

THE GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.

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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,
Invariably in Advance.

J. T. COBB, - - - Manager.
To whom all communications should be addressed, at Schoolcraft, Mich.
Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

To Contributors.

As the VISITOR now bears date the 1st and 15th of each month, to insure insertion in the next issue, Communications must be received by the 10th and 25th of each month. We invite attention to those interested to our new Heading "TO CORRESPONDENTS."

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Acceptable advertisements inserted at the rate of \$2.00 per square, for each insertion.
A Liberal discount will be made on standing advertisements of three months or more.

For Grange Supplies kept by the Secretary, see "LIST OF SUPPLIES" on eighth page.

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UNDER existing regulations we are required to send a copy of the VISITOR free to the Master of each Subordinate Grange. We shall also send a copy free to all Secretaries who send us ten or more names of subscribers for one year, with pay for the same.

Exec're Com. Department.

GILEAD, Mich., Feb. 6, 1878.

The condition of my throat is such that I am again for a season at least obliged to refrain from talking. But shall try to talk through the columns of the VISITOR to the Patrons of the State, or to those who are alive enough to take and read the paper. One object the Executive Committee have in view by the publication of the VISITOR, is to disseminate information in all parts of the State, in reference to the state of the Order, in different localities. When an impression has been made upon the minds of members in any locality that their brethren in some other place are becoming weak or discouraged, it has a discouraging influence upon those who had reason to believe it. I am led to make this remark, because some saw at the late session of the State Grange a feeling to a slight extent at least, prevailing that the Order in the eastern part of the State was not as great as in the western part. Until this week the writer of this has been visiting Granges every week since the middle of December. Has been north, south, east and west, and I desire to say, that at no time since the organization of the first Grange in the State has there been found more earnest faith in the future, than has every where been met this winter. This feeling is confined to no one part of the State. The objects and aims of the Order are more clearly defined in the minds of the members and some of the wild notions that were entertained at first have necessarily been abandoned. On the 29th of January, I visited Redford Grange in Wayne County. It is twelve miles west of Detroit, on the Detroit and Lansing R. R. If the spirit manifested in that Grange is any criterion to judge of the Order in eastern Michigan, or in Wayne County, than it is safe to say, that it is are in a highly prosperous condition. The Grange rents a large hall, some 70 or 75 feet long I judge, and upon the occasion referred to, it was filled to overflowing. The seats were all filled, and from 50 to 100 were compelled to stand on their feet for two hours during the exercises. I can hardly think promptness to time, one of the cardinal virtues in Redford Grange, yet considering what they undertook to do in one evening they did pretty well.—One thing is certain, they do not want for musical talent. The excellent music furnished by the Club, added much to the interest of the occasion. At a little after 8 o'clock P. M. the large meeting was called to order, and the exercises opened with a song. At the conclusion of the music the writer was placed upon the stand, and he certainly has no reason to complain of the attention given by the 400 or 500 ladies and gentlemen present. Although they were not all Patrons, yet those who were not, seemed to give just as good attention as those did who have the

good judgment to join. At the close of nearly an hour and a half talk, we had more good music, and then came the Installation of Officers. The Hon. Mr. Babcock, late State Senator from Oakland County was installed Master of the Grange. The town of Redford joins Oakland County, and it was noticed that quite a sprinkling of the members lived on the Oakland side of the County line. At the close of the installation exercises, an oyster supper was served. Between two and three hundred set down to the tables and did ample justice to the oysters and other good things. One thing is sure, they have a good, healthy, live Grange at Redford. They have reason for further hope and perseverance. The only criticism I felt like making was they did not take quite enough copies of the VISITOR. I have never found a discouraged Granger with a copy of the VISITOR in his hand.

Pretty well along in the wee small hours of the morning, we bid kind friends adieu, and left the hall with Bro. G. C. Gordon, under whose hospitable roof the balance of the night was spent. Bro. Gordon is again Master of the Wayne County Pomona Grange. He informed me that their County Grange was in a good, prosperous condition, and he ought to know for he is himself a living example of a prosperous farmer. The splendid new house in which he lives and his well cultivated farm indicate that he knows how to prosper. One duty I omitted, and that I will perform now. Bro. Gordon, please write for the VISITOR; you can be the means of doing good. I never felt more positive assurance than when at Redford that the GRANGE had come to stay, not only in western Michigan, but all over the State.

C. G. LUCE.

YPSILANTI, Jan. 28, 1878.

Bro. Cobb:

Fraternity Grange No. 52, seven miles south of this place, having completed a very neat and nicely arranged hall, dedicated the same with appropriate and very interesting ceremonies on the afternoon of the fourth of this month. Bro. Andrew Campell officiated as dedicating officer. The hall was beautifully adorned for the occasion with evergreens, pictures, fruits, grains and flowers. The main hall was literally crowded with the large gathering of members of the Order and their many friends who had been invited to be present and enjoy the occasion with us. Bro. Campbell conducted the exercises in a very appropriate and interesting manner, and the whole ceremony seemed very impressive, and was listened to with the undivided attention of all present.

After the dedication services were concluded, Bro. Campbell gave us one his earnest and most logical addresses, setting forth in a clear and strong light the necessity and advantages of organization among farmers. Short and interesting addresses were also made by Bro. Platt, master of Ypsilanti Grange, and Bro. S. P. Ballard,

and others of Fraternity Grange; also very timely and interesting remarks were made by Mr. John Campbell, which had the true ring although he is not yet a member of the Order. Much interest was added to the occasion by the reading of a beautiful original poem by the Worthy Lecturer, Sister Mary E. Lowe.

This part of the programme being completed, the door to an adjoining room with the conveniences for serving refreshments, was opened, disclosing tables loaded with a bountiful supply of things good to eat, which, accompanied by tea and coffee was soon served to all, and a very pleasant hour was passed eating drinking and in social chat, after which all returned to their respective homes, feeling that we had enjoyed a pleasant and profitable afternoon; and every member of Fraternity Grange happy and rejoicing that we had so convenient and beautiful a Grange Home.

And here permit me through our excellent GRANGE VISITOR to say to all our Granges in the State, that in my judgment, one of the most prominent influences to insure permanency to the subordinate Grange is secured, when such organization has provided for itself a suitable hall of its own, with all its appointments so arranged as to be convenient for the work and objects of the Order and calculated at the same time to secure the comfort and add to the pleasure of the members. In the rural districts of our State, we have not many public halls, and if we had, they are not just the best places to hold a meeting of the Grange. A church also, is a good place, and every way well arranged for holding religious services; a district school house, when well constructed, is just the place for a primary school, and a dwelling-house of all others is the best place for the family home, but none of these are designed for, or really convenient for a Grange home. No sooner has a Grange been able to furnish itself such a "Home" than interest in its meetings and the objects of the Order will be increased—the work of the Order can be more appropriately and impressively performed—the members all feel at home there—everything around is calculated to add interest to the meetings, and such a Grange will soon find means to add to the conveniences of the place, those invaluable appendages, books and papers, and adorn its tables and walls with flowers, fruits, grains and pictures. We advise all subordinate Granges to secure to themselves, if possible, such a Grange home and then cherish and sustain it. It will pay.

J. WEBSTER CHILDS.

—In a shower of rain an old hat looks as good as a new one.

—Always put off till tomorrow what you cannot pay to-day.

A company has been organized at Allegan, under the name of the Allegan Mich., Agricultural works, to manufacture Carter's patent cultivators.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, PAW PAW

Public and Private Lectures

Learning that Bro. T. A. Thompson, of Plainview, Minn., ex-Lecturer of the National Grange, had been elected president of the Patrons' Paint Company, and was traveling in the interest of the company, I have invited him to visit this State and lecture to the county and subordinate Granges. I am much gratified to announce that he has consented to do so, and will spend from four to six weeks in the State at no distant day, upon the following conditions, which should be understood by the Granges employing him: He will pay his own traveling expenses from place to place, expecting to be entertained by the hospitality of the Patrons while stopping with them. Private lectures to Granges, upon subjects relating to the welfare of the Order, and instructions upon all the work of the Order, will be delivered free. At the close of these lectures, he will give a brief statement (or history) of the organization of which he is president, its composition, object, and manner of doing business with Patrons. He will deliver public lectures, when invited to do so, upon subjects relating directly to the objects, aims, condition and general work of the Order, for the very low price of \$5 a lecture. Bro. Thompson was one of the "founders of the Order," and author of its unwritten work. He was the National Deputy who organized our State Grange. As Lecturer of the National Grange, he traveled and lectured almost constantly for three years. He is a gentleman of culture, high moral standing, a good speaker, and a true Patron. I am confident that his visit to our State will be productive of much good. Give him a hearty welcome and full houses. Granges desiring public lectures should send their applications to him at once, that he may arrange to accommodate as many as possible with the least travel and expense. Address him at Plainview, Minnesota.

Digest.

Believing it to be not only the right, but the duty of every member of the Order, to have access to, and become acquainted with all the Laws and usages of the Order, and in view of the increasing demand for a more general knowledge of the same, I have concluded to commence the publication of the Laws of the Order, with the next number of the VISITOR; and continue the same with each succeeding number, until all of the decisions and rulings of not only the National, but State Grange are before its readers.

The numbers containing these rulings should be carefully filed and preserved for future reference.

Farmers of Michigan.

If you do not wish to see the duties on foreign wool again repealed, and the price of Michigan wool go back to 20 cents per lb., send in your remonstrances against the passage of the unjust Tariff bill now before Congress. There is no time to be lost. Prompt action is needed. Let the experience of the past, "be a lamp to our feet." The chairman of the committee having the bill in charge is credited with saying, that "he is confident the bill will pass without material change."

