Thoughts on Individual Sovereignty as Applied to the Duty of Patrons.

I fully believe, that the future prosperity of our Order, rests upon the basis of prosperity in our financial arrangements. Money is the power that to-day rules, omnipotent, the king to whom all yield homage, men success, nations success, all success seems centered in this. It matters not whether this is a wise judgment or otherwise, the fact that it is a universal necessities us to act accordingly.

We have been led to believe by those, who have had charge of the work of organization, that we should receive much financial benefit. Have these expectations been realized?

The answer of every intelligent Patron will be, to some extent, they have.

If I press the question for a bill of particulars, we shall find success here, failure there recorded. If I press the question in regard to the causes of these successes or failures, various would be the answers. Some of my own views in regard to failure or success, is what I desire to set forth.

“Order is heaven’s first law,” is a saying which I endorse, (if it be possible in nature’s laws for any law to be first). Apply this: “Have the Granges in all their workings strictly conformed to the work of the ritual? Have every individual of the Grange strictly conformed to his obligation? Have the modes and means, originated to provide for all our wants, been strictly conformed to? Have arrangements that have been made by those in authority, in the National Grange, in the State Grange, been conformed to?”

For answer see failure in crop reports, failure in plaster matters, etc. Have arrangements that have been made in various parts of the State by County Councils, had that undivided individual support that is necessary to make any arrangement a success? From individual experience in the Kent Co. Council I can say for that, at least, no. Patrons, we have yet to learn (if we don’t already know) that success in any direction, depends upon strict conformity to the principles of the order and the arrangements that may be made. All success finally depends on individual action.

What we need now in the various Granges, is that training that will make every Patron feel his individual responsibility, feel that he has a duty to perform, and no one can do it for him, conforming to the powers that be; for the time being, but training his mind as wisely to direct those powers, in the future. This is a Democracy entirely upon the individual. Whatever action, or plan that is needful in the future, should spring from the individual man, the individual Grange. These plans should all be eliminated, and when eliminated should be carried by the representatives of the various Granges to the Councils of the State, there to be decided upon, and when decision is reached and they come back as law, every Patron should conscientiously obey as long as the law exists. We must conform to strict discipline, so that like a well-trained army we may be prepared to carry out the plans of our own origin, the point of attack to which we should direct our energies is, in my opinion, in the direction of benefitting ourselves materially, it is the center for the time being, towards which we should concentrate, not to the neglect of the other principles of the order, but as the necessity for success in all things else. Co-operation, both of capital and individual support, is the grand means of reaching our desires, it can be reached in no other way.

It should be the subject of discussion for the next six months in every Grange in the State, and not only of discussion, but action should be taken. That action from this discussion shall be found to be the wisest, and when action has been taken, remember, brother Patrons, that success depends on your individual support.

SAMUEL LANGLETON.

The “Husbandman” and the Grange.

While the Husbandman is by no means an organ, there is nevertheless a mutual and common interest between the Grange and the paper. While it makes no claims for the support of the order as an organ, it feels that the Grange will continue its generous support, not because it owes it to the “Husbandman,” but because it needs and appreciates the services of such a journal. It will continue in earnest advocacy of the Grange, not for the sake of gaining its support, but because it has the fullest belief in the need of such an organization and in its aims, to bring about needed benefits to the farmer.

A Grange paper, as well as a purely agricultural paper, should be edited by practical farmers, men educated for their business, not only by a knowledge of books, but by the actual experience of the farm. Who else can...
Misconception of the Grange Movement.

In the community at large, and even among men of great intelligence, there seems to be a serious misconception of the Grange movement. Many suppose that it is the sworn duty of the Patrons of Husbandry, men and women, to wage war on the merchants and small traders. Nothing can be more erroneous. Members of the Granges are neither sheiks nor unknown assassins. The Grange organization has developed the fact that the very highest order of talent, the profoundest learning and the most solid statesmanship are to be found among the Patrons of every calling and profession, when they have gathered wisdom or grown weary in their own peculiar business, seek repose and recreation in the delights of a farm.

In every Grange, therefore, will be found men well versed in the laws of political economy, and no one is so ignorant as to not to know that human society is made up of necessary trades and callings, and that all are so interwoven that each is a necessity to the others.

