

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XXI. NO. 3.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, FEBRUARY 6, 1896.

WHOLE NO. 483.

Legislative Action.

Report of Committee, State Grange, 1895.

Worthy Master and Members of the Michigan State Grange:

Your Committee on Legislative Action offer the following report for your consideration:

We commend the policy of the State Grange at its annual session in 1894, which by resolution instructed the executive committee before leaving Lansing, to select not to exceed four measures passed by that body, and push them in the legislature of 1895. Of the measures thus selected several were enacted into laws, after strenuous effort put forth by the Grange and members of the legislature who were members of our Order. The farmers of the state are now awaiting results from these new laws. Prominent among these measures were the tax statistician bill, pure food bill and farmers' institute bill. The tax statistician law is one whose operation will be watched with unusual interest by taxpayers, as the question of equitable taxation is now prominently before the public waiting such legislative action as will give a more just distribution of the burdens of taxation. The fight now on for pure food will undoubtedly be a severe and protracted one, but one in which both producer and consumer should stand shoulder to shoulder, until the manufacturer and vender of adulterated food products are completely routed.

The efficiency of the farmers' institute law will be thoroughly tested the present winter, and we hope will prove a splendid educator in every county where an institute is held. It ought to put Michigan up in full line with other states in institute work. Farmers of the progressive type are waking up to the fact that they must be on the alert to get their due in state and national legislation. They must take more interest in the laws by which they are governed. They must see that no measures, under the guise of helping the farmers, but which really mean additional taxation without substantial benefit, become laws without an earnest protest against them on their part.

Farmers can be a power if they stand in solid phalanx against oppressive legislation. They should watch closely legislative appropriations for state institutions and see that they are kept within the limits of true economy, as there is a strong tendency to increased expenditure of the people's money at a time when the price of farm produce is at low water mark.

Farmers need to look well to the class of men who are to represent them in the legislature and in congress, that they are men of known character and sterling integrity, and not merely political bidders and self seekers, but emphatically men who regard public office as a public trust.

The general report was adopted.

Of resolutions referred to your committee we make the following report:

Resolved, That the principle of local option should be extended to cities and villages.

Resolved, That we do most urgently request all Patrons and our representatives in congress, and the legislature to labor with voice and vote, for the enactment and enforcement of such laws as shall tend to the total suppression of the manufacture of intoxicating beverages.

Resolved, That we heartily favor the thorough discussion in every Subordinate Grange in this state of the general plan proposed in the bill known as the "Redfern liquor commission bill," and published in the GRANGE VISITOR of October 3.

For the above resolutions we make the following substitute:

Believing that no law is stronger than the public sentiment back of it, we favor the strict enforcement of the present temperance law, and that temperance legislation be made more stringent as soon as public sentiment demands it and will enforce it. We recommend a thorough discussion by the subordinate Granges of the state, of the bill known as the "Redfern liquor commission bill," published in the GRANGE VISITOR of October 3.

Substitute adopted.

Resolved, That the Michigan State Grange endorses the principle of the initiative and referendum.

Referred back without recommendation.

Motion prevailed to lay on the table.

For the resolution in prohibiting oleomargarine, cottolene and horsebeef, we offer the following substitute:

Believing the people are entitled to know just

what they are buying and get exactly what they pay for; be it therefore

Resolved, That we earnestly ask the legislature to enact a strengthening clause to the present pure food laws.

Substitute adopted.

In reference to the resolution from Capitol Grange in regard to the election of United States senators: we reaffirm the position taken by the State Grange that United States senators be elected by the people.

Resolution was adopted.

Resolution from Paris Grange No. 19, relative to buying votes:

The ground already being covered by the present law, we refer it back without action.

Motion prevailed to lay on the table.

Resolution from Pennfield Grange No. 85, demanding the repeal of the law passed by the last legislature for the protection of skunk, mink and raccoon. Referred back without recommendation.

Resolution was adopted.

Resolution from Cass county Pomona Grange asking for the repeal of such part of the fish law as relates to the spearing of fish in any of the waters of southern Michigan. We refer back without recommendation.

Motion prevailed to lay on the table.

Resolution from Oxford Grange, Oakland county, asking the reduction of the salaries of the judges of the supreme court to \$4,000.

We reaffirm the position of the State Grange of 1894, that they be reduced from \$7,000 to \$5,000.

Resolution was adopted.

Resolution of Paris Grange No. 19.

Resolved, That any person found guilty of any of the following offenses should be punished by being whipped at a whipping post: Drunkenness, wife beating, non-support of one's family, thieving, selling or giving intoxicating liquors to minors, or drunkards, and violating license laws.

Adding to this list, any man running away with another man's wife, we concur in the resolution.

Recommendation of committee was not concurred in.

Resolution was tabled.

Resolution from Grass Creek Grange No 425, relative to free mail delivery in rural districts. We reaffirm the position taken by the State Grange heretofore in favor of free mail delivery in rural districts.

Resolution was adopted.

Resolution from Oxford Grange, that our laws should be changed, providing for a board of county auditors, instead of the present needless, expensive system of board of supervisors.

Referred back without recommendation.

Motion prevailed to lay on table.

Resolution from St. Clair county, demanding that beef shipped into the state shall be taxed \$2.50 per hundred to protect our home beef, is found to be unconstitutional, and we recommend that it be not adopted.

Recommendation concurred in.

Resolved, That we favor the abolition of the present spoils system in vogue in the various departments in our state capitol, and the substitution thereof of some system which will reward merit, and place all the business of the departments on a business basis, by carrying on the work of the departments as nearly as possible in accord with the rules of ordinary business corporations.

Referred back without recommendation.

Motion prevailed to lay on table.

Resolution:

Whereas, The will of the people at the ballot box is largely defied by the practice of druggists selling liquors as beverages in local option counties; therefore

Resolved, That we, members of Eaton county Pomona Grange, respectfully request the State Grange to use its influence in its Legislative Committee, to secure such legislation as shall emphatically sustain the will of the people in said counties.

The committee recommend its adoption.

Recommendation concurred in.

In place of a resolution from Essex Grange No. 439, Clinton county, relative to amending State Constitution, we offer the following substitute:

Believing that in the interest of economy and justice, many parts of the constitution of the State need amending, toward that end we ask a free discussion of the subject in the Subordinate Granges of the state.

Substitute adopted.

All of which is respectfully submitted,
JOHN K. CAMPBELL,
D. D. BUELL,
C. C. HOLLENBECK,
J. T. NORRIS,
MRS. WM. McDOUGALL,
MRS. JOHN HUNT,
MRS. J. E. HOWARD.

The Round Up Institute.

The indications are that there will be a splendid attendance at the Round-Up institute in Grand Rapids, February 11-14.

We have asked each Subordinate Grange to send a delegate, and hope all will respond. Consult the program below for particulars about topics and rates.

PROGRAM.

CHAIRMAN, HON. GEO. B. HORTON. TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 11, 7:30 O'CLOCK.

Putnam Hall, Nos. 62 and 64 Pearl Street.

A Word of Greeting, L. J. Rindge, Grand Rapids. Address, Gov. John T. Rich, Lansing. "The Purpose of the Agricultural College," Dr. Howard Edwards, Agricultural College.

"Food Adulterations," W. L. Rossman, State Analyst, Lansing.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12:

Cultivation and Care of Peaches," Roland Morrill, Benton Harbor. Discussion, led by C. J. Monroe, South Haven.

"Marketing Peaches," R. D. Graham, Grand Rapids. Discussion, led by Charles C. Sessions, Shelby.

"Peaches in the Interior of Michigan," H. F. Gladden, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by H. O. Bramin, Grand Rapids.

Bees and Horticulture," Prof. W. B. Barrows, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by Jos. A. Pearce, Grand Rapids.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

"Currants and Gooseberries," J. N. Stearns. Discussion, led by Z. V. Cheney, Grand Rapids.

"Successful Strawberry Growing," R. M. Kellogg, Ionia. Discussion, led by Thos. Wilde, Herrington.

"The Value of Spraying in Horticultural Economy," Prof. L. B. Taft, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by W. K. Munson, Grand Rapids.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

"The Farm Home Reading Circle," H. W. Mumford, Agricultural College.

"Forcing Vegetables under Glass," Thos. Gunson, Agricultural College.

"A Plea for Unity of Action Among Farmers," Hon. F. W. Redfern, Maple Rapids.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 13.

"Economic Methods of Sheep Feeding," H. W. Mumford. Discussion, led by Hon. H. H. Hinds, Stanton.

"Will Feeding for Beef Pay in Michigan?" Hon. W. E. Boyden, Delhi Mills.

Discussion, led by Major A. F. Kelsey, Ionia.

"Practical Methods in Stock Breeding," Hon. Wm. Ball. Discussion, led by H. G. Holt, Cascade.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

"The Dairy Herd—Breeding," J. H. Brown, Climax. Discussion, led by Aaron Clark, Middleville.

"The Dairy Herd—Feeding and Care," Prof. C. D. Smith. Discussion, led by L. J. Rindge, Grand Rapids.

"The Babcock Tester," J. H. Brown, Climax.

"Making Good Butter," illustrated with dairy apparatus, G. H. True, Agricultural College.

THURSDAY EVENING.

"The Michigan Experiment Station," Prof. C. D. Smith.

"The Boiling Point," Prof. P. B. Woodworth, Agricultural College.

"Forest Fires," illustrated lecture, Dr. W. J. Beal, Agricultural College.

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 14.

"Water in the Soil," Hon. A. C. Glidden, Paw Paw. Discussion, led by Lewis G. Solomon, Dutton.

"Commercial Fertilizers—Is their Use Profitable for the General Farmer?" Prof. F. S. Kedzie, Agr'l College.

Discussion, led by E. C. Beare, Grand Rapids.

"The Present Standing of Ensilage as a Food for the Various Kinds of Stock," Hon. I. H. Butterfield, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by Henry J. Martin, Vermontville.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

"Growing Potatoes," I. N. Cowdrey, Ithaca. Discussion, led by L. J. Post, Lowell.

"Forage Crops," A. A. Crozier, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by Franklin Barnhart, Grand Rapids.

"Wheats for Michigan," Dr. R. C. Kedzie, Agricultural College.

FRIDAY EVENING.

"Taxation," Prof. W. O. Hedrick, Agricultural College.

"The Farmer's Contribution to Society," Ex-Gov. Cyrus G. Luce.

Woman's Section.

Y. M. C. A. Building, Corner Pearl and Ionia Sts.

Conductor, Mrs. Mary A. Mayo, Battle Creek.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 12.

"THE KITCHEN."

"Kitchen Economy," illustrated with kitchen appliances, Miss Margaret M. Hill, Detroit.

Discussion, led by Mrs. Mary A. Mayo.

"The Chemistry of the Kitchen," Prof. F. S. Kedzie, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by Mrs. M. M. Moon, Grand Rapids.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 13.

"THE RURAL HOME."

"Making Housework Easier," Mrs. Mary A. Mayo. Discussion, led by Mrs. H. Taylor, Holt, Cascade.

"Saving Steps," Mrs. Wm. T. Adams, Paris.

"Art in the Rural Home," Prof. W. S. Holdsworth, Agricultural College.

Discussion, led by Mrs. Sarah Smith, Grand Rapids.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 14.

"MOTHER AND DAUGHTER."

"Mother and daughter," Mrs. Mary A. Mayo.

"A Mother's View," Mrs. James B. Smith, Grand Rapids.

"The Daughter's Side," Mrs. Myrtle Koon Cherrymann and others.

"A Physician's Counsel," Dr. Maria W. Norris.

General Discussion.

MECHANICAL SECTION

will be held Wednesday and Thursday evening in Y. M. C. A. Building.

THE EXHIBIT.

Just below Putnam Hall opening on Pearl street, a large store has been secured for the exhibit of products and appliances. This will be made a prominent feature of the Institute. Growers, manufacturers and dealers are cordially invited to show their products and apparatus.

Fruits, vegetables and grains, especially the newer sorts, will be very appropriate. Dairy utensils, spray pumps, and all kinds of small tools and contrivances to lighten labor are especially desirable. Do not neglect this accompaniment of our great convention.

REDUCED RAILROAD RATES.

Railroad rates have been secured as follows:

The Michigan Passenger Association has granted a special rate of a fare and a third for the round trip to this "Round-Up." The following conditions must be observed:

1. Each person during the excursion rate must purchase a first-class ticket to the place of meeting, for which he will pay the regular fare, and upon request, the agent will issue a *printed certificate of purchase*.

2. If through tickets cannot be purchased at the starting point, parties will purchase to the nearest point where such through ticket can be obtained, and there purchase through to the place of meeting, requesting a ticket from the ticket agent at the point where each purchase is made.

3. Tickets for the return journey will be sold by the ticket agent at the place of meeting, at one third the first-class limited fare, on presentation of certificate signed by the ticket agent at the point where through ticket to place of meeting was purchased, countersigned by signature written in ink by the secretary or clerk of the association, certifying that the holder has been in regular attendance at the meeting, and signed and stamped by the special agent of the railway association of Michigan.

4. Tickets for return journey will be furnished only on certificates procured not more than three days before the meeting assembles, nor more than two days after the first of the meeting, and will be available for continuous passage only. Certificates will not be honored unless presented within three days after the adjournment of the meeting.

5. No refund of fare can be expected because of failure of the parties to obtain certificates.

If the local agent has no printed certificate, be sure to get a receipt from him.

These certificates must not be transferred.

GRAND RAPIDS HOTELS.

The hotels of Grand Rapids are commodious and hospitable. The Morton and Livingston furnish everything that can be desired at reasonable rates. The special concessions for the Institute have been given as follows:

Sweet's Hotel, \$1.50 to \$2.00.

Eagle House, \$1.00.

Bridge Street House, \$1.00.

These are very liberal rates indeed, and put it within the range of possibilities for a thousand farmers and their families to attend this grand agricultural meeting. Grand Rapids has a number of fine restaurants conveniently located where dinners can be obtained by those spending the day in the city, for twenty-five cents.