—To old subscribers—Please renew at once.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, MUSKEGON.

Field Notes.

On Saturday evening, the 12th inst., we had the pleasure of visiting and witnessing the installation of the new officers of Ross Grange, No. 24, by invitation of Bro. H. Dale Adams, of Galesburg, installing officer. This Grange has a convenient hall and is doing well. Delinquent members seem to be returning to the fold and trying to make amends for the past. Bro. Adams addressed the Grange on the State Grange and its work, presenting the subject in a manner highly creditable to that body, and pleasing to his hearers. Bro. Campbell, P. M. of Galesburg Grange, who accompanied us, also entertained the Grange with timely remarks. Among other topics, we presented the VISITOR and took ten subscribers for it.

We were regally entertained by Bro. Earl and his wife, who understand Grange hospitality.

Bro. Iouch was reinstated Master of the Grange, and he is now serving the fourth term. Change is not essential to prosperity in No. 24.

On the 23d inst., we awoke in the home of W. P. Whitney and wife, of Byron Grange, No. 73, Kent county. Grangers are not usually strangers, and a Patron can always feel at home with Bro. and Sister W.

A short ride brought us to the hall, where were soon assembled a goodly number of this earnest Grange. After a short Grange session, a sumptuous dinner was brought out of box and basket to the satisfaction of the hungry.

The installation of officers was the order of the P. M. Being public, the large hall was filled to overflowing by visitors, Patrons and non-Patrons. Among the former, we noted Bro. W. S. Crippen, of Ellena; Bro. Styles, of Paris Grange; Sister Davis, and Bro. W. T. Adams and his wife, the W. P. of the State Grange.

The installation passed very pleasantly, and the marked attention to the address indicated more than usual interest in the work of our Order.

Bro. Whitney, Master of Kent Co. Grange, placed in our hands some notes from their last meeting, which are given under the proper head.

The annual meeting of Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, took place on the 24th and 25th insts., at Berlin, at the hall of Ottawa Grange, No. 30. Among the themes discussed was one of importance to the Order and its members everywhere, "How shall the Grange be made interesting and attractive in its meetings." Bro. Nathan Whitney claimed all questions of political and domestic economy should be discussed, and the members interested in their investigation, nothing should be excluded but partisan politics and sectarianism, and the view was well received. Bro. Myron Harris advocated the same by some well chosen remarks. Bro. Burton would have public meetings in the school districts in the vicinity, and endeavor to interest every worthy farmer in our work and induce him to co-operate with or join the Order. The W. M. and W. L. also discussed the subject at some length.

A series of resolutions relative to taxation were adopted, similar to those in another column; we would invite your attention to them. A fine class of intelligent Husbandmen and matrons took the higher lessons of the fifth degree.

An election of officers took place, who were duly installed. This Pomona Grange is under the care of the fol-

lowing officers for the ensuing year:

W. M.—Thos. Wilde, Berlin.
W. O.—M. E. Hudson, Hudsonville.
W. L.—C. L. Whitney, Muskegon.
W. S.—Samuel Stouffer, Lisbon.
W. A. S.—R. Johnson, Pleasant.
W. Chap.—S. D. Marain, Berlin.
W. T.—Nathan Whitney, Trent.
W. S.—Charles W. Wilde, Cooper-

ville.
W. Gk.—A. M. Kocher, Spring Lake.
W. P.—Mrs. C. L. Whitney, Muskegon.

W. C.—Mrs. J. S. Burton, Ravenna.
W. F.—Mary Lawback, Berlin.
W. L. A. S.—Mrs. T. Wilde, Berlin.
Executive Committee—Myron Harris Talmage, Nathan Whitney, Samuel Stouffer, and W. L. Whitney, Master and Secretary.

Two valuable and instructive lectures were received from Dr. M. Miles, of Lansing. These lectures which were thrown open to the public, were well attended and received by both Patrons and farmers and others outside the gates. These lectures were illustrated by the aid of a magic lantern, giving life size pictures upon a screen eight feet in diameter, which at once gave to the eye knowledge that could be given in no other way. The doctor gave illustrations of the more valuable breeds of cattle, sheep, and horses, showing the particulars wherein they were valuable. He further pointed out the objects to be gained and aimed at in breeding, and how, by a knowledge of co-relation of parts, the breeder could be assisted. We have not room for as full a digest of these lectures as we would like to give, but we commend the doctor to all who would study this subject. We were in session two whole days, and yet were short of time.

Four full meals were served at the hall by Ottawa Grange, No. 30, and there was an abundance left, and they entertained a large number two nights, as they so well know how to do. Many thanks are theirs.

We met our worthy brother, Secretary of Kent Co. Grange, John Preston and his estimable wife, who attended all our sessions.

We took twelve subscriptions to the VISITOR, which we forward. The change in form pleased all who have it here. They say they can't do without it.

The next meeting of this Pomona Grange takes place at Lisbon on the fourth Thursday of February, 28th inst.

The Patrons Mutual Fire Insurance Association of Newaygo and Muskegon counties makes its first annual report, and no loss yet, but a large number of risks taken.

Something to Discuss.

Every farmer, and especially every Patron, ought to consider well and to arrive at some position upon the subjects given below. Where can we better begin than at home, in our subordinate Granges?

The highest achievements of our Order have had a beginning in the subordinate Grange, work may be planned and placed before the subordinate Granges in such a system that much valuable time may be saved and greater, because more concentrated, work be done.

Kent county Grange, No. 18, and Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, have given the farmers within their borders texts for many an evening's work.

We would place the series of resolutions offered in the Kent county Grange at their meeting on the 18th and 19th, at Grand Rapids, before our subordinate and county granges, and ask their consideration:

WHEREAS the property of the farmers as a class, consists principally of real estate, and whereas it is an undisputed fact that real estate bears seven-fold

more burdens in the way of direct taxation than personal estate, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the duty of farmers as a class, as well as all other real estate owners and skilled and common laborers to study and discuss the laws of political economy with reference to bringing about legislation both national and state that will justly equalize the burdens of taxation.

Resolved, That at all times it is the duty of good citizens to note with jealous care the acts of their public servants, always requiring of them the same economy in the management of public affairs that characterizes a successful business man in private affairs; that while an intelligent and enterprising people will sanction all needful expenditure of money for public improvements, they should jealously guard against all needless burdens of taxation, but that the present enormous expenditures of money in our county (Kent), amounting to over eighty-nine thousand dollars within the past year, without any great public improvements, is a subject of alarm, especially in these times of general business prostration, and while all kinds of labor are seeking for employment at less than half their former rates.

Resolved, That the salaries and per diem wages of our public officers are disproportionately high compared with the wages paid by private individuals for skilled and common labor, and it is a notorious fact that there is a growing tendency on the part of public officers to prolong their sittings and nurse jobs at public expense.

Resolved, That we recommend that a wise, humane and discreet committee on charity be elected in each subordinate Grange, whose duty it shall be to seek out the unfortunate within their jurisdiction, who need assistance, and if such exist, that we set apart days when the public will be invited to contribute and bring a portion of their stores to the Grange halls, to be by the committee distributed, thus saving thousands of dollars in the way of direct taxation, and mercifully caring for the unfortunate wards of our towns. A wise precaution dictates that only those who have gained a legal settlement shall receive assistance, as otherwise our several townships might be imposed upon.

Resolved, That we recommend to the subordinate Granges the propriety of erecting halls two stories in height, the upper story to be used for Grange purposes, accessible at all times from the outside, or a hall with deafened floors between and with lower stories so arranged that they are convenient for school purposes, where farmers' sons and daughters may receive instruction in the higher branches of learning, through private enterprise and under home influences.

These resolutions were unanimously adopted and the following is referred to the committee on taxation, and need legislation:

Resolved, That, in our opinion, the board of supervisors, as at present constituted, ought to be abolished by law, and in its stead a board of county commissioners, consisting of one commissioner for every six towns or city wards, or major part thereof, in a county, to be elected by the several districts so made. The duties of such board shall be to equalize the property valuation of the county for state and county tax once in five years to fix the rate of per cent that property shall be assessed at in the interim by the several township assessors and supervisors; to audit all claims and perform all the duties pertaining to the present board. Each commissioner shall have appellate jurisdiction in all cases of disagreement between town supervisors and individuals, and his decision shall be final.

The western Pomona Grange, No. 19, (Ottawa and Muskegon counties) adopted the same resolutions, except the latter two, which were referred to committees to be reported and discussed at the next meeting.

The discussion of these themes and their publication by the efforts of our Order will soon enlist every taxpayer of the State in the investigation of the facts they call forth.

May not other counties be found to have even greater cause for alarm than Kent?

Brothers, look this up.

—Half a pair of gloves is better than none at all.

A Review—Art Life, and Other Poems.

We usually look to the learned professionals for poetry, and especially volumes of poems; but why? Are there not men and women among the trades and the tillers of the soil with as cultivated minds as elsewhere? True poetry is a natural product and the schools only aid to express it and utilize it.

Who has a better opportunity to be a Nature's poet than the farmer who is in constant communion with nature in her varied forms and seasons and is not biased by the conventionalities of society as seen and felt in to wnlife?

We have read the little volume of B. Hathaway, of Little Prairie Ronde, with great pleasure, and often felt in the reading that this farmer at least saw spring and her flowers, summer and her sweets, autumn and her fruits, and took winter's leisure with a true poet's enjoyment, and thus lived in a higher sense than his less fortunate neighbors. To read this volume is to learn that the author is conversant with the natural sciences and their application to man's use, that he has a high appreciation of home and its enjoyments and the tender ties that bind us to earth, but that God in his wisdom orders all things.