We cannot more easily do without merchants than we can without shoemakers; we cannot more easily do without banks than we can without blacksmiths. Nor can we do without railroads and steamboats. It is only a more just and equitable dealing with merchants, shoemakers, bankers, blacksmiths, railroads and steamboats, that the patrons of husbandry have associated themselves together in their Granges.

Men engaged in farming are differently situated, and particularly in this country, from any engaged in almost any other calling. They are necessarily isolated and scattered at often wide distances over the country. The nature of an industrious farmer’s business keeps him at home, and prevents that daily intercourse and communion with his fellow man so common in other callings. This separation for long periods from his neighbors, renders the farmer a fit object for the attack of speculators and speculators. Where two or more were prosperous and money was plenty, the love of ease and pride of independence kept the farmer aloof from his neighbors, but when the financial affairs of the country went wrong, and taxation ate up the farmers’ substance, the necessity of self-preservation drove him to consult with his neighbors who were in like distress; and from one to another he went until all his neighbors combined with him for mutual protection.

From just such causes and necessities grew the Patrons of Husbandry. They had already far advanced when a happy conception crystallized them into Granges.

These Granges are not formed to make war on merchants, banks and railroads, but they are formed to insure, by combined and mutual support, fair and just dealings with whomsoever they may deal—merchants, manufacturers, steamboats or railroads.

Their necessities require them to procure goods and freight on the best possible terms, but they are well aware of the fact, that a man who cultivates a farm every day in the year, cannot make shoes, hats, clothes, flour, wagons and cotton gins. These must be procured from those who deal in such things, and the Granges is to co-operate, so as to procure such articles as their members need, for the least price for a good article.

And they know that they cannot get their produce to market and their supplies back home without railroads or steamboats, but they do not control transportation in their interest, as far as possible, without injustice to others.—Co-operative News.

Good Work and Prospects in Kansas.—I have just had a month’s trip through thirty counties in Kansas, in which I traveled by livery, stage and railroad, over 1150 miles, and delivered twenty-three addresses to county meetings, gave the unwritten work twenty times, organized two district Granges, and instructed nine Pomona Granges. Meeting the lecturer of the National Grange, was with me over half of the time, and during five weeks he delivered thirty-three public addresses. It is to be feared that we do not work in the east and west, and in all that region, a very cheap and small trade is needed. Such papers as are published are sensational publications secure no interest in Grange work, and by the present popularity, must not be patrons. Some political papers put out a show of interest in Grange work, and by sensational publications secure no interest in the work, and by the present popularity, must not be patrons. We are consolidating weak granges, and our only trouble has been that we may want as low as any one can get them. I find some counties that have 2,000 or more members, through their county agents from one to twelve thousand dollars each, while a few have set in the axle-tree of progress, Micawber and all, and have the name of doing and the name of doing nothing. The western half of Kansas never had such crops before, and many farmers will clear $20 per acre this year, and the children of destitution are getting thanks to the great Master above, and the cry of the relief agent shall no more be heard in the land.

We are consolidating weak granges, weeding out politicians and dead beats, and getting ready to do good work.—

From every quarter of the country comes the word that under the new order abolishing the old credit plan, the farmers in the Order of Patrons are attaining to a degree of independence they have never before experienced, and a mutual benefit is seen on all hands. The word is moving—

-End. Farmer.
Each sample should be accompanied with a statement, containing the name of the producer, where raised, and such facts relating to soil and cultivation as may be deemed of interest. It would be desirable to have samples of soil, producing rare specimens, or heavy yields, forwarded with the specimen.

While our State has vast resources in its mineral products, and lumber, yet the great source of its wealth and prosperity, are the products of the farms and orchards. Shall these interests be well represented in the Centennial Exhibition of the nation, or shall the question for the agriculturists of Michigan be decided?

I trust that every Master in the State will present this subject to his Grange, and urge prompt and active co-operation in this work. Patrons do your duty.

**Qualification of Members.**

I am constantly in receipt of letters from members of the Order, enquiring whether any individual, clergyman, or editor, is eligible to membership in our Order. In answer to these inquiries I will state, that I cannot decide individual cases, or define the law more clearly than the law itself. Article 5 of the New Constitution reads as follows:—

"Any person engaged in agricultural pursuits and having no interest in conflict with our purposes, of the age of sixteen years, duly proposed, elected, and conforming with the rules and regulations of the Order, is entitled to membership in the State, or in the several counties, who will give their personal attention to collecting and forwarding samples of products, and for that purpose will attend the Fairs of the county; and I trust the officers of the Agricultural Societies, and other Organized Fruits and Grain Growers will co-operate with the County Superintendents and State Board, in this work. Counties and sections, thus fished to be represented by samples of products from such localities, can do so, but should apply for space in the exhibition, at the earliest possible moment.

