THE
Grange Visitor
MONTHLY
COMMITTEE OF THE
Grange, P. of H.

OFFICERS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE
M. J. WOODMAN, Deputv General Deputy, Pontiac.
J. F. W. WILSON, General Deputy, Muskegon.
C. M. WHITE, General Deputy, St. Joseph.
C. E. B. WHEELER, General Deputy, Muskegon.
J. W. JONES, General Deputy, Castle Rock.

DEPUTIES
J. H. GARDNER, Centerville, St. Joseph Co.

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F. M. HOLLWAY, Secretary, Jacksonville.
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J. A. LANGDON, Ross, Eaton Co.
C. L. WINTERBERGER, Laurens, Oceana Co.
L. E. FERGUSON, Belvidere, Allegan Co.

STATE BUSINESS AGENT
J. H. GARDNER, Centerville, St. Joseph Co.

DEPUTIES
C. L. WHITNEY, General Deputy, Muskegon.

Address of Lieut. Gov. Sessions upon the organization of the Senate.

While we have such representative men of our class in our Agricultural State shall we always send nine lawyers to Congress from the nine districts of this State. Brother farmers, let us have "more justice and less law."

The appeal is not in the interest of any individual. The profit or loss of the enterprise affects only the treasury of the State Grange. So far it has only been made to pay its way, and that is all that we have asked for it. Whenever the receipts give a profit, the price will be further reduced, or the sheet enlarged. Until our subscription list is very much increased, no change can be safely made in either direction. In the make up and mechanical work of the Visitor, we think it equal to any other Grange publication and far superior in some respects. For the Good of the Order, we ask every Brother and Sister to aid us in extending the circulation of the Visitor. To advertise in this, furnishes unusual opportunities to bring their business to the attention of a large number of people. An edition of 5000 is scattered each month over the State. Sample copies of the Visitor sent to any address upon application.

Let us have a response to this appeal for aid in increasing its circulation that shall prove that it is not "dying out." Price, 30 cents per year, prepaid.

Address all communications to: J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich.

"The Grange Visitor" for 1877.

The need of some medium of communication between the Officers of the State Grange and the Subordinate Granges of the State was so manifest, that in January 1872, the Executive Committee authorized the publication of the GRANGE VISITOR. Prior to that time, such matters as it was necessary to communicate to the Granges by the Master, Secretary, or Executive Committee, was put in the form of a Circular at irregular intervals, as a necessity, or each sheet under a penny stamp. This was unsatisfactory, and the Committee determined on the experiment of a monthly paper. First the price was fixed at 50 cents per annum, but one year ago it was reduced to 30 cents with the expectation that its increased circulation would justify this reduction. We have not gone beyond the original purpose of the Committee. We desire every member to do something to make this fact universally recognized. We are asking but little of you, Brothers and Sisters, when we ask you not only to subscribe for the Visitor yourself, but ask you to present the matter to other members of your respective Granges and try and send us some additional names.

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shall meet at least once a month, and may hold intermediate meetings."

As these intermediate meetings are necessarily regular meetings, the By-

laws of the State Grange very properly, indicate "the last regular meet-
ing in each year," as the time for electing officers.

Hence it made the duty of subordinate

Granges "to elect their officers at the last regular meeting in each year," and install them at the first regular meeting in January following.

If it can be done without detriment to the welfare of the Grange. Circum-

stances however often occur, which render it impossible for many Granges in the sparsely settled portions of the State to hold their last regular meeting in that month, and consequently officers were not elected.

Believing that it was not the intention of the law makers to debar a subordinate Grange from electing officers under such circumstances, it is hereby ordered that all subordinate Granges which have failed to elect officials as provided in the By-Laws of the State Grange, may do so at a sub-

sequent regular meeting of the Grange provided that notice of the election be given by order of the Grange, or by the Master, at a previous regular meeting thereof, or served on all the members in good standing and accessible by his order at least five days prior to said election, and officers thus elected may be installed on the day of election, or at any subsequent time to be fixed by the Grange.

Master's Department.

J. J. Woodman, ---- P. W. P.

Plaster.

I am constantly in receipt of letters from members of the Order in different portions of the State relating to the plaster question, and asking for further information upon the subject.

Many of these letters state that parties are canvassing for the sale of plaster in the interest of companies that were in the late combination, and exhibiting samples of local plaster purporting to come from the "Grange Plaster Mill," of a very inferior quality, and offering to supply the wants of our members, and others who may desire to order from them.

