

THE GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-

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BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.



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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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J. T. COBB, - - - Manager.

To whom all communications should be addressed, at Schoolcraft, Mich.
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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 \$1.00 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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The Kalamazoo Business College and Telegraph Institute is one of the institutions that is really worthy of general support.—St. Joseph Co. Rep.

THE PATRON'S RESOLVE.

With Faith we formed the Grange—
Our Farmers' Brotherhood.
Our State and County, aided by its power,
Began reforms when ruin seemed to lower,
Old wrongs deplored,
Justice restored,
It aims at naught but good.

In Hope, built up the Grange,
Its purposes maintained.
Should hostile power or discordant strife,
Its strength decrease or end its glorious life,
Old ills still borne
It's life we'd mourn,
Nor see its like again.

We need fair Charity,
In all the work we do,
Brothers and sisters take fresh courage now;
To exile's sceptre ne'er should Patrons bow.
Our strength unite,
Renew this fight—
Our noble work and true.

Fidelity must win!—
Awake! each dormant Grange!
Build up new life, our fealty renew;
Love for our cause in old and young imbue.
Our zeal retake—
No pause we'll make,
Till time and life shall change.
—J. W. A. WRIGHT, in Pacific Rural.

Lightning Rods for Farm Buildings.

The prudent farmer who desires to guard his family and property from danger, often asks whether he ought to place lightning-rods on his farm buildings; and if this is to be done, how to do it with the least expense, and yet secure the greatest safety.

DO LIGHTNING-RODS REMOVE ALL DANGER OF LIGHTNING?

A good rod properly placed on a building, and with good ground connections, will make a building more secure from the destructive influence of lightning; but a poor rod and one improperly put up will quite as certainly increase the danger from lightning. Look over your neighborhood and see how large a proportion of farm buildings have no rods, and yet have stood for years without being struck, or in any way injured by lightning. Once in a while such a building is struck and destroyed by lightning, but quite as often buildings are destroyed by lightning, notwithstanding there are one or more rods on the building. Fire insurance agents inform me that they would quite as soon insure a building against loss by fire when it has no rod as when it is provided with ordinary lightning rods. If a census of the State could be taken in regard to the protective influence of ordinary rods as usually placed on buildings, I think it would be found that, of the buildings provided with commercial lightning-rods, as large a per cent are struck by lightning as there are of the buildings not provided with such rods. We may thus arrive at two conclusions:

1st. That the majority of buildings without rods are not injured by lightning.

2d. That ordinary lightning-rods as usually put up do not sensibly diminish the danger from lightning. It is my settled conviction that many of the ordinary lightning-rods as usually found on farm buildings, instead of

averting all danger, make such buildings more liable to be struck by lightning.

I would not be understood to say that every kind of lightning-rod however put up will increase the danger from lightning, but I am convinced that the rods usually peddled through our State—rods made of a poor quality of galvanized iron, and that in a very poor form for purposes of electrical conduction, or rods made with a core of poor iron, covered with a thin wrapping of copper, so placed as to lead a person to suppose that he is getting a rod of solid copper—often endanger the buildings to which they are attached. I object to these rods for three reasons:

1st. They are poor conductors.
2d. As usually put up they do not permanently add to the safety of the building.

3d. They cost the farmer ten times the sum for which he can himself put up better rods. I might add as a fourth objection that putting up lightning rods is often made the occasion of swindling the farmer in the most outrageous manner; but this is a matter that demands the attention of the criminal courts rather than that of the chemist.

NATURE AND USE OF THE LIGHTNING RODS.

To hear some of these glib-tongued agents talk, one would think that the lightning would disdain to use any rod not made and put up by their particular company, that a rod made and put up by some one who is not in the regular apostolic succession in this guild would be vain and presumptuous, and that lightning will never use any rod that is not made especially for a lightning rod, and secured by patent! Be not deceived; the lightning does not care a fig for patent rights or for peddlers of lightning-rods. It will always take the easiest road, and if that is ample and there is a good resting place at the other end of the road, it will never wander from it into by and forbidden paths.

A GOOD LIGHTNING-ROD.

A good lightning-rod is a bar of metal which from its nature and size is so good a conductor of electricity that it will transmit the entire amount of the heaviest flash of lightning without being melted or heated red-hot by its passage. If such a bar is placed upon a building so as to rise several feet above the highest point of the building, and passes down into the earth so as to reach permanent moisture, then any flash of lightning which would otherwise strike the building will be conducted by this rod into the earth and discharged there, and the building will be saved from damage. But if the rod does not reach the ground-water, if it is not a continuous mass of metal, if it is too small in size or has projecting points or edges, then the lightning may pass through the building instead of the rod, or a part of it may leap from the rod and traverse a portion of the building. This danger of

a lateral spark is one reason why fluted rods or those with sharp edges are not as good as round rods.

Good malleable iron is a good conductor of electricity, and is not liable to melt by its passage. A round rod of good rolled iron, three fourths of an inch in diameter, will safely conduct the heaviest flash of lightning without being heated red-hot. It makes as good a lightning-rod as any man wants, and need not cost more than six cents a running foot, or \$6 for 100 feet of lightning rod.

GLASS INSULATORS USELESS.

The small glass thimbles placed upon rods to insulate them are utterly useless. Air is a better insulator than glass; but a flash of lightning which will leap through thousands of feet of air will hardly be stopped by a half inch thimble of glass! Insulators are used on telegraph lines to insulate the galvanic electricity which is easily confined, but the attempt to insulate any (large) quantity of atmospheric electricity in this way would fail. No attempt at insulating a lightning-rod should be attempted, but the rod should be securely spiked against the building.

THE POINT.

The point of a lightning-rod is usually made too sharp, and when the lightning strikes it, the point is usually melted, the shape best suited for the point of a lightning-rod can be formed by taking a round stick one inch in diameter and two inches long; cut one end down so as to form a true cone, leaving the other end of full size. You will thus have a cone two inches high and one inch in diameter at the base; place this with the point up, and you will have the best shape for a lightning-rod point. If you could get such a cone made of copper and plated with gold, to screw on the top of your rod, you would have the best point obtainable. I once made arrangements with a company in Adrian to make such points for our farmers, but the manufactory burned down. Platinum points are not necessary.

If you will get your blacksmith to hammer the top of the iron rod into such a cone as I have described, it will answer as good a purpose as most of the fanciful points sold by lightning-rod peddlers. Paint the point and the whole rod with good black paint, giving it a fresh coat of paint every three years, and it will keep in servicable condition.

CONTINUOUS ROD.

The rod should be in metallic connection through its whole length. It is not enough to link or hook together the pieces; they should be welded or screwed together. You can get the blacksmith to weld together the pieces, or you can get from any gas-pipe fitter what he calls "half-inch gas-pipe couplings," which are just long enough to screw on the ends of your ½ inch rod when a screw thread is cut on them. By having a thread cut on each end of your bars, and using these couplings you can rapidly screw to-

gether the pieces of a rod however long. Paint over these screw joints to keep out water and prevent rusting, and you will thus secure metallic continuity throughout the whole rod.

HEIGHT ABOVE THE TOP OF THE BUILDING.

The rod should run up as high above the top of the building as it can be, and still be made secure from being swayed and displaced by the wind; it should rise at least ten feet above the highest point of the building. The projecting part of the rod may be secured by braces of wood reaching down to the roof in different directions.

GROUND CONNECTIONS.

Without good ground connections a lightning-rod is of very questionable value. It is not enough that the rod run a short distance into the ground; to secure safety, the rod must reach permanent moisture. The rod should penetrate the soil at least 15 feet. To secure this result, take an old two inch auger to the blacksmith and have an iron shank welded on, by which you can bore ten feet into the ground; then drive your rod five feet in the bottom of this hole. One such auger will serve for a whole neighborhood. If you can not afford such an auger, dig a hole eight feet deep where you want your rod to enter the ground, then drive your rod seven feet more in the bottom of the hole, and then throw into the whole all the waste pieces of metal on your place—old tin cans, hoop skirts, broken pots, &c., &c., and then fill up the hole with earth. The metallic substances will serve to bring your rod into better conductive connection with the earth, and assist in safely dissipating any unusual quantity of electricity into that common reservoir—the earth.

I have thus thrown out some hints how any farmer can put up his own rods, and better rods than the majority of the rods sold in this State, and yet at a cost far less than ever demanded for the poorest rods ever put up in the State. Let us see how cheaply a farmer may put up a good and substantial rod on his barn; suppose the posts are fifteen feet high, and the underpinning three feet, the ventilator or crest of the roof rises six feet above the ridge, the rafters twenty-three feet, and the rod is to be driven fifteen feet into the ground, and to rise ten feet above the top of the ventilator.

This would take about seventy-five feet of rod, at 6c.,	\$4.50
Six half inch gas-pipe couplings, at 8c.	.48
Blacksmith work,	1.90
Paint,	.50
Labor of farmer putting it up,	3.60
	\$9.48

Can you get any lightning rod peddler to put you up such a rod, or any rod on your barns for \$10? Is it not time for the farmer to do this work for himself if he thinks it must be done?
R. C. KEDZIE.
Ag'l College, June 8, 1878.