The code of By-Laws recommended for Subordinate Granges by the Executive Committee of the State Grange, were drafted under the Old Constitution, and a very liberal construction given to the language "interested in agricultural pursuits." Sections 1 and 3 of Article 6 of said By-Laws contain provisions which seem to conflict with Article 5 of the Amended Constitution, and must yield to higher authority. Due caution should be exercised in admitting members to our Order. It is a Farmers' Institution, and its only safety is in keeping it as such.

There are those who seek admission to our Order through selfish motives, others from mere curiosity, and some, with no doubt, to act as spies, and to injure us. To protect the Order from the blighting influence of such an element requires much discretion and constant watchfulness. The Sentinel should stand firm at his post, and none but the worthy should be allowed to enter.

The following will answer many inquiries in regard to the power and duty of Standing Committees:

All committees appointed by a Grange are subject to its instructions, and can do no act which will be binding upon the Grange without its instruction or approval. It is the duty of committees to examine carefully all subjects referred to them, and report such facts relating to the matter before them as they may be able to obtain, and recommend such action by the Grange as they deem advisable. If the Grange concur in the action as may have been recommended, the matter is disposed of; but if the Grange refuse to concur, the whole subject under consideration, is again in the hands of the General committee of the State, which may be re-committed to the committee, referred to another Standing Committee, or to a Special Committee; or considered and disposed of by the Grange.

**Duty to Grange Agents.**—Many of the members of our Order seem to think that they are not in duty bound to deal with the agents of the Granges; that there is no obligation on their part to sustain, with their patronage, the brother who has been elected to serve them in a business capacity. This is a mistaken idea. If there is anything in a moral obligation, they owe their patronage to the agencies.

The agency belongs to the Order and not any individual. It is a certain lawyer, doctor, merchant, clergyman, or editor, is eligible to membership in our Order. If any agent is wronged or defrauded by the agent, he has the means of redress in action for damages, and the Order must yield to high authority and sustain its members or damage. The members are secured in this way against pecuniary loss; while the agent must depend for his support on the protection of the State, and must be an independent man, in the sense that he is free to go where he chooses. The duties of the Order are not to be performed by agents, but by the Order. If any member is wronged by an agent, he can appeal to the State Board, in this work. Counties and districts, should deal with the State Agent, and every Grange store, whether county or district, should deal with the State Agent, and this should be required by the members of the Order as the only means of success; for wrong doing, removes the agent and collects damages, but sustains the agency—

"Son of the Soil."

—The Secretary of the Kansas State Grange reports 1,380 Granges organized with 4,860 members—

Though many Granges are in arrears for dues, owing to the damage by grasshoppers and the financial stringency, the tone of the paper is uniformly of hope and confidence.

—This year, thus far, has marked far greater prosperity in the Order of Patrons than any previous one. The tone of the Sentinel is that of getting down to the conviction that the Order has come to stay, and manufacturers and business men are rapidly adjusting their affairs to this end.—*Ind. Farmer.*
Although we have more than once referred to the necessity of Secretaries making a report to this office every quarter, and we are endeavor to show that the payment of fees and dues was altogether another matter, yet we find that some Secretaries, knowing that the Master of their Grange holds an order for more than the fees and dues, and that the State Grange is really the debtor, seem to think that there is no need of their making a quarterly report to this office so long as their Grange is not indebted to the State Grange.

This is wholly a mistake. To withhold quarterly reports is practically to require the Masters to conduct their own business. The State Grange, and the agricultural society of the State, is the only body that shall make a correct return of membership to the national Grange, and determine the quarterly dues of the State to the National Grange.

We have repeatedly asked Secretaries for reports for one or more quarters, and received in reply a prompt assurance that the Master held an order covering all dues, or that they had received the receipts for the quarter. Now we are quite as anxious to know to what our Grange is entitled than we are to make a report to the national Grange. We have repeatedly asked Secretaries for reports for one or more quarters, and received in reply a prompt assurance that the Master held an order covering all dues, or that they had received the receipts for the quarter. Now we are quite as anxious to know to what our Grange is entitled as we are to make a report to the national Grange.

