

# GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOLUME XI—No. 48  
WHOLE NUMBER 248.

COLDWATER, MICH., DECEMBER 15, 1886.

Printed by A. J. ALDRICH & CO.,  
Publishers of the COLDWATER REPUBLICAN.

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## Postal Jottings.

**IOWA.**  
You may remember that last May Algona Grange, No. 1684, organized a sort of civil war, or contest, the Grange dividing into two equal sides, which were under the leadership of chosen captains, 25 credit points being allowed for a song, declamation, essay or select reading, 75 for reinstatement of an old member, 100 for a new member, etc.—the losing side to furnish a dinner for the Grange. Nov. 28 the contest closed, the winning side scoring 5,665 points against the losing side which had 4,445.  
It was decided that the losing side should also buy a barrel of apples with which to treat the Grange. Dec. 4, the day fixed upon for the dinner, was bright, though cold, the thermometer registering 20 degrees below zero. At an early hour the Patrons and their families began to assemble in the Grange hall, where the forenoon was passed very pleasantly in conversation, music, etc. The dinner, which a king might have envied us, was then prepared and eaten. The number present was estimated at about 150. It was not until a late hour that they dispersed to their homes.  
Now we think it would be well for every Grange, not only in Iowa, but in every state in the Union, to try this plan. It is the best tonic yet discovered for sleepy Granges. Since starting this contest we have taken in 18 new members, besides having had much entertainment and amusement, each person trying to do something to help "our side." Try it. G. B. Algona, Iowa, Dec. 5, '86.

[This jotting should have appeared in the last issue but was overlooked.—Ed.]

OUR Grange is in a prosperous condition and is increasing in numbers every meeting. We went to Council Bluffs the 18th inst. to hear Bro. Whitney. He talked for nearly two hours to rather a small house, but wish every farmer in the State of Iowa could have heard that lecture. It was worth going across the State to hear. I wish we had more such workers for the Grange as Bro. Whitney is. He was on his way to Nebraska where he expects to be for about four weeks. He promised to stop here on his way back and deliver a lecture. Such work is what we need if we can only get the people out to listen to them. A. JUDSON, Silver City, Iowa.

**MICHIGAN.**  
WHILE reading Mr. Cortland Hill's strictures upon some words used in my article on political prohibitionists I felt more like thanking him for the frank and kindly spirit in which they were written, than replying to the strictures. The term I used (anarchists) though a strong one, has seemed to me and many others a fit one to apply to those political prohibition leaders who say that their object is to create revolt or confusion in all temperance organizations that do not join in with them and work with them on their plan. But "let us agree to disagree," and let bygones be bygones. V. B.

EDITOR VISITOR—I would like to ask a few questions through the medium of the VISITOR about the Dayton Hedge Company of Ohio. Has it made an assignment to a Mr. Somebody called the Michigan Hedge Company? If so, can the latter enforce a contract with a person who contracted with the former? Or, vice versa, can the person enforce a contract with the Michigan Hedge Co. made by the Dayton? These things kind of puzzle my dim knowledge box.

I presume there are hundreds of miles of hedge set by the Dayton Hedge Company in Michigan alone, and thousands of dollars collected from farmers the first, second and third years after planting. And as it was the fourth year the company agreed to what they call "splash" and wire down, and then have a tight, permanent fence, I for one (if rumors are true) feel mighty "spicious" that there is a niggah on de fence, or under it, or else on de side ob de fence." Is this another eye-opener? WILLIAM L. RHR, Athens, Calhoun Co., Mich.

GILEAD Grange is indeed forlorn at the prospect of losing the hub, as it were, of our Grange wheel. A. R. BONNEY.

In our last VISITOR I notice a call to remonstrate against reissue of patents on spring tooth harrows. Here I think is a chance for the Granges to put in some good work. I suggest that each Subordinate Grange appoint one or more members to canvass each township thoroughly. It should be done in all the states within the next month. Our State Grange can do some good by becoming responsible for actual expenses as allowed by Subordinate Granges. Almost every citizen will sign a remonstrance in this direction if somebody will take the trouble to circulate it. Hoping we will be successful in this work I remain, yours fraternally, Bangor, Mich., Nov. 28. B. B. GROSS.

ENCLOSED please find a P. O. money order for \$10.50 to pay for the VISITOR to each family in our Grange, in pursuance with an action taken at the regular meeting of Madison Grange last night, the money to come from the Grange treasury.  
Would that all Granges would adopt the same rule, that each Patron might have access to the VISITOR and its financial strength be increased. Otherwise those who need it most are least apt to take it. E. W. ALLIS.

A COUNTRY like the United States, embracing an area of 3,000,000 square miles, and with a population of 55,000,000 people, with diversified climate and interests, requires a ruler of rare wisdom and the most exalted talents. But few men in the Republic can be found equal to the task. And yet in this government it is said the people rule! A man who can not write his name can deposit a slip of paper, which he can not read, in the ballot box and be numbered among the rulers of a mighty nation! Bismarck and Gladstone, the two giant statesmen of the world, had to tax their utmost energies to devise rules adapted to the ever-changing wants of a mixed community. And yet in this country we

often choose men to fill high positions who can not rule successfully their own households—men who can not control their own passions and appetites. In the United States there have always been two parties, and this is right, for no Republican government can be maintained any length of time without two parties. Even the Great Master above has never attempted to rule the solar system without using two opposing forces. These two forces are constantly operating against each other, not for the purpose of destroying each other, but to hold each in check so that neither one shall destroy the system. The two forces being equal and exactly balanced, the endless perpetuity of the system is established. So it should be with political parties. They should be as nearly equal in power and numbers as possible, and instead of abusing and trying to destroy each other, they should only strive to hold each other in check and work together to build up the government and make it perpetual. But instead of this, when either party gets into power the first thing they do is to turn out every one who has had anything to do with the former administration, and probably if they could do it would forever prevent their bettering them any more. And no matter what party it is, or what they are made of, let them have full sweep, with none to hold them in check or restrain them, and in a short period they will run the best government on earth into the ground. CLINTON CO. CORTLAND HILL.

RED WILLOW Grange, No. 623, held the third regular meeting last evening and had a pleasant and interesting meeting.

We begin to see the influence of our Order by the applications for membership now coming in, and we bespeak for Red Willow Grange a strong working membership in due time.

We experienced on the 16th of Nov. one of the hardest storms known here since the settlement of this country. The snow came from the north west, driven by a wind that was almost a gale, and it raged from 6 o'clock P. M. on the 15th until 4 o'clock A. M. of the 17th. At that time the canyons and ravines were nearly full of snow, and people living in them had to dig their way out.

The loss of cattle and hogs in this country was quite large, while south and west of us it was very heavy. We have had pleasant days but cold nights since the storm.

I rejoice with Michigan Patrons in the election of Bro. Luce, and I hope that Michigan farmers may realize through him their highest ambition. Dec. 5. L. C. ROOT.

OUR Grange (154) Watson, held its election Saturday and transacted Grange business; besides, we had a very nice picnic dinner in families or groups,—the dishes are easier to pick out that way. Albert Hoffmaster is our future Master; A. J. Lonsbury, Secretary. The best of feeling prevailed. Forty-seven votes cast.

**N. HAMPSHIRE.**  
I ENJOY the reading of the VISITOR very much and heartily congratulate Michigan on the election of Bro. Luce as Governor, and the selection of Lansing as the next place of meeting for the National Grange. I am confident it will be a valuable meeting. With fraternal greetings from New Hampshire Patrons, I am yours cordially, WM. H. STINSON, Master N. H. State Grange.

## Notices of Meetings.

HILLSDALE County Pomona Grange will hold its next session at Fayette Grange hall, Jonesville, January 5, commencing at 10 A. M.

Forenoon session devoted to the business of the Order. Afternoon session to be devoted to the installation of officers, question box, and as much other work for the good of the Order as time will allow. The program will be interspersed with music.

We desire a full attendance of Patrons. J. E. WAGNER, Lec.

THE next meeting of Kent Co. Grange will be held on the 22d inst. at the W. C. T. U. hall, Grand Rapids, east end of Pearl St. Bridge instead of the Supervisors' rooms, as previously mentioned. Election of officers will take place, and other important business. JOHN PRESTON.

THE annual meeting of Newaygo Co. Pomona Grange, No. 11, will be held at the Fremont Grange hall Dec. 28 and 29. In addition to the usual routine of reports of officers and committees and election of officers for the ensuing year, the following reports, essays and topics for discussion will be taken up:

1. Reports from the State Grange.
2. Report of committee on farm implements.
3. The best crop on my farm, and how I raised it. Wm. Hillman and John Barnhard.
4. How strikes affect the farmer. A. Terwilliger.
5. What can our County Grange do toward securing the passage of the bill now pending in Congress, and known as the "Hatch Experimental Station Bill," and what benefits would farming derive from its passage? J. H. Macumber and W. L. Stuart.
6. Select reading. T. Taylor.
7. Has the Grange done all that was promised in the direction of co-operation? If not, why not? James Robertson and T. D. Carlisle.
8. Should the recommendations of the special committee of Sparta Grange upon the question of taxation, as reported in the GRANGE VISITOR of October 15, 1886, (first page, second column), be adopted? J. V. Crandell and S. V. Walker.
9. Has the Grange done all that was promised towards discountenancing the credit system and the mortgage system (see "specific objects" in the Declaration of Purposes)? If not, why not? W. W. Carter and E. R. Clark. M. W. SCOTT, Lec.

THE annual meeting of the Ionia County Grange will be held at City Hall in the city of Ionia on Wednesday, Dec. 22, at 10 A. M.; the election of officers and other important business will come before the meeting. A full attendance of all members is desired, and all Fourth Degree members are cordially invited to be present. W. A. INMAN, Master.

THE next meeting of the Lowell District Council will be held at Vergennes Hall on Saturday, January 8, 1887, at 10 o'clock sharp. Patrons, it is very necessary that you should hear the sound of the gavel at this hour, as at this meeting the election of officers will occur, and our literary program should not be omitted. D. H. ENGLISH, Master.

ALLEGAN County Council will hold its annual session at Allegan Grange Hall, December 21. The program is

1. Opening song by Allegan Grange choir at 10 o'clock A. M.
2. Reading the minutes of last meeting.
3. Report of the standing of the Council by the Secretary, Sister N. A. Dibble.
4. "The Grange and the Knights of Labor," Bro. Myron Squiers, of Plainwell.

After dinner—1. Song by the choir.  
2. Review of the work of the Council for the past year and the outlook for the coming year, by the Lecturer, Sarah Stegeman.

3. Report of the Treasurer, Sister Ellen McAlpine.  
4. Election of officers.  
5. Report of delegates to State Grange.  
6. Suggestions for the good of the Order, by volunteers.

A good attendance is desirable. Come one, come all, that are interested. Dinner will be furnished by Allegan Grange. MRS. N. A. DIBBLE, Sec'y of Council.

## Michigan Crop Report for December 2, 1886.

For this report returns have been received from 672 correspondents, representing 555 townships. Four hundred and fifty-seven of these returns are from 351 townships in the southern four tiers of counties.

The condition of wheat in the southern four tiers of counties is 95, in the northern counties 102, and the average for the State is 97, 100 representing vitality and growth of average years. The condition in the southern counties one year ago was 94, and in the northern counties 96. Damage by fly is reported by 105 correspondents in the southern four tiers of counties, and by only two in the northern counties. As usual the damage is greatest in St. Joseph County. Many of the correspondents in this county state that the crop is "badly injured." The number of correspondents in each county reporting damage by fly is as follows:

Allegan..... 3 Kent..... 3  
Barry..... 7 Leapeer..... 3  
Berrien..... 3 Lenawee..... 9  
Branch..... 3 Livingston..... 3  
Calhoun..... 4 Macomb..... 2  
Cass..... 2 Monroe..... 2  
Clinton..... 6 Oakland..... 2  
Eaton..... 2 Ottawa..... 2  
Genesee..... 3 Shiawassee..... 4  
Hillsdale..... 3 St. Clair..... 1  
Ingham..... 3 St. Joseph..... 10  
Ionia..... 4 Van Buren..... 6  
Jackson..... 9 Washtenaw..... 8  
Kalamazoo..... 2 Wayne..... 1

Total..... 105  
Reports have been received of the quantity of wheat marketed by farmers during the month of November at 258 elevators and mills. Of these 213 are in the southern four tiers of counties, which is fifty per cent, of the whole number of elevators and mills in these counties. The number of bushels reported marketed was 1,411,896, of which 312,777 bushels were marketed in the first or southern tier of counties; 435,948 bushels in the second tier; 266,548 bushels in the third tier; 279,061 bushels in the fourth tier; and 117,562 bushels in the counties north of the southern four tiers. At 35 elevators and mills, or 14 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 reported marketed in August, September, October, and November, is 6,125,754, which is 1,623,116 bushels less than reported marketed during the same months in 1885.

The yield of clover seed in the southern four tiers of counties averages one and 56-hundredths bushels, and in the northern counties two and 13-hundredths bushels per acre. Less than one-half of the correspondents in the northern counties make any report on clover seed, but of these a number report exceptionally large yields. Horses, cattle, sheep and swine are generally reported in "good, healthy, and thrifty condition."

In answer to the question "Was the potato crop injured by rot this year?" 181 correspondents in the southern counties and 90 in the northern answer "Yes," and 220 correspondents in the southern counties, and 112 in the northern answer "No." In the southern counties ten per cent, and in the northern five per cent, of the crop was destroyed.