A Boy—One of the best things in the world is to be a boy. Boys have always been so plenty they are not half appreciated. A boy is willing to do any amount of work if it is called play. The feeling of a boy towards pumpkin pie has never been properly considered. A boy furnishes half the entertainment, and takes two-thirds of the scolding of the family circle. It is impossible to say at what age a boy becomes conscious that his trouser-legs are too short, and is anxious about the part in his hair. In fact a boy is a hard subject to get a moral from.

There are 239 lawyers in Congress, and only 12 farmers.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, PAW PAW

EN-ROUTE FOR THE EXPOSITION.

Leaving New York and Scenes and Incidents of the Voyage—Liverpool, the Shipping, Docks, &c.—Description of the Landscape, Crops and Appearance of English Farms—London, Its Many and Wonderful Sights for Travelers.

STEAMSHIP ALGERIA, 200 MILES }
WEST OF IRELAND, May 31, '78. }

So much has been written about "life at sea," that but little can be said that will interest the general reader of the incidents of a voyage across the Atlantic. We sailed from New York harbor at half-past nine o'clock A. M. of the 22d inst., and the pilot left the steamer at 12 o'clock noon. Our course was then due east, in plain view of Long Island.

There was on board about 300 passengers, 25,000 bushels of wheat, 1,500 tons of other freight, and 1,400 tons of coal. The vessel is 380 feet in length, and 42 in width, with "flush deck," making a fine promenade for the passengers, nearly one-half of whom are ladies. The first day "out" the deck presented a scene of fashionable gaiety. Gentlemen in silk hats, white vests, and kid gloves, and ladies in silks and satins, with rolls of ruffles and flounces dragging at least four feet behind them, were seen promenading the deck. The tables in the saloon was crowded at noon, and on hearing some complaint, the Steward, with a significant inflection of the voice remarked, "You'll not be troubled for room after to-day," and his words have proved true. There has been no further complaint heard, and no lack of room at the tables.

A strong head wind set in on the first night, which has continued up to this time, sometimes increasing to a gale, accompanied with heavy falls of rain. The scene upon the deck changed: Fine clothes and jewelry were no longer seen, and "ponderous trails" no longer swept the deck; their places were supplied with heavy overcoats, blankets, caps, waterproofs, shawls and hoods; and the deck was cleaned with brooms and mops. Passengers were seen staggering from place to place, holding on to the ropes, reclining in chair, or lying upon the deck, evidently having but little regard to personal appearances, while others were performing that imperative but unpleasant duty of "feeding the fishes." On the morning of the third "day out," it was said that nine-tenths of the ladies, and more than half of the gentlemen on board were sick. Beds were made upon the deck, and ladies were brought from their rooms and placed upon them. The scene forcibly called to mind this strange poem, a parody on "Life on the Ocean Wave":

"Life on the Ocean Wave,
And the man who wrote it was green,
He never had been to sea,
A storm he never had seen;
He never had seen a fat woman,
Growing less day by day,
Leaning over the vessel,
And throwing herself away."

This disagreeable sea sickness passed off after a few days, and although we have seen much rougher weather since, it has not returned, and at this writing I cannot learn of a sick passenger on board. The "head wind" has so retarded our progress that about two days longer than usual will be consumed in the passage. We shall reach Queenstown, Ireland, tomorrow (Saturday morning), when mails will be sent ashore and return by first mail steamer to New York. If all goes well, we shall reach Liver-

pool sometime during the day, Sunday.

Of this line of Ocean steamers, "Cunard," it may be interesting to state, that it was established in 1840, and has never lost the life of a passenger. The vessels are commanded by the most experienced Scotch and English seamen. No man can have the position of captain until he has seen sixteen years service, and has proved himself master of the profession; and mates must have commanded vessels in other lines for a term of years before they are employed on this line. The crew of this vessel consists of 140 men. Captain Watson is a fine, dignified, social Englishman, and the supreme controlling power. I have not heard an oath or an unpleasant word from officer or men since I have been on board; and nothing is left undone, that will contribute to the comfort and health of the passengers.

Religious services are held in the saloon every Sabbath, which all the ship's crew, that can be spared from duty, attend. The services is that of the Episcopal Church of England, and is conducted by the captain.

We have passed two steamers, and a few sail vessels. On leaving New York there was much to be seen that was interesting, and every object, even to the last glimpse of the American Continent, was watched until it disappeared from view; but once upon the broad Ocean, the continuous watching the "mad waves," chasing each other in rapid succession, breaking against and lashing each other in the wildest confusion, and spending their fury in foam, soon becomes monotonous, and how to best kill time seems to be the study of all, except the sailors, who delight in long voyages. They are as much at home on the water, as geese or ducks. They are "jolly and witty," and enjoy cracking an occasional joke upon "landsmen." During a squall the other morning, when the wind was blowing and the rain falling, and the vessel rolling and pitching fearfully, a young gentleman with "waxed moustache," came upon deck, and with evidence of alarm in his countenance, asked the old "Deck Master," if this was not an "uncommon hard storm?" and was consoled with the answer: "Why, God bless you, dear man, this is no storm, if the wind would blow about three times as hard as it now does, I think you'd be heaving up some of that plumb pudding ballast ye're got in ye." He went back into the cabin a wiser if not a less secured man. Land birds were around the vessel the first day, but nothing but sea-gulls, a few schools of porpoises and three or four sperm whales have been since to represent the animal life of the sea.

PARIS, June 11th, 1878.

My last was a hasty note, written when nearing the coast, and just before entering the harbor of Queenstown, Ireland. From Queenstown up the St. George Channel there are many objects of interest, but which were dimly seen through the fog, which is very common in that locality. The Irish coast, both on the south and east is very rocky and dangerous to navigation in time of storm or fog. The American steamship Idaho, of the Union Line,—but a few hours behind us,—lost her bearing in the fog, struck a rock and sank in twenty minutes. Fortunately the sea was calm, and the passengers were all saved in the life-boats. The ship and everything on board is a total loss.

Our vessel entered the harbor of Liverpool in the night, and the custom-house officers came on board at 9 o'clock in the morning, "went

through our baggage," and we walked out upon the soil of Old England. Liverpool is situated on the north side of the river Mersey, near its mouth, and contains a population of 800,000. It is the largest commercial city on the globe, and the trade of the whole world centers there. Its docks extend six miles along the river and are the most costly and extensive in the world; they are built of Scotch granite and iron, very similar in construction to our canal locks, with immense swing gates worked by hydraulic power, into which vessels are taken at high tide, and the gates closed so as to retain the water within and keep them afloat, and at proper height for receiving and discharging freight. The tide rises and falls from eighteen to thirty feet, and vessels can only enter or leave at high tide. These great commercial docks were constructed at a cost of \$100,000,000. The city has many interesting features, among which are the ragged, dirty children, which literally swarm in the streets.

After spending a day and a half in Liverpool, we took the North-western Railway for London, and soon were passing through a beautiful country at the rate of forty-five miles an hour. The country is rolling, and divided into small irregular shaped fields by thorn hedges, along which, as well as in the fields, are standing beautiful, low-topped forest trees. There are also many fine groves of timber. It is said that a "square field can not be found in England," and it would seem that with equal correctness might be added "nor a straight highway, or line between fields." The fields are nearly all in growing crops or pasture, giving the whole country one living green,—fields, hedges, and trees,—forming the most beautiful landscape scenery that I ever beheld in an agricultural country. The farm houses, in which dwell the toiling millions of English farmers, (tenants) seem to have been built centuries ago, with no improvements or repairs since. They are all brick, low, dark, and in outward appearance, repulsive to an American farmer. There are no barns in England. Brick stables, moss grown and ancient as the houses, are occasionally seen. The grain is all stacked and the stacks thatched with straw.

Judging from the appearance of the growing crops, the general fertility of the soil is not equal to that of our own State. The crops are principally wheat, oats, barley, rye, peas, beans and roots. Fine herds of Durham, Devon, Herford and Galloway cattle were seen; and flocks of superior long woolled sheep. The English farmers excel in stock raising. Gardening is carried on quite extensively, and every rod of productive soil seems to be utilized. The English have a great love for trees, and to an American farmer there seems to be an unnecessary amount of land devoted to tree culture. Almost every field has its trees, and it is not uncommon to see from thirty to forty standing in a field of from five to ten acres. They add much to the beauty of the landscape, but must be very serious obstacles to cultivation, yet they cannot be cut, for by the laws of England they are personal property and belong to the owners of the soil, and the soil to the "Landlords"; and the "tenants" must pay the same rent, and preserve the trees, that they would have to, if the trees were not there.

LONDON.

London is the largest city in the world, rich and grand, covering an area of one hundred and twenty miles, and has four millions of inhabitants. It is situated on both sides of

the river Thames, about fifty miles from its mouth, and is said to contain more objects of interest to the American traveler than any other city in Europe. The following are among the objects visited:

1st. St. Paul's Cathedral, which is said to be the noblest and grandest "Church Pile" on earth, except St. Peter's, at Rome. It was erected about six hundred years ago, and in its walls and beneath its floors, is the resting place of many of England's statesmen, warriors, scholars and divines. The walls are literally covered with carvings, emblems, statuary, busts, and epitaphs. Religious services are held in it every day, and the voices of fifty or more singers, mingled with the notes of that powerful and most wonderful organ,—the notes of which vary from that of a tiny bird to the crashing thunder,—echoing and reverberating along the walls and beneath the arches of the grand old edifice, fills the mind with a reverential awe, not easily to be forgotten. It is a wonderful sight to stand beneath the dome, and look up four hundred feet, to the angles that seem to be flying in the blue sky.

2d. Westminster Abbey. This grand old edifice was built by Henry III, more than six hundred years ago. Time has told fearfully upon its walls and columns, yet its many clustered shafts still point heavenward in undiminished grace. The Abbey is still used for public worship, and daily services are held in its vast audience room. Like St. Paul's Cathedral, it has been used as a depository for the illustrious dead. Here we saw the tombs of Shakespeare, Milton, Dryden, Bulwer, Campbell, Dickens, and many other poets and authors, that have immortalized England; also the tombs of many of England's sovereigns, warriors, and statesmen, and the Coronation Chair, in which every sovereign of England has been crowned, since "William the Conqueror."

3d. The Old Tower of London,—which stands on the bank of the Thames, and is said to be on the spot where the Romans built a fortress more than two thousand years ago. The present tower has been built more than eight hundred years, and used as a fortress, royal residence, and prison for political offenders.

The leading objects of interest in this wonderful cluster of fortifications, are to be found in the Traitor's Gate, through which the accused prisoners were taken to the Bloody Tower, where they were tortured and smothered. The White Tower, in which are to be seen the effigies of many of the dead sovereigns of England on horse-back in full armor, and Queen Elizabeth's armory, where Sir Walter Raleigh was confined, and where now are to be seen the implements of torture and death, including the fatal axe and block, by and on which so many noble and royal heads were severed. The Jewel Tower, where the regalia of England, crown, scepter, sword, etc., are kept—the collection said to be worth four millions of dollars. The Beauchamp Tower, where so many noble captives languished, and the room in which Lady Jane Gray slept the night before her execution, from the window of which she saw her husband drawn in a cart to the fatal block and executed, she soon following.

Having spent considerable time among the tombs of the noble dead, and in viewing the relics and implements of cruelty and bloodshed, used by the barbarous sovereigns of England, we next turned our attention to scenes and objects representing England's present greatness, and advanced civilization.

4th. The House of Parliament. Ap-

proaching the front entrance we were informed that the "House of Lords" would be in session at 5 o'clock p. m., but it would be necessary for us to get "permits" from our Legation, to enable us to obtain admittance. We repaired to the office of the U. S. Minister, and rang the door bell, the door was opened and we were elevated to an upper floor and soon found ourselves in the presence of the Secretary of the Legation, who informed us that the Legation had authority to issue but two permits daily, and that all had been issued that could be for a week to come. In answer to the inquiry, "if there was no other way to gain admittance?" he remarked "that he knew of but one, and that was to 'bribe the officer'—sometimes a half sovereign placed in the hand of the officer would open the way." We turned away and I remarked to my friend, Mr. Dysart, that I had never yet attempted to bribe an officer to violate his trust, and I would not commence it now; if there was no other way, we would stay outside. At the hour of meeting we again presented ourselves at the front entrance, and informed the officer that we had failed to obtain "permits," and could only hope to gain admittance through the courtesy of the House of Lords. With a very polite bow he replied "I will see," and hastened away, but soon returned with the private cards of two Lords, inviting us to seats within the Chamber. I can not say that I was profoundly impressed with the superior dignity and noble bearing of the Lords in session over the legislative bodies of our own country; but conclude that men are very similar in their "make up," the world over, and that Legislative Bodies differ but little in dignity and manner of doing business.

5th. Buckingham Palace, the Queen's city residence was visited. It is a large, massive stone building, covering several acres of ground, with a beautiful park in the rear, enclosed with a high stone wall. In front of the Palace is a lawn of several acres, enclosed with a high, strong, iron fence, with gates to correspond, before which continually patrol soldiers in full uniform, with muskets and bayonets, clearly reminding one of the unsafety of "the head that wears the crown," although it may be worn by a noble Christian woman.

6th. Kensington Museum and Park, anything like a description of which would be impossible. The Albert Musical Hall, and Monument standing in the park, are the pride of London. The monument is one of the most elaborate and costly in the world.

7th. Hyde Park, where more "notables," in fine "turnouts" are to be seen than in any other place in the world.

8th. The Zoological Gardens, where are to be seen living specimens of almost every specie of animals, birds, and reptiles, in a garden beautiful beyond description.

9th. The Crystal Palace, where the great Exposition of 1851 was held,—preserved as a memorial hall,—and contains a world of wonders. The building, tower and park are grand and beautiful. We also visited the Wellington Monument, Cleopatra's Needle, Nelson's Monument, the London Bridges, and many other places of interest.

Leaving London we took the train for Dover, via Folkstone, and at Dover a steamer for Calais, where we landed upon French soil, and were soon moving down the coast towards Boulogne. The country down the coast is poor, but after leaving Boulogne it is most beautiful. Unlike England, the timber is in groves, and

no fences or green hedges divide the fields or enclose the highways. The crops are more forward and look better than in England, and everything seems to denote a more fertile soil and better cultivation.

To those contemplating crossing the Atlantic, and visiting the Exposition and Europe, I will say: provide yourselves with plenty of heavy, warm clothing, having more regard to comfort than style. The ocean breeze is always cool and damp, so is the climate of England. Take no baggage, except what you can keep with you—a small trunk if any. Better buy clothing when needed, than to bring it. An umbrella is indispensable, both on ship-board and here. Everybody carries them, and finds use for them. An extension chair is a great luxury for a lady on the vessel. Every lady should have, in addition to a waterproof, a heavy woolen shawl or blanket: for if they would avoid seasickness, they must stay on deck. The smoke and cinders from the smoke-stack blackens everything, and are very demoralizing to fine clothes; and then, just imagine a gentleman in broadcloth, or a lady in silk, with ruffles, flounces and trail, lying flat upon the deck of the vessel, freely giving way to the upheavings of humanity. "O, my."

Visit to Thornapple Grange.

HOME, JUNE 10, 1878.

Worthy Sec'y Cobb:

By the kind invitation of the Secretary of Thornapple Grange, Brother John A. Robertson, I was present at the first meeting in their new hall, at Middleville, on the 5th of June inst. The Grange is not as strong in members as many others, but the material is of the best quality, and they make up in diligence what they lack in numbers. I went to them a stranger, yet never did I receive a more kind and cordial welcome from my acquaintance and friends. Though I am neither eloquent, learned or wise, they listened to my suggestions and counsels with patience, and with kind attention, both in the afternoon and evening. In the interval they furnished a feast too good for a King, too costly for a President, and too bounteous for the members to be fed. Then a pleasant drive with the worthy Master into the surrounding country to view the fine farms, the comfortable and commodious buildings, the promise of a new and abundant harvest on ground that I had once passed over when all around about was solitude, desolation, a wild wilderness, no indication of the presence of humanity, except a deserted Indian wigwam, and a seldom traveled Indian trail, in all the county of Barry. The wigwam is gone, the trail is gone, the wilderness has departed, good farmers, good farms and the Grange have taken their place, and they will return no more.

In 1833, the land in Barry county was all for sale at \$1.25 cents per acre. During the last year, farms have been sold near Middleville, for \$63 to \$69 per acre. On our return to the hall, after our pleasant drive in the country, we were regaled with sweet music by the band until the evening hour was passed, when the gates were opened and free admission granted. No speaker could desire a more intelligent, quiet or attentive audience, and if I failed to interest them, the time was not wholly lost, as Bro. Coleman followed me in the afternoon, and Bro. Clark in the evening, and each gave an eloquent and interesting address.

I shall always remember my visit to Thornapple Grange with sincere pleasure, shall think more of the Grange, of its members, and its work, yet I will tell the truth. The twelve

baskets of fragments that remained gave me some disquiet. It was not the result of a miracle, it was the product of valuable material of hard tiresome work, and anxious care. I fear the tax on some brother or sister is, or will be irksome, and they will seek relief by staying away. Why not adopt the sensible suggestion of Bro. English on such occasions, or at least some business method by which all can be fed without display, without fatigue, and without waste.

Very truly, ALONZO SESSIONS.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

We Need two Things.