That is the basis of the business, and we cannot know how our business with the Granges stands without it.

In one or two instances a "little unpleasantness" has occurred on account of this matter not being under-stand.KeyEvent

We propose hereafter referring to this matter monthly if necessary, until it is fully understood that the payment of fees and dues was not only the responsibility of the Secretary, but also the duty of the Master of the Grange.

Note: A prompt return of membership to the national Grange is required by the By-Laws and the usages of the Order. Without such report we are unable to make a correct return of membership to the national Grange.

Meeting of the Executive Committee

In compliance with a call from its Chairman, the Executive Committee met on the 6th inst. at Battle Creek. With the notice of this meeting an invitation was sent to the Chairman to be present on the 5th, at a Pic-Nic a mile and a half out of the city, on the banks of the Kalamazoo River. Nearly all the members arrived in time to join in the long procession of Patrons of Calhoun and neighboring Counties, that between ten and eleven o'clock, extended in one unbroken line from the city to the grove.

The day was all that could be desired, the place one of great beauty, well adapted to the purpose for which it is being improved by the proprietor, — Foster, a worthy and earnest working Brother. Several thousand dollars have been expended already this season in grading, building, fixing and fixtures for the accommodation and amusement of all comers. Seats, rising one above another on the hill-side, with speakers stand in front, met the demand of this occasion, which included in its purpose a discussion of various questions pertaining to the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

At such a Pic-Nic it is the custom of the Executive Committee to provide a plan for effecting this object. As an important matter about which there should be no misunderstanding, we copy the By-Law in full.

Sec. 1. Art. 1. The membership of the Michigan State Grange shall consist of the Masters of the Subordinate Granges of the State, who shall be chosen in proportion to one for every five Subordinate Granges in the county, or major part thereof, and their wives who are Matrons. The election of these members to be held in a manner to be determined upon by the Executive Committee of the State Grange.

A By-Law of the Michigan State Grange adopted at the last session, provides for the making of the next State Grange a representative body, and makes it the duty of the Executive Committee to provide a plan for effecting this object. The plan finally adopted by the Committee requires that the election be held on the last Tuesday in October in each County, which shall be composed of the Master and his wife and two fourths of the other delegates elected as delegates from each Subordinate Grange in the County. Where a Master and his wife are unable to attend the election, a delegate may be appointed from a neighboring county, or such other place in a majority of the Masters of the Granges of the county may agree upon.

After a lengthy discussion the plan finally adopted by the Committee requires that the election be held on the last Tuesday in October in each County, which shall be composed of the Master and his wife and two fourths of the other delegates elected as delegates from each Subordinate Grange in the County. Where a Master and his wife are unable to attend the election, a delegate may be appointed from a neighboring county, or such other place in a majority of the Masters of the Granges of the county may agree upon.

Where one-fourth of the Masters and their wives only are eligible to election as representatives, it is provided that in that case the convention will be composed of delegates from Subordinate Granges, having an equal voice and vote with nothing to say. Past Master Brown and State Lecturer Whitney were present, loaded with good speeches, but in words of — "Wool of the world, and thousands of intellgible farmers and their wives that I (he) ever saw together" had listened for over three hours to so many good speeches that it was time to stop.

With a closing song this harvest Pic-Nio was pronounced a grand success by every one present. The big teams and little ones pulled up and with flags and banners proudly in place, the Patrons and their friends sought their homes, as we believe, strengthened in the conviction that farmers not only have a right to organize for their own benefit, but that through such organization the social, moral and material interests of the agricultural class of this country will be advanced.

At the P. M. the Executive Committee met at the Potter House, and had a session of three hours and a half that evening, every member being present.

Several questions were discussed and laid over until the next day.

On Friday morning, promptly at the hour of adjournment, the Con-vent of the Michigan State Grange adopted at the last session, provides for making the next State Grange a representative body, and makes it the duty of the Executive Committee to provide a plan for effecting this object. As an important matter about which there should be no misunderstanding, we copy the By-Law in full.

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the members of the State Grange, in determining the eligibility of their wives shall represent the Granges of the County.

This we think is a move in the right direction, and is as near meeting the wishes of the members of the Order as it now is.

The place of holding the next State Grange was not definitely settled, though the chances are in favor of Lansing. By this time the matter may perhaps be definitely settled in time to appear in the August number of the Visistor.