For Students of Politics.

The Tribune Almanac for 1896 may now be had for 25 cents a copy. Whatever may be thought of The Tribune itself as the aggressive advocate of a special view of all matters, political and partisan, it may be frankly conceded that there is no partisanship in its Almanac. It is as honest as the day and gives exact facts and figures on all questions fearlessly and fairly. There used to be a man in New York with a mind for figures, who made a deliberate study of The Tribune Almanac every year, merely for amusement, picked out every error he could find and favored The Tribune with his merciless conclusions. It is an interesting fact that for 2 years he has not been able to find a flaw. The Tribune Almanac for 1896 will be carefully referred to this year for all sorts of political and other information, and buyers will find it all there—Populist or Democrat, Republican or Free Silver man, no one need fear that he will be misled on a single page of this well equipped, complete and thorough going publication.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Props., Toledo, Ohio. We the undersigned have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O., WARDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood mucus surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.

Field and Stock

Stump Lands and Their Use.

BY W. S. MERRILL.

The state of Michigan is the paradise of specialists in farming. The rich, loamy, central and southern region has its wheat and stock raisers, the elevated ridges along the western shore are developing fruit growers, and the hard wood lands further north are being cleared to make potato fields.

There are, however, thousands of acres of land, once covered with pine forests, which the lumberman has abandoned, and which seem to be neglected by both specialist and general farmer. The writer has long been of the opinion that this class of lands is valuable for agricultural purposes, notwithstanding its cheapness. Pine stump land is generally sandy, but with proper handling can be made profitably fertile. It requires no speciality, it is not adapted to any one special crop, but needs a slight modification of the principles of general farming. First of all, a little care or science in locating a piece of land of this kind for a farm. Any experienced woodsman who has been over large tracts of stump land cannot fail to notice the fact that they are nearly always interspersed with small marshes and swamps, and otherwise well watered.

These marshes contain layers of muck, the deposits of centuries of vegetable growth, and are mines of wealth for the purpose of making fertilizers.

Let the young man who is anxious to become a successful farmer, but who has not the means to purchase an improved homestead, locate on one of these quarter sections of stump land which has a swamp or marsh somewhere within its boundaries. A little hard work and perseverance clears the land. At this stage of proceedings, plan to have a large acreage of corn and rye. Keep enough cattle and hogs to feed the same and fatten them for market, reinforced also by a large force of hens, which help increase the revenue. Apples and small fruit grow almost spontaneously on sandy land, let them have a large place in the general plan.

Draw out the swamp muck, decompose it with lime, and compost with stable manure. With this fertilizer, and turning under an occasional crop of rye, the once barren looking sand becomes a garden of fertility, a source of wealth to the owner, and one of the ever bright examples of the triumph of practical science.

But what of the pine stumps? exclaims someone who has not seen this result of knowledge and experience. With the present improved machines the removal of the stumps is no longer a difficult problem, and once out of the ground they are worth all their cost for the purpose of fencing. It is a common mistake to assert that sandy soil is not rich enough for wheat. It is not lack of fertility, but lack of moisture. Rye matures early and is headed out before the usual dry weather of summer. Corn is, to a certain extent, an atmospheric plant and endures dry weather, so that, with sufficient fertilizer, an immense crop can be raised on the lightest sandy soil that ever grew pine trees.

Indeed, Michigan is a great state, and with all its wealth of agriculture and manufactures it still offers the best inducements to the industrious home-seeker who would carve out a fortune from the soil, and enjoy the freedom and independence of a real Patron of Husbandry.

Ashland Center, Newaygo County.

The Different Varieties of Hens.

BY A. K. CLARK.

I do not profess to be posted on all varieties, only by test as far as I have gone. I started out to study the poultry business for profit from a farmer's standpoint. I am not a fancier, and am not raising fine birds to exhibit or to sell high priced eggs. If that was my object I should keep the hens that were most called for and keep them well advertised. But I have been looking for the most profitable hen for a farmer to keep. I take and read many poultry papers, also read statements from many poultry breeders with their ideas set forth, and I have come to the conclusion that many of them are cranks. They praise up the variety they are the most interested in, for their own interest, while there may be no real merit in them. I have tried a number of our best varieties which have been so highly set forth by the writers, to find a hen which would be the best adapted to the farmer for profit. Now, I want the best layer the year around, also the best table and market fowl. I am often asked what is the best all-purpose fowl. I can hardly tell what full blood hen fills the bill. The Plymouth Rock comes the nearest to it with my experience. I will try and give you some of the merits and demerits of some of the different breeds that I have tested.

The Plymouth Rocks are the best for market, always sell well, and are more called for on the market than any others.

They weigh heavy. I have shipped coops of 20 hens that would average 6 pounds each. They develop quick, and make the best broilers. They lay as well as any, take the year around. They want to sit often, but if broken up they soon go to work again in a few days and keep it up the year through, except in moulting, and some of them will then lay till they are almost bare of feathers. They are indolent and are liable to put on fat, are more subject to disease, are very heavily feathered, and are more apt to have lice.

The Brown Leghorn is my next favorite, though for market or table use they have very little merit. They are small, averaging from 3½ to 4 pounds as hens, and not as rich, sweet meat, but develop quick for broilers, but are small, weighing from 1 to 1½ pounds each. But when you come to the egg producers they beat all others. They lay early. April chicks will lay in September and keep it up all winter. They scarcely ever want to sit till two years old. If they do take a notion to sit it is hard to break them up. They take a long rest at moulting time, are very nervous and wild and hard to fence against, and very hardy. Take a flock of full bloods, they are perfect beauties especially the roosters. Fanny Fields says they are perfect little dudes and proud as peacocks. For winter layers they are ahead of any I have ever kept. I have one coop of 75 of them, all pullets, and I am now getting more eggs from them than from three other coops with the same number of hens of all varieties up to this, the 12th day of January.

Now comes the Black Minorcas. I heard so much about them I tried them for two years. They are not a good market fowl. Their flesh is dark and not very good and they are very slow to develop. They are larger than the Brown Leghorn and very heavy for their size. They have too large combs, especially the hens. The combs lop over so as to entirely cover one eye. They are not early layers and are not winter layers but will lay well in the summer, are non-sitters and are quite healthy, but they do not fill my bill, but when crossed with the Plymouth Rocks they make a nice large hen.

The Wyandotte is next to the Plymouth Rock for an all purpose fowl. They are much the same nature, but their Asiatic blood makes them persistent sitters, and when you get them broken up they will only lay 4 or 5 eggs before they are ready to sit again, and it is just so all summer. They make good sitters and good mother hens but they do not fill the bill. Next is the Light Brahma. They are large, weigh heavy, and bring a good price when put on the market, but it takes 6 or 8 months before you can get them ready for market, and then they are a great coarse fowl. They are great feeders when fully developed they will sit down and eat till they get so fat they will die. I have lost them in that way. They are easy to fence against and as docile as a pig, but they are not the chick to fill my bill. I have had the White Cochins, did not keep them long; they are like their sisters, the Buff Cochins, they want to sit all the time. The Black Spanish are good layers, but lack all the other qualities. The White Crested Polish are good layers but, not winter layers, they class with those of the European hens.

I have tried hens of crosses of many other kinds but can not speak of their merits as full-bloods. The practice of some farmers is to get eggs from neighbors or buy a rooster and cross up in that way. I bought a flock of 30 hens this past fall and there were all kinds of crosses, such as Houdan, Wyandotte, Black Spanish, Brown Leghorn, Plymouth Rocks, but no full-bloods. I do not think that crosses of this kind are profitable as I said in one of my former papers. I like crosses, but I have my preference—I always want a full-blood rooster. Our farmers all admit that a full blood size for stock is preferable and just so in poultry. Give me a full-blood rooster with barnyard hens and they are very much improved. Put a Plymouth Rock rooster with Brown Leghorn hens and you get a good fowl. The roosters are marked like the rooster and the pullets like the hen all but the color which will usually be black. The Plymouth Rock and Brown Leghorn vice versa; they partake of the two varieties. The White Leghorn I have not tried except in some crosses that I have bought, but a neighbor of mine has them. He thinks they are good layers. I have made this long enough so I will close. My next will be on the care of young chicks.

Lakeside, Berrien County.

Good Roads Convention.

Executive Office, Michigan,
Lansing, January 6, 1896.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN,
GREETING:

Within the last few years great interest has been manifested in our highways, and the movement for better roads has already borne fruit in some localities in our state, and in some of our sister states it has

shown much greater results. This is as it should be, yet, it must be admitted that the improvement in this direction has not kept pace with our advancement as a state, and the time has come when a change for the better should be made.

That better roads and a better system of making and maintaining them would promote the best interests of our people, and that it can be advocated upon the grounds of good business policy and economy, is too plain to admit of argument.

How this can best be accomplished is a question that all should be interested in, and it is no exception to the rule that there are many differences of opinion among those who wish to arrive at the same result.

Believing that a conference of those interested in this subject would prove of material benefit to our state, and in response to the urgent request of numerous citizens of the state from localities widely separated, a "Good Roads Convention" is hereby called to meet in the hall of the House of Representatives, at the Capitol, in Lansing, on the third day of March, 1896, at two o'clock p. m. It is hoped the attendance will not be confined to a few localities, but that there may be a general attendance of representative citizens from every portion of our state. The subject is one well worthy of discussion in the press, and in organizations having for their object the promotion of the best interests of our state and its people.

This convention will be a Mass Convention, and all interested are cordially invited. There is no provision for any compensation for time or expenses, and those who attend must do so because of their interest in the cause.

JOHN T. RICH.

Some Growing Exports.

EXPORTS OF BARLEY.

Secretary Morton's Report, 1894.

There has been a steadily growing demand for Barley exportation to Great Britain. This demand amounted during the first nine months of 1894 to an increase over last year of 18,000,000 bushels. The universal use of barley by brewers in England maintains a steady and constant market for the highest grades of that cereal. Hard, firm, and bright grain barley from the northwestern states and California commands higher prices than many European barleys. That kind of American barley is second best to the best grade barleys of Smyrna, and is regarded among the best malting barleys in the British markets. The average yield per acre of barley in Great Britain is 34 bushels, though the drought of 1893 reduced it to an average of 29 bushels. There are 2,250,000 acres, average, of barley in the United Kingdom annually, so that the annual product is something like 75,000,000 imperial bushels, though the harvest of 1893 shows only 65,746,000 bushels.

In seven years the export of barley from the United States to Great Britain has grown from nothing into a very considerable trade. The average price in England during the year 1894 of good, bright barley, per bushel of 56 pounds, has been 77 1-5 cents.

The supply of the best quality of malting barley is limited, but there are states in the American Union which have great advantages for the production of the very highest grades of this cereal, and the market seems to be growing one into which American farmers can pour a large volume of remunerative products every year.

THE UNITED STATES APPLE TRADE WITH ENGLAND.

During the year 1892 England took in from the United States and Canada 4,500,000 bushels of apples, valued at \$6,500,000. In the year 1893, however, owing to poor crops in this country and Canada, and not because of a want of a market in England, she purchased only 3,400,000 bushels, valued at \$4,100,000; and during the nine months ending with September, 1894, Great Britain took 1,900,000 bushels of apples, valued at \$2,500,000. The apple market in Great Britain during the spring is largely supplied from Australasia, New Zealand, France, and Italy, the import from the latter country being a novelty which was witnessed for the first time during the year 1894.

The English apple crop is gathered in the early autumn and partially supplies the markets until about the middle of September. Then the first shipments of American apples begin to arrive. They consist of summer fruit. They are very tender and require immediate sale. They are packed in what are known as "New York barrels," containing three bushels and running 1 cwt. in weight. These barrels are smaller by 25 pounds than those in which the Canadian apples reach that market. But it is rather an advantage to the American trade that the barrel is smaller. It is not believed in Great Britain that if the barrels were made larger the corresponding increase in price could be obtained.

Canadian apples begin to arrive in London at the end of October. As a rule they are firm, hard and fine colored, and com-

mand the best prices through the winter. American apples average, wholesale, \$2.25 to \$3.15 per "New York barrel," while the Canadian bring \$2.91 to \$3.87 per "Canadian barrel." The 1894 apple crop of England is exceptionally small, owing to a late frost in the spring. The market for American apples will be good throughout the entire coming winter. It is important that the shippers understand that only choice fruit will pay profit on shipments. It is equally important that the apples be carefully handled and properly packed.

There is also a good demand in England for high-class cider, and there is no reason why the American farmer should not export in this form the apples not properly conditioned for shipment. At the present time English cider is selling at 22 cents per gallon, with a prospect of commanding 25 cents during the greater part of the winter.

EXPORTS OF HORSES.

There is a growing demand in England for American horses. During the first nine months of the year 1894 the English market took 2,811 American driving horses, at an average value of \$139 per head. Last year the average price of those shipped was \$230. A sound, light draft horse, in good condition, of the size and weight adapted to omnibus work in cities, will generally bring, in Liverpool or London, \$150. Nearly all of the shipments of horses thus far from the United States to England have been through English buyers. Arriving in England, the animals are put out to grass, as a rule, for a month at least, and are then sold at auction. Canada has about an equal share with ourselves in the English horse market, although Canadian shipments have the reputation of being somewhat better in quality.

The average price of Canadian geldings during the last nine months has been \$160, as against \$139 for American. The English understand perfectly well that prices of horses have fallen in the United States on account of the extensive substitution of trolleys and bicycles for horses, and it is generally conceded that considerable demand for American horses will soon spring up through Europe. The great omnibus and tramway companies of London are recruiting their stocks from the United States and Canada very generally at the present time.

POTATOES.