1st. A better faith. It is a notable yet shameful fact, that we have scarcely a store or co-operative enterprise in hand but many Patrons (unworthily so called) who ought to be the best and most earnest supporters, are the most slack, and often never go near, but instead, studiously go and buy and pay cash somewhere else; and some who do patronize our own institutions, do so with any amount of grumbling and fault-finding, expecting our agent, be he ever so good a man and under heavy bonds, to do much better than a perfect stranger whose only interest in us is to get our money at as little sacrifice to himself as possible.

Is it not true that stockholders in some of our co-operative efforts have seldom and some never traded a dollar's worth in the institution in which they have invested money, and yet they expect it to pay.

Some Patrons expect the Grange to prosper and do wonders, and yet they seldom, and some never darken its gates. They want it interesting, and they never make an effort to help make it so. They find fault if this is and that is not done, and yet have never lifted their voice in protest or to advocate a measure. Oh! ye of little faith. If you would spend one-half the time used in fault finding, in trying to inform yourselves as to your duty as Patrons, and then use a fraction of your wasted effort to set a good example for your brothers and sisters in the Order, you would show that you had both faith and works.

2d. We need an organization more extended and perfected, to the end that we may the better secure the advantages to be derived from organization,—but however good or complete our organization, a want of Faith would render it useless. Let us, then, learn to faithfully use what we have, then hope and work for more.

Our Agency in Chicago.

Advices from our agency in Chicago are encouraging. The consignments are daily increasing. New consignments are being added daily to his list, and seem satisfied with the results. He has a hard task before him. 1st. He is running the agency at as little expense as possible, that greater results may accrue to Patrons. 2d. He has the whole Commission organization to fight, and they would ruin him if they could, at any cost.

Let us, as Patrons, stand by him, and send whatever we have to dispose of in that market—and send to him for whatever we may wish to buy there. Not only should all Patrons support our agency, but they should get outsiders to send their produce to him—not only fruit, but eggs, butter, hides, &c., may be consigned to him.

Whatever is true of the Chicago agency, is also true of that in Detroit and Milwaukee, and the State Agency. Let us show our Faith by our works.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, JULY 1, 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 Applications for Certificate of Dinit.
Blank Plaster Orders.
Blank Certificates of Incorporation.

WE take pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of Thomas Mason, the Agent of the Michigan Fruit Growers' Association. Bro. Mason is well established in Chicago, and determined to win success by deserving it. The Association that sent him there is composed of live men and live Grangers, who mean not only to talk but to act, and these Patrons have a live man on duty in Chicago, who will do all Patrons in the western part of the State good who have anything to sell suited to that market. Don't be afraid to be your own middleman and ship anything you have to sell to Bro. Mason. Remember that he keeps no runners on the road soliciting business, and can therefore, his expenses being less, do business for you for less commission than those who do, and that it is both your duty and your interest to patronize him.

Sustain him and you will benefit him—the Association he represents, the Order at large, and yourselves.—In all this you will prove yourselves good and true Patrons.

WE return again to the operation of the laws enacted for the purpose of securing the rights of the citizen. There seems to be no occasion to lay down certain principles, and by a process of reasoning, reach logical conclusions. When we repeat what we have before said, that the usages of courts and the bar make it absolutely impossible for any one to obtain justice in a civil suit within a reasonable time and at a reasonable price, we have simply made a statement that is quite as "self-evident" as any one of those immortal truths that went into history before the Revolution. There is no call for proofs. When stated, every man's memory calls up the evidence, and a conclusion is instantly reached. As it is clearly not only the right but the duty of every citizen to do what he can to better his own condition, and that of his fellows, we ask our Brother Patrons not to lose sight of our purpose, but by repeatedly calling attention to this subject—to awaken an interest in it, provoke discussion, call out facts, and make it so prominent that we shall have the co-operation not only of our Patron friends, but other farmers and men who have become disgusted with the inefficiency,

the injustice and the tardiness of the whole machinery employed to secure justice in civil suits.

This is the first step necessary to secure a reform. Our Legislatures heretofore if not composed of an undue proportion of lawyers, have been largely controlled by them. This class have shaped legislation more in their own interest than that of the people.

The farmers are each year more and more awake to their own interests, and we expect some results. We do not expect the course of judicial procedure will be suddenly changed, and the reverence for precedents and time-honored usages be ignored, but we believe that it is only necessary to press a demand for such amendment to our statutes as to make it impossible for a suit to be appealed from a Justice to the Circuit Court, where the judgment obtained in the court below is less than \$100, except upon questions of law. And the people should in no case be taxed with costs on account of such appeal.

That the whole system is defective—radically bad, must be true, but it is, perhaps, advisable to attack it only at one of its most vulnerable points, and the discussion which this will elicit will bring out, perhaps, other wrongs quite as glaring, that will, in turn, demand and receive attention.

Do not let this matter rest, but refer to it on all suitable occasions, and be ready to do your whole duty in nominating and electing good, practical men to the next Legislature, and then demand of them such reforms as are needed in the interest of the people.

To Masters.

Our subscription list is evidence that all patrons do not take the Visitor. And, we are sorry to add, that while some are excusable for not subscribing, yet many might do so without feeling the cost, who do not. In the interest of those who do not read the Visitor we ask that the article from Prof. Beal, on Lightning Rods, be read at each successive meeting of your Grange for the next two months. By so doing many of our people will get some useful knowledge that will be valuable not only to themselves but to their neighbors. Not only read the article but talk about it, for by so doing you will diffuse information that will defeat the lightning rod swindler, and save thousands of dollars to the people of the State. We must deal with practical questions in the Grange, and we trust the day is not far distant when it will be quite impossible for rascally men to get a living and make money by practicing on the credulity of the people.

For articles kept in this office for sale, see "List of Supplies," which can be found in nearly every number of the Visitor, with the price.

We have had of late more orders than we really like, with promises to pay at some future time. We have no time to look up and collect charges of a few shillings; and as even Patrons are not always sure to remember these small bills, there is some annoyance, besides a liability of loss when the pay does not accompany the order.

We must insist on pay with the Order. The principles of the Order require it, and with the price of the article known, economy and the advertised conditions of sale demand it. You can't afford to write and stamp another letter to remit 25 cents for some article ordered a month or more ago, when the money with the order would have saved both you and me extra trouble and cost. Do not send

postage stamps when a remittance can be made in any other way, as we get more than the demands of our office require.

We have a new advertisement from Karl W. Rudd, of Cassopolis in this issue, of his Automatic Gate.

Having seen his gate at the St. Jo. Co. Fair, we were so well pleased with it, we had one set up on our premises where it is in frequent use. This gate is worked very easily, and is a great convenience where there is much driving in and out, and is so simple in its operation that it is not likely to get out of order. This gate should displace many of the swing gates of different patterns that are much used on the premises of our farmers and villagers, that besides their inconvenience are so nearly useless in winter.

In our article on Co-operation, in the last No. of the Visitor, the compositor made us say that the sales of the Battle Creek Co-operative Association for six months averaged \$142.46 per week, and for the last three months of the six, the average was \$164.53. That was a serious blunder, and spoiled the whole story. It should have read per day instead of per week.

Correspondence.

Grange Picnic at the Agricultural College.

On June 15th, there was a large collection of Patrons of Husbandry, at the Agricultural College. Most of them came with their own teams from the surrounding country. There were at least ten different Granges represented, although there were only two which attempted to come out in a body, viz: Capital Grange, and Grand Ledge Grange. They met in the College Chapel where they had music by the college band; also singing and some speaking, then an informal picnic in the grove. The day was fine, and the company seemed well pleased with their visit. I send a few remarks made on the occasion, from which you may wish to glean some items of general interest to every Patron of Michigan.

W. F. BEAL.

Friend Cobb:

As you did me the honor to publish my article on "Farmers in our Legislative Councils," I will give you a receipt for exterminating rats and mice. When our barns are filled and mows settled, a space is left on the main timbers, where those animals run. If a small quantity of quick lime is scattered upon those timbers before filling, for them to run over, it will destroy them without danger to anything else.

Yours, HONOROUS.

LOWELL, MICH., June 23d, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Lowell District Council P. of H., will hold its next meeting at South Boston Grange hall, Friday, July 12th.

Fraternally yours,

J. C. ENGLISH.

SODUS, June 22d 1878.

Brother Cobb:—

The next meeting of the Berrien Co. Grange, No. 1, will be held at Stevensville, in Berrien County, on the last Tuesday of August next.

Yours fraternally,

C. HOGUE, Sec.

The Business College at Kalamazoo is an institution that we can recommend to any young man or lady who wishes to qualify for business.—*Mich. Farmer.*

I AM satisfied that getting up early, industry and regular habits, are the best medicines prescribed for health.

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - - - CENTREVILLE.

I have again to say a few words about using my prices to beat down local agents.

Not long ago I received an enquiry from a Brother in a distant part of the State, for a particular plow, stating that several were wanted by members of his Grange. I sent to the manufacturer and bought the plows, as I was not keeping them, and wrote the Brother that I had them ready, and asked when I should ship them. The reply came back: "We did not want to buy the plows of you, we can get them of an agent here; we only wished to know your price."

Now, is this in accordance with the principles inculcated in the Grange?