Brother Chilson to attend a meeting of State Agents of the Northwestern States to be held at Indianapolis on the 10th inst. As the State Agency in several of the Western States has proved a success, or at least report having done a large amount of business, we can but think such a meeting will prove of advantage to all concerned.

The following report was presented, read, and accepted:

To the Executive Committee of the Mich. State Grange:

GENTLEMEN — At the last regular meeting of the Committee held in the city of Lansing, on the 24th day of February last, the Master and Secretary of the State Grange were instructed to issue a Monthly Circular, two copies of which were to be sent free to each Grange in the State.

In compliance with this requirement, the first number was issued April and two copies were directed and sent through the mails as second-class matter to Granges throughout the State. In this number Secretaries were requested to furnish Masters with one copy, with as little delay as possible. We find that such request, owing to the carelessness of some Secretaries, was not complied with, and only few copies to both Masters and Secretaries.

The sheet under the name of Circular passing through the mails without a stamp attached, attracted the attention of mail agents, and we have had the same number printed of each subsequent issue. We have made no effort to obtain subscribers, and have as yet but a small list.

The printing has been done by the Kalamazoo Publishing Co., and for the three numbers issued we have paid $98.00. For all other expenses attending the publication of the Circular or Visistor, including postage on mail sent to the Masters and Secretaries of every State Grange there has been paid $34.08, making a total of $132.08. We have received for advertising in the three numbers and for subscription, $145.58; leaving a balance on hand July Ist over expenses of $13.77. Since this balance would have been some $12.00 greater but for the little snubbl about postage.

From this showing the Committee are assured that the experiment will not be any expense to the State Grange Treasury.

With this statement of what has been done in obedience to the order of the Executive Committee, we should be glad to close this report. But as we know of no motive that prompted the Committee to determine to issue a Monthly Circular without a stamp attached, an honest belief on the part of its individual members that the Good of the Order would be promoted thereby, it is proper that the Committee should be informed of some facts that have come to the surface by the publication of this sheet, that the Committee may be better prepared to determine what its future course shall be in reference to this matter.

The first issue of the Circular in the New Era and Northern Granger charging the Secretary with having in the printed Proceedings of the Grange, which was the cause of its being dropped, was due to a misprint in the report or made a mistake, doing the Era great injustice.

Passing by without comment upon the publication of the Visistor, this is in order to correct the impression that all queries without detection would be simply impossible, we find that on the second day of the session a motion was made and seconded that the order of business be read.

Three appointed to take into consideration the expediency of securing a State Organ. Such Committee was appointed and their report made the third day of the session, is given verbatim in the printed Proceedings of the Session, and is as follows:

Wanted, the Press is recognized as the motive power in moulding public sentiment and in the diffusion of knowledge, and all dis- tinct interests receive material aid therefrom, and

WHEREAS, Our Worthy Master recommends that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry of Michigan demands a live and able paper devoted to its interests, then

Resolved, That the New Era and Northern Granger be the official organ of the State we disapprove, and recommend that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry and keep on file in every Grange in this State.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Andrew Curnel, President,
O. Watson, Sec.
N. H. Rosser, S. Com.

On motion, the report was accepted and laid upon the table.

The next day, on motion, the report was taken from the table and a motion taken to adopt "A motion was made to amend by striking out that portion relating to making it (the New Era and Northern Granger) an official organ; and also the recommendation to keep on file in Granges. Divided called for and allowed. First section adopted; second section lost Report as amended adopted."

The original minutes show nothing farther in relation to the New Era and Northern Granger than to recommend that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry of Michigan demands a live and able paper devoted to its interests, except what appears in the address of the Worthy Master recommending an organ "as a channel of communication between the officers of the State Grange and the subordinate Granges, as affording a means by which the members of the Order might freely confer with each other," and in the report of the Finance Committee, which says: "That so much time and money have been spent to establish the establishment of a Newspaper Organ for the Patrons of Husbandry in this State, and that it be not adopted."

From this we find that the State Grange by its action upon the report above mentioned recommended that Patrons sustain the New Era and Northern Granger and that it be kept on file in every Grange in the State.

From this it seems to us that the direct proposition that "it be the official organ of the Order in this State" the State Grange voted to "strike out this section of the report of the committee."

In the true interest of peace and
good fellowship, we forbear making further reference to the strictures which have appeared from time to time in the New Era, only regretting that for want of a full understanding of the case, Bro. Wood has done the Committee injustice to the extent of the circulation of his paper and encouraged disaffection in the Order.

