilt our sheds, making them larger and warmer, and have added twenty dollars worth of books to our library. A MEMBER.

WHEATLAND GRANGE NO 273

wishes the readers of the GRANGE VISITOR to know that it is alive and working, although the number of its members is comparatively small. We hold our meetings every alternate Friday evening at the Grange hall, which we talk of enlarging in the near future.

Our Grange store with the branch store recently opened, has traded nearly \$1,500 during the last year. We have at our meetings programs consisting of recitations, readings, music and the discussion of questions of interest to the farmers. At our next meeting the question "Is there any profit in cows, at the present price of butter and cheese?" was warmly discussed. It seems to be a fact that very few farmers keep a record of the cost of keeping, or the income, and it is almost impossible to tell just the profit per cow. There ought to be a change in that respect; perhaps the Grange will bring it about. LECTURER.

KENT POMONA.

A regular meeting of the Kent county Grange No. 18 was held at Grand

Rapids March 25. The forenoon session was devoted to the regular order of business. About 30 Patrons and friends were present in the afternoon. The following together with gleanings from the discussions, was the program: Song by the choir. Address of welcome by the W. Master, Wm. T. Adams; he urged that each one make strenuous efforts to forward Grange work in their own community. "Should immigration be restricted?" by Jno. Preston, H. C. Hogadone and others. "Yes some restrictions should be made in regard to the criminal class. A law iron-clad and water-tight which shall bar out those who are unintelligent and bigoted and who will not make good, true American citizens; but those who will make good inhabitants and who are ready and willing to help us intelligently to make this government one of the best are more than welcome. Some would have a law requiring immigrants to live here 21 years before becoming voters unless they could read and write the English language."

"It is not so much that produce is low or how it compares with other things, but that we are obliged to pay taxes that are unjust because of the concentrated wealth and syndicates which is one of the causes of the present hard times; it is the rich man who profits by this immigration of the poor class, instead of the poor man who has to thus work for less wages."

"Let the Grange do the mighty work it ought to do and bring the people together and they will get what they ask and we will have 'the greatest good for the greatest number.' When brighter days do come to this country they will come through the rural homes."

Song by Mr. and Mrs. E. Keech. Recitation by Mrs. M. H. Foster. "The liquor question and its relation to the present hard times," by Wesley Johnson, W. T. Adams and others.

"The liquor question and the extravagance of the Americans have much to do with the present hard times in this country. All those who by drinking become paupers, criminals and imbeciles have to be supported by others, and hence the latter necessarily have a much greater burden to bear than they naturally should have. If I could substitute the liquor used for money and distribute it amongst the poor there would be no paupers. If I could change every glass of whiskey into a loaf of bread there would be no hungry persons."

Recitation by Myrtle Preston. "How to make a pleasant home" by Mrs. J. R. Edison and Mrs. I. D. Davis.

"It all depends on the woman (in the eyes of the people) and she has got to have a wonderful constitution and greater patience than any woman ever had to do it. Everyone should study how to grow old gracefully and try to please the children and they will have a happy home. The location may be just right, the house elegant in its furnishings, but unless the inmates are pleasant and agreeable the home will not be a happy one. There must be no pride or neighborly envy. It is the little things which tend to make a home happy or otherwise."

Reading, "Ideas of home," by Mrs. I. D. Davis.

Recitation by Miss Reba Keech. Song by Mr. and Mrs. Keech. The next meeting will be held at Rockford in June. SECRETARY.

News From the Front.

From the beginning of the current year, to-wit, October 1, 1895, to March 19, 1896, there were one hundred and four (104) new Granges organized as follows:

Colorado.....1	New Hampshire.....11
Connecticut.....1	New York.....19
Illinois.....3	New Jersey.....1
Indiana.....2	Ohio.....22
Iowa.....2	Oregon.....4
Kansas.....1	Pennsylvania.....10
Maine.....3	Rhode Island.....1
Massachusetts.....2	South Carolina.....3
Michigan.....8	Vermont.....9
Minnesota.....1	
Total.....104	

For the whole of the Grange year, beginning October 1, 1894, and ending September 30, 1895, there were organized ninety-two (92) new Granges.