We read with particular zest "The Voices of Nature," and heard again the warblers' notes from bush and tree, so familiar to our childhood.

In "The Songs of the Seasons" we find many a beautiful thought we have often felt but had not the ability to speak.

In his "Miscellaneous Poems" we find a centennial hymn among others, each worth the price of the volume.

Read and judge. Published by H. H. Carter & Co. \$1 for a \$1.25 book.

Retiring Address.

Address of Bro. Harvy S. Booth, the retiring Master of Portage Grange, No 16, at the installation of its officers, Jan. 11th, 1877:

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters:

In taking my leave of you as your Master, it is with mingled feelings of joy and sorrow. The thought of being relieved of the duties and burthens of Master is gratifying to one of my age and infirmities. Being a friend of, and interested in the welfare of the Order, I welcome, for myself, the change with pleasure, and with high hopes for the future of our Grange; but when I think of the many happy and enjoyable sessions and greetings we have had, while I was your presiding officer, the severing of those relations fills me with sorrow and regret. For two years I have labored in this position, and have endeavored to do my duty faithfully and impartially. No doubt I have committed many errors; but I trust the duties and responsibilities are now placed in abler hands, and that the work of building up and perpetuating our Order will be carried forward with renewed spirit and energy. I am impressed with the idea that the only hope for the farmers of our country to rise above the position which they heretofore occupied is by organized and united effort; and if this Grange movement fails we have little to hope for the farmers of our country.

I congratulate you in the choice of your officers. The experience and capability of your newly elected Master must necessarily make him popular with the whole Grange and with the assistance of the efficient corps of officers you have elected to support him, makes us very sanguine of the success of the Grange, and augurs well for its future prospects. And now,

brothers and sisters, as you love your Grange, let me exhort you to be faithful in the support of your officers. By so doing you will greatly strengthen them. Let us be kind to each other, and vigilant in our efforts to build up a more perfect union—union being an essential element of strength in all institutions. We should never lose sight of its importance. If we do, we are in danger of the introduction of some element of discord in an unguarded moment, that will work our downfall and ruin. But union alone will not guarantee growth and importance; to union should be added activity and perseverance, and the crowning glory, that charity which thinketh no evil and is every ready to assist the weak and raise the fallen. Is it not true that we often fail to recognize the important truth that all men are unlike, no two persons possess the same qualities in the same proportion. One has not the strength of will and resolution to do, or not to do, that another has. We should therefore be careful in our criticisms and judgments, and avoid that hasty condemnation of a brother for an error which forgets the obligation recorded, and the charity that forgives as it hopes to be forgiven. In saying this, you may, perhaps, well inquire, if I practice what I preach; I answer: our life is largely made up of renewed resolutions to do better in the future than in the past; and our associations in the Grange has, I trust, developed in some degree in us all, more forbearance as well as more friendliness. This institution offers opportunities not only for social enjoyments but for mental improvements that we should not fail to use. I know the enquiry is sometimes made, "What has the Grange accomplished?" Every close observer can truly answer that it has accomplished more in the short time it has been in the field than any other institution in the same period. Large as this claim is, it is true, and if true, we should make every reasonable effort to advance the interests of the Order within the bounds of our influence. Brothers and sisters, lest I weary you I will close. Your many kindnesses towards me since I have been connected with you in the Grange has placed me under many obligations for which I shall ever have a heart warm with gratitude and thankfulness. The success of the Grange while I have been Master has been measurably good, and is mainly due to the brothers and sisters associated with me, and I cheerfully place it to their credit, and there let it remain.

I HAVE heard a story of an ex-Governor of Connecticut who being blessed with sufficient of this world's goods to supply all his worldly wants, had retired to private life, after satisfying his political ambition. He owned some land, and being of an agricultural turn of mind, had manured and fertilized his land to make it productive, and sowed his wheat. It grew finely, and he frequently walked out to look at it. One day as he was looking at his wheat, a neighbor came by and remarked to him: "Governor, Providence has blessed you with a fine crop." "O, yes," said the Governor, "I gave providence a good chance."

Moral. Providence seldom blesses those who do not try to help themselves. Providence will not often bless us unless we give him a chance.

OBSERVER.

ST. ALBANS, VT., Jan. 15, 1878.

The proposition to amend the constitution so that subordinate secretaries would be required to report to State Secretaries only twice a year, found no favor with the National Grange.

Pomona or County Granges.

Now that the real advantages of the Pomona or County Grange are becoming better understood, the important place they fill in our organization more fully realized, we find the Patrons are taking hold of them more earnestly. Ohio now has about forty of these organizations, with prospects of more in the near future; other States are moving in the same direction. The necessity of a County Organization was found when the Order commenced with rapid strides to sweep over whole States, the members in a County, numbering hundreds and perhaps thousands, feeling the need of a medium through which the same principle of united effort in a neighborhood could be applied, particularly in business matters to a wider territory. At that time no provision had been made by the founders of the Order for this connecting link between the Subordinate and State Grange; and so, "necessity," being the "mother of invention" County Organizations began to spring up under the name of "councils." At the annual session of the National Grange, at Charleston, Feb. 1875, the matter was introduced, and such regulations adopted for the government of "Pomona or County Granges" as would render them uniform in their organization and work. It being thought at the time that as these Pomona or County Granges were to have charge of the "educational and business features of the Order," important matters as they were, that they should be composed of the very best material from the Subordinate Granges, and hence a partial limit at least, was placed upon the number who at any one time could be admitted into the higher Grange; "not to exceed three." This was thought by many to be creating caste or aristocracy in the Order, and, in some quarters, much feeling was expressed and a prejudice created against the Pomona Grange. The National Grange took such steps at its next session as would remove the objectionable feature, and Pomona or County Granges are now organized under such regulations as each State Grange may adopt. It has been thought by a good many Patrons, that the uniformity should at least have been preserved at the time. Therefore, at the present time, with the only objection that was ever raised against them removed, we are not surprised that when properly understood they are increasing in number and favor with members of the Order. The mere fact of members of the Order from a whole county meeting together at stated times and becoming acquainted, enjoying the pleasures of social intercourse and acquaintance, is worth far more than their cost, to say nothing of the necessity of such an organization, to discuss questions pertaining to the whole county, to secure legislation, or enforce laws already passed for the protection of farming interests; to strengthen and increase the weaker Granges; to bring about the organization of associations for business, insurance, etc.; gather information in regard to crops and markets, and all the many interests connected with the farmer's life.—Wherever a Pomona Grange gets into good working order, and its members get a right idea of its importance and the work to do, we find that they grow in favor and interest, and must result in great good to all concerned.—*Grange Bulletin*

—Grace Greenwood" was standing in a Washington horse-car, when a sudden start of the car threw her over into a gentleman's lap, when she said, "I beg pardon, Sir; but you see I am a Laplander."

HUMOROUS.

—A tailor, in skating, fell through the ice; he was afterward heard to declare he would never again leave his "hot goose" for a "cold duck."

—Shack Nasty Jim, the once famous Modoc, has raised 1,200 bushels of corn, and wants to know the process of preparing it so that it may be eaten out of a flask.

—Yonng Wife. "My dear, don't be eternally finding fault with the fashion. If you don't like the style of my hair, don't press yours in that way, that's all. If I were to follow your example I should have to wear my hair bald-headed." [*Husband collapses.*]

—The Norristown *Herald* remarks: "The coming dress for ladies doesn't touch the pavement by about three inches. This will obviate the necessity of ladies wishing they had three hands when out promenading: but some method will have to be devised to keep the sidewalks swept clean."

—They had been engaged for a long time, and one evening not long since they were reading the paper together. "Look, love," he exclaimed; "only \$20 for a suit of clothes." "Is it a wedding suit?" she asked, looking naively at her lover. "Oh, no," he answered, "it's a business suit." "Well, I mean business," she replied.

Very few of the great minds of this country have come from the city or the cradle of the rich. The farm and workshop have supplied by far the largest number of our eminent men.—*Dr. Hall.*

Business Law.

Ignorance of the law excuses no one. An agreement without consideration is void.

Signatures made with a lead pencil are good in law.

A receipt for money is not legally conclusive.

The acts of one partner bind all the others.

Contracts made on Sunday cannot be enforced.

A contract made with a minor is void.

A contract made with a lunatic is void.

Principals are responsible for the acts of their agents.

Agents are responsible to their principals for errors.

Each partner in a firm is responsible for the whole amount of the debts of the firm.

A note given by a minor is void.

Notes bear interest only when so stated.

It is not legally necessary to say on a note "for value received."

A note drawn on Sunday is void.

A note obtained by fraud or from a person in a state of intoxication, cannot be collected.

If a note be lost or stolen, it does not release the maker; he must pay it.

An indorser of a note is exempt from liability if not served with notice of its dishonor within twenty-four hours of its non-payment.

Norvell, Jackson Co., Mich. }
Feb. 8, 1878. }

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

Our Grange is now in good working order and we are making it pay financially as well as socially.

We keep on hand a good assortment of groceries, have a purchasing fund of about \$75, which we raised by paying our dues one year in advance. The plan works well, and we think it a good one.

We have a neat little hall, which cost us about \$600. We are about to order plaster. Please send some more blanks.

Fraternally, yours,
G. R. RIFEAD, Sec.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEB. 15, 1878.

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.

BLANKS.

Blanks that are sent free from this office on application are:

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 Grange.

Blanks for Consolidation of Granges.

Blank Application for Certificate of Dimit.

Blank Plaster Orders.

Blank Certificate of Incorporation.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S., of Cass City.—Your statement claims so much that we hesitate to print it until we are better posted.

J. E. P.—Must try again.

Pokagon—Deferred for the present.

A. N. R.—Will publish as soon as we can find room.

S. L. B.—Short of room this issue.

Plaster.

We are receiving orders daily for plaster, but not in such numbers as we ought to have, to avoid the delays and vexations that are sure to follow a demand for shipment of large quantities in March. The trouble will be in getting cars just when wanted. We can guarantee that there will be no trouble in loading cars at the mill when once they are procured, but we fear that many will have cause before the first of April to regret their tardiness in this matter. We therefore urge all who can, to not only order soon but order it shipped at once, if you can take care of it. Better have it two weeks to soon than two weeks to late.

Freight rates remain the same as last year. We do not publish the schedule of rates, as we want to believe that every Grange has a file of the VISITOR and by referring to the last February number can know all about it. To those who have not, we can send, to a limited extent, that number, which gives the rate from Grandville to most parts of the State.

In answer to enquiries about bags and barrels, Day & Taylor requests us to say that they will be furnished at cost—American A bags, 20c; good ten hooped barrels, 35c, and adding no extra charge for filling. Parties who wish, can send their own bags by freight or express and have them filled.

Without reference to what members of the Old Combination may offer for their plaster for, it is sufficient for us to know that they are not disposed to recognize the common sense proposition, that farmers can do their own business, but insist that there must be an intermediate party, whose profits the consumer must pay.

Our contract price with Day & Taylor is no doubt as cheap as pure plaster well ground can be afforded at the mill, and is so low that any one who uses plaster at all can afford to use it liberally.

We do not, however, advise a liberal use in anticipation of a much higher price in future, for certainly if we stick together and sustain Day and

Taylor (and we shall) there will be no advance while labor remains as cheap as it now is.

Initiatory Fees.

We get letters almost daily enquiring if the initiation fee has been reduced. We assume that a sufficient number of States have not yet voted upon the amendment submitted to decide the question. So far as we have seen, every State has ratified the amendment reducing the fee, but we must patiently wait until the Master of the National Grange makes proclamation that the proposed amendment has become a part of the constitution, before we test its value to the Order. We shall certainly make haste to notify the Order in this State as soon as possible after such proclamation is made.

The Visitor.

If its friends desire to have it continued as a semi-weekly, they must not relax their efforts to extend its circulation. We need another thousand subscribers to ensure it against loss, and ought to have them within the next four weeks, and shall if our friends are diligent. Our success depends on their efforts. Need we say more.

We had promised ourselves and perhaps some of our friends to write up an account of several meetings held in January for the Installation of Officers, at some of which we were present. But we have been unable to do so on account of our time being so occupied with more pressing duties. Besides our friends in different parts of the State have sent us so many reports of the good time had at the Installation of their officers, whether public or not, that we feel as though a conclusion had been reached—that good Patrons make good cooks, good suppers, good company, good speeches, and have a good time generally, and a good farmer and his good wife who are not good Grangers loose many good things that are within their reach. We are clear upon one point—with the loss of members during the year there has been a decided gain in many Granges in life and interest. More application, more earnestness and a determination to realize more of the social and educational advantages which the organization offers to its members. The harmonious and fraternal spirit which pervaded its members and characterized the sessions of the late State Grange seems to have been transmitted by the delegates and visiting members to the Order at home, and we have much new evidence of an awakened and renewed interest in many parts of the State.

There are a few things that seem very difficult to learn. Secretaries are slow to learn that it is one of their duties to report the names and post office address of the Master and Secretary elect, to the Secretary of the State Grange—we are now getting about one report a day, and this tardiness is delaying the publication of the Proceedings of the State Grange. These reports should have all been in the first week in January. Will Masters make inquiry and know that an election report has been made. Quite a number of Masters are not getting the VISITOR, simply because no election report has been made to this office. The other thing which not only Secretaries, but other Correspondents seem slow to learn, is giving the No. of their Grange—with that we can almost tell which side of the road they live on—without it, we are often put to our wits end to an-

swer a letter with a reasonable expectation that the person addressed will ever see our answer. Last week we received from a Secretary, a list of a dozen subscribers to the VISITOR. The name we suppose of his township was given with the date.

No postoffice, no name or number of Grange, and well—we were not entirely happy.

ARGUMENTS multiply every day in favor of giving the facilities to the people for investing their savings in United States securities. The Newark (N. J.) Savings Bank, with liabilities amounting to over thirteen millions of dollars, has been taken charge of by a court of chancery. A similar institution at Tauton, Mass., closed its doors outright yesterday. With such events happening every day, it is not strange that the people are demanding postal savings banks, or some other means of readily investing their savings in the securities of the National Government.

On a railway line recently a passenger stopped the conductor and asked: "Why does not the train run faster?" "It goes fast enough to suit us. If you don't like the rate of speed get off and walk," was the rejoinder. "I would," replied the passenger, setting back in his seat, "but my friends wouldn't come for me until the train comes in, and I don't want to be waiting around the station two or three hours"—*Husbandman*.

J. H. McCall, a Shiawassee County farmer, has had to pay \$100 for some white wire clothes line. The line is a good thing, but we should think it was very dear at the price. But what he loses on the wire he gains in experience.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4, 1878.

J. T. Cobb:

WORTHY BRO.—I have never attempted to write anything for the Visitor, but being deeply interested in our little paper, and thinking that a few words from the Patrons of Berrien Co., and the success of their efforts in co-operation might interest some, I venture to send you this. I am in Chicago buying goods for our co-operative store in Buchanan, Mich., and while here I called upon Bro. John C. Miller, located at 53 Market St., who is a Patron from our county, under good bonds, and selected by our county to dispose of their surplus products and that of others who may favor him with a shipment. I find that Chicago was never duller, and all business is at a stand still, still Bro. Miller is able to sell all that is consigned to him at fair prices, and the only want with him is variety and quantity of produce to sell, and I sincerely hope that the Patrons of Michigan will assist us in our infant enterprise by giving Bro. Miller a trial, as I know him to be honest and willing, and thus held to firmly establish the fact of our ability to do our own business and save ourselves from those sharpers that are constantly cheating the producer out of his hard earnings. I saw a letter from a patron in Algona, Iowa, in which he stated that they had lost (as a county) by the failure of Gooch & Barber \$2,500 and expressing their determination to ship hereafter to Bro. Miller. You will notice that the amount lost by this one county would pay the running expenses of Bro. Miller's establishment for one year, and more too. A word to the wise is sufficient. Yours, in a good cause,

F. FRANKLIN,
Agt. Berrien Co. Co-operative Ass'n.

Madison, D. T., Feb. 6, 1878.

J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich.:

Worthy Brother:—Enclosed find 25 cents, for which please send me the VISITOR six months. Please commence with No. 2, Jan'y 15th; times are hard with me, but cannot live without the VISITOR since leaving Michigan; have missed the VISITOR, and also the Grange very much. But am in hopes we shall have one organized here soon.

Yours, Fraternaly,
L. F. PACKARD,
Madison, Lake Co., Dakota Ter.

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - - - CENTREVILLE.

A Word in Season.

Buying at retail and on credit at that, is to buy in a dear market; too many farmers follow this practice, and the result is, that it keeps them poor, and makes hard times and hard getting along, both for them and all parties concerned. As a rule, farmers are not poor, yet from bad management many buy their family supplies in small quantities at a time and on credit at that. In carrying on a farm, good judgment is necessary in raising and marketing the crops, and in taking care of the stock and selling the same at the proper times, when the best results can be realized; and equal good judgment is required in making the necessary purchases of drygoods, groceries and implements.

The farmer should take advantage when he has money from the sale of his crops, to lay in a stock for a year, or six months, at least; by doing so, he can save from ten to twenty-five per cent over what he would be compelled to pay on credit for small quantities. Sugars, by the barrel can generally be had for one half to a cent per pound less than in buying a few pounds at a time. Besides the convenience to the women of having it on hand when wanted, and not being compelled to wait until some one is going to the village. "Always pay cash down," is one of the best rules of the Grange and should be daily inculcated and strictly lived up to; then "duns" will be unknown, and the calls of the officer not dreaded nor feared. By paying when you buy lower prices can be had. The Grange affords the best facilities for purchasing at wholesale rates that the farmers can secure, and every wide awake Patron should avail himself of them.

I am now offered salt at Saginaw, by the car load, for 80c for No. 1, and 70c for No. 2, per barrel. If any one wishes salt to sow in the spring, it is best to get either No. 1 or No. 2, in bulk. Refuse salt is wet and dirty and not plenty. I have known a car of refuse to loose over a ton in weight by draining, from what it was billed at, and what it weighed down. The No. 1 is as dry and clean as it is in barrels, and if it is loaded in a clean car it is equally good for any purpose as barrel salt. Every Grange can use a car load to good advantage during the next six months.

I want every one in writing to me to give the name of their postoffice and County and not forget their own name if they expect to get an answer, I have no time to look up postoffices, which are frequently different from the name of the Grange. Often the postmark is so poor that it cannot be made out; and some sign their letters in such a manner that the name may be almost anything. I received a letter not long since, containing a bank draft and order for goods to quite an amount, that had no signature, nor direction to whom or where the goods were to be sent. It takes time and trouble to hunt out such oversights, and shows the need of care and caution.