We very much regret this state of things, as necessary and harmless, and have so far made no word of reply. With this statement, we leave the decision for your disposal, only adding that we have received from Masters and Secretaries many assurances that the Vindicator was a useful sheet, and that it contained in a compact form much valuable information, and that its circulation must necessarily promote the "Good of the Order."

J. J. Woolman, J. T. Cobb,
Com. of Publication.

The report elicited much discussion. The action of the Master and Secretaries was unanimously approved by the Committee, and they were instructed to continue the publication of the Circular under the name of THE GRANGE VISITOR. A Committee consisting of J. Webster Childs and J. T. Cobb were directed to visit Bro. Wood, the publication of the Circular, and by a full and free interchange of views endeavor to disabuse the mind of Bro. Wood of what appeared to the Committee to be a misunderstanding on his part of the action of the State Grange and the object of the Committee in the publication of the circular.

As at writing the report of this Committee is before us, it seems quite suitable that it be presented here in connection with the subject to which it relates:

To the Executive Committee of the Mich. State Grange:

In the discharge of the duty assigned us, we on the 12th inst. visited Bro. A. B. Wood in his office at Owosso.

We were kindly received and entertained at once upon the business of our mission.

We do not think it necessary to present a full review, or the discussion of every question of difference between Bro. Wood and the Executive Committee, as only the results of our interview are important, and these may be summed up in a few words.

We think Bro. Wood became fully satisfied of the truth of our assurance that we believed no member of the Executive Committee was actuated by an improper motive in connection with the publication of the Circular, and while we could not harmonize opinions upon the necessity or propriety of issuing such Circular, it was mutually agreed to accept the situation in a fraternal spirit, and commit, without further discussion, the whole matter to the consideration and disposition of the next State Grange.

We are free to say that while we think Bro. Wood has been far mistaken in questioning the motives of any of the officers of the State Grange and members of the Executive Committee yet we think he is doing all in his power to make his paper useful to the Order in this State, and we sincerely hope that the Era may receive that patronage and support from our Patrons as will make it a success, and secure to its proprietor ample reward for his untiring labor. In the hope that the good of the Order will be promoted by the conference had with Bro. Wood we respectfully submit this our report.

J. WEBSTER CHILDS, J. T. COBB,
Committee.

The action of the committee upon the planter and various other questions, will be presented to Patrons in such manner as the good of the Order seems to require in this time. The session was harmonious throughout, and we hope will be productive of good.

The Centennial Celebration to which our attention has been called in the Master's department, having become a fixed fact in the near future, involving an expenditure of several millions of dollars, the question at once arises, how shall it be made a grand success.

The placing by the Governor of the Master of the State Grange upon the Centennial Commission, making it his special duty to see that the agricultural productions of the State were well represented, seems eminently fitting and proper.

That the object of this immense enterprise may be attained, will from this time forward largely depend upon the individual efforts of men and women who are not on National or State Committees, but who are ready and willing to cooperate with the officers of the State in the preparation of exhibits for exhibition articles of superior excellence from every department of productive industry. It seems to us the country will expect the Order, it being so thoroughly identified with Agriculture, to take a deep interest in this subject, and we hope this reasonable expectation may be promptly met by Michigan Patrons.

The following Granges are deficient in Secretary's Reports for the quarters ending June 30, Sept. 30, and Dec. 31, 1874:


And No's. 71, 93, 117, 134, 182, 183, 215, 320, 347, 354, 365, 405, 418, 419, 444 and 453, are deficient for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1874.

—E. R. Shunkland, of the National Executive Committee, says the cash sales for the month of April at some of the Grange State Agencies were as follows: Missouri, $69,000; Indiana, $63,000; Ohio, $80,000 and Kentucky $49,000. And this is only a beginning, as these agencies are new and only getting into operation.

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 1875.

The Charlotte Grange has purchased of Mr. C. C. Washington a lot 25 by 100 feet, on the corner east of the marble factory. A store-house and hall, for the Grangers' own use, is to be built on it.

State Agent's Department.

N. CHILTON, BATTLE CREEK.

Michigan State Fair.

The next State Fair to be held at Saginaw, Sept. 13th to 17th, will afford Patrons a splendid opportunity of seeing such samples of Industry and goods as have been offered us by manufacturers and dealers who desire to deal directly with the Order.

