

THE GRANGE VISITOR

"THE FARMER IS OF MORE CONSEQUENCE THAN THE FARM, AND SHOULD BE FIRST IMPROVED."

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Agricultural Department.

American Bred Stock.

America is a new country. Formerly anything which required years of skill to approach perfection must be imported. This has changed. There is scarcely anything which Yankee enterprise has not brought to as high a state of perfection as can be found across the water. Imported stock is about the last foreign fancy to which we cling. It is an idea which has sprung up in the last fifty years. Before that time a month more or less was required for a trip across the ocean, and their transportation by land was impracticable. Since that time the importing and breeding of fancy stock has become an enormous business.

These imported animals have shown how much skillful attention to fixed principles in breeding, with an intelligent object in view, will improve and establish certain characteristics of animals. The butter Jersey, beef Short-horn, milk Holstein, draft Percheron or Clyde, fleet Hambletonian are all produced by attention to one particular object in breeding. These principles have been adopted by American breeders with native stock until there is now American bred stock of which none need be ashamed. For this improvement we are not indebted to imported stock only to the extent of a good example.

Away back in history, lovers of rare beef in merry old England have been improving Shorthorn as a breed. Hambletonian horses trace back to those of the Arabs who skillfully bred horses ages ago. This gives an idea of the long time required to fix these different types of imported stock. While the shrewd Yankee has not such advantage of time in this new country, he must make up in skill what he lacks in time.

Inquiries for Morgan horses have been frequent in journals devoted exclusively to horses. They are native horses skillfully bred, and their speed, endurance, spirit and symmetry have been noted all over the country in such descendants as Hero, Black Hawk, etc. Another family of horses were popular in New York and other States a few years ago called the Dutchess County horses from the place of their rearing. There has been less systematic improvement of a national character in cattle than other farm animals. The improvement has been mostly in crossing imported upon native stock. Yet the native or woods cow has been skillfully bred in dairy districts. Often browsed in summer, wintered on straw, thankful for the leeward side of the straw-stack before the days of tight barns, she made the family butter, furnished all the milk, raised a lot of calves and a dozen babies to the family. Well done, good and faithful servant. If there was any danger of her extinction she should have a monument to her memory. But she is still doing business at the old stand. Chester white hogs and Plymouth Rock fowls further show American skill in breeding, and imported breeds must get up early and stay up late to excel them. Other breeds of swine and fowls owe their best characteristics to American breeders. The same may be said of the American Merino; while tracing back to the Spanish Merino its chief excellences are due to American skill and are essentially American, according to name. He has not been a close observer of the drift of events who fails to see that we are tending swiftly to a race of American bred stock. Breeders of imported or foreign bred stock are selling mainly to each other or those who intend to become breeders. Their sales are not increasing among the majority of American farmers.

The patriotic, calculating Yankee regrets to see such vast sums of money which might be kept at home spent abroad for imported stock. Nations like individuals must sell high and buy cheap, instead of sending cheap animals abroad and importing expensive ones at fancy prices. This balances the wrong way. That was a popular idea of ex-Commissioner LeDuc, who wished to save importations of tea, coffee and sugar by producing the same in the United States. There is less excuse for importing live stock now than formerly; but that breeders should pay less attention to the skillful breeding of foreign bred stock for the use of specialists, but more to the improvement of native stock for general purposes.

There is no reader of stock and farm papers who does not repeatedly read calls for general purpose animals and exact descriptions of what is wanted. For instance descriptions of an ideal farm horse extracted from leading agricultural journals do not, strange to say, differ from each other in any essential particular. Fifteen hands high, twelve hundred pounds weight, a three-minute gate, with certain points of symmetry and beauty make the general purpose horse. The same might be said of other farm animals. A farmer does not wish a cow for all butter, all beef, all milk—nor a sheep for all wool or all mutton.

This is said of the general purpose farmer, not the specialist. If a farmer was making a business of supplying a hotel, watering place, or families with butter, he needs a butter cow, and so with other specialists. No fault need be found with breeders of foreign stock, but the future breeder who disregards the increasing and unmistakable demand for American bred acclimated stock will not be wise to his best interests or loyal to his patriotism.

No breeder, however skilled or prominent, can do this alone. He might have a perfect ideal animal in his mind, but when he died the work would cease. His work already accomplished would not be lost, but who would carry it farther? The improvement of Short-horns did not stop with Bates, Booth, Renick or Hamilton, skillful as they were. The ideal was fixed by the Herd Book Association, "known and read of all men." E. W. S.

Interest Charges in Farming.

Bro. COBB.—In the VISITOR of the 15th inst. is an article from Wm. Strong headed "Wheat," giving the average per acre of the State 36 years ago and up to this time.

There is only one point I take issue with him, to-wit: where he charges to one crop of wheat two years' interest. I claim only one. Bro. Strong and myself had a very pleasant box (dry goods) social, lasting one hour, last summer in Kalamazoo, and this disputed point came up for consideration. I made figures and drew a diagram, and supposed I had him fixed, "but like the man converted against his will," &c., I fear not.

Now, Bro. Cobb, I will leave this question to you and the readers of the VISITOR to arbitrate between Bro. Strong and myself. The position I take is that the entire farm produces a crop of wood, pasture, meadow, wheat, corn, oats, and fruit annually. Where one crop begins another ends, and only one year's interest can be charged to one crop. Perhaps Bro. Cobb will say that annual crop of wood ought to be charged with interest for 100 years, for it occupied the ground for that length of time. Also the fruit crop, for it has occupied the ground for from 5 to 20 years. Certainly he will not claim but only one year's interest for corn, oats, meadow or pasture, but wheat is the sticker. Let us see about that. Statistics show that 55 per cent. of last year's crop was raised on oats and wheat stubble and after corn, and only one year's interest can be charged in that case; 10 per cent. was on new ground. Like the crop of wood he may want the charge interest in this case 100 years. I have now disposed of 65 per cent. of the wheat crop, upon which he will readily admit only one year's interest can be charged, leaving 35 per cent. to divide amongst clover, timothy sod and summer fallow. The latter is a relic of pioneer days, and is not in practice to any great extent, or not to exceed 5 per cent. of the entire crop. I think I am safe in saying of the 35 per cent. remaining 20 per cent. is not plowed until after harvest (pasture and meadow sod) leaving 10 per cent. plowed in the month of June, the crop harvested the next year in July, or say 13 months; can he or ought he to claim two years' interest in this case? We charge to our corn and oat crop one year's interest when they only occupy the ground about six months. This is a question worthy of much thought by the farmers of Michigan. A. C. TOWNE. Prairieville, Mich. March 23, 1886.

Twenty Years Ago and Now.

Twenty years ago the farmers, the laborers and the business men were having a season of prosperity and a business boom. In the markets farm products commanded a good price. Every store, shop, mill, mine, plantation and farm were crowded to their utmost capacity, and every man, woman and child could find quick employment at good wages. Every industry and everybody were having a festive jubilee. But today how changed! Our farms and our products go begging for a market. Men and women are seeking employment, many of them only to be turned away. The fire in the furnace has gone out. The spindle and the loom are idle. The farm and plantation are worked with just as little help as possible, and the employes and laborers are flying from their homes to get away from starvation and are asking a crust from door to door. What has made this difference? Why, in those days of prosperity there was probably more money "per capita" in circulation than has been before or since. Then in our State wheat ranged from \$2 to \$2.10; corn about 65 cents. I sold one hog (weight, 415 lbs.) for \$45.65, which at the same time of year now would bring \$16.60. Then wool was 40c to 50c, and butter 25 to 50c. Then two to five clerks were required in nearly every country store. The shops and mills were thronged with employes and farms were well supplied with efficient laborers. But to-day wheat 80 to 85c, corn 30 to 40c, pork 4 to 4 1/4c, wool 15 to 25c, and butter 10 to 25c, and yet politicians are trying to pacify us by saying, "It can't possibly make any difference financially, for every other commodity has correspondingly gone down with the price of farm products."

Let's see. Has everything else gone down with farm products? Will a bushel of wheat buy as much of everything today as it would twenty years ago? How is it with railroad fare, railroad freights, the price of government land, taxes, salaries of officers, military, naval and civil from the President down to the pathmaster; and all fees and emoluments. These things are all fixed by law and never go down when wheat goes down. Again do the number of dollars in our indebtedness drop when the prices of farm products drop? Does the national indebtedness diminish with the shrinkage of prices? If not, then it does make a difference, and a bushel of wheat will not buy as much and pay as much to-day at 80c. as it would twenty years ago at \$2. Notice the difference. Twenty years ago at \$2 100 bushels would buy just 160 acres of good land. To-day at 80c it will buy only 64 acres. Twenty years ago 7 1/2 bushels would let you ride on the railroad 500 miles. To-day it takes 18 3/4 bushels. Twenty years ago 500 bushels would lift a one thousand dollar mortgage; to-day it takes 1250 bushels. Then don't it make a differ-

ence? Brother farmer can't you grow the 500 bushels that lifts a thousand dollar mortgage a little easier than you can the 1250 bushels? We are also told that the stoppage of silver coinage won't make money any scarcer, nor drop prices any lower. Just as soon will the brook run the same volume of water after the showers cease to come. If a gold dollar is worth 20 cents more than a silver dollar, then the bondholder gets just \$200,000 extra for every million of dollars that has been or will be paid in gold. S. A. SLADE. Wayland, Mich.

difference when you commence hatching. Some hatch on the 17th day, but generally the 19th, and the 21st is the proper time. Hens do better enclosed in yards, although they should have good yards. When chickens are hatched they are placed in a "brooder," and that is warmed, and the young chicks are fed.—G. A. Markham.

Michigan Crop Report for April.

[From the Secretary of State.]
 For this report returns have been received from 882 correspondents, representing 673 townships. Six hundred and nine of these returns are from 420 townships in the southern four tiers of counties.

The condition of wheat in the southern counties is reported at 87 per cent., and in the northern counties 93 per cent., comparison being with vitality and growth of average years, but correspondents quite generally agree that it is yet too early to make a satisfactory estimate. The freezing and thawing during March has certainly been severe on the crop in the southern section of the State, yet it is believed that the roots are not seriously injured, possibly not more than in average years. In a large portion of the northern counties the ground on the first of April was covered with snow—in some places to the depth of eighteen inches.

Ten per cent. of the acreage in clover is believed to be winter-killed, and the condition of that portion not winter-killed is 92 per cent. compared with average years. In condition horses are 98, cattle 96, sheep 96, and swine 97 per cent., the comparison being with stock in good, healthy, and thrifty condition.

Apples promise 89 per cent. of an average crop, and reports from 161 correspondents,—122 in the southern counties and 39 in the northern counties,—place peaches at about five-eighths of an average crop. Eighteen reports from Allegan County place peaches at 72 per cent., 15 from Kent at 68 per cent., 10 from Oakland at 60 per cent., 10 from Ottawa at 54 per cent., 7 from Van Buren at 61 per cent., and 9 from Washtenaw at 49 per cent. of an average crop.

Reports have been received of the quantity of wheat marketed by farmers during the month of March at 300 elevators and mills. Of these 247 are in the southern four tiers of counties, which is 46 per cent. of the whole number of elevators and mills in these counties. The total number of bushels reported marketed is 867,067, of which 223,836 bushels were marketed in the first or southern tier of counties; 249,845 bushels in the second tier; 154,674 bushels in the third tier; 184,536 bushels in the fourth tier; and 54,126 bushels in the counties north of the southern four tiers. At 47 elevators and mills, or 16 per cent. of the whole number from which reports have been received, there was no wheat marketed during the month.

The total number of bushels of wheat marketed in August, September, October, November, December, January, February and March is 12,024,524, or about 39 per cent. of the crop of 1885. The number of bushels reported marketed in the same months of 1884 and 1885 was 7,109,260, or 28 per cent. of the crop of 1884. For these months in 1884-5 reports were received from about 40 per cent., and in 1885-6 from about 45 per cent. of the elevators and mills in the southern four tiers of counties.

POULTRY.—Absurd questions are asked by many persons as to the use of incubators, thus showing how little is known of them. Poultry is not exported, but we imported in 1882 13 million dozen eggs. Rudd and other poultry raisers receive eight to \$10,000 a year from this one industry by keeping the better breed. You should cull out the poor and keep only the best. Poultry is of more value pecuniarily than keeping cattle, when the breed is improved. A number of fowls fifty years ago were not in existence. Poultry shows were not known then, and no papers on the subject. To-day we have fifty. The incubator is a modern invention, and chickens can be hatched cheaper in that manner than by the mother hen. When a hen first forms a desire to set, if you confine her to a small space, with no nest, she will give up that desire. I use a "Success" incubator, and have hatched on three occasions 100 per cent. of fertile eggs, on another 96 1/4 per cent., and 98 1/4 per cent. on the fifth occasion. The hen averages far below that; not over 60 per cent. The object of using the incubator is to get the eggs out early in the spring, as you can commence in winter; and as the heat circulates evenly in the egg chamber, and can be regulated, it makes no

The following are the conclusions arrived at in a test of thirteen weeks of the relative value of oil meal and corn meal:

1. The considerable loss of weight by the animals prevents any certain conclusions being drawn.
2. Neither these experiments nor those of the previous year have shown with certainty that oil meal has any greater feeding value than corn meal.
3. If there is any balance in favor of oil meal it is not great. The probability is, in my opinion, that the "starch equivalent" of feeding stuffs pretty nearly represents their relative value as food.
4. If the apparent gain under oil meal feeding be accepted as real, the cost was about 4 cents less per 100 pounds of milk when oil meal was fed.
5. The oil meal in these experiments appears to have improved the quality of the milk by making it less watery. There is no evidence that it altered the proportion of fat to other solid matters.

Horticulture.

Culture of Onions.

Good onion seed, planted early and well, in good rich soil well manured, is almost sure to produce a large yield, if properly cultivated. No soil is rich enough without manure. Barn yard manure well composted seems to be best adapted to the successful culture of onions. Nothing but a clean, mellow soil that has been thoroughly pulverized, and all the clods and unbroken pieces of manure taken out with a hand rake, and that has been made smooth and level enough to enable a person to make the rows straight, should be planted. The rows should be fourteen inches apart, and the seeds dropped a little less than half an inch apart in the rows. The wheels of my drill are three feet in circumference. I regulate the gauge so as to drop as nearly eighty seeds as I can while the wheels revolve once. I never thin even if every seed grows, except the very few we use on the table. Old seed is worthless, and poor seed, though it may be new, will invariably bring a poor crop. Jas. J. H. Gregory I think grows the best onion seed, and, although he generally sells it for from two to three times as much per pound as most other seed men do, still I believe it is the cheapest seed we can buy. It produces earlier, smoother, deeper and more perfectly shaped onions than any seed we have purchased or raised during the last twenty years.

I planted some of D. M. Ferry & Co's seed last year with good results with one exception—I had a large yield; I also had a large lot of double onions which retained moisture enough to cause bushels of them to decay, while the smooth ones are sound and in good shape for market this spring.

Onion seed varies in size. Thoroughly test the dropping capacity of your drill with each lot of seed planted, or some kinds will be thinner in the rows than other kinds. On sandy soil half an inch is deep enough to cover the seeds, but on mucky ground it may be planted deeper. The soil should be well pressed down with a roller after the seed is planted. The straighter the rows and the narrower the mark into which the seed is dropped, the easier it will be to cultivate and keep clean. With the Gem Wheel Garden Hoe a person can do as much work as six men can in the old way by hand. Commence hoeing as soon as you can follow the rows, and keep them clean, and you will be amply paid for your labor.

I raised last year on a parcel of ground 57x102 feet 160 bushels. This was the best in the field, of course, and the yield was at the rate of nearly twelve hundred bushels per acre. The ground was muck and has been cropped with onions several years. O. R. E.

Keep Your Plants Clean.

She who would derive the utmost satisfaction from plants must remove all fading leaves as soon as discovered; allow no weeds to grow in the pot; nor should the surface of the soil be allowed to crust or moss over. It is a good plan to stir the soil once a week. One of the best implements for doing this work well is an old-fashioned, two-tined fork. As fast as blossoms fade, remove them. Do not let the petals scatter themselves over the soil, for they detract from the neat appearance of a plant. Clean soil is not unattractive as many persons seem to think. I frequently see plants which have the appearance of growing out of pieces of china, pebbles, and things of that sort which have been used to conceal the earth about the plant. And always keep the foliage of the plant clean. Never let dust accumulate. If you do you injure the health of the plant, and what might be pleasing because of its freshness, becomes not only unattractive but offensive to the sight. If care is taken to spread a thin, light cloth over your plants in the sitting-room windows every day, when you sweep the room, or if this cloth is not at hand a newspaper, but little dust will settle on them, and this little can be removed by a good syring, which should always be given after sweeping, never before, for if the plants are moist when the dust falls on the leaves, it will stick—Country Home.

