

# GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XXI. NO. 6.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, MARCH 19, 1896.

WHOLE NO. 486.

## A Rejoinder.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR: I have read the papers written by Brothers Bowers and Woodman and published in the VISITOR. I think Brother Bowers will bear me out in the statement that we are intimate personal friends. Both of us have belonged to our Grange since its reorganization. Both of us have held several offices in the Grange and we are about the only members who never have declined an office. (I mention this as a test of loyalty.) We do not agree on all questions which come up in our Grange. We frequently cross swords and I think I can safely say that both of us are well skilled in the art of gracefully submitting to defeat. Brother Bowers is a very enthusiastic advocate of free silver, while I am opposed to it. Shortly after the last meeting of the State Grange Bro. Bowers offered a resolution in our Grange approving the action of the State Grange. Those who did not favor the resolution did not wish to vote to censure the State Grange, neither could they approve of all of its work, in fact we were very sorry that such a resolution had been offered. But Brother Bowers never tires, and we were compelled to act. We finally succeeded in tabling the resolution and there it rests to this day. The fact that we succeeded in tabling the resolution indicates there is a sentiment in our Grange opposed to free silver. Now that the matter has come up as it has I will ask Brother Bowers through the VISITOR to call up his resolution at no distant date and report the action of our Grange to the VISITOR.

Brother B. and Brother W. direct their remarks to me and I will notice a few of their points. Brother B. estimates that eight-tenths of our people have free silver sentiments. Brother W. estimates the number at nine-tenths. I think they have estimated our strength four hundred per cent too low. Allowing their estimates to be correct they confess a great weakness in their ranks. Do they pretend to say that one sound currency man can disconcert and overturn the plans of nine silver men, and that too in a country where we have a free ballot and a fair count? We claim no such superior ability as you credit us with. Numerically we are as strong as you are and the reason why we send you down to defeat year after year lies in the fact that we have the right side of the question. This currency agitation which has gone on for twenty years is barren of results and still you have claimed all the time that you have a large majority of the people with you. I think I desire better prices for farm products as much as my Brother W., still I am opposed to advancing prices by cheapening the currency either by reducing the weight of the gold dollar or by changing the business of the country to a silver basis. If we advance prices by cheapening the currency where will it end? The man who wants the price of wheat raised to one dollar this year, will want it raised to two next, and so. If we raise prices by cheapening the currency we may just as well have five dollars per bushel for our wheat as one. If we propose to work on that plan we had better adopt the advice of the advice of the old lady in the story, "While you're gittin', git a plenty." The free silver party has a large number of followers who are good street orators. They will stop you on the street and begin to fire their "unanswerable" arguments at you, and if you are imprudent enough to get into a discussion with them they are soon reinforced by a crowd of their sympathizers who will applaud their witticisms and make the air ring with their loud guffaws, and, if you happen to be a man whose time is worth anything you must finally turn your back on them for they will never turn their backs on you. With regard to taxes, I accept Gov. Rich's explanation of the situation. It is wisdom in us to submit to the inevitable without complaining.

Batavia.

O. A. VANDERBILT.

Antrim county Grange institute will be held at the town hall in Alden, on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, 1896. A. E. Palmer, conductor.

Hudson Center Grange—30 charter members—all good people—born evening of February 26.

## Grange News.

BURR OAK GRANGE NO. 203.

Our late sister, Mrs. Huldah H. Dexter, was a lovely woman and we thought worthy of more than a passing notice. Our Grange passed a resolution expressing how deeply we feel the loss of one who endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact, who was earnestly appreciative and sympathizing in her relation to the Order. And while we drop the silent tear to her memory, our hearts go out in love and sympathy to her bereaved family in their hour of deep affliction.

COM.

WOMAN'S WORK.

The Grange is a good school for women; all branches are taught, especially domestic economy. What a triumph of the culinary art is the average Grange feast! Fraternity Grange No. 52 has just taken a class of thirteen through the beautiful initiation service of the first four degrees of the Order. These seven brothers and six sisters are among the staunchest of Washtenaw's farmers. March 10th we had a paper by Bro. Gorton. "Best time and method of sowing grass seed." A failure of clover means much on the wrong side of the ledger. Thought sowing clover seed in hull the best method to withstand drought but too expensive to be practical. Bro. Elton Sanderson told what changes we could make to bring in better returns. Thought dairying the most profitable. A discussion of both topics showed the best method for one soil and season might fail in other conditions.