To secure this object I have resolved to exhibit samples of everything for which arrangements have been made to supply the trade for 1875.

We particularly desire that County and District Agents should be in attendance, that an interchange of views may be had, and we may be the better prepared to advance the co-operative work of our Order. Meetings of Agents and Patrons who feel a desire to promote the general good, should be held from time to time during the Fair, at such convenient place as we can obtain. When I go to Saginaw, I will secure a place for such meeting. By such a conference I trust we shall be able to adopt some uniform system of business that will be active and give increased strength and confidence to every true Patron in Mich. A meeting of this kind, we think, should be made yearly, and will afford the best opportunity to advance the interests of the Order that can be wished for.

I desire that manufacturers meet with us, and take part in planning this great co-operative scheme, in which are mutually interested. Now is the time to lay the foundation for the work of next year.

Brothers and Sisters, let us make this a time for good fellowship, and as true agriculturists, working for the good of all, resolve to make the next State Fair the best held in the State. Let your presence and voice give an assurance to manufacturers that we mean business in every sense of the word, not something merely for the day, but that which will tell for generations to come.

I hope those few hints or suggestions will be sufficient to let our Patrons understand that we are desirous of asking all Grange Agents, on their arrival, to report to me at the Pomological Hall on the grounds, which will be my headquarters during the Fair. We will determine time and place of meeting. We hope counties having no Agents will be represented by delegates from as many Granges as possible.

At present a full list of the articles to be shown can only be given us that it will consist of Reaper and Mowers, Horse Rakes, Plows, Harrows, Potatoes, Potato Diggers, Grass Drill, Cultivators, Sawing Machines, Threshing Mills, Buggies, Sawing Machines, Organs, etc., etc.

Permit me to call attention to some facts as appear by a recent investigation, and this I will do in a faultless way only for the purpose of getting you to understand the situation. About a year ago I visited Saginaw Valley for the purpose of making arrangements for the purchase of lumber and salt. I called upon
most of the manufacturers of these great staples, and to you, the purchaser, at the very lowest whole-
sale price when ordered by one or more thousand. I have been informed by them that the Grange was a creature of short life, and could be of no practical value to them. How are these facts to be disposed of? We have not the railroad connections such that our supply of lumber naturally comes from Saginaw City as true and faithful patrons ought!—I will not answer, but leave you to draw your own conclusions. After I have made known the facts I have from another visit to Mr. Wright, I asked him, "how has the Grange trade progressed?" He answered, "the trade has not been what I expected, and we are not going to make a failure in any business, I resolved to find one man who would recognize us as having rights equal to respectable dealers.

After a long and persistent effort, I succeeded by finding one, in the person of A. W. Wright, of Saginaw City, who agreed to furnish lumber to the Order at as favorable rates as to regular dealers. This is a fact that we always have to labor for what we get in any department of life, we must some day make a beginning, and it has for some time past been my wish to work with you in what way to begin to make our grange meetings more attractive.

Now I know that the Grange is an interesting society, and also that there is no lack of room in the wide-spread and diversified fields that are already open before us for discussion. Why then should we be lacking for subjects of debate in the Grange?—There is no more necessity of being unemployed for the mind than there is for us to be unemployed with our hands. Now we have the same material to build with that all other great enterprisers of the world had at their commencement, and that gives of course a rational supply of brain-work. Patrons, let us set our brains at work—let us raise our Order to a higher standard. But in order to do this, labor must be performed. We can not do it by attending our meetings night after night and repeating the work of former meetings and nothing more. We must think what is meant by our thoughts to the surface where other persons can get some good from them. Now the question is, how shall we get this started. One can not do much alone. I am anxious to give my opinions of this matter on paper, for I am no speaker, and I think there are but few farmers that are, but most of us can think a little, and a paper does not cost much, we can write our thoughts on it. We can paint a picture of our minds, and in this way bring out our ideas, that they may be compared with those of our brethren. As I have said before, there is labor to be performed. Let us think for a moment what that labor shall be. Some may say of course, labor is work of some kind, for labor means work, and the work of the farmer is chopping, logging, plowing, harrowing or any one of the thousand other kinds of bone and muscle exercises that we farmers have to perform so that the world may be clothed and fed. Here let us stop and consider what a state this world would be should the farmer cease to labor. Half of the universe would starve. If the farmer should stop his plow, the earth would soon become desolate for farming is the main driving wheel in the machinery of the world, and the Farmers of Husbandry the producers. Power in former times drives the great wheel and puts in motion. Patrons, shall we be slaves to the world any longer? Shall we be like the convicts? This is a question that will puzzle to think who we are or what we are doing? The time I trust will soon be past, when we shall be free from the lesser wheels that have been driving and goading us about for years gone by. I have faith that in time the organization of the Grange will bring about a better state of things than have hitherto existed. Here is the kind of labor we intend to speak of. It is what the Grange is intended for. It is the labor of the mind which controls and directs to a successful issue all the efforts of man.—By well-regulated mental culture we can better our condition as a Grange. We can better our condition as a neighborhood. We can better our condition as farmers. We can better ourselves as citizens in all our social and moral relations. The moral teachings of the Order are among its marked characteristics, and are inculcated at every step of advancement. All religious societies are calculated to be moral, and the principles of morality are taught in the Grange, though the Grange is not specially a religious society.