Window Gardening.

It is a delightful pastime for window gardeners to form a tree of mignonette. It is a process that requires attention, but it well repays it. Tree mignonettes have been supposed by some persons to be a distinct variety from the ordinary kinds. This is not so; they are the result of pruning and close care. Sow the seeds in rich, friable, but not heavy soil. When the plants come up, thin out until one strong, growing plant is left directly in the center of the pot. Push a piece of stiff wire down by the side of the plant, and begin and tie loosely, when it is two inches high; use wrenched for tying. Pinch off every side branch that appears on the main stem, but do not remove any of the leaves; their functions are required for the strength and health of the plant. In four months turn out the ball of earth from the pot to ascertain if it requires a larger size, but do not shift it unless the roots are curled around the ball. When the plant is about twelve inches high, side shoots may be permitted to grow,

but their heads should be occasionally pinched off to force them to form a bushy top of a foot in diameter. It requires about nine months to complete this process, but a plant is then grown that will richly perfume a large room. By re-potting every year it will bear an abundance of fragrant flowers for a number of seasons. *Reseda odorata* is the best variety to form into a tree.—Fannie S. Benson, in *Good Housekeeping*.

PREPARE the hotbeds as early as possible. Every farmer should have one, in which to grow his supply of lettuce, cabbage and tomato plants. If a few potatoes are sprouted in the hotbed they can be transplanted when others are planting potatoes, and about two weeks can be gained in the time of growing. Some farmers also go so far as to start their sweet corn, cucumbers and a few other vegetables which they wish to obtain early in this way.

Communications.

National Lecturer's Communication.

SUBJECT FOR APRIL AND MAY, 1886.
Question 84.—What is gold or silver? What are their differences? What makes them money?

Suggestions.—The monetary affairs of a nation are of greatest importance, and should always be shaped to contribute liberally to the welfare of the people. In order to profit by its consideration, we must for the moment divest ourselves from all partisanship and selfishness, and discuss it upon its merits, no matter what our individual preferences or preconceived opinions may have been. The question to solve is simply this: What are the facts in the case? When we get at these, then we will be able to judge as to whether our preferences and opinions are correct or not. What is gold or silver? They are metals dug from the mines, as lead, copper, zinc or iron. Gold is not found in as great an abundance as silver. Their value for mechanical purposes is less than of many other metals. Their early use was for ornamental purposes, on account of their beauty and brightness, and less tarnishable than other metals. They were also used for household articles. Later they were hammered into a certain size and shape and stamped by the government, as a medium of exchange for commodities, called *moneda*. Later it was called money, as was that made of brass, tin, leather and pasteboard. The Romans made it into different shapes; one bearing the image of a sheep as the value of a sheep, and was given in exchange for a sheep; another the image of an ox as the value of an ox, etc. These images were stamped by the government, who fixed the value thereof.

Julius Cæsar won in contest large quantities of gold, had it made into money and secured the authority from the government to stamp his own image upon it. He used much of it for slavish and oppressive purposes. The bread riot in Rome, one of the most serious in the history of that day, was under the gold basis of Cæsar. There was no money to buy food and the people demanded bread, which resulted in much bloodshed. Later in history copper, silver and gold were coined by machinery under authority of the government as money, and their quantity prescribed and their value fixed, as is the case in the United States Government, who fixed and kept the value on American money for many years—on gold coin 27 grains to the dollar, and on silver coin 416 grains to the dollar. Congress some years ago reduced the standard value on gold to 25.8 grains to the dollar, and on silver to 412½ grains and this is the standard value of American gold and silver coin to-day.

The Constitution of the United States authorizes Congress to coin money and regulate the value thereof. The word coin is generally supposed to mean the making of metallic money, when, in fact, in the original, it has a wide scope, and means many things. Hence, a reasonable construction of the word "coin" in the Constitution would be, "Congress has the right to create money and fix the value thereof." Gold has always been made by acts of Congress a legal tender for all debts, public or private. Silver was limited in its legal tender qualities by certain amounts. A gold dollar in one country is not always a dollar in another country. A gold eagle coined in the United States and stamped for ten dollars passes at home for that amount; send it to Europe and it will pass at the price of gold bullion in the country to which it is sent. Much of our gold, sent to foreign countries, has been re-coined into foreign coins. Of the entire population of the world less than 200,000 use gold alone as money; 1,170,000,000 use gold and silver. Gold is generally received as money by all nations on account of its bullion value in the markets, but it is not a legal tender for money in Russia, Central America, Austria, Peru, Holland and nine other nations. Hence the question arises, can "gold be the money of the world" when different nations make the gold dollar of different value, and fourteen of these give it not even a legal tender value? Is there any objection to gold being coined into money and used in connection with other materials of money? If not, where is the objection to silver being coined into money,

with like power of exchange, equal with gold? It is said the objection to silver is that the true value of silver in a silver dollar has less than one hundred cents worth of silver. Compare this reasoning with gold coin, bank notes and promises to pay, and the argument fails. Does not the objection to the free use of silver circulation solely arise from the combined efforts of bullionists and bankers to control the monetary affairs of the government for their own aggrandizement? If so, then it is well to understand it, so as to act wisely in reference thereto. Should not the government finance be arranged and so adjusted as to contribute to the greatest welfare of our own people, and its use to the world be a secondary consideration? Would a reduction or hampering the free use of either gold, silver or paper money prove detrimental to the people?

In the Northwest.

Although Camas Prairie is so beautiful a place the natural disadvantages are formidable. It is as near the end of the world as one can well imagine. The only wagon trail to it is from Lewiston. If you desire to go farther south you must discard the wagon for a cayuse, as the native Indian ponies are called, and the pack-mule. These long trains of pack-mules were at first very interesting to me. The mind instantly reverts to those pictures in the old geography of travelers crossing the Andes. Well here they are right in our own country. My boyhood dreams of the pack-mule have sadly suffered since this personal contact with the existing article. A pack-saddle is a great leather concern nearly covering the mule with great crupper and double cinches (girths.) A load of 300 to 500 pounds is tied on, one half on each side, then cinched so tight that the poor brute grunts as he walks. No doubt he sympathizes with the tight laced ladies at fashionable balls! Often these poor animals find places where the path is not wide enough for the load to get through. In many places the trail is blasted out of solid rock away up the side of a canyon, the basaltic column towering one or two thousand feet overhead, and on the other side descending vertically hundreds of feet below. The pack crowds them from the unyielding wall, their feet miss the ledge and off they go, down the rugged steep, a mangled mass and total loss.

There are only three of these trails leading out of Camas; one to Boise and one to Elk City—both over the Salmon range, dangerous and very little traveled; and one, the hole trail, leading east over the Bitter Rock range into Montana. This last is the best, yet it is a very meager "road." Up the slope it is filled with fallen trees and is almost impassable, it taking a day generally to go 10 or 15 miles. If a railroad is ever built through this section, it will probably come through the hole pass. These trails are called passable from the latter part of June to September, the rest of the year they are under vast fields of ice and snow.

The highest elevation on the wagon road from Lewiston to Mt. Idaho is 4,100 feet. The general elevation of the Prairie is no doubt about 3,100 or 3,200 feet. Lewiston is only 600 feet, and there are many canyons in almost any direction from the prairie ranging from 700 to 1,000 feet. In these snow never lays long, and it scarcely ever freezes. Ice, in the deepest, forms every winter—but only thin scales. Here is where the stock passes the cold time with very little or no care. When you remember that this is in latitude 47°—a hundred miles above the north line of the State of New York, it may seem all the more wonderful. But these canyons are intolerably hot in summer. A current of air is generally moving through them, yet the mercury often registers from 100 to 115 degrees in the shade. What it is in the sun I do not know. I have seen it at 135 degrees quite late in the season! Last winter the mercury went down to 16 degrees on Camas Prairie—not severely cold. The one peculiar feature, however, is that in all places the nights are cold. One finds a pair of blankets very comfortable the hottest nights. These sudden inequalities of night and day temperature, affects vegetation. Thus tomatoes, watermelons, etc., are not grown on the prairie, while in the canyons they are very prolific. I never saw such monster and finely flavored rutabagas, carrots, parsnips, turnips and onions as I saw grown on that prairie. Indeed rival communities sneeringly call it "rutabaga prairie." Snow falls here quite deep every winter; but the warm "chinook" winds from the Pacific soon take it off. As early as April and even in March grass begins to appear where the snow has been "chinooked." These winds come from the southwest over the warm Japan current. They derive their name from the Chinook Indian country of Oregon. Frost appears as late as May and just up on the mountain sides it may come at any time. Indeed old Jack puts in an appearance sometimes on the prairie at very unseasonable times, and is quite sure to begin operations in September.

[The above was written last October, now February advises say that ranchers plowed 'till the close of December and already winter is breaking up. The coldest was 8 degrees below.]

Hunting in the adjoining mountains and canyons is fine. Deer are very plentiful. A great peculiarity is their long

tails. When running they wave them from side to side, or hold them erect according to their fear, enabling the hunter to judge pretty accurately about its future maneuvers. The tail is as long as your forearm and perfectly white on the under side. The first deer I saw made me laugh, its tail looked so peculiar. Then there is the black-tailed deer, very large and with long ears, sometimes called the mule deer. Elk abound and afford fine sport for the many yearly excursions to their haunts. Idaho County paid bounty on 157 bears this year at \$5 each. The black bear is very common, but the cinnamon is only occasionally seen in this immediate neighborhood. The cougar, or American panther, is a great pest, as it kills the young colts and calves. Coyotes are numberless, but they are cowards. Since wheat has been raised prairie chickens have increased at a wonderful rate. They are now as thick as black birds around a Michigan cornfield; a few years ago there were none.

Of the people here there are three races; whites, Indians, and Chinese. The whites are courteous, hospitable, hardworking; the Indians, lazy, treacherous, dirty; the Chinese, thriving, lying, murderous, economical, industrious. It would be a good plan to send some of those "universal brotherhood" legislators of the dude cast out here for the benefit of their logic.

The Nez Perce Indian reservation embraces all that part of this fine prairie lying off to the east. Through it flows the Clearwater with its numerous tributaries giving that part abundant water and the genial warmth of the canyons. The prairie there is freer from rock and of the finest possible soil. These Indians were engaged in war with the whites eight years ago, led by the wily chief Joseph. They committed the usual atrocities on the settlers, mutilating captives, ravishing women and girls, killing men and destroying property. Just out there in sight of me as I write is the spot where 12 brave men fell. The military was stationed at the time within hearing of the firing, but did not offer help to the brave but surrounded citizens. Some soldiers put on their saddles to rush out in spite of orders, but "Jigadeer Brindle" in command ordered every man shot who left the stockade! It is a curious and ominous fact that the Indians fear a half dozen brave settlers more than a whole company of Uncle Sam's soldiers. Indeed, they make fun of them and call them "wash papoose." Gen. Howard "chased" the tribe of hostiles into the mountains and "captured" them. His chasing was more of a picnic party than anything else. They hired civilians to do the work, paying fabulous wages for men and \$1 a day for horses. Certain residents got rich out of this "great" campaign. The fact is the General simply followed after the tribe at a safe distance like a cat after a ball, until they couldn't go farther into the mountains then calmly encamped and hired some friendly Indians to go in and corral the hostiles! His idea was that he could subdue them by kindness! This same "kindness" idea has a deep hold on the philanthropic east. No sooner had the hostiles been secured and with great pomp and ceremony sent off to the Indian Territory, than measures were at once begun to "let the poor creatures go back to their own fair fields and lonely mountains." Mrs. Garfield was foremost in this treachery to her race and the result is that last summer they all came trooping back fat, sleek and hearty, decked in fine clothes and jewelry, many of the bucks with good watches and the dirty squaws with fine shawls and saccues, well mounted and apparently well contented with their ride across the plains in palace cars after the "fire horse." Here they are again to hatch up new schemes while the survivors of those wrecked homes must sit with folded arms under the surveillance of our sympathetic government! What a picture! Would it surprise you if those ill-used settlers arise in their wrath and strike the first blow in spite of soldiery? What a policy. Our government sets off a great tract of land subject to the Indian's choice—and you may be sure he chooses the best—then proceeds to deal out clothing, blankets, food, etc.—all he needs—to him, and tells him placidly that he has signed a treaty not to go on the warpath any more. As if he cared or knew anything about treaties. Thus he simply lives in utter idleness. What does he want to work for? Everything is given him and in return he is not to fight any more. Put a lot of white men in similar circumstances and see how soon there would be disturbance. Is it any wonder, then, that the Indian, whose whole lifetime has been spent in war or war thoughts, is unable to keep quiet? But the kind government added a last injury to insult by taking away the little force that for years has been stationed at Fort Lapwai on the reservation. Here are these settlers, who have braved all the danger of a frontier pioneer life, whose homes have been laid waste, women and children mutilated (one little girl, now a young lady, had her tongue slit its entire length) and their property destroyed, who are a part of the power of the land left within gunshot of their foe, who is fed and clothed by the government while they must work, rustle or starve, and even all protection removed. This is almost more than human nature can bear. Where is the vaunted philanthropy in this? It is abject cruelty;

cruelty to the future prosperity of the Indian and certainly it is cruelty to the brave whites.

That the Indian is unchanged in his nature is shown by his behavior since his return. These "exiles" are now the big pomps of the tribe. They sneeringly call the stay-at-home cowards. All this brought on a fight among themselves before they had been back a month, in which two were nearly killed. Amen; let the good work go on.

Moral Cowardice Among Farmers.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR:—My article inferentially charging farmers as a class with moral or some other kind of cowardice in not promptly defending their interests and rights is stoutly denied in March 15 VISITOR by Bro. W. Kerby. Well, if we concede his position to be correct we will as surely be impaled upon the other horn of the dilemma, for, notwithstanding all we can admit in regard to their natural ability, love of independence, readiness to defend their rights, etc., the fact remains that they are still practically almost a nullity in all that relates, in a State or National sense, to their interest. If we are not justified in calling this hesitancy to act when their numbers give them complete power, cowardice, then what word shall we use to avoid the necessity of calling them fools? Perhaps it is best to take the middle ground and call it half and half. Now, I am in perfect accord with Bro. Kerby in all he says, when used in a local sense, and will go a long way further in the same path, but must beg to still differ with him in regard to the whole class. Perhaps I am mistaken as to there being no opposition to the principles of our Order. The idea I meant to convey was that there was no active opposition, and still believe there is none, only where self-interest is concerned. The Brother's reference to the concessions made to the principles of the Churches would need no reply did he not use this assumed fact to substantiate his arguments. They are, indeed, "a power in the land;" but the light of history reveals a broad path of blood stretching from earliest ages to the 19th century, the blood of the martyrs of the Churches and of those who opposed them. Nor is the strife yet ended, although it is transferred to less sanguine methods. My remarks, thus far, are intended to apply to those outside of the Order, and I hope our good Brother will not think me a chronic hypocondriac if I growl at those inside and also at the Grange itself. It may be "catching," but it cannot well be catching without being convincing, and if convincing there should be a foundation of fact. It would be folly to shut our eyes and deny it to be light, simply because we had it to be dark. When we join the Grange we are supposed to leave outside the gates partisan politics, and the creeds of all our Churches, and I believe we are bound to leave our prejudices also, and to sustain the Grange as a moral, intellectual and social organization and co-operative association. Now, to what class or ages are we to look for members (?) manifestly to all combined. Well, we all have different ideas and tastes, and if we each strive to have our own way there is trouble. The older people may want things suited to their age and capacity, thoughtful subjects, arguments and decorum, while the young will want a good deal of fun, music and dancing. How are we to harmonize all these different tastes? By mutual concession I believe we can make the Grange irresistibly attractive to all ages and capacities if we choose. Is there such a Grange in Michigan? I have attended Grange feasts where good Brothers were shocked by the violin and organ music; and as for dancing, why we dare not hint such a thing, if we desired to retain them as members—but I must not sail longer on this tack or I may get soused in the waste basket—(I've been there before.)