The British acreage in potatoes has not varied materially from half a million acres during many years. In Ireland the acreage has gradually fallen, in the course of fifteen years, from 842,000 acres to 720,000 acres. The potato product of the Channel Islands, France, and Belgium amounts to about 3,000,000 cwt. every year. But during the year 1894, up to and inclusive of the month of May, a considerable shipment of potatoes was made from England to the United States. When those shipments were made, potatoes were selling in New York for \$2.25 per sack of 168 pounds, and the price in England was \$7.29 to \$12.15 per ton of 2,240 pounds. In October, 1894, potatoes were selling in New York at \$1.85 per sack of 168 pounds, while the prices ranged in England at from \$14.60 to \$17 per ton.

The cost of transportation for potatoes from Great Britain to the United States per ton is about as follows: Drayage to the ship, 60 cents; freight, \$3.03; sacks, \$1.80. To these figures must be added insurance, duties, and commissions on this side. The duty is put on to protect the "infant industry" of potato growing in the United States. It is supposed to make higher prices for those Americans who raise potatoes, and lower ones for those who eat them. A protective tariff is always depicted by its advocates as a dual blessing to the farmer, so adjusted as to always enhance the things he sells and cheapen the things he buys. However, English potato dealers do not look to the New York market for sales until prices there reach about \$2.25 per sack. The potato crop of England this year is so limited that we shall not be able to draw supplies from there, even at higher prices than were obtained last year.

Hand and Eye Education.

I hear much said about the higher education. Yes, we want it, but we want more—a broader education. We want education of the hand and of the eye, not merely of the brain. We want education the issue of which shall be a whole manhood, the objects which shall be life, not merely the so-called learned professions. It is easier to find a learned minister to make a sermon, than a learned upholsterer to make a chair. It is easier to find a skilled surgeon to mend a broken bone, than a skilled plumber to mend a broken pipe. And we will come, and we ought to come (and it is in this direction that the reforms of the future lie) to a system of education which will not have its eye on the four learned professions—law, ministry, medicine, and teaching—but which will provide with equal fidelity, largeness, and generosity for the hand-workers and the eye-workers of America.—Lyman Abbott.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Counselling Together.

With this is sent to the department Mrs. McClure's promised cake recipe. If we recall the racy remarks with which she volunteered it at our Lansing meeting, it will prove appetizing indeed. She has suggested a topic for the next (?) Council and one or two other ladies in conversation have mentioned others. But let us not wait a year. Let us "take counsel" together in this department every two weeks.

Only a bare mention, I think, has been made in the VISITOR of the so-called "woman's section" conducted by Mrs. Mayo at a few of the farmers' institutes this winter. It is a comparatively new feature. Would it not be well to hear more about it from someone who can attend one of them? And is it not an idea that can be worked upon at those institutes where a special leader is not sent by the state institute board? Such meetings must perform great uses. No one can question it who recognizes how certain questions appeal to the affectional nature of women for solution, and how certain duties wait for her leading, and how women, everywhere, are searching for the deeper meanings and truer methods of living.

Today a personal letter tells me of one of these "woman's sections" in the village of Frankfort, Benzie county, where for the first time a farmers' institute was held last month. Of Mrs. Mayo's talk on "Mother and Daughter," my friend writes, "It was the most I ever heard;" and when she says that, I do not think she forgets that we have together sat spell-bound by words from the lips of Mary Livermore, Francis Willard and such other women. But it was that the words came fitly from experience to experience, from heart to heart. There is no talking down to give, nor reaching up to receive. Heart truths pass on a level.

We need more of such conferring together by twos and threes, and by hundreds. We need not wait to begin for an advertised woman's section, nor for a leader beyond self, but speak the highest, best thought that comes to us freely and commonly. J. B.

That Recipe.

I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed the "Council." I have thought so much about it since we came home. It is another one of the many benefits the Grange gives to women. I hope at our next meeting, "The Home," and all of its influences, may be discussed. We ask for ideal teachers, but we must have ideal homes before we can have an ideal teacher, (if such a personage could be). This is the recipe for what we call

POOR MAN'S CAKE.

One cup of sugar, one cup of sweet milk, one egg, two cups of sifted flour, butter the size of a hen's egg, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Mix sugar and butter together, then add milk, flour and baking powder; the egg, beaten well, add lastly. This will make four layers, or a nice loaf cake. Can use light brown sugar or white. MRS. JULIA MCCLURE.

Pomona Granges.

Report of Committee at State Grange.

Worthy Master:

There has been nothing referred to the Committee on Pomona Granges, so we will present some questions, and offer some suggestions to the Grange for its consideration. The Pomona is a branch of our organization intended to promote higher educational facilities in the Grange. It has been in existence a sufficient length of time to prove that it is of great value to our Order. If we could make it a means to secure greater financial benefits we think it would be an incentive to many to join us, who will not without some tangible object in view.

That it has benefited us financially all admit; it has not accomplished all in that way, perhaps, that we were led to believe it would when the Grange was first organized. That it can and will accomplish more in the future, we believe, but our avocation, and the slow way in which we, as farmers, acquire wealth, causes us to be conservative and to try new methods with caution.

The question is frequently asked, "What has the Grange accomplished?" It is a question that can only be fully answered in eternity, for who can estimate the value of the education received, of the helpful words uttered or of the precious friendships formed. There is a refining power in association, and if we could persuade those outside our Order that they could find the purest and best in the Grange, our membership might be greatly increased.

Do our children leave the farm and go to the city, thus rendering them ineligible, because they have found the unrelenting hand of labor on the farm too constant to

permit of the mental improvement their hearts craved?

ENTERTAINMENT.

If we could provide instructive entertainment to make the Grange attractive to them, and could convince them of the good to be found in the Grange, of the education to be gained by the conscientious performance of every duty assigned them, could we not at once secure large accessions of young members, who would give life and spirit to the Grange? We would especially urge members to visit other Granges, and when strangers come to your Grange do not wait for them to come and speak to you, but remember that in the Grange as in the home "Small cheer and great welcome make a merry feast."

We would like to ask if our present financial depression has sought to do in keeping our fourth degree members from joining the Pomona Grange? It is recommended by your committee that we use the annual fifth degree word in our Pomona Granges.

The Pomona Grange should select its officers from different parts of the county; it should have the supervision of the educational interests of the children, and it should be ready at all times to help the Subordinate Grange in every possible way, and all its associations should strengthen the bond of union between them.

Wm. Morris, the English poet, said, "People lift their eyebrows over women mastering the higher mathematics; why, it is infinitely more difficult to learn the details of good housekeeping. Anybody can learn mathematics, but it takes a lot of skill to manage a house well." It takes a lot of skill to manage a grange well, but we should each try to be easily managed, we should be slow to take offense and careful not to offend. Never be looking for slights and expecting to be slighted, but follow the golden rule. Do not expect everyone to see things from your standpoint. The Grange has done much to make us tolerant of other's views; we can differ, but still be in harmony.

AVOID PROSY PROGRAMS.

Do not kill either your Pomona or Subordinate Grange by long, dry speeches. Boil down what you have to say and when you have said it, stop. Do not waste the time of the Grange by making apologies, if you can make a good speech do not say you can not talk, and if you can make a poor speech, don't tell of it, the Grange will know it, but if you can and do make poor speeches, keep trying till you can make a good one, that is what the Grange is for. It is the purpose of the Grange to be a refining and educating power in our land.

Our city of Grand Rapids is lighted by electric towers. When you are miles away you can see the beautiful lights. When you are in the shaded streets of the city, you sometimes wish for the little discarded street lamps that were down near the earth where you have to be, and where they were so near that the reflection of one reached the other, and lighted your pathway all along. In our Order it is the little lights, near together doing what they can for each other that do the most good, rather than the few who are so high that we can only stare at them and wonder how they reached such a height. In union there is strength, a strong cable must be composed of many, many strands. If all farmers were united in the Grange they would prove a cable strong enough to move the world in the right direction. If all the Subordinate Granges in each county could unite and form a Pomona Grange we think the various problems embraced in our Declaration of Purposes might soon be solved. Our Declaration of Purposes should stand side by side with our Declaration of Independence, and as we would teach patriotism to our people by the reading of the latter on the 4th of July, so would we teach loyalty to our Order by having the former read at our anniversary celebrations. Or, should we have a national day in our Grange and celebrate the day when our Order was first founded, instead of each Grange celebrating its own anniversary?

We have been asked the question, "Can we place our ideal too high?" We think not, for we should follow the command to "be perfect." If we strive to attain to perfection we will find so many failures in our lives both in the home and the Grange, that we sometimes feel disheartened; we should always remember that a good Patron nurtures hope, and go on and on letting our failures serve as stepping stones to raise us higher. The Grange cannot rise higher than the homes which are represented in it, the home cannot be better than the members which compose it, so we can easily see that individual responsibility is our foundation to build from, in the home, the Grange, the state and the nation.

- MRS. MARTHA T. P. ADAMS,
- W. S. SIMONS,
- E. F. TALMADGE,
- MRS. H. J. AUSTIN,
- J. B. WILCOX,
- MRS. MYRTIE WILLIAMS,
- MRS. MARY E. GILLETT,
- MRS. MINNIE ESTES.

Report of Chaplain.

State Grange.

Members of the Grange:

In this era of organization the subject of the merits and demerits of various social orders were being discussed by a company of clergymen. Some expressed themselves as fearful lest the organizations of brotherhoods outside the pale of church societies would tend to lead the sheep away from the true Shepherd, and that the church of God would become a secondary consideration.

One man with a large heart and a clear insight as to the true gospel spirit said, "Any social organization that makes place for reverence, conscience, self-sacrifice, helpfulness and love is signed with the sign of the cross. It is of the kingdom of heaven."

What does this sign of the cross stand for? It stands for all that is good in this world. All civilization, education, art, science, all that has brought this world up from the dark ages to the light, liberty and grand achievements of this nineteenth century.

It has always led out and up out of ignorance and superstition up to the light of reason and knowledge, out of narrowness, bigotry and pharisaism up to broad thinking and broader, grander living.

It has led out of primitive crudeness, up to clearness, skill and almost mechanical perfectness, from the rough, crooked stick plow drawn by a bullock or cow up to the steam gang plow. It has led out of the ignorance that the lightning's bolt was but the visible anger of God, and has harnessed it and tamed it and now it is known that it is but one of God's wonderful agents made for man, and it must do his will.

It sends any thought of man across continents, walks the ocean's bed and tells its tale in other lands. It catches the tone of sweet voiced singers and repeats them to audiences thousands of miles away. It catches the laugh of the baby and lays it away so that loved ones in the future when the laugh is changed to the busy and stern tone of manhood, may hear again the baby laugh that brought joy to the household.

It has led out of the rude tent and ruder life of the nomadic wanderer to the quiet, comfort and refinement of the rural farm. It has led from neglect and even cruelty to the afflicted, up to retreats, infirmaries and hospitals, where the poorest of the poor may have all the care and help that medical science can give.

It makes home sacred, aids the weak and restrains the strong. It builds churches, establishes churches and organizes Granges. It teaches us to be tolerant of the opinions of others, careful not to wound or give offense. It says that the spirit of love and good will must be the motive of our lives.

How much of this kingdom of heaven, this love toward all and malice toward none are we getting out of the Grange? Is our Grange life making us broader in our views, helping us to lose sight of self, and to hasten the good time coming? If we are in the way of progress, always by example as well as precept leading up, then with a clear conscience we can sign our life and its work with the sign of the cross.

Let us repeat the words of Thomas K. Beecher: "Any social organization that makes place for helpfulness, reverence, conscience, self sacrifice, and love, is signed with the sign of the cross. It is of the kingdom of heaven." MARY A. MAYO.

Report of Flora.

Worthy Master and Members of the Michigan State Grange:

Once more the old mill wheel of time has turned around and again we are permitted to greet our fellow workers in this, our glorious Order. We have come from near and far, like children of a great family, to discuss our joys and sorrows at this our parental hearthstone; to tell how much each Grange has accomplished in the past year; to seek advice concerning the great and endless labor before us.

Indeed we have labored long and faithfully, but we must not cease, for the Grange, like a great garden of delicate flowers, will droop and die unless guarded and tended with the most persistent care, and for this reason some new provision ought to be made to stimulate the interests of the many members.

One is never really acquainted with a plant until he has made his way to its home and learned its manner of growth at all seasons of the year, and so we as members of this noble Order should zealously study its every precept that we may be fully and truly acquainted with it, and then we will surely love it and call it our great benefactor.

We are all too apt to overlook the bright beams of light which are shed upon us because of our contact with the Grange, too apt to look upon the dark instead of the bright side of life.

This year has been one of prosperity to us all, if not in one way surely then in another, and no word of complaint should

be heard from any. Let us not lament because we have not been blessed with great wealth and joys untold. Rather let us be thankful for the smaller blessings which God has already given us, and though the greater ones may now lie hidden, the golden future will set them out before us in bright array.

As Flora of this, as well as of my Subordinate Grange, I have endeavored to fulfill the duties which have fallen upon me to the best of my ability.

In June, when the flowers are found everywhere in such profusion, a meeting of the Grange was given especially to a floral programme, which gave much benefit as well as pleasure to all.

Let me urge the Floras of every Grange in Michigan not to let the season of buds and blossoms pass by without devoting at least one meeting of the Grange to the honor of flowers, the "stars which on earth's firmament do shine."

Flowers are always thought of as emblems of gentleness and refinement, and wherever they are nourished and cared for, those qualities may always be found; and so for their pure and refining influence we should cultivate them in boundless profusion. Let us plant them in every nook, gladdening and beautifying our homes with their bright and starry eyes.

While we are assembled here, let us strive to find some good plan to carry home to our own Grange, something for its moral and intellectual advancement. And as far as lies within our power let us bear aloft and high above the tarnish of ignorant criticisms, the banner of this grand and noble Order, the Grange.

MRS. D. D. BUELL.

The Juveniles.

Winket's Valentine.

"Where's mine?" asked little Winket Price.

Kate and Dick had read aloud the names on a pile of lovely pink and gilt valentines; and none of the "pity" pictures were for Winket.