Business is now on the increase, and goods are moving more freely than they have been for several weeks past. I am ready to fill all orders for any quantity of articles which I have on hand. When not on hand, if shipped direct, by the piece or in unbroken packages, the money must be sent with the order. There is too much delay in making payments, for me to advance money for nothing, to pay for goods and wait weeks and

months for my pay. I am poor at dunning Brothers, and I hope that all will remember to pay as they go.

Granges delinquent in reports from Secretaries for two or more quarters:

Nos. 48, 111, 121, 146, 147, 156, 206, 223, 234, 244, 249, 251, 302, 320, 330, 409, 410, 469, 473, 477, 486, 493, 496, 498, 500, 501, 502, 527, 531, 551, 552, 559, 567, 587, 596, 604, 607, 612, 620, 622.

Shall We Blame the Deputies,

While attending a meeting of Grangers not long since, one very eloquent gentleman, in speaking of the cause of the decline and death of some of the Granges in the State, arraigned our organizing deputies for misrepresenting to the members the advantages which they were to derive from a connection with the Order, judging from the approbation with which his speech was received, it seemed to be the sense of the meeting. Now, I am not one who has the honor of being a deputy, neither have I ever attempted to make a speech to convince farmers that they would be greatly benefited by organizing or joining a Grange, but I have attended several meetings held for this purpose when our worthy State Lecturer addressed the meetings. On hearing the gentleman first referred to in this article, my mind quickly reverted back to those meetings and called up pictures of success, word painted, at these meetings; one of these Granges so organized had already become dormant and had ceased to hold its meetings, some of its members insisting that the advantages of Grange membership had been over drawn and that they could not see anything in connection with the Order that would make it pay. I called to mind also the many disappointments of the members of my own Grange on coming short in some expected triumph in our experiments in co-operation, every failure, in fact, that I had ever heard of in our Grange operations came uppermost in my mind at once, and, for the time, I found myself willing to join the speaker in condemnation of the illusive hopes held up by the speakers at their preparatory meetings; but in cooler moments, when, taking the sober second thought, I can but think that we who were joining in the sentiments of the speaker were doing our State Lecturer and deputies great injustice. In looking back to the speeches of our worthy Lecturer at these meetings, I cannot call to mind a single representation, wherever the members have carried into effect what he has told them was a condition of success, but what his promises have been fully verified. But the fact is that the conditions of this marked success were that members were to be true to their pledges and to do their whole duty as brothers or sisters of the Order, and wherever we have met with failure in our expectations, can we not readily trace it to want of proper observance of some of these conditions, this, at least in accordance with my judgment and observation. I believe that our way to success lies in bringing these shortcomings before our members, and in instilling into their minds the importance of implicit faith in the Order and the necessity of regular attendance at the Grange, this being done, I think we shall have no occasion for want of success, or to arraign our organizers for over zeal in the cause.

C.

A model bill, made out by an old farmer against his neighbor, read as follows: "Neighbor A. Dr. to B. to horse and wagon goin' to mill once since and twice before, one dollar."

Ladies' Department.

The Song of the Granger.

We envy not the princely man,
In city or in town,
Who wonder whether pumpkin vines
Run up the hill or down.
We care not for his marble halls,
Nor yet his heaps of gold.
We would not own his sordid hoard
For all his wealth thrice told.

We are the favored ones of earth,
We breathe the pure air each morn,
We sow, we reap the golden grain,
We gather in the corn.
We toil, we live on what we earn,
And more than this we do,
We hear of hungry millions round,
And gladly feed them too.

The lawyer lives on princely fees,
Yet drags a wretched life,
He never knows a peaceful hour,
His atmosphere is strife.
The merchant thumbs his yard-stick o'er,
Grows haggard at his toil;
He's not the man God meant him for,
Why don't he till the soil.

The doctor plods through storm and cold,
Plods at his patients' will,
When dead and gone, he plods again
To get his lengthy bill.
The printer, bless his noble soul,
He grasps the mighty earth
And stamps it on our welcome sheet
To cheer the Grangers' hearth.

We sing the honor of the plow,
The honor of the press,
Two noble instruments of toil,
With each a power to bless.
The horse, the nerve of this fast age,
True wealth of human kind,
One tills the ever generous earth,
The other tills the mind. A PATRON.

Occupation for Women.

In such a country as ours, where untold acres of land, full of the riches that would load the harvests of lifetimes, lie idle, yet near to markets, and capable of being tilled and lived upon in comfort, it is a reproach to the men of the nation that they are not taken up and brought into use; and that while such opportunities lie unemployed, all the avenues of work in cities are crowded with sleek and rosy men, and all the attics and purlieus of starvation are crowded with pallid and emaciated women.

Of course there has been already a great deal said concerning the employment of men in situations that could be filled by women; but that is no reason why the charge should not be again and again sounded till reformation in the matter is effected. Whenever a man's superior physical strength enables him to do what a woman cannot do, or when his superior intellectual ability or scholarship gives him powers of which she is destitute, then he can occupy himself without any loss of manliness; but wherever a woman can do the work as well, it befits a man to look about him and see if he be not as much out of place as he would feel himself were he dandling babies, dusting trinkets, or darning lace for a livelihood.

We intend, however, no crusade against the "dry-goods" clerk, who is almost invariably an honest, patient, faithful, and in every way worthy citizen, although we think he has mistaken his place. Public opinion will one day place him and all his brothers in places better fitted to their natures and abilities. We only intend to point out a few opportunities, otherwise, that women either have tried elsewhere or might try here to advantage.

In England, so great has been the emigration, that many paths are left open to women that they might never have found had there been men to command them. To be sure, the drinking-shops there, which are tended by the handsomest women in the three kingdoms, are something which we do not care to see more fully imitated on this side of the sea, no matter how well conducted those women may be. But there are countless other situa-

tions where the English women have the start of us, and from whose circumstances we might gather some hints ourselves. In many hotels there, they are clerks, book-keepers, stewards, and general managers; they form a good proportion of the telegraph operators; and they do all the floor business of theaters, selling the tickets, checking the garments—for the English wisely refuse a lady the right of annoying every one behind her with her lofty hat and head-gear—ushering the guests and selling them refreshments after they are seated.

Yet these are but a few of the ways in which women may find occupation as modest and suitable as in the haberdashery or behind the candy counter, and with pay tolerably equivalent to the duties. There is no reason why a woman should not sell the tickets of a railway, sheltered in the little office at whose window they are exchanged; should not altogether monopolize the business of the florist and of the market gardener, neither of which is at all too heavy for her actual strength; should not fill the desks of bank offices, tax collectors, and other clerical places; should not attend to all the lighter portions of manufacturing. Into some of these things women have already effected an entrance that will make the way wider. There are many women now at work upon the telegraph, many are compositors in printing houses, many are book-keepers; and every woman who does her duty well in those places, makes it easier for the next woman to take and to get and to keep as much better ones as may be desired—each upward step being a hold-fast for the next. The first woman who went into a printing-office was an innovator; she made it possible for one to go into a telegraph office. And thus the book keeper will doubtless make it possible that the great merchant doing business with foreign countries, having ships go out and ships come in, shall be a woman too as often as a man.

We do not think this is a matter trenching at all upon the disputed topic of Woman's rights, since all men have held, from the time that any attention at all began to be given to the status of women as an integral part of the race and not an accident of it, that she has a right to work, a right to get her own living in any honest way she can, and the living of as many others as she will.

There is no selfishness of class or sex in this desire to increase the usefulness of Woman. The occupation of such places as those we mention by women, will not drive men into places where they will be unhappy or taxed beyond their strength; but they will cease to be doing work where they not only are not required, but are wasted, and their labor will become productive, which the labor of men in such situations cannot now be fitly termed. They will add, too, by so much to all the opportunities of civilization, will increase the wealth of the country, and simply allow women to assist in its distribution.

It is however, rather idle to speak of the affair as if women were to drive men out of position voluntarily and deliberately. Women cannot occupy these places until men forsake them; even the pressure of public opinion will not at first be heeded by men. The only driving to be done, will be when the wages shall be so reduced that they will not answer the needs of men; women, who are satisfied with much less, and for whom much less is deemed sufficient, will gladly accept them. And then, women having once at last filled these places, public opinion assumes a new form, and the lord

and master cannot do anything so derogatory to his dignity as to fill the place that has been filled by a subordinate; and the battle, if battle it be called, is so far won.

But the great trouble in this matter is, after all, the unwillingness of women themselves. The great majority do not expect to work; they expect to marry. And that they can work and marry too, does not occur to them; nor do they think that anything in the world is quite so honorable as marriage. Perhaps there is no life that is altogether so blessed, in giving blessings, as the married, whenever it is properly lived; but in communities constituted as ours are, where the one sex is usually so greatly in excess of the other, it is out of the question that all should marry; and it would be better to provide one's self, at any rate against the necessity, just as the sons of princes are taught a handicraft, that they need not be beggars in case they come to the last of their crowns. But even the women who do not think about marrying, in so many words, hesitate to assume occupations that are unusual. They hate to be conspicuous, to be eccentric, to be strong-minded; they like to get along just as their grandmothers did; they have fanciful notions concerning the seclusion of women, and more fanciful ones still concerning the degrading nature of work, and it takes *want* to drive them to it. And so they keep along with their little schools, their little sewing, their little shop-tending, and look askance at the more energetic and daring who reach out toward employments a little broader and a little better paid, until the latter make it a success, when the others sometimes timidly essay to follow. One thing needed by women, certainly, in order to overcome this backwardness toward entering upon new occupations, is some tonic to their self-respect, some stimulant to their pride and their ambition; something that shall make it seem utterly unworthy of them to sit down, be they rich or poor, and live on the labor of another; that shall make it seem as questionable to the daughter to be supported by the father as it is to the son; and shall make all women see the propriety of every human being providing its place in the world. But while the majority of the sex are being educated up to their work, it goes without saying that there are more women already waiting for places than there are places waiting for women.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Betsy Again.