That Day & Taylor are mining and grinding a quality of rock which is not surpassed in purity and excellence by any other rock found in the State.

That they are able to furnish any quantity of pure, fresh ground plaster flour under such circumstances, it is hereby ordered that all subordinate Granges which have failed to elect officials as provided in the By-Laws of the State Grange, may do so at a subsequent regular meeting of the Grange provided that notice of the election be given by order of the Grange, or by the Master, at a previous regular meeting thereof, or served on all the members in good standing and accessible by his order at least five days prior to said election, and officers thus elected may be installed on the day of election, or at any subsequent time to be fixed by the Grange.

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5. That Day & Taylor are mining and grinding a quality of rock which is not surpassed in purity and excellence by any other rock found in the State.

6. That the cards sent out to the Granges in this State offering to furnish them with plaster at two dollars per ton, is but a fair price for plaster at this time.
Holly. The number of members in the Grange is not large, but they are intelligent enterprise farmers. They work for themselves, not for others, and are capable of taking care of themselves. They have received great benefits from the Order, and their interest in its principles and faith in its perpetuity is unshaken. Their Hall is a model of its kind, perfect in all of its parts, stone, stone cellar, kitchen, office, library, garage, and room and attics. It is a beautifully constructed building, painted white, with green blinds, and was built at a cost of $1,200 and is nearly paid for. The decorations of the main hall, and the sumptuous tables spread for the guests at the dedication, convinced everyone present that the Matrons of Groveland Grange possessed not only a taste for the beautiful and ornamental, but a due appreciation of the wants of the inner man. The occasion was a very enjoyable one, and will be long remembered by all who participated in its social festivities.

The Legislature of the State is now in session for the purpose of enacting laws for the public good. I am confident that it is composed of fair-minded honorable men, who desire to do equal justice to every interest in the State, and will consider every question which may be presented to them with candor and impartiality. Every County and Subordinate Grange in the State should discuss all questions of State Policy relating to agriculture, education and the productive industries of the State; and petition the Legislature for such changes in the present laws, and reforms as may be needed.

The question of interest on money loaned, securities for the same, fees and foreclosures, assessment taxation, and transportation, are all immediately involved in the interests of agriculture, and those regulating them should be carefully and thoroughly revised; not in the interests of agriculture alone, but for the just and equal protection of all.

The laws of the State require that all property shall be assessed at its "true cash value." The Governor in his message says that it is estimated that not one tenth of the personal property of the State pays any tax whatever. The plain inference from this seems to be that, the owners of real estate bear nearly all the burdens of taxation; which is doubtless true. It is also stated that real estate, and not farms "are not assessed for more than one fourth or one third of their "true cash value."

This may be true in certain localities, but as general rule think farms are assessed higher in proportion to their "true cash value" than the mortgages upon them, where the mortgages are assessed at all. In some cases the true cash value of a farm or other property is the question to be considered. If money, or cash, which is the standard of values, can be borrowed for ten years at five per cent interest, payable annually, secured by a mortgage upon a farm, or other real estate, is not the true cash value of a farm that having money to invest can afford to pay for it in cash, with the assurance that he will realize
The Grange Visitor, Published Monthly, at Thirty Cents per Annum, in advance.

J. T. COBB, Managing Editor.

All communications should be addressed to J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich. Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

BLANKS.

Blanks that are sent free from this office on application:
Blank Quarterly Reports of Secretaries of Subordinate Granges.
Blank Quarterly Reports of Secretaries of Pomona Granges.
Blank application for organizing Pomona Granges.
Blank applications for membership in Pomona Granges.
Blank Bonds of Secretary and Treasurer.
Blank Election Reports of Sub Granges.
Blank Certificates of Election to County Convention.
Blank Certificates of Representatives elected to the State Granges.
Blank for Consolidation of Granges.
Blank Application for Certificate of Dismantl.
Blank Plaster Order.
Blank Certificate of Incorporation.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the number of their Grange.

The Visitor.

We send this number to many subscribers whose time expired with the December number. We hope and expect a general renewal of subscription.

Blanks.

Blanks were sent to all Grange Secretaries for reports for quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1876.

Election Reports.