"Where's mine?" she said.

"O," said Dick, "Winket don't have valentines."

"They wait until they are bigger," said Kate.

"But it is to-mo'wo, and me tant be bigger in dess one night."

But Dick and Kate ran down stairs send the coachman off to the postoffice with every one of the lovely letters.

Winket came, all sad, and stood by mamma.

"I've known sweet pictures to grow in one night," said mamma.

"For me?" said Winket.

"We will see," said mamma. "Don't cry."

They called their baby Winket because she was so nice about crying. In many things she was not nice; but when she was about to cry she would wink very hard and fast, and keep the tears back and sob to herself, all so brave.

She stood winking now, until soon, mamma carried her up stairs fast asleep.

Next morning, when Winket had tied on one slipper, she spied a letter on the stand, all blue and silver. And the inside was so odd—a crimson heart, with one part of it stuck full of little, bright, black pins.

There were angels and roses around the edge, and at the bottom what Winket called "some poetry."

She laughed and danced until mamma came in.

"It *did* grow mamma! Now yead me the poetry."

Mamma "yeaded" it.

"Mamma's heart belongs to Winket. And though Winket may not think it. When Winket's naughty, she sticks in Poor mamma's heart a cruel pin."

Winket looked up at mamma very hard, and drew her mouth into a funny smile. But all the time she was going down stairs she winked fast. "Me mustn't stick pins in my mamma's heart any more," she said all to herself.—*Wide Awake.*

A Proud Record.

Bedford Co., Pa., Dec. 16, '95.
O. W. Ingersoll.

Dear Sir: Thirteen years ago my house was painted with your paints; it looks, and is better today than houses painted four and five years ago. I used no primer as directed in pamphlet, but used two coats of paint and have received good results. Paint just ordered will be applied on same building soon as weather permits. I shall use no other so long as I can get your make.

Yours Respectfully,
R. S. McCREARY.

See advt. Ingersoll's liquid rubber paints.

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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NEXT ISSUE, FEBRUARY 20.

OUR WORK.

The following has been approved by the State Grange as a fair statement of the objects the Grange of Michigan has in view, and the special lines along which it proposes to work. We hope every Grange in the state will work earnestly in all these departments, so that by a more united effort we shall rapidly increase our numbers, extend our influence, and attain more and more completely those ends which we seek.

OUR OBJECT

is the Organization of the Farmers for their own Improvement, Financially, Socially, Mentally, Morally.

We believe that this improvement can in large measure be brought about:

1. (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.
- (b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.
2. (a.) By frequent social gatherings, and the mingling together of farmers with farmers, and of farmers with people of other occupations.
- (b.) By striving for a purer manhood, a nobler womanhood, and a universal brotherhood.
3. (a.) By studying and promoting the improvement of our district schools.
- (b.) By patronizing and aiding the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations in their legitimate work of scientific investigation, practical experiment, and education for rural pursuits.
- (c.) By maintaining and attending farmers' institutes; reading in the Reading Circle; establishing and using circulating libraries; buying more and better magazines and papers for the home.
4. (a.) By diffusing a knowledge of our civil institutions, and teaching the high duties of citizenship.
- (b.) By demanding the enforcement of existing statutes, and by discussing, advocating, and trying to secure such other state and national laws as shall tend to the general justice, progress and morality.

What questions is your Grange discussing?

Are your New Year's resolves still crowning?

A Grange is no better than the members who compose it.

WANTED—a bit of news from each of fifty Granges in Michigan.

We keep publishing reports from State Grange proceedings, as space permits.

We have some splendid articles on the inside pages of this issue. Do not miss them.

We are in receipt of the printed proceedings of our own State Grange, and also of the Illinois State Grange.

Conservatism, yet progression, is the phrase that explains why the Grange gets recognition from thinking people.

Please do not send subscriptions to editor at Lansing. It causes delay and trouble. Send to Perry & McGrath, Charlotte.

Sixty-eight institutes in Michigan this year. One third the whole number held for twenty years before. The Grange did it.

We have communications from L. M. Bowers, "F. D. W.," "A Sister," John W. Kelley, and D. Woodman, which were "billed" for this issue, but which were crowded out by the length of the legislative committee report and the round-up institute program.

Organize, concentrate. These words are the secret of success in the Subordinate Grange, in the Pomona Grange, in the State Grange, and in the National Grange. To organize, means the strengthening of the machinery. To concentrate, means utilizing the machinery for a definite purpose.

Probably the most important report of the State Grange committees is that on legislative action. We give in this issue that report in full, and beg every Patron to read it carefully. These questions should be well discussed in Subordinate and Pomona Granges, until every Patron has sound and well digested opinions on all these topics. Only thus can we effect legislation wisely.

The round-up farmers' institute at Grand Rapids, February 11-14 is attracting wide attention from thoughtful farmers. Brother Horton presides, and Bros. Luce and Redfern have leading addresses. Sister Mayo has charge of the woman's sections. These features should attract hundreds of Patrons to attend this institute. Full particulars in another column.

The well-considered report of the State Grange committee on Pomona Granges suggests a topic for a little further thought. Pomona Granges in Michigan are doing a good work in several counties. But the average Pomona Grange is not a very strong organization. Its chief benefits seem to be social. Good programs are frequently given, but in the financial, intellectual, and legislative phases of Grange work, the Pomona Grange does not "cut the figure" it should.

There is one suggestion that occurs to us. We have not thought out the plan carefully, but merely present it as a topic for thought. It is this. It is generally conceded that the marketing of crops is as important as the growing of them. Up to date the average farmer is at the mercy of the buyer of the products of his farm. Now would it be possible for the Pomona Grange to act as a sort of "county board of trade" for that county. Through a business committee of good men, it could study the markets, and give advice as to selling, the outlook for certain crops, etc. Their work might in certain cases be even so far developed that they could make sales, in large lots, of the products from small producers. All this of course should be within the Grange. We offer the above as a topic for serious discussion in Pomona Granges.

We believe the road convention called by Gov. Rich is eminently a move in the right direction. Nevertheless truly beneficial results will accrue from it, only as it is attended by the right sort of men. If cranks, politicians, or theorists get control of its action, it may better have been omitted from the list of gatherings for this year. We therefore advise all farmers who can do so to be present and take part in the deliberations.

We are in favor of road improvement, but we are not fanatical on the subject. We believe that the first necessity is the better application of the present amount of labor on the common dirt roads. Nevertheless we believe that the county road law should not be repealed. It has been adopted in several northern counties with splendid results. It would be unjust to repeal it now. Counties that need it should have it. We have seen the beneficial effect of this law, in northern Michigan. We would protest against the repeal of the optional road law.

The road question is not easy of solution, but that does not prevent careful study of the subject. The motto of road reformers should be "Progress," not "Revolution." As desirable as a universal system of macadam roads might be, it is nonsense to try to secure such a system in Michigan at present. But we can improve our present roads. We can work the roads better. We can at least cease to spoil good roads by plowing them up, and that sort of folly. We can gravel the dirt roads in many cases. We can build some roads of crushed stone. In a few cases macadam roads may be built. All this is progress, growth, and in the right direction. But the people will not consent to an immediate and radical change in our system, especially if it has even the semblance of involving large expenditures.

The Record.

Shall Michigan show up with Other States in Grange Work During 1896?

The following clippings will show the readers of the VISITOR, and especially all Grange workers and county deputies what is being done in other states, and that the hard times are liable to prove an aid to Grange organization instead of a hindrance, by making farmers attentive listeners and willing to adopt methods that offer assistance:

"There never was a time except in the early days of the Order when Granges could be organized with as little effort as at the present time."—Our Grange Homes.

"Illinois State Grange officers have set their stakes for 50 new Granges the present

year."—Our Grange Homes.

"Brother Trimble, the National Secretary, says:

"I do not recall, in many years, a busier or more prosperous period of Grange work than the quarter about to close. In that period 51 new Granges, and the receipts more than double the same period one year ago. The harvest is ready before us. Shall we reap it?"—Grange Bulletin.

"On January 2, '96, Worthy Master Smith of Ohio State Grange, forwarded nine charters for new Granges to Secretary Aikins to be recorded and forwarded. This shows the excellent work being done by the county deputies of Ohio, and proves the ability of Ohio to record 100 new Granges for 1896."—Grange Bulletin.

I have noticed from time to time in the various Grange papers that in nearly all states Granges were being organized more readily and in greater numbers than for many years past. This shows that the year is to be noted with a vigorous growth of the Grange. In Michigan much has been done to encourage the work and define methods of procedure. Results are beginning to show through much inquiry, and some Granges have been added to the list. County Deputies should lose no time in laying out their respective fields for solid business during the whole month of February.

It is easily in the possibilities for Michigan to add at least

FIFTY NEW GRANGES

before March 1st. It means work everyone knows, but that is what we are here for. The new circular just issued to all County Deputies if explicitly followed, will, I feel confident, add even 100 Granges to the Michigan list. What a grand record it would be. Let us unitedly work for it and commence now. Deputies have much to talk about in explaining the work of the Grange before audiences of farmers, with all its social and educational advantages, its influence on legislation, trade contracts, and its high standing in the estimation of all classes of people. It is the ideal organization and farmers are willingly saying so. Forward! March! should be the motto of our grand company of County Deputies.

Geo. B. Horton.

Cheer From the North.

FELLOW PATRONS: I think you will be interested in hearing something from us up here among the snow and ice. I attended the Emmet county farmers' institute, January 13 and 14. Professor Gulley, the conductor, was the only one of the state force of instructors present the first day's session which opened with a good attendance of farmers. Professor Crozier arrived on a later train, but J. H. Brown and Mr. Mumford failed to get there and we afterward found that they were resorting with many others, on board the big transfer boat which was unsuccessful in getting through the ice in the Straits of Mackinac. The distance is but 8 miles but it required 36 hours for the big boat to force its way through the floating cakes which a high wind piled up to a great depth. Brown says that it was a long ride for fifty cents. However, all's well that ends well, and as they reported for duty at Charlevoix we will forgive their absence from Harbor Springs. I found but one Grange in Emmet county near Cross Village, and that one dormant. I will reorganize it and organize some new Granges soon.

Charlevoix county institute opened at Charlevoix with a good attendance of farmers, mostly Patrons from Barnard, Ironton, and Peninsula Granges. The state lecturers were ably assisted by local speakers, and the general verdict was we had a most excellent meeting. A choir from Barnard Grange furnished music.

The next institute was Mancelona, Antrim county, which ended the series of institutes in this part of the state. Our party, consisting of Messrs. Crozier, Gulley and myself, arrived the second day of their meeting. We were conducted directly to the Presbyterian church where we found the conductor and a good sized audience as busy as a swarm of bees in June. We were greeted by Bros. A. E. Palmer and George Carlisle of Kalkaska, and D. H. Stebbins of Atwood. The interests of the Grange had already been presented by the brothers mentioned, so I was relieved from this duty. Hopes were entertained of organizing a Grange here and in the evening a paper was circulated by Frank Leshler and some names secured. County Deputy Stebbins and myself decided to remain another day and organize if possible. A farmers meeting was called to meet in Watson's hall at 2 p. m., January 18, which was well attended by farmers who listened with interest to a description in detail of the work of the Grange in the past and its aim for the future. After a short recess we proceeded to organize Stebbins Grange of Mancelona with 28 charter members. After being carefully instructed in the secret work of the Order they elected officers for the ensuing year. Master, Frank Leshler; Secretary Thomson Gloom;

Lecturer, George Leshler. Next regular meeting to be held Saturday evening, February 1. Stebbins Grange starts out with every prospect of success. May Antrim county furnish us many more just like it. E. B. Ward, Special Deputy.

Allegan Action.

Perhaps a few Grange items from this county may be of interest to our VISITOR readers. I have visited all of the Granges in this county except Moline, during the month, and all are in good working order. They all report a renewed interest in the work. New members are coming in and old ones returning to the fold, and we believe that 1896 will be a prosperous year for the Grange. Allegan Central Grange has taken in three new members since January 1st.

I attended the farmers' institute at Fennville the 15th and 16th, and can testify that it was a grand success. The large opera hall was filled to its full capacity. All the papers and lectures offered were practical and to the point. Brother Redfern's lecture on "Unity of Action" fully demonstrated the fact that united co-operation among farmers and fruit growers was the only hope of success.

Dinner and supper were served each day of the session by the ladies in and around Fennville, free to all attending the institute, which was a very welcome feature to those from a distance.

I also attended the institute at Cooper, Kalamazoo county, and there noticed the same interest exhibited by the people to gather fruit from the papers and discussions presented. I believe these farmers' institutes will be of untold value in unfolding and developing new lines of thought and action among our people.

Allegan county Pomona Grange met with Rural Grange, January 23. Though the weather was stormy, the hall was well filled at 10:30 a. m. Officers were elected. The afternoon session was devoted to reports of Subordinate Granges, and the report of delegate to State Grange, also a literary program which was well responded to by those called upon by the Worthy Lecturer. The reports of our Secretary and Treasurer showed the finances of the Pomona in good order, and the meeting closed at five p. m. to meet with Moline Grange April 16.

We expect to be able to report the reorganization of Ganges Grange February 6th, and hope to revive others now dormant, ere the winter is gone.

L. C. Roor, County Deputy.

A Tribute to Grange Sense.

When the California Republican platform, in 1894, demanded an export bounty on farm products, in order to protect agriculture as such as manufacturing is now protected by import duties, the demand was regarded as an evidence of the extraordinary discontent of western farmers. Since that time, however, the evidence has been rapidly accumulating that this demand is endorsed by farmers in every part of the country, as essential to the justice of a protective system. The most remarkable instance of this is found in the resolutions recently passed by the State Grange of Pennsylvania. By an unanimous vote that body propounded the following questions to the American Tariff League and the Home Market Club:

"First. Can a tariff on imports directly or indirectly protect the home market prices of agricultural staples as long as the surplus is sold for export, and the export and home prices of these are the same?"