THE CENTURY for January will contain a brief biography of George Bancroft, the distinguished historian. The article is written by Professor Sloane, editor of the "Princeton Review," and formerly the historian's private secretary. The article is written with the assistance of Mr. Bancroft, and contains, among other things, an account of his career as Secretary of the Navy under President Polk, and an authorized statement of his interviews with Goethe and Byron.

We are in receipt of two copies of new literary ventures, namely, *The Ladies World* and *The American Farmer's Home Journal*. The one is edited by Miss F. E. Fryatt, the other by Dr. Geo. E. Blakelee, formerly editor of the *Ohio Farmer*; both are bright original and practical in their pages, freely illustrated and altogether prepossessing in appearance. We welcome them to our table and fraternity and commend them to our readers.

J. D. Hart, one of our farmers, says he lately saw a machine in Illinois that harvested the corn in the field, tied it into bundles as the wheat binder does the sheaves. This machine, with the new threshing process, will make corn raising much easier and more profitable. V. B.

## Santa Claus in Trouble.

How very much I've wondered,  
And o'er the problem pondered,  
While busy with my toys—  
If I should once grow sick or numb,  
What ever could or would become  
Of all the girls and boys!

Without a Christmas they can't live,  
So Santa Claus must work and give;  
But oh! my labor's ponderous!  
My wares, to gratify and please,  
To give youth joy, and parents ease,  
Must be both good and wondrous.

Rushing flood and wildest panic,  
Which startle banker and mechanic,  
Dare never make me quail;  
For not a girl nor any boys  
Could hold esteem for Santa Claus,  
If once his funds should fail.

But I am growing old, my dears,  
And cares increasing with the years  
That multiply so fast.  
When I was young I took my ease;  
The children few nor hard to please—  
How different was the past!

I'm busy now both day and night,  
I plan and work with all my might  
From one year to another.  
I've journeyed and 'prentice, too,  
A helpful and industrious crew  
Who work like bees together.

I've many shops in every land,  
Where busy head and busy hand  
Fashion toys and fabrics rare;  
I've ships in sail on every sea,  
That bring the precious goods to me,  
Through all weather foul and fair.

On Christmas eve I'd ne'er get through,  
But for the help of an extra crew  
Who work with heart and hand;  
Some on teams with coal and wood,  
Others on foot with baskets of food,  
Hurry along over the land.

They hunt up the needy and starving poor  
Whom I, in my haste from door to door,  
May chance to overlook;  
Making no noise for the world to hear,  
They throw in a smile and word of cheer,  
With here a toy and there a book.

And of such help I need much more—  
A fact I've hinted off before  
In sermon, prayer and book;  
And here announce my need again,  
As I, with worried thought and pain,  
Survey the grim outlook.

Of thousands with no laid-up stores,  
Or cruel fate! as near their doors  
The wolf of hunger draws.  
Then help me, all ye wise and good,  
And endless, boundless gratitude  
Is yours, from Santa Claus.

—Mary Wiley.

## Threshing Corn Again.

GALESBURG, Dec. 3, 1886.  
FRIEND J. T. COBB:—Since writing you some two weeks ago on this subject, I have talked with some more of our prominent farmers who have tried the new experiment.

Thaddeus Clapp states that he has threshed some 500 bushels of his corn by the new process and is pleased with the result. Of course, the corn stalks are very dry this season, and there will be no trouble about their keeping. The corn, he thinks, is cut considerable and it might injure it for public sale, but not for feeding, and this is what it is mostly used for by the farmer or those who buy it. In regard to the corn keeping, that is yet to be determined. In small quantities there would be no danger. Farmers can thresh as they want to use the feed. As regards "the indigestible part" that Mr. Spaulding refers to, Mr. Clapp says sheep and cattle will only eat what they like of the stalks thus threshed, and they surely will eat more than they do of the corn stalks fed the old way. The threshers say they would as soon thresh corn as wheat. They say it is not as dusty work.

Wm. A. Blake, one of our large farmers, is also pleased with the new way of utilizing the corn crop. He confirms substantially what you said in your editorial in the VISITOR of December 1. He has threshed 600 bushels of shelled corn and is so much pleased with the result that he intends threshing the remainder of his entire corn crop, some 1000 bushels. Thus you see that our farmers are decidedly in favor of this new way of disposing of the corn crop. Mr. Blake says the teeth in the concave can be partly taken out so that the corn will be cut but little. He thinks this a cheap, quick and safe way of utilizing the corn crop after it is put in the shock; it will save the farmer a great deal of labor and expense.

J. D. Hart, one of our farmers, says he lately saw a machine in Illinois that harvested the corn in the field, tied it into bundles as the wheat binder does the sheaves. This machine, with the new threshing process, will make corn raising much easier and more profitable. V. B.

SCRIBE FOR THE GRANGE VISITOR.

## Communications.

### "Whom the Gods would Destroy they first Make Mad."

J. B. Alexander in Nov. 15th VISITOR says among other things: "It is a deep and damnable design that everything a farmer sells is on the free list and there is a high protective tariff on everything we buy, almost." He then says, "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Drink deep or taste not," etc. Let us see now if he has not learned just enough of the present tariff law to make the use of his knowledge of it one of the most dangerous weapons against his side of the question that he could possibly find. As to every thing a farmer sells being on the free list, I find by referring to the list as revised by Congress March 3, 1883, (and if there has been any material change made since that date I stand corrected) that there is a duty or protective tariff on the following articles that I have always supposed were mostly raised and sold by farmers: Animals, that is cattle, horses, hogs, sheep, mules and goats; beef, pork, hams, bacon, cheese, butter, lard, wheat, rye, barley, corn, oats, corn meal, wheat and rye flour, potatoes, hay, honey, beeswax, hops, pickles, vegetables, vinegar, fruits, currants, walnuts of all kinds, wood, wool, flax, rags, flaxseed, hemp, hempsed, woolen yarn, baskets, feathers, fur, grease, tallow, hats, human hair, garden seeds, stone and all barks, beans, berries, balsams, buds, gums, grains, herbs, leaves, mosses, roots and vegetables used in dying, and many other things that farmers have to sell at times. He also says that poultry and eggs are on the free list; that Canada furnishes one-third of all that is used in the great city of New York; that buyers are paying but four cents per pound for poultry. Correct, Brother. By permitting the people of other countries to bring these things to us free of duty they destroy our home markets and bring prices down to such a low figure that we can not compete with them, unless we are willing to work for the starvation prices of those countries. We can not sell poultry at four cents per pound and pay the present prices for labor. We must stop the business. Why? Because it is not protected. He has advanced a very practical argument in favor of protection, which he evidently did by mistake. Now, do the same thing with the articles named above and the result in the near future will be the same. Our markets will be filled with the products of the pauper labor of the Old World and Canada, and the laboring class of this country will soon be as poorly paid, fed and clothed as they are. Don't be so selfish as to complain because there is no duty on the poultry and eggs you have to sell while ninety-nine one-hundredths of everything else you have to sell is protected, and then scold so because lumber is protected \$2.00 per thousand feet. I say protect every American industry. Protect emigration from all foreign nations for the next thirty years, and allow none but citizens to own and convey real estate, and long before that time has passed anarchists and saloonists will be unknown, the poor will become rich, and intelligent men will not complain because others enjoy the same blessings they do themselves.

Bro. Hill seems to have been badly broken up by the cyclone that passed over him Nov. 2 as Don Quixote was when he made his famous charge on the windmills. If his statements are true he must live in a mighty mean part of the country. We don't run a campaign in that way in Ingham County. He says such vast sums of money were used in deceiving the people that no one could honestly tell how to vote: that it is an established fact that county candidates for office stand no chance of success without paying three or four hundred dollars into the corruption fund, and on the higher officers of the State runs up into the thousands; that in this age of wickedness no man that will tell the truth is allowed to stump the State; men openly offer large sums of money to bribe men for their votes; there is so much corruption in politics that no man can enjoy religion and have anything to do with it; it has been such a wicked campaign.

Now, what does this all mean? Bro. Luce has, in his former communications, been his ideal of an upright and pure man, and had he been placed in the high position he now occupies by the Democratic party he would still have a friend in the person of Bro. Hill.

This tirade against Bro. Luce would never have been written if the great friend of the traitor, Fitz John Porter, and the enemy of my old commander had been elected. The man who would not consent when in Congress that U. S. Grant, America's greatest general, should have a few dollars of the people's money to comfort him while dying in poverty and want. Yes; I think our high expectations as Republicans will be realized. The first Republican Governor of Michigan was a farmer and he filled the executive office to the satisfaction of all Republicans. The Republican party nominated and elected Mr. Luce and they expect to stand by him through one of the best administrations that Michigan has ever had. The Patrons of Michigan will laugh at the attempt of Bro. Hill to read him out of the Grange. We don't expect his administration will always please the men

that are so very frantic over prohibition and at the same time always vote the Bourbon ticket which is the only party that is pledged against prohibition and to the whiskey interests.

We do not expect to see his signature to every bill that passes the Legislature that makes it harder and more degrading for men to sell whiskey. That makes it easier for laboring men to live and educate their children; that tends to elevate the people of this commonwealth, and make them happier, better fed and better clothed. We have no other way of judging the future of Bro. Luce except by the past. In the past we have found him honest, temperate, a friend of education, of good laws, and loyal to his country. We have found him as a laborer diligent, as a cultivator faithful, as a man honest and upright, which recommendations are sufficient to assure him favor. O. R. E.

In the VISITOR'S notices of meetings of November 15, is a program containing among others, this question for discussion by a Grange: "What is the cause of the present low prices of farmers' products?"

I answer, supply and demand govern all prices of all production. Should the demand be greater than the supply, prices go up; and vice versa. This is, I think, the true solution of the rise and fall of prices.

But under this lies a cause controlling the demand. Never has there been a time when every ounce of grain, fruit, and vegetables grown in the United States, could not easily be consumed in our own country. There have been, it is true, many millions of bushels of wheat shipped to Europe during the past ten years; and at the same time there were hundreds of thousands of people actually compelled to do without sufficient food, from inability to buy, who otherwise would have made a better market for the wheat here at home and saved the large cost of transportation.

These people are all around us, but mostly in the larger cities. They are compelled to economize in every possible way, even including sufficient food to keep fairly alive. Many do actually starve; in sight of millions of bushels of the wheat that is made the subject of wild speculation by the wolves of the Boards of Trade, as in Chicago. These people can not buy your wheat, your vegetables, your fruit; consequently the demand is slow and prices are down. The debts you contracted in improving your farms years ago, when money was cheap, are crushing you now that money has been made dear by the Solons of the two grand old parties you have supported and always will support. Hard times for you means harder times among the consumers who make and unmake the prices of your products. The tariff, or lack of it, on wool that concerns you so, would not affect the price either way if the two millions of idle men and their families in the country to-day were able to buy clothing enough to keep decently warm; the market they would create for your wool would soon lift many a mortgage now driving their bearers into bankruptcy, soon to transfer their farms into the hands of a few money-lenders, who are responsible for the hard times, and making this country one of a landed aristocracy and tenant farmers.

After all, low prices are the result of your own blind adherence to party, my farmer friends. You have it in your power to raise them, if you will; but you will not. KNIGHT.

Branch Co., Mich.

### A Rejoinder—"Less Hours for the Farmer."

TANGERINE, ORANGE CO. FLA., }  
Dec. 6, 1886. }

J. T. COBB, ESQ., EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR, Dear Sir and Brother:—I have just received two marked copies of the VISITOR, dated October 15 and November 1, and it seems like again taking an old friend by the hand. It is many years since I have been permitted to take an active part in Grange work and I assure you it gives me sincere pleasure to be remembered by one who was a co-worker and helped bear the burden and heat of the day when the Order was young. How few of the old familiar names now appear in the records of passing events! Some have joined the great majority, others yielded the sceptre to younger hands and sought a well earned rest for advanced age, while others still are paucifying what they preached and are teaching by example.

The old war horse cannot keep still when he hears the trumpet call, so we veteran Patrons are sometimes roused from our quiet by the discussions of vital questions affecting our calling. When I wrote the article for the *Husbandman* on "Less Hours Work for Farmers," and which received the high compliment of being republished in the VISITOR, I knew very well what objections would be made to the position taken. I have heard them all, times without number. I have advocated and practised the ten-hour system ever since I have tilled the soil on my own account, and these same old objections come up regularly and usually are made by farmers. In my article I indicated what they would be, and now Mr. Stoddard sends a letter to the VISITOR, corroborating the correctness of my predictions and statements. He says that

hay cocks weigh 150 lbs. each. Exactly! In my article I said that to a 14-hour man the hay cocks looked awful large and awful heavy, and Mr. Stoddard kindly verifies my statement. I have no doubt his hay cocks do actually look to him as though they weigh 150 lbs. Now, my hay cocks never seemed to me to be so large or so heavy as that. My ten-hour men never said they were so heavy and it is my opinion they actually were much lighter. Mr. Stoddard does not intimate they are too heavy for his men, but he has a great lack of confidence in Michigan forks to lift such heavy looking cocks. I think this lack of confidence well founded, for my ten-hour men through an exuberance of animal spirits (and perhaps a little awkwardness) do sometimes snap a fork handle on much lighter lifts.