Reports of Masters and Secretaries elect for 1877, have not all been received yet; I have no time to write to each Secretary who has neglected to make such return, and as Secretaries under the decision of the State Grange, will no longer receive the Visitor from it. It becomes necessary for each Master to know that such a report has been sent to this office. Do not overlook this matter.

Delinquent Granges.

To Sec. 6, Art. 7, By-Laws of State Grange (which defines the duties of Secretary) was added: "He shall keep a list of Granges delinquent more than one quarter in reports or payments of dues, standing in the official paper of the State Grange, and shall correct the same monthly."

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Special Lecturers.

As the Master of the State Grange and the public speakers of the Executive Committee are daily receiving invitations that they cannot possibly accept, to lecture to or address Granges and public meetings, it was thought best by the Executive Committee to arrange with some of the Brothers and Sisters of the Order, who are accustomed to public speaking, to hold themselves in readiness to respond to invitations when called upon. We give the names of the Bros. and Sisters who have signified their willingness to serve the Order in this State, with their Post Office address. The conditions of this arrangement are, that they shall be paid by the Grange or parties inviting them, $2.00 per day for time spent, and necessary travelling expenses:

Thomas F. Moore, Adrian, Mich.
Dr. W. Woodward, Shelby, Osceola Co.
Mrs. A. B. Steele, Bear Lake, Mason Co.
Mrs. C. D. Blackman, Kalamazoo.
Past Master S. T. Brown, Schoolcraft.
R. A. Erickson, Kalamazoo.
E. E. James.

Brother Patrons.—Since the last issue of the Visitor, the plaster fight has taken a new turn.

Two of the strongest firms of the Plaster Association have each sent postal cards to all dealers, agents, Secretaries of Granges, and others known to take any interest in plaster, offering to sell plaster on cars at Grand Rapids for $2.90 per ton, just one-half the combination price of the last two years. This attempt to break down Day & Taylor by putting the price below cost, is in keeping with the course pursued by the association from the beginning of this season.

It has been a matter of surprise to me from the commencement of this controversy that shrewd business men should be so slow to see the utter folly of arraying themselves against their own customers.

In this instance we are reminded of the old adage that, "It's an ill wind that blows no good."

This last move will result in furnishing cheap plaster to the farmers of the State who are not Patrons, and to the weak and unxious of the Order who cannot see that cheap plaster to them this year may easily make dear plaster to them next year.

The Association have a large amount of plaster on hand that would have been sold one and two years ago if it had not determined to make us buy through its agencies at their prices. How much of this has been ground a long time I do not know, and whether it is better or worse for being ground a long time before it is used, I leave for every one to decide by his own observation and experience. They have determined to dispose of the accumulated stock at some price, that they expected to sell to us last year at $4.90 per ton. They have determined to test the integrity and honor of the Patrons of Michigan. They have determined to break down Day & Taylor and place themselves in condition to control the price of plaster in the great North West. The question becomes at once pertinent. What are you going to do about it? I know what Patrons who attended the last session of the State Grange either as delegates or visiting members will do. This subject was thoroughly discussed and so well understood that all such will sustain Day & Taylor without any regard to the price of plaster offered by the members of the combination.

I think it fair to assume that the farmers of Michigan are willing to pay a fair price for the safety of the country or luxury, that they require. As a class they only ask an equal chance with their fellow citizens, and the Order of P. of H. is aiding them to retain the position to which they are entitled.

Under the head of communications will be some good reading on this subject.

When ordered plaster will be furnished in bags or barrels without extra charge for filling—"A" bags 20c., barrels 50c.—I would advise ordering in bags rather than barrels, as bags are not injured by using one, while barrels have to be so thoroughly nailed that they are nearly worthless after having been used.

Freight Rates on Plaster.

The Freight Rates on Plaster have been changed but little on any of the Railroads from last year. The schedule rates are rates from Grand Rapids, to which most of the plaster is shipped on all shipped over the L. & S. & M. R. R., $6.00 per car; on all shipped over the Grand River Valley Roads, $5.00 per car; on all shipped over the D. & M. R. R., $4.00 per car.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL—GRAND RIVER VALLEY DIVISION.