"Second. If it cannot, must not this unprotected industry pay for the cost of protection of the protected industries?"

"Third. Is not such a system of protection injuriously unjust and inequitable to the producers of agricultural staples?"

"Fourth. Will not a bounty on the exports of agricultural staples for the protection of their prices in the home market be just and equitable so long as protection by a tariff on imports is in operation?"

When such questions as these are asked by the farmers of a state which has been the very citadel of protection, it is no wonder that the Republican congress makes haste to repudiate the principle of free trade in raw materials by restoring sixty per cent of the McKinley duties on wool and lumber. The farmers of the country are no longer in a mood to submit to discriminations between the product of farm labor and the product of factory labor. Protection, they demand, must either be made a system or be abandoned; either all industries must be supported alike out of the proceeds of taxation, or no industry must be thus supported. The price of the great agricultural staples cannot be raised by a tariff on imports, for the American price is always the European price minus the cost of transportation. Only by means of a bounty on exports can American prices of wheat, corn, cotton, and meat be raised above the European level or even to that level. Justice, therefore, demands, say the farmers, that either such a bounty be granted, raising the price of their products, or else that they be no

longer required to pay more than the European price (plus the cost of transportation) for the products they buy. If the American Tariff League or the Home Market Club can send an answer to the Pennsylvania Grange which will convince it that the price of farm products is artificially raised by the present tariff system as much as the price of manufactured goods, we shall be interested to see it.—*The Outlook*.

The Farmers' Institute at Fremont.

The institute at Fremont was a success in every way and a large crowd gathered to listen to what the instructors had to tell them along the line of profitable fruit raising and dairying.

The leading feature of all, and the most interesting to the ladies, was the address of Mrs. Mary A. Mayo on Thursday evening, and the session for the ladies on Friday afternoon. The whole of Newaygo county was completely stirred up by these addresses, and Mrs. Mayo has the thanks of every lady present for her wonderful talk on "The Mother and Daughter." We need such talks, they do us good, and if followed by every mother it might be the means of one of the greatest reformations this country has ever known.

The superintendent made no mistake when he sent Mrs. Mayo as conductor of these meetings as an experiment. She is a brilliant success. Her language was beautiful and such that everyone could understand. Long may she be spared to continue on in her labor of love and usefulness and cheering the hearts of overburdened mothers and giving counsel to thoughtless daughters. Heart to heart talk it was and will long be remembered by the women of Newaygo county.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

What's The Matter?

I was astonished to learn yesterday at Grange that wife and myself were the only Grangers in our Grange taking the *Visitor*. Does this condition exist in many places? I promise you that it shall not long exist here.

Grangers want to ask themselves this question. Can our Order exist, grow, be influential, without a representative organ? There can be but one answer to this. No.

Now, every Granger we have heard express an opinion of the *Visitor*, says it is just what we want as a representative paper. Let every Granger in Michigan take the *Visitor* and we shall have a surplus to report next State Grange in place of a deficit.

There are most excellent prospects for organizing two Granges here if we can have Brother Woodman come to the county. Our Deputy Lecturer is selling fruit trees, teaching music, visiting one school very often, lecturing on everything but the Grange.

At the election of officers, for the ensuing year, Fraternal Grange, Shelby, elected the following: N. Adams, Master; G. W. Woodward, Lecturer; Wm. H. Barry, Secretary.

We believe the coming year will witness a great Grange revival. Farmers are coming to see more and more that the Grange is the medium through which are to come reforms in legislation, improvements in farm, home and school.

The greatest factor in the upbuilding of the Grange is the *GRANGE VISITOR*. Let us open our hearts and our homes to this visitor. Yours Fraternally,

D. E. McCLEURE.

For The Visitor.

Bro. E. B. Ward of Charlevoix has sent out cards containing a pledge to secure subscriptions for the *Visitor*. We give the names of those whose pledges have already been received. Are there others who are sufficiently patriotic to agree to help the *Visitor* in this way? We should like your names. The pledge is as follows: "I desire to see our *GRANGE VISITOR* made self supporting, and will pledge myself to send at least ten new subscribers to the *Visitor*, within 60 days."

E. B. Ward, Charlevoix, promises 50 names.
L. C. Root, Allegan.
D. H. Stebbins, Atwood.
E. O. Landt, Traverse City.
George R. Bowser, Dowling.

Woman's Work at Hart.

The woman's branch of the farmers' institute at Hart, January 13-14 was a wonderful success. It opened a new life for a great many mothers. The committee placed just the right person in the right place, when they asked Sister Mayo to take charge of that branch of the work.

The following is clipped from the report of the meeting: "It is desired by Hart women that the woman's branch of the farmers' institute be kept in existence, and that Mrs. Mayo will again return and address them on like subjects." The same may be said of every lady that was fortunate enough to gain admittance to the hall. We think it a mistake that one of the beautiful churches was not opened, but I

presume the committee thought the hall would accommodate all that would attend. I think they must have changed their minds when they saw between three and four hundred ladies, and mostly mothers, come down from the hall with faces all aglow with enthusiasm and words of praise for the men that made it possible for them to have such a meeting in Oceana.

These are some of the remarks heard: "Who first thought of it and how can we thank them enough?" "I wish I could tell Mrs. Mayo how much good she has done me, but I was too full for utterance. I am a better mother for coming here today." "I have had a new era opened to me. I can see where I am making a great mistake with my two little girls. I thank God for this meeting. I shall change my manner of training my children, and hope I am not too late."

The institute was a grand success in every way, but I only speak of this branch for I presume some good brother will write up the other part for the *Visitor* as there were some very fine discussions on the different topics.

Fraternal Grange will install the new officers next Saturday at their hall, and we expect to have supper and a good time generally.

JULIA E. McCLEURE.

The First Grange

of the new year was organized by Deputy E. W. Allis of Lenawee county, with the assistance of Geo. B. Horton, on the evening of January 14, with 38 charter members and with favorable prospects of rapidly increasing to at least one hundred. At other points in the county the people are moving toward organizing. Times are close and money hard to get, but these conditions bring farmers to face their duties, and if the merits of the Grange are thoroughly presented, the exceedingly small fee for membership is easily found. Why not, when to all the social, educational, and concentrative advantages is added the opportunities for cooperative buying, which, if worked, will pay each family ten times over for all fees, dues and compulsory expenses. In some respects the hard times are an aid to organization instead of a hindrance. Now is the harvest time for county deputies, and no time should be lost in locating and persistently working several points in each of the respective counties.

G. B. H.

Rural Grange.

Rural Grange No. 556, is booming at present. At our installation January 4th, Brother S. O. Coon of Fremont Grange officiated as installing officer. We also conferred the third and fourth degrees on one member, after which we partook of a bountiful supper prepared for the occasion. After supper, Brother Coon gave some very instructive points on the unwritten work and also favored us with a splendid recitation. As it was so near the anniversary of the organization of our Grange, we celebrated its twenty-first anniversary. At our last meeting, January 18 we balloted for two new members. Our Worthy Lecturer introduced a subject for discussion entitled "Why don't the Granges as a body work together for their own interests, ship their own produce, and buy of the wholesaler and save middle men's profits?" Who pays the drummers' large salaries? I say once for all it is the farmer, and if the farmers don't unite they will never get out of the rut they were traveling in. One farmer cannot do anything, but if a million men would all give one dollar and hang together they would accomplish a great deal. But the majority of the farmers would rather give five dollars to the little petty swindlers than to give one dollar to become a member of an organization that is working for their own interest. If every Grange in Michigan would elect a correspondent to the *Visitor* and instruct them to write an article once a month, the *Visitor* would be well filled with Grange news. I think that the *Visitor* should be in the hands of every farmer in America. It is the best farm paper that we take and if the farmers would take the *Visitor* and read it more thoroughly, they would not be bit by every little swindle that passes over the country. I would like to hear from other Grange correspondents through the *Visitor*.

JOHN T. KERR.

Organization and Reorganization of Subordinate Granges.

Preparations For Organizing.

An organizing Deputy must receive his commission from the Master of the State Grange. He should provide himself with the Digest of the National Grange, rules and regulations of his State Grange, a full set of the Subordinate Grange manuals, the necessary blanks for the work, and a supply of the pamphlets containing the Declaration of Purposes, Constitution and By-Laws of the Order. Thus armed and equipped for the work, he should make himself familiar with the Declaration of Principles, Constitution, Laws, Ritual and

Esoteric work of the Order. In attempting to organize a Grange, the first step of the Deputy should be to obtain an interview with some of the most intelligent and influential farmers and their wives within the jurisdiction of the contemplated Grange, and get them interested in the move, for the organization depends largely upon the standing and influence of its originators. Then make a list of such persons, eligible to membership, as they may suggest as suitable for charter members, and arrange to see them personally, or have some proper person do so, and get them also interested, and leave with them copies of the Declaration of Purposes, Constitution of the Order, etc. They will then begin to read about it, and will come out and listen attentively to a lecture in the near future on the objects, aims and achievements of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry. The lecturer should hold out no inducements for persons to become members that will not be likely to be realized. This course, in a majority of cases, will result in the organization of a good, strong, and prosperous Grange.

WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO MEMBERSHIP.

Deputies should always bear in mind the fact that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry is a farmer's organization, hence it is reasonable to infer that only such persons as are of the required age, of good moral character, and engaged in agriculture, or in other words are farmers, in the general acceptance of that term, and have no interest in conflict with the purposes of the Order, are eligible to membership.

The word "farmer" is construed to mean, a person who owns, or cultivates, or superintends, or manages and controls the cultivation of a farm, including the wife or husband, and children of farmers, also the help on the farm and in the household. A "farmer" may be engaged in other and legitimate business or profession, without disqualifying him for membership.

CHARTER MEMBERS.

A Grange cannot be organized with less than nine men and four women; but the number which must be taken as charter members is unlimited. They should also consider that small, weak Granges are comparatively of little practical benefit to the members of the Order; while good, strong, active, working organizations are not only inestimable in value to the members, but are like "apples of gold in pictures of silver" to the Order.

Membership fees are fixed by State Granges, but cannot be less than \$1.00 for men and 50 cents for women.

HOW TO ORGANIZE.

Assemble the charter members in a private room, suitable for that purpose, and have them sign the application blank and pay the membership fee. Then proceed as directed on pages 10 and 11 of the manual. The Deputy should then take the chair as Master, call to order, and fill the other officers' chairs by appointment, place a manual in the hands of each, and briefly instruct them in their duties. Then open in form as a Grange in the 1st degree, and give all the instructions in that degree. Then close in the 1st degree and open in the 2nd, and so on through all the degrees, paying particular attention to the requirements to be found on pages 29 and 47, and explaining omissions on pages 9, 10, 20, 22, 51 and 57 of the manual. Give all instructions clearly and briefly. When time will permit, it is well to take a class and go through with the ritual work of initiation in the 1st degree—using combined degrees. Officers can be elected at the time of organization, but it is generally preferable for the Grange to select some member to preside until officers are elected and installed, and elect at a subsequent meeting, to be appointed for that purpose. The Grange may hold meetings, elect officers, and prepare By-Laws, but cannot work as a Grange until the Dispensation is received. Soon after the Dispensation and supplies are received, a meeting should be held, and the Deputy, or some other competent officer should be present and install the officers and give further instructions. The members should be impressed with the importance of starting right and living up to every requirement of law and usage, as far as it is possible to do so. Impossibilities are not required. They should also fully understand that the Grange is a school for its members, where social culture, refinement, moral and intellectual development are sought and inculcated. All questions of interest to the members—those of a sectarian and partisan nature excepted—can be discussed in a Grange. A program for literary work should be arranged in advance for every meeting, for the benefit its members derive from it depends largely upon the character of its work, and the interest its members take in that work.

NATIONAL GRANGE FEE TO ORGANIZING DEPUTIES.

The National Grange has provided that the Secretary of the National Grange should pay to each legally appointed organizing Deputy the sum of \$5.00 for each new Grange organized by him upon the receipt

of the official papers and application for charter, accompanied by the constitutional fee of \$15.00; and \$2.50 for each dormant Grange reorganized with not less than twenty members. The order in case of new Granges is explicit and requires no further explanation. Dormant Granges, referred to in the above order, are of two classes, viz:

1st—Those whose charters have been suspended by the Master of the State Grange as provided by law; and 2d—Those that have formally surrendered their charters through the Secretary of the State Grange to the National Grange. Where the charter of a Grange has been "revoked" for cause, it is not classed as dormant, but extinct, and cannot, therefore, be reorganized except by order of the National Grange, which alone has authority to "issue, revoke, and restore charters."

REORGANIZATION OF DORMANT GRANGES.

Dormant Granges may be reorganized under such regulations as the State Granges may provide, in harmony with the National Grange laws, and the charters of those of the first class can be restored by the Master of the State Grange; but those of the second class, after reorganization and the election of officers, must apply through the Secretary of the State Grange to the Secretary of the National Grange for the restoration of their charters. Where charters are lost, duplicate charters will be issued. Organizing Deputies should, therefore, apply to the Secretary of the State Grange for information regarding the condition of dormant Granges to be reorganized; and State Masters should suspend the charters of all Subordinate Granges, which have, under State Grange regulations and National Grange laws, forfeited their charters and ceased to work; for not until that is done can reorganization be effected. As the work of reorganizing dormant Granges is done mainly under State Grange regulations it is not deemed advisable to give any definite instructions to be strictly followed by deputies in the work, but the following National Grange law should be strictly followed, and the brief suggestions which follow may not be out of place.

"Dormant Granges may be reorganized by the Master of the State Grange, or by a duly authorized Deputy, when less than thirteen of the members desire to do so, by admitting members residing within the jurisdiction of such dormant Granges, who have become unaffiliated by reason of the surrender, suspension or revocation of the charter of their Grange, or by neglect to pay dues after removing from the jurisdiction of their Grange. The organizing officer may also admit new members as a part of such reorganized Grange, upon the payment of full initiatory fees. Such new members shall be obligated and instructed in the same manner as at the organization of a new Grange."