Then I said "Farmers would hug their chains and say as a clincher, 'How about the chores?'" Here, again, Mr. Stoddard comes forward and verifies this prediction and grinds over again the same old "chores" argument that I have heard for more than thirty years. He asks a long string of questions about when to milk the cows, wash the dishes, feed the team and do many other very necessary duties. In asking these questions it is plain to see that he imagines he is questioning a man who is advocating a "very beautiful theory" (as he expresses it) and he expects by these practical questions to corner the theorist. I beg to disabuse his mind of any such mistaken idea. What I wrote was not only good theory, but the results in actual practice of a rather busy and not wholly unsuccessful lifetime. I do not claim unusual shrewdness, but I can find a way to do the work on a farm in ten hours per day. I have done it thirty-three years and am doing it now. I believe if Mr. Stoddard would give himself an vigorous shake and throw off the chains of old habits, he could find a way to do it too. Possibly it may put him on the right track in the chore business to say that it does not necessarily follow that one who works ten hours a day must begin at seven and quit at six. Circumstances may be such that in some branches of farming the hours of commencing and closing the day's work can be changed to advantage.

Mr. Stoddard makes one remark in parenthesis that leads me to offer him my tenderest sympathies. Referring to what I said about playing croquet with the girls while the boys went fishing, he says: "I think they would much prefer to play with the boys."

I suppose Mr. Stoddard has not come to this conclusion without good reason, and I am sincerely sorry that his experience in playing croquet with the girls has compelled him to come to such a conclusion. If there is anything in the climate of Michigan that brings about such a sad state of affairs for the "old gent," I would advise him to visit this climate where

"Everlasting spring abides  
And never fading flowers."

Here will be found the fountain of perpetual youth and here the "old gents" play croquet with the girls.

Fraternally yours,  
DUDLEY M. ADAMS.

### From My Diary.

#### AN IMPORTANT QUESTION CONSIDERED.

In our last article we gave as one reason why so few young men, in comparison with young ladies, graduate from our public high schools, the worship of the self-made man. Let us now notice another fact, one not generally known, and where known, often stoutly denied. It is this, that the course of study, the methods of teaching and the mode of training in the higher grades of the intermediate school, as well as in the high school, are designed for and shaped according to the needs and wants of the girls and not the boys. While I readily grant that it is our solemn duty to give to the girls the same amount of education that we give to the boys, yet I claim most emphatically (fully aware of the opposition which I shall call forth by this statement) that the two sexes from twelve years upward, need a different method of acquiring that education, or in other words need a different training. I cannot go into details, but would like to. The point is here. In schools of this kind the girls largely predominate and are generally under the instruction of a female teacher. Hence the school regime, the entire methods of procedure are in conformity to the peculiar combination of faculties in the girls and the boys must needs keep step with them, willing or unwilling. The strong desire for exertion and application of the boy's powers is thus often held in check or suppressed and he is made to progress as the girls do. He sits side by side with them; they are held up to him as examples, whose frailty he, in his physically robust nature, despises. Moreover, he in many cases, has not even a male example in his teacher, and if he is a weak character he becomes effeminate; if he is a strong character, he is soon filled with disgust and quits school to find a better opportunity for the exertion of those powers which find no satisfaction in a girls' school. He wants a boy's field to make a boy's race in, with no school-girl regime to contract his powers. He wants a field in which he can give full swing to his ambitions, one that does not obstruct his progress but that courageously opens

up before him the boy's full possibilities. Surely the boy does not find all this in a girl's school. Says one of our able educators, who takes this view of a boy's education, and whose writings have suggested these articles, "I know this will be considered rank heresy among many educational leaders in this country; but it is my conviction, and I have the courage to utter it."

We have given this phase of the question a more extended notice because we think it will pay all those who are interested in boys' education to give it a thorough investigation.

Permit me to add another reason why boys, and for that matter girls too, dislike school, dread their lessons and look upon the school-room as a little penitentiary. It is because there never has been awakened in their minds an interest in study and school work. And for this parents and teachers are largely to blame. The teacher must have the faculty to interest and entertain as well as to instruct his pupils, if he would make study a pleasant task for them. Many teachers have all the talents for their vocation but this most desirable one of them all. The schoolboy has given his reason for this general dislike of study in the following lines:

"Multiplication is vexation,  
Division is as bad,  
The rule of three puzzles me,  
And fractions make me mad."

One is sometimes tempted to think, says Lowell, that all learning is as repulsive to ingenious youth as the multiplication table was to Scott's little friend, Marjorie Fleming. "I am now going to tell you," writes Marjorie, "the horrible and wretched plague that my multiplication table gives me. You can't conceive it; the most devilish thing is eight times eight and seven times seven; it is what nature itself can't endure." Now, this trouble with and dread of "lessons" in the school-room is due in great part to unnatural, mechanical methods of teaching. Says Mr. Lowell on this subject, "I know that I am approaching treacherous ashes, which cover burning coals, but I must on." Is not Greek, nay, even Latin, more unendurable even than poor Marjorie's task? How many boys have not sympathized with Heine in hating the Romans because they invented Latin grammar? Or what boy has not sympathized with the young student who, desponding over his Sophocles, threw the book across his room, exclaiming, "Curse the Greeks!" And the action or disgust of these students was quite right, "for we begin the study of the languages at the wrong end, at the end which nature does not offer us, and are thoroughly tired of them before we arrive at them, if you will allow the bull." Surely, this should teach us to study them the right way, for there is a right way, a way in which a teacher can make any study interesting to the pupil; and when the teacher has found that way, he has found the open sesame through all the sore trials and difficulties that hedge in the young student in his educational career. Dogberry was right there, when he said, "Reading and writing come by nature." Nature is the only true teacher, and her way is the right way.

The object in teaching the classic authors should be to teach them in such a way as to enable the pupil to assimilate somewhat of their thought, sentiment, and style, rather than to master the minuter niceties of the language in which they wrote. To strike for their matter, as Montaigne advised, who would have men taught to love virtue instead of learning how to decline *virtus*. Such learning makes "language as it should be, a ladder to literature, and not literature a ladder to language. How many a boy has hated, and rightly hated, Homer and Horace, the pedagogues and grammarians, who would have loved Homer and Horace, the poets, had he been allowed to make their acquaintance."

### Reminiscences of Early Days in Michigan.

In the VISITOR of November 15 was a brief jotting, bringing words of cheer for our paper from an early resident of Kalamazoo County, now an aged Californian. That jotting and the remarks it drew from Brother Cobb in regard to the "Big Harvester" of thirty years ago, reminded us of events prior to that date. In 1836-7 and 8, we worked in harvest near Schoolcraft. We worked for Messrs. Lyon, McKinstry, Beals and on the Daniels farm. During the harvest of one of these years and on the Daniels farm, in a 95-acre field of wheat, and under the supervision of our old friend A. Y. Moore (if we remember correctly) there was running a combined harvester and thresher, similar to, if not of the same construction, as the one referred to by Brother Cobb. We think the machine was built at Kalamazoo, and probably was the first of the kind ever constructed. How many years it run or with what profit or loss, we are unable to say. After our little harvest at Paw Paw was gathered, several of us would take up our tools "and walk" to the prairie and help in the harvest and earn a little of the needful to help replenish our meager store. We were paid \$1.50 per day, not for eight or ten hours work, but for twelve to fifteen. After the harvest was over, we rode back home in like manner as we went. But that was fifty years ago, long before our labor-saving machinery made its advent

in our harvest fields. Wonderful, indeed, has been the improvement in farm implements and machinery since that early day. Our harvests, which were formerly so very laborious, perplexing and expensive, have become a pleasant pastime. We presume few yet remain who worked in the harvests around Schoolcraft in those early days. Hope we shall hear more from our old friend in California. D. WOODMAN.  
Paw Paw.

KELLOGG, ALLEGAN CO., MICH., }  
Nov. 19, 1886. }

BRO. COBB.—I had always supposed that the GRANGE VISITOR to be a success was and should be non-partisan, but to state a question and discuss it, on its merits, ought not to be considered partisan perhaps, but after election is over to triumph over the election of Governor and a gain of two Congressmen looks to me to be intensely partisan. When Cornwallis surrendered to the combined continental forces General Washington forbade his men to hurrah over a fallen foe, they would feel bad enough without it; but if the British had succeeded there would have been some whooping. The right side whipped, hence the gentlemanly conduct; in this instance we have hurraing enough, any one can draw their own conclusion.

What would a complete Republican victory signify? When they did have a decided majority they demonetized silver they passed a law to retire all the treasury notes, which meant a perpetual national debt. They imposed a high protective tariff on everything a farmer buys except tea, coffee, and spices, they are a common necessity to all. They condescended to give the farmer the benefit of free trade on every thing he sells, Canada furnishing 20,000 barrels of eggs and a corresponding amount of poultry to New York free of duty. If the people could be allowed to settle all these questions without party trammel they would be settled right, but party discipline holds the people in an iron grasp.

How easy it is for averice and old Shylock to crucify the farmers and common laborers between the two old party thieves.

Just imagine the next Governor's message to the Legislature of Michigan to read somewhat as follows:

I hereby recommend that the Legislature of Michigan enact that any officer elected or appointed, including Congressmen, who accepts and rides on a free pass in this State, or accepts of a bribe in any other shape, that his office shall be declared vacant, and the person so offending to be disqualified from ever holding an office in this State. That the railroads being chartered by the people and for the common good shall have uniform rates for all. To grant special rates to some and exact higher rates from others is in violation of the statutes of Michigan, and if persisted in their charters should be withdrawn and the State run the roads on the principle of equity. (See the statutes in regard to common carrier.) That the school-book monopoly shall be practically done away with by the Superintendent of Public Instruction formulating a set of primary school books and let the job of printing and binding to the lowest bidder, and furnish them to the people of each district at the original cost; it being intrinsically wrong for a monopoly to stand between the people and the means of education. And I further commit to your candid consideration that it is a breach of constitutional law to levy a public tax for private purposes; therefore township aid to railroads slows that it was for a public purpose. The right of eminent domain, as is sometimes claimed for the railroads, is a fallacy. The Legislature has power to regulate freight and passenger rates at their discretion.

Every good or bad man should stand by any Governor who will leave the old ruts and make an effort to do something for the people.

In a letter of mine published in the VISITOR of Nov. 15 there are several errors, if the copy I have at home is any good, which seems inexcusable.

- 1st. My post-office is withheld.
- 2d. I am made to say "Brother Solon" when there is no such brother. It should have been Bro. D., of Solon.
- 3d. I am made to say "75,000 foreigners emigrate to this country some years and go right to competing with American labor," when the fact is 750,000 foreigners come to this country some years (350,000 the year just closed) free of duty, and go right to competing with American labor.
- 4th. My name is signed B. J. instead of as it should be. J. B. ALEXANDER.

DR. LOUIS C. STARKEL, who has been appointed analytical chemist in the Internal Revenue Bureau to test oleomargarine and butter, was, in 1880, the Democratic candidate for Auditor of Illinois. He will be stationed in Washington. The salary is \$2,550.

The first half of George W. Cable's two-part story, "Caracro," a story of the Louisiana Acadians, will appear in the January Century, with illustrations by Kemble, who recently visited Louisiana to obtain sketches for the work.

CLAREMONT Colony in Virginia is growing very rapidly. Send for free circulars and illustrated maps. J. F. MANCHA, Claremont, Va.

Carp Ponds—How they may be Constructed.

The cultivation of carp is of sufficient importance to fully warrant the construction of ponds for the purpose. But there already exist, on many farms, ponds used for the collection of ice and for watering live stock, which could be converted into carp ponds at a nominal cost.

Never build a pond where a large stream of water flows through it, because it is liable to break your dam and wash all the spawn and small fish away, when there is a great amount of rainfall. Build beside such a stream and let the water in at the upper end of the pond, through a tile with netting over it so other kinds of fish can not get in with the carp or they will mix and be valueless in a little while.

Road Making in Michigan. The country roads in Michigan have in many sections made a good deal of improvement the past 15 or 20 years, as may be pointed out on highways within the observation of those acquainted with the state of travel in almost any neighborhood for that length of time.

Good roads cost something, but they cost a good deal less than poor ones. They save time, which is the same thing as money in any well-managed occupation. They save in the wear and tear of running gear, both for freight loads and family conveyances.

The present law contains many excellent provisions, more than are generally lived up to. One serious lack, however, is the absence of any means to work to a common purpose in a district larger than the jurisdiction of each highway commissioner, namely, his own township.

It would probably add to the economy and good result of road building if the Highway Commissioners were required, every year, or on certain years, to meet at the county seat after their election and decide on the work to be done for the roads most serviceable for the whole county, or in passing from one point to another.

Work and Habits.

If the Knights of Labor can infuse in the mass of the organization the same ideas of personal habits as are voluntarily acted on by the managers, they will do much to improve the status of working-

men, whether laborers or mechanics. There has already been much improvement in this respect, the change being attributable to more intelligent estimates of the value of good habits than those that prevailed a generation ago. It was considered not unusual for a first class workman to have his periodical spree, and to be a free liver in the coarser meaning of the term.

But the employers tire of these practices, and the dissipated workman can not so readily presume on his skill as an excuse for his bad habits. The old notion of the union of drunkenness and duty, of immorality and ability, or high pay and low habits, is exploded. One of the most competent and efficient foundry foremen the writer ever knew lost his place in an establishment where he managed nearly fifty men, and his caste in the community, by his persistent habit of intemperate drinking.

It may be a necessity that employs unreliable skill and presumptive talent, but employers will apply a remedy as soon as they can. The workman may be certain that personal good character and personal good habits are compatible with steadiness in work and skill in handling tools. There is no proper show of independence in working five days and loafing two days, because the man is a first class mechanic and can assume on that fact and the forbearance of his employer.

Thoreau's Home.