Feb. 5, 1878.

Sisters, I intend to make an arrangement with Brother Cobb that every time you leave a space in this department he is to put my effusions in to fill up, so I think it stands you in hand to keep the Ladies' Department full. Some one outside the gates may read the VISITOR, and you would not like them to know that you had a sister that wrote such jingling nonsense, and is no lady, Mrs. Proper would say. Well Betsy never claimed to be, but I guess I know how to enjoy life and let other people, and I am ready for anything, even to writing for the VISITOR.

I would like to tell you how I do my work easy, and always have time to go whenever the team goes or anyone comes along. Now, brothers, don't shake those wise heads of yours and say cold potatoes, for I'll prove by "that husband of mine" who likes good victuals, that he is always provided for, and with thirty years' experience I ought to get up a square meal, and not be all day about it either.

If any sister wishes to live easy, the first thing to learn is that you, yourself, are of more importance to your family than the house, their clothes, or even the pies and cakes.

Can some sister give me a receipt to make my beloved read loud when I am at work?

T. T. M.,

Which means talk too much.

Dexter Grange, No. 351,
Dexter, Feb. 8, 1878.

Worthy Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Through the columns of your paper, I desire to address a few words to my worthy brothers and sisters in relation to farming. In numerous instances the question arises, "Does farming pay?" Now, let us look about and compare the present condition of farmers of our acquaintance with what it was a few years ago. We must surely recognize the fact that they have gained in wealth, they are paying their debts, are able to live comfortably, and still have means with which to improve their farms and build necessary buildings. Besides being profitable, it is pleasant; we have teams, sleighs and wagons which, when not needed for the farm work, are at hand to take us where we may please to go, either on business or in pursuit of pleasure. There are seasons in the year when the farmer can relax his exertions without serious loss, and leave his crops to grow in his absence. The times and opportunities which the farmer enjoys for the cultivation of his social relations with his neighbors and friends, the privilege of being almost constantly with his family to care for them, to look after the training of his children morally and religiously, should be taken into account.

Now it seems to me that persevering industry and wise economy will surely lead to success in farming, and to obtain a better knowledge of farming, we must attend the Grange promptly, as it can be made a source of satisfaction and happiness to ourselves and others. Just one more thought, and that is, music in the farmer's home. Among no class of people is music relished and appreciated more than in a farmer's family. A farmer's home is of necessity isolated (that is if he owns much breadth of land, and many do in Michigan) and he needs something to stimulate and invigorate the mind, especially with the children. If they are prudently instructed and governed they never fail to show it in their manners, minds and characters, and in after life they delight to honor and revere the memory of their wise parents, whose foresight and intelligence placed them in the right path to respectability and usefulness.

Yours, fraternally,
MRS. M. S. BRUEN.

Sodus Grange, No. 123,
Feb. 2, 1878.

Bro. Cobb:

As the sisters are especially requested to write for the VISITOR, I thought that I would write something in order to help fill up the columns. I do not feel capable, as this is my first attempt to write for a paper, but I will endeavor to do the best I can, I suppose that is all that is required of us. Why I write is to speak more particularly in favor of our Order. This Order of the Patrons of Husbandry I appreciate very highly; it is an order that we all should endeavor to sustain, the sisters especially. We are very deeply indebted to it for our improvement, it seems we have been benefited in so many ways, socially especially. I consider this organization next sacred to my religion, first our religious duties, next the Grange. Now, sisters, let us be ever at our post, there is plenty for us to do if we will but lend a helping hand, in writing through the VISITOR and exchanging views in making housework easier. I agree with Myra, in the 1st January number, in not taking pains with things that are not really necessary, we do not wish to encourage slothfulness, far from it, but should devote more time to such things as are of more benefit to ourselves and humanity. I will not waste more time at this writing for fear this will be thrown in the waste basket, therefore I submit it to the VISITOR.

A SISTER.

Receipt for Cheap Cake.

One cup of sugar, one cup sour cream, one egg, half teaspoonful saleratus, half teaspoonful salt, season to taste, don't mix very thick, bake slow. M. S. B.

Austerlitz, Feb. 11, 1878.

J. T. Cobb:

DEAR BRO.—The next regular meeting of Kent county Grange, No. 13, will be at the hall of Wyoming Grange, in the village of Granville, March 20th, but, in consequence of a large amount of business, the executive committee have thought it necessary to call a special meeting, which will be held at the hall of the Sons of Industry in Grand Rapids, on the 20th inst.

M. B. HINE, Sec.

Communications.

The Material of the Grange.

Many of the Granges in this state have gone down, and there are many others that are rapidly pining away. There is more than one reason for this, but the principle reason is the Granges were made of poor material. When the Granges were started the only desideratum was more members. Nothing was said about the applicant's character, and but little was thought about it; his money only was deemed worthy of examination. Every one who lived in the country was deemed eligible, and all kinds of country people joined. Many who were nobody outside of the Grange joined because they expected to become popular by getting inside and shining by the reflected reputation of others.

This heterogeneity of the Grange is the cause of its early decay. People will not for a great length of time continue to associate with a relish in the Grange with those who outside are extremely distasteful. If obnoxious members do not leave the Grange, the rest will. Unfortunately for some Granges both classes stepped out at about the same time and left the Grange without either warp or filling.

There are many peculiarities of disposition possessed by various people which makes them unfit for members of a Grange, and they should be taken into consideration before balloting for an applicant. Every applicant should be scanned closely and sifted fine, and, if objectionable, freely blackballed.

Nothing in a person's character can be more obnoxious than a habit of trying to avoid paying his honest debts. Patrons, who from the beginning have constantly complained of the financial crookedness in other occupations, should rigorously despise every one who will make debts with the deliberate intention of never paying them. The first inquiries that should be made about an applicant for membership should be, "Does he make strenuous efforts to pay his honest debts?" "Is he careful in making promises and prompt in redeeming them?" "Is his promise to pay worth 100 cents on the dollar among those who know him?" If these questions cannot be answered emphatically in the affirmative he should be kept out.

Not only would I keep out of the Grange those who never pay for what they can get on credit and whose promises are lies, but I would immediately put out all of that class of people who have already got in. This plan if put in operation would not make the Grange a rich man's society as some might at first suppose. It does not require immense wealth, entire freedom from debt, nor a big walletful or pocket of change, to enable a man to be financially straight. It requires only an inborn determination to do right. There is many a man who possesses but little and may be in debt besides whose word among those who know him is as good as that of a Rothschild. Such a man makes as good a Granger as anybody does. But a man who is dishonest and unreliable, whether he be poor or rich, should not be admitted or allowed to remain.

If the plan I have suggested should be adopted the Order will be successful and respectable, and the title "Granger" will no longer be a reproach, but an honor. Let us begin a reform at home.

M. FOSDICK, Sec. No. 3

Kalamazoo, Jan. 26, 1878.

Support the VISITOR by subscribing.

HOWELL GRANGE, January 25, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I see by a report published in one of our State papers, that the "Michigan Association of Agricultural Societies" passed a resolution to petition Congress to remove the present tariff on wool.

Upon reflection we are led to ask the following questions:

Was a majority of the members of that association in favor of free trade? If so would they petition Congress to remove the tariff from wool and not from other articles, also?

Could these men have thought it would benefit the farmer to make the heavy shearing class of sheep the only ones from which he could derive any benefit?

If so, we would ask if thirty five cents per pound is not as high as we can safely estimate wool as averaging in the future, with the tariff as it is? And would not the removal of the tariff reduce it to about twenty three cents per pound?

And again would not the heavy wool then, as now, sell at least five cents per pound below the lighter wools, or for about eighteen cents per pound? Now how much more advantage would it be to a farmer to sell a ten pound fleece for eighteen cents per pound than to sell a five pound fleece for thirty five cents per pound?

Would not the removal of the present tariff on wool cause a general slaughter of light shearing sheep and make the heavy shearers the only ones that would pay at all?

Therefore would not this action of Congress promote the sale of this class of sheep, and are not these eminent agriculturalists who represented the agricultural societies at said Association mostly growers of heavy woolled sheep from the sale of which they are endeavoring to make large profits? And does it not look like an effort to legislate money out of the pockets of their brother farmers, and into their own pockets?

Is there any justice in such proceedings? We desire an explanation.

Fraternally,
S. B. PEARSON.

SILVER LAKE GRANGE, No. 624,
Grand Traverse Co., Mich.,
January 26, 1878.

Brother Cobb:

DEAR SIR—Thinking perhaps your readers would like to know how a Grange is kept alive up here in the north woods of Michigan, I would say we take hold of that, as we have to do everything else we do to live, with a will. We use every means in our reach to make our meetings interesting. We have a committee of three Brothers and their wives appointed at each meeting to visit some brother's farm designated, and report at the next meeting the condition they find such farm in, whether well or poorly worked, how stocked with cattle, horses, sheep, swine, &c., as well as how supplied with tools to work with, and the condition of both stock and tools, which report is made out in due form in writing, and read in open Grange, then passed over to the Secretary for file. We have practiced this for eighteen months, and have not tired of it yet; and, in fact, it has an increasing interest, and results beneficial to the brother whose farm is being examined; it prompts him to keep his stock well stabled in winter, as well as his farm wagons and tools of all kinds sheltered at all times; it acts as a stimulant to tidiness, as there are but few, if any, brothers who like to have their faults exposed in open Grange.