EMMA A. CAMPBELL.

GRATTAN GRANGE NO. 170

met in regular session March 5. Our meeting proved to be a very interesting one. The topics discussed were "High salaries for officials and low prices for farm produce." Conclusion was that our taxes have become unreasonably high on account of high salaries of officers with their innumerable attaches that seem so essential nowadays to run our government and make our laws that we thought the time had come to call for a halt. Justice demands that the government of state and nation should be run as economically as any other business, and that unnecessary expenses should be considered as robbery of the people who pay the taxes. We also thought farm produce too low in proportion to meet the demands of our lawmakers in payment of taxes. As our members were not all present we will discuss this topic again. We think our public servants need a little more of our watchful care than we have been giving them. We are searching the records and taking notes. Something has got to be done.

AUNT KATE.

WHITE OAK GRANGE NO. 241

is neither dead nor sleeping, but is doing her best to keep pace with the times. The young people have organized a reading circle and they hold weekly meetings which I assure you are very interesting and profitable. The Grange elected for their W. M. a stirring young man, Mr. S. A. Proctor, and his estimable wife is secretary. The rest of the officers are those who are adapted for the offices they occupy. We have made several very useful improvements both on the interior and exterior. The stairs have been moved from the inside to the outside with a covering, which makes room for one more team under the hall, thus adding to the comfort of one more team, and making room for about ten teams under cover. A new stove has been purchased this winter, and some new lamps and other improvements which were very much needed. The Farmers' Institute which was held in the Dansville M. E. church, on January 30 and 31, was well attended by members of the Grange, and many took an active part in the discussions, the ladies taking very much interest in the lecture on butter-making, and in the woman's work conducted by Mrs. Mayo.

INGHAM POMONA.

The Ingham County Pomona Grange was held with the White Oak Grange on Thursday and Friday, February 27 and 28. The weather was fine but the roads were very muddy. Notwithstanding there was a large attendance. The Thursday evening session was opened by prayer by the Chaplain. The literary exercises were opened by the Young People's Reading Circle, in honor of Henry W. Longfellow. An address, A Trip South: Battle Field, and People, by J. T. Campbell, of Mason. Solo by Clyde Woodland, Felt Grange. Friday morning: Song, prayer by Rev. W. Hubble; poem of welcome, Mrs. Philo Phelps, White Oak Grange; response by Master Ingham County Pomona Grange; paper, Wm. T. Webb, Williamston Grange; essay, "What Should Interest a Farmer?" Mrs. Amos Lawrence, Bunker Hill Grange; solo, Miss May Hastings, White Oak Grange; "The Grange, why is it, and what is it?" E. H. Angell, Felt Grange; song; dinner. Afternoon: Recitation, Roy McCreary, Bunker Hill Grange; paper, Geo. Heck, Capital Grange; solo, Miss May Grimes and Miss Lottie Post, White Oak Grange; Census Enumerating, J. W. Gifford, White Oak Grange; a closing song by the choir. For dinner about 100 sat down to a well filled table. The next Pomona Grange will be held with the Felt Grange. And why not join the Grange? Every farmer should join some kind of a farm organization.

VAN BUREN COUNTY GRANGE

held a meeting with Bangor Grange, Thursday, Feb. 27. The morning session was taken up with a business session. The program for the afternoon was as follows: Paper, "Does success in life depend more on one's exertions than on circumstances?" Miss Belle Crawford, Lawrence; recitation, Miss Grace Barnes, Lawrence; paper, "Should salaries be reduced to meet present conditions?" M. D. Buskirk, Paw Paw; recitation, Mrs. Iona Charles, Bangor, caused much applause; talk, "Where are we at?" A. U. Haydon, Hamilton; original poem, Bro. Teitsworth, Bangor. The last on the program was a talk on "Questions of the times," led by E. A. Wilkey of Paw Paw. Bangor Grange choir furnished music for the day. Seventy-four patrons were present, and voted it one of the most profitable and pleasant meetings the Pomona ever held.