I visited Walden Pond a few days since. You know, Thoreau lived there alone in a house he built for himself a whole mile from the nearest neighbor, and in his house he did the cooking. This was a wonderful thing for a man to do in New England, but a very common occurrence west of the Rocky Mountains, where thousands of lone men have lived twenty miles from the nearest neighbor, year in and year out.

He was a genuine lover of nature. The mistake he made was in not going to California in '49, putting up a cabin on the north fork of the Stanislaus, high up in the mountains, where there is from twelve to twenty feet of snow from December to April. No neighbor on either side for thirty miles, and no way out to the settlement save on snow shoes. Then he and his friends would have had something to brag about. Any old California miner would have counted Thoreau's as a "right lively" location.

From Walden pond the solitude of Thoreau's time has departed. It is now a picnic ground—a place subject to excursions of the city Apaches, male and female from Boston—a revel of swings, boats, peanuts, ice cream and ginger beer, while the well trodden woods echo with the best-like cries and yells of these city savages, who are really very dangerous when half full of beer and armed with the dollar revolvers and full set of cartridges to be bought at the cheap hardware and notion stores, and unsafe when fired, both to the man in front and behind the weapon.—Max Elton.

STEEL PIPE MAKING IN GERMANY.—It is reported by the Berlin Eisen-Zeitung that the new process for making steel pipe employed at Burbach is very successful. A syndicate has been formed to build works at Burbach, the capital being 1,200,000 marks, of which 500,000 marks are issued to the patentee, A. Mannesmann, of Remscheid. It is stated that Funke & Ebers, of Hagar, Germany, have also purchased patent rights, and a large firm in Paris propose to apply the method to the manufacture of copper tubing. As to the process: As soon as the steel is cast into the round mold, a core is thrust into the steel so that a tube is formed between it and the walls of the mold. In order to prevent the cracking of this annular casting during cooling, the core is so made that it follows up the shrinkage of the steel. The steel cup thus obtained may then be rolled in an ordinary train.

A Deluge of Russian Petroleum.

With his customary promptness, on the announcement of any new feature of importance in the development of the Russian petroleum fields, Mr. Charles Marvin has written another pamphlet on the subject conveyed by the above title. The author thinks that the Russian oil will completely oust the American product from the markets of the old world. The wells around Baku do not need to be bored more than one-fourth or so as deep as the Pennsylvania wells, and the yield of the former is incomparably greater than that of the latter.

"In America," says the author, "it is common to bore 2,000 feet for oil, and some wells have a depth of 5,000 feet; at Baku a well 700 or 800 feet is considered a deep one, and last year the average depth of all the wells was only 462 feet." Three years ago it was reported that one of the Baku wells was spouting daily about 3,400 tons of petroleum, or more than the aggregate output of all the 25,000 American wells. When this report reached England it was scarcely believed, and those who did credit it thought that such an enormous production was purely exceptional and likely to be of short duration. Since then, however, many notable wells have been bored, many of them yielding large quantities of oil.

On the eighth day the maximum production was reached; on the tenth day it began to diminish, and by the fifteenth day the engineers had it so far under control that the outflow was only 60,000 poods, or about 250,000 gallons daily. Altogether about 10,000,000 gallons of oil were ejected, and most of it was lost for want of storage. This, it should be remembered, is only one well. There are many others in the Baku district which have been wonderfully productive. Three of the Nobel wells have yielded 143,000,000 gallons of oil. Many of the wells are kept closed at present, in order to reserve the oil until it becomes more valuable. With the present copious supply the price has been two coopeks a pood, or eight gallons for a penny, at Baku for some time past. Even these figures are now distanced, contracts having been made last month to supply crude petroleum throughout the whole of 1887 at one coopek a pood, or one farthing per four gallons. In the meantime, with the raw material at these prices, "English consumers," says Mr. Marvin, "pay from 8d. to 1s. per gallon for the oil they burn in their lamps." The quality of the Russian oil is said to be likely to be maintained, the Russian Government having established a standard up to which all lighting oils must come before they are allowed to be classified. The enormous quantity of oil available at Baku renders it useful for a great variety of purposes, and there are those who firmly believe that at no distant date the residuals will be universally employed for heating purposes, particularly on board ship and for locomotive engines. To facilitate the shipment of the Russian oil, tank steamers are being freely used and a pipe line 600 miles long is projected to be laid from Baku to Batoum or Poti. The author of the pamphlet naturally urges that British manufacturers should lose no time in securing a lead in furnishing pipe for the new Russian pipe line, tank steamers in which to transport it, and that the lamp and oil stove traffic should not be forgotten.

A GREAT SEA ON FIRE.—The shores of the Caspian abound in naphtha springs extending for miles under the sea, the imprisoned gases of this volatile substance often escaping from fissures in its bed and bubbling up in large volumes to the surface. The circumstance has given rise to the practice of "setting the sea on fire" which is thus described by a modern traveler:

Hiring a steam barge, we put out to sea, and, after a lengthy search, found at last a suitable spot. Our boat having moved round to windward, a sailor threw a bundle of burning flax into the sea where floods of light dispelled the surrounding darkness. No fireworks, no illuminations, are to be compared to the sight that presented itself to our gaze. It was as though the sea trembled convulsively amid thousands of shooting, dancing tongues of flame of prodigious size. Now they emerged from the water, now they disappeared. At one time they soared aloft and melted away at another a gust of wind divided them into bright streaks of flame, the foaming, bubbling billows making music to the scene.

In compliance with the wishes of some of the spectators our barge was steered toward the flames, and passed right through the midst of them, a somewhat dangerous experiment, as the barge was employed in the transport of naphtha, and was pretty well saturated with the fluid. However, we escaped without accident, and grazed for an hour longer on the unwanted spectacle of a sea on fire.

A TOWER ONE-THIRD OF A MILE HIGH.—A dispute has arisen as to the height of the iron tower which is to be the feature of the Paris Exposition of 1886. It was originally proposed to run it up 1500 feet, but it is objected that it would dwarf every other structure in Paris. A test is to be made by sending up a captive balloon to the proposed height and suspending therefrom four cables, which will represent the four edges of the tower, flags being affixed to mark the positions of the several stories. All the estimates for the construction have just been completed. The cost is to amount to 7,500,000 francs, the state contributing 1,600,000 francs and the contractors furnishing the remaining 6,000,000 francs, in return for which they are to have the revenues derived from the tower the next 20 years.

The Value of Acorns as Food for Hogs.

It is generally understood by farmers that an oak grove affords an excellent pasture for hogs during the autumn months after the acorns begin to fall.

But just what their value is compared to other foods, and whether all kinds of acorns have a like value, is not so generally known.

The following is the result of an analysis made recently by myself at the chemical laboratory of the Michigan Agricultural College.

The result of analyses of oats, barley, potatoes, peas, wheat middlings and corn was taken from the excellent work of E. W. Stewart on the "Feeding of Animals":

Table with 2 columns: KIND OF FOOD, and values for Water, Ash, Albuminoids, Fibre, Other Carbo-Hydrates, Fat, and Food value of 100 lbs. of substance. Rows include Oats, Barley, Potatoes, Peas, Wheat Middlings, Corn, Red Oak Acorns, and White Oak Acorns.

This analysis shows that red oak acorns have nearly double the value of white oak acorns.

It was suggested to me that hogs would not eat red oak acorns, but this is not true as the red oak acorns were taken from under a tree where a hog was making a bountiful repast on the oily acorns. Unfortunately the red oak is not abundant in Michigan.

An attempt was made to secure some black oak acorns for analysis, but none could be found which were not wormy.

About 1-5th of the red oak acorns were wormy and about 1-10th of the white oak.

In the analysis the acorns were taken after they had lain on the ground some time but before they had started to sprout and hence might be called partly dried.

The shells were also removed before the analysis was made.

In the case of the white oak the shell constituted about 1/4 of the entire weight of the acorn and in the red oak a little over 1/3.

W. L. SNYDER, Analyst.

Make an Effort for Sheep. THE BEST FOOD.

There is an inconsistency with farmers about sheep husbandry. Many owners of sheep will find fault with the manufacturers of wool because they want to get wool as cheap as possible, and condemn them for lack of patriotism and liberal feeling, and at the same time do nothing themselves to help on the cause or to sustain the very business in which they are engaged. Does this come from shortsightedness, or from prejudice, or a willful ignorance? Let us see. Sheep owners ought to know that demand increases sales, that the more wool is worn, the more of the same material will be required to fill its place, or in other words, consumption makes a market. With this understanding of the case, they should use woollen goods as far as possible. This is only part of what they may do. They can eat mutton. The meat part of the sheep is an important factor in the business and of more consequence than the fleece, and yet farmers as a class, and even sheep owners, eat very little mutton. They say they don't like it. A great many of them don't really know how it does taste. There is more prejudice in this kind of talk than sense. Mutton is the most healthful of all meats. Why? Because it is the easiest digested. This is reason enough, but it is not all. It is the purest, cleanest, and freest from disease. Sheep are the daintiest of all animals. They die before they will eat or drink foul things. They do not have the lingering and blood-poisoning diseases cattle and hogs may have. When sick, they get well speedily or die. Their flesh will keep the longest in hot weather without getting putrid. It is as nutritious as beef or pork. The sick can eat it first.

Mutton can be cooked in all possible ways and be turned to the best account. It is especially a hot-weather meat, and just as good in cold weather. It is cheaper than beef. It must be ignorance of all business principles and of the foundation of success in his calling, which will prompt a farmer to buy Texas beef, knocked about for 2,000 miles, and to pay for all this handling, when upon his hill he might and should have a fat lamb or sheep, which has not cost him more than one-third he pays for the so-called beef. The way to do it is to have good mutton. This is easily obtained by crossing a ram of any of the mutton

breeds on any sheep and feeding them well. The more of the mutton blood there is, the better the meat.

Every farmer should buy this summer a small flock of sheep, and fix up a lot for them and let them run in it, drawing from the flock a fat lamb or sheep as he may want. This meat will not cost more than three or four cents a pound, and in no way can a farmer better supply his family with wholesome meat. A general effort of this kind would lift sheep husbandry out of its depressed state, and start the smile of prosperity in many homes. Maybe the manufacturers might warm up and lend a helping hand, so that our country will not be a mere dependency on Africa, Australia, and South America for clothes.

We say, make every possible effort, one and all, to keep the sheep, and be an independent people as far as we can.—Exchange.

MANNERS FOR BOYS.—In the street.—Hat lifted when saying "good-bye," or "How do you do?" Also when offering a lady a seat or acknowledging a favor. Keep step with any one you walk with. Always precede a lady up stairs, but ask if you shall precede her in going through a crowd or public place.—At the street door.—Hat off the moment you step into a private hall or office. Let a lady pass first always, unless she asks you to precede her.—In the parlor.—Stand till every lady in the room, also older people are seated.—Rise, if a lady enters the room after you are seated, and stand till she takes a seat.—Look people straight in the face when they are speaking to you.—Let ladies pass through the door first, standing aside for them.—In the dining room.—Take your seat after ladies and elders.—Never play with your knife, ring or spoon.—Do not take your napkin up in a bunch in your hand.—Eat as fast or as slow as others, and finish the course when they do.—Do not ask to be excused before the others unless the reason is imperative.—Rise when ladies leave the room, and stand till they are out. If all go together, the gentlemen stand by the door till ladies pass.—Special rules for the mouth.—Smacking the lips and all noise should be avoided.—If obliged to take anything from the mouth, cover it with your hand or napkin.—Always knock at a bed-room door, or at that of any private room.—These rules are imperative. There are many other little things that add to the grace of a gentleman, but to break any of these is almost unpardonable.—Christian Intelligencer.

NOW IS THE TIME to secure subscribers for the VISITOR. It is the solicitor's harvest-time when the year is closing.

"The Ideal Magazine"

for young people is what the papers call ST. NICHOLAS. Do you know about it—how good it is, how clean and pure and helpful? If there are any boys or girls in your house will you not try a number, or try it for a year, and see if it is not just the element you need in the household? The London Times has said, "We have nothing like it on this side." Here are some leading features of

ST NICHOLAS For 1886-87.

Stories by Louisa M. Alcott and Frank R. Stockton—several by Mrs. Burnett, whose charming "Little Lord Fauntleroy" has been a great feature in the past year of ST. NICHOLAS. War stories for boys and girls. Gen. Baedens, chief of staff, biographer, and confidential friend of General Grant, and one of the ablest and most popular of living military writers, will contribute a number of papers describing in clear and vivid style some of the leading battles of the civil war. They will be panoramic descriptions of single contests or short campaigns, presenting a sort of literary picture gallery of the grand and heroic contests in which the parents of many a boy and girl of to-day took part. The serial stories include "Juan and Juanita," an admirably written story of Mexican life, by Frances Courtenay Baylor, author of "On Both Sides"; also, "Jenny's Boarding House," by James Otis, a story of life in a great city. Short articles, instructive and entertaining, will abound. Among these are: "How a Great Panorama is Made," by Theodore R. Davis, with profuse illustrations; "Winning a Commission" (Naval Academy), and "Recollections of the Naval Academy," by "Borin for Oil"; and "Among the Gas Wells," with a number of striking pictures. "Child Sketches from George Eliot," by Julia Magruder; "Victor Hugo's Tales to his Grandchildren," recounted by Brander Matthews; "Historic Girls," by E. S. Brooks. Also interesting contributions from Nora Perry, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Josquill Miller, H. H. Boyce, N. Washington Gladden, Alice Wellington Rollins, J. T. Trowbridge, Lieutenant Frederick Schwab, Noah Brooks, Grace Denise Litchie, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, Mrs. M. B. Platt, Mary Mapes Dodge and many others etc. The subscription price of ST. NICHOLAS is \$3.00 a year; 25 cents a number. Subscriptions are received by bookstores and news-dealers everywhere, or by the publishers. New volume begins with the November number. Send for our beautifully illustrated catalogue (free), containing full prospectus, etc. THE CENTURY CO., New York.