The annual addresses of our State and National Granges is before the public. The Master of the National Grange draws comfort and consolation from what has been done years ago while the order felt the consciousness of their power, and took the offensive in a few cases, and says: "If the advantages have not been followed up and maintained by the necessary legislation the fault has not been with the Order, but with the farmers themselves, * * * for every National Grange and almost every State Grange that has met since that time have memorialized Congress and State Legislatures," &c. So it seems to be the whole duty of the National and State Granges to throw grass at the thief in the apple tree. When the Grange movement first began the farmers flocked to its gates in tens of thousands. It was to them a promise of leadership. They looked upon the State and National Grange as an army looks to its generals for direction and machinery with which to assault the foe. They have been taught discipline and principles and theories, but are as powerless to act unitedly and effectively against the enemy as an unorganized mob, and are no longer a source of anxiety to their oppressors.

In our own State we are told that we just about hold our own. Is there not something wrong here—13 years old and just holding our own! In the Knights of Labor we may have a dangerous rival. They may profit by

our example and pelt the thieves with stones instead of grass.

I know this article is much too long. Mr. Editor, and yet I have scarcely touched the subject. I will conclude by saying that, in my opinion, we will have to resolve ourselves into a semi-political order so as to be able to concentrate our votes upon such men as will represent us in State and national offices.

If this be treason make the most of it. CHAS. S. KILLMER, Arenac, Mich.

From My Diary.

POETS WHO ARE BEST KNOWN BY ONE OF THEIR PRODUCTIONS. "There was a song, among the rest, About them 'a' that pleased me best."

The ballad, or narrative song, is the earliest form of historical writing. This early period has been called the heroic age. It certainly has produced the truest, bravest and grandest characters in history. It has produced a Moses and Abraham, a Homer, a Charlemagne, a Roland, an Alfred or a Bayard. The more we study the songs or ballads of a people, the more we will appreciate their value. The song of Roland, celebrating the deeds of that incomparable hero at Roncesvalles, made modern Europe valorous for many centuries. Being impressed with the full value of this species of writing drew from Andrew Fletcher of Saltorn the following so often quoted: "I knew a very wise man that believed if a man were permitted to make the ballads, he need not care who should make the laws of a nation."

In our last article, under the head of single-song poets, we should have mentioned S. F. Bennett, of Indiana, who wrote "Sweet-by-and-by," which seems in a fair way to reach lasting fame. Dr. Muhlenberg's "I would not live away" has made his name known throughout Christendom.

But our theme is now with those poets who are best remembered by one of their productions. Thomas Holcroft, an English poet, was a voluminous writer, but the simple, pathetic ballad of "Gaffer Gray" has made his name the most widely known. Mrs. Opie's "Orphan Boy" has the same reputation in regard to her other works. And although one of her short pieces has been called the finest song in our language, yet the Orphan Boy will outlive it. Bishop Heber's Missionary Hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" is the most widely known of all his writings. And a similar fame rests with S. F. Smith's "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Mrs. Norton, sister to Mrs. Blackwood, who wrote the "Irish Emigrant's Lament," has been called the Byronic, of English female poets, yet her "Bingen on the Rhine" has given her name the widest celebrity. Like her sister, Mrs. Blackwood, she has written a ballad that will never be forgotten. Gray's Elegy in a churchyard is another instance of one poem overshadowing all the writer's other productions. If Campbell had never written anything but the "Exile of Erin," he would have immortalized his name. Campbell affords an instance where two poems strive for the mastery. His Hohenlinden, and Exile of Erin, are both equally famous. Bryant is the best known on two continents by his Thanatopsis. And the "American Flag" is, par excellence, Joseph Rodman Drake's best production.

Charles Fenno Hoffman, who, it is generally conceded, is the most admired of the group of Knickerbocker writers, stands among Americans as a song writer second only to Morris, and some writers have asserted that his lyric "Sparkling and Bright" is unsurpassed by any similar production in the language. Hoffman possesses the genius of song writing, and that genius culminated in his "Sparkling and Bright."

Good authority has said that the three most popular American songs were Payne's "Sweet Home," Sargeant's "Life on the Ocean Wave," and "Woodman Spare That Tree." George P. Morris, the best known of American song writers, won imperishable fame in writing "Woodman spare that tree."

The question is often asked, "Is this song founded on fact?" The author gives the following account of the origin of the song: Riding out of town, Feb. 1, 1837, with a friend, an old gentleman, he directed me to turn down a little romantic woodland pass, not far from Bloomingdale. "Your object," inquired I. "Merely," said he, "to look once more at an old tree planted by my grandfather long before I was born, under which I used to play when a boy, and where my sisters played with me. There I often listened to the good advice of my parents. Father, mother, sisters—all are gone; nothing but the old tree remains," and a paleness overspread his fine countenance, and tears came to his eyes. After a moment's pause, he added: "Don't think me foolish. I don't know how it is, I never ride out but I turn down this lane to look at that old tree. I have a thousand recollections about it, and I always greet it as a familiar and well-remembered friend." And as he finished, he cried out—"There it is!" Near the tree stood a man with his coat off, sharpening his ax. "You are not going to cut that tree down, surely?" "Yes, but I am, though," said the woodman. "What for?" inquired the old gentleman, with choked emotions. "What for? I like that! Well, I will tell you: I want the

tree for firewood." "What is the tree worth to you for firewood?" "Why, when down, about ten dollars." "Suppose I should give you that sum," said the old gentleman, "would you let it stand?" "Yes." "You are sure of that?" "Positive." "There, give me a bond to that effect." We went into the cottage in which my companion was born, but which is now occupied by the woodman. I drew up the bond. It was signed and the money paid over. As we left, the young girl, the daughter of the woodman, assured us that while she lived the tree should not be cut. These circumstances made a strong impression on my mind, and furnished me with the materials for the song I send you. "To this statement I will add," says James Grant Wilson, "that Morris said the tree was a grand old elm, and that it was then, 1862, still standing." When the elder Russell sang this song in one of the cities of Europe a distinguished nobleman, who was present, arose in the vast audience, as the singer finished, and addressed him thus—"Sir, I wish to ask you if the woodman spared that tree?" Being assured that he did, he exclaimed, "Thank God!" and took his seat. V. B.

"Here and There."

The spicy, practical story of Miss Picket's Mite-box was read before the Ladies Missionary Society the other day, the moral of which was, "Look on the bright side of life." Count your mercies and blessings and keep a "mite-box" on the mantel-shelf, and for every new enjoyment or unexpected blessing put in a penny or occasionally a nickle for benevolent purposes. It is wonderful how many blessings come to us, sometimes in disguise if we only stop and think about them. I am not going to trouble you with a rehearsal of all the enjoyments I have had this winter, but I faint would tell of two or three which have helped me pass away the dreary, cold days. At Christmas time several choice books were given me, and one of them Mrs. "Romona," of which "Grace gave such a pleasing review, and since I have been one of the "Shut-in-company" I have beguiled many a lonely hour. The rarest treat I have had was attending a course of lectures. They were first-class and I would so much like to tell you of the many beautiful ideas advanced, truthful sayings clothed in elegant language uttered by these men of such extended observation, purity of thought and intelligence, but time and space forbid. But I will give you the topics of some of them, so quaint and uncommon. Perhaps you can gather food for thought or deduce some ideas for your own gratification. "Native 'mettle-metal.'" "The use of ugliness," "The Ox that treadeth out the corn, or Capital and labor," "The Golden Gate and the Golden Dawn." This last lecture was by Col. Bain, the silver-tongued orator. I presume many of you have heard him as he has lectured in very many places in Michigan the past winter.

One of the brightest, cheeriest little blessings came one day when I was feeling rather low-spirited, in the shape of a long, intelligent letter full of cheerfulness and saying, "Don't be surprised if you receive the 'Woman's Magazine,' and imagine it a sample copy from the editor. It is I who have ordered it for the coming year for you. All this for 'love's sake' and an appreciation of certain things of by-gone days. Joy and gladness welled up in my heart and ever so many pennies went into the mite-box as a thank offering. I want to speak a word for this Magazine. It is rightly named, is edited by a woman, Mrs. Estler S. Housh, and that is in favor of it with me. The reading is excellent; from the pen of some of the ablest writers of the times; full of force, noble, inspiring thoughts and beautiful ideas. On the title page is the talismanic words from the pen of 'Victor Hugo.' "The nineteenth century is Woman's century." These words are being verified when we read and know of Woman's work, "industries," "missions" "charities" and "Reforms," in which she takes such a prominent part and often leads the way. Her time, talent, intellect and energies are consecrated on the altar of her love for humanity.

Let me quote a few lines from the pen of Mr. A. B. Stockholm, M. D. "Woman has always had wit and wisdom. She is now learning to breathe. She sniffs the air of freedom. She becomes a producer as well as a consumer. Nations groan for the moral impetus possible from woman's wisdom and work. The mother element, made practical and aggressive, will modify and mold all interests of humanity."

Once the term "Old Maid" was applied to depreciate the value of a woman who, by force of circumstances, walked life's journey alone and unmarried, and many a girl has made a great mistake in choosing to marry any one though the man might be a fraud or a rascal, because the idea of being called an old maid was terrible to think of. But those days are past (let us be thankful) and a true woman dares to stem the tide of public sentiment and "paddle her own canoe," rather than to marry a man not her equal in purity, intelligence and industry. These women are not weighed down by household cares or "cumbered with much serving." Perhaps they have turned a deaf ear to the voice of the siren, in language, that they might consecrate their whole time,

strength and energies to working for others. The world does not know of all the sacrifice and self-denials laid upon the altar of their love for humanity, but they never will know of the grand work of these pure-minded women, of the blessed aroma of their Christian influence which is being wafted over suffering, fallen humanity. The world will know of their grand achievements along the line of duty, of using their few or many talents instead of hiding them in the coarse napkin of worldly pleasures, or one of finer texture, diffidence and timidity. In every reform and philanthropic work it is the noblest minds, the most unselfish and purest in actions who work in unison for the up-lifting of humanity. Miss Francis E. Willard, one of the grandest, purest, most intellectual, is one of the unmarried who demands our veneration. She leads the way in temperance and now she is appointed Superintendent of the annex department of the W. C. T. U., namely, the "White Cross Army," which is to work for the protection of women, to maintain a law of purity, which is equally as binding upon man as woman, and to discountenance indecent language, coarse jest and low-down witticisms.

This is a step in the right direction and needs the recognition of every true man and woman. MYRA.

Postal Jottings.

IOWA. NEWTON, IOWA, March 31, 1886.

To Granges in Iowa: I have during this month sent out to each Grange proceedings of last session of National Grange, which had been delayed by sending them to ex-Secretary E. Brown, at Des Moines, instead of Wintersett, or to me at Newton.

I have also sent out Lecturer's Communication of National Grange for discussion in the several Subordinate Granges. Also Blank Quarterly Reports to Secretaries where applications have been made for same.

Let me suggest to each Subordinate Grange to immediately subscribe for at least one copy of GRANGE VISITOR for use of Grange. Take Grange papers in your families.

Appoint a Corresponding Secretary in each Grange to write up Grange items for your Grange and send to VISITOR for publication.

Let each Grange appoint an efficient committee of three whose duty it shall be to work up Grange interest in your neighborhood.

Reorganize at least one dormant Grange in your county or adjoining county during this year.

I have information that two Granges have been reorganized so far, and a fair prospect for several more soon.

Secretaries please collect dues promptly from members quarterly. Report promptly to this office each quarter. Write us private letters giving condition of your Grange and its prospects; we want to become acquainted by letter and personally if we can.

All officers be prompt in attendance on meetings of your Grange. J. W. MURPHY.

I BELIEVE Fremont Center Grange, No. 651, has not reported through the VISITOR since its organization. I send you the following to atone for this delinquency:

Bro. Perry Mayo was with us and gave us a grand lecture, and the result was we had two applications presented at our last regular meeting. Our Worthy Master is a young man of integrity and zeal and we believe him to be the right man in the right place. The VISITOR has a prominent place in our home. I think that one drawback to our Grange is that more do not take the VISITOR. Our membership is not as large as we would like to see but what we have are good, earnest Patrons who can see the benefits of the Order. We have co-operated for the last three years and are well satisfied that it pays to be a Patron. E. STOFFER.

Roseburg, March 25, 1886.

ED. VISITOR:—Buena Vista Grange, No. 544, P. of H., Iowa, has been holding two meetings per month all winter. Has subscribed for one copy of GRANGE VISITOR for each family represented in the Grange. Last regular meeting, March 16, weather quite unfavorable, but several were in attendance. Business done and subject assigned discussed, "How to revive the Grange and make it more useful," showing that personal missionary work will succeed in the Grange as in any other organization. Yesterday, 20th, Grange met in special meeting at house of Bro. O. J. Adams. Snow drifts laid in places on account of snow storm on 25th inst. Roads hardly passable, but a goodly number of Brothers and Sisters were present promptly at 11 A. M. Had an excellent dinner (as usual on such occasions). After dinner—called to order, and subject for discussion assigned by W. Lecturer, Bro. R. P. Holmes, to Bro. S. G. Russell and O. J. Adams. "How to make farming profitable," was ably discussed, giving their experience in farming for more than 20 years in Iowa, in raising grain, stock, &c. Sheep husbandry was discussed by Bro. Holmes and J. W. Murphy; also Hog raising for profit. Bro. C. M. Davis gave a preventive of hog cholera, if not a cure: feed your hogs plenty of alum in meal; also to chickens for same disease. The officers of the Grange are whetting up their sickles so to do good clean work in case we should have applications for initiation. M.

LENOX, IOWA, March 25, '86.

As the VISITOR is the chosen organ of our Order in this State, I feel it my duty to write and tell how the Order is progressing in this section.

Excelsior Grange, No. 883, is the only one in Taylor County, and has been for a number of years. We have a membership of about thirty; not a large one but they are all of the very best. We meet in the evening of the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. But the elements have been against us this winter. At a special meeting, held for the purpose, our officers were installed: John Turner, Worthy Master and E. A. Cade, Secretary.

Excelsior Grange expects to build a Grange Hall as soon as after harvest. The proceeds of a number of theatrical entertainments given under the auspices of the Grange will be devoted to the Hall Fund. We have had a very hard winter and more snow than usual. The spring is backward. No grain is sown yet, and the ground is so full of water it is impossible to get into the fields. A few farmers have corn standing in the field. Stock looks well considering, but feed is getting scarce. Yours respectfully, E. A. C.

As I HAVE never seen anything in the GRANGE VISITOR from this part of Iowa I will send in my mite. Homestead Grange, No. 90, is not dead by any means. It is in good condition. We go right on about our business and keep our Grange work to ourselves. I think that is one great drawback to the Grange in the State of Iowa; they did not keep their business secret enough. The outside world knew too much about the Grange affairs and worked against them. We have our own grocery store and do not have to go to town. We send to Chicago for a great many dry goods. Our regular meetings are every two weeks. Our Grange, like the rest, has suffered great loss of members in years gone by, but it had some members of the true blue and

would not die; they kept right on at work, and after a while the Order commenced to build up again. What is the most trouble to the farmers of the Grange is what to do with the dairy products. The creamery men of our county met and divided up the territory, and entered into an agreement not to buy of each other's patrons. The idea is this, "You must sell to me or not at all." They pay you just what they please for your cream. Any information on the subject will be gladly received. MRS. C. A. SAWTELL, Story Co., Iowa.

AS THE GRANGE VISITOR has been chosen and adopted as the organ through which the Granges of Iowa are to communicate with each other, and not seeing anything in the VISITOR from Western Iowa, it might be of some interest to our Granges to hear that just now there is a gentle but strong and invigorating wind blowing over the Valley of the Plains of southwest Iowa, among the dormant Granges. Its effects are felt, as it has blown life anew into some old Patrons of Husbandry and incited them to action.

On the 18th of March, Silver Grange, No. 1702, Mills County, Iowa, was re-organized with a membership of 21. Five were non-affiliates and sixteen new members. This Grange had been dormant for several years. They say now "we will hold the fort."

On Thursday, April 1, another Grange was re-organized—Union Grange, No. 1618, P. of H., Pottawottamie County—with 21 members, 12 men and 9 women, of whom eleven were or had been Patrons of Husbandry, and ten new ones who had never before seen or heard what there was to it of the true Grange.

It is worthy of note that most of the new members of both of these Granges are young people, to whom we old Patrons must look to take our places, and that, in many cases, soon. It is believed that new life will be inspired into other dormant Granges in southwest Iowa soon. There were copies of the VISITOR distributed at both of these Granges, with an urgent request that each Grange subscribe for one copy to each family represented. D. B. CLARK, Council Bluffs, April 8, 1886.

MICHIGAN.