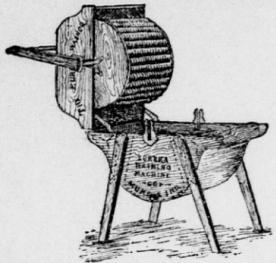
In reorganizing a Grange, first enroll the names of the old members who desire to resume their standing in the Order, and the names of other persons present who have been members elsewhere and now desire to join the reorganized Grange. From each of these, whether male or female, collect such fee as the State Grange may require. Persons who were formerly connected with the Order are not re-obligated when received into a reorganized Grange. In receiving new members when reorganizing a Grange, enroll their names after those of the old members, collect the legal initiatory fee, and obligate them as in organizing a new Grange. Then proceed to the election and installation of officers, and instruction in the unwritten work. The fees received at the reorganization, after deducting the State Grange deputy's fee, go into the treasury of the reorganized Grange. Communicate the A. W. to the Worthy Master, and have him impart it to the members. Immediately after reorganizing a Grange, fill out the blank which the Secretary of the State Grange issues for that purpose, and send it to him by mail. When a dormant Grange has been reorganized as above provided, the Secretary of the State Grange should report that fact to the Secretary of the National Grange, with the name and address of the organizing Deputy. Upon receipt of such notice, officially signed and sealed, the Secretary of the National Grange will forward to such Deputy the fee above specified.—*Alpha Messenger*.

Taking the whole country over we believe we are safe in saying that not more than one-fourth of the farmers are producing small fruits in sufficient quantity to supply the demand of their families. It seems strange indeed that a luxury so luscious and so easily and cheaply produced on the farm should not be looked after and supplied more abundantly and generally than it is.—*The Epitomist*.

At a meeting of the Elsie Grange No. 202, held Wednesday, January 29, 1895, resolutions were adopted regarding the death of their worthy and much esteemed brother, Curtis R. Stafford. The Grange has lost congenial, kind, social, and true brother.

The Eureka Washer

WITH LID COMPLETE.



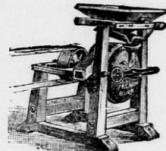
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INDIVIDUAL TENSION
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BECAUSE they grind more with same power, don't wear out or break down. Grind fine table meal and all kinds of grain, including ear corn for feed.

At 1/2 Price. Gold and Silver Watches, Spectacles, Tricycles, Sewing Machines, Lamps, Buggies, Wagons, Carriages, Suits, Strollers, Harness, Cart Tires, Skates.

Ask Secretary of your Grange for our Illustrated Catalogue. Aug. 15 1895

Webster's International Dictionary

Invaluable in Office, School, and Home. Successor of the "Unabridged." Standard of the U. S. Gov't Printing Office, the U. S. Supreme Court, and of nearly all the Schools.

Revised List of Grange Supplies

Porcelain ballot marbles, per hundred	75
Secretary's ledger	50
Secretary's receipt	50
Treasurer's orders, bound, per hundred	35
Secretary's receipts for dues, per hundred	35
Treasurer's receipts for fines, per hundred	35
Applications for membership, per hundred	50
Withdrawal cards, per dozen	25
Demits, in envelopes, per dozen	25
By-laws of the State Grange, single copies, 10c; per dozen	75
"Glad Echoes" with music, single copies, 25c; per dozen	3 00
Grange Melodies, single copy, 40c; per doz.	4 00
Opening Song Card, 2c each; 75c per 50; 100 1 35	
Rituals, 7th edition (with combined degrees)	25
25c each; per dozen	2 75
Rituals, 5th degree, set of nine	1 80
Rituals, Juvenile, single copy	15
Notice to delinquent members, per 100	40
American Manual of Parliamentary Law	50
Digest of Laws and Rulings	25
Roll books	15
Sample package copy-righted literature	15
Kelley's History of the Grange	75

The Farm Home Reading Circle.

In December, 1892, the Faculty of the Michigan Agricultural College appointed a committee to prepare a course of reading especially adapted to the requirements of farmers, gardeners, fruit growers, stock breeders, etc.

There are no expenses to residents of Michigan, except the purchase of books. We have kept in mind at all times that in order to make the Farm Home Reading Circle generally helpful, the expense must be below what the same course of reading could be secured for in some other way.

The State Board of Agriculture has made provision for expenses in the way of postage, printing, etc., and the Secretary has been successful in securing greatly reduced prices on the books offered.

Anyone who is interested in farming, gardening, fruit growing, stock breeding, or life in the country is urgently asked to become a member of the Farm Home Reading Circle, and begin at once a systematic course of reading which will, we are certain, be found interesting and valuable.

Fill out the accompanying blank, carefully answering all questions, and mail it to the Secretary and he will at once enroll you as a member.

One of the advantages of this Reading Circle is that while it is adapted for the use of farmers' clubs, granges and other farmers' organizations which can profitably take up the courses of reading and discuss the several topics in their meetings, yet where this is not convenient or practicable the reading can, and often is done to as good advantage by individuals reading alone.

When a member has finished reading a book he should send to the Secretary for questions, which have been prepared to aid him in making a report to the Secretary on that book. If the report is satisfactory, a certificate signed by the president of the College and secretary of the Farm Home Reading Circle will be issued, showing that you have completed the book. A certificate is sent upon the completion of each book and also upon the completion of the class.

The course has been outlined with a view to making the different classes especially adapted to the different branches of farming. The members of the Farm Home Reading Circle are offered five classes of reading, as follows: Soils and Crops, Live Stock, Garden and Orchard, Home Making, and Political Science.

While this is advised, yet if for any reason the reader wishes to take up books further along in the class or course they may be ordered and credit will be given as they are completed.

In the few following pages we have attempted to briefly outline the books recommended in the course. The books below will be sent prepaid to members at the prices quoted.

CLASS 1—SOILS AND CROPS.

Book 1. First Principles of Agriculture. (Mills and Shaw.) Pages 1-116. This book fills a long felt need of people who desire to obtain a correct knowledge of the elementary scientific principles and improved practices of successful farmers.

Book 2. Soils and Crops. (Morrow and Hunt.) This book, written in an easy and interesting style, treats of the methods of making available the plant food in the soil.

Book 3. Practical Farm Chemistry. (Greiner.) Here soil fertilization or crop feeding is treated in much the same manner as we would expect the subject to be treated.

Book 4. Silos and Silage. (Cook.) This work discusses the raising of corn and its preparation for the silo, the construction and building of the silo, together with brief discussions of the value of silage as food for the different farm animals.

Book 5. The reader may here choose between two books, Tile Drainage and the Soil. Tile Drainage. (Chamberlain.) This book embraces the experience of forty years of one of our most successful agriculturists, who has laid with his own hands fifteen miles of tiles.

The Soil. (King.) This is the latest book out on the subject of soils. It treats of the action of sunshine, atmosphere and water upon the soil. The nature, functions, origin, wasting, texture, composition and kinds of soil.

CLASS 2.—LIVE STOCK.

Book 1. First Principles of Agriculture. (Mills and Shaw.) This part of the book treats of the principles of Feeding; Care and Management of Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine; Breeding; The Breeds of Live Stock; The Dairy; Silo and Ensilage; Cultivation of Forest Trees for Shade, Ornament and Protection. Price, 50 cents.

Book 2. Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine. (Geo. W. Curtis.) There are many young farmers and students who are in need of a clear and condensed description of the most improved breeds of live stock.

Book 3. Stock Breeding. (Dr. Manly Miles.) This is a practical treatise on the application of the laws of development and heredity to the improvement and breeding of domestic animals.

Book 4. Feeding Animals. (Stewart.) A book containing 560 pages upon the practice and science of feeding in all its details, giving the most advantageous ration for all classes of farm animals. Price, \$1.47.

Book 5. We have thought it advisable to name under this head five or six books so that the reader may choose the one which is more closely connected with his line of farming.

Cattle Breeding. This work was written by William Warfield, who has spent a long life in the breeding of good cattle. His work is practical and he does not neglect to bring out the important principles of breeding.

Swine Husbandry. (Coburn.) In preparing this work it was the object of the author to condense in one volume the ideas and conclusions of the most practical and successful men who have followed the business of producing pork in this country.

Horse Breeding. (Sanders.) This work treats of the heredity as applied to horse breeding. Considerable attention is given to the subject of the management of stallions, brood mares and foals.

Practical Poultry Keeper. (Wright.) This work is well illustrated. It gives attention to the management of poultry not only for domestic use and market, but also for exhibition purposes.

CLASS 3.—GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

Book 1. Practical Fruit Grower. (Maynard.) This is just what the beginner in gardening should read, as it is full of the methods and practices of successful fruit growers.

Book 2. How the Garden Pays. (Greiner.) This book was written by an experienced and skillful horticulturist. Among other subjects related to gardening, the following are discussed: Farm and Kitchen Gardening; Manure and Fire Hot Beds; Implements; Cold Frames; Drainage; Irrigation; Seed and Seed Sowing; Thinning and Transplanting, etc.

Book 3. Ornamental Gardening. (Long.) This work was written with the idea to supply a demand coming from the rural population for a work which would suggest ways in which their country homes might be made more attractive and beautiful.

Book 4. Insects and Insecticides. (Weed.) This is a complete treatise upon the insects injurious to vegetation. It gives the latest information in regard to remedies and preventive measures together with recipes for making them.

Book 5. About the same course as was outlined in Class 2, will be followed in this class, that is, we shall name four books which will be elective with our readers.

Gardening for Pleasure. (Henderson.) This is intended as a guide to the amateur in the fruit, vegetable and flower garden, with full descriptions for conservatory and window gardening. It meets the wants of all classes in country, city and village, who keep a garden for their own enjoyment rather than for the sale of its products.

Propagation of Plants. (Fuller.) Illustrated with numerous engravings. This is a practical and useful work and describes the process of hybridizing and crossing species and varieties, and the many different modes by which plants may be propagated and multiplied. Price, \$1.00.

Home Floriculture. (Rexford.) This work is especially adapted to the home conservatory and flower garden. In it are found many valuable hints for the lover of flowers. Price, \$1.12.

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Kathleen Hesslegrave, a pretty young English artist, and Arnold Willoughby, a Bohemian amateur, meet casually at the Royal Academy gallery in London. They hold mutual views upon art and upon the stupidity of the judges who have rejected their pictures. Rufus Mortimer, a rich American, joins them. He is a friend of the Hesslegraves and is surprised to find Kathleen in the company of Willoughby, whom she knows as a common sailor dabbler in art. CHAPTER II—Kathleen lives with her mother in fashionable lodgings. The aristocracy visit there, and one day at a reception the company discuss the mystery of young Earl Axminster, who has fled the country disguised as a sailor. Canon Valentine, the lion of the party, thinks the aristocracy of England is well rid of him. His habits are too good. III—Willoughby is the earl. He is stranded by the failure of the picture, refuses help from Mortimer and goes to sea to earn money to continue the study of art. IV—Mortimer pursues Kathleen on love's quest. She likes him and with difficulty holds him off. V—Mortimer, Willoughby and the Hesslegraves meet in Venice. Mrs. Hesslegrave is alarmed at Kathleen's enthusiasm over the sailor painter and his works. VI and VII—The young artists roam through romantic old palaces together. Willoughby, a guest at Kathleen's home. The maiden's heart reveals her love for him, and both confess to themselves that they are in love. VIII and IX—Mortimer proposes and discovers Kathleen's passion for Willoughby. X—Canon Valentine appears in Venice with the news that the missing earl has been traced and has perished in the shipwreck. He recognizes Willoughby on sight, but promptly denies it. XI—Kathleen admits to her mother that she is certain of the identity of Willoughby with the missing earl, but will preserve the secret for her lover's sake. XII—Mrs. Hesslegrave finds the secret too good to keep, tells Willoughby that Kathleen knows it, and he leaves her house in anger. XIII—Willoughby abandons Venice suddenly without giving Kathleen a chance to explain. XIV—Parliament declares the missing earl officially dead and settles the inheritance on a distant relative. Willoughby resolves not to contest it, as he prefers to be taken by the world at his "Market Value."

CHAPTER XIII. A MISSING LOVER.

'Twas in bitter disappointment that Arnold Willoughby strode away from the Hesslegraves' door that afternoon in Venice. For the second time in his life his day dream had vanished. And the new bubble had burst even more painfully than the old one. He was young, he said to himself, when he fell in love with Blanche Middleton. With a boy's simplicity he mistook the mere blushing awkwardness and uncertainty of the ingenue for innocence of mind and purity of purpose. He had a rude awakening when he saw Lady Sark sell herself for money and title and develop into one of the vainest and showiest among the heartless clans of professional beauties. But this time, he had said to his own heart, he was older and wiser. No such hasty mistake for him nowadays! He knew the difference now between the awkward bashfulness of the frightened schoolgirl and the pure white integrity of a noble minded woman. Bit by bit Kathleen Hesslegrave had won back the soured misogynist to a belief in her sex, in its goodness, in its unselfishness, in its nobility of nature. He knew she could have married Rufus Mortimer if she wished, but he believed she had refused him for the penniless sailor's sake. It was because he believed her capable of real disinterested affection like that that he had fallen in love with Kathleen Hesslegrave.