1887.

Harper's Young People An Illustrated Weekly.

Harper's Young People has been called "the model of what a periodical for young readers ought to be," and the justice of this commendation is amply sustained by the large circulation it has attained both at home and in Great Britain. This success has been reached by methods that most commend themselves to the judgment of parents, no less than to the tastes of children—namely, by an earnest and well sustained effort to provide the best and most attractive reading for young people at a low price. The illustrations are copious and of a conspicuously high standard of excellence.

An epitome of everything that is attractive and desirable in juvenile literature.—Boston Courier. A weekly feast of good things to the boys and girls in every family which it visits.—Brooklyn Union.

It is wonderful in its wealth of pictures, in formation and interest.—Christian Advocate, N. Y.

TERMS: Postpaid, \$2 per year.

Vol. VIII commences Nov. 2, 1886.

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J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager, SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

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To Subscribers.

Remittances may be made to us in postage stamps, or by postal note, money order, or registered letter. If you receive copies of the paper beyond your time of subscription it is our loss not yours. We aim to send every number of the paper for the time paid for, then strike out the name if not renewed. Renewals made promptly are a matter of much convenience, and we respectfully solicit such that no numbers be lost to you. Advise this office at once of a change in your address, or if numbers fail to reach you.

Visitor's Clubbing List for 1886-87.

Table with columns: Name, Regular Price, With Visitor. Includes American Farmer, American Grange Bulletin, Atlantic Monthly, Babyland, Breeders' Gazette, Century (Scribner's), Cultivator and Country Gentleman, Chautauque V. F. Journal, Cottage Heath, Detroit Free Press, Good House-keeping, Harper's Monthly Magazine, Harper's Weekly, Harper's Bazar, Harper's Young People, Independent, Inter Ocean, North American Review, The Forum, Our Little Men and Women, Our Little Ones, Scientific American, St. Nicholas, Tribune, Chicago (weekly), The Pansy, The Cottage Heath, Vick's Monthly, Wide Awake, Western Rural.

An examination of the above list will show that our clubbing combinations offer very low rates on first-class literature. Only the best periodicals and newspapers are quoted. Low rates are given on them in order that farmers may supply their families with first class reading and secure the greatest good for the least outlay. Clubbing with the VISITOR will pay. Try it. It is well to perfect your plans and determine at an early day what your reading matter for the next year will be.

Sec. 1, Art. 5, By laws of the State Grange—This Grange shall hold its regular annual meeting on the second Tuesday in December of each year.

As the first day of December was on Wednesday the annual meeting commences at the latest day possible. This made it necessary to issue the VISITOR in advance of the Session.

If practicable we should have preferred to have delayed this issue that some account of the happenings of the Session might have reached subscribers before January 1st; but a week's delay we thought too much and so determined to make no change in time of issue.

The next number should be loaded with Jottings from visiting members and we shall be disappointed if it is not. All Michigan Patrons cannot attend these annual Sessions and it is due those who remain at home that matters of interest that attract the attention of our visiting friends should be reported, and if not done while fresh in their minds will most likely be lost. We hope this direct hint will be sufficient to ensure an unusual supply of Jotting and short articles for the VISITOR of January 1st.

That number may be under other management, but if it is contributions to the paper will be just as necessary to its readers and we doubt not acceptable to its editor.

There are, we think, more than 2,000 subscribers whose time expires with this number and we wish to remind all such that you cannot renew your subscription too soon. Remember you should not do without the Visitor and the Visitor can not do without you.

If Patrons do not stand by their State paper who will? This is a question every Patron who is not a subscriber should be called on to answer, and everyone who is should see to it that his renewal is attended to without delay.

Farmers will not pass for good business men until they attend promptly to these matters that seem small but which collectively go to make up the sum total of the affairs of our lives. Promptness in business is a cardinal virtue, and should be taught at home by precept and example, at school by teachers, in the pulpit by preachers, and everywhere by those who aim to be leaders and feel that they are a little in advance of the great majority of their fellows.

The world moves. Years ago the VISITOR began to urge the farmers of Michigan to act politically with some independence, some regard for their own interests as farmers. We insisted that they should make themselves felt at caucuses and conventions in the several parties to which they belonged. We showed that the interests of farmers had been neglected by farmers and that it was the fault of farmers themselves that they were not represented in the law-making bodies of the country and in executive positions. We made the matter of a "Farmer for Governor" a sort of hobby and have persisted in keeping it before the people for all these years. In 1880 two farmers were nominated and we have but to give the figures to show that what we had said was heeded.

Bro. Holloway received at the election of that year for the office of Governor, 137,671 votes, while the Lieutenant Governor on the same ticket had 137 less, and that number represents the number of Patrons in the Republican party who voted for Bro. Holloway at that election, Bro. Woodman receiving 31,085 on the Greenback ticket.

We think all now see that some progress has been made and that the work of the VISITOR has had practical recognition. There has been some little irritation, some complaining at the course of the VISITOR. In 1880 some good tender-footed Patrons thought we had too much to say about politics. Two years ago some of our Republican friends insisted that we were hurting the Republican party, and this year we have been assailed for advocating the election of a Republican farmer for Governor. To all of which we answer, the VISITOR in this matter has never been partisan, but has advised farmers by independent voting to prove their interest in the elevation of their own class and asserting in a practical way their claims to recognition.

A jotting from Athens calls for an answer to several questions. We cannot say as to the status of the Dayton Hedge Co.; will leave that and the legal questions involved to some one who knows or thinks he does. But as this matter of a hedge fence is called up we take occasion to repeat substantially what we said in the VISITOR some years ago.

As many as 35 years ago we got seed, raised hedge plants and set about one 100 rods of hedge. We trimmed very much as some other farmers have and will in the future, and we had a fair sort of a fence about one third of the time. With proper attention and treatment on good rich soil it is often proved a very good fence, when in full leaf and against animals that are not given to an excess of curiosity. But assuming it may be made a good fence, before we advise its use, we think it wise to look at all the conditions that bear upon success or failure. The adverse conditions impoverishes the land from 15 to 30 feet on each side of it. But that objection is considered of little weight by the large farmer and we will let it pass as of little value. The objection belongs to the habits of farmers as a class. We know of miles of hedge with corresponding rods of fence. The average farmer will plant some and harvest at reasonable times of the year. It is his habit, or ways. But the average farmer of this country will not cultivate, trim, slash, wire down, do and perform each, all and everything necessary to grow and maintain a hedge fence, and it is less expensive and less annoying to take into account these facts and let the Osage Orange hedge fence business, and the Dayton Hedge Company, their heirs and assigns entirely alone. We would not give them or any other good talkers a penny or a rod to set out, cultivate, do and perform all they propose to do under a contract covering three years of time.

Our faith in the feasibility of harvesting corn by the threshing process has not been weakened by two weeks more with the threshed crop of this year. Both corn and fodder remain in prime condition and we have no apprehension of damage. Farmers of the enquiring and progressive sort are well pleased to have found out that the improvements of the age have reached corn harvesting. We have been doing that sort of farm work substantially as our fathers and our grandfathers did, the only improvement being a husking peg of metal or wood and some partial protection to the hands that while protecting was an uncouth incumbrance. Michigan farmers can safely plant a little more, can keep a little more stock, sow a little less wheat and the chance will be favorable to maintaining the fertility of our farms.

For the information of our friend, Mont. Spaulding, and others of an apprehensive turn of mind we are pleased to say that both corn fodder and corn are still in good condition and our faith in the new method of harvesting corn by the threshing process is in no way impaired.

RETIRING secretaries will bear in mind that it devolves upon them to report the names and addresses of the newly elected Masters and Secretaries to the Secretary of State Grange. Be prompt in doing so.

The legislature of Michigan will soon be in session. Until settled the election of a United States Senator will take precedence. Legislation must wait. One political party has such a decided preponderance of strength that it ought not to take long to dispose of that business. But it is by no means certain that it will not take some time to get the friends of the different candidates ready to surrender their chances and so far unite as to elect.

We have all along since the subject was first presented been in favor of submitting the question of amending the Constitution in accordance with the original demand of the Prohibition party. It is not desired that more than 75,000, people of this State, have petitioned the legislature to authorize such submission by legislative enactment, and yet in this representative government of the people as is alleged it has been impossible to secure the necessary two thirds vote.

How any legislator can refuse to let the people pass upon that question when such large numbers have asked for it is more than we can understand except when it became a test question at the polls and a majority of a legislator's constituency declared against such submission.

From our stand point we can justify no man except as stated, who assumed to rise superior to the spirit and principles of the government under which he lives and which as a people we unitedly proclaim "the best on earth" in refusing by his vote to let the people pass upon that question.

As we said before the late election, "no man who voted to deny the right of the people in their sovereign capacity to pass upon this question or any other, where demanded by any considerable number of people is entitled to support for any official position where the interests of the people are involved.

For our part we are not solicitous for constitutional prohibition as we are for an awakened interest on the part of the people in enforcing what laws we have, and a higher regard for official duty on the part of officials charged with the duty of executing the laws we have and for such amendments to existing laws as will give the prosecutor for alleged infractions of law something like an even chance in court with the defence.

We hope to see the legislature when it has disposed of the senatorship give early attention to this standing demand for submission. The outcome of the vote of the people is not to be considered by the legislature, but simply the right of the people to express in a manner provide by law their opinion upon a question that has occupied a prominent place in the politics of the country for years, as well as in organizations having for their professed object the protection of the moral welfare of the people.

This is the month for the election of officers for the subordinate Granges of Michigan. This work has been attended to in some Granges already and we hope there has been more regard for the good of the Order than to gratify personal ambition.

In every live Grange there are some live members, whose names we expect to find on our subscription book, and we wish to say privately to such, please ascertain whether the officers you have elected are subscribers to the VISITOR. We find that sometimes a Patron is elected Master of a Grange and possibly sent as a representative to the State Grange, who does not take the State paper of the Order and in some instances never has taken it. Well, there are some things hard to explain and still harder to justify, and we shall assign these delinquent patrons to that class for want of better disposition. But perhaps this is but the result of a careless habit and if some good Patron will look after this matter it will be set right. We hope so, and with charity for all, will await the result of the laudable work of solicitors self-appointed or otherwise.

WHEN in Coldwater the other day we saw a farmer driving out of town with a load of coal drawn by three good farm horses hitched up side by side as in plowing.

We have seen the same thing before when our country roads were not in so favorable a condition as they now are for driving this sort of a team. We remember when buggies were not much used in Michigan, and then except right in our villages there were tracks with a ridge between. Now there is so much single driving that out of all our roads the old center ridge has been worn away and they are in condition for the use of a three-horse team as well as two. The extra cost of heavy thills or a double tongue would not be very much and would often, when the roads are heavy, be found of real value. We have a pole and thills for light spring wagons and with a little use we should soon find that heavy thills and a long neck-yoke would be a necessary complement to the outfit of a lumber wagon. Who says nay?

Two women who were for years sweepers on the Fulton street (New York) ferry boats died recently worth \$8,000 and \$10,000.

Annual Report of the Secretary of the State Grange.

Worthy Master and Fellow Patrons:—

In obedience to a law of this State Grange, the second Tuesday of December finds the representatives of the Patrons of Michigan, again assembled to hear reports from those clothed with official responsibility—to counsel together as brothers and sisters, and provide as best we may for the future welfare of the Patrons of a great State. This the 14th session is again held in its Capitol Building, to which we have been made welcome at nine previous sessions of the State Grange; and although the Grange is not numerically as strong as when it first assembled in the old Capitol Building in December, 1875, yet in the intervening years it has dispelled the apprehensions of the merchant and tradesman everywhere aroused when the Order was first introduced, aided in the education of those who were willing to accept proffered opportunities, promoted the financial interests of farmers whether within or without the gates, established its importance and value to the agricultural class, and become a recognized factor in State and national affairs. To spread out before you the work performed to accomplish results already achieved would be to write a book, and as that is no part of the duty that lies immediately before me, I will turn to that duty at once and present a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Secretary's office for the fiscal year 1886:

Table with columns: Description, Amount. RECEIPTS: Fees and dues collected, 3,726.24; Fees received from special deputies, 20.00; Subscriptions to Grange Visitor, 2,296.87; Advertising receipts, 721.57; Amount received for supplies sold, 644.88; Interest on mortgage of C. C. Duncan, 222.00. Total receipts, 7,631.56.

DISBURSEMENTS

Table with columns: Description, Amount. For which orders were drawn on the Treasurer of the State Grange: Expenses of State Grange Per diem of Executive Committee, 1,504.24; Printing proceedings and other matter, 135.70; Bills for Supplies, 121.75; Stationery, Sec'y's office, 449.28; Postage, 28.21; Office rent, 109.90; Stationery and postage, Master's office, 16.97; Salaries of officers, State Grange, 1,450.00; Dues to National Grange, 639.97; Amount of Lecture Fund expended, 252.40; Printing and mailing Visitor, 2,639.36; Postage paid on Visitor, 123.87; Sundry expenses on account of Visitor, 41.03; Miscellaneous expenses, including freight, drayage, exchange and traveling expenses, 39.17. Total expenses, 7,581.85. Balance in favor of receipts, 49.71. Total, 7,631.56.

It will be remembered that the balance sheet of one year ago showed disbursements in excess of receipts for the fiscal year of \$804.14 and that the report of the Finance Committee as adopted provided for a reduction in the salaries of Master and Secretary of the State Grange and of the per-diem of the representatives composing this legislative body.

So much of the report as has been referred to was adopted without dissent or objection, but as it did not affect the per-diem of the members of the State Grange of that session the full economic value of the report of the Committee does not appear in the current report of expenditures. And again, although the liberality of Grand Rapids business men provided a hall for our meeting, yet the creditable endeavor of the Committee to bring disbursements within the limits of receipts, though not defeated, was endangered by the mileage accounts of the representatives, as shown by the pay-rolls of the years named. That of 1883 was \$1134.36; that of 1884 was \$1112.79; that of 1885, \$1243.50.

The fourth section of the report of the Finance Committee "recommended that the Executive Committee dispense with their fall session." This recommendation was not adopted, but the Executive Committee were in full accord with the spirit of economy which pervaded the report of the Finance Committee and determined at once to comply with the recommendation. And your Secretary was charged with the duty of making all necessary arrangements for holding this session at such place as the best interests of the Order seemed to demand. The figures given determined the place without further enquiry.

The sixth recommendation was adopted, and reads: "We also recommend that every means be taken towards making the VISITOR self sustaining." While this desirable object has not been realized, a good advance has been made in that direction. A careful comparison of the receipts and expenditures of the years 1885 and 1886 gives the following result:

Table with columns: Description, Amount. Cost of printing and mailing in 1886 was less by, 372.44; The postage was less by, 106.14; The salary of the editor less by, 200.00.

Table with columns: Description, Amount. Making total expenses less by, 678.58. On the other hand the receipts on subscription were less by, 101.42; Less collected for advertising, 140.86; Greater incidental expenses, 7.56; Deducting this, 249.84.

and we have a net saving over the previous year of \$428.74. There is a noticeable falling off in the

receipts for advertising. Newspaper men agree that it has been a poor year for this department of their business. Hard times have made business men restrict their expenditures in this direction. Still, if all our advertising bills were collected this part of our report would make a much better showing.

Under the action of the Executive Committee at the last session the unexpended portion of

THE DEFENSE FUND seems likely to become a permanent Fund that shall stand as a warning to all royalty robbers to steer clear of the Patrons of Michigan. My last report showed an unexpended balance of this Drive well Fund of \$1,445.00, which by the terms of the circular of the Executive Committee of October, 1881, was subject to distribution "whenever the matter in controversy should reach a final issue and determination." That point having been reached we found the unexpended balance would give back to each contributor 60 per cent. of the amount contributed. I was directed by the Executive Committee to give General Notice in the VISITOR to all contributors that this 60 per cent. would be paid by me on presentation of their receipt at my office; and in such notice set forth the fact that contributors had been protected at small cost and invite them to surrender their claim to this "unexpended balance" and consent to its remaining in the treasury of the State Grange as a Permanent Defense Fund to be used only for the defense of contributors to it who are prosecuted in the courts for alleged infringement of patent, the same to be under control of the Executive Committee of the State Grange. The notice was given in the VISITOR of Dec. 15, 1886, and the request has been so far regarded that the total amount of the Fund has suffered small loss.

Table with columns: Description, Amount. Amount reported Dec., 1885, 1,445.00; Charged for General Notice, 21.60; Five receipts presented for payment, 3.00; Paid order of Moline Grange No. 248 to Joseph H. Reall, N. Y. City, by draft with exchange, 5.08; Note for, 1,400.00. Total, 1,429.68.

Balance in my hands, \$ 15.32

The \$1,400.00 is on interest subject to the order of the Executive Committee, and there is little liability of its being drawn on by any of the parties entitled to the fractional part of a dollar against which they have a legal claim.

As D. C. & H. C. Reed & Co., of Kalamazoo, had served notices on several contributors to the Defense Fund, prior to the last meeting of the State Grange asserting a claim for \$5.42 against these parties for infringement of the Garver patent owned by them, the Committee instructed me to call on D. C. & H. C. Reed & Co., and arrange for a test suit. I called on the said company as directed and they declined to enter into the proposed arrangement, alleging that nearly all infringers had paid the royalty demanded and the rest probably would.

Not satisfied with the profits secured to David L. Garver and bought by this company at small cost, which patent expired on the 5th of October last, this company had bills introduced into both houses of Congress at the last session, asking for an extension of this spring-tooth harrow patent. And all this for the relief of David L. Garver, who had years before assigned all right, title and interest present and prospective to the said company. The farmers of the county should not only sign remonstrances against the re-issue of this patent or any extension of its life, but should write their Member of Congress such words of caution as would remind him of his duty to those he represents.

The use of plaster by farmers has fallen off considerably within the last few years, why, I am not able to explain; but certain it is farmers do not seem to think it so indispensable as they did a dozen years ago. But there is still a large amount of land-plaster used and we must not lose sight of an interest that proved when brought to the test the strength of the Order. In a long struggle with a strong combination the Patrons of the State as a body stood together manfully with entire confidence in the inherent right of the position taken and for once, at least, the right did prevail. For the last two seasons we have had a contract with the Michigan Plaster Association and so far as we know there has been little or no friction to mar the harmony of our business relations. But the life of the last contract has expired and as the season for handling plaster will soon be here, some action should be taken looking to a new contract with a new association known as the "Western Plaster Agency." I am informed by Brother Day, a member of the agency, that all manufacturers of stucco and land-plaster west of Buffalo are in the new association. This being the case, if we buy plaster at all this next season, we must buy of the "Western Plaster Association." With the experience of ten years before the Grand Rapids manufacturers of plaster I have little fear that the Association will advance prices and renew an antagonism that brought disaster and financial ruin to several plaster manufacturers of the Grand River Valley and brought no return on the investment of others for several years.

THE VISITOR. At each succeeding session of the



## Ladies' Department.

## A Woman's Complaint.

I know that, deep within your heart of hearts,  
You hold me shined apart from common things,  
And that my step, my voice, can bring to you  
A gladness that no other presence brings.

And yet, dear love, through all the weary days  
You never speak one word of tenderness,  
Nor stroke my hair, nor softly clasp my hand  
Within your own, in loving, mute caress.

You think, perhaps, I should be all content  
To know so well the sacred place I hold  
Within your life, and so you do not dream  
How much I love to have the story told.

You cannot know, when we two sit alone,  
And tranquil thoughts within your mind are stirred,  
My heart is crying like a tired child  
For one fond look, one gentle, loving word.

It may be, when your eyes look into mine,  
You only say, "How dear she is to me!"  
Oh! could I read it in your softened glance,  
How radiant this old world would be!

Perhaps, sometimes, you breathe a secret prayer  
That choicest blessings unto me be given;  
But if you said aloud, "God bless thee, dear!"  
I should not ask a greater boon from heaven.

I weary sometimes of the rugged way,  
But should you say, "Through thee my life is sweet,"

The dreariest desert that our path could cross  
Would suddenly grow green beneath my feet.

'Tis not the boundless waters ocean holds  
That give refreshment to the thirsty flowers,  
But just the drops that, rising to the skies,  
From thence descend in softly falling showers.

What matter that our graneries are filled  
With all the richest harvest's golden stores,  
If we who own them cannot enter in,  
But fished stand before the close-barred doors?

And so, 'tis said that those who should be rich  
In that true love which crowns our earthly lot,  
Go praying with white lips from day to day  
For love's sweet tokens, and receive them not.  
—Bert Ingliss.

## Before My Sweet Birdlings were Flown.

As I sit me here in the twilight,  
In my old armchair all alone,  
I bethink me of days gone forever,  
Before my sweet birdlings were flown.

And as fancy the bright picture colors,  
Two forms with distinctness I see,  
With their chairs drawn up close beside me,  
And their loving arms thrown around me.

"Please mamma, now tell us some stories,"  
From prattling lips quickly I hear,  
And the stories so often repeated,  
Fall like music on each listening ear.

anon—and the scene quickly changes,  
And a school girl so happy and bright  
Now sits in her rocking chair reading,  
While her brother is mending his kite.

Soon the clock tells the hour for retiring,  
And I accompany my darlings to rest;  
And the sweet good-night kiss ne'er forgotten,  
Is again on my lips fondly pressed.

Yet another change comes o'er my picture:  
In the girl a sweet maiden I see,  
And the boy, with his kite and his marbles,  
Has outgrown both his father and me.

And now their young friends gather round  
them,  
And the old house re-echoes with mirth;  
Their hearts, with pure joy overflowing,  
In laughter and music ring forth.

Oh my children, how dearly I love you!  
No fond words of mine can I'er tell;  
And that you love and trust me as ever,  
I know and appreciate well.

May you cherish with fond recollection  
The old home deserted and lone;  
And the new ones that rise at your bidding,  
May God's blessing 'round them be thrown.

I fain with your path would strew roses—  
Fain guard and protect you from ill—  
But to his loving care I resign you,  
"Our God, who hath done all things well.

Yet I love to sit here in the twilight,  
And think of the days that are gone,  
And again hear those happy young voices  
Before my sweet birdlings were flown.  
—Mrs. M. A. Calkins.

## What Hath Love Wrought?

A beautiful baby, a boy, came to gladden  
a home where love reigned supreme;  
a home beautiful and sacred in all its  
relations, was made only more sacred  
as this bond of unity strengthened the  
love that bound the parents to each  
other.

The father looked with fondness upon  
his boy; how he was to be his strength,  
his stay; the prop on which he would  
lean when he became feeble by the  
might of years; how carefully he would  
train him; how tenderly care for him;  
how cultivate and educate him and  
thus make him a son upon whom any  
father might look with pride! And the  
mother, with tears of joy in her eyes, and  
a great pleasure in her heart; such as  
mother love only brings, smiled and  
questioned to herself; "Why this great  
joy, and to me? Why this beautiful  
child, flesh of my flesh and life of my  
life?" And as in answer to her in-  
quiry there came these beautiful words  
of McDonald's to her mind,

"How did you come to me, my dear?  
God thought about you and so I'm here."

Yes, a thought of God, and all her  
soul went out in thanksgiving: "My  
God, I thank thee." Tenderly did she  
shield him, carefully nurture him; watch-  
ing, as only mothers watch, for smiles  
and prattle and pretty baby ways: Giv-  
ing him the best of herself, she saw him  
growing strong and vigorous; every day  
improving, until to the eyes of the fond  
parents he was sweet and winning as  
only a baby can be.

Then came sickness; a dreadful sick-  
ness; for days and nights that baby bat-  
tled with death. It was strong and  
vigorous, and it fought for life with all  
the energy of its little being.

"Give me my boy; oh, God, give me  
my boy!" This was the one prayer of  
the mother as she watched and waited,

and waited and watched, for some sign  
of returning health.

"Doctor, tell me and tell me truly,  
will my boy live? Tell me, and let it be  
the truth, spare me not; I have waited  
and watched until I can wait no longer;  
will my boy live?" "Do you want to  
know the truth, and can you bear it?"  
"Yes," and all the fortitude that she  
could summon gave her strength. "Yes,  
he will live; but he will be deaf and  
blind." The words fell upon her heart  
like lead, there was a strange sound in  
her ears and the room darkened, but  
she took up the burden of her life and  
went on. She knew that the loss of  
hearing meant loss of speech also. Deaf,  
dumb and blind; but he would live,  
would be hers to have and to hold.  
God had thought of her and given her  
her child again.

Returning health came slowly. He  
was so feeble that he lay in her arms as  
helpless as when first born. Again she  
watched and waited for the cooing and  
the sweet baby noises, but they came  
not. His eyes, those windows of the  
soul, were darkened, through them  
gleamed not even the light of reason.  
Slowly did it dawn upon the mother  
that his mind was enfeebled as well as  
his body. Deaf, dumb, blind, and en-  
feebled in mind. The parents hoped  
against hope. Would light never dawn  
upon that mind? Would his ears ever  
be opened to sound and his tongue  
loosened? Again the cry came from  
that mother's heart, "Helper of the help-  
less, give me my boy again!" God  
thought upon her again, and the eyes  
saw. What a day of gladness that was.  
What joy came with the words "baby  
can see; baby can see!"

Slowly did he begin to develop. Ev-  
eryone looked with pity upon the child,  
and some with disgust. Almost every-  
one seemed to think the boy lacked all  
natural endowment of intellect; but not  
so. That grand endowment of love  
seemed more than usually developed.  
Everything that was beautiful he loved:  
flowers, birds, the animals, and especial-  
ly little children; and the wonderful love  
that he had toward his parents, that ex-  
pressed itself in so many ways, was  
touching in the extreme. One day, when  
the lad was about sixteen years old, the  
father died, and when the poor stricken  
boy realized that his father would never  
smile upon him again, never moresheild  
and care for him, never lead him out  
again into the sunshine and the air, like  
a wounded dove he crept away out of  
sight to the garret and there they found  
him with his face pressed to the window  
pane and the tears frozen as they fell.

"Yes, this is my boy, my only child,"  
and the fond mother tenderly put her  
arm around the boy and drew him  
closer to her. We looked at the boy  
she so tenderly called her own, and saw  
a dwarfed form, which was very feeble,  
a pinched face that showed the marks  
of pain. We were especially attracted  
by his face, and that was as the face of  
an infant. It took no stretch of the im-  
agination to put that face in a cradle  
and listen to the crowing and crooning  
of a baby. In fact he was a baby, yet  
twenty-two years old. All that money  
and taste could do as to his dress had  
been done. His attire was faultless, but  
that face we shall never forget. Can  
you conceive of a human face with all  
stain of sin wiped away, a face that  
gleamed and glowed with love, that  
seemed more than of this world? Though  
deaf and dumb, though enfeebled  
in mind he communicates all wants  
and desires to his mother and to others  
(though he can talk with mother the  
best) and that by smiles; indeed, smiles  
seem to be the best method he has of  
communication. And love and care  
and that of the greatest tenderness has  
done all this; and so many times did  
the thought come to us: If mother love  
is so tender, so compassionate for her  
stricken child, what must be the love of  
Christ for the wild, wayward, sinful  
children of men? If the mother heart  
yearns so over her poor boy, how must  
that great warm heart of Jesus go out  
after his children?  
M. A. R.

DEAR VISITOR AND PATRONS:—Or I  
might say "our VISITOR," for I feel as  
if it really belonged to the Grange at  
large, and as if all true Patrons should  
feel as if it did really belong to them  
so far as its principles of truth and fair  
dealing with all are concerned, and its  
being the avenue through which we may  
converse with the Grange at large, not  
only in our own State, but in others as  
well. When we receive it at our home,  
the first that attracts our attention is the  
postal jottings, which are all carefully  
read and generally all enjoyed; but I  
am sorry to say that sometimes we read  
one that does not leave the kindly feel-  
ing towards the writer that our Grange  
principles teach and that we as brothers  
and sisters should feel towards one an-  
other. I allude to the jotting in the  
VISITOR of Nov. 15 from Cortland Hill.  
Now, as a woman and sister, I think he  
treats Brother Luce unfairly. Although  
there may have been some cause for  
his remarks (which, of course, I doubt)  
but allow there was cause, is the postal  
column in our Grange paper the proper  
place to express such sentiments?

He says in this age of wickedness no  
man is allowed to stump the county or  
State in behalf of any political party,  
who tells the truth about the opposite  
party. Now is this not a broad assertion?  
And then he goes on to say that  
it has become an established fact that a  
candidate can have no hope of success

even on a county ticket without paying  
three or four hundred dollars into the  
corruption fund, and the demand in  
higher offices of the State runs into the  
thousands. Now, I am sorry to say that  
sometimes this may be a fact, but not  
always; for at the convention called in  
the second legislative district of this  
county last fall the delegates almost  
unanimously nominated a man to re-  
present them in the State Legislature  
that did not even attend the convention.  
I speak of William H. H. Pettit, of  
Ransom, Hillsdale County; and the  
first intimation he had of the fact was  
when he was called on by a few of his  
friends and informed of the fact. Now  
here is one instance, at least, Bro. Hill,  
where "the office sought the man and  
not the man the office;" and knowing  
this fact, I think that there may be oth-  
er instances of the same kind. Now,  
do not infer that I am a woman's rights  
woman in the common meaning of the  
phrase, but a Grange sister, and that I  
try to live its principles as taught in the  
constitution, and think the Grange is do-  
ing for the agricultural class what no  
other organization has done or can do,  
and I think it the duty of all true Pat-  
rons to try and appreciate it. Now, it  
may be that Bro. Hill is a trifle sensi-  
tive on some points that he does not  
mention, for it has been said "Every  
closet has its skeleton." I do not claim  
this to be a certain fact, but we all know  
that some are very sensitive in regard  
to having their political opinions inter-  
fered with. Again, he says that he can  
not see how Bro. Luce can carry out the  
established principles of the party to  
which he has pledged himself and still  
maintain his neutrality in the  
Grange. Now, it seems to me as if  
either Mr. Hill does not belong to the  
Grange and understand its teachings,  
or else he does not belong to or under-  
stand the Republican party and its  
teachings. Which is it?  
In Faith, Hope and Charity, I remain,  
MARY E. PHILLIPS.  
Lickley Corners Grange, No. 274.

## Dr. Talmage on Christmas.

Christmas bells ring in family re-  
unions! The rail-trains crowded with  
children coming home. The poultry,  
fed as never since they were born,  
stand wondering at the farmer's gener-  
osity. The markets are full of mas-  
sacred barn-yards. The great table be  
spread and crowded with two or four  
generations. Plant the fork astride the  
breast-bone, and with skilful twitch,  
that we could never learn, give to all  
the hungry lookers on a specimen of  
holiday anatomy. Florence is disposed  
to soar, give her the wing. The boy is  
fond of music, give him the drum-stick.  
The minister is dining with you, give  
him the parson's nose. May the joy  
reach from grandfather, who is so  
dreadfully old that he can hardly find  
the way to his plate, down to the baby  
in the high-chair, who, with one smart  
pull of the table-cloth, upsets the gravy  
into the cranberry. Send from your  
table a liberal portion to the table of  
the poor, some of the white meat as  
well as the dark, not confining your  
generosity to gizzards and scraps. Do  
not, as in some families, keep a plate  
and chair for those who are dead and  
gone. Your holiday feast would be but  
poor fare for them; they are at a better  
banquet in the skies. Let the whole  
land be full of chime and carol. Let  
bells, silver and brazen, take their sweet-  
est voice, and all the towers of Christ-  
endom rain music.—T. De Witt Tal-  
mage, in *Christmas Brooklyn Magazine*.

## For Coughs.

A reader of the VISITOR writes that  
the following for whooping cough is the  
best cure she can find and, as she is a  
druggist's wife, she has had ample oppor-  
tunity to sample all the recommended  
remedies. She says it is also the most  
effective and quickest cure for a cough  
of any kind.  
"Slice liver, cover thickly with brown  
sugar on each side, put in a dripping  
pan with a very little water and cook  
until thoroughly done in a slow oven.  
Strain the syrup formed by the sugar and  
juice of the liver and give occasionally  
a teaspoonful. Give it every half hour  
if the cough is severe."

## \$1,000 Reward

for your labor, and more, can be earned  
in a short time if you at once write to  
Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, for in-  
formation about work which you can do  
and live at home, whatever your locality  
at a profit of from \$5 to \$25 and up-  
wards daily. Some have made over \$50  
in a day. All is new. Hallett & Co.  
will start you. Capital not required.  
All particulars free. Those who are  
wise will write at once and learn for  
themselves. Snug little fortunes await  
every worker.

"LET us have peace." These are  
memorable words and well adapted to  
those farmers inclined to find fault with  
each other, because one party was in-  
dependent enough to vote for his broth-  
er farmer without reference to political  
bias, and because by the other party  
prejudice was so strictly adhered to.  
The interests of our country and calling  
demands a cessation of such useless  
and embittering strife.

In Des Moines, Iowa, two sisters are  
professional paper-hangers, hanging  
paper at the regular rates charged by  
men in the same line.

## Old Lady Spring.

People seem to have an idea that  
Spring is always young and sweet and  
lovely. They tell us how she comes  
tripping over the hills—how she arrays  
herself in azure and gold—how she  
lingers in the lap of winter. To say the  
least that looks to me like a very scan-  
dalous proceeding on her part.

Now I don't believe a single word of  
it. Dame Nature is wrongly interpreted;  
she is anything but young; on the con-  
trary she is decidedly old and wrinkly;  
and although most sentimental people  
admire her way of housekeeping, I must  
say that if humans were to imitate it,  
they wouldn't be admired at all.

Tucking up her scanty skirts, she  
scrubs things down in a most uncom-  
fortable manner with her big broom, all  
along the courses of the rivers and down  
the hills; the wide borders of her white  
cap flap around her wizened old face in  
the most provokingly active and ag-  
gressive manner; she whisks dirt and  
dust into all our faces with her coquet-  
ish winds; and then, poking up the fires  
of her basement kitchen among the  
hills, she sends up a great steam cloud  
and spatters us all over with rain, while  
she does up her laundry work and hangs  
things out to dry.

The old lady is an early riser at some  
times in the year—especially in spring.  
Up she gets before daybreak, routing all  
the sleepy birds and flowers out of their  
warm beds with the utmost heartless-  
ness,—flying around and setting things  
out of one place into another with the  
utmost nonchalance and an utter disre-  
gard for the wishes of her human sub-  
jects.

So much must be done that every-  
body has to help her do it. She is a  
shrewd and rather stingy old lady, very  
sparing of her worldly substance where  
it would appear to do the most good, as,  
for instance, in helping the spinning  
corn, potatoes, currants, peaches and  
grapes to grow and get a start ahead of  
the bugs and things,—but very prodigal  
in gifts to the vagabond weeds and  
plagues of the garden generally.

I, myself, think that Dame Nature is  
especially hard on agriculturists; the  
woods actually run wild with useless  
things, and nothing ever eats them, while  
the poor farmers are sweating and hold-  
ings associations and meetings, and run-  
ning around vainly trying to find some  
way of putting an end to cut-bugs and  
beetle-worms and all that sort of thing.

Everything that's useless grows with-  
out let or hindrance; it's only the nec-  
essary things that have to wage war in  
order to sustain a precarious existence  
against the insect horde; and that con-  
firms me in the opinion that things are  
not just as they ought to be, and quite  
unlikely to become so in a long time.

In the fall, the old lady, Dame Nature,  
grows lazy and in the winter she is ac-  
tually shiftless. She puts all the buds  
and flowers to bed early, and tucks them  
up snugly; and whether they're sleepy or  
not, makes them shut up their eyes and  
lie still.

She puts up all her canned fruit long  
before anybody else does, makes all her  
comforters for cool weather, and mean-  
while, goes to bed earlier and earlier  
every evening, and gets up later and  
later every morning, until, in midwin-  
ter, she lies abed nearly the whole 24  
hours.

Now this is not at all consistent, and  
as one of her subjects I beg leave to ob-  
ject. Let us have a change of program  
of the old lady's housekeeping and less  
waste of raw material. Anybody can  
be smart for a month or two, if they've  
been getting ready for it all winter.

Let us have the grasshoppers eat up  
the wild things, and a chance given to  
the useful plants to grow. Let the  
farmers stop warring against outside  
enemies, and have a little time to quar-  
rel sociably among themselves. Let  
the bogus-butter man revive, poor fel-  
low! What with the farmers, and the Con-  
gressmen, and the laws, and the bills, and  
the fuss made over him, he has become  
quite hen-pecked. For pity's sake,  
boycott him and give us a rest from our  
labors!—*QUERE in Our Country Home*.

## Young Folk's Club.

DEAR COUSINS:—Was pleased to  
hear so many responses to the call and  
to know there were so many willing  
hands.

I thank you heartily for the honor  
you have conferred upon me by making  
me President of the Young Folk's Club,  
and I most solemnly promise to do my  
duty as Chief Executive, and will try to  
prove myself worthy of the trust.

With such substantial supporters as  
Sunflower for Vice President, Country  
School Marm, Secretary, and Grace,  
Chairman of Executive Committee, the  
Club is sure to be a success.

You were promised a subject for dis-  
cussion, and I know not of any that  
comes nearer to the majority of us than  
"Self Improvement." How are the boys  
and girls on the farm spending these  
long winter evenings? Are you studying  
history, biography, or science? If you  
are, will you please give the Club the  
benefit of your program that others may  
be inspired and encouraged? It is not  
impossible to acquire a classical educa-  
tion by improving every opportunity for  
study.

Hoping to hear from many of the  
cousins on this subject, I am, with best  
wishes for the welfare of the Club,  
Your cousin,  
MAE.

## Corning Mutton.

Farmers should take advantage of the  
cheapness of sheep, compared with beef  
cattle, and buy a small flock of sheep in  
good condition to grow into mutton for  
the use of their families through the  
winter. Mutton will keep as long fresh  
as any other kind of meat, and perhaps  
longer. A few sheep can be kept along  
to kill as they may be wanted, and they  
will be growing better all the time. An  
excellent plan is to kill and corn or  
salt the carcasses down in a weak brine.  
A very fat sheep is best this way, and  
corned mutton will be found to digest  
well and better than when fresh. The  
meat may be packed in a clean barrel,  
or in stone crocks, and the brine poured  
over it. Five pounds of salt to 100 of  
meat will be about right in cool weath-  
er. The salt should be dissolved in  
clear water and then poured over the  
mass until it is all covered. If any por-  
tion should remain outside of the brine,  
it will putrefy and taint the whole con-  
tents. The blood should be drained out  
of the necks and any bloody portions by  
soaking them in water before the meat is  
packed. Soaking six hours is sufficient.  
The hams may be smoked and cut up  
like dried beef, or they may be boiled.  
Both ways they are excellent. The  
corned mutton will make a good change  
from sausage or spare-ribs. A good  
deal of the peculiar mutton taste is  
taken out of it when mutton is corned.  
—*Our Country Home*.

THE FAR NORTHWEST.—There is pub-  
lished at Portland, Oregon, an ably ed-  
ited and handsomely illustrated maga-  
zine, portraying monthly the beautiful  
scenery and the industries, resources,  
and social features of the great Colum-  
bia River region, including Oregon,  
Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah,  
British Columbia, and Alaska. Its il-  
lustrations are artistic, printed in colors.  
Its contents are entertaining to the gen-  
eral reader, and the character of the  
magazine is such as to make it welcome  
in every family circle. One at all  
interested in that great and rapidly de-  
veloping country, either from having  
visited it, having friends living there, or  
from entertaining thoughts of joining  
the throng annually moving thither from  
every State in the Union, should be-  
come a subscriber to this valuable maga-  
zine. A grand Holiday number will be  
issued in December, some of the en-  
gravings being executed in five colors,  
accompanying which will be a large  
picture of Mount Hood, Oregon's fam-  
ous snow peak, printed in eight colors  
and embossed. All who subscribe now  
for 1887 will receive this Holiday num-  
ber and the picture of Mount Hood as  
a premium. The picture of Mount Hood  
will be given to yearly subscribers only.  
Subscription price, \$2.00 per year. Sam-  
ple copy, 25 cents. Address L. SAMUEL,  
Publisher of The West Shore, Portland,  
Oregon.