Faithfully,
JOHN TRIMBLE.

Magazine Notes.

In the April Magazine Number of the Outlook there will appear an article on William H. Prescott, by Kenyon West. It will be in commemoration of the great American historian, who was born May 4, 1796. The article will be enriched by numerous portraits and other illustrations contributed from the private collections of members of the Prescott family, who have been interested in Kenyon West's tribute to Prescott. Among these are Mr. Arthur Dexter, of Boston, the nephew of the historian; Mrs. Roger Wolcott, Prescott's granddaughter, who lives also in Boston; and Mr. Linzee Prescott, of Greenwich, Conn., who is the son of Prescott's eldest son.

Miss Alcott's Life Story.

Louisa M. Alcott is said to reveal herself in a most interesting way in a number of letters (written by five little girls) which appear in the April Ladies' Home Journal. These letters were written during the busiest period of Miss Alcott's life, and present a pen picture of the author drawn by her own master hand. In these she talks of singular frankness of herself, her work, her aims, her home, her spiritual belief, and of the influence that directed her to literature. She never saw any

of her five correspondents, but their youthful frankness, intense interest in all her writings, and their love for the author and for the characters of her creations, impelled her to turn aside from her work and cares to find diversion in chats with such eagerly enthusiastic, admiring and sympathetic friends. Miss Alcott's first letter is dated 1872, and the others were written at intervals up to within a short time of her death.

Will you not send in at least two names for the VISITOR within the next two weeks? We want your name on our roll of honor in next issue. We want to see the subscription list to the VISITOR boom.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Our roll of honor for special hustling for the VISITOR is by no means as it should be. However, we feel like extending a vote of thanks for all the Grange to those whose names do not appear. Here is the result of special work since our last report:

O. B. Lake, Eaton Rapids, 5; J. S. Briggs, Webberville, 2; Louis Hall, Ionia, 2; Mrs. C. L. Pearce, DeWitt 2 Perry & McGrath, 6; Mrs. C. H. Thompson, Greenville, 3; J. K. Campbell, Ypsilanti, 3; Wm. Robertson, Hesperia, 5; O. P. Miller, Baroda, 4; Loretta Poorman, Battle Creek, 2; John Green-shields, Orion, 8; C. M. Pearce, Elva, 6; C. C. McDerimid, Battle Creek, 2; Geo. L. Carlisle, Kalkaska, 5; R. E. Guilford, Portland, 3; E. B. Ward, Charlevoix, 13; Jason Woodman, Paw Paw, 5 Mrs. H. M. Travis, Athens, 3; K. L. Butterfield, 6.

THE WORLD'S EIGHTH WONDER.

Its not a pyramid nor a hanging garden; its Salzer's Silver Mine oats which yielded 209 bu. per acre. Silver King barley produces 116 bu. per acre. You can beat that in 1896 and win \$200. Largest grass, clover and grain seed growers in America!

148-page mammoth catalog 5c. postage, or if you will cut this out and send it with 10c. postage to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wisconsin, you will receive their mammoth catalog and ten packages of grains and grasses including package of Silver Mine oats and Silver King barley.

A Curious Religious Colony.

In the central part of Texas is located the town of Belton, where there is a curious religious colony of women known as the "Sanctified Sisters." The chief prerequisites to membership in this community are a life of celibacy, a common property and an isolated existence. The original leader of this curious band is Mrs. Martha McWhirter, a woman of indomitable will. When she conceived the idea of this colony, she was happy with her husband and 12 children, against whose united protest she persisted in founding the society. This was 19 years ago, since which time the society has steadily grown in numbers and wealth, chiefly through the efforts of Mrs. McWhirter, whose executive and business ability are indicated by the fact that at present she is a member of the board of trade and a director of the opera house syndicate of Belton. The membership, which is now 32, includes several women who formerly occupied excellent positions in the social world.

Potatoes,

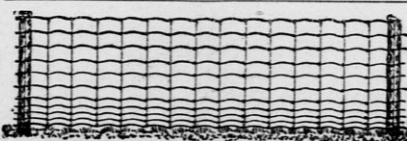
Tomatoes, Melons, Cabbage, Turnips, Lettuce, Peas, Beets, Onions, and all Vegetables, remove large quantities of Potash from the soil. Supply

Potash

in liberal quantities by the use of fertilizers containing not less than 10% actual Potash. Better and more profitable yields are sure to follow.

Our pamphlets are not advertising circulars, boasting special fertilizers, but are practical works, containing latest researches on the subject of fertilization, and are really helpful to farmers. They are sent free for the asking.

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Are now using our fence to protect their right of way, and yet our railroad business amounted to only one fifth of the whole amount for 1895. The PAGE is winning its way with all classes. PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

Get It! Get others to get it.

IT IS

Our New General Catalogue and Buyers' Guide, No. 59 for Spring and Summer 1896. Just off the press and ready for the people.

IT is a book of 700 pages, 13,000 illustrations, and more than 40,000 dependable descriptions, including almost everything that's used in life. IT weighs 2 1/2 pounds, and we send it for 15 cents to pay part postage or expressage. IT is truly named the BUYERS' GUIDE. IT tells you what you ought to pay, no matter what you buy or where you buy it. You are not obliged to trade with us, and we do not expect your orders unless we can show you a substantial money saving, but what we KNOW we can do. More than One Million bright buyers sent us their orders last year. More than fifty thousand of these orders came from Michigan!

We seek large sales, not large profits, the larger the sales the smaller the profits, the better the buying and selling. We prove to the people the power of right price-making, and show them how to avoid paying the over-profit that is charged in local stores.

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Besides our famous specialties, the WINTER BANANA APPLE, the NEW PROLIFIC PEACH and the NEW CONRATH BLACK RASPBERRY, we have a large assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Small Fruit and Flowering Shrubs.

The very best tested Vegetable, Flower and Grass Seeds—and such full packets you never did see.

But you must know how to plant and cultivate the orchard garden. We tell you how to your heart's content in THE NORTH AMERICAN HORTICULTURIST, published monthly at 50 cents a year with choice premiums if paid in advance. Agents wanted. Catalogues and sample copy free.

Ask Secretary of your Grange for contract rates on all nursery stock.

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Garden Seeds 3 papers for 5 cents. Send for list. Garden Seeds in bulk at right prices. Clover and timothy seed sold cheap.

TOOLS.

- A one horse cultivator for \$ 3.00
- A spring tooth harrow for 11.00
- A first class chilled plow for 8.00
- A 60-tooth steel spike harrow for 10.00
- A double harness for 20.00

Everything else sold at lowest prices. Write for description of just what you want and I will save you money.

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In use over 100 years. Nature's fertilizer. The great stimulating element to the growth of plants. Has no equal as a disinfectant. As an absorbent cannot be excelled.

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The good results obtained from the uses of

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Over 250,000 Farmers, Market Gardeners and City-dwellers attest to the superiority of SALZER'S SEEDS. We are the only seedsmen in America making a specialty of Farm seeds, and are the largest growers of Oats, Wheat, Potatoes \$1.50 a bush, Grasses, Clovers, Fodder Plants, etc. in the world! 1,000,000 ROSES, Plants and Small Fruits, VEGETABLES. Enormous Stocks, Northern Crown Onion Seed only 30c. per pound. All prices low. 50 Pkgs. Earliest Vegetables, postpaid, \$11 10 pkgs. Flower Seeds, 25c. Mammoth Catalog and 10 pkgs. Grains and Grasses, 10c. Catalog free for 5c. postage.

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