JENNIE BUSKIRK, Sec.

HOMER GRANGE NO. 200

meets once in three weeks. The last meeting was Saturday 15th. The hall was well filled and there was some good, lively discussion. Brother Bunnell's topic on the program was "The need of our schools." Among other good things he spoke of the desire to instill into the minds of the young patriotic sentiment, love of country. He thought wise laws enacted and enforced would do more than to hang a flag over the school house without them. There was a spirited discussion which resulted in a motion that "the state school house flag law should be repealed." Another topic was the state marriage license law. One said, "no benefit has resulted from it, except that it was a source of revenue to the county clerk. But the heavy question of all was the salaries of public officials. It was plainly seen that these old farmers were too dull to see the justice of the fees charged by salaried officials, for the discussion wound up with, "Resolved that the state and county officials be allowed a salary and no perquisites." The discussion is carried over to the next meeting, however, and light may be gained on the subject. If there is none, the above resolution will be sent to the memorial to the next State Grange.

SECRETARY

CLINTON COUNTY POMONA GRANGE.

met with South Riley Grange Wednesday, February 26, 1896. The day was almost like summer and the roads were drier than fair. The attendance was large. A dinner such as all patrons have learned to look for at South Riley was served, to which the hungry Grangers did justice. Brother Elmer Love a young member of South Riley welcomed Pomona. Jerome Dills responded. South Riley Grange furnished music and songs whenever called upon. After the usual order of business, recitations, songs, selections and discussions were listened to with marked attention. The little folks took no small part in the entertainment. Little Helen Dills, Master Gerry Dills and five-year-old Earl Lewis gave recitations which commanded much praise. Unequal and unjust taxation as well as the temperance question were pretty well discussed. At the close of the afternoon session Grange was called in the fifth degree. A bountiful supper was served after which the young people gave an entertainment. The attendance is reported large and all report a good time and a profitable meeting throughout. The next meeting of Clinton county Pomona Grange will be at Keystone, March 25, 1896.

MRS. C. L. PEARCE, Lecturer.

P. S. Just a word in regard to my own home Grange at DeWitt. We are prospering as usual, about 70 members having paid dues and received the new word. We had one of the grandest Grange suppers at our hall, last meeting, February 22, that DeWitt Grange has witnessed in a long time. About 100 people were served with delicious oysters and every other delicacy to be thought of. If any went away hungry it was their own fault, for there was plenty and to spare. Why don't more Granges in Michigan send in items concerning their Grange? And don't fail to appoint a good live member to solicit subscriptions for the GRANGE VISITOR. Yours for the work.

MRS. C. L. PEARCE, Lecturer.

ATWOOD GRANGE NO. 631

is yet among the living and enjoying good health. We meet on Saturday afternoon every two weeks. The weather was cold and stormy at our last meeting, yet the attendance was good and we had a very interesting meeting. Brother E. B. Ward, Deputy for Charlevoix county, was with us and gave us a lecture on butter making and tested a number of samples of milk with a Babcock tester. Also exemplified the unwritten work. Several members of Eastport Grange were with us. After the business part of the meeting a short program was rendered and some spirited discussions followed. After a bountiful supper the meeting closed, all going home better Grangers than when we came. A new Grange was organized in our county (Antrim) a few weeks ago, and a good prospect for two more, and perhaps four, in the near future, and a Pomona Grange will be organized next month. There never was a great loss without some small gain; the hard times are awakening the farmers.

THEODORE GUYER

Butler Grange No. 88 has added 21 new and 6 reinstated members in the last six weeks. We now have a membership of 131, a new hall, and money enough in the treasury to pay all our debts.

M. L. E.

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY.

Brother and Sister Mr. and Mrs. Levi Fellows: Olive Center Grange desires to join with you in sympathy and in mourning the loss of your darling baby. We also wish to comfort you by extending that fraternal love which is most needed when that omnipotent and all wise power covets the spirit of an innocent babe to place as a gