

GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XXI, NO. 14.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, JULY 16, 1896.

WHOLE NO. 494.

For Free Silver.

I saw an article in the VISITOR of May 21, entitled "Against Free Silver," and the first stunning argument presented is "That all the advocates of free silver are sworn enemies to progress." Now perhaps the Republican party of the state of Wyoming should be classed as enemies to progress, when they met in convention and emphatically instructed their delegates for McKinley and free silver. I am satisfied that that convention possessed more wisdom and are more in favor of progress and prosperity than any one man or all who make such acquisitions.

The predictions of our best statesmen and politicians are, that there is good reason to believe that all the states west of the Missouri river will go solid for silver next November: this does not agree with another argument in said article, viz., that all the ignorance is in the free silver faction and that enlightenment is fast becoming fatal to the free silver cause. Another grand argument presented is, that the people are becoming informed and are fast deserting the sinking ship. Now I insist upon it, that all the argument in said article referred to, when compared with the doings of Wyoming and other great western states is without foundation and not reliable. Again the brother makes an admission or rather an assertion, which perhaps he might better have omitted, that the silver dollar is no fraud, but the free-silverites would make it so. Then further on, he says "I can conceive of no evil that would be so menacing to a free people as to place a debased, dishonest dollar in the place of honest gold, and thereby repudiate honest obligations." Oh Consistency, thou art a jewel!

The State Grange is again attacked and accused of prostitution and of bolstering up a disreputable and dying issue; an issue that will soon be in sweet repose with the greenback doctrine. Perhaps the greenback doctrine is dead, but the greenback dollar is not, and we hear echoing back from the old doctrine "We stayed the cremating hand, and saved the people of this government three hundred forty-six millions of dollars." I have only this to say to the Grange: "If I belonged to an order that would vote sixty-four in favor of, and only ten against, a principle that I considered so debasing and so dangerous to the nation under whose flag I sleep, I would sever my connection with such order at once and forever, and never again admit that I ever belonged to such an organization."

He refers to what he says is called by cranks, "the crime of seventy-three." We will not call it a crime, as crime means something punishable by law. I suppose he refers to the demonetization act. Well let us see. In 1873 congress passed an act destroying the legal tender power of the silver dollar. Then followed the Black Friday picnic, and this was succeeded by seven years of the hardest times the people of America ever experienced. It took the people five years to find out the cause of the hard times: they eventually discovered the cause was produced by the government destroying all the greenbacks, except the three hundred forty-six millions already referred to. During the winter of 1878 and 1879 congress passed the Bland act, which partially remonetized silver. It also passed a bill to make silver certificates and another to stop the further destruction of greenbacks, (and this is where the old greenback principle made itself felt, which has already been mentioned). When these laws were carried into effect and the silver and silver certificates put into circulation, times became good again. Gold was forced out and put in circulation, and from 1880 to 1892 we had a period of prosperity never exceeded in this country.

In the summer of 1893, Mr. Cleveland called an extra session of congress and in accordance with Mr. Cleveland's wishes it disannulled the Sherman purchasing act. This act virtually demonetized silver again and established the gold standard.

Since that law was passed, times have been getting worse and worse and worse, until at the present time we are having a business depression only equaled by that from 1873 to 1880.

The people are seeing the result of three years' experience and are bound to have a change, and that is what the Grange is working for. Although it is a bonanza for the bond holder and the money lender, it is servitude and serfdom for the laboring man.

Now according to the comptroller's reports there have not in the last three years been less than nine hundred millions of dollars in the vaults of the United States treasury, and it might as well be in the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, as far as doing the people any good is concerned. It pays no interest, neither does it pay the bonds, but it lies there dormant, and now I want to ask this profound exponent to place his finger upon a single instance where any other civilized nation with over nine hundred millions of dollars in their treasury have to resort to bonding their government annually for from sixty-three millions to one hundred millions to defray expenses, and that too in the time of profound peace? But the gold standard of values has driven this great nation of wealth to just that kind of business.

Now our worthy brother closes with the same argument that he has used all the way through, and says he would not write thus, but the good of the Grange is at heart, and he hates to see any of its members pursuing a fallacy and a fraud, thereby disgracing our noble Order. We will look at this last argument just a moment. In the first place, we flatly refuse to take such assertions as facts, even though they come from the source they do, and simply throw it back in his teeth, and boldly assert that it is he who is trying to deceive the good people of our noble Order, and I will attempt to prove my position (which he has not even attempted to do) and in so doing will take his own yard-sticks to demonstrate my position.

Prior to 1873, we, the government of the United States, had a standard of value of our own which was good for one hundred years. It consisted of dollars, dimes and cents: England had pounds, shillings and pence, and all nations had their standard of measuring value. Old Rome had her sheckels of silver and ducats of gold.

In 1873 congress demonetized silver and made the yard-stick of gold. Other nations soon discovered the bright shining stick and at once wanted to use it. There was great clamoring for the stick at home and abroad, and all getting hold of the stick, pulled and hauled until it was stretched to nearly nine feet, or in other words the dollar was worth two dollars and ninety cents, and still continued to measure all products by the same stick so that it took nine feet of produce to pay the debts that we contracted to pay with three.

In the winter of 1879 and 1880 the people succeeded in placing another yard-stick, and prosperity began and continued until 1892 when the new stick was removed and the old gold stick again began to stretch and in three short years it has more than doubled its length, by placing wheat at 49c, pork at 3c, butter at 9c, eggs at 6c and so on. Now if there be any fallacy or fraud in either the gold standard alone, or the bimetallic principle, I leave it for the good people to judge for themselves.

E. B. NICHOLS.
Master of Delta Grange, No. 307.

The Township Unit Plan.

BY E. A. HOLDEN.

In the last issue of the VISITOR I gave the results of a comparison of the rural schools of Michigan under the Township Unit system with an equal number of rural schools in the same counties under the district system. The fact that nearly all of these schools were situated in the newer portion of the state and that many of them had not been under the new system long made me feel that such a comparison would not mean so very much unless borne out by comparisons in older settled sections.

After having made the investigations spoken of in my first letter, I determined to investigate the workings of the Township Unit System in Indiana. By the kindness of Mr. Pattengill I was permitted to spend several weeks in Indiana for this purpose.

In this letter I shall make a comparison of the three northern tiers of counties of Indiana bordering on Michigan, with the three southern tiers of counties of Michigan bordering on Indiana. I regard this as the best possible opportunity for comparison. The school management of Indiana is one of the best perfected systems of Township Unit management in the United States. The schools there have been under that system for over thirty years; and the system as it now exists has been in operation over twenty years. In Michigan the district system has been in operation for even a greater length of time.

These counties were selected because the other conditions are very similar. They were settled largely by the same kind of people; their soil, climate, and nearness to large centers of population are alike; and they are traversed by the same railroads. The striking difference is the difference in school management, and this is just what we want to compare. A better opportunity for comparison could not be had unless there could be found two equal areas under the same state management, with the conditions in other ways as similar, and having the two systems as distinctively in force for as long a period of time; and this is impossible.

Below are the tables of comparison—three in number. The first compares the bordering tiers of counties, the second compares two tiers of counties, and the third three tiers. The second table includes the first and the third includes the other two. The data are all taken from the official reports of school officers on file in the offices of Superintendent of Public Instruction of Michigan and Indiana for the year 1894, and the Michigan State census for the same year. The State cen-

Territory compared.	State.	No. of persons of school age not enrolled.	No. of persons enrolled of all ages.	Total per cent. of persons of school age enrolled.	Average length of school in months.	Percent cost of tuition.	Average annual cost per pupil enrolled.	Average cost per pupil enrolled.
All the schools in 1st tier of counties Rural schools in 1st tier of counties	Michigan	32,175	28,103	87.5	8.2	\$7.5	\$11.11	\$1.35
All the schools in 2nd tier of counties Rural schools in 2nd tier of counties	Michigan	32,481	32,572	100.0	8.2	62	16.30	2.04
All the schools in 3rd tier of counties Rural schools in 3rd tier of counties	Michigan	18,291	15,219	83.2	8.1	8.59	8.59	1.06
All the schools in 1st tier of counties Rural schools in 1st tier of counties	Indiana	59,118	19,334	32.7	7.7	77	13.75	1.78
All the schools in 2nd tier of counties Rural schools in 2nd tier of counties	Michigan	64,355	54,648	84.9	8.1	85	11.95	1.48
All the schools in 3rd tier of counties Rural schools in 3rd tier of counties	Michigan	88,386	80,517	91.1	7.6	67.4	14.69	1.93
All the schools in 1st tier of counties Rural schools in 1st tier of counties	Indiana	32,819	27,181	82.8	8.1	83	8.84	1.09
All the schools in 2nd tier of counties Rural schools in 2nd tier of counties	Michigan	49,738	38,465	77.3	7.3	71.3	12.47	1.71
All the schools in 3rd tier of counties Rural schools in 3rd tier of counties	Michigan	92,004	78,942	85.8	8.1	86	10.97	1.35
All the schools in 1st tier of counties Rural schools in 1st tier of counties	Indiana	141,534	91,883	64.9	7.4	64.9	14.86	2.01
All the schools in 2nd tier of counties Rural schools in 2nd tier of counties	Michigan	51,380	42,892	83.4	8.1	83.4	8.97	1.09
All the schools in 3rd tier of counties Rural schools in 3rd tier of counties	Indiana	81,294	59,821	73.6	7.1	73.6	12.38	1.73

of persons under five and over twenty years of age enrolled was determined from the census and added to the number of school age enrolled. In this way everything was brought to the Indiana basis for sake of comparison.

The tables are double, giving a comparison of all the schools and then of the rural schools alone. The reader is invited to give careful attention to these tables for the figures tell the story and I shall not undertake to strengthen the argument with words, further than to make necessary explanations and add other facts that do not appear in the tables.

The following comments are based upon table three, comparing the three tiers of counties, for, as previously stated, it embraces the other two tables. The facts brought out by this table might be summarized as follows: Based on this comparison the Township Unit System would in Michigan, in all the schools, give 8.6 per cent or 14 days less school, reach 21 per cent or 139,000 fewer children, and costs 35 per cent or \$2,132,000 more than does the district system. In the rural schools it would give 12 per cent or 20 days less school, reach 10 per cent or 30,000 fewer children, and cost 48 per cent or \$837,000 more annually. To put it differently: It would cost 49 per cent or \$3,000,000 more annually to maintain all the schools of Michigan the same length of time that they are now, and afford educational advantages to 139,000 fewer children. It would cost 70 per cent or \$1,352,000 more to maintain the rural schools of the state the same length of time they are now maintained and the schools would reach 30,000 fewer pupils.

The direct tax for the support of all the public schools in Michigan under the district system is \$3,700,000. Under the Township Unit System it would be \$6,700,000. It will be seen that on this basis the average tax payer who now pays an annual school tax of \$10 would under the Unit System pay over \$18, and he who pays \$20 would have to pay over \$36.

We have no separate data for the direct tax paid for the support of the rural schools, but a little investigation along this line in any county will bring out facts that will surprise the most sanguine. I carefully computed this for Ingham and Branch counties with the following results: In Ingham county the direct tax for the support of the rural schools is a little over \$13,000. Under the Unit System it would be \$35,000 or over 2½ times as much. In Branch the direct tax for the support of the rural schools is a little less than \$8,700. Under the Unit System it would be \$21,250 or a little less than 2½ times as much. In either of these counties the farmer or farm owner who now pays \$10 school tax would under the much praised Township Unit System have the privilege of paying \$25 school tax, and he who now pays \$20 would under the other system be invited to pay \$50.

What is true of these two counties will probably hold true of other counties. And still the farmers and grangers have been called foolish and old fossils for opposing the Township Unit System. At the time this measure was last before the Legislature the Grange and especially the members of the Executive committee of that order were severely criticised for their opposition to the measure. But I say all honor to those men who led the opposition and to that order which so unanimously petitioned the Legislature not to pass the measure. An annual saving of \$3,000,000 to the tax payers of a state is no small item.

In my next letter I expect to show that not only does this much praised system cost more, shorten the length of school, and reach fewer children, but that it tends to poor citizenship and a waning school spirit among the people.

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No crop varies more in quality according to grade of fertilizers used than tobacco. Potash is its most important requirement, producing a large yield of finest grade leaf. Use only fertilizers containing at least 10% actual

Potash

in form of sulphate. To insure a clean burning leaf, avoid fertilizers containing chlorine.

Our pamphlets are not advertising circulars booming 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.

GERMAN KALI WORKS,
101 Nassau St., New York.

HARD TIMES AVOIDABLE.

Congressman Bartholdt has recently said some wise things on the dangers of overpopulation. His showing that there is abundance of room in this country, only 16 people to the square mile, or 40 acres for every inhabitant, taken in connection with other facts—viz, that there is abundance of money (hoarded) and abundance of food, clothing and machinery—makes the fact, hard times, all the more unreasonable and unnecessary. There is some deep dyed wrong somewhere, for the present state of affairs is abnormal and unnecessary.

Mr. Bartholdt says: Eternal vigilance being the price of liberty, we should meet, step by step, prejudice with reason, fear with fact. There is the fear of overpopulation industriously spread by the same pessimists who are constantly at work reforming the policy of the fathers. Let us look this specter squarely in the eye and watch how quickly it will vanish. According to the census of 1890, we had a population of 62,622,250. The United States, if populated as densely as Belgium, would have a population of 31 times the present number, or over 1,900,000,000 of

people! But in order to enable the reader to make his own calculation I attach the following table showing the area and population of these countries:

	Area in square miles.	Population.	Per square mile.
United States.....	3,692,000	62,622,250	16
Europe.....	3,553,000	350,200,000	107
Texas.....	293,790	2,235,523	8
Germany.....	211,108	49,421,094	235
Belgium.....	11,373	6,000,048	530

The rate of our natural increase of population is, according to the census, 1.38 per cent—in other words, about 1,000,000 a year. Add thereto, if the present rate of immigration is maintained, an annual increase from that source of 250,000, and we will have, with a total annual increase of 1,250,000, about 75,000,000 people at the time of the next census and the end of the present century. At this rate not less than 25 generations will have gone down into their graves before this country will see a population as dense as that of Belgium is today.

Are we not capable of supporting as large a population relatively as the countries of Europe, and, if not, why not?

Ripans Tabules cure dizziness.

SILBERMAN

WHAT WE KNOW

About the Wool Commission Business may be of service to you. If so it is at your disposal. We have had 30 years continuous experience and have gained a few essential facts. One of these enables us to deal direct with the manufacturer. Your wool goes direct from our hands to the man who weaves it into cloth. We charge smallest commission consistent with good business. We make liberal advances on consignments. We keep you posted on the conditions of the market through our circular letter. We furnish free use of sacks to our patrons. We refer you to any bank or reputable business house in Chicago.

SILBERMAN BROTHERS,
122-128 Michigan St., CHICAGO, ILL.

He Engaged Rooms, but Then Found That He Was Not Welcome.

An amusing story is told of the early days of the Margaret Louise home. The home, as is well known, was built by Mrs. Elliott F. Shepard as a woman's hotel, under the auspices of the Young Women's Christian association.

The first day the building was open Miss Altman, the directress, was told that a gentleman had called to look at rooms. Taking it for granted that he wished to engage board for some woman relative, she sent an attendant to show him the rooms. He expressed himself as much pleased and engaged a suit. At nightfall the following day Miss Altman was informed by the horrified attendant that "a man had come to occupy the rooms" which he claimed to have engaged the preceding day. In the hall her startled eyes recognized the dignified gentleman of the day before, accompanied by a colored valet with a dress suit case in one hand, a portmanteau in the other, and with an expressman with a big trunk bringing up the rear.

Miss Altman advanced and politely requested an explanation. This caused the gentleman to grow very red in the face, while the valet rolled his eyes in disapproval and the expressman waited. The gentleman declared that he had come to take possession of the rooms he had engaged and had been refused the keys.

"Oh, but you cannot occupy the rooms!" she exclaimed. "This is a woman's hotel." The valet dropped the portmanteau, the expressman smiled, while beads of cold perspiration be-spangled the would be boarder's brow, as he explained, that going by, he had seen the place and, mistaking it for a select hotel, was so much pleased with his inspection that he had persuaded his nephew to come also and that probably the young man would arrive by 8 o'clock. Then, with many apologies, he beat a hasty retreat. That evening Miss Altman received the nephew, who proved to be a dashing young society man, who, when he heard of his uncle's innocent mistake, was greatly amused and laughed heartily. — New York World.

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"Ayer's Cathartic Pills for over thirty years have kept me in good health, never having had a sick day in all that time. Before I was twenty I suffered almost continually—as a result of constipation—from dyspepsia, headaches, neuralgia, or both and other eruptive diseases. When I became convinced



that nine-tenths of my troubles were caused by constipation, I began the use of Ayer's Pills, with the most satisfactory results, never having a single attack that did not readily yield to this remedy. My wife, who had been an invalid for years, also began to use Ayer's Pills, and her health was quickly restored. With my children I had noticed that nearly all their ailments were preceded by constipation, and I soon had the pleasure of knowing that with children as with parents, Ayer's Pills, if taken in season, avert all danger of sickness."—H. WETTSTEIN, BYRON, Ill.

AYER'S PILLS
Highest Honors at World's Fair.
Ayer's Sarsaparilla Strengthens the System.

Why is it

That our house gives no evidence of "that tired feeling?" That you always find us hustling? If you don't know why, it will pay you to try, and order once or twice goods we quote under price.

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Of course only seasonsable goods which are wanted to-day. Other houses shelve them a month hence, and try to palm them off on you next season as new goods. We prefer to sell them and make

PRICE THE INDUCEMENT.

- 60-cent printed India Silk, all colored grounds, with appropriate figures, 22 inches wide..... 29 cts
- 15-cent plain French Sateen, in pink, cream, light blue, red, brown, and black, 30 inches wide..... 7 cts
- 25-cent plain sateen, 36 inches wide; colors, navy, black, and brown..... 13 cts
- Mosquito Net, per piece of 8 yards, at..... 30 cts
- Large Doilies, red and green—have been 50 cts. per doz.—now 25 cts
- \$1.00 Shirts—fancy Percale, laundered, sizes 14½ to 17, at..... 49 cts
- Hot Weather Dress Goods—Printed Lawn, Crepes, Dimity, Percale, Challie, Moire, etc.—formerly 12½ to 25 cents, for 6 cts
- China Matting, 36 inch, plain and fancy, at..... 9 cts
- American "A" Grain Bags, per bale of 100..... \$12 00
- 45-inch Longfold Apron Lawn, with 7-inch border, plain, fancy, or open work, the kind which sells for 20 cents..... 9 cts
- \$4 worth of remnants of everything, put up in packages, for \$2 00
- \$12 Ladies' Side Saddles, moquette plush seat, padded leather roll, leaping horn, both horns buckskin covered, two strong hair cinches, handsome and durable..... \$7 75

- Men's Saddle outfit, consisting of \$8 Mosby saddle, with hair cinch and covered or uncovered wood stirrups, bridle and martingales to match..... \$5 00
- Russet Riding Bridle, head stalls, for..... 15 cts
- Black Riding Bridles, with 6-foot reins, and either jointed or racking bit..... 40 cts

KEEP COOL.

Four Bargains in Fans at prices which alone will keep you cool.

- No. 1 Vestibule Fans, with draw strings at each end, made of durable material, in large assortment of colors, the 25-cent kind for..... 5 cts
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- No. 3—Half-moon Fans, enameled wood frames, covered with paper, all black..... 3 cts
- No. 4.—Feather Fans, which sold for \$1, cream, white, and gray, with bone frame..... 29 cts

GRANULATED SUGAR

A Price that Cannot be Duplicated.

We have just imported a large lot of Granulated Sugar from Germany, so as to be independent of our un-American sugar trust. This sugar is packed 100 pounds in a bag, and is a good white granulated color, and very much sweeter than that made by our un-American trust. We have to pay the United States Government a duty of 25 cents per hundred pounds, and pay the freight from Germany to Chicago, but we are still able to sell it for much less than our un-American trust ask for theirs. TRY A BAG.

100 POUNDS IN A BAG. PRICE

\$4.69

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We have the Best and Cheapest. Write us.

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All our famous 39-cent Waists are sold, but as the public seem to like the price, and as we never carry over any garments from one season to another, we have decided to sell all the \$1.00 to \$2.00 qualities of Shirt waists for

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Made of fine Percale, Madras and English Cambric, in latest designs. All have laundered collars and cuffs and full set of studs. Every one fast-color, and the most perfect-fitting shirt waists made.