Another source of general benefit we have adopted, is a Grange paper, edited by one of the sisters, and made up of original and selected pieces, many of them instructive, which is read by the editor in open Grange at each meeting. Our members all take a lively interest in the paper, and most of them contribute original articles for its columns, the name of the writer is supposed to be known only to the brothers, unless desired. We find this of much benefit in an educational way. Many write who could not be induced to speak, and all have a chance to say their say.

We have been building a hall 18x30 feet, 10 feet high, which is nearly complete now, and bills all paid up to date, with balance of material to finish it on hand. We have held one meeting in it and shall meet there in future. Perhaps it may be of interest to weak Granges (there are only 24 of us) to know how we built our hall. Well we divided it into stock shares of \$5 each, so as to be within reach of every member, and each could take as many shares

as he choose; building material and labor, as far as needed, was taken in payment for stock, which enabled many to contribute in both material and labor, that could not have paid money. The building of the hall was placed in the hands of a building committee, with instructions to keep an account of each member's contributions, and award stock in return, which stock is to be redeemed as fast as there is funds in the treasurer's hands to redeem with, until the whole is redeemed, and the Grange owns the hall. I think many Granges that are meeting in school houses, farm houses, &c., would be materially benefited if they would adopt some such plan, and build a hall in which they would feel at home, they would feel as though they had something to work for as well as to work in, and would gain strength in both numbers and interest in the cause. Outsiders doubted our success, but we have succeeded, and have a neat, substantial hall, painted and finished off in good taste, to the surprise and, I may add, chagrin of those who predicted our failure, while others that looked on in mute silence are now talking of joining, and think, perhaps, there is something in it, after all, and are looking forward with no little curiosity to the prospective ride on the never tiring goat.

I am aware that this is already too long, but I wish to tell of my recent visit to Inland Grange No. 502, Benzie county, last Saturday night: Our Worthy Master, G. H. Wightman, and myself went over to Inland Grange. Brother Wightman to install the officers and I to look on. We found a goodly number of brothers and sisters assembled in the school-house (where they have held their meetings) to see officers installed, all of which were present, except the Worthy Master elect, who, being absent on business, could not be installed. The new officers showed much interest in the good work, and I have no doubt will prove themselves worthy and efficient, and will add much to the prosperity of the Grange. After installation Brother Wightman exemplified the unwritten work, and your humble servant made some remarks on co-operation, after which a social interchange of views were indulged in, to the mutual benefit of all. I hope. After closing the Grange, Brother Wightman and I spent the night with Brother and Sister Richard Reynolds. Brother Reynolds having had two years' experience as secretary makes a very efficient officer; Sister Reynolds is treasurer of the Grange. They have a small purchasing fund with which Brother Reynolds keeps a small stock of groceries at his house, which are furnished to the mutual benefit of all. I would like to write more in detail of Inland Grange, but space forbids. After a very enjoyable evening and good night's sleep, well refreshed with the good things Sister Reynolds knows so well how to prepare, we started home, feeling well paid for our trouble.

T. H. CHAD, Lecturer.

BOWEN, Kent Co., Mich.,
Jan. 25, 78.

Worthy Sec.:

Enclosed find \$4.00 for eight subscribers to the GRANGE VISITOR, as follows: * * * * * I shall try and send you more subscribers to the VISITOR. The January number gives general satisfaction. We shall get more reading and more papers for a very little more money.

Our Grange is in good working order. There are a faithful few that will go on to conquer, but there are weeds in the field, and we are obliged to uproot one now and then. We are doing a very nice little business in a co-operative way, a capital of \$75 has bought within the last year \$872.90 worth of goods, which have been sold at the lowest profit to save loss, and at that the profits on capital invested have been 40 per cent. We feel encouraged at our success. You can use this for publication if it will encourage others to do likewise. Fraternally,

M. A. HOLCOMB,
Sec. No. 219.

Agricultural Commissioner LeDuc has asked J. R. Dodge the well known statistician, and generally considered the leading man in the agricultural Department, to resign. Perhaps LeDuc does not want a man in the department who knows more than he does himself.

Correspondence.

MARLETTE, Mich., Jan. 19, '78.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

I am glad to inform you that we are alive and likely to live, although Grange No. 1 has died during the past year on the one hand, and No. 607 is at the point of death, if not already dead, on the other; yet I can say with pride that No. 549 is in a healthy condition. We installed our officers for the present year last night, and we had a very good time, having a picnic supper, also an address from our Worthy Master, which was appropriate to the occasion. I send you a list of 12 subscribers for the VISITOR, which I think, all things considered, is not so bad out of a male membership of 20. We appreciate the VISITOR for its teachings and advice, and we love the Order of P. of H. for the good it aims to do mankind in general, and the farmers in particular.

Yours, fraternally,
G. W. RUDD,
Sec. Grange No. 549.

There will be a special meeting of Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, P. of H. held at Clarkston, Tuesday, February 19. Also one at Groveland, Tuesday, March 5. Yours, fraternally,
J. JACKSON, Sec.

Birmingham, Mich.

SHERMAN, WEXFORD CO., MICH., }
January 28, 1878. }

J. T. Cobb, Sec'y:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—The members of Marrilla Grange No. 580, Sherman Grange No. 632, and Cleon Grange No. 633 met at the Hall of Sherman Grange on the afternoon of January 11th and partook of an excellent dinner, gotten up by the sisters of the three Granges aforesaid, and in the evening Special Deputy H. A. Danville duly installed the officers.

We are enjoying peace within the gates. Not one harsh, unfeeling sentiment has been manifested for the past year inside our truly fraternal circle, and, as members, we are trying to do our whole duty. We have made some progress in the principles of our noble fraternity.

Our members love and cherish the Grange for the good it has done them socially, morally, and financially, and for the great opportunities for improvement it affords. We have entered upon the new year with fresh resolves to make our Grange more interesting and profitable; and have strong faith that our bright anticipations may be realized.

Enclosed find 50 cents for which send the VISITOR to Isaac N. Carpenter, Sherman, Wexford Co. Mich.

DENTON, Jan. 12th, 1878.

Worthy Secretary J. T. Cobb:

You will find inclosed herewith Election Report; also the Secretary's Reports for the quarters ending Sept. 30th, and Dec. 31st, with fees and dues to the amount of \$11.10, which I believe you will find correct. I shall not weary you with excuses for not being more prompt with reports, but will promise to do better in future. I was pleased to notice the improvement made in the VISITOR, and think it should be made a weekly VISITOR. Shall try and increase its circulation in Center Grange. The Grange is in a thriving condition at present, and I think it has come to stay. We meet every Friday evening, and the attendance is fair. Have received some new members, and have a prospect of receiving more. I think according to present indications, we shall be able to maintain our present number of membership, and hope to grow. Yours, &c.,
D. C. BURRELL, Sec'y.

GRATTAN, January 28, 1878.

Bro. Cobb:

Grattan Grange No. 170 decided to have a public installation of officers elect on the evening of the 18th inst., the Master to act as installing officer. We had given a general invitation, and expected a pretty good company, but when the time arrived to commence the exercises of the evening, we found the seats all full and the standing room all occupied too.

The company were very attentive and orderly while we went through with the ceremony of installation, which passed off well. We then had a good recess, during which time we improved the social privileges of the Grange, and discussed the apples and popcorn that were freely passed around.

The company was again called to order, when the most interesting parts of the exercises were had, consisting of essays and speaking. The essays embracing the following subjects were read by members of the Grange, and were all good. I wish I had some of them to send you for publication:

"Education of Farmers' Sons," by Bro. R. A. Weeks.

"Childhood Memories," by Sister Ramsdell.

"Farm Experiments," by Bro. N. Smith.

"Benefits of the Grange," by Sister Mason.

"Woman," by Sister M. A. Lessiter.

Bro. Scranton made some quite extended remarks on the benefits derived by farmers in general through Grange co-operation here and elsewhere, showing quite conclusively that it had paid all its cost in this vicinity.

The Secretary also read a paper written by Mr. Close, not a member, on "The Past and Present," which recalled to mind many of the incidents of the early settlement of this township. Mr. Cornell also made some appropriate remarks that were well received.

The exercises were interspersed with music and singing, which added a charm to the intellectual feasts of the evening. The company dispersed at a late hour, apparently well satisfied that public exercises occasionally are a great benefit to the Grange. C. M. S.

St. JOSEPH, January 28, 1878.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

DEAR SIR—I was instructed by Grange No. 84 to send the following preamble and resolutions to you for publication:

WHEREAS, Certain false and malignant reports have been circulated whereby the honor and integrity of our worthy brother, Thomas Mason, has been assailed, and whereas said false reports have done great injury to our brother where he is not personally known, therefore

Resolved, Unanimously by the members of Lake Grange No. 84, that we hereby declare all reports derogatory to the character of our worthy brother, Thomas Mason, without foundation and utterly false.

Resolved, That we hereby tender our sincere thanks to Bro. Thomas Mason for indefatigable and valuable service rendered our Order in our home, county and State organization.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be tendered to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

Respectfully yours,
[SEAL] C. P. PHELPS, Sec'y.

PLEASANT, Jan. 22, 1878.

J. T. Cobb, Worthy Bro.:

On the 19th. inst., a party of twelve members of Alpine Grange, No. 348, attended a public installation of officers belonging to Tyrone Grange, No. 316. The attendance was fair. Short and interesting addresses were delivered by Mr. Ayer and Bro. Nathan Whitney; after which the installation services were performed by Bro. Chas. Dole. Notice was given that a grange meeting would be held in the evening and the meeting adjourned.