And now what a disillusion! He found he had been mistaken in her from the very beginning. The woman whom he had thought so far raised above her fellows that she could love a struggling artist without past, without future, for his own sake alone, turned out after all to be an intriguer more calculating and more deceitful in her way than Lady Sark herself had been. Kathleen must have known from the beginning that the man whose advances she had accepted with so much blushing uncertainty and with such pretty coyness was really Lord Axminster. She had been saying those sweet things about respecting him so much and not caring for rank or wealth or position because she thought that was the way that would lead her to a coronet. With incredible cunning and deceptiveness she had managed to hide from him her knowledge of his original position and to assume a sort of instinctive shrinking from his lowly calling, which she allowed her love and respect to overcome, as it were, quite visibly before his eyes with consummate cleverness. As a piece of fine acting in real life it was nothing short of admirable. If that girl were to go upon the stage, now, Arnold said to himself bitterly, she would make her fortune. Those modest side glances, those dexterously summoned blushes, that timid demeanor at first, giving way with fuller acquaintance to an uncontrollable affection, so strong that it compelled her, against her will, as it seemed, to overlook the prejudice of birth and to forget the immense gulf in artificial position—oh, as acting it was marvelous. But to think it was only that! Arnold Willoughby's brain reeled. Ah, why could he never cast that birthright of false adulation and vile sycophancy behind him? Why could he never stand out before the world on his merits as a man and be accepted or rejected for himself alone without the intervention of this perpetual reference to his artificial value and his place in the peerage?

And the secrecy of it too! The baseness! The privy planning and plotting! Why, this woman whom he imagined all frankness and candor, with a heart as straightforward as that open, brave face of hers,

had concocted this vile trap to catch a coronet unawares, all by herself, unaided, and had concealed her inmost thoughts from her own mother even. There was a cold blooded deliberateness about it all which disgusted and disillusioned Arnold Willoughby on the first blush of it. He had gone into that house that afternoon in a lover's fever and with a lover's fervor, saying to himself as he crossed the threshold: "There is none like her, none. I shall ask her this very day. I could risk my life for her with joy. I could stake my existence on her goodness and purity!" And now he came out of it coldly numb and critical. He hated to think he had been so readily deceived by a clever woman's wiles. He hated and despised himself. Never again while he lived would he trust a single one of them. Their most innocent smile hides their blackest treachery.

It's a way men have when they're out of conceit for a time with their wives or their sweethearts. As for poor Mrs. Hesslegrave, the unoffending cause of all this lamentable misapprehension, she sat by herself, meanwhile wringing her hands in impotent despair in her own drawing room and wondering when Kathleen would come in to comfort her. Each minute seemed an hour. What could be keeping Kathleen? As a rule, the dear child came back so soon from such errands as this to her beloved work, for Kathleen was never so happy as when painting or sketching, and she wrought with a will, both for love's sake and for money's. But today she was somehow unaccountably delayed. Her stars were unpropitious, and the real cause of the delay, as fate would have it, was one of those petty circumstances upon which our lives all hinge. She had gone round on her way home by the Fondamenta delle Zattere as a woman in love will do, expecting to find Arnold Willoughby at work on his canvas there and hoping to seem as if mere accident had brought her back to the place she had abandoned during the Valentines' visit. Three days was so long a time to go without seeing Arnold! But instead of finding him she had fallen in with Rufus Mortimer engaged upon his christening scene, and Mortimer, guessing her object, and generously anxious, as was his nature, to aid her in her love affair, had kept her talking long in front of the picture he was painting under the belief that Arnold would shortly turn up, and that he was doing her a kindness by thus making her presence there seem more natural and less open to misconception. Yet, as often happens in this world of mischances, Mortimer's very anxiety to help her defeated his own purpose. It was the kind hearted young American's fate in life to do as much harm by his well intentioned efforts as many worse natures do by their deliberate malice.

Into this unconscious trap Kathleen fell readily enough and waited on as long as she could in the vain hope that Arnold Willoughby would turn up sooner or later. But when at last it seemed clear that he was taking an afternoon off and wouldn't be there at all she accepted Mortimer's offer of a lift home in his gondola, and having wasted her day hopelessly by this time went in on her way back to fulfill a few small commissions at shops in the Calle do Moise, which still further delayed her return to her mother's.

When she reached home and went up stairs, she was astonished to find Mrs. Hesslegrave rocking herself up and down distractedly in her chair, and the yellow bonnet headdress in a last stage of disorder, which betokened a long spell of very vigorous misery. "Why, mother, dear," she cried in alarm, "what has happened since I went out? You haven't had another letter from Reggie asking for money, have you?" Mrs. Hesslegrave broke down. "I wish I had," she answered, sobbing. "I wish it was only that! I wish it was Reggie! Oh, Kitty, Kitty, how am I ever to tell you? He's been here since you went out, and you'll never, never forgive me!" "He's been here?" Kathleen repeated, not knowing what her mother could mean. "Reggie's been here? Today? Not at this house—in Venice?"

"No, no, no, not Reggie," Mrs. Hesslegrave answered, rocking herself up and down still more vigorously than before. "Mr. Willoughby—Lord Axminster!" In a second the color fled from Kathleen's cheek as if by magic. Her heart grew cold. She trembled all over. "Mr. Willoughby!" she cried, clasping her bloodless hands. Every nerve in her body quivered. Never till that moment did she know how far her love had carried her.

"Oh, mother, what did you say? What did he do? What has happened?" "He's gone!" Mrs. Hesslegrave cried feebly, wringing her hands in her distress. "He's gone for good and all! He told me to say goodbye to you." "Goodbye!" Kathleen echoed, horror-struck. "Goodbye! Oh, mother! Where's he going then? What can it mean? This is very sudden!"

"I don't know," Mrs. Hesslegrave answered, bursting afresh into tears, "but he said I spoiled all. He said so more than once, and he told me it was you yourself who said so."

For a minute or two Kathleen was too agitated even to inquire in any intelligent way what exactly had happened. Just at first all she knew was a vague consciousness of fate, a sense that some terrible blow had fallen upon her. Her mother had committed some fatal indiscretion, and Arnold was gone—gone without an explanation! But slowly, as she thought of it all, it began to dawn upon her what must have happened. With a fearful shrinking at heart she hardened herself for the effort and drew slowly from the re-

luctant and penitent Mrs. Hesslegrave a full and complete confession of her share in the misfortune. Bit by bit Mrs. Hesslegrave allowed the whole painful and humiliating scene to be wrung out of her piecemeal. As soon as she had finished Kathleen stood up and faced her. She did not reproach her mother—the wound had gone too deep by far for reproach—but her very silence was more terrible to Mrs. Hesslegrave than any number of reproaches.

"I must go, mother," she cried, breaking away from her like some wild and wounded creature—"I must go at once and see him. This cruel misapprehension is more than I can endure. I didn't know who he was till Canon Valentine told us. I fell in love with him for himself as a common sailor. I never knew he was Lord Axminster. I must go and tell him so!" Mrs. Hesslegrave's sense of propriety was severely outraged. Not only was it dreadful to think that a young lady could have fallen in love with a man unasked, and that man, too, a common sailor, but it was dreadful also that Kathleen should dream of going to see him in person instead of writing to explain to him and asking him to call round for the further clearing up of this painful entanglement.

"Oh, my dear," she cried, drawing back, "you're not surely going to call for him! It would look so bad! Do you think it would be right? Do you think it would be womanly?"

"Yes, I do," Kathleen answered, with unworldly boldness. "Right and womanly to the last degree. Most right and most womanly. Mother, dear, I don't blame you. You did what you thought best in my interest, as you imagined, but you have left him under a cruel misapprehension of my character and motives—a misapprehension that would be dreadful for me to bear with any one, but ten thousand times worse with a nature like Arnold Willoughby's, and I can't sit down under it. I can't rest till I've seen him and told him how utterly mistaken he is about me. There's no turning back now. I must and shall see him!"

And in her own heart she said to herself a great deal more than that—"I must and shall marry him." So with face on fire and eager steps that never paused she rushed hotly down the stairs and out into the Piazza. The pigeons crowded round her as if nothing had happened. Thence she took the narrow lane that led most directly by many bridges to the little salt fish shop and went to make her first call on the man of her choice at his own lodgings.

Little Cecca was at the door playing with a big new doll. She looked up with a smile at the beautiful lady, whom she recognized as the person she had seen out walking one day with "our Inglesie."

"Is the signor at home?" Kathleen asked, too deeply moved to return the child's smile, yet touching her golden head gently. The little one looked up at her again with all the saucy southern confidence. "No, he isn't," she answered, dimpling. "The signor's gone away. But he gave me 2 lire before he went, don't you see, and I bought this pretty doll with it at Neighbor Giacomo's. Isn't it a pretty one? And it cost all 2 lire."

"Gone away?" Kathleen echoed, a cold thrill coming over her. "Gone away? Not from Venice?"

The child nodded and puffed out her lips. "Si, si," she said, "from Venice." And then she went on singing in her childish nursery rhyme:

"Vate a far una barca o una batela;
Co il la fata, butta in mar.
La ti condurra in Venezia bela."

"But he hasn't done that," she added in her babylike prattle. "He's taken his boat and gone away from Venice, away from Venice, from Venezia bela, right away, right away from Venezia bela." Kathleen stood for a moment, reeling. The child's words answered her. She had hard work to restrain herself from fainting then and there. A terrible weakness seemed to break over her suddenly. Gone, and with that fatal misapprehension on his mind! Oh, it was too, too cruel! She staggered into the shop. With an effort she burst out:

"The signor, your lodger—the Inglesie—Signor Willoughby?"

A large, young woman of the florid Venetian type, broad of face and yellow of hair, like a vulgarized Titian, was sitting behind the counter knitting away at a colored headdress. She nodded and looked grave. Like all Italians, she instantly suspected a love tragedy of the kind with which she herself was familiar.

"Is gone," she assented in a really sympathetic tone. "Si, si, is gone, signora. The little one says the truth. Is gone this very evening."

"But where?" Kathleen cried, refraining from a struggle from wringing her poor hands and repressing the rising tears before the stranger's face with visible difficulty.

The beautiful looking Italian woman spread her hands open by her side with a demonstrative air. "Who knows?" she answered placidly. "'Tis the way with these seafarers. A bella ragazza in every port, they say—one here, one there, one in Venice, one in London, and perhaps, for all we know, one in Buenos Ayres, Calcutta, Rio—but he may write to you, signora! He may come back again to Italy!"

Kathleen shook her head sadly. Much as the woman misunderstood the situation, reading into it the ideas and habits of her own class and country, Kathleen felt she meant to be kind and was grateful for even that mechanical kindness at such a terrible moment.

"He will not return," she answered despairingly, with a terrible quiver in her voice. "But it wasn't that I wanted. I wanted to speak with him before he went

and—to clear up a misconception. Which way has he gone, do you know? By sea or by land, the port or the railway station?"

There was time even yet, for at that moment, as it chanced, Arnold Willoughby was still engaged in registering his luggage for Genoa, whence he hoped to get employment on some homeward bound steamer. And if the woman had told the truth much trouble would have been averted. But truth is an article of luxury in Italy. The vulgarized Titian looked at Kathleen searchingly, yet with a pitying glance.

"Oh, he's gone," she answered, nodding her head, "he's gone altogether. He got out his box and his pictures quite suddenly just now, and our Pietro rowed him off to a steamer in the harbor. And I saw the steamer sail. She's at the Lido by this time. But he'll write, he'll write, make sure! Don't take it to heart, signora."

Kathleen pressed her hand to her bosom to still its throbbing and went forth into the street. All was black as night for her. She staggered home in a maze. Her



"He will not return," she answered.

head reeled unspeakably. But as soon as she was gone the woman turned to a man who lounged among the packing cases at the back of the shop with a smile of triumph.

"He was a good fellow," she said, with the southern tolerance, "and I wasn't going to tell her he'd gone by the train to Genoa. Not likely I would! You know what she wanted? She would have stuck a knife into him. I saw it in her eye, and, aha, I prevented it! But sailors will be sailors, and Signor Villabi, say I, was always a pleasant one. Why should I wish him harm? He liked little Cecca and paid his bill punctually. She's not the first signora, we all know well, who has been deceived and deserted by a good looking sailor. But what would you have? 'Tis the way of them! Mariners, mariners—like the gulls of Marans! Here today and there tomorrow!"

ONE DOCTOR SAID JAUNDICE, ANOTHER SAID NERVOUS PROSTRATION.

BUT IT WAS HIS BACK AND THE PATIENT DIAGNOSED HIS OWN CASE AND PRESCRIBED FOR HIMSELF.

From the Moon, Battle Creek, Mich.

John R. Linihan, of the drug firm of Morehouse & Linihan, proprietors of the White Drug Store was seen by a reporter in regard to the case of Henry Weston, of 68 South Avenue, Battle Creek. Mr. Linihan stated that the case of Mr. Weston was only one of a hundred or more in this city. "Every day," said the drug man, "we hear of someone that has been cured by Pink Pills. We sell a large amount of them. No one ever comes back and says they were not helped, but on the other hand, dozens of persons have called who have been benefited by their use. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are as staple as flour, and no first-class druggist is ever without them. We never have any hesitancy about recommending them."