Think of it! Your choice for 39 cents.

(Postage 10 cents.) Give your bust measure and the color desired.

Send 10 cents to pay postage and we will send FREE our Mammoth Catalogue, Complete Grocery List, Sheet Music, Catalogue, and Fashion Sheet.

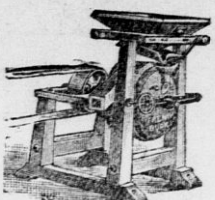
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Mills for Farmers and those doing a Custom Meal and Feed Grinding Business.



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Revised List of Grange Supplies

Table listing various supplies and their prices, such as Porcelain ballot marbles, Secretary's ledger, Treasurer's orders, etc.

Francis A. Walker on Immigration.

General Francis A. Walker writes forcibly in the June Atlantic on restriction of immigration. He says:

The first thing to be said respecting any serious proposition importantly to restrict immigration into the United States is, that such a proposition necessarily and properly encounters a high degree of incredulity, arising from the traditions of our country. From the beginning, it has been the policy of the United States, both officially and according to the prevailing sentiment of our people, to tolerate to welcome, and to encourage immigration, without qualification and without discrimination.

We shall best answer this question by referring to an instance in an altogether different department of public interest and activity. For nearly a hundred years after the peace of 1783 opened to settlement the lands beyond the Alleghanies, the cutting away of the primeval forest was regarded by our people not only with toleration, but with the highest approval.

Before inquiring as to general change in our national condition which may certify a change of opinion and policy in this respect, let us deal briefly, as we must, with two opinions regarding the immigration of the past, which stand in the way of any fair consideration of the subject.

of the opinion and policy heretofore held regarding immigration. Three of these are subjective, affecting our capability of easily and safely taking care of a large and tumultuous access of foreigners; the fourth is objective, and concerns the character of the immigration now directed upon our shores.

First, we have the important fact of the complete exhaustion of the free public lands of the United States. Fifty years ago, thirty years ago, vast tracts of arable land were open to every person arriving on our shores under the pre-emption act, or later, the homestead act.

A second change in our national condition, which importantly affects our capability of taking care of large numbers of ignorant and unskilled foreigners, is the fall of agricultural prices which has gone on steadily since 1873. It is not of the slightest consequence to inquire into the cause of this fall, whether we refer it to the competition of Argentina and of India or the appreciation of gold.

Still a third cause which may be indicated, perhaps more important than either of those thus far mentioned, is found in the fact that we have now a labor problem. We, in the United States have been wont to pride ourselves greatly upon our so easily maintaining peace and keeping the social order unimpared.

is it a matter of course that every industrious and temperate man can find work in the United States. And it is to be remembered that, of all nations, we are the one which is least qualified to deal with a labor problem.

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1000 TONS, bought and paid for, for this season's sales. Two kinds, Sisal and Manila. Quality the best. Prices the lowest.

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FOR THE RIGHT PRICE

of almost everything that's used in life, have our GENERAL CATALOGUE and BUYERS' GUIDE always with you. Buy Right. Money saved is same as earned.

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THE HAMILTON GROCERY COMPANY, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

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BIG PROFITS

FRUITS and VEGETABLES providing you use the right kinds of trees and seeds.

We furnish the very best Michigan Grown TREES and SEEDS at the RIVER RAISIN VALEY NURSERIES of Monroe, Mich. We have a reputation for hardy, prolific, early bearing stock.

BUTTER in 2 min. \$150 PER MONTH

THE QUEEN BUTTER MAKER. Sells at eight. Every woman wants one when she sees the butter come and gathered in two minutes.

WE HAVE NO AGENTS. but have sold direct to the consumer for 23 years, at wholesale prices, saving them the dealers' profits.

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Plain Cultivators. (\$3.75 to \$20.00) Also Horse Rakes, Hay Tedders, Mowers, Cultivators, Hay Presses, and other implements at cash prices satisfactory to the farmers.

WONDERFUL PROGRESS. In one hour by the use of our LETTERED FINGERBOARD and SIMPLY PILED INSTRUCTION. Latest Musical invention, which can only be had with the "PREMIUM" GUITARS, MANDOLINS, BANJOS, VIOLINS.