The visiting friends were hospitably entertained, and were present at the evening meeting, which was opened in due form. Suggestions for the good of the Order was the order of business for the evening. Nearly all took part in this exercise, which was interesting; and, judging from the earnest manner in which the officers and members engaged in their work, we prophesy a prosperous future for Tyrone Grange. Yours Fraternally,
JOHN PRESTON,
Lecturer of Kent Co. Grange, No. 18.

Burr Oak, Jan. 28, 1878.

Bro. Cobb:

Please send the VISITOR, commencing Jan. 15th, as follows.

I also enclose an additional order for plaster.

If any of those who are of the opinion that interest in the Grange is dying out, or dead, had looked in at our installation, on the 26th. inst., they would have thought that we had a mighty lively invalid in charge, or else that we were holding a jolly "wake" over the remains. Our hall was well filled by members of our own and neighboring Granges, with many from without the gates. The new officers were duly installed; a stirring address was delivered by our efficient Past Master Russell; our musical friends enlivened the occasion with their harmony, while the feast

provided by the sisters was simply tremendous, and worthy of the reputation of Burr Oak Grange for hospitality and good cheer, and after the multitude had eaten there remained of the fragments many baskets full.

Fraternally Yours,
H. HAWLEY, Sec. No. 308.

BERRIEN SPRINGS, Mich., }
Jan. 29th, 1878. }

J. T. Cobb, Sir and Bro.

Enclosed find P.O. order for dues and subscriptions to GRANGE VISITOR. I hope to send more during the year. Will do what I can.

If all the Executive Committee do what was done in the VISITOR of January 15th, there will be no lack of contributions on their part, and will make the VISITOR worth three times its cost.

The two contributions on education have paid all who take an interest in the subject, the cost of the paper for one year, as they "hit the nail square on the head". Hope there will be plenty more of the same kind in the future. There is not a true Patron who is able, who will do without the VISITOR, I care not who or where they are. Yours,
E. M. IRELAND.

Sec. Berrien Springs Grange, No. 41.

CLARKSTON, Jan. 28, 1878.

Worthy Sec. Cobb:

Nearly two years ago Independence Grange, No. 275, began to agitate the subject of building a home. We got our grange incorporated, raised the money and made a contract for the building. It was completed in October, when we got possession and commenced to furnish it. The hall is 24x40 feet, with ante-room and store-room in front, built of brick. We have got it paid for and have the deed. We had it dedicated January 16th, Brother J. Webster Childs dedicating officer. He also installed our officers. The installation was public.

After the ceremonies we adjourned to a public hall, where Brother Childs addressed a large audience composed mostly of farmers outside the gates, and a large number of members of other Granges were present beside our own. The address was directed to the public and was just what we wanted to enlighten people in regard to the Grange movement. After the address, we went back to our hall, where supper was ready, and about 200 were served. The supper was just such a one as farmers' wives know how to get up, nothing was wanting. Everybody seemed to be well pleased with the entertainment and to consider it a great success. I think it will do a great deal of good in building up the Grange in our vicinity. Our Grange is under great obligations to Bro. Childs, who came here to dedicate our hall through great inconvenience to himself, and we appreciate his efforts. After we began to talk of building, a great many members left the Grange under some pretense or other, so we are not as strong in numbers as we were a year ago, but just as strong in spirit, and I think we shall be successful in sustaining the Order here.

Fraternally yours,
E. FOSTER.

POKAGON, Feb. 5, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Not seeing anything in the VISITOR from Cass county, I was afraid we were being overlooked, or somebody had been remiss. Cass county, Pomona, Grange met at Cassopolis January 16th for the election of officers for the ensuing year. The election resulted as follows:
Master—Gaylord Cory, Silver Creek Grange, No. 176.
Overseer—R. S. Dickson, Pokagon Grange, No. 42.
Lecturer—J. Barber, Ontwa Grange, No. 49.
Steward—Thos. Odell, Porter Grange, No. 427.
Asst. Steward—Abram Miller, Cass Grange, No. 162.
Chaplain—Russell Cook, Pokagon Grange, No. 42.
Treasurer—John A. Reynolds, Cass Grange, No. 162.
Secretary—Mrs. Matthew T. Garvey, Cass Grange, No. 162.
Gatekeeper—Joel S. More, Union Grange, No. 177.
Pomona—Mrs. Russell Cook, Pokagon Grange, No. 42.
Ceres—Mrs. Gaylord Cory, Silver Creek Grange, No. 176.
Flora—Mrs. John Barber, Ontwa Grange, No. 47.
Lady Asst.—Mrs. Robinson J. Dickson, Pokagon Grange, No. 42.
Adjourned meeting, February 12th,

for installations, initiations and business. Wish you could be with us at that time. T. T. M.

January 30th, 1878.

Bro. Cobb, Worthy Secretary:

I think it time that we heard from Flower Grange No. 497 through the VISITOR, and as there will have to be a start made, here goes:

We are starting off in the new year with some new Officers and many new and good resolutions, and I fervently hope that we may realize the full benefit of every step in the right direction. We have a good Lecturer in Worthy Sister McKay who, with some aid from others, will, I think, take care of our educational interests.

We do very well in the way of music, but we feel the need of something new, our songs are good but getting rather dry. We have seen some dark and discouraging periods since the organization of our Grange, but are always found inside the works, and it matters not what the enemies outside the gate may say, or do. It seems as if our greatest difficulty lies in correcting our own weakness.

We had Bro. G. W. Woodward install our officers which ceremony was followed by a good address in which Bro. W. had the Book Agent, Grasshopper, Codling Moth, Lightning Rod vender, and a number more of the farmer's pests, very amusingly strung on one string. Elder Darling also made a few remarks which were concise and to the point. The ceremonies were public and passed off quite satisfactorily. Fearing that I may be monopolizing too much space I will close for the present. Yours Fraternally,
Ex Secretary.

KEENE GRANGE, No. 270, }
January 21st, 1878. }

Brother J. T. Cobb:

DEAR SIR.—At our meeting Saturday night I commenced and obtained seventeen subscriptions for the VISITOR, as I thought a little more education might be profitable, especially such as is contained in your paper. The Patrons of the above Grange are moving in the work before them, giving assurance that they mean to do their duty. We are taking orders for plaster and you will probably hear from us in due time. Fraternally yours,
DEXTER CUTLER.

NORTHVILLE, Jan. 29, 1878.

Bro. Cobb:

DEAR SIR.—Inclosed find P. O. order of \$2.50 for subscription to the GRANGE VISITOR for this year.

The Granges in this part of our State are starting out this year with much better prospects than for two or three years past. There has been a scraping off of barnacles, cutting off of dead-weights, throwing overboard of useless ballast. In short, a general trimming and cleaning up, in consequence of which the old ship moves better; and another thing, too, the delegates and others who attended our State Grange went home renewed in strength and more fully determined to make the Grange a success. This influence is operating as the leaven in the measure of meal.

This morning I forward a petition of 66 names to our member in Congress, against the repeal or reduction of the tariff on foreign wool.

Yours, Fraternally,
DEXTER WHITE,
Master Northville Grange, No. 232.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

Mrs. C. A. Bonham, wife of Bro. Asher Bonham, Esq., died at her residence January 27th, 1878, aged 61 years. The members of Burr Oak Grange, No. 303, unite in expressing their heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved family of our deceased sister. H. HAWLEY, Sec.

Bro. Charles S. Gardner, on the 19th of Jan. in his death his parents have lost a dutiful son, and Keen Grange, No. 270, a valuable and promising member.

Bro. Courtland N. Palmer, on the 19th of Jan. A member of Eagle Grange, No. 343, a kind, dutiful and Christians on has joined the great Grange above. W. F. JENKINSON.

Sister Melinda Davis, on the 4th of December. A sister of Geneva Grange, No. 569.

Jane E. Taft, Nov. 22d, 1877. Pomona Grange No. 5, of Oakland Co., at its session Feb. 6th, adopted resolutions of respect and sympathy.

Sister Sarah W. Woodworth, an estimable member of Penfield Grange, No. 85.

Sister Lorida Earl, an esteemed member of Prairieville Grange, No. 256, on the 2d of January, 1878.

Sister Betsey Blair, aged 46, a valued member of Harmony Grange, No. 337.

It becomes my painful duty to announce the death of Bro. M. B. Howell, one of our oldest most esteemed and worthy members, who died at his residence Wednesday, Jan 23d, and was buried Friday the 25th by the Masonic Order.

B. I. WHELPLEY, Sec'y No. 315.

Roxand, Jan. 26, '78.
Bro. George W. Mills, of Cambria, on Jan. 12th, 1878, while visiting friends in Steuben county, N. Y. Hillsdale Pomona Grange, No. 10, at its last session passed resolutions of respect and condolence.

These obituaries were, as are all we receive, accompanied with preambles and resolutions expressive of the character of the deceased and the sympathy felt for bereaved friends. There is such a stereotyped character to nearly all obituary notices that we receive, that the publication of one would, in its general expression, cover the whole ground. We therefore repeat what we have had occasion to say before—that we do not feel that more than a brief notice is called for. Our readers would be more surprised than pleased were we to give place to all obituaries as received. We shall always find room for a brief notice—seldom for a lengthy preamble with resolutions.

PRICE LIST of SUPPLIES

Kept in the office of the Secretary of the

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

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

- Ballot Boxes, (hard wood),.....\$1 25
- Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred,.... 60
- Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members,..... 1 00
- Blank Record Books, (Express paid),..... 1 00
- Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound,..... 50
- Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound,..... 50
- Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound,.... 60
- Cushing's Manual,..... 60
- Applications for Membership, per 100,..... 50
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