Benton, Hammond 8 80
Caledonia 9 50
Middleville, Irving 11 20
Hastings 10 00
Quimby, Sheridan 13 60
Nashville, 40
Vernonville 15 20
Chester 18 00
Charlotte 16 75
Newaygo 25 25
County Line 9 00
Gosmodge 17 75
Algerian Central—Main Line—Detroit.
Jackson 20 00
Lemmi, Grasse Lake 25 50
Francisco, Chelsea 21 10
Kalamazoo, Schoolcraft 25 90
Delhi Mills, Farmer's, Forest 26 50
Squaw, Ann Arbor 20 50
Geddes, Ypsilanti 27 10
Denton's 26 00
Wayne Junction, Wayne 29 50
Davison 35 00
Grand Trunk Junction, Detroit 25 25

GOING WEST.

Sandsprings 24 75
Park 23 50
North Concord 24 00
Bath Mills, Newberg Mills, Alton 20 00
Detroit, Lansing & Lake Much, Ind. 23 25
Marshall, Blissfield Mills, Monroe, Wauhatchie 20 25
Battle Creek, Bedford 24 00
Angus 20 20

LAKE SHORE AND MICH. SOUTHERN—SOUTH.

Bayon, Dear, Hilliside, Hopkins 8 00
Allison, Arboon, Osage, Argenta 8 00
Portage, Schoolcraft, Flowerfield, Moun-
tain Park 110
Lansing, Eaton Rapids 18 00

White Pigeon 18 00

L. & S. & M. R. R.—GOING EAST.

Olona, Sargent 18 00
Bur Oak, Bronson, Battle, Coldwater, Galloway 20 00
Granger, Eaton Rapids 18 00
Dimondale, Rockway, Springport, Deve-
ry, Albion, Pleasant View, Battle Creek, Lech-
sfield, Jonesville, Hillsdale, Osceola, Pitts-
burg, Lapeer, Marysville, Marysville, Monroe, Mus-
et, Manufacturers, Clinton, Tecumseh, Adrian 20
Blankfield Junction, Blissfield, Dearfield 20 00
Ottawa Lake, Sylvan, T. Burke, Wyandotte, Detroit 25 00
The GRANGE VISITOR.

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, CENTREVILLE.

I commend the following from the Patron's Friend, for the consideration of Patrons in Michigan as being applicable here as well as in Pennsylvania.

"The State Business Agency has been, and will continue to be, wronged and embarrassed, if you only "pay as you go." He must advance the money when he purchases, if he would get the best goods at lowest prices; for cash in hand is worth several cents on the dollar to a merchant above the promise of payment in a week or two.

All orders should be pre-paid.

The attention of subordinate Grange is called to the importance of having a Secretary that is responsible and trustworthy, so that the seal of the Grange may carry confidence and assurance that contracts will be met in good faith. The suggestion is made from the fact that we have cases in which goods have been ordered and payment delayed for months, and in some instances, goods have come at all and probably never will. Some manufacturers refuse to send their goods unless pay is sent with the orders; and unless money is sent to me I cannot forward the order to the manufacturer.

The price of sugar and coffee which I gave in the December Visitor, were the prices at New Orleans; and the freight from there is about a dollar a cwt., including carriage. I state this again as some understand it to be the price here. A mistake in the type makes that article read: "These are pure sugars from the plantations and have not been mixed with common sugar &c." For common sugar it should be corn sugar. I have now just received a lot of sugar, rice and coffee direct from the south which will be sold at cost if orders are accompanied with the money.

It will be obliged if all when writing to me will use sealed envelopes; don't forget to put the name of your post office at the head of your letter, and don't neglect to sign your name somewhere on the paper in a plain hand writing. I can not tell you anything about business, but names are not as easily made out.

At a meeting of the St. Joseph County Grange, held at Centreville, on January 4th, it was resolved to use no plaster the coming season except that made by Day & Taylor, of St. Johnsville, and the subordinate Granges of the county were requested to do the same.

Communications.

Will The Grange Succeed.

If the Grange succeeds in accomplishing the objects it originally had in view, it will be because the members will have performed their duty. If the Grange does not accomplish those objects it will be because the members neglect to perform their duty, and refuse to use the means to better their condition.

The foundation is laid for great work. The opportunity is offered to every Patron to assist in accomplishing a much needed reform in business transactions. Will we improve it? We complain of wrongs and usurpations. The opportunity is offered by which these wrongs can be removed in a great measure, if we will do our duty; and reward is sure, but never without some effort on our part.

A co-operative Grange Store can flourish only if two conditions are supplied: First, the members must furnish sufficient capital. Secondly, they must patronize it, doing their trading there. With a competent business agent enough capital and plenty of patronage a co-operative store is a sure success and a paying enterprise. It will prove a success like any other business transaction the Grange may engage in if the members do their whole duty.

Such is the case in regard to the plaster enterprise, with a few falls or succeeds, depends entirely upon the members of the Order. A few prominent and leading members of the Order, have by diligent and persistent effort, and by assuming pecuniary liability for the good of the Order, made it possible for members to buy plaster at a reasonable price directly from the manufacturers at a less price than that fixed by the association. The little shabby scheme of the association to compel all the farmers of Michigan to buy plaster of the agents of this combination has been set aside.

These companies who proposed to monopolize the market for a few dollars, and make the farmers pay dear for the end for their plaster, have put the price down because they are determined to break down Day & Taylor and crush this movement of the Grangers.

Brothers shall we permit this thing to be done? Shall we sell our manhood and our honor for a few dollars, or shall we stand by those who have stood by us?

Where principle, honor, duty, and interest all point in the same direction, it seems to me that one brother should know as well as another what to do.

A. FARMER.

Prairie Ronde, Jan. 10, 1877.
HALL OF ST. JOHNS GRANGE, No 140, St Johns, Jan. 1877.

Bro. Cobb:

With this find preamble and resolutions unanimously adopted by St. Johns Grange No. 140, together with the answer to card of F. Godfrey & Bro., inviting us to furnish the moneys necessary to purchase the plaster ring, together with the answer to card of F. Godfrey & Bro., inviting us to furnish the moneys necessary to purchase the plaster ring, the same was brought for consideration before the Grange. The price was considered low enough without abatement.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Grange be instructed to return the card of said Godfrey & Bro. with the assurance that no proposition will be accepted having in view the abandonment of Day & Taylor and the building up of a new and more powerful combination, even should the same propose placing plaster flog on board the cars at their mills.

We speak not from a spirit of revenge, but fairness towards those who have shown no disposition to betray or take advantage of us as a class. If the price paid for an article is only a fair compensation for its production it is all we ought to ask, for labor the product of wealth unrewarded, is in it is all we ought to ask, for labor the product of wealth unrewarded, in the end destruction to our best interests as a class.

Yours ec.

O. E. BROWN. Sec'y.

Dexter Grange, P. O. No. 551.

Dexter, Jan. 8th, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:

Please find enclosed our dues to the State Grange for the quarter ending December 31st, 1876.

Our Grange at its meeting on the 6th inst, adopted the following resolutions unanimously.

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the action of the State Secretary in reference to the plaster matter.

Resolved, That we will not buy one pound of plaster of anybody but Day & Taylor or their successors while they remain faithful to their agreement with the Executive Committee of the State Grange, and we will buy what we want of them.

W. D. SMITH, Sec'y.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote at the meeting of the Calhoun County Grange held at Battle Creek, on Thursday, January 4th, 1877:

Resolved, By Calhoun County Grange No. 3, that we will not patronize the Michigan Plaster Association, and under no circumstances any agent outside the Grange, nor any agent residing the Grange, which procures plaster from any source than that provided by the Executive Committee of the State Grange; and further, we urge upon the members of the Grange everywhere the importance of taking the same position.

E. WHITE, Sec'y. pro tem.

LOWELL MICH., Dec. 1876.

Bro. Cobb:

Under suggestions for the good of the Order, I would say:

1st. That every dollar we purchase should be done through our Order, all that can be should be bought through the State Agent, stick to your Grange principles, stick to everything that is for the interest of the Order, and work with your State Agents, who are ready to finance, stick to the State Executive Committee, who have led us over one of the greatest monopolies yet formed against us in Michigan, viz: The plaster ring. Any Patron who buys plaster through any other source than our State Secretary of Day & Taylor, knowingly or ignorantly, I believe gives sufficient cause for his expulsion from the Order.

I might say much in regard to the business of the Order. As for Michigan, the 1st. That every dollar we purchase should be done through our Order, all that can be should be bought through the State Agent, that can be done through the State Agent, that can be done without abatement.

If any member who does not take part in one or more of the above, and who has no money in a purchasing fund or in a good faith, fail to receive the benefits he should.

If all the benefits we receive from the Patron movement, the educational is of the greatest importance, consequently should receive our careful attention to that extent that we will look forward to the time of our meetings with interest, and our children will look forward to them with anxious expectations.

Meetings conducted on the above plan cannot fail to benefit every member taking part in them and the world around us for the good it has lived in it.

All of the above and many more suggestions I believe for the good of the Order.

Fraternally Yours,

J. C. ENGLISH.

MARION MICH., Jan. 1st, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:

You will please find enclosed the report for the last quarter of Excelsior Grange No. 100, and the dues for this quarter and the previous quarter. Also the election notice for 1877.
And I am requested to give the following notice, that
WHEREAS, The arrangements made by the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange for plaster are perfectly satisfactory to this Grange, therefore you can depend on us to do all we can, to discontinue as much plaster outside of this Grange as well as to Patrons, as possible, and we pledge ourselves not to buy or use our own mills or of the combination company plaster at any price. I have received their card offering plaster at their mills at $2.00 per ton.

Yours Fraternally,
FRANCIS HUDONNE, Sec'y.

NORTHLAND, Jan. 1st, 1877.

J. T. Cobb, Sec'y, State Grange:
I thought I would drop you a line as an illustration of what we can do if we will only try, and make use of the facilities we have at our command. I shipped before Christmas to Quick Mill at any price.

W. Deeds, 10c. net.
24. B. Genesee, 10c. net.
54. A. D. T. C., 13c.

Making a total net saving on the bill of (435 64) of $18 00 or over one hundred per cent., which I consider will do for any Patron.

Yours Fraternally,
Cornell Goodnow.

UNADILLA, January 12th, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:
The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted by this Grange at its last session.

WHEREAS, The arrangements made by the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange for plaster are satisfactory and the parties that arrangements were made with are ready to fulfill their part, therefore, be it unanimously

Resolved, By the members of Unadilla Grange, No. 6, that we will buy all the plaster we use this coming season through these arrangements, although Godfrey & Co. have offered us to do all we can, to discontinue as much plaster outside of this Grange as well as to Patrons, as possible, and we pledge ourselves not to buy or use our own mills or of the combination company plaster at any price.

Resolved, That we firmly believe in the doctrine of standing by those that stand by us and who fulfill their agreement with their patrons.

Unadilla Grange, No. 6. Post office address Chelsea Michigan.

P. W. Watts, Sec'y.

JONESVILLE, Jan. 16th, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:
At a meeting of the Hillsdale Grange, held on the 3d inst, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we, Patrons of Husbandry of Hillsdale County, will buy all the plaster we want this year of Day & Taylor, in accordance with arrangements made by the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grange that the Executive Committee should use all honorable means to induce the L. S. & M. S. R. R. to construct a spur from Grandville Station to the plaster beds of Grandville, Illinois. This report resulted in the election of H. D. Pessell Master, E. J. Hodges, Secretary.

HALL OF LITCHFIELD GRANGE, January, 4th, 1877.

WHEREAS, The Michigan and Ohio Plaster Association have in every way tried, to beat Day & Taylor, and are now offering plaster for just one-half the price fixed by them for the last two years, therefore:

Resolved, That we, the members of Litchfield Grange, will not buy or use a pound of plaster manufactured by any firm that is, or has been, a party to the association formed by its agents. That we will buy what we want of Day & Taylor, through the authorized channel of such purchase—that we firmly believe that the doctrine is sound and the practice honorable of "standing by those that stand by us." 

Resolved, That this preamble and resolutions be sent to Sec'y. Cobb, with a request that they be published in the next number of the Grange Visitor.

B. W. Freeman, Master.
J. B. Lindsay, Sec'y.

DEPOTOR, Jan. 17th, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:
The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by Hamilton Grange, No. 355, P. of H., Jan. 15th, 1877:

WHEREAS, The plaster companies of this and adjoining States, combined and advanced the price of plaster to an unreasonable rate and

WHEREAS, The Patrons of Husbandry were compelled to establish a plaster mill to protect themselves against said combination, and

WHEREAS, Said companies are now contracting to sell plaster for less than cost of production, for the avowed purpose of breaking down the Grange Plaster Company, and

WHEREAS, We have every reason to believe that if they should succeed in doing so we should have to pay higher rates than ever before for plaster, therefore,

Resolved, That all true Patrons of Husbandry throughout the State should sustain the Grange Plaster Company.

Resolved, That any Patron who will accept of an agency for any other company under the present circumstances is not worthy the name of Patron of Husbandry.

Resolved, That the Patrons of Hamilton Grange, No. 355, will buy at no other but the Grange Plaster Mill at any price.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolutions be sent to the Grange Visitor for publication.

We shall send an order for plaster in a short time.

Yours Fraternally,
S. H. Mallory, Sec'y.

BURLINGTON, Grange, No. 939, January 15th, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:
Please find inclosed report of election of officers, quarterly report, order for plaster and club of thirteen for the Visitor with draft for amount of $9 50.

Our Grange is alive and means business. We have all kinds of offers on plaster but we had better not, we will stand by our men, we have an order list for two car loads, but have no place to store it, so must take it one load at a time and distribute it from the car.

Respectfully Yours,
W. H. Faubus.

To the Officers and Members of Paw Paw Grange, No. 10, P. of H.:
Your committees assisted at the last meeting, to draft and report resolutions relative to the subject of railroad monopolies and the necessary legislation of the state, and that in the same, would respectfully report the following:

WHEREAS, Corporations, and especially railroad companies, are usually in the habit of combining their wealth and influence, thereby forming monopolies, inimical to the interests of the people, working great injury to both producer and consumer, by which the former is deprived of a large portion of the rightful fruit of his labor, and the latter compelled to pay greatly enhanced values for articles transported for consumption;

And WHEREAS, It is a well established principle that "the creature is not above the creator," and therefore, all corporations are proper subjects for legislation, and that the same, when once trench upon the rights of the people by extortion, should be summarily dealt with, by the enactment of stringent and wholesome statutory provisions;

And WHEREAS, The several railroads of this State, and particularly those operating under special charters, have been for a long time, and are yet, charging enormous and unjust rates; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the imperative duty of the Legislature of this State, now in session, to most thoroughly examine into the great evils growing out of the immense railroad power, inasmuch as the charters of several railroads of the State, operating under special corporation privileges, have now expired, the same should absolutely and our legislature to bring all such roads under the general railroad laws.

Resolved, That the general railroad laws should then be amended so as to require all roads to establish uniform maximum rates, according to the distances of transportation, for the carrying of all produce and merchandise over their lines.

Resolved, That we request our State Executive Committee to take immediate action, whereby the principles of the foregoing resolutions shall be promptly placed before our legislature.

And furthermore recommend that a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be published in the Grange Visitor, and that blank petitions be forwarded to the several Council and Subordinate Granges of the State, for general circulation among the people.

T. R. HARRISON, A. C. GODDEN, O. J. GIRES.

MARSHALL, Mich., Jan. 12, 1877.

Our Grange is in a flourishing condition and we dwell together in peace and order. Enclosed please find orders for plaster. More are coming in soon.

We received a card from Godfrey & Co., offering plaster for $2.00 per ton, on track. Upon which the Grange visitor.
adopted the following resolution unanimously:

Resolved, That we respectfully decline the offer of Godfrey & Co. of two dollars per ton for their plaster, and instruct our Secretary to say to them that we cannot honorably accept their plaster even if offered to us free.

Respectfully Yours,
G. S. Woolsey, Sec'y.

BOWEN, KENT CO., MICH.

Resolved, That in case Messrs. Day & Taylor need further assurance that the Patron's of Michigan will support them in their effort to furnish us with plaster, we, as a Grange, offer to advance to Messrs. Day & Taylor ten ($10) dollars, and would recommend every Subordinate Granges in the State to do the same, and by so doing make assurance doubly sure, and break the plaster ring.

Please insert this in the Grange Visitor and never say die.

M A. HOLCOMB,
Sec'y and Past Master.

MORENCI GRANGE, No. 280.
January 16th, 1877.

Bro. Cobb:

Morenci Grange passed a resolution at its last regular meeting pledging its members to buy all the plaster they use this season of Day & Taylor at its last regular meeting pledging their plaster even if offered to us free. They also sell $10.00 per ton for the planter, which are giving unqualified satisfaction.

Yours Fraternally,
W. S. G. MASON, P. Master.

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And sent out Post Paid, on Receipt of Cash Order, to do the same, and by so doing make assurance doubly sure, and break the plaster ring.

Yours Fraternally,
W. S. G. MASON, P. Master.

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We have pleasure in saying that the most prominent members of the Order have heartily approved, and recommended our plan, while State, County, and Grange Committees have examined, tested and approved, and warmly commended the high character and excellence of the Whitney Machine. We have already supplied thousands of Patrons with the Machines, which are giving unqualified satisfaction.

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