By the use of our reasoning faculties let us put into practice what constitutes true morality, and let us stand by our principles, taking no notice of the gossip that is on every side of us day by day, we shall be able to better ourselves, and by bettering ourselves, better the Order to which we belong.

Inculcate morality and cultivate the mind, for it is the mind that makes the man.

George Brown,

Owosso Grange, No. 528.

Fence Corners.—When the grain fields are cleared of the crops, see that the woods and bushes in the fence corners are cut. Don't leave them to seed your farms.

The State Grange of Kentucky was incorporated last week. It is now in position to receive its proportion of the loan offered by the National Grange to the various State Granges.

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I grow my trees, and can afford to sell cheaper than dealers who buy all their stock. Make up your list and send me your price list on.

The return mail is compelled to scrabble for life the whole time without stop-

COMMITTED.

For the Grange Visitor.

RUDY, St. Clair Co., Aug., 1875

Worthy Patron:

Confident that Grangers or Company and we must recognize it as true be-

W. Lyon,

and to say how well the great fundamental principles of the Order shall be ad-

Kalamazoo

and diversified fields that are already open before us for discussion. Why then should we be lacking for subjects of debate in the Grange?—There is no more necessity of being unemployed for the mind than there is for us to be unemployed with our hands. Now we have the same material to build with that all other great enterprisers of the world had at their commencement, and that gives of course a rational supply of brain-work. Patrons, let us set our brains at work—let us raise our Order to a higher standard. But in order to do this, labor must be performed. We can not do it by attending our meetings night after night and repeating the work of former meetings and nothing more. We must think what is meant by our thoughts to the surface where other persons can get some good from them. Now the question is, how shall we get this started. One can not do much alone. I am anxious to give my opinions of this matter on paper, for I am no speaker, and I think there are but few farmers that are, but most of us can think a little, and a paper does not cost much, we can write our thoughts on it. We can paint a picture of our minds, and in this way bring out our ideas, that they may be compared with those of our brethren. As I have said before, there is labor to be performed. Let us think for a moment what that labor shall be. Some may say of course, labor is work of some kind, for labor means work, and the work of the farmer is chopping, logging, plowing, harrowing or any one of the thousand other kinds of bone and muscle exercises that we farmers have to perform so that the world may be clothed and fed. Here let us stop and consider what a state this world would be should the farmer cease to labor. Half of the universe would starve. If the farmer should stop his plow, the earth would soon become desolate for farming is the main driving wheel in the machinery of the world, and the Farmers of Husbandry the producers. Power in former times drives the great wheel and puts it in motion. Patrons, shall we be slaves to the world any longer? Shall we be like the convicts? This is a question that will puzzle to think who we are or what we are doing? The time I trust will soon be past, when we shall be free from the lesser wheels that have been driving and goading us about for years gone by. I have faith that in time the organization of the Grange will bring about a better state of things than have hitherto existed. Here is the kind of labor we intend to speak of. It is what the Grange is intended for. It is the labor of the mind which controls and directs to a successful issue all the efforts of man.—By well-regulated mental culture we can better our condition as a Grange. We can better our condition as a neighborhood. We can better our condition as farmers. We can better ourselves as citizens in all our social and moral relations. The moral teachings of the Order are among its marked characteristics, and are inculcated at every step of advancement. All religious societies are calculated to be moral, and the principles of morality are taught in the Grange, though the Grange is not specially a religious society.

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