Again, I wrote to a prominent Brother of the Order in another county, for whom I was transacting business, the prices at which I could furnish a certain machine; in a few days that letter was sent to an agent here in Centreville, with the inquiry where I was getting these machines, as my price was less than the agents had to pay the manufacturer; and an effort is making to prevent my procuring and selling them, as they wanted to keep the price up, and I was hurting the trade of said agents. It is quite natural to think that some Patrons are making a profit out of the machine trade, either directly or indirectly.

I have read that a celebrated Prime Minister of England, when he had a closely contested bill to bring before Parliament, sent presents to the wives of several members a few days previous, and remarked that "Principal made quite a difference with Principles."

Some advocate that the main object of the Grange is education, and that the people must be educated. I think some are getting a good share of education, and are learning that it takes something besides obligations to make men.

I am still prepared to fill orders for harvesters, reapers and mowing machines; good hay rakes for \$20.00 and the best self-rake for \$25.00, that is made; two-horse wheel tongueless cultivators for \$18.00, with extra bull-tongue shovels. Union City, Jonesville, Kalamazoo and Gale plows on hand, so that I can fill orders immediately for either make. Wagons, buggies and carriages at the lowest rates going, for good warranted work, shipped direct from the shops or here, to any part of the State.

Wagons, sent on orders under seal, subject to approval, to be paid for in ten days if satisfactory, by the Master or Secretary of the Grange.

The call for the new style Home Sewing Machine is so large that the manufactory can not turn them out equal to the wants of the people, and orders are behind some weeks before they can be filled. This machine is sent on twenty days trial, when, if not satisfactory, it can be returned; but I have yet to learn of the first one sent back this year, as every lady that has tried it pronounces it to be equal to any made.

I can furnish a good eight-hoe drill with grass seeder for \$40.00.

Best full cream cheese, June make, for 8 to 8½ cents a pound. Now is a good time for any Grange to get a supply for the harvest season, and there is no difficulty for a family to dispose of a good cheese in the warm weather of harvest at every farmer's house.

I have a stock of boots, shoes and groceries; also domestic dry goods and notions, at very low prices.

Communications.

How?

How can farmers secure representation in legislative bodies? This question has already been ably discussed by timely articles from Bros. Session, Woodman, Dewey, "Batavia," and others, but a subject of so great importance can not be too much ventilated even if the same ideas are repeated.

In answer the following may be suggested as means of accomplishing that desirable end.

1st. *By being worthy.* In a former article the writer of this asserted that so far as integrity, general intelligence and moral worth are concerned, farmers, as a profession rank favorably with any others, and are rightfully entitled to equal representation, both in Congress and in our State legislatures. But because they so neglect to assert and maintain this right they show their unworthiness to possess it. An individual who neglects persistently to improve a manifest opportunity, continually held before him, to greatly advance and elevate his condition when he can do it as well as as not by little effort is justly considered worthless and shiftless. What is true of an individual is true of a class, and farmers will be held by others unworthy of consideration so long as they passively look on and see others enjoy and reap benefits from rights which are theirs, and which they could as well enjoy as not. A discontented growth, occasionally, is of no avail. The Gods, be they impertuned ever so much, help only those who help themselves. Prompt, decisive, united and intelligent action will alone accomplish this desirable change. Discuss these matters in your several Granges not as partisans but as farmers. Talk about them with your neighbors out of the Grange. Become reading, thinking, intelligent men, have clear and decided ideas of what your rights as farmers are, and then maintain and assert them fearlessly. This you can never do so long as you receive your political ideas second hand from and depend upon professed politicians.

2. *Attend primary meetings.* Chronic loafers and political wire-pullers, as Bro. Dewey suggests, will surely be there, and it will never do if you expect to maintain your rights, to abandon the field to them. When there, beware of what the brother signing himself "Batavia" calls the wire-workers. Let none of them button-hole or cajole you. Beware also of the chronic office seekers, and if any of them desire position, let them severally alone, but go to work, and quietly select as delegates to the several conventions, good, honest, reliable independent men, who will dare to assert their rights. In this way good honest men may stand a chance to secure nominations.

3d. *Vote independently.* If bad, dishonest men, such as you know if elected would work against your interests, are nominated do not hesitate because they are on your party's ticket, to cut them and substitute if possible others who will better serve you. Be you ever so devoted a partisan, it is much better for your party that bad, dishonest men who would disgrace it, should be defeated than elected. Do this, especially if others much more worthy, and who will much better subserve your interests, may be elected in their places. Blind adherence to party is the bane of politics as well as one of the greatest sources of danger to our country.

4th. *Hope and persevere.* Do not expect to gain all you wish at one election, but if you fail, endeavor by

being better organized, and prepared to accomplish more in the future.

GEORGE PRAY.

Woodard Lake, June 24, 1878.

Address by Prof. W. W. Beal.

The following address was read before the members of Capitol Grange while visiting the Agricultural College, on June 15th, and repeated before several other Granges in the vicinity:

You have met here to look about your College and to have a good time. We are glad to see you. I wish to say a few things, mostly in the form of an explanation, to enable you the better to improve the time in seeing what we have to show. Your time is too valuable to waste in listening to any extended remarks from me on the present occasion. For fear I might be tedious I have made a few notes, which will keep me to the point and prevent any tendency to wander.

I know of a prominent Natural History Society, which holds what are called field meetings during summer. The members visit some interesting locality, each looking after what interests him most. When through, or at a stated time, they take a lunch, and then report what they have seen, discuss questions and ask questions.

It occurred to me that this might be a pleasant and profitable thing for us to do to-day. You might meet here again at three o'clock, or you may prefer to omit the questions and discussions until some regular meeting of the Grange in Lansing. Prof. Ingersoll will tell you of some of the things of interest about the farm department. In this building are recitation rooms, library, museum, and a room containing patent office models.

I have a valuable collection of forest products, seeds, grains, soils, etc., in my recitation-room, but it is stored away in boxes, for want of a proper place to show it.

You will not forget the chemical laboratory, where Dr. Kedzie presides, nor the apiary where Professor Cook passes fearlessly about. There is Well's Hall, a dormitory building, which also contains some society rooms. There is William's Hall, where some of the students room and where they board. In that hall is the public parlor, to which all, especially the ladies, are invited.

Here are some two and a half miles of walks and drives, some beautiful lawns, many shrubs and trees. There are over one hundred species or varieties of trees on the lawn, saying nothing of those in the arboretum. Of these trees some are rare, some are very fine, and all are interesting.—Most of these are labelled, or good samples of each are labelled, with common and scientific names.

I have written out a popular account—a sort of guide for visitors and students who wish to study these trees. I intend to do the same by the plants in the green-house. These will be printed in our reports. Here may be seen good samples of ashes, oaks, maples, elms, hickories, walnuts, birches, pines, spruces, cedars, etc., etc. I love these trees. I trim them, watch them, cultivate them, and study their habits and peculiarities, and know where the best samples of each variety are growing on these grounds.

On the hill, west of the President's house, is a young orchard of pears, plums, cherries, and just east of there is a vineyard, containing 300 vines, besides 500 new seedlings. On the terrace back of Well's hall is a vine yard containing some 80 other of the best, hardy varieties of grapes. North-west of this hall, next to the road, is an arboretum—a sort of nursery, con-

taining samples of young trees growing for timber, hedges and screens, for ornament and for study.

Yonder are the green-house and flower-beds, with 1000 varieties of choice and interesting plants. Just west of that we are starting a wild garden, which contains a rookery, a place for bog-plants and a small pond in which we raise water-lilies, frogs and mosquitoes. North-west of the green-house, and west of this spot, is a part of the vegetable garden. We are raising eighteen or twenty varieties of onions, 75 varieties of corn, and about 250 varieties of named sorts of potatoes, besides 200 or more selected promising home-grown seedlings. We have 41 of the best sorts of strawberries, quite a variety of best raspberries. We have a fine lot of seedling strawberries, some of which are now in bearing.

Near by are some beds of grasses, clovers, and some other plants interesting to farmers. Over yonder, to the east, is the apple orchard, in which there are large numbers of experiments going on. To a person not informed he would think there were some great mistakes made there. We shall see some trees in grass, with small circles cultivated about them, others with manure at various distances, including some with manure piled close about the trunk. Others have been heavily mulched with straw; others with a load of leached ashes spread broadcast about each tree. We are experimenting on trimming, catching the codling moths by bands, traps, etc. Some trees are grafted with new seedlings and choice varieties from Iowa and Southern Ohio. We are crossing the flowers of apples for more new sorts.

For work in the Horticultural Department we have about fifty students, one foreman, a gardener, and a teamster. Among these students are about a dozen seniors, who are as assistant foremen, and acquire practice in overseeing work. One has charge of the apple orchard, one the vineyard, one the orchard of pears, plums and cherries, one the ornamental trees, one the plats of grasses, one the drives, one the arboretum, one the hot-beds, one the wild garden, one testing seeds, and one labels trees and plants. These young men take an interest each in his own work, which he watches the year through.—They often work over-time and at odd hours to finish up something which needs attention. Without their interest and help we could not get along.

I will name a few experiments which I know some of my students are making on their own account in the horticultural department: One crosses wheat for new sorts; one crosses wild and cultivated crab apples, two cross corn, two cross different sorts of lilacs, one observes the duration of flowers of several kinds, one crosses tomatoes, one observes the familiarities in the germination of seeds, another monstrosities among flowers and plants, another tries to discover how nature sows wild oats, another the depth of the roots of barley and oats, another sows seeds and raises plants of clover, the parent plant of which bore many leaves which had four leaflets, another plants buggy peas, another digs up stools of chess to find the old kernel from which it grew. Quite a number also are aiding me in experiments too numerous to mention.

We are so busy with this work that we do not find time enough to tell it all to the world. They must come and see. I am crossing, and have crossed apples, raspberries, gooseberries, strawberries, tomatoes, wheat, grapes, corn, potatoes, cherries,

onions, clover, and am raising seedlings of pears, quinces, etc. We are experimenting on root pruning corn, tomatoes, wheat, etc., and feeding tomatoes and martymas with soup, applied to the leaves. We are improving somethings by cultivation and selection.

We have no time to be idle. It is work, plan, study, make experiments and reports without vacation or interruption, fifty-two weeks in each year.

About here there is much which is not yet finished, and some things that are improperly done. Could any one expect otherwise where we have so much unskilled labor, and where changes of help are so often made?

But few of our students learn to chop well, or to mow grass or cradle wheat. These things were thought essential by our fathers, but progress produces wonderful changes. The mower and reaper are drawn by the horses, and much of the timber is already cut.

All the students learn to ditch, to lay out ditches and put in tile; most of them get more practice than they want.

We want the interest, the sympathy, and the encouragement of all such companies as these, and to get it we wish you to learn what we are doing. If we succeed, it cannot be otherwise than a credit to the farming community.

It is my ambition to do what I can here (considering the unfavorable climate and soil), to produce the best experimental orchards of apples, pears, cherries, plums, and grapes.

We strive to make the most interesting vegetable and flower gardens.

I am desirous of making these grounds the most beautiful and interesting of any in the State. The rich can imitate or copy a fine plan; the poor can see something to copy, even on his small farm, or in his small yard or garden. Those who have no places of their own are the very persons, most of all, who are benefited in seeing a fine farm with all its surroundings. They pay no taxes; they can see and enjoy without money and without price. Any nice field, garden, animal, orchard, grass plat, shade tree, or flower-bed exerts a pleasant and refining influence on the beholder. He is made the better for having seen it. Let us not begrudge time and money which are used in beautifying our farms or in adorning our Agricultural College. It is an outlay of money which benefits all classes of community.

DOWAGIAC, MICH., June 20, '78.

Brother Cobb:

You are doing good service and are entitled to the thanks of all tax-payers for your able advocacy of reforms in those expensive institutions called "Courts of Justice," which seem to have been organized and run for the purpose of fleecing the people for the benefit of the legal gentry. The efforts of the legal fraternity for the past 300 years appears to have been to organize a system of technicalities, difficult to comprehend and by usage detrimental to the cause of equity and justice. The whole system and code should be so simplified that any man of common education and good judgment could understand the first principles of law and be able to administer justice at the least possible expense, without any reference to old rusty precedents.

It is notorious under the present unjust system, that when parties go to law who are able to pay, their case is sure to run the gauntlet of all the courts, and instead of the Supreme Court deciding the case on its merits, it is often sent back to the circuit for a new trial on some technicality, and the longer the lawyers can keep it stewing the more money they make off from the victims.

Parties who resort to litigation should pay all expenses of judges, sheriffs,

clerks and jurors. I see no reason why the people should be taxed to pay their costs. As the judge has the power to control the jury and direct the verdict, what is the use of our expensive jury system? To illustrate: at a recent term of court in this county, a party was prosecuted, at great expense to the taxpayers, for a clear violation of the statute, which was clearly proven, and the jury would have pronounced him guilty without leaving their seats, but the judge coolly arose and directed them to bring in a verdict of no cause of action. Fraternaly, H. H. TAYLOR.

An Address by John C. Miller, Delivered before the Berrien County Pomona Grange, May 25th, 1878.

I will try to entertain you for a short time on the relation that the commission men sustain to the producer, and also that the producer sustains to the consumer. There are three classes of commission men in Chicago, and I doubt not in all other large cities—and are classified as follows:

Upright, scalpers, and snides. Of the upright it need only be said that they deal justly by all with whom they come in contact.

A large per cent of the commission men of Chicago to day are of that class.

The scalpers are nearly allied to the first in address, general bearing and respectable appearance, in fact their whole aim is to keep so near the line of upright honorable men that it is difficult, and I might say almost impossible to discover the line of separation when thrown in close contact with them, and of course leaves hardly a chance for detection in business correspondence.

And so they ply their vocation year after year, and thrive beyond their deserts, or have in times past. They build fine houses, drive fast horses, and live fast lives at the expense of other people. This class resort to various schemes and devices to obtain consignments, one very ingenious—but villainous practice—is to issue two circulars, one on the high pressure, and another on the low pressure, the one on the high pressure is issued at one office and sent out to solicit new consignments, the low pressure is of course issued at another office, and accompanies the returns made of sales and accounts for the low price obtained for the goods. The scalper buys as well as solicits goods, of course that looks innocent enough at first view of the case, but let us look at the practice that would naturally grow out of it. A man buys one hundred cases or packages of fruits and has one hundred more from his shippers, which one hundred think you would take a back seat in the morning sales. And again the scalpers do what is called taking to account, that is they take your goods at their appraisal—you not being a party to the sale, and sell for what it will bring. I was a partial witness to a transaction of that kind. A man said to his partner, we will take this box of turkeys to account at ten cents per pound. I stood by and saw him sell two of the turkeys at 12½ cents per pound, and they were two as large and coarse as any, and of course the balance must have sold equally as well.

You can follow this idea out and see how easy it would be to repeat instances of that kind, after a man once reconciled himself to the propriety of doing business in that way. How a man could rob the owner of 25 per cent. to begin with, and then charge commission, cartage and freight on the balance is a question you can answer as well as I. But I am happy to say that this class is in the minority. But they are men of energy and resources, and sharp enough to keep so near the line of honorable men as to make it difficult to detect them, and conse-

quently the more dangerous class to be met. And I doubt not some of you may yet be sore from some of the scalping you have received in times past.

I came now to the snide commission man, and he is a study—some of polished manners, good address, others carry the look of a sneak-thief, and still another class, look like they might follow the vocation of the assassin if they only had the grit. The aim of this class is to cheat and defraud every one they come in contact with. In fact the word snide seems to have been invented to express in one word everything that a man could do that was dishonest or mean. If you send them fruit, they repack it in smaller packages, and make returns for about one-half you send them. I stood by and saw one of these fellows take four boxes of string beans and make six out of the four.

And I afterwards asked his salesman how many boxes he accounted for to the shipper, and his reply was, after giving me a look that plainly said, he pitied my verdancy—why four of course.

Thus you see after stealing one-third of the goods outright, he made the balance pay all the incidental expenses. This last winter two of these swindlers made each in his own way a large haul, one got shipments to the amount of about \$5,000, and the other one got about \$3,000, by what is known as street custom, both skipped out and left creditors to mourn their absence.

Thus I have endeavored to give you a description of the men to whom you entrust your property to sell on commission.

And while I am proud to say that I hold the better class in higher esteem than I ever should without close contact, I cannot repress my astonishment, not unmingled with indignation that we should have patiently endured the scalping and robberies we have in time past. As a partial remedy for some of the evils growing out of the existing state of things you have organized a co-operative association, and have established a commission house in Chicago with Brother Thomas Mason, as your manager at the present time, whose interest is identified with yours, whose duty it will be to guard your interest as he would his own, and consequently will not practice any tricks on you.

And I bespeak for him your generous confidence and individual influence, presuming that he may and doubtless will err at times, indeed it is to be expected, for that is the lot of all mankind, as who of you cannot look back and see when you failed to sell or buy just at the right time. Go and see him often and help sell goods and learn for yourselves that a commission man cannot make a market, nor sell an inferior article for the highest market price of good articles.

Stand by him, and lift every pound off his shoulders you can, and he will have enough to carry then at least for the next year—it will be work. Now let us consider some of our resources for this work. In the first place, we can by a little work know the exact amount of any product in this State, and if there is an over production of any one thing withhold a portion from the market. For instance who does not know that if a portion of the immense apple crop of 1876 had been withheld that the balance say three-fourths would have brought more than the whole crop did, and have satisfied the consumer as well or better than as it was. Again by systematizing our work, we could inform our manager of the amount and kind of all staple articles to be shipped.

And he could then either find some outlet, or by watching the market, tell you when and how much to ship at a given time.

Perishable goods must be shipped when ready and take their chances. Send none but good articles, for it will not only not pay freight, cartage and commission on poor, but it has to be sold to peddlers who go about the city hawking their goods on the street, underselling the grocers, thereby injuring the trade of your only regular customers, and of course crippling your best friends. This is a point that requires more than a passing thought, and should be discussed in Subordinate Granges.

The retailers and consumers would gladly meet you half way in all reforms. We may as well begin, for in good times there has been a city ordinance passed confiscating all goods put up in a fraudulent manner. And I sincerely hope our manager will take pains to have any article that has any appearance of crookedness, examined and if found deserving, confiscated. And I opine a few certificates from the city inspector would work a radical cure for the sin of scalping—at least among Grangers.

And now I say to the Pomona Grange of Berrien County: This is your work, though the idea may have been originated by a few—yet it was here that it assumed shape and proportions—and it is here that it will wither into a little puny attempt to right a wrong, too feeble to excite even derision, or else grow to the full rounded proportions of a mighty giant.

Which shall it be? Let us take hold of this enterprise with a determination that we will win, and our success is assured.

The Question of Representation.

As this question is now being discussed in the VISITOR, I have taken the trouble to get the names of all the men who have represented this State, in the Lower House of Congress, since its admission into the Union in 1836. The inclosed list is a transcript of the records in the office of the State Librarian. I especially request that all those who read the list, and know anything about the occupation or character of any of the men, will respond through the VISITOR, or write to me. There must be enough of the old pioneers left in each of the Congressional Districts to remember all the names here presented, and much about the occupation, character and usefulness of the men:

FIRST REPRESENTATIVES.

Isaac E. Crary.....1836-41
Jacob M. Howard.....1841-43
[Representatives under apportionment of March 2, 1843.]

FIRST DISTRICT.

Robert McClelland.....1843-49
Alex. W. Buel.....1849-51
Ebenezer J. Penniman.....1851-53

SECOND DISTRICT.

Lucius Lyon.....1843-45
John S. Chipman.....1845-47
Charles E. Stuart.....1847-49
Wm. Sprague.....1849-51
Charles E. Stuart.....1851-53

THIRD DISTRICT.

James B. Hunt.....1843-47
Kingsley S. Bingham.....1849-51
James I. Conger.....1851-53

[Apportionment June 26th, 1851.]

FIRST DISTRICT.

David Stuart.....1853-55
William A. Howard.....1855-61
B. F. Granger.....1861-63

SECOND DISTRICT.

Henry Waldron.....1855-61
Fernando C. Beman.....1861-63

THIRD DISTRICT.

Samuel Clark.....1853-55
David S. Walbridge.....1855-59
Francis W. Kellogg.....1859-63

FOURTH DISTRICT.

George W. Peck.....1855-57

Dewitt C. Leach.....1857-61
Rowland E. Trowbridge.....1861-63
[Apportionment March 15th, 1861.]

FIRST DISTRICT.

Fernando C. Beman.....1861-71
Henry Waldron.....1871-73

SECOND DISTRICT.

Charles Upson.....1863-69
Wm. L. Stoughton.....1869-73

THIRD DISTRICT.

John W. Longyear.....1863-67
Austin Blair.....1867-73

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Francis W. Kellogg.....1863-65
Thomas W. Ferry.....1865-71
Wildor D. Foster.....1871-73

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Augustus C. Baldwin.....1863-65
Rowland E. Trowbridge.....1865-69
Omer D. Conger.....1869-73

SIXTH DISTRICT.

John F. Driggs.....1863-69
Randolph Strickland.....1869-71
Jabes G. Sutherland.....1871-73

[Apportionment March 29th, 1872.]

FIRST DISTRICT.

Moses W. Field.....1873-75
Alpheus S. Williams.....1875-79

SECOND DISTRICT.

Henry Waldron.....1873-77
Edwin Willets.....1877-79

THIRD DISTRICT.

Geo. Willard.....1873-76
Jonas H. McGowan.....1877-79

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Julius C. Burrows.....1873-75
Allen Potter.....1877-77
Edwin W. Keightely.....1877-79

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Wildor D. Foster.....1873-73
William B. Williams.....1874-77
John W. Stone.....1877-79

SIXTH DISTRICT.

Josiah W. Begole.....1873-75
Geo. H. Durand.....1875-77
Mark M. Brewer.....1877-79

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Omer D. Conger.....1873-79

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

Nathan B. Bradley.....1873-77
Charles C. Ellsworth.....1877-79

NINTH DISTRICT.

Jay A. Hubbell.....1873-79

Fraternaly,

O. TOMLINSON,

Colon, St. Joseph Co.

We find our correspondent has omitted the names and years of service of,

David A. Noble.....1853-55
Hester L. Stevens.....1853-55
A. C. Baldwin.....1863-65

We have not the reference to determine what Districts these gentlemen represented.

Why the "Visitor" Should be Supported.

VERMONTVILLE, Eaton Co.,
June 20th, 1878.

Bro. Cobb:

Among the things always of interest to the working members of any organization are the thoughts and actions of other members and branches of that organization, and it is by the presentation, analysis and comparison of these that all true progress is made.

Since the enlargement of the VISITOR we have had a succession of articles embracing a variety of these subjects, that have given it an increased interest and value, and we hope sustaining circulation as well. To perpetuate our Order and promote thereby our interests, and advancement to our true and rightful position as farmers and as citizens of a representative democracy, requires that we continue to think and act, and place our thoughts and deeds on record, where others may behold them, and be stimulated to emulate our virtues and successes, and shun our errors and failures.

Should the members of our Order fulfill this requirement to the extent of but one contribution from each Subordinate Grange per week, and back this up by the generous, united support of which the enterprise is worthy, we should behold one of the best farmers' papers to be found anywhere.]

One of the noticeable outgrowths of the farmers' movement has been the increased circulation of, and correspondence for, papers connected more or less directly with the interest of agriculture and its votaries. Hand in hand with this increased supply of, and demand for information, may be noticed the prodigious increase in the extent and variety of topics taken up by the writers for, and publishers of, these various journals. Sectarian doctrines of religion, partizan ideas of politics, and stereotyped forms and channels of thought no longer satisfy the reading public, but on every hand we see a greater breadth of view, and deeper research into the stores of nature and revelation that results in a greater supply of, and demand for, practical information on the part of the intelligent masses, on whom the institutions of free government are ever dependent for support and perpetuity.

Brothers and Sisters let us do well our part in this noble work, and make the VISITOR one of the important papers of Michigan to Michigan Patrons and Farmers.

But the record of these thoughts was not the idea that prompted me to write, but rather a brief statement of our recent acts in this region. Our County Convention held an adjourned meeting at Charlotte, on Wednesday, June 5th. The day was pleasant and a good representation from eight Subordinate Granges were in attendance. The usual routine business was transacted, besides which two previously appointed committees made reports; the first being on the marketing of wool, which was due at the regular meeting in May, but withheld on account of sickness. It was given by Bro. H. Shipman, of Grand Ledge, and after discussion resulted in a unanimous vote to try the experiment this year. Brother Shipman being chosen to take charge of the attempt. The other report was from your correspondent, relative to the most practicable way of putting ourselves in connection with the commercial facilities recommended for our consideration. It favored the formation of a joint stock Co-operative Association on the plan recommended by the National Grange as far as compatible with our State laws, and similar to that of several associations now in successful operation in this State.—The report was accepted, but owing to the lateness of the hour no action was taken on its recommendations.—The next meeting of the Convention will be held at Ketchum's Hall, at Charlotte, Wednesday, August 11.—Various questions are proposed for discussion, as "The County Fair," "Farmers' Insurance," "Pomona Grange," etc., etc. We hope to make these meetings of increased pleasure and profit.

B. E. BENEDICT,
Sec'y No. 625.

ORION, Oakland Co., June 10, '78.

Worthy Secretary Cobb:

The Detroit and Bay City District Council of P. of H., joined by the Oakland County Pomona Grange, held a meeting at Orion, June 4th, which was a complete success both in attendance and the interest manifested for the good of the Order.

The following subjects were ably discussed, "In what consists the strength of the Grange," "Tree culture, its bearing and effects on agriculture," "What should we live for," and "Economy in farm labor."

The following resolution, on the death of Brother McDonald, a member of Rochester Grange, No. 257, and also a member of this Council, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we, as a Council, feel deeply our loss, and tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family in this, their hour of affliction.

HIRAM ANDREWS,
Secretary of Council.

Ladies' Department.

THE WORLD WANTS MEN.

BY MARY BRAINARD.

The world wants men—true men,
Who cannot be bought or sold;
Men who will scorn to violate trust—
Genuine gold.

The world wants men—strong men,
Willing to do or dare;
Men who are able to stand alone
Anywhere.

The world wants men—brave men,
The enemy's works are strong;
And the pirate flag of sin has waived
Too long.

The world wants men—pure men,
Free from the taint of sin;
Men whose lives are clean without,
And pure within.

The world wants men—Godly men,
Like the heroes grand of old,
Whose souls are full of the Holy Ghost—
Genuine gold.

Temperance—Hereditary Appetite.

LOWELL, KENT CO., MICH.,
June 23d, 1878.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

Since the Sisters are beginning to appreciate and improve the opportunity for intellectual improvement offered them in our little GRANGE VISITOR, I am fearful Brother Cobb will be forced to put on the brakes or enlarge his paper.

We heartily concur with the Sister's views on temperance as expressed in the last VISITOR, and wish to add a word of warning against a cause of temperance more potent, in our opinion, than all others combined, because laying at the foundation, the very root, a dye in the wool.

I refer to hereditary appetite transmitted direct from parent to child. Your beloved family physician perhaps, whose every word is law and who is often unworthy such confidence, tells you it is very necessary you should have alcoholic stimulants just at this critical period, and you heed his advice, contrary oftentimes to the warning voice of your better judgment, but you conclude it is no harm to take it just as a medicine.

Perhaps you have never thought of its affecting your unborn child,—effects we cannot see direct, we are so apt to overlook altogether, or perhaps doubt their existence. But it doubtless does affect it more than anything else. A seed is being sown whose fruit is sorrow and shame, a taste for unnatural stimulants is being woven into and becoming a part of its very nature, to be a baneful curse through life, often so strong as to be perfect master of the victim.

We may still be feeding and strengthening this appetite all through the first months of our child's existence, to still keep up our strength and supply the natural nourishment. We know whereof we speak, for we were once advised by a well meaning though judicious friend to take whisky to supply a lack of nourishment, telling us it had been tried and found efficient. We know a mother so void of sense as to put whisky in her babe's milk to keep it quiet. This may look worse than the other, but I suppose the effect on the child is the same in either case.

When the weaning process comes, the child must be deprived not only of its natural food but this powerful stimulant also, causing untold suffering, and a craving for something he knows not what, until in after years whisky is found to be just the thing.

Mothers, it is too often the case that your children inherit this curse through an intemperate father, but let not this lay at your door; avoid it as you would the poison of an asp or the bite of a mad-dog. Be your own medical adviser, having a firm will to do right and an implicit faith in untrammeled nature's power to render all necessary assistance. This giving Alcohol as medicine is a fatal mistake; it can rarely do better than aggravate disease of any kind.

Fraternally, A SISTER.

BYRON CENTER, June 22d, '78.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

The VISITOR is ever a welcome guest in our quiet home. We look forward to the arrival of it with the greatest pleasure, knowing well we shall learn something from each and every article there-

in that will benefit us, and help us to reach the higher plane of manhood and womanhood, which we are trying to gain. It seems to me we could hardly live if we, farmers and farmers' wives, were ever obliged to fall back into the old rut that we used to move in; plodding along month after month, year in and year out, except when the national holidays come around, then we would brighten up, thinking we could have some recreation; although many could not afford even that; but how is it now? We have the richest kind of amusement, and that is attending the Grange. My own Grange is just as fresh and dear to me as when it was first organized, also, other Granges, which we often visit.

On the 1st of June we had the pleasure of visiting Moline Grange, in Allegan county, where we were treated very cordially, and listened to a lecture from Bro. Thompson, one of the builders of our great and noble Order. The lecture was one of the best I ever listened to.—I had a great anxiety to see one of the noble men who helped to lay the foundation of this great organization, and was more than twenty times paid for riding over the long, rough road from our home. We did not remain in the evening to hear the public lecture on account of the distance, but were told by a Brother and Sister from our Grange, who remained, that we missed an intellectual treat.

We have just held another pleasant session of Kent County Grange. Our members are increasing. We hold our sessions wherever invited by Subordinate Granges of the county that have convenient halls. We take our baskets with lunch for dinner, and the Grange with whom we meet, gets supper at the hall. I hope to see a new system adopted, whereby the Sisters of the Order should take victuals enough in their own baskets to last their company through the day, except a cup of tea furnished by the Grange,—the members of the local Grange being required to furnish entertainment only to such of the Brothers and Sisters as remain over, and that at their respective homes. This, I think, is the only way to avoid the anxiety and labor incident to furnishing enough, and the large surplus which we always see on these occasions. It seems as though it was time to make a change, for we get so fatigued that we seldom enjoy the session as we should. Getting these excellent suppers—cleaning tables—washing and sorting dishes, until we can hardly tell whether we get our own or not, is too great a tax on our strength, and the great object of our meeting, if not defeated, has in this a greater drawback than there is any real occasion for, and for one, I move for a reform.

MRS. J. T. WHITNEY.

ALTON, Kent Co., June 20th, '78.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

OUR GRANGE VISITOR is at hand, and of course the first thing I done after receiving it was to look for the Alton correspondence, and as I read it over I saw, to my astonishment, that in giving the number of members in our Grange it reads 87, when it should be only 47. I wish that it might be 87, and I think that it will number that many before long, but 47 is our number now.

There is a good interest manifested by the most of our members; but of course we have got some that are somewhat indifferent, and, as Sister Madge, of Otisco Grange, says, they are seldom ever there except when we have our harvest feasts or something special on hand. I think that what she says about a person that would join if it were not for the ten cent dues, is just right, for if we would urge such persons to join they would be always finding fault with the other members, and never try to do anything themselves to make the Grange interesting.

We never hear a good, live Granger saying that the Grange don't amount to anything after all, and they are afraid it is going to go down, or anything of the kind, and when we hear a member of the Order talking that way we make up our minds that he or she does not attend the meetings very often, or, if they do, they do not try to make it amount to much, or keep it from going down.

I think that every farmer should belong to the Grange; but some men seem to stand in their own light, and cry out against the Grangers. These do not seem to know that they are fighting their own interests.

But I must not take up any more space in your valuable paper.

A SISTER.

GRATTAN, June 12th, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Your incompetent Sister has been requested to report to the VISITOR our Grange meeting of the 10th of June.

We met at two o'clock P. M., at the Baptist Church, that being more commodious than our hall; had a large assembly of earnest, attentive hearers, and, I think, if the countenance is any index to a person's thoughts, all were very much pleased with Bro. Thompson's lecture. The Brothers and Sisters were especially gratified. I felt that I had enjoyed an intellectual feast. Bro. Thompson said many things the Sisters will long remember. He said the Grange was a great school, and so it is; and the question arises, who is making the greatest advancement, the Brothers or Sisters?

He had a membership meeting in the evening, with about two hundred present. All were anxious to hear something. Bro. T. spoke on some general business, after which he explained the unwritten work and its signification, and I hope the members will treasure it in their hearts. I heard some delinquents say, after the afternoon lecture, that they should pay their dues and be reinstated. I trust this will be the fruit of Brother Thompson's labors wherever he lectures.

I forget to mention that after the lecture, in the afternoon, we repaired to our hall, only a few rods from the church, for supper, which was reasonable and satisfactory.

I told Brother Thompson I did not feel competent to make a report worthy of the meeting, but he said he was sure Aunt Kate was an earnest Patron, which, however true, hardly qualifies one for doing justice to the occasion in this report to you. I want to do everything that I can for the good of the Order, and those without the gate.

I am, fraternally yours,
AUNT KATE.

A Recipe for Keeping Eggs.

Take of each one pint of common salt and air slaked lime, and half an ounce of saltpeter; dissolve in two gallons of cold water, put into a large stone jar, and as fast as the eggs are gathered put them in the pickle, moderately stirring each time you add eggs.

This will keep eggs fresh any length of time, if the eggs are fresh laid when put down. Keep them in a cellar.

MRS. M. L. BRUEN.

Correspondence.

I do Not Sell to Grangers.

So says John Stephens, of Detroit. Patrons of Michigan, I have no mean thing to say about Mr. Stephens; but the above is very suggestive language, and carries with it a meaning that cannot be misunderstood. It defines Granger's duty most emphatically: deal among your own friends. Our Grange has its regular appointed Purchasing Agent, (and, by the way, a good thrifty farmer and business man,) who, in the discharge of his duty, goes in the market to see where he can buy goods to the best advantage for the Patron's use.—Mr. John Stephens was recommended for his consideration. Our Agent favors him with a very good order, requesting that it be shipped by freight to Reading, Mich., on the D. H. & I. R. R., C. O. D., at the same time naming good references, and received the following very gentlemanly and suggestive reply, which I forward with this for publication, that Patrons may take the hint, and let everything marked "John Stephens, Detroit," entirely alone, and buy of known friends.

Fraternally yours,
M. H. HILLYARD,
Secretary Grange No. 133.

DETROIT, Mich., June 4th, '78.
A. N. Bartholomew, Reading, M.

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 3d received, and in reply would say, my business is strictly jobbing, and I do not knowingly sell to any except regular merchants. Do not sell to Grangers, and must therefore decline to fill your order.

Truly yours,
JOHN STEPHENS.

The worthy Secretary of No. 183 seems justly indignant because Mr. John Stephens is disposed to be a little particular in his selection of customers. And it does seem as though