Mr. Weston was seen at his home on South Avenue by the reporter and asked if there was any truth in the rumor that he had doctored for four years with the best physicians in the state, found no relief, and after spending hundreds of dollars in medicine that had not cured him, had as a last resort, taken Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and was cured. He was asked several questions by the reporter and then volunteered the following story:

"Four years ago I was troubled with my back. I went to my local physician and he gave me some medicine. It helped me for a time, but after a while I grew worse and was obliged to go to another source for relief. I went to a Detroit specialist who has a state reputation. I had the utmost confidence in this doctor and believed that I would be speedily cured. He pronounced my case as jaundice. I was under his care for eight months. His medicine did not go to the spot, and after spending no small amount with him, I gave it up and tried another local physician. He

pronounced my case nervous prostration, and gave me a stimulant. Of course I was better for a time, but as soon as the effects of the drug wore off I was left in a worse condition than before. I doctored along this way for about four months. I did not get any permanent relief. My back pained me, and for the past four years I have not been able to do any work. One day I saw the advertisement of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and after reading it over I decided, I know not why, that these pills would help me. I knew that the pills would come as near my case as any of the doctors had, and so took them. In four or five days my back became better. The pains stopped. I felt as if I had not for four years. I kept right on taking the medicine and every day I felt better. My whole system seemed to be purged of all the disease and poisons there were in it, and I felt like a new man. I do not know how many boxes I took. I think it was eight when I pronounced myself well. It was only a short time between the day I took the first pill and found myself well. Think of the few dollars I spent on this medicine and was cured, and then think of the many dollars that I spent in Detroit with the specialist and with the local physicians. Think of the many months I suffered while under the care of the doctors and found no relief, and then just think how soon it was that I found relief after taking the Pink Pills. I consider the pills a household remedy, and we are never without them. I did not take any of the pills for several months and found that I felt all right. This proved to me that I was cured and not braced up for a short time, as is the case with so many patent remedies and the prescriptions that doctors put up. For four years I suffered and could not work. Today I am well and ready to work. I have recommended the pills to dozens of persons and in every case they have done just as they were guaranteed to do. No one who has ever taken any of this wonderful remedy will hesitate to speak a good word for it. I find that when I tell a person that Pink Pills will help them and they take them, they have nothing but praise for the medicine and are grateful to me for telling them of this remedy which cures when doctors fail. My wife takes the pills, in fact, everyone I know who is sick takes the pills, that is if I can get them to. People who know how I suffered need have no other recommendation for the remedy than to see me walking around again. They know the condition that I was in and are aware what it was that produced the change. My case alone has caused the sale of hundreds of boxes of the pills, and there are many more who have been cured and who would be willing to tell their story if they were interviewed. A remedy like this should be known. People should be made aware of the wonderful cures that have been effected by it. Everyone who has been cured should be only too willing to tell of it so his neighbor might find relief. We swear by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for his house."

Mr. Weston certainly looked well. He is fifty-two years old and looks hearty and healthy. He is very enthusiastic over his cure, and cannot say enough in favor of the Pink Pills. The reporter might add that the name of the Detroit physician is withheld, but that he is well known in this city and has a large practice here now. He has made a fortune out of his practice. These little pills accomplished a cure that he was unable to cope with. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., for 50 cents.

A Corn Contest.

This paper circulates in the best corn producing section of the country and there are few of our subscribers who are not corn growers. Every practical corn grower should take pride in having the best corn and the largest crop, and we notice that this year there is to be a contest as to who will produce the largest crop of corn on one acre of land. The contest is open to all competitors in any part of North America, and it is being so extensively advertised that it is attracting great attention and assuming national importance. We would feel gratified if one of our subscribers should win the prize as the best corn grower in America. We take pleasure in calling our readers' special attention to the matter. The prizes amount to a total of \$500, in addition to which the value of the corn grown, as seed, would be no small sum, and the reputation of having won this prize would be worth more to any man than the best 40-acre farm in this state. Full particulars in regard to this contest can be obtained from the Iowa Seed Co., Des Moines, Iowa, together with a large, beautifully illustrated catalogue of all the best varieties of seed corn and other kinds of farm and garden seeds. These catalogues are expensive, costing 17 cents each, but will be mailed free, provided you mention this paper.

The "World's Pictures Art Calendar," compiled by Mrs. M. J. Whipple of Wheaton, Illinois, is one of the most attractive and pleasing things of the kind which has yet appeared; and in what it comprehends and gives of historical art in brief space, it stands alone. On the first page are portraits of ten great painters, and on each of the world's great pictures, there is a portrait of the artist. The work has been highly commended by Mrs. Potter Palmer, Mrs. Hemmott, Lorado Taft, Lillian Whiting, and others. Single copies fifty cents. Address, Mrs. M. J. Whipple, Wheaton, Du Page county, Illinois.

Notices of Meetings.

A union meeting of the Grangers' and Teachers' association of Oceana and Newago will be held in Columbian hall, Hesperia, Feb. 13, 14 and 15.

NEWAYGO COUNTY POMONA.

The next meeting of the Newaygo county Grange will be held with Fremont Grange Feb. 26 and 27.

The Fremont Grangers are noted for their entertaining qualities and those who fail to attend will miss the intellectual feast of the season.

The next meeting of Branch county Pomona Grange will be held with Girard Grange on Thursday, February 20, commencing at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Opening song, Girard Grange choir; paper, "Does it pay to feed cattle for market under present conditions?"

WALLACE E. WRIGHT, Lecturer.

Grange News.

Rural Grange No. 566, has been saddened by the death of Sister Mary E. Kerr.

Although the thermometer registered 5 degrees below zero on the morning of Jan. 4th there was a full house.

One week later, our sister, Mrs. L. Meade, who held the office of Ceres, was called from our midst by death.

ANN A. BANKS, Secretary.

Those who responded to our appeal in last VISITOR for special work in securing subscribers and number secured by each are as follows: John Passmore, 7; O. B. Lake, 22; W. A. Montgomery, 7; Addie Martin, 3; C. M. Slayton, 10; Wallace E. Wright, 2; A. B. Knight, 2; Horace Wilcox, 2; Julia A. Reed, 23; H. C. Coaley, 2; G. A. Bowser, 2; Mrs. T. L. Blackmar, 6; Thomas Grover, 8; O. S. Robertson, 2; M. D. Ormes, 4; D. H. English, 5; Wm. Anderson, 2; Sarah Covey, 4; John Nichols, 2; Geo. C. Myers, 36; Wm. Slayton, 2; Ada M. Reed, 2; Elizabeth POUND, 4; B. Whitney, 16; Jennie Buell, 3; K. L. Butterfield, 10.

PERRY & McGRATH.

The Farm Home Reading Circle.

(Continued from sixth page.)

POLITICAL SCIENCE.

Table listing books and prices: Jevon's Money and Mechanism of Exchange, 1.00; Epochs of American History, 1.00; Small Talks About Business, 75; Farmer's Tariff Manual, 1.00; The Sophisms of Free Trade, 1.00; The Sophisms of Protection, 75.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Table listing books and prices: Letters to a Daughter, 50; Common Sense in the Household, 1.30; Amenities of Home, 50; Timothy Titcomb's Letters, 1.00; Emerson's Essays, 65; Scott's Poems, 65; The Fair Maid of Perth, 35; Julius Caesar, 25; Scarlet Letter, 35; Longfellow's Poems, 1.00.

CORRESPONDENCE.

It has been the aim of the Secretary of the Farm Home Reading Circle to have this article answer all questions which might arise in the minds of members or prospective members.

We shall use every possible pre-

caution to avoid mistakes, yet some will doubtless occur, and we ask all members to kindly report to us promptly any mistake and we will rectify the same as far as possible.

In sending money, purchase New York Draft, express order or postoffice money order and make them payable to the undersigned.

In making application for membership, or in ordering books, be particular to fill out the blanks carefully. Address all communications to the Secretary, HERBERT W. MUMFORD, Agricultural College, Mich.

Corn Growing Revolutionized.

A new corn has appeared, the corn of our fancy and dreams, big ears, small cobs, deep kernels, enormous, yes, marvelous cropper!

If you will cut this out and send it with 10c postage to the John A. Salzer seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., you will receive their mammoth catalogue and ten packages grasses and grains, including Salzer's Golden triumph Corn, free.

Tobacco.

No crop varies more in quality according to grade of fertilizer used than tobacco. Potash is its most important requirement, producing a large yield of finest grade leaf.

Potash (K2O) in form of sulphate. To insure a clean burning leaf, avoid fertilizers containing chlorine.

Our pamphlets are not advertising circulars boasting special fertilizers, but are practical works, containing latest researches on the subject of fertilization, and are really helpful to farmers.

GERMAN KALI WORKS, or Nassau St., New York.

GRASS IS KING

We are the only seedsmen making the growing of farm seeds, grasses and clovers a great specialty.

Send us fifty cents and we will forward to you at once, a beautiful, genuine Japanese fan. This fan retails in the large stores at 50 cents each.

the American Home Journal for one year. This is a monthly paper and contains bright, fresh, and entertaining news.

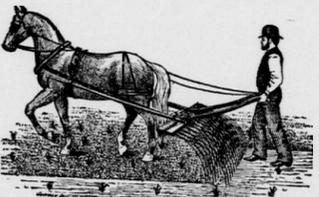
FOR SALE

At reasonable prices, a choice selection of April and May Poland China pigs. Can furnish pairs. Pedigree with sale. O. P. C. R. Correspondence solicited and communications promptly answered.

JOHN BOWDITCH, Hillsdale, Mich.

The Zephaniah

Breed Weeder and Cultivator



will work corn, sugar-cane, potatoes, peas, beans, squashes, melons, cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbages, beets, carrots, parsnips, cauliflower, celery, onions (think of it onions!) strawberry plantations, both new and old, asparagus, during cutting season, and many other crops, all without other cultivation hand-hoeing or hand-weeding, while for grain fields they have no equal.

Our No. 1 and 2, two horse, will work clean 25 to 28 acres per day. No. 3, 4, and 5, one horse, will work 15 to 18 acres per day.

26 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.

DROP A POSTAL IN THE SLOT AND GET A CATALOGUE. A list of the best seeds sold anywhere. Many choice novelties, and prices are right. Contains 100 pages, 400 illustrations. They cost us 17 cents each, but will be mailed free if you name this paper.

DOES QUALITY COUNT? If you are particular about what kind of NURSERY STOCK you set--If you are anxious to get started right--If you want to feel easy knowing that what you buy will prove to be HEALTHY and TRUE TO NAME, write us to-day, or call on the SECRETARY of YOUR GRANGE and learn about us.

Warranted Seed GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE FOR 1896. A leading reason for warranting our seed, as per first page of Catalogue, is, we raise a large portion of them. As the original introducers of the Cory and Longfellow Corns, Miller Cream, etc., Ohio and Burbank Potatoes, Warren, Hubbard and Marblehead Squashes, Marblehead Early Marrowfat Peas, Eclipse Beet, Kentucky Wonder and Marblehead Horticultural Beans, Southport Early Globe and Danvers Red Globe Onions, All Seasons and Marblehead Mammoth Cabbages and numerous other valuable vegetables, we solicit a share of the public patronage.

WEST MICHIGAN NURSERIES, Benton Harbor, Mich. R. MORRILL, Pres't. O. E. FIFIELD, Sec'y and Treas. P. S.--See Confidential Trade Circular, p 40.

FOR PARTICULARS regarding the prices of the famous fruit lands, general farms, and city property, write to E. H. ALLYN, Real Estate Agency, Frederick Block, Traverse City, Mich.

YOU CAN MAKE MONEY By buying your STRAWBERRY RASPBERRY and BLACKBERRY plants direct from grower. Warfield, Crescent, Mitchell's Early, and Lovett's Early, at \$2 per M. Others according. Catalogue free. R. J. STAHELIN, Bridgman, Mich. In writing please mention VISITOR.

SALZER'S SEEDS Over 250,000 Farmers, Market Gardeners and City-dwellers attest the superiority of SALZER'S SEEDS. We are the only seedsmen in America making a specialty of Farm seeds, and are the largest growers of Oats, Wheat, Potatoes, etc. Catalogue free for 5c postage.

Ahead Of All Magazines this country has seen.--Albany Argus.

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THE RIGHT TOPICS, BY THE RIGHT MEN, AT THE RIGHT TIME.

The North American Review is recognized on both sides of the Atlantic as the foremost Review in the English language, and no expenditure is spared in maintaining it in its unrivalled position.

AMERICAN WOMEN receive constant and special attention.

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GRAPE VINES. Largest Stock in the World. Small Fruits. Introducing of unrivalled new Red Jacket, Goscherry & Fay Currant. Catalogue free. Geo. S. Josselyn, Fredonia, N. Y.

Warranted Seed GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE FOR 1896. A leading reason for warranting our seed, as per first page of Catalogue, is, we raise a large portion of them.

THE HAMILTON GROCERY COMPANY, No. 238, 240 and 242 East Pearl St. CINCINNATI, OHIO. James Hamilton, President. William Hamilton, Treasurer. Chas. G. Shane, Secretary.

BIG PROFITS --IN-- FRUITS and VEGETABLES providing you use the right kinds of trees and seeds.

We furnish the very best Michigan Grown TREES and SEEDS at the RIVER RAISIN VALEY NURSERIES of Monroe, Mich. We have a reputation for hardy, prolific, early bearing stock. Besides our famous specialties, the WINTER BANANA APPLE, the NEW PROLIFIC PEACH and the NEW CONRATH BLACK RASPBERRY, we have a large assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Small Fruit and Flowering Shrubs.

How much OVER PROFIT did you pay last year?

Or didn't you pay any attention to it? Perhaps you don't know (or haven't thought) what OVER PROFIT is, what it means. It's what you've been paying local dealers (middle men) more than things are worth, more than our RIGHT PRICES. TAXES are bad enough, but they're nothing compared to OVER PROFIT.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., The Store of all the people. Monarchs of the Mail Order Business. 111 to 116 Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

A Fruitgrower should never set a plant until he has read R. M. Kellogg's book, entitled GREAT CROPS OF SMALL FRUITS AND HOW TO GROW THEM. It has worked a revolution in small fruit growing. No other book ever published contains so much practical information. New ideas. New Methods. Less work. Double the fruit. SENT FREE on receipt of postal card address.

A new coin device for obtaining a three months' new subscription for 25 cents sent on postal card application.

THE OUTLOOK A FAMILY PAPER

SOME of the Special Features for 1896.

THE OUTLOOK will publish each month in 1896 an Illustrated Magazine Number which will be the regular issue of The Outlook for the week in which it appears. A special cover, many pictures, chapters of a novel by Ian Maclaren, and other important features will characterize each of these numbers.

HARNESS! Our stock of Leather that we bought before the advance will soon be exhausted and then we will have to advance our prices about 25 per cent. Any person in need of HAND MADE HARNESS can save money by purchasing at once.

DO YOU KEEP SHEEP? Read the AMERICAN SHEEP BREEDER. Established 14 years. Thirty-six pages, devoted to Sheep, Mutton and Wool. Edited by highest authorities. Elegantly illustrated. Veterinary Dept. worth ten times subscription price. Send stamp for sample copy and terms to new subscribers.

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