If Mrs. J. C. A. of Thurber, will write to Mr. H. C. Shaw, of Palmyra, Mich., or what will be still better, visit his place, three miles east of Randolph's Corners, I think he will cheerfully give her the required information about incubators. Mr. Shaw has one and is well posted as to their merits.

Our Grange, No. 212, is not increasing in number, but I am hoping for an increase in membership, also a better attendance. Unfortunately the roads and weather have been very bad most all of our nights for the past six months. We find it best to have a program at every meeting. Since we adopted that method the members all seem to feel that they have been well paid for coming out, even if the weather and roads were bad.

Our members, too, are learning that when they are placed upon the program they are expected to perform their part. Lecturers should endeavor to prepare a program that will be interesting to Brothers and Sisters, old and young. I regard the Lecturer's office very important. No Grange can keep in a flourishing condition without a good Lecturer.

When we have no degrees to confer we allow the children to attend the Grange meetings and take part in the literary exercises. They have lots of fun in the lower hall until after recess, then they are admitted to the room above. They don't always wish to stay at home. It gives them a good deal of enjoyment, and I think it helps the Grange. They are growing up Patrons in the "manor born." M. T. COLE.

AS I HAVE not seen anything in the VISITOR from this part of the State, I will send a few "jottings." We have had a very cold winter, but not very much snow. The coldest of the winter was in January. February was quite warm and pleasant most of the time, and the fore part of March we had another winter. At present it is warm and pleasant, and farmers are making preparations for their spring seeding. The present prospect for an abundant harvest this season is very flattering, as the ground is in excellent condition to receive the seed. Therefore it is no Granges in this part of the State, therefore it is a great pleasure to read the VISITOR, which we have continued to take since we came to Nebraska. I send greeting to our old home, brothers and sisters at Griswold Grange, No. 564, and they will please accept our kind regards for their remembrance of us. Gosper Co., Neb., March 21. N. J. PAINTER.

I KNOW nothing of Grange work except through Grange literature, as there are no Granges in this part of California. Have followed Bro. D. Woodman in his travels, and hope he will not return to Michigan until he has visited this valley. Would be glad to hear Myra is better, and that Bro. Luce will be Governor of Michigan; also of general prosperity in the Grange throughout Michigan. Santa Ana, Cal. MRS. JENNIE A. POPE.

I HAVE waited long and patiently to see a communication or jotting in the VISITOR from North Burns Grange, but up to the present date I have failed to see one.

North Burns Grange, No. 662, is situated in the thumb of the Michigan Mitten. We were organized about a year ago with 22 charter members; since then we have conferred the first four degrees of our Order on about 20 more members.

We hold our regular meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month; have a good average attendance at our meetings, and try to make them as interesting and instructive as possible. I think we are succeeding tolerably well.

The Grange Order has obtained a good foothold in Huron County this winter. North Burns Grange has made a special effort towards extending the Order in this part of the State, and they are reaping the reward of their labor. Already there have been three subordinate Granges organized in Huron County within the last month, and there are good prospects of organizing two or three more soon. We expect to have a County Grange organized during the summer.

In our labor for the good of the Order we have not forgotten to put in a good word for the VISITOR, and we are going to try and have 100 copies of the VISITOR come to Huron County before this year is out. We like the VISITOR, and it has some warm friends in our Grange, but I think we could get a better circulation for the VISITOR here if it was published weekly, even if the subscription was \$1 instead of 50 cents. Do you not think so, Bro. Cobb?

Arbor Day is approaching, and I think that every good Patron should observe it in planting either shade or ornamental trees. We should be willing to spend at least one day in a year in beautifying our homes. What adds more beauty and taste to the farm than a good assortment of shade trees along our lanes and roadsides? I would like if some Patron who has had experience in planting evergreens would give us some instructions through the columns of the VISITOR as to the best time and manner of planting to insure growth. D. B.

Not having seen any communication from Ellington I took upon myself the task of letting you know that we are not dead but still live. A meeting of the Pomona Grange with us this spring inspired some of our members with zeal for the Order. Bro. Mayo addressed us at this place on the 13th of Feb. His address seems to have resulted in much good for the cause in this place. We have a monthly oyster supper at the expense of the Grange. We are taking some very desirable applications at present. Long may the Order live. A. S.

I SEE in the VISITOR jottings from other Granges around the State, so I thought a word or two in regard to the welfare of Pioneer Grange

would not be out of place. We have taken in 14 new members since Nov. 1, reinstated 36 old members, and now have a membership of about 70 members. Our Grange about lost its breath a few years ago but kept gasping for a year or so and finally began to mend till now I think I am safe in saying we have one of the oldest and largest Granges in Gratiot Co. The Bohemian oat men have been sowing their oats around this country pretty thickly, but that is nothing after you get used to it. We have to have other ways than the farm for the farmers to grow rich, so why not the Bohemian oats as well as anything else? What next? EVERETT VAN LEUVEN.

THE farmer, of all the different classes, seems to be the last to awaken and see the necessity and benefits of co-operation. If this country relies on the farmer to carry it through the crisis that is sure to come, it seems to me that it relies upon a large quantity of very poor material. What a difference between a good peaceable community, and one where lawlessness and neighborhood quarrels abound. When a Grange dies, nine cases out of ten there is a lack of principle in the community. Selfishness, meanness and spite are causes that will kill any Grange. The few who cling together to the Order, who see the good that should come to the farming community, and indirectly to the whole nation, who spend money, time and energy to keep the cause afloat, deserve the sympathy and thanks of the whole nation. The spirit that the Brothers and Sisters of Michigan breathe through the VISITOR must bear fruit in the near future. Manistee County. G. RANGER.

IT is conceded by all that this is an age of improvements, but when we read of the various swindles, and adulterations of nearly every thing that is consumed, we are led to think the reverse. Some may say I am ungenerous in my criticisms, but I cannot believe that any who engage in these swindles can be true Patrons. With the instructions and warnings from our Grange press and our respective Granges we certainly cannot plead ignorance. If we fail to read and inform ourselves, and attend our regular meetings, the fault is ours. Now a word for Capitol Grange, and I wonder that we do not hear oftener a report from such a flourishing Grange. A great boom has dawned upon us since the election of officers for 1886. When I name Bro. Beal as Lecturer, and Ex-State Lecturer, John Holbrook, as Master, you cannot fail to see the cause. It has not been my lot to attend as regularly as desired on account of bad roads and weather, and being so remotely situated, yet our interest is ever there. We have a talk occasionally from the Master upon parliamentary usages—the one I heard was upon amendments. All then are given the privilege of asking questions; it was very instructive. We also have a Congress Club, of which I will speak hereafter. MRS. A. GUNNISON.

CHILSEA, MARCH 28.

WE see so many commendations of Bro. Ramsdell's article upon the silver question, and hear so many men of both parties acknowledge their conversion to its teachings that we make bold to propose that he be requested to investigate and report upon the coinage of paper as a medium of exchange and tell us why it would not be for the best interest of the American people that the government should furnish all the circulating medium instead of lending its paper to the bankers, the very class whom, he admits, require watching. Let's have a report. Henry Collins pretends to be puzzled by the silver question as I understand it. Congress, like individuals, sometimes has twinges of remorse as it were, and in one of those spasms gets the silver dollar back into the hands of the people as it was in other days, worth no more or no less. I like your article in last number on the Labor question and hope the farmers will stand by the men who certainly have a right to organize for their protection. C. M. B.

IT is with pleasure that I read the jottings from the different Granges; but I have not heard a word from Ronald Grange, 192.

We have a good live Grange with about ninety paying members; have a hall of our own all paid for, and one hundred dollars in a store that pays pretty well. We also have a large library that helps keep up the interest of the Grange.

Two of our members invested one hundred dollars each in Bohemian oats one year ago and have not seen or heard from their man since. As each held the other's note they are nothing out.

Let the world wag and comet fall, Ronald Grange has built a hall; And in it we will meet and plan To do away with the Bohemian oat man. A MEMBER OF RONALD GRANGE, Ionia County, Mich.

GROVE GRANGE, situated at Fargo, St. Clair Co., is just as strong as it was three years ago. Although it has had many drawbacks and there have been hardships to bear, yet the worst blow is the sickness of our beloved Worthy Master, who for two years was a faithful leader of our happy Grange. But disease, that puzzles the attending physician, has so firm a hold on him there is little chance of his recovery.

We pick up a subscriber to the VISITOR once in a while; will enclose two names and one dollar to-day, hoping our worthy sister who was appointed canvasser for the year will succeed in sending more soon.

There has been a Bohemian oat swindler in this vicinity recently. He succeeded in getting two farmers to take some at ten dollars per bushel, but am happy to say they are not Patrons, but ought to be. There has not been any spring tooth harrows royalty collectors heard of as yet in this neighborhood. But we have heard from Bro. Perry Mayo, and only had one fault to find with him—he did not stay half long enough.

April 1, 1886. LECTURER.

I WOULD like to inquire through the GRANGE VISITOR when the best time is to set out shade or fruit trees? Several years ago I set out about 100 maple trees along the highway. When I had them all taken up and about one half planted, an old lady, a neighbor of ours, came along and said it was the wrong sign to set out trees, and that they would all die, and if they did not die they would not amount to anything; but I told her I was setting them in the ground instead of in the sign, and finished planting them. They were dug up and planted in the old of the moon; result, about one half died the first year, and most of the balance milled as well have died, for they do not amount to much. Last spring I set out about 50 maple trees about as before, but in the new moon. They all grew nicely through the summer, and promise now to be a perfect success.

Who can tell me whether the difference was in the sign or season. J. A. PALMER.

In looking over the items on the page of jottings, there was an item from Mrs. Mayo, saying that the Worthy Lecturer had returned home sick, which we were sorry to hear. He spoke twice last winter in our township, at Glenn and at the Grange Hall, 339, to a small but, I am sure, appreciative audience, for there was undivided attention during his remarks. We could not but feel that he was doing injustice to himself, for he was so hoarse from a cold and so much speaking that it was really painful to listen to him. Nevertheless everybody seemed to be well pleased with his remarks. Some came eight and ten miles to hear him the second time. Through an oversight, or neglect of somebody, there was not sufficient notice given in our town of the lecture or there might have been nearly a full house. Outsiders did not seem to know of it at all. If he was to speak again on a good night there would be a full house. The Patrons can fill the hall for most any other lecture or entertainment. We hope the Lecturer will come again and a sufficient notice of it be given. H. H. G.

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CHILDREN'S DAY.

A Proclamation.

At the late session of the State Grange the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the Worthy Master proclaim a Children's Day, to be universal throughout the State, and that the same be announced in the VISITOR.

In cheerful obedience to this mandate of the State Grange, I do proclaim Thursday, the 10th day of June, 1886, as Children's Day, to be observed as such by the Patrons of the State of Michigan. In some localities a Children's Day has been observed with much interest and profit to old and young. This will be the first attempt to inaugurate the day all over the State and it is hoped it will prove a grand success. To this end the efforts of all are invoked. The notice is issued in ample time for preparation. And while we cannot foretell what the weather will be let us go right on as if we knew it would be all that we could desire. I am admonished by some experienced persons that questions will arise and be asked in relation to methods and plans for the observance of the day, and in anticipation of this I now invite Sister Mayo, who is the originator of this particular plan for a universal children's day, to briefly sketch the outline of a plan to aid others. This should not be laid out in detail, but just a few hints.

Fraternally,
 C. G. LUCE,
 Master State Grange.

MOSHERVILLE, MICH., March, 1886.

BRO. COBB—The enclosed \$1.40 is for the VISITOR and Husbandman, both of which I am in need of. Being myself a Prohibitionist, and being entirely unable to conceive how a person of ordinary observing and reasoning powers can expect the liquor traffic to cease without a complete division of the people upon the subject, I am anxiously waiting and expecting the VISITOR to take a course more favorable to that result.

W. L. SMITH.

We don't know that Bro. Smith expected us to answer his letter in this way, but as others have sometimes expressed similar sentiments we will define our position as editor and manager of the VISITOR as an answer to all. Bro. Smith is of course a good Patron, and, as he says, a good Prohibitionist. Undoubtedly he has some neighbors who are Patrons and who politically are Republicans, Democrats and Greenbackers. Now all these take the VISITOR, or ought to (we make no condition or exception to that statement; if they are Michigan Patrons they ought to take the VISITOR). Some belong to this church, some to that, and some to none. The VISITOR, a Grange paper, we are making for all these people not because of their politics or religion or with the expectation that they will all see alike upon these subjects no matter what papers they read. We don't think it would satisfy all these thousands of readers if the VISITOR had nothing in it but Grange matter pure and simple, and so we give them something of a variety. We aim to keep clearly in view the principles of the Order as announced to the world in its noble DECLARATION OF PURPOSES that will stand as a monument of wisdom for ages to come.

Adhering to this purpose and these views of editorial duty, we cannot advocate any line of partizan politics that shall give offense to large numbers of our readers. And "Being a Prohibitionist" we understand to include a purpose to support for Township, County, State and National offices only such persons as endorse the platform of principles of the Prohibition party and make it a partizan question at the polls. Now the right or wrong of the creed of any political party we are not now considering.

Some progress has been made since Salem Christians hung witches, but there are still very many men whose prejudices must not be too rudely assailed, if you expect to keep them within earshot of what you have to say. While we may not like men's prejudices, we must not so rudely assail them as to drive them out of our reach. We believe reading the VISITOR aids in maintaining the Order in the State and wherever else it is read, and this is its legitimate work. It is not important what views the editor entertains upon disputed points in politics or religion. But it is important that whatever his motives may be that they be not thrust upon the attention of his readers in such a way as to become offensive to those who may read the paper and drive them from its support.

As a Grange paper it has seemed to us within the scope of legitimate work to advocate the nomination and election of farmers to important offices, always provided they are competent, and this for the reason that farmers have not been recognized as is their right. But we have not urged such recognition or connection with any political or religious party or organization.

Temperance is a cardinal principle of the Order, and the VISITOR has been outspoken in favor of the enforcement of all law bearing upon the sale and use of intoxicating drink. It has not a divided political action from the standpoint of partisanship, nor can it consistently do so; and this must be our answer to Bro. Smith and all others who think we do not go far enough in the advocacy of temperance principles.

Cheap Postage.

We reached the period of cheap postage a few years ago, and believe the people appreciate this department of government more than any other. We remember when distance, rather than weight, determined the price and prepayment was optional. We remember receiving a sheet and a half of foolscap—a friendly letter, doubled up, tucked, and sealed with a little red wafer the size of a three-cent piece. That was the standard fastener forty years ago. No envelopes in those days. Half dollars were scarce and hard to earn, but on the corner of that letter the receiving postmaster had charged 50 cents—the regular price for that amount of paper carried by government 800 miles. Now the same letter would cost the sender two cents, and the sender would lick and stick the representation of that amount on the corner before the agent of Uncle Samuel would receive the letter for transmission.

But we do not care to write an article about cheap postage. We did not pick up our pencil for any such purpose. Nor did we intend to say anything about the direction of some letters that we receive from persons who do not take the VISITOR. Of course all who do will remember that we said our say about directing letters—and said it twice—and as we now remember we expressed a great dislike to the appearance of a letter where the direction was all crowded up into the northwest corner, so close that it seemed in danger of slipping off.

What we did want to say, and say it so that some of our correspondents will take the hint, is this: A jotting on a postal card is a good thing, and we are thankful for them; but when so much is forced on to one card that it is about impossible to read it, we begin to feel that the writer don't appreciate two-cent postage on an ounce letter as we do. When we get one of these overloaded cards we first feel sorry for ourselves, because selfishness begins at home; then we feel sorry for the compositor, because it takes him longer to read the card than it does to set the type.

We like postal cards, we believe in economy, but we don't think it fair to ask a one-cent card to carry matter enough for a two-cent stamp.

GEO. G. STEKETEE, of Grand Rapids, has made a change in his advertisement in this number to which we call attention. Our readers all understand that in the columns of the VISITOR few advertisements of medicine of any kind are seen. But Mr. Steketeer is one of the prominent men of the city with a well established reputation, and from what we learn of his standing we are glad to give place to his advertisement.

We have a very brief communication from a Sister Patron dissenting from some editorial opinions expressed in an article found in the VISITOR of Feb. 15, headed, Church and State. As the Sister simply objects to our conclusions, it is not worth while to make further reference to the points raised. People will always honestly differ, and if the difference is honestly entertained we are not disposed to quarrel with them about it.

READ "Whipping Up Nature," on the sixth page, before going through your spring work with all your might. A penny saved is one gained, and the same is no less true of powers of endurance.

THE VISITOR is under many obligations to those who worked so faithfully on townmeeting day in extending its circulation. The returns are beginning to come in and, while they do not indicate any such large results as last year, still they show that a strong effort was made and the results are highly gratifying. The VISITOR trusts that its friends will not slacken their interest or their labor in its behalf but continue the good work. Remember, too, that short, crisp, pithy communications are always acceptable for its columns. In that way our readers can help to make the VISITOR a welcome guest in every Patron's household.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS to secure insertion should be received at this office at least three days before the first and fifteenth of each month. March 31st we received a notice for a Pomona Grange Meeting April 8th. The edition of April first had been printed, and of course the notice went to the waste basket.

Send in notices of meetings early, or as soon as a date is fixed upon.

We present less editorial matter than usual in this number. This is not saying the number is of less interest or value than the average. But we have somehow come to feel that in the line of duty we should occupy about one page, and failing to do this calls forth this explanation. Severe and protracted sickness in our family has demanded so much of our time that this line of work postponed from day to day until neglect seemed inevitable. In our last we promised to review the first two numbers of *The Forum*, but this must go over until some other day.

We have had some enquiries about plaster, and in each instance have answered the enquirer by letter direct.

We assume that these enquiries come from persons who did not take the VISITOR when we explained the situation and arrangement some months ago. For the information of all concerned we repeat that all manufacturers of Plaster in the vicinity of Grand Rapids have formed an association with a central office and business agent. The executive committee of the State Grange of Michigan have a contract with the association to furnish plaster on any order under seal of a Subordinate, County or District Grange free on board cars at Grand Rapids at \$2.50 per ton. Orders addressed to the Plaster Association or to any individual manufacturer under seal will be honored.

THERE have been thousands of dollars spent in litigation over the Spring Tooth Harrow Patents, and the end has not yet been reached. The tool has proved so satisfactory that large numbers have been sold. In fact the Spring Tooth Harrow is found all over our vast country. But no matter under what patent or by whom made there was one defect in all makes—the liability to trail in hard ground. This defect has been overcome by the Hill Harrow Rudder. This was attached to a large double Harrow used on our farm in the spring of 1885, used throughout the season, and gave entire satisfaction. We have before us the endorsement of a dozen farmers with whom we are personally acquainted and they all agree in pronouncing this Rudder a valuable addition to the Spring Tooth Harrow.

SEVERAL jottings and items came too late for this issue, but their worth forecasts a good paper for May 1. In the meantime our friend Killmer's raid on the farmers, the National Lecturer's Communication, "In the Northwest," the ladies treatment of important topics, and other equally good matter in this number, will afford material for comment and consideration.

ONE of the fine feats of late periodical productions is *Good Housekeeping*. It combines all the highest points of a cultured, refined home with its most practical necessities. It is a triumph in housework lore. Every reader feels that a new dignity is added to the housekeeper through its clean, crisp pages. Send 10 cents to Clark W. Bryan & Co., Holyoke, Mass., for sample copy.

We find upon our table "Grant's Battle Fields Revisited," a book of 128 pages published by Eaton & Anderson, Kalamazoo. This book is simply a collection of letters written by comrade C. O. Brown, and covers as the title page sets forth "A horseback ride from Chattanooga to Atlanta" in the summer of 1880.

From a personal acquaintance with the author, at sight of the book we felt assured that the thrilling events of the great civil war, that clustered around those historic battle fields, penned by a writer of such rare descriptive powers must be interesting reading.

To know that he participated in the bloody contests he so vividly describes, and that he was made familiar by personal service with the mountains, valleys and streams, sieges and battles,

marches and counter-marches, that he so graphically portrays, to those who know the man is an assurance that the perusal of this little volume will richly reward any one who has a spark of patriotism or cares to spend an hour in a rapid review of some of the most important events and battles of the great rebellion. We know of no investment of twenty-five cents that will bring such rich returns.

CAREFUL readers of the articles on "Railways and Electricity," by Mrs. W. K. Sexton, in this and the last VISITOR, will find many valuable and well stated facts.

THE LAW AND ORDER LEAGUES.—These Leagues are doing noble work in the States. Their fourth annual convention was held in Cincinnati, on the 21st, 22d and 23rd days of last month.

The object in view, is simply that the law as it stands, should be carried out. The aim, in short, is to make every effort possible to secure obedience from the lawless to the law.

The first organization of the kind, took its rise in New York, in 1877. Now there are thirteen State organizations, and from six to seven hundred local Leagues, with an aggregate membership of more than one hundred thousand.

The good accomplished has been marvelous. In Chicago, it has shut the saloon doors against 30,000 minors. In Boston, it has stopped the sale of liquor to children. In Cincinnati, it has made war against Sunday theatres, and has stopped them. In Louisville, Ky., the League has had a bitter fight with the gamblers, and it has won its battle. And so on.

These Leagues are not temperance ones. They are simply combinations of the decent and law-abiding part of the community to have the law enforced.

Do we need any such organization in Canada? Some who ought to know, are of opinion that we should be all the better for something of the kind.—Toronto Globe.

BOHEMIAN OATS.—The following is what Henry M. Talcott, a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and a prominent banker, of Asthabula County, Ohio, thinks of the Bohemian oat scheme: "We had one Henry L. Bacon to come here four years ago, as the head-centre of this business. I wrote up the business for our papers instantly, and tried my best to prevent our farmers from being swindled. I told Bacon, when he brought his first notes to my bank to try and get them cashed, that he ought to be put in the penitentiary at once, and thank God, he is there now for seven years—sent from the Summit County courts in Akron. He made a big run of the business, however. Our farmers were a set of fools over the business, and now lots of law suits are on hand in our courts as the result of it, and many good people are in trouble. I hope you will push this light before the farmers as fast as you can."

PATRONS in all parts of the United States will be pleased to hear that Bro. J. W. A. Wright, Past Master of the California State Grange, and author of our "Declaration of Purposes," is strongly talked of for the position of Commissioner of Education at Washington. Bro. Wright is now living in Alabama. His education and the prominent positions he has held in our great educational organ, the Grange, fits him perfectly for the position, and if it were put to a popular vote, there is no person in all the country who would get such a large vote, especially from the agricultural class, as Bro. Wright. The Grange vote of a million or more members would be unanimous.

Notices of Meetings.

HILLSDALE County Pomona Grange will hold its next meeting at Fayette Grange Hall, May 5. The forenoon meeting will be devoted to business of the Order. The afternoon session will be devoted to the organization of a County Horticultural Society. Charles W. Garfield, Secretary of the State Horticultural Society, will be with us, and give us a lecture in the afternoon, after which he will proceed to organize a County Horticultural Society. Patrons and farmers of Hillsdale County give us your attendance and your co-operation in the work. The Grange will be open to all in the afternoon.

J. E. WAGNER.

THE regular meeting of the Livingston County Council will be held in Brighton Grange Hall Tuesday, May 4, 1886.

The program will consist of a song by Sister Alice Sherwood, and papers by Sisters Cole, Newman and Bidwell, and Bros. Fishbeck and Dean.

The subject of forming a Pomona Grange will be discussed at this meeting, and it is important that all the Granges in the County be well represented.

MRS. W. K. SEXTON.

The annual meeting of Allegan County Grange for the election of officers, conferring degrees, etc., will be held at Moline Grange Hall Thursday, May 6, 1886. The 5th degree will be conferred in the A. M. in form. Those coming by rail on the L. S. & M. S. and M. S. R. R. to Dorr Centre, should notify S. Fenton, Dorr Center, or E. N. Bates, Moline, who will provide conveyance from there to Moline. Dinner by Moline Grange.

T. C. BUSKIRK.

Bradley, M., April 10, '86.

The next session of St. Joseph County Grange will be held in the village of Nottawa on Thursday, May 6, commencing at 10:30 A. M. Afternoon session will be public, when all are cordially invited to be present. A good program will be provided.

A. E. HOWARD.

SPRING & Co., GRAND RAPIDS. ONE PRICE TO ALL!

These Low Prices Tell the Story.

Good Calicos, 3c and 4c.
 Good Crash Toweling, 3c and 4c.
 Good yard wide Brown Cotton, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 cts.
 Good Bleach Cotton, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 cts.
 Gingham, 5, 7, 9c and upward.
 Wide and fine printed Cambrics at 8, 10 and 12 1/2 cts.
 Linen Lawns 12 1/2, 15, 20, and 25c.
 Beautiful Satines, 25c.
 Fine Scotch Gingham, 20c.
 Brocade Dress Goods, 5, 6, 9, 12 1/2c.
 Table Linen, 15, 19, 22, 25, 2c, 30c.
 Linen Towels for 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, and 21c.
 White Dress Goods from 5, 7, 9, 10c and upwards.
 We are closing out a large lot of fine Plaid Cambrics for 12 1/2c, worth from 15 to 25c. These are the cheapest we have ever seen. SPRING & COMPANY.

SILKS.

Black Gros Grain for 38c, worth 56c.
 Black Gros Grain for 42c, worth 60c.
 Black Gros Grain for 48c, worth 65c.
 Black Gros Grain for 57c, worth 75c.
 Black Gros Grain for 63c, worth 75c.
 Black Gros Grain for 75c, worth \$1.
 Black Gros Grain for 93c, worth \$1.
 Black Gros Grain for \$1, worth \$1.50.
 Black Gros Grain for \$1.25, worth \$1.75.
 Black Gros Grain for \$1.50, worth \$2.00.

The Silks selling at \$1.00 \$1.25 and \$1.50 cannot be obtained elsewhere in this market at any price, as we have the exclusive agency of these goods and are entirely indemnified by the manufacturers against any reasonable damage that may occur from wear, and we make good to our customers any reasonable damage if any should occur.

We wish it were possible for us to enumerate all the different articles in our store worthy of attention.

There are thousands of dollars worth of merchandise upon our shelves and counters that is commanding great attention from customers all over the country as well as citizens of our city. The supply seems sufficient for the increased demand, and our departments were never as well supplied.

SPRING & CO.

GIANT CLOTHING COMPANY'S ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE OF OVERCOATS!

To make necessary repairs in our store, occasioned by the late fire, we are forced to commence our CLEARANCE SALE earlier than last year.

Over 1,300 Overcoats

now in stock, divided into

Six DISTINCT Lots!

On our front Tables

Every Garment PLAINLY MARKED.

None Reserved!

All Must Go!!!

Read prices that make sales easy and bargains assured:

Lot No. 1.	at \$15.00
" " 2.	at 12.00
" " 3.	at 10.00
" " 4.	at 7.50
" " 5.	at 5.00
" " 6.	at 2.50

The first three lots comprise all our Overcoats selling regular For \$30, \$25, \$22, \$20, \$16.

The last three lots are made up from all Overcoats selling at \$14, \$12, \$10, \$8, \$5.

\$2.50 now buys regular \$5 Overcoat.

Boys' and Children's Overcoats go on same basis of value.

This opportunity no one should miss who is within trading distance of Grand Rapids.

GIANT CLOTHING CO.

Obituaries.

CLIFTON—At his home March 17, 1886, Charles W. Clifton, aged 48 years.

WHEREAS, An all wise Providence has seen fit to remove from us our worthy Brother and former Master, C. W. Clifton, therefore,

Resolved, That the members of Forest Grange, of Mecosta Co., Mich., realize with sadness his absence from our midst.

Bro. Clifton was a charter member of Forest Grange. He held the office of W. M. for several years, and represented us at the State Grange at various times. He was a firm believer in Grange principles, and an active and progressive worker therein. He had the confidence and respect of all who knew him.

During his long and painful illness, of fifteen months, he bore his afflictions with patience and cheerfulness. We all cherished the hope, until near the last, that he would recover; but a higher Power decreed otherwise, and he was taken from us.

Resolved, That, as individual members, we strive to emulate his example, while he lived, in trying to make the Grange and community harmonious and united.

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to his bereaved family, and pray that the Great Master may lead them even to behold a kind and loving hand in this night of sorrow.

Resolved, That the Charter of our Grange be draped in mourning for sixty days, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR and also to the county papers for publication, and a copy be presented to Sister Clifton and family.

COMMITTEE.

BAGLEY—

WHEREAS, Our worthy Sister, Mrs. Hattie Bagley, having been suddenly removed by death, therefore,

Resolved, That this Grange has met with an irreparable loss, and tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

Resolved, That in behalf of Peninsula Grange, No. 663, the Secretary be requested to spread these resolutions on the records of the Grange, send copies to the county papers and GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and furnish a copy to the family of the deceased.

Peninsula Grange Hall, March 27, '86.

WILCOX—

Resolutions adopted by Washington Grange, No. 403, on the death of Bro. Harvey Wilcox, who died Dec. 6, 1885:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Divine Master of the universe to remove from us by death our Brother, therefore

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. Wilcox our Order has lost a true and worthy member, the community a social and pleasant friend, and the family a loving husband and father.

Resolved, That we tender the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy, and invoke in their behalf the kind protection of all belonging to our Order.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and also entered upon our Grange record.

BOWEN—Died at his home in Casenovia township, Dec. 26th, A. D. 1885, Bro. Wm. J. Bowen, in the 84th year of his age.

WHEREAS, In the death of Bro. Bowen, Trent Grange, No. 372, has lost a wise and judicious counsellor, the community an honest and useful citizen, and society a bright and exemplary member; therefore

Resolved, That, while we remember his failing health and tottering steps, we shall also remember his happy expressions made manifest by his ever cheerful spirit, and

Resolved, That it is but a just tribute to the memory of our departed brother that in our regret for his removal from our midst, we mourn for one who was worthy of our respect and regard, and

Resolved, That as a further testimony of our respect for the departed, and as an expression of our sincere sympathy for the bereaved widow and family, that these resolutions be placed upon our records, a copy be presented to the widow and family of the deceased, and a copy be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

WOUGH—Died suddenly, Feb. 11, 1886, Sister Alma Wough.

She was one whom the Grange materially benefited, and she in return by her gentle, quiet ways and activity exemplified the precepts of our noble Order.

Resolutions of condolence and sympathy were adopted and inscribed on the records of Pontiac Grange, 283, of which she was a member.

McKIBBEN—Died, at her home in Commerce, March 7, 1886, of consumption, Sister A. McKibben in the 27th year of her age.

At a meeting of Commerce Grange, held March 16, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, By the inscrutable Providence of God, Sister A. McKibben has been removed from among us by death, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of our Sister we have parted with a consistent member of our Order whose loss we sincerely mourn, and that her family has lost a good mother and adviser.

Resolved, That while we bow in submission, we faintly would express our sympathy for the bereaved husband and relatives, at the same time realizing the inability of our words to heal their wounds inflicted by this great loss, let us be more faithful in the discharge of our duty to the living.

Resolved, That our Charter be draped in mourning for thirty days, and a copy of these resolutions be placed on the records of the Grange; a copy be presented to the family of our deceased Sister, and that a copy be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR and each of the Pontiac papers for publication.

BREWSTER—Departed this life Jan. 22, 1886, Nathan E. Brewster, member of Olive Grange, No. 358.

WHEREAS, The Messenger Death has entered our fold and removed a Brother, who, although he was without relatives to wipe the death damp from his brow, but by kindness and gentlemanly bearing won for himself "friends" in time of need; therefore

Resolved, That in memory of our departed Brother we drape our Charter for thirty days, and send a copy of these resolutions to the GRANGE VISITOR and to both county papers for publication.

BUTRICK—

WHEREAS, The Great Master above, whose wisdom we cannot question or comprehend, and whose ways are to us past finding out, has seen fit to again allow the Messenger of Death to visit our Grange, this time removing from among us and from a life of activity and usefulness, Sister Rosette Butrick, a Charter Member of Cascade Grange, and one whose zeal for the cause and energy in carrying on the good work has never been surpassed by any of our members; therefore

Resolved, That we tender the afflicted family, and especially Brother Butrick, the warmest sympathy of our sorrowing hearts and pledge ourselves to do all we can to lighten the load of sorrow and affliction that has fallen upon them.

Resolved, That our hall be draped in mourning for ninety days, and that these resolutions be entered upon a memorial page in our record, a copy furnished the family of our deceased Sister, and also published in the GRANGE VISITOR.

PIERCE.—At a regular meeting of Danby Grange, No. 185, held at their hall in Danby, Ionia County, Feb. 3, 1886, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The Great Master in His allwise Providence has removed by death from our midst our much esteemed and worthy Sister, Mrs. Clark Pierce, and

WHEREAS, Bound together as we are by the fraternal ties of Brotherhood, 'tis meet that we should sorrow with those of our fraternity who are thus afflicted; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Grange extend to our sorrowing Brother and other relatives of our deceased Sister that sympathy which flows from hearts that feel for others' woes.

Resolved, That our Charter be draped in mourning for sixty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR and the Portland Observer for publication, and a copy under seal of the Grange be presented to our worthy Brother, Clark Pierce; also that the Secretary be instructed to spread the same at large upon the record of the Grange.

WHITLARK—

WHEREAS, One of our faithful members, Mrs. Clarissa Whitlark, was removed from Northfield Grange by death Dec. 22, 1885; therefore

Resolved, That we tender to the relatives of the deceased our sympathy in their affliction, and that we sincerely feel the loss of one of our number who was so much respected.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be placed upon our records, and one also be furnished the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

BOSTWICK.—

Died at Bellair, Antrim County, Mich., March 9, of scarlet fever, Phoebe Bostwick aged 18 years and 8 months. Sister Bostwick was a member of Rural Grange, No. 37, Wayland. We desire to extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved husband and many friends.

We shall meet but we shall miss thee, There will be one vacant chair.

MRS. E. N. SMITH, Lecturer.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

(Corrected by Thornton Barnes, Wholesale Grocer and Produce Selling Agent, No. 231 North Water St., Philadelphia, Pa.)

PHILADELPHIA, April 15, 1886.

PURE SUGARS.

Table listing various sugar products and prices, including Out Leaf per lb., Pulverized per lb., Standard Granulated per lb., etc.

SYRUP AND MOLASSES—In Barrels

Table listing syrup and molasses products and prices, including Sugar drips pure sugar per gallon, Amber drips pure sugar per gallon, etc.

Exporters.—The above quotations are for syrup in whole barrels only. All syrup in half barrels 5 cents per gallon extra and no charge for package. In 5 and 10 gallon packages 5 cents per gallon additional and the cost of package.

COFFEES—GREEN AND ROASTED.

Table listing coffee products and prices, including Fancy Rio per lb., Green Rio extra choice per lb., etc.

TEAS.

Table listing tea products and prices, including Imperial per lb., Young Hyson per lb., etc.

FOREIGN DRIED FRUITS.

Table listing dried fruit products and prices, including Raisins, Old Muscatells, London layers, etc.

WHOLE SPICES.

Table listing whole spice products and prices, including Black Pepper per lb., White Pepper per lb., etc.

PURE GROUND SPICES.

Table listing ground spice products and prices, including Pure Pepper, black, per lb., African Cayenne, per lb., etc.

GROCERY SUDDRIES.

Table listing grocery sundry products and prices, including Sal Soda, 112 lb kegs, per lb., Flour sulphur, per lb., etc.

Table listing grain and other sundry products and prices, including Grain bags, 2 bushels, Georgia bags, 2 bushels, etc.

Table listing baking powder products and prices, including Barnes' Perfect Baking Powder in 1/2 lb tins, per doz., etc.

Table listing rice and other sundry products and prices, including Rice, new crop, Fancy Head, per lb., etc.

Table listing broom and other sundry products and prices, including Best parlor brooms, No. 3, per doz., etc.

Table listing potato and other sundry products and prices, including Potash, granulated, per lb., etc.



Take heed, does not corrode like tin or iron, nor decay like shingles or tar composition, easy to apply, strong and durable at half the cost of tin. It is also a SUBSTITUTE for PLASTER at Half the Cost. CARPETS and RUGS of same double the wear of oil cloth. Catalogues and samples free. W. H. FAY & CO., CAMDEN, N. J.

CARDS

60 Fancy Pictures, and 25 elegant Cards in Gift Edge, Silk Fringe, ELDER Name, Dec. 1. Sent for 1.50 Price Postpaid, and 100 parlor games, all for 10cts. Grant of Authors, Dec. 1. IVORY CO., Clintonville, Conn. Jan 25

FOR SALE.—A few choice young bulls and Heifers, all registered and from extra milk and butter strains. Prices low. Correspondence solicited. STONE & BIGGS, Breeders of Holstein-Friesian Cattle, Hastings, Mich. Jan 17

The WILDER PLOW.

Read what the Allegan Patrons say.

Entire Satisfaction

I have used the No. 3 Wilder Plow for the last three years and it has given me entire satisfaction in both sod and stubble. It is a first-class sod and stubble plow.

M. V. B. McALPINE.

Hard to Beat.

I am using two of the Wilder Plows, and for all purposes I consider them hard to beat. I am well satisfied with them.

JOHN STEGEMAN.

Send Ten Dollars to the Allegan Grange Store and get one of these unequalled Plows. Also send for samples and prices of my Beautiful White Poplar Honey Sections.

JULIUS TOMLINSON.

aprim2 Allegan, Mich.



The proprietors of Thornapple Stock Farm have Three Red Young Mary Short Horn Bulls old enough for service for sale. Also two or three Heifers, all red in color. Stock all registered or eligible to registry and will be sold at reasonable prices. Call on or address H. G. HOLT, Cascade, Mich.

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FLORIDA HOME FOR 50c.

A Warranty Deed for a 5x102 feet Building Lot at St. Andrews Bay, Fla., will be sent by prepaid mail to any one who, within 30 days, remits 50c. (40c. to pay legal fee for executing Deed by Notary Public, and 10c. postage. Write names in full, so that Deed will be correct. No more than 5 Deeds for \$2.50 to any one family. This great offer is for the purpose of starting a Local Colony in your community. We pay all taxes for two years. Lots are selling at the Bay for from \$25 to \$300. Illustrated Pamphlet sent with Deed. Address St. Andrews Bay Railroad & Land Co., 227 Main St., Cincinnati, O., Pensacola, Fla., or St. Andrews Bay, Fla. Deed can be executed more promptly if you address Cincinnati office. Postage stamps not accepted. Notary Fee must be paid in cash. Remit postal note or registered letter.

apri12

GLASS GARDEN GUIDE

FREE TO CALL ADDRESS HEMAN GLASS LAKEVIEW SEED FARM ROCHESTER, N.Y. GOOD SEED FULL WEIGHT FAIR PRICE

ALL PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY supplied with SEEDS at a liberal DISCOUNT under a contract with NEW YORK STATE GRANGE. Imarq1

LANDS LANDS

Send for Description and Maps of NORTHERN PACIFIC COUNTRY, the Free Government Lands and CHEAP RAILROAD LANDS in Minnesota, Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. The Best Agricultural, Grazing and Timber land now open in the West. FREE Address: CHAS. B. LAMBORN, Land Commissioner, St. Paul, Minn. Imarq1

Mason & Hamlin

ORGANS: Highest Honors at all Great World's Exhibitions for eighteen years. One of the hundred styles, \$25. to \$900. For Cash, Easy Payments or Deferred. Catalogues free. PIANOS: New mode of Stringing. Do not require one-quarter as much tuning as Pianos on the prevailing system. Superior workmanship, purity of tone and durability. ORGAN AND PIANO CO. 154 Tremont St., Boston. 46 E. 14th St. (Union Sq.), N. Y. 77 Wabash Ave., Chicago. Imarq1

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Raised direct from Burpee's stock. Weight, 37 to 40 pounds per bushel; 50 cents per bushel cash with order. New sacks 25 cents. Remit by registered letter. O. A. COBB, Ottumwa, Fulton Co., Ohio. 15marq1

EGGS FOR HATCHING!

From my splendid flock of very large farm-raised THOROUGHBRED LIGHT BRAHMA FOWLS (unexcelled layers throughout the whole year.) Per setting of 12, from thirteen different, carefully-mated breeding pens (no two alike) One Dollar, (less than half the usual price.) Reduced prices for larger quantities. C. G. KLEINSTUCK, Saxonia Farm, Asylum Avenue, Kalamazoo Mich.

FIRE PROOF GUTTA-PERCHA ROOFING

For flat or steep roofs. Cheap, durable and easily applied. FIRE PROOF PAINT. Send for prices. EMPIRE PAINT & ROOFING CO., 1123 and 1130 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Mention this paper.

PATENTS

LUCIUS C. WEST, Solicitor of American and Foreign Patents, and Counsellor in Patent Causes, Trade marks, Copyrights, Assignments, Caveats, Mechanical and Patent Drawings. Circulars free. 105 E. Main Street, Kalamazoo, Mich. Branch office, London, Eng. Notary Public. apri17

Steketee's Blood Bitters! No Whiskey Here.

For the Cure of Bilious Rheumatism, Malaria, Indigestion, Biliousness, Liver Complaint, and Impurities of the Blood.

Perfectly free from Intoxicants; compounded from Roots, Herbs and Berries. It is the most perfect remedy for the cure of Malaria and Bilious Rheumatism known. Those that know of my remedies know that I sell no humbug. Read what the people say of these bitters. Too good not to publish the following letter:

MANTON, MICH., June 23, 1885.

Mr. Geo. G. Steketee—Dear Sir: For years I have been troubled with constipation or costiveness, dizziness and wandering of the mind. At times it seemed as though there were thousands of needles penetrating my arms, fingers and legs, with hot and cold flashes running all over me, bad breath and coated tongue. I have taken one bottle of your Steketee's Blood Bitters as you directed when I was at your place. I can say that it has done me more good than anything that I have ever found before. In fact, I feel like a new man. No one should be without a bottle of Steketee's Blood Bitters. M. VANDERCOOK.

Long life to Mr. Steketee and his Blood Bitters.

Thus writes Mr. J. C. Van Der Ven, of Grand Haven, Mich., Oct. 1, 1885: "For the past year I have scarcely been without pain in my bowels. I used remedies from the doctors, and house remedies, all without cure. Two bottles and one-half of your Steketee's Blood Bitters has entirely cured me; so I say long live Mr. Steketee and his Blood Bitters." J. C. VAN DER VEN."

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST FOR

STEKETEE'S BLOOD BITTERS.

TAKE NO OTHER.

GEO. G. STEKETEE, Sole Proprietor, Grand Rapids, Mich.

PRICE, - 50c and \$1 Per Bottle.

THE GUIDE. We issue the Buyers' Guide in March and September of each year. It is now a book of 304 pages, 8x11 inches in size, 28,576 square inches of information for the consumers. It describes, illustrates and gives the price of nearly all the necessities and luxuries in daily use by all classes of people, and is sent free to any address upon receipt of 10 cents to pay the cost of carriage. We charge nothing for the book. All of the goods quoted in the Guide we carry in stock, which enables us to make shipments promptly and as ordered. We are the original Grange Supply House organized in 1872 to supply the consumer direct at wholesale prices, in quantities to suit the purchaser. We are the only house in existence who make this their exclusive business, and no other house in the world carries as great a variety of goods as ourselves. Visitors are invited to call and verify our statement. Send for the Guide and see what it contains. If it is not worth 10 cents, let us know, and we will refund the amount paid without question. MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., 227 & 229 Wabash Ave., (Near Exposition Building) CHICAGO, ILL.

GROCERIES!

It will be interesting to every Farmer in the vicinity of Grand Rapids to learn that the

Wholesale Grocery House ARTHUR MEIGS & CO.

Have opened a Mammoth Retail Department, and are selling all goods at much LOWER PRICES than any other dealers. SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS will be given large purchasers. OUR STOCK IS LARGE, and embraces everything in the line of Groceries and Provisions. When in town don't fail to call on us.

ARTHUR MEIGS & CO.

Retail Department, 77 and 79 South Division Street, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. dec85yt

Centennial Grange Farm Gate.

WEST CHESTER, BUTLER CO., O., Aug. 18, 1884. This is to certify that I have had in constant use on my farm, Richardson's Centennial Grange Gates for five years, and am so well pleased with them that I would not be without the right to make and use them for ten times the cost. I have never had any trouble with them. I have never had to repair them. For my gates, 12 feet long and five boards high, I use posts six inches square. The posts stand as straight and plumb as when I first put them up five years ago. The Centennial Gate does not sag the post, it will raise and swing over snow banks, up or down a side hill, opens both ways, fastens itself open when the wind blows, will divide large from small stock, one person doing it alone, children can work it easily, and after five years' use I can confidently recommend it as the best gate I have ever seen or used. J. P. MILLER.

Past Master West Chester Grange, No. 752, West Chester, Butler Co., O. We, the subscribers, have given thorough examination of Bro. J. P. Miller's Gates and know they have been in use for five years, that they are as good as when first put up, and we fully endorse Bro. Miller's statement in every respect. JOSEPH ALLEN, Past Master Butler Co. Pomona Grange, Director Butler Co. Agricultural Society, and formerly Ohio State Grange Stook Agent, at Cincinnati, West Chester, Butler Co., O.

PERRY WRIGHT, Master West Chester Grange, West Chester, Butler Co., O. JOHN L. VAN DOREN, Master Wyoming Grange, Glendale, Hamilton Co., O. GEO. W. RAYMOND, Secretary Wyoming Grange, Glendale, Hamilton Co., O. R. M. COX, Farmer, Mason, Warren Co., O. ERASTUS COX, Farmer, Mason, Warren Co., O. For information, address REI. KATHBUN, care of J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich. feb15m8

Reduction in Price of Paints.

THE PATRONS' PAINT WORKS have made another reduction in the price of Paints, notwithstanding they are cheaper than any other Paints in the market, even if the others cost NOTHING. Why? Because TEN THOUSAND PATRONS TESTIFY THAT THEY LAST FOUR TIMES AS LONG AS WHITE LEAD AND OIL MIXED IN THE OLD WAY.

WE DELIVER 10 GALLON ORDERS FREIGHT PAID TO YOUR DEPOT. WE SEND YOU AN ELEGANT PICTURE OF SOME OF THE LEADING MEN OF THE ORDER. A pamphlet, "Everyone their own Painter," sample of colors, references of many thousand Patrons, etc., free upon application. Masters and Secretaries, please name your title in writing. Jan 1 12 PATRONS' PAINT WORKS, 64 Fulton St., New York.

Ladies' Department.

What Can Woman Do?

[From "Scraps" read by Mrs. L. E. Cameron at State Woman's Institute at Rochester, Mich.]
 "We are but women. What can women do?"
 Over and over all a long night through
 That simple statement and the question plain
 Unresting kept my scarcely conscious brain,
 'Till half awakened, half asleep, I thought
 Of many deeds by noble women wrought.

"We are but women. What can women do?"
 My soul made answer: "All she wishes to."
 It is but true when women want more "rights"
 They've naught to do but take them; for all
 heights,
 All depths, all breadths, all compass that she
 will,
 What place so e'er she chooses she can fill.

Time was when mankind said to her, "Thus far
 And no whit farther. There we place a bar;
 And it would be unwomanly to try
 To overstep the bounds or pass them by."
 But now the answer is to all so plain
 None may repeat the words of this refrain.

"What can a woman do?" One need but ask
 What's to be done? No matter what the task
 Or what required. Be it courage, skill,
 Patience, discretion, wisdom, strength or will,
 Through every avenue she enters in
 Where women fail men need not hope to win.

That First Requisite.

Some weeks ago when I asked the question, now grown familiar to the VISITOR, namely: "What is the first requisite of a model home?" it had but then caught my thoughts, and I desired to ask for others' opinions, rather than give my own. The replies that have been made will each have its advocates, and if mine clasps hands with no one of them, I think it will, only because it stands out on broader ground and embraces all.

The term, "model home," is shaded by as wide diversities of opinion as actual homes differ. I shall take it to mean that place where are grown and nurtured principles of man and womanhood; and by the words "man" and "woman" I do not speak in the sense that distinguishes that a person is the one because he wears trousers and hat or the other by her skirts and bonnet. If I thought every man a man, my conclusion of the whole matter might perhaps be covered by—"a man." In the model home I look for men to be manly and women, womanly.

The answer to this question that has seemed most popular is that love is of the first importance; but "love" is a broad word and in the modern home is often spread too thinly to meet the needs of a model one. Poor, poor is that misnamed love that fondles and gives only caresses while its loved ones, in so far as comforts and necessities go, are like unto the turkey in tradition. Gumption would be more to the loving purpose here. On the other hand, real, full weight love (such as everyone presupposes he is getting, however short it afterwards falls) is the deep, never failing, strong current that sweeps under and bears the model home life like a mighty river in its course.

It was in an editorial of the *Western Rural* that I first saw this subject discussed, and the distinctively manlike treatment of it prompted me to ask, was he right? He claimed that "the very first need of a home is a good library, with a thoroughly scientific treatise on cooking, about every fifth book." He doesn't care for a stove, or kitchen, or dishes until there is knowledge to use them. I imagined a feminine ripple of laughter went up from each fair-faced housekeeper reading it. Following the case he made, I found its points well taken, and was convinced the writer had himself dealt dyspeptically with raw bread, burnt steak and muddy coffee, in order to be able to discuss his subject philosophically. Physical health is the substructure of the mental and moral, and by its flaws the higher natures are weakened and must rise, if they rise, over a tottering foundation. He thinks physicians should doctor the kitchen before the patient, and give the housekeeper a course of physiological training, followed by a series of cooking lessons; then firmly fix forever in her code of law the intimate relation to be maintained between the two. When this is mastered he would have her keep in view that matter is a servant of minds. She must know food's place is to stimulate minds to activity, and not to monopolize its attention. Then shall harmony, health and honest happiness hallow the model home. Understanding with this that "the within determines the without," the cook holds both the secrets of the stomach and the key note of the family prosperity.

When the doctor's horse stands habitually at certain hitching-posts a monotonous routine of pines and pills is the fare of those households. I also protest against taking any such for a pattern, however loving or orderly the inmates may be. Our gentleman friend asks more than he may think when he asks a housekeeper to be all this; but he asks not too much, simply a sound mind in a sound body and well developed. Why has any one a right to ask for less than this or dare take into a home anything less? But that people do enter into covenants to build homes without well developed characters, the stopping places, mockingly called "homes," and long divorce lists plainly indicate. Only one excuse remains and is that an age of discretion has been denied a large portion of the human race. It is easier to believe that without waiting for the years of judgment and discretion to bring their councils,

far too many young people cut themselves off from such benefits ere their season.

"Soured on the door" stands written over against the doorway of many a girlish woman's sorry home; and "reap as ye have sown" is all the comfort left to her stunted complement. But the model home—that place that is long the shelter and roof-tree of its inmates—feels full many a storm and much of sunshine beat upon it, and well we know that in such shelter shall mature lives be moulded and developed before they leave its protection to found other homes.
 RUTH RESTLEY.

Railways and Electricity.

Wonderful as has been the resolution in the mode of travel, caused by the invention of railways, no less wonderful has been the change in the mode of transmitting messages brought about by the discoveries and advancements in the science of electricity; and it is a significant fact that both were simultaneous, the science of electricity having been established in 1600, but two years prior to the invention of railways. Gilbert, of Colchester, in that year published a book treating of the magnetic and electric forces. He is the inventor of the word electricity which he derived from the Greek word *electron* (amber).

In 1672 the first electric machine was made. Grey and Wehler in 1729 were the first to transmit electricity from one point to another. In 1746 the Leyden jar was accidentally discovered at Leyden. In 1752 Benjamin Franklin proved the identity of lightning and electricity by his famous kite experiment, and in 1760 made the first lightning conductor. In 1786 Galvani made the discovery which led to the addition of the new branch of science, Galvanism, which bears his name.

The telegraphic instrument now used in America is the invention of Samuel F. Morse, a native of Massachusetts, born in 1791. He petitioned in vain to Congress, year after year, for appropriations in establishing a telegraphic line. At length, in 1843, when he had almost yielded to despair, that august body at midnight, and at the last moments of the session, appropriated thirty thousand dollars for an experimental line between Washington and Baltimore. For his telegraphic inventions he was rewarded by testimonials, honors, orders of nobility and wealth. Several European states joined in presenting him a purse of nearly eighty thousand dollars, and banquets were given him in Paris and London.

In the long list of philosophers and inventors none stand out more prominent than the name of Edison of our own time, through whose wonderful discoveries in electricity, our cities have been flooded with a light so brilliant as to be seen nearly a score of miles.

He is at present chiefly engaged with his new idea of telegraphing from railroad trains in motion. This has been put to a practical test and proved satisfactory. The telegraphing is done by throwing the electric current by induction to one of the wires alongside the railroad. His experiments have already shown that the spark can be thrown one hundred and seventy feet. The regular Morse instrument, with certain appliances, will be used. The battery is to be grounded in the wheels of the car, and on the top of the car there will be condensers of tin foil spread upon long strips of wood.

Arrangements are also progressing for an experiment in telegraphing by the same method from one ship to another at sea. He is positive the current can be thrown over the water twenty-four miles and possibly farther. He has conceived the idea of telegraphing from ship to ship so as to establish communication between the shore and any part of the frequented seas. Not content with this projected miracle, which seems to be near its fulfillment, he is also busy upon improvements in submarine telegraphy. The method now generally in vogue of reckoning words through the cable by the flicker of a flame thrown upon a mirror, is amazingly insufficient. The number of dots indicating letters often has to be judged by operators from the length of time the flame hesitates. Edison is trying to devise some means of attaining a higher or better regulated rate of speed, that the record may be made clearer. But it's a tough job he says. Edison is now taking up the phonograph which he laid aside for a time, while absorbed in his electric light inventions, and now intends to bring it to perfection and practical use. He is building a phonograph with a five foot wheel to be driven by steam. The sound will be transferred from the phonograph to a wheel forty times its diameter, the sound being thus amplified forty times louder than the human voice. It will have a funnel thirty feet long. If placed on top of a building Mr. Edison claims that a person standing two blocks away will be able to hear it talk plainly. He has also got so far as to make the machine say "ah" distinctly by means of many wave lines.

Mr. Edison says, "After I get this machine perfect I will construct phonographs for office use, to take the place of stenographers and type-writers. All you will have to do will be to hand it to the office-boy who, by touching a spring, can make it repeat or talk back all that you have said to it, and translate it at will. Then again you can have one at home, and when a thought strikes you,

all that is necessary is to talk it at the machine and you have it boxed up for next day. I have no doubt it will be a great success. Perhaps the most interesting thing he has to say is respecting his exploration for a new force. At present he calls it simply x, y, z. He does not pretend to know what it is. But he says that there are many phenomena which are not explained by any force yet recognized, and it is these which he is going to investigate. Vibrations of matter, at the rate of 30,000 a second, produce the highest sound we can hear. Between these and the vibrations which, at the rate of millions per second, cause the sensation of heat, there is a large gap; and between these and the vibrations that give sensations of color, there is another gap. These gaps, Edison believes, are filled by vibrations as yet unmeasured, which constitute the new or unnamed force he is in search of. Think of it! A man in this skeptical century who dares believe in a discovery beyond all discoveries. Here is a student of Nature who is not afraid to brave the spirit of a Galileo or a Kepler or an Isaac Newton. Mr. Edison believes in an intelligent Creator, a personal God, and says the existence of such a God can almost be proved from chemistry. And so we discover down in Avenue B, in the prosaic city of New York, a philosopher who believes in a personal God and is, at the same time, the foremost exponent of applied science. Curious that he should be at work night after night in the midst of a million of people, only a few hundred of whom know how he is employed during the nocturnal hours. As a usual thing he works until five or six in the morning, his supper basket remaining untouched beside him, and sometimes it is nine o'clock of the next day before he leaves the bench or laboratory. "I can't think out anything, he says, except when I'm experimenting. I have a library of 6,000 scientific works but somehow I can't find what I want in books. I cannot make calculations on paper I have to be moving around." So there he goes moving around thinking and working with his hands in the big sombre building while the city is asleep. He is the controlling power of several large factories, a millionaire, a man of business, a marvelous inventor, yet he is as simple and happy as a child when wrapped in an old seersucker dressing-gown; he can manipulate at will and without interruption the mysterious forces and properties of nature.

Americans are practical and skeptical. It might be instructive to them to learn that the champion of their inventive genius is a believer in things unseen and unknowable. MRS. W. K. SAXTON.

Home Adornments.

There is no home so humble but something can be done to make it look inviting. A bird in its cage, a plant on the window sill, a cushion on a chair seem to welcome the tired ones and lull them to rest and comfort. The rich man's home may be more gaudy, but with looks reserved and cold in appearance. Everything is of foreign manufacture and is costly.

But we poor can by industry and a limited amount of expense work with our own hands in what spare moments we have numerous things that give sunlight and a welcome to our homes. Some bear the erroneous opinion that the only place a man's eyes rest upon in the house is on the table and see what delicacies have been prepared to put into his stomach in one short half hour by his wife's half day's work. If this were the case I should not be surprised if a man came in, ate his meals, and then passed out to find enjoyment somewhere else, as at a boarding house.

But it is his home. He likes a good meal, and to see all these things that make his home look cheerful; and is thankful in his heart that his wife, mother or sister takes the pains to have home the most attractive and pleasant place in the world. ACHSAH A. WHALLON.
 Ingham Co.

Why Not?

To-night is our regular Grange meeting, but for various reasons I cannot attend, and, in a regretful mood, take up the VISITOR to while away the long evening before me. As I read the thought comes, why cannot I join the Ladies' Department? I would not wish to intrude, but seek instruction and companionship; so I will draw my chair a little closer and introduce myself, trusting to the mothers of our Order for a kindly welcome.

I am a member of Windsor Grange, No. 619. It is in good running order, having a live corps of officers and holding unusually interesting meetings. Thanks are mostly due our Worthy Lecturer, Geo. D. Pray, for his well arranged program for the ensuing quarter. We have had some splendid essays, readings, and so forth. I, too, have been anxiously waiting for answers to Ruth Restley's query, "What is the first requisite of a model home?" When first my husband read it to me, I said: "I can tell; it is order, for that was the first law of God. In the beginning all was chaos and his first work was to bring everything into working order, and our homes should be in sympathy with his great, grand, universal work, or home." Taking him for our guide and teacher, what essential is more apparent than order? And as I read to-night what the conclusions of others are, I

think to have a complete and perfect home we should have a judicious mingling of all these attributes: order, love, patience and forbearance, a goodly amount of firmness, and, as one writer truly says, grit. That last is a great essential in my estimation. MRS. A. M. B.

"Whipping up Nature."

There is a whipping up of tired nature going on that ought to come under the notice of some society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. The lash is being applied in this way, to take a common instance, in your very house. Your husband did not sleep any last night, thinking of his business entanglements. You prepare him two cups of strong black coffee, which he pours down for breakfast, unable to eat anything with it. No doubt while the stimulus lasts he is carried through an immense amount of work in a savage manner. It passes for pure grit, by the on-lookers. Perhaps it may be; but there is another kind of grit that we like quite as well,—the patient, steady following one's conscience. And your doses of strong tea that enable you to get through the house cleaning, or the fall sewing, is another whip,—long and cruel. The society should have its hands on you both instantly.—Margaret Sidney, in *Good Housekeeping*.

The Wheel Horse.

There is a wheel horse in every family; some one who takes the load on all occasions. It may be the older daughter, possibly the father, but generally it is the mother. Extra company, sickness gives her a heavy increase of the burden she is always carrying. Even summer vacations bring less rest and recreation to her than to others of the family. The city house must be put in order to leave; the clothing for herself and the children which a summer sojourn demands seems never to be finished; and the excursions and picnics which delight the hearts of the young people are not wholly a delight to the "provider." I once heard a husband say: "My wife takes her sewing machine into the country and has a good time doing up the fall sewing." At the time I did not fully appreciate the enormity of the thing; but it has rankled in my memory, and appears to me now an outrage. How would it be for the merchant to take his books to the country with him, to go over his accounts for a little amusement? Suppose the minister writes up a few extra sermons, and a teacher carries a Hebrew grammar and perfects himself in a new language, ready for the opening of school in the fall?—*Christian Union*.

IS IT TRUE?—Women jump at conclusions and generally hit; men reason things out logically and generally miss it.

Some women can't pass a millinery store without looking in; some men can't pass a saloon without going in.

A woman never sees a baby without wanting to run to it; a man never sees a baby without wanting to run from it.—*Wasp*.

Health and Amusement.

Without Carefulness.

A lively imagination and a natural or acquired habit of seeing the funny side of everything without turning it to any good account may tend to entertain and amuse a company gathered for pleasure, but too much of it sates a healthy social palate, and their use should always be guarded. Pure, unalloyed good nature is seldom wearisome, but social sporting sometimes takes a turn that is much to be condemned. It is that amusement that seeks its entertainment at the unknown expense of others. I refer especially to that method of making sport in company by means of silent communicating. It is silent, but valuable and full of expression. Its subjects are personal peculiarities, misconstrued remarks and unfortunate blunders of—with shame be it said—people present and perhaps in close proximity to the sporters. An obscure reference, the sly nudge, a gentle touch or hit, a quick wink, grimace or motion, a meaning expression, or even the steady meeting of eyes for an instant among a party of "chums" has brought the flush to the cheek and confusion to the enjoyment of many a guest or stranger, who has no means of knowing if he is the subject of ridicule or compliment. Which, indeed, if sport or praise, is his he does not know, or if such communicating relates to others than himself, or to matters not known to him, his doubt as to what the fun is about only aggravates his uncomfortableness. There are few, though white-capped with years, who do not enjoy the bubbling, innocent mirth of young people that drops from their lips without malice or harm; but the instance is a rare one where a voiceless crossfire of sarcasm or mimicry can be endured with equanimity of countenance and temper.

If the sport evades the notice of its subject there may be friends who will see it all and feel keenly the indignity done another. Such "edged tools" are dangerous and more given to leaving life scars on the user than the afflicted.

Perhaps nothing shows the true level

of a family's aims better than the small talk indulged in during a spare time for recreation or social conversation. Loosed from the harness that the duties of the day have girded on its members they are free to follow the bent of their inclinations. It is at this time and when the mind and body are seeking rest in amusements that the real self, living back of skilled fingers and sturdy muscles, claims its right to rule. The way an hour's leisure or a half holiday is spent often indicates more of the innermost person than a year's faithfulness at a post of duty. Such "extras" of time are straws that society is constantly tossing into air and show a various direction of plans and purposes everywhere. We show our individual tastes and aims in no way more plainly than in the amusements we seek. There are those who work hard and well when they work, who in their recreations keep no end in view but to have a "good time." Their definition of recreation I think would be expressed in those very words, and carry it out at any cost. They belong to the class who work to recreate, while their opposites rest that they may work the more and better. Life to one is a shallow brook, ruffled by the pebbles in its bed, but to the other it is a river and strong in its depth. Cheerfulness, sunlight of earth, plays on the waters of both, but the river has deepness beneath a brightened surface that the gurgling, rippled brook never has.

It is an excellent thing to be gay and happy hearted, but as some one pointedly remarks, "no one was ever made great or good by a diet of broad grins," and since the ludicrous and laughable of life are always on top it becomes us to look for more than surface amusements. It is with something akin to a child that an acquaintance of mine tells her experience in a family of capable, well-read people, who spent much of their social time in making stale witticisms, half hints at disreputable stories, cunning comments on neighbors and friends, and neither did they hesitate to be uncharitable if it made a laugh.

This is but an illustration of the common aimlessness of pastimes, saying nothing of those that are more exhaustive of time and strength. How can we expect to make a profitable use of all our gifts if we hitch up earnest work with halting, indifferent play? It makes an ungainly team and one that pulls effectively no way. JENNIE BUELL.

City Kindergartens.

Miss Emma Rogers wrote for this department an excellent article on kindergartens in country homes. The only wish of VISITOR readers is that she had written more fully of the plan of education and details of its workings. If the writer mistakes not, Froebel's original plan was to supply a place where small children from three to seven years, who were not old enough to attend school, could stay during the day while their mothers were out working for the support of their families. The children could here receive the instruction suitable to their age, and which the tired mothers were in no condition to impart. These places were out of doors in summer, as the German word implies, "children's gardens."

Kindergartens in country homes as a branch of the original idea is worthy the study of every mother of young children in rural districts, as it will aid materially in their training. The writer never was intrusted with the education of any young ideas, but has seen a little of kindergarten work in cities.

Miss Susie E. Blow, the daughter of the late millionaire, Henry T. Blow, of St. Louis, has devoted her life to the study of this system, both in Germany (its native home) and New York City. St. Louis, Missouri, claims to be the foremost city in kindergarten education, having a room devoted to the little ones in each public school building, maintained at public expense. Over a hundred kindergarten teachers attend lectures given by Miss Blow in this work each Saturday evening at 10 A. M. Will some one who knows about it give us an idea of the course of instruction?

Here are a few hints: The children are in the open air when the weather permits. The writer has seen whole cabinets of clay models, spoken of by Miss Rogers, which were works of art, done by these little toddlers of five short seasons. There are charts and object lessons, and one would be surprised how much the youngsters know about squares, angles and the drawing of objects. They have calisthenic exercises—an army of little ones will hop about imitating frogs. They are taught walking, and that vexed question what they shall do with their hands and feet is settled. These exercises are accompanied with their pretty songs. They learn a little of the theory of music. They are taught to bow as they enter or leave; say "thank you" (not "thanks," I hope) when receiving anything, and "excuse me" when leaving a room or table. In fact, they learn to be little society folks. They learn practical duties as well. They have their little seats, desks, tables and dishes. These they take charge of themselves. They bring their luncheons, set their little tables, wash their wee dishes and put them away. Instruction is clothed in amusement, and never allowed to become wearisome. They have their playthings and learn to care for them. You may select kindergarten pupils

among their associates by a free yet modest behavior and general intelligence. There is no sweeter thing in life than a little girl, and boys are all right in their way. Any education which makes them intelligent little ladies and gentlemen will be well received by their many friends.

E. W. S.

Don't flirt dirt from one piece of furniture to another and call it dusting, but take it up carefully in a dusting cloth and shake it from the window.—Our Country Home.

A GUEST who will not be interested or pleased with that which is proposed for his entertainment is worthy of censure.—Our Country Home.

Joy, temperance and repose Slam the door on the doctor's nose. —Longfellow.

Months' Department.

Courage.

Keep up your courage, friend, Nor falter on the track; Look up, toil bravely on, And scorn to languish back. A true heart rarely fails to win, A will can make a way, The darkest night will yield at last Unto the perfect day.

See yonder little flower You've crushed beneath your tread, The sunshine and the shower Beat on its bended head; Though bowed it is not broke; It rises up again, And sheds a sweet perfume across The arid desert plain.

Then like the tender flower Be ye, oh, weary man! In countless ways God blesseth you,— Deny it if you can.

You've love to cheer your heart, You've strength and gracious health; For these full many a lordly peer Would gladly yield his wealth.

Never despair! it kills the life, And digs an early grave; The man who rails so much at Fate But makes himself her slave. Up, rouse ye to the work! Resolve to victory gain; And hopes shall rise and bear rich fruit, Which long in dust have lain.

—Selected.

In reading the many articles of interest in the last VISITOR, the one entitled "Woman versus Man Mind" attracted my attention, and when I came to the signature, saw that its author was near home, and this of course would add a little more interest to the article to me, as it was the first article or item that I had ever seen from the "Lake Shore" in the VISITOR. We think that E. W. S. did not get out to hear Mrs. Hazlett, or Mrs. Stone, in the last Presidential campaign. Write again, Florena, when you know of any of the intellectual "masculine gender" that are in need of information on woman's intellectual ability.

GRANGER.

STOP lying for ten years and you'll starve all the lawyers. I don't say that this profession lives by defending rogues, for I have the highest respect for the lawyer who defends a good man against the onslaught of the wicked. But for the miserable five-dollar lawyer I have nothing but contempt—for the fellow who does mean and petty tricks, and says he didn't do them as a man, but as a lawyer. Perhaps when he goes to hell he'll say he's there as a lawyer. (Laughter.)—Sam Jones.

NEVER make haste to be rich, and remember that small and steady gains give competency and tranquility of mind.

NEVER be idle, but keep your hands or mind usefully employed except when sleeping.

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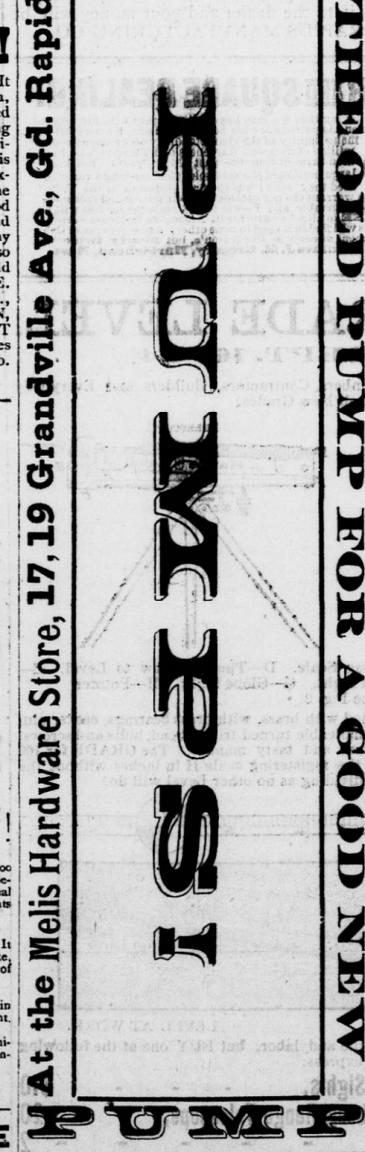
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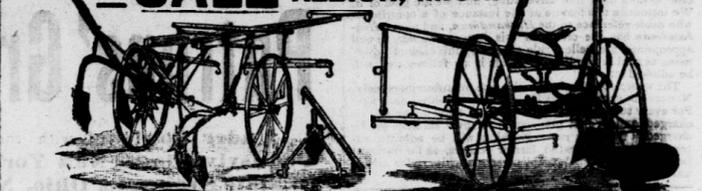
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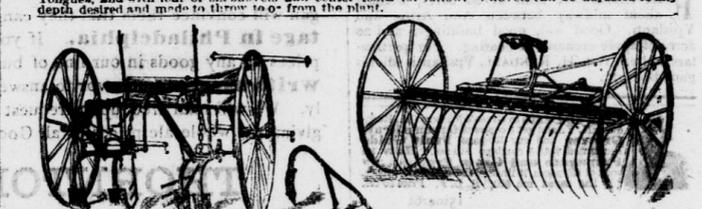
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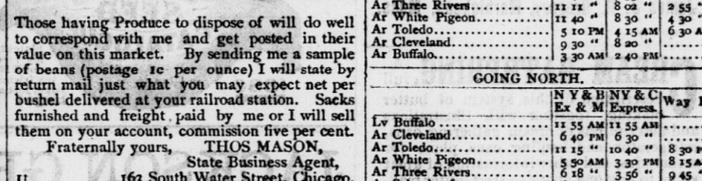
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Allen Durfee, FURNISHING FUNERAL DIRECTOR. No. 103 Ottawa Street, Grand Rapids, Mich. Residence, 193 Jefferson Ave. 15Nov16

Table with columns for WEST, TIME TABLE, EAST. Includes sub-tables for READ DOWN and READ UP. Lists stations like Detroit, St. Ignace, Newberry, Dollarville, Munising, Antrim, Marquette, Negaunee, Ishpeming, Houghton, Calumet.

20 New Style Chromo Hidden Line Cards, 100 Green Authors, 100 Acme Card Factory, Cantonville, Ill. a fit

L. S. & M. S. R. R. KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

Standard time—goth meridian. GOING SOUTH.

Table with columns for Station, N.V. & C. N.Y. & B. Express, Ex. & M., Way Pt. Includes stations like Lv Grand Rapids, Ar Allegan, Ar Kalamazoo, Ar Schoolcraft, Ar Three Rivers, Ar White Pigeon, Ar Toledo, Ar Cleveland, Ar Buffalo.

GOING NORTH. N.V. & C. N.Y. & B. Express, Ex. & M., Way Pt. Includes stations like Lv Buffalo, Ar Cleveland, Ar Toledo, Ar White Pigeon, Ar Three Rivers, Ar Schoolcraft, Ar Kalamazoo, Ar Allegan, Grand Rapids.

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line. Supt. Kalamazoo Division, Kalamazoo.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO. TIME TABLE—MAY 18, 1884. Standard time—goth meridian.

Table with columns for Station, A. M., P. M. Includes stations like Kalamazoo Accommodation leaves, Kalamazoo Express arrives, Pacific Express, Mail, Day Express.

Table with columns for Station, A. M., P. M. Includes stations like Night Express, Kalamazoo Accommodation leaves, Kalamazoo Express arrives, Mail, Day Express, Atlantic Express.

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses daily. Evening Express west and Night Express east daily except Saturdays. All other trains daily except Saturdays. Freight trains carrying passengers out from Kalamazoo at following times:

No. 29 (east) at 5:10 P. M. and No. 20 (west) at 8:10, bring passengers from east at 12:45, P. M.

H. B. LEVY, Gen. Manager, Detroit. J. A. GRIER, General Freight Agent, Chicago. O. W. RUGGLES, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

Detroit, Mackinaw & Marquette R. R. "The Mackinaw Short Line."

Only Direct Route Between the East and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Table with columns for WEST, TIME TABLE, EAST. Includes sub-tables for READ DOWN and READ UP. Lists stations like Detroit, Marquette, Sault Ste. Marie, Ishpeming, Houghton, Calumet.

WANTED AND FOR SALE.

A few of our subscribers have taken the benefit of our offer to do a little free advertising, and we are glad of it.

13 Choice Plymouth Rock chicken eggs, or 11 Pekin Duck eggs sent for \$1.00.

COTSWOLD SHEEP.—Two thoroughbred registered Cotswold Rams for sale cheap.

FOR SALE.—A farm of 80 acres, situated about midway between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

Send 10 Cents to Green's Nursery Co., Rochester, N. Y., and get 3 copies of Green's Fruit and Flower Catalogue.

FOR IRON ROOFING! CINCINNATI CORRUGATING CO. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

\$14 Try One, \$14

A better Harness than you can buy for \$20.

A FLAT STRAP SINGLE HARNESS,

Full Nickel, or Davis Rubber Trimming, Best Oak Stock, for \$14.

FOR 30 DAYS

I will fill all orders received under seal of the Grange, and may be returned if not satisfactory.

A. VANDENBERG, GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.

A 92-LB. CABBAGE!

Mr. E. Leedham of Arroyo Grande, Cal., and J. C. Ward of Plymouth, Me., write me that from my strictly reliable seeds, they raised Marbled Mammoth Cabbages weighing 92 lbs.

CREAM GATHERING. A description of this system of butter making, together with illustrations and descriptions of cream gathering cans, refrigerator and hauling cans, plans for creameries, and other information of great value to any one about to start butter making on the cream gathering system, or desiring to make a change from the present system of dairying, will be sent free upon application to Chas. F. Willard & Co., 280 Michigan Street, Chicago, Ill.

THE LINE SELECTED BY THE U. S. GOV'T TO CARRY THE FAST MAIL.

Burlington Route C.B. & Q.R.R.

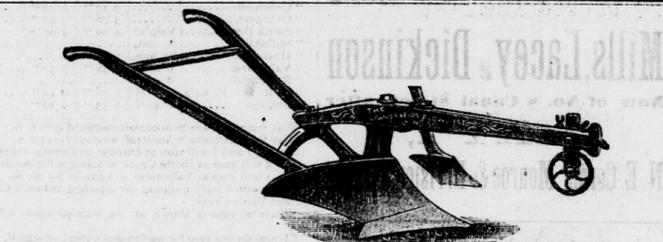
It is the only line with its own track from CHICAGO TO DENVER, either by way of Omaha, Pacific Junction, St. Joseph, Atchison or Kansas City.

THE Patrons' Grocery House.

Under Contract with the Executive Committees of the Pennsylvania and New York State Granges and recognized by the State Granges of Ohio, New Jersey and Delaware to furnish Granges with all kinds of Groceries.

THORNTON BARNES, Wholesale Grocer and Grange Selling Agent, 241 North Water Street, Philadelphia, Penn.

WHITE BRONZE MONUMENTS & STATUARY Are Practically Indestructible. SUPERIOR in Every Respect to Marble or Granite.

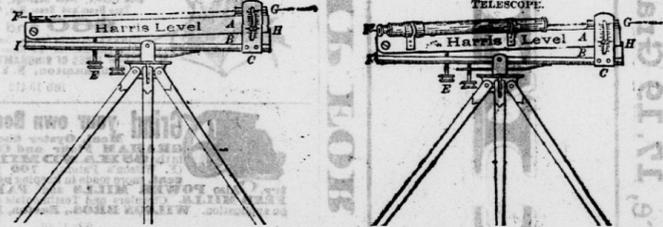


GRAND RAPIDS NO. 50 PLOW. This is our latest Improved Plow. Buy one of these Plows for \$10 full trimmed, with one extra point, of your dealer, and if it does not please you after a trial of one day, you may return it to the dealer and your money will be refunded.

1886 GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE 1886. Believing that if a man has dealt squarely with his fellow-men his patrons are his best advertisers, I invite all to make inquiry of the character of my seeds among over a million of Farmers, Gardeners and Planters who have used them during the past thirty years.

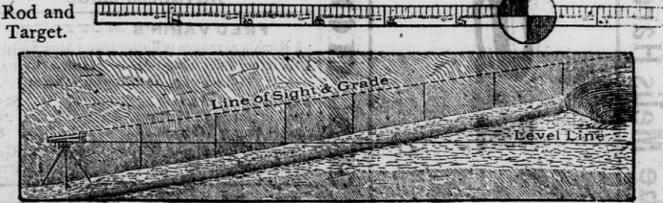
JACKSON GRADE LEVEL. PATENTED SEPT. 16, '84.

For Farmers, Ditchers, Sewer Builders, Plumbers, Contractors, Builders and Everybody wishing to Establish New Grades.



A—Grade Bar. B—The Level. C—Registering Scale. D—Thumb Screw to Level. E—Thumb Screw to Grade Bar. F—Back Sight. G—Globe Sight. H—Pointer on Scale. See Fig. 2.

The Level is made of cherry, nicely trimmed with brass, with brass bearings, center pin, back and front sights, thumb screws, etc. A malleable turned tripod-head, bolts and screws; second growth ash legs; all finished up in a neat and tasty manner.



OUTLET FIG. 2. LEVEL AT WORK.

Do no ditching by GUESS and risk losing tile and labor, but BUY one at the following low price, put up in a neat package to ship by express:

THE LATEST. HUNDREDS NOW IN USE. LIVE AGENTS. THE SIMPLEST. GRADE LEVEL COMPANY WANTED. THE CHEAPEST. JACKSON, MICH. THE BEST. Refer to any Bank or Business House in City. All Over the U. S. C. H. HARRIS, Sup't, North Cooper Street. Cut this "ad." out and keep for reference or hand to some ditcher.



THE WORLD'S BEST! SOLD AT WHOLESALE BY THE GUNN HARDWARE CO., 5 and 7 SOUTH IONIA STREET,

And at RETAIL by W. S. GUNN & SONS, Dealers in Hardware, House Furnishing Goods, Etc., Etc., Etc.

Examine the great bargains offered by us before you buy your Cook and Heating Stoves. We sell a No. 8 "HOME GARLAND" Cook Stove for \$15.00; No. 9 for \$17.00; older patterns 10 per cent. less.

W. S. GUNN & SONS, Grand Rapids, Mich.

CREAMERIES. STODDARD MOSELEY'S Creamery & Refrigerator Cabinet Creamery. THE BEST! MORE'S PYRAMIDAL STRAINER. MOSELEY & STODDARD MFG CO. POUTNEY, VT.



MOSELEY'S OCCIDENT CREAMERY AND REFRIGERATOR. FOR BOTH SUMMER AND WINTER USE! Used with Water and Ice, or with Water only.

No lifting of cans; no skimming of milk; positively no sediment drawn with either cream or milk. Adapted for farm dairies, ranches, families, hotels, restaurants and boarding schools; also for hospitals, asylums, soldiers' homes and similar public institutions.

BUSINESS AGENT MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

THOMAS MASON, General Commission Merchant, 161 South Water St., Chicago, Respectfully Solicits Consignments of

Fruits, Vegetables, Butter, Eggs, Grass Seed, Raw Furs, Hides, Pelts, Tallow, &c.

BONDED AGENT of the N. Y. Produce Exchange Association, Chartered Feb. 13, 1878.

All Orders Receive Proper Attention.

IF YOU WANT TO INVEST IN FARMLANDS AND TOWN LOTS IN THE NORTH-WEST. Maps, Guides, Prices & all Information will be sent FREE on Application to C. E. SIMMONS, Land Co., Chicago, Ill.

PRITCHARD CHURN. CONCUSSION WITHOUT FRICTION. Quantity Increased, Quality Improved. SOLD ON MERIT. ONE CHURN AT WHOLESALE SALES WHERE WE HAVE NO AGENT. Send for Circular. Moseley & Pritchard Mfg. Co. Clinton, Iowa.

FOR SALE.—A desirable farm of 160 acres, in good state of cultivation, with good building, orchard, &c. Situated 7 1/2 miles northeast of Three Rivers, and 1/2 mile west of Parkville. Will be sold cheap. W. A. SCHUCH, Parkville, St. Joseph Co., Mich.

VIRGINIA LAND AGENCY. Cheap Farms. Splendid Climate. Short Mild Winters. Good Markets. Descriptive Land List Free. GRIFFIN & JERVIS, Petersburg, Va.