## Holiday Excursion Rates.

The Chicago & Grand Trunk Rail-  
way and Detroit, Grand Haven & Mil-  
waukee Railway have arranged to sell  
special holiday excursion tickets at sin-  
gle fare between all stations on their  
lines under the following arrangement:

Christmas tickets will be on sale from  
December 24th to December 25th, in-  
clusive, and good to return up to and  
including January 3d, 1887.

New Years tickets will be on sale from  
December 31st, 1886, to January 1st,  
1887, inclusive, and good to return up  
to and including January 3d, 1887.

The Detroit Division of the Grand  
Trunk Railway and the Michigan Air  
Line Railway will sell special return  
tickets on the above date and limit at  
single fare between all stations on these  
divisions.

The custom of making holiday excur-  
sion rates was inaugurated some years  
ago by these lines, and each year has  
proved by an increase of sales that its  
patrons fully appreciate the concessions  
accorded them during the holiday sea-  
son.

The best way to reach the hearts of  
children—and some men—is through  
their stomachs. Some people save all  
the eggs, butter and chickens to sell and  
live on pork and beans from January 1  
to December 31. They think the little  
bank account that comes from this sav-  
ing is a big thing. They would make  
more in the end to sell the pork and  
beans and have chicken three days out  
of the seven. The children will be  
healthier and better satisfied to stay on  
the farm. It is a good thing to remem-  
ber every birthday by roasting the fat-  
test goose or turkey on the place. Let  
all the birthdays from father's down to  
the baby's be remembered in this way.  
Associate happiness with a good dinner  
if you want your children to be home  
folks.—K. C., in *Rural New Yorker*.

"THE New Astronomy" papers, by  
Prof. S. P. Langley, of Allegheny Uni-  
versity, which were printed some time  
ago in the *The Century*, will be suppl-  
mented by several additional papers by  
the same author. The first of these, on  
"Comets and Meteors," will appear in  
the *January Century*, with nine striking  
illustrations.

If you wish the VISITOR for 1887  
renew early and save us the trouble of  
striking out your name and then putting  
it on again some time along toward  
spring.

Why Cut Prices?

One of the worst evils of trade in the West is the general practice among retailers of cutting and slashing prices...

A country merchant in writing to an Eastern commercial journal recently said that men who cut prices were "not honest with themselves and would not be honest with customers..."

The Criterion is glad to see retailers begin to realize the folly of close cutting and the responsibility of selling adulterated goods...

Homes for the Workingmen.

Anarchy, socialism and communism are rarely advocated by persons with comfortable homes of their own...

An irate female seeks admittance to the editor's sanctum. "But I tell you, madame," protested the attendant...

"Patrick, you told me you needed the alcohol to clean the mirror with, and here I find you drinking it..."

For Dyspepsia

Mental and Physical Exhaustion, Nervousness, Weakened Energy

Indigestion, Etc.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE

A liquid preparation of the phosphates and phosphoric acid.

Recommended by physicians. It makes a delicious drink. Invigorating and strengthening. Pamphlet free.

Bumford Chemical Works, Providence, R. I.

Beware of Imitations. July 15/1

L. S. & M. S. R. R.

KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

Standard time—90th meridian.

GOING SOUTH.

Table with columns for station names (Lv Grand Rapids, Ar Allegan, etc.) and times.

GOING NORTH.

Table with columns for station names (Lv Buffalo, Ar Cleveland, etc.) and times.

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

TIME-TABLE—MAY 18, 1884.

Standard time—90th meridian.

WESTWARD.

Table with columns for train types (Kalamazoo Accommodation, Evening Express, etc.) and times.

EASTWARD.

Table with columns for train types (Night Express, Kalamazoo Accommodation, etc.) and times.

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses daily. Evening Express west and Night Express east daily except Saturdays...

J. A. GREER, General Freight Agent, Chicago.

O. W. RUGGLES, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

Money to Loan.

There has been placed in my hands money to loan in sums of five hundred dollars or more, to be secured on good improved farms.

J. W. OSBORN, Attorney at Law, No. 121 South Burdick St., Kalamazoo, Aug. 9, 1886.

Aug 15/1

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...

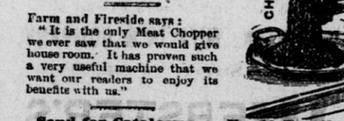
WE DELIVER 10 GALLON ORDERS FREIGHT PAID TO YOUR DEPT. WE SEND YOU AN ELEGANT PICTURE OF SOME OF THE LEADING MEN OF THE ORDER...

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS, 64 Fulton St., New York.

ENTERPRISE MEAT CHOPPERS.

BEST IN THE WORLD. GUARANTEED TO CHOP, NOT GRIND THE MEAT.

FOR CHOPPING SAUSAGE MEAT, MINCE MEAT, HAMBURG STEAK FOR DYSPEPTICS, DEEF TEA FOR INVALIDS, &c.



Send for Catalogue. No. 10 Family Size, Price, \$3.00. Hardware Trade ENTERPRISE M'FG CO., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Wonderful Discovery in Laundry Soap.

One Bar of Ingersoll's New Discovery Soap does a Wash with one hour's light labor. This is a saving of eight hour's hard labor...

TRY A BOX.

Sample box delivered to you, freight paid, for only three dollars. Sample bar mailed for the postage, 14 cents.

German Horse and Cow

POWDERS!

This powder has been in use many years. It is largely used by the farmers of Pennsylvania, and the Patrons of that State have purchased over 100,000 pounds through their purchasing agents...

MASON & HAMLIN ORGANS.

Finest Honors at all Great World's Exhibitions for thirteen years, 100 styles, \$22 to \$200.

PIANOS.

The Improved Method of Stringing, introduced and perfected by MASON & HAMLIN, is conceded by competent judges to constitute a radical advance in Piano-forte construction.

ORGAN & PIANO CO.

164 Tremont St., Boston. 149 Wabash Ave., Chicago. 48 E. 14th St. (Union Sq.), N. Y.

GREENWOOD STOCK FARM

Poland China Swine a Specialty. Breeders Stock recorded in Ohio P. C. Record.

B. G. BUELL, LITTLE PRAIRIE RONDE, Cass Co., Mich.

Fenno Brothers & Childs, WOOL COMMISSION MERCHANTS

117 Federal St., Boston. Consignments Solicited, and Cash Advances Made.

AGENTS WANTED MISSOURI STEAM WASHER

Active, honest persons all over the country, with or without team.

MARY J. TAYLOR, Haverhill, Mass. They read all other washers I ever saw. JOHN R. BOYD, Jr., Newark, Ill. The best machine I ever owned...

GERMAN CARP. Orders filled promptly, and satisfaction guaranteed; address, SILL & REEVE, Dexter, Mich.

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...

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

THE GUIDE. We issue the Buyers' Guide in March and September of each year. It is now a book of 304 pages, 8 1/2 x 11 inches in size...

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY TIME TABLE, JUNE 26, 1886.

Table with columns for train types (No. 18, Express, No. 4, Express, No. 6, Express) and destinations (Port Huron, Flint, Lansing, etc.).

\*Stop for passengers on signal only. \*Way freight carrying passengers going East, 3:30 P. M.; going west, 10:05 A. M.

GROCERIES!

It will be interesting to every Farmer in the vicinity of Grand Rapids to learn that the Wholesale Grocery House of ARTHUR MEIGS & CO. Have Opened a Mammoth Retail Department...

ARTHUR MEIGS & CO. Retail Department, 77 and 79 South Division Street, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

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.

Health and Amusement.

His Christmas Gift.

It seems like a hundred years ago, That we travelled once through the drifted snow To meet round the Christmas-tree...

'Twas a scarlet, beaded pincushion heart, Brilliant and shiny—a triumph of art— With a bead bird on it—a dove...

Well, that little red heart has been with me Through distant countries far over the sea, Crossed river, mountain and lake...

We're very much older and wiser now, We meet with a formal word and bow, And many more things we know...

The tree is laden with gifts to-night, And the colored tapers are gleaming bright, And the Christ-Child floats above...

Holiday Helps.

The jolly, rollicking Christmas-tide is almost here. By the time this reaches you your plans will be made and the hurry and bustle of the "last few days" will be upon many a household...

There is company invited, or you are invited out and some one must devise entertainment. Who shall it be? Don't leave all that to be "thought up" when all have arrived and are waiting to be entertained...

A pretty office for this committee to take upon itself will be to prepare dinner table souvenirs by writing or printing Christmas sentiments on cards for each plate. Let these be read by the recipients in turn, when all are seated...

This committee may also be pressed into a decorative committee and fasten buttonhole bouquets or a bright leaf to each card with a knot of ribbon. They may also prepare popcorn, nuts and the home-made candies that are essential in rounding off in good style every holiday festivity...

One word to the holiday guest,—remember it is the Christ-time, when gaiety should abound. Determine to be entertained if need be at all cost of self. Enter with zest into the proposed amusements of host and hostess...

CHRISTMAS SENTIMENTS.

Lo, now comes our joyful 'st feast! Let every man be jolly, Each room with ivy leaves is dressed, And every post with holly...

'Far from sacred Bethlehem town We fain must keep our Christmas feast, While hearts that own the Christ-child's sway Turn longing thoughts toward the East...

Oh! Christmas is here, The best of the year, The season of merriment, charity, song— Such memories entwine it, Each heart shall enshrine it...

Obituaries.

DINGMAN—Died, Nov. 4, 1886, Bro. Makinzie Dingman, a member of Fremont Grange, No. 494. WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from us by the hand of death our brother, Makinzie Dingman...

GLEASON—WHEREAS, Our Divine Father who doeth all things well took from our midst, Oct. 17, 1886, our loved sister, Lucy L. Gleason, than whom few would leave a larger circle of friends to mourn their loss...

GALLAND—Orangeville Grange is once more called upon to mourn the loss of one of its members. Sister Galland, who has been a true sister of the Grange ever since the organization, departed this life Nov. 15, 1886...

CHRISTMAS CANDIES. Recipe for Caramels.—Half pint of rich milk, half a cake of Baker's chocolate softened on the fire. Let the milk come to a boil, then stir in the chocolate very hard, then add half pint best white sugar and two tablespoonfuls of molasses...

Soft Candy.—One pound good brown sugar, three tablespoonfuls of water; while boiling add quarter of a pound of butter. Boil until thick and ropy, then take it from the fire and stir until it grains. Pour on buttered plates and let it cool. Nuts put in while stirring improve it very much.

Cream Chocolates.—One quart of fine white sugar, half a pint of boiling water, and half a pound of Baker's chocolate. Pour the water on the sugar and leave it to boil ten minutes without stirring, then place the saucepan in cold water and stir briskly until it becomes thick enough to handle...

Cocoanut Candy.—One and three-quarters of a pound of brown sugar, one large cocoanut with the milk, one tablespoonful of butter. Let it cook until quite stiff, then pour into a buttered dish.

Glaze Nuts of all kinds are great favorites and once you have the knack, very easy. Boil one pound of sugar with a cup of water until it "hairs," then put to it half a tea cup of vinegar and boil it rapidly until on trying it in ice water it cracks between the teeth...

Glaze Walnuts.—You must have tin dishes or plates greased, nuts ready cracked and a fork or two greased, and then begin to work. As rapidity is necessary, it is well for a beginner to have some one near to hold the plates and change them, etc. On no account must they be put on a warm place, although in cold weather it is convenient to work from, or close to, the stove, as the candy keeps hot longer.

On produce not named write for prices. I will advance on all car lots of choice winter apples \$1.50 per bbl; also 7c per lb. on all evaporated apples on their receipt and will also keep posted on values here that will correspond with me in relation to what they have to dispose of. Ship from this on in lined or refrigerator cars.

THOMAS MASON, 163 South Water St., Chicago. Business Agent Michigan State Grange.

GROUND OIL CAKE. OLD PROCESS. Now is the time to buy the genuine article cheap. To be had in Michigan of F. VAN DRIELE & CO., Grand Rapids; MAYOR RANNEY, Kalamazoo; T. B. TAYLOR, Jackson City Mills, Jackson; W. S. PENFIELD, 219 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

LANSING, Mich. Dec. 8.—The shorthorn breeders' association have elected: President, Prof. Samuel Johnson, of agricultural college; treasurer, B. J. Gibbins, of Detroit; secretary J. H. Butterfield, of Lapeer; directors, W. S. Bates, of Ionia; C. F. Moore, of St. Clair, and L. L. Brooks, Ionia.

It is stated that the Grange VISITOR, of Michigan, has been assailed and abused for sustaining farmers for public office. Our esteemed contemporary may well court such opposition, for it is the surest sign of effective service to the farmers of Michigan.—Grange Bulletin Ohio.

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Fifty Cents!

PAYS THE DUTY!

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BECAUSE,

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(Esther T. Housh, Editor.) A year's numbers contain: 12 beautiful full page engravings; 360 large pages of the best literature produced in attractive form. Illustrated poems enliven its pages. The Home Department is practical, and discusses almost every subject of interest to housekeepers during the year. Editor's notes upon topics of general interest and importance to all. \$3 a year, sent a copy. FRANK E. HOUSH, Publisher, Brattleboro, Vt.

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