The Grange Visitor,  
Issued Monthly,  
At Thirty Cents Per Annum,  
Invariably in Advance.  

J. E. Woodman,  
Printing Committee.  

All communications should be addressed to  
J. T. Cobb, Secretary-Mich.,  
Schoonover, Mich.  
Commissioners should be addressed to  
Registered Letter,  
Monev Order or Draft.  

The Grange Visitor,  
Nov. 15, 1876.  

Brooks and Sisters of National Grange:  

Under the requirements of our Constitution we are again convened in annual session, to consider and take such action in the great interests of the class as may appear expedient for the advancement of their prosperity, and as a consequence, the prosperity of our country, and for the good of our Order.  

The feeling of enthusiasm with which you have heretofore been greeted from this chair, on like occasions, experiences no abatement, but receives new force from year to year, with the increase of our membership, power, and good works.  

If we shall build our superstructure in harmony with, and in just proportions to the broad and substantial foundations we have laid, we shall have cause of deeper, of immeasurable gratitude to Him who has sustained us so far in our work, and permitted us to meet together again, with our ranks unbroken, to labor in this glorious cause.  

I observe but few changes in this glorious cause.  

I shall briefly allude to such matters as I deem it expedient to call your attention to, referring you to the reports of the Executive Committee, Secretary and Treasurer, for details of the business in their respective departments, and for the general progress of our work.  

At the last session of this body several important amendments to the Constitution were proposed and subsequently ratified by the State Granges, of which proclamation was duly made.  

While I am impressed with the evil of frequent and needless changes in our Constitution and Laws, experience has confirmed my conviction that some further changes are expedient.  

Prominent among these is the necessity of so amending Section 2, of the Constitution, under the head of Organization, as to preserve that unity and symmetry in our Grange system which had characterized it before the adoption of this section, and which is so essential to its harmonious and efficient working.  

In providing for the establishment of Pomona Granges “under such regulations as may be established by State Granges,” instead of placing them upon the same footing as other Granges in their organization and government, we have not only marred the harmony and beauty of our system, but greatly impaireiff the efficiency of this valuable link in our chain of Granges.  

At the same session a set of “Rules for Patrons Co-operative Associations,” were submitted to the National Grange and “recommended to the Patrons throughout the country.”  

As a part of the system and plan of the organization and government of the co-operative societies of Great Britain, which it was our purpose to adopt, these rules, with some slight changes, will be most valuable, but taken alone they are a disjointed link in a chain, the perfection of which by our British friends has been the work of their educated, thinking, practical men, for the last thirty-five years.  

The fraction which we have given our Order has been utilized to an extent which we can only conjecture.  

The co-operative stores have been established in the various States and Territories of the United States, with various amounts of share capital, and perhaps as various in other features, and in their fortunes.  

They are without a head or connecting link, “like so many islands in the sea, without even a boat plying from one to the other”—without that principle of unity which is the life of co-operation and the guiding star of humanity.  

Contrast this chaos and ignorance with the admirable and intelligent system we would follow.  I have before me, on a single sheet, a bird’s eye view of four hundred co-operative societies in the United Kingdom; giving of each the name, location, number of members, purchases from wholesale during the year; quarterly, half-yearly and annual sales in each department of trade, share capital, reserve fund, buildings and fixed stock for trade purposes, rate of dividend per E., amount of dividend declared to members, and amount devoted to education.  

On the same sheet is a bird’s eye view of co-operation in England and Wales, compiled from the Government returns, showing the financial progress and position of the co-operative movement during the past seven years.  

With such information, their co-operative Congress, the head of this
system, acts intelligently. Without it, they could take no safe action affecting their subordinate organizations. With the perfection of our system of organization, is the necessity of educating our members in the true principles of co-operation. Let us follow the example of our English friends in this also. Through their courtesy I have received a large number of tracts, with the proceedings of their co-operative Congress from 1868 to the present time, making a most valuable collection of every article of literature. We have to reach the minds of many who are ignorant, and to stimulate in them a thirst for knowledge. The latter, which is the requisition to be accomplished by living missionaries. If we could send out some of the friends of co-operation, (who could be named,) to act as pioneers in this work, we would soon see a large demand for co-operative intelligence.

It may be thought, by some who take a solely sentimental view of our Organization, that I am giving an undue prominence to its material objects. If so, I cannot deny that they have stood out before me in the deep philosophy, pure morality, lofty virtue, and genuine religion, that underlies co-operative life. Rightly understood it is the practical realization of Christian ethics. The silent virtues of temperance, forethought, just dealing, and fellowship in work, will prevail over the gross immoralities and mischiefs of our society. Not to our credit, do I believe they have tainted our government, as well as the trade and commerce, by all the penal statutes that have been or can be devised. The material, moral, social and intellectual influences are in near connection with each other. The most material things have great influence on mental subjects, a sentiment that ages ago the poet Homer gave vent to, in saying that "when men become slaves they lose half his virtue."

At the last session of this Grange much interest was expressed in the articles of association which were adopted by the co-operative societies of Great Britain to inaugurate a system of exchange between them and the agricultural promoters of this country. Friendly messages to our Order, through their special delegation, and subsequent correspondence with our Executive Committee, which I was directed, by a resolution of this body, to continue, as I did, until a point was reached when, in my judgment, with the approval of the Executive Committee, it became expedient to send a special commissioner to confer with the authorities in those societies upon this subject, and to represent our ideas and interest in this connection. Brother J. W. A. Wright was appointed to this office, and it affords me sincere pleasure to bear testimony to the ability, dignity and grace with which he discharged its important duties. The character of which he was endowed with has been so near his heart from its inceptions, and other services referred to, as a free-will offering to our Order, which has been so near his heart from its inception, and especially that one which is the life blood of the whole, would paralyze the system. It is not to the share capital in these enterprises that our members will look for greatest benefits, but in the facilities they will afford for the sale of our products and the purchase of our supplies. The member that holds but a single share will be entitled to the same benefits, and have an equal voice in the deliberations of the member holding the maximum. Some of our members may not be able to take a single share, yet such a share can contribute to the profits, by its customs, more than others holding the maximum of shares. Shall such members have no representation, no pure Moravian's interest in the success of which they contribute perhaps the largest share?

A co-operative Congress elected by stockholders, could not be more responsible, or represent the interest of their constituents more intelligently, or faithfully, than a body chosen from the Order, as is this National Grange.

That we have opposition to our plans, powerful and energetic, we know, but the effort of our organization comes should serve us to put forth whatever effort may be necessary to secure to the toiling farmer the rights which were acknowledged to be due to him by the most enlightened provisions of the highest British Parliament. Thus has been made the development of our Order, and we are under the necessity of appealing to the great masses of our country, assure me of the very able patron's enterprise, to the support of our Order. From the high ground on which we stand, no ordinary step can be taken to secure the practical benefits of a business connection with the Co-operative Societies of Great Britain.

In compliance with this resolution, I again brought before the Committee, at their last session, in Philadelphia, the proposed articles of association of an Anglo-American Co-operative Association, with a plan of organizing the American section thereof. I have published in my circular letter of July 14th, copies of which are also in the hands of the Secretary for your use. The Executive Committee will have to return to you what action they have taken in these matters.

I commend this whole subject of our careful consideration, as one of supreme importance to our Order, trusting that by your wise action, the system of co-operation recommended at your last session may be perfected, and that the articles provided for its extension to international commerce, through an Anglo-American Association, may be found acceptable, and may be recommended to our members. Every safeguard which the experience of British co-operators, and the most careful consideration on our side could devise, is thrown around the whole scheme.

The plan of organizing the American section of this Association which I submit, may be improved by your joint wisdom and united intelligence of the extended field for which it was designed. By some it may be regarded as yielding much of the authority and fostering care, which our Constitution wisely provides the National Grange shall exercise, directly, and through subordinate Granges, over the business interests of our Order, in only becoming an advisory body.

On the other hand it may be objected that the National Grange is elected by those who may be stockholders in these enterprises alone, but by the representatives of all the members, and therefore should not exercise supervision over their interests. Of these opposite opinions the last would lead to consequences, I think, fatal to our Order, and would be a very sad hope. The purposes of our Order are so blended, each so in harmony with the other, and so dependent upon one another in the maintenance of one, and especially that one which is the life blood of the whole, would paralyze the system. It is not to the share capital in these enterprises that our members will look for greatest benefits, but in the facilities they will afford.

By your action at the last session upon the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the resolutions following the report. I felt warranted in commissioning Brother Wright as Deputy, to present our Order to the farmers of Great Britain, and to organize Granges in the United Kingdom, if desired.

I refer you to his report for his work in this connection, only adding that many letters received from men of high character and position in that country, assure me of the very able and successful manner in which he conducted the principles, purposes and claims of our Order, and of favorable impressions made by his efforts. He gave his time and attention to the credit of this country, and other services referred to, as a free-will offering to our Order, which has been so near his heart from its inception, and especially that one which is the life blood of the whole, would paralyze the system. It is not to the share capital in these enterprises that our members will look for greatest benefits, but in the facilities they will afford.
While we have any considerable sum on hand, urgent appeals will be made for donations in the interest of our membership in States having suffered from insects and drought. No amount that can be appropriated from our National Grange Treasury, would afford me an appreciable relief, or divided. This should be the work of our Subordinate Granges and members blessed with abundance, and I really hope you will be unmindful of such obligations.

In conclusion, I trust that the same harmony and freedom from sectional feeling which has so eminently and admirably characterized the deliberations and action of this body, and of our entire order, in the past, may obtain at this session, and in all time to come; thus rebuking the reckless selfishness of political partisans who are too graceless to profess a zeal above party, and continue to irritate the wounds, which every true patriot should labor to heal.

**Life Insurance.**

As promised in the Sept. number of the Visor, for the information of Patrons, we have the By-Laws of the Patrons Aid Society of the State of New York printed in this number.

We hope our fellow patrons will consider this subject, talk about it, discuss it at Grange meetings, and be prepared, if it is deemed advisable to organize an Aid Society in this State, to promptly send forward their applications to the proper officer.

**By-Laws of the Patron’s Aid Society.**

Incorporated under the Laws of the State of New York, Adopted December 24, 1874; Amended March 16, 78.

**NAME AND OBJECT.**

This society shall be known as the Patron’s Aid Society, and is formed for the purpose of aiding and assisting the families of designated representatives of deceased members.

**PLACE OF MEETING.**

The office of this society shall be in the City of Elmira, N. Y., at which office all meetings of the society, and of its directors, shall be held, and its principal business transacted.

**OFFICERS.**

The officers of this society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Board of Directors.

Any member of this society, male or female, may be elected to fill any of the offices as set forth in the above paragraph, excepting only that the members elected to the offices of Secretary and Treasurer must be residents of the county of Chemung, State of New York.

**MEETINGS.**

The annual meeting of this society shall be held on the third Thursday of December in each year, at one o'clock p.m. Special meetings of this society may be called by the President, and it shall be his duty to call such special meetings on the written request of ten directors, or twelve members of the society. Notice of any of the above meetings shall be given by sending a timely notice to each of the directors by mail, and by publishing the same at least one week before such meeting in one of the Elmira papers.

The regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the City of Elmira, N. Y., on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 o’clock p.m., at the office of the society. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Secretary, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call such meetings on the written request of five directors.

Notice of special meetings of the board of directors shall be mailed by the Secretary to each director.

**ELECTIONS.**

The President and Vice-President shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the society by a majority vote of the members present, and shall remain in office until their successors are elected.

The board of directors shall be elected at the annual meeting in such manner as a majority of the members present shall determine.

At the first regular meeting of the board of directors after the annual meeting of the society, they shall elect a Treasurer and Secretary from the members of the society residing in the county of Chemung, State of N. Y.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

The Board of Directors shall not exceed for any one year the number of eight members of the society, and the President and Vice-President shall be ex-officio members of the same.

Thirteen of the directors shall be residents of the county of Chemung, State of New York, and one director may be elected from any grange outside of said county which shall be represented in this society by twenty members (until the limit fixed).

At any meeting of the board of directors seven shall constitute a quorum.

**VACANCIES.**

Any officer of this society may be removed for good and sufficient cause, by a two thirds vote of the board of directors at any meeting called for such purpose upon a notice of ten days. And a change of residence by any officer, which, in the opinion of the directors, will interfere with the proper performance of the duties of his office, may be regarded as sufficient cause for his removal.

A vacancy occurring in any office of this society may be filled by the board of directors at the next regular meeting thereof after such vacancy shall occur.

**DUTIES OF OFFICERS.**

The President shall preside at all meetings of the society and of the board of directors, but shall not vote upon any question except when there is a tie vote. He shall keep certificates of membership, and official papers, except notices and notifications, and all orders drawn on the treasurer by order of the directors; and at the first meeting of the board of directors after the annual meeting of the society, he shall appoint an executive committee consisting of the chairman and the other four directors appointed by the board of directors. He shall have general supervision of the books and accounts of the treasurer and secretary. He shall see that all laws and regulations of the society are fairly and faithfully executed.
The Vice President shall possess the powers and perform the duties of the President during his absence or inability to act.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the President pro tem shall possess the powers and perform the duties of the president for that occasion.

The treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the society from the secretary, giving his receipt thereof, and shall deposit and pay out the same as required by the death of any board of directors. He shall make quarterly, or oftener if required by the board of directors, a full report of the receipts and expenditures and of all matters affecting the financial condition of the society. He shall give a bond in such sum and with such sureties as the board of directors may from time to time require for the faithful performance of the duties of his office, or for a proper care and accounting for the monies or other property of the society which may come into his possession.

All orders on the treasurer made by the board of directors, appropriating money shall be signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary.

The secretary shall keep a full and correct record of all the proceedings of the society and of the board of directors. He shall keep a correct and complete register of the names, ages and residences of all members, and shall keep a correct and complete record of the proceedings of the society, the names, ages and residences of members, the Granges to which they belong, and the date of their admission. Also the names and post-office addresses of the person or persons to whom payment of the fees or monies or other property of the society which may come into his possession.

He shall receive all monies required to be paid by members of the society, and shall pay the same to the treasurer as soon as received, taking a receipt therefor. He shall conduct all the correspondence of the society and of the board of directors; shall prepare all certificates of membership, and all notices of death and assessments; shall keep a record of the names, ages, and residences of the representatives to whom the claims of such deceased member was paid; shall keep an accurate current and account with each member of the society, so that the books of the society will clearly show what members have failed to pay the assessment made upon them; shall keep a record of all persons restored to membership; shall make and serve, or publish all notices and notifications required by the society or board of directors; shall make a semi-annual report to said board and oftener if required by the board of directors; shall keep a record of all such surrenders as the board of directors may require for the faithful performance of his duties and for the proper care, accounting for or returning the same; and for other property of the society which may come into his possession. He shall be entitled to such compensation as the board and directors shall determine.

It shall be the duty of the board of directors to enforce compliance with these by-laws. They shall have general superintendence of the affairs of the society. They shall receive and decide upon all applications for membership. They shall see that the permanent funds of the society are kept securely and wisely invested, and that the property of the society is kept in safe and proper custody. They shall make such rules and regulations for the admission of members, proof of death, payment of claims, and transaction of general business as shall not conflict with these by-laws.

The executive committee shall examine the books, accounts, and reports of the secretary and treasurer and quarterly in writing to the board, and they shall perform such other duties as the board of directors shall from time to time require of them.

ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP.

Any member of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, in good health, who shall be recommended by a director, agent, or officer of this society, and agreeing to comply in all respects with the by-laws, rules and regulations of this society and of its board of directors, shall, upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any meeting, become a member of the society.

FEE REQUIRED TO BE PAID UPON APPLICATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.

The fee required to be paid upon application to become a member of the society shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Fee Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 35 years old</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 40 years old</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 45 years old</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 45 years old</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 50 years old</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Over 55 years old</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
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</tbody>
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[By resolution of the Board of Directors has fixed the fee at $5.00 per year for every year over sixty, and that no one over sixty-five years of age shall receive the same. That is, the fee for a person 61 years old is $20.00; 62 years $25.00, &c.]

In all cases when the application for membership is rejected by the board, the fee paid shall be returned to the person from whom the same was received.

DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY.

Every person shall designate in his application for membership the person or persons to whom whom payment of benefit shall be made in case of death, if such beneficiary shall be a wife, husband, brother, sister, father, mother, or other person of kin to the applicant, except in the case of children, such designation shall be given in the name of such beneficiary, and the degree of kin; but in the case of children, where it is designed that payment be made to all sons and daughters equally, no names need be given. If payment is to be made to children in unequal sums their names and the desired proportion of benefits to each shall be set forth in the application. In all cases when the applicant desires payment to be made to a person or to persons not of kin, such fact must distinctly set forth and the parties of such persons to whom payment is to be made must be given to the society to govern the payment. In the case of the death of the designated person or persons to whom payment is required to be made, the death of the member who made such designation, and the death of such member shall occur without a change having been made in the manner hereinafter provided, leaving un-designated person to receive the benefit, then the Board of Directors, by careful examination, shall determine
The surplus fund of this society shall consist of all moneys received into its treasury, in excess of such permanent fund, out of which the necessary expenses of this society shall first be paid, and the remainder of such surplus fund, when it shall amount to $2,000, shall be appropriated to the payment of death claims.

Upon the death of any member of this society the sum to be paid to the representatives of the deceased member, as evidenced by his application and recorded on the books of the society, shall be one dollar ($1.00) for every member of the society not exceeding two thousand.

NOTIFICATIONS.

When official notice has been received of the death of any member of this society it shall be the duty of the secretary to notify the members of the same, and unless the death claim has been provided for as herein provided in Section 2, Article 14 of these By-Laws, each surviving member shall, within the fifteen days after the date of such notification, pay to the society the sum of one dollar, and in case he shall neglect to pay the same within fifteen days he shall be again notified by the secretary, and if he shall not pay within fifteen days after the date of such second notice the name of the delinquent shall be erased from the roll of members and he shall forfeit all claims upon the society, provided, however, that the board of directors shall have power to restore such delinquent member upon such conditions including personal or, in writing, a satisfactory excuse for such default and paying all assessments which may have been made up to the date of such restoration.

A notice deposited in the post-office at Elmira and duly directed to a member's place of residence, as it appears upon the books of the society, shall be deemed sufficient notice.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.

The board of directors shall within sixty days after receiving official notice of the death of any member order the amount due by reason of such death paid to the representatives of the deceased, as provided in Section 1 of Article 11 of these By-Laws.

All the provisions of these By-Laws shall apply equally to male and female members of this society, and no part of these By-Laws shall be so construed as to discriminate in favor of either sex.

AMENDMENTS.

Any member of this society may offer an amendment in writing to these By-Laws, at the annual meeting of the same called for the purpose of considering amendments to such By-Laws, and such amendment must lay over at least thirty days before being voted upon, and it shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present to make such amendment.

Secretaries should report at once; only a few days more and one list of delinquents will be made up for presentation to the State Grange.

Where have the members of the Grange attempted to reduce the wages of mechanics? Where have they ever wronged the laboring man?

The 10th Annual Session of the National Grange commenced to day at 12 o'clock, in this house, with most of the delegates from the State Granges present. The members seem to be in good health and spirits, and anxious to make the work of the session a success. As there is no election of officers, except one member of the Executive Committee, the session will be strictly a business one. It is thought that the session will last about ten days; and as all 4th degree members are admitted to all the business meetings, we shall expect to see a large number of members from our State. Patrons, this is a meeting of your friends, sent here by you to do your work. It is your privilege to meet with them, and observe their acts, and advise with them.

I am aware that persons invested with authority to act or legislate for others, are liable to be criticised, blamed, and sometimes severely censured, and without just cause by those who form conclusions without due investigation. Something has been done, which from their standpoint, seems wrong, or something has been neglected which they would have done. The members of this Body come here from different sections of the country, representing different interests, yet upon the great primary objects of the organisation, namely, the social, moral and intellectual advancement and the elevation of farmers there is no conflict. A system of operation which is adapted to the grain growing sections of the great North West, would need modifying to meet the wants of the cotton and tobacco growing States of the South, or the diversified interests of the East and West. Hence, compromises must be made, and the interests of the different sections implicitly guaranteed. Some of our members have erroneous ideas of the means and ability of the National Grange to do certain things; and wonder why more has not been done. I do not claim that no mistakes have been made, or that all has been done that might have been, to advance the interests of the Order; but I do believe that the members of this Body are faithful and true, and that it is their highest aim and object, to build up and perpetuate our Great Brotherhood.

I trust that as many members of the Order from our State as can make it convenient to do so, will attend this session, and by their presence and counsel, give encouragement to those upon whom they have placed responsibilities.

The Lake Shore and Michigan Southern R. R. as well as the Central will return members free, who purchase tickets over that line of road to Chicago, and attend the National Grange, up to and including the 25th instant.

The Vistror until January, 1876, for 30 cents.
State Grange.

I have received certificates of election of members of the State Grange for its Fourth Annual Session, commencing at 10 A. M. on the 12th of December, in the Hall of the House of Representatives in the city of Lansing, Antrim, Clare, Huron, Isabella and Lake counties, each entitled to one delegate, and not reported.

Representatives to State Grange by Counties for 1876.

COUNTY. NUMBER. REPRESENTATIVES.
--- --- ---
 Allegan, No. 296, E. G. Minkler, 347, Jas. H. Edrick Day.
 396, J. G. Wyck.
 Antrim, 38, Y. B. Hoyt, 473, Aaron Durfee.
 474, W. J. Briggs.
 Bay, 614, David C. Fish.
 621, L. A. Jennie.
 Berrien, 89, H. H. Woodruff.
 90, Wm. S. Farmer.
 19, Fred Scaffold.
 Branch, 96, H. L. Bisbee.
 97, A. L. Lampman.
 98, Geo. Fuller.
 Cass, 137, J. C. Pierce.
 138, H. B. Houghtland.
 139, J. L. Davis.
 140, H. B. Smith.
 142, A. A. Brogue.
 42, Wm. E. Williams.
 Charlevoix, 323, R. S. Van Sooy.
 324, Chas. E. Hollister.
 Eaton, 399, G. W. Knight.
 400, F. Z. Skinner.
 401, W. C. and Young Davis.
 402, D. F. Bennett.
 403, O. E. Clark.
 Genesee, 521, Louis Hetman.
 526, W. Walker.
 527, D. C. Field.
 Gratiot, 528, Chas. Corregal.
 531, E. R. Kelley.
 152, Lorenzo Runnels.
 Huron, 273, A. S. Scoum.
 Ingham, 540, R. E. Towbridge.
 551, L. H. Ives.
 7, H. H. Bruston.
 Ionia, 175, A. S. Stannard.
 176, A. C. Sherwood.
 185, A. D. Bates.
 187, J. M. Brown.
 Isabella, 227, Chas. A. Brown.
 228, Caleb Angevin.
 321, Able N. Howe.
 Kalamazoo, 403, B. A. Jergson.
 404, W. R. James.
 405, V. R. Cox.
 Kent, 25, Benj. Woodard.
 259, Uriel Snow.
 170, Geo. D. Wood.
 44, M. B. Hine.
 348, H. D. Wedge.
 361, Reynolds Cole.
 402, A. L. Kingsbury.
 403, Wm. S. Bower.
 404, A. W. Harris.
 405, L. G. Oliver.
 59, W. W. Mackman.
 Macomb, 445, Chas. Andrews.
 446, H. A. Danville.
 449, J. T. Phillips.
 450, O. L. Stroud.
 Macomb, 451, C. W. Whiffitt.
 452, Thomas Gibbs.
 453, S. C. Phelps.
 454, Wm. Y. Gates.
 455, Wm. B. Jones.
 456, A. G. Tomlinson.
 Manistee, 531, H. C. Tuttle.
 533, M. H. Harr.
 549, Melvin W. Scott.
 Mount Pleasant, 497, Sam'l G. Houston.
 Muskegon, 379, S. S. McFad.
 Newaygo, 455, John W. Perry.
 456, A. W. Harris.
 382, J. B. Galloway.
 Ottawa, 39, D. D. Hoppock.
 34, Geo. J. Cooper.
 465, M. Shanahan.
 467, S. A. Cutl.
 Plaster.

Orders for plaster have not been forwarded to the extent we had a right to expect, and have done what we could to press this matter upon the attention of the Patron of the State by a circular on Blank Plaster Orders and in the Visitor, I have endeavored to make the whole matter so plain that all interested would understand the situation exactly, and yet from enquiries received, I see a necessity of re-stating some points. I therefore renew the assurance that all who order can have plaster shipped at such time as the parties ordering may desire—we base this promise on the facts that Day & Taylor have had thirty men preparing for and getting out rock all summer—they have a large amount of rock now under piles in their mill from which they are grinding every day. This mill has been running for some weeks, and they now have on hand a large quantity ready to ship. Their facilities are such, that they can get out or a hundred tons daily, whether the weather is good or bad. Their mill was thoroughly overhaulled and no expense spared to put it in good shape to do business. The parties are capable business men, and will perform what they promise. Some enquiries are made about the quality of their plaster. I suppose that was sufficiently explained in the October Visitor, but I find that stating a thing once is not always sufficient. Day & Taylor will furnish plaster this season that is worth twenty per cent more than plaster from any other mine in the Grand River Valley—for this reason all other manufacturers sort over their rock and select all that is pure for stucco, and all rock that is part shale, flint or other foreign and worthless matter is thrown out, ground and sold as land plaster. The reason is obvious—in the use of stucco its quality is at once apparent, and if not made of pure rock, would soon ruin the business of the manufacturer—not so when ground and sold to farmers. Its use does not so readily determine its quality, and therefore, the purchaser is interested in knowing something of the honesty of the manufacturer, and the chances of getting a pure article. Every other plaster mill in the G. R. Valley makes stucco, and therefore it is a plain case that their land plaster is not made of the best rock. When Day & Taylor make stucco, if they ever do, and are ever so honest, we shall not get from them as good plaster as they will furnish us this season. Some want to know if the plaster must be paid for when ordered, to which we answer, no. We are not running this business on the plan of the "OHIO AND MICHIGAN PLASTER ASSOCIATION." What we want now is your order for what plaster you will want to use next spring, and that the parties ordering do for it when they receive it like good honest Patrons. We simply ask you to treat this matter in a business way, and stand by your friends, regard your obligation, take care of your present and future pecuniary interests, and in so doing you will spring, and we will succeed in our duty. You are not asked to take any hazard or risk whatever. Now that the election is over, and we don't know, and can't find out who is President, we ask Masters and Secretaries who receive the Visitor and have their attention called to the plaster business to forward orders for next spring's plaster. Let us know what to depend on. It is more important than we have time to explain. In regard to the future for orders we can only say, that at the proper time the subject shall receive the attention; I am not at present advised of any change from the rates of last spring.

Use more Postal Cards.

Many of our people do not seem to have caught up the use and value of postal cards, else more would be used. Occasionally a Master, Secretary or subscriber writes that he has not received the Visitor and gives some reason, some inquiries not being answered, and you are not asked to take any hazard or risk whatever. Now that the election is over, and we don't know, and can't find out who is President, we ask Masters and Secretaries who receive the Visitor and have their attention called to the plaster business to forward orders for next spring's plaster. Let us know what to depend on. It is more important than we have time to explain. In regard to the future for orders we can only say, that at the proper time the subject shall receive the attention; I am not at present advised of any change from the rates of last spring.


BRO. J. T. CORB:—Enclosed find draft for $63, amount of fees and dues due the Grange, No. 270, for quarter ending September 30, 1876. I am instructed by our Grand Lodge to notify you that we fully endorse your views relative to our interest in the Grand, No. 18, on the interest question, and that we are adopted by Lowell District Council as at their regular meeting on the 10th inst.

Frederick Young.

E. Hancom, Sec.
Keene Grange, No. 270.
The Order at Work.

Faith is known by its fruits. The faith of our members in the stability and perpetuity of our Order is seen in the wonderful progress that is being shown in the rearing of halls and the perfecting of organization.

On the 25th of Oct. we had the pleasure of dedicating the new commodious hall of Harmony Grange, in Kent Co., which had just been completed. It is a fine two story building, well adapted to the intended use. The upper room, with suitable ante and preparation rooms, are all that could be desired for Grange meetings in their systematic beauty. The hall proper is indeed a grange home; its very walls teaching in their decorations the beautiful lessons. The lower story was well adapted to the uses intended, and as we enjoyed with others the feast supplied, we felt in our hearts that we sincerely wished that the doubting both within and without the gate could have witnessed the proceedings of the day.

The excellent dedicatory service was impressively given, through the assistance of Master Thorington and his officers, which added much to the interest of the occasion. When we arrived we found the Berrien Co. Pomona Grange No. 1, just closing their two days' meeting shown in the rearing of halls and perpetuity of our Order is seen in the perfecting of organization. C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

With thanks to Berrien Center for the presence of many visiting Patrons from neighboring Granges.

Again, on the 25th of Oct., we were privileged to attend the dedicatory meeting in Berrien Co., at Berrien Center, No. 14, which Grange had with commendable zeal erected a hall 24x50 feet, two stories, as a cost of $1,325, an ornament to the locality and a monument to the energy and vigor of the Patrons therewith connected. When we arrived we found the Berrien Co. Pomona Grange No. 1, just closing their two days' session in time to lend their enthusiasm and presence to the services of dedication. Here we met a fine brass band, nearly every one wearing two uniform coats, a red neck band, and that of our Order. The officers of the Pomona Grange also appeared in their distinctive regalia, and added much to the interest of the occasion. In addition to the contributions so well given by the band, appropriate selections were sung by a large number of those present, led by a fine chapel organ. All the services passed in a manner befitting the solemnity and interest of the occasion, and the weather of the events of the day. Again I must commend the brothers and sisters of Berrien Center for the good work done, and urge everyone to enjoy the results of their hard work, in the beautiful hall they have built, and may its walls ever silently impress the lesson to the new members of the Order.

On the 24th inst., at a hall 24x50, feet, two stories, at a cost of $1,325, an ornament to the locality and a monument to the energy and vigor of the Patrons therewith connected. When we arrived we found the Berrien Co. Pomona Grange No. 1, just closing their two days' session in time to lend their enthusiasm and presence to the services of dedication. Here we met a fine brass band, nearly every one wearing two uniform coats, a red neck band, and that of our Order. The officers of the Pomona Grange also appeared in their distinctive regalia, and added much to the interest of the occasion. In addition to the contributions so well given by the band, appropriate selections were sung by a large number of those present, led by a fine chapel organ. All the services passed in a manner befitting the solemnity and interest of the occasion, and the weather of the events of the day. Again I must commend the brothers and sisters of Berrien Center for the good work done, and urge everyone to enjoy the results of their hard work, in the beautiful hall they have built, and may its walls ever silently impress the lesson to the new members of the Order.

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Grange, but we are located rather near the city limits to do much in the way of trade through the Grange. We like to hitch up often and drive to town to get a half pound of tea and quarter pound of tobacco. Fraternally,

G. CARLTON, Sec.

Bro. Cobb:—At the Convention held at the City Hall, on Thursday, Oct. 12th inst., for the purpose of electing Representatives to represent the County of Shiawassee in the State Grange, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That our Representatives to the State Grange be instructed to use their best endeavors to have the initiation fee reduced to three dollars for males, and one dollar for females.

M. W. WILLCOUGH, Sec.

**OBITUARY.**

Ronald Grange No. 192, lost a Worthy Sister Nov. 1, 1876, Sister T. P. Laselle, the first death in our Grange since its organization.

Geo. WEBSTER, Sec.

**HALL OF SCHOOLCRAFT (GRANGE, No. 8),**

October 27, 1872.

The following Preamble and Resolutions in reference to the death of Wm. H. Patten, late Treasurer of this Grange, were reported by Cam., and unanimously adopted.

Resolved,—That this Grange in the loss of one of its most exemplary members, will bow in mourning, and that these resolutions be spread upon the record of this Grange, a copy sent to the Executive Committees, and that these resolutions be spread upon the record of this Grange, a copy sent to the Executive Committees of the State Grange be instructed to use their best endeavors to have the initiation fee reduced to three dollars for males, and one dollar for females.

**PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES**

Kept in the office of the Secretary of Michigan State Grange.

And sent out Post Paid, on Receipt of Cash Order, on the seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

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**Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred,...** 60
**Blind Book, in envelopes, per dozen,** 25
**Withdrawal Cards, per doz.,** 15
**Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound,** 50
**Blank Receipts for sale of Grange supplies,** 25
**Cashing's Manual,...** 60
**Applications for Membership, per 100,** 50
**Membership Cards, per 100,** 30
**Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound,** 50
**Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound,** 50
**Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, well bound,** 10
**Blank Receipts for sale of Grange supplies, per 100,** 50
**Cashing’s Manual,...** 60
**Applications for Membership, per 100,** 50
**Membership Cards, per 100,** 30
**Blank Receipts for sale of Grange supplies,** 25
**No. 139 WEST JEFFERSON ST. LOUIS, MO.,** 30
**HALL, PATTERSON & CO., Live Stock Commission Merchants, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ills., BONDED AGENTS; PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.**

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**JEWELS, SEALS, AND ALL KINDS OF**

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Refers to Patrons to all the Masters of Granges in the North-Western States, and to the members of the Executive Committees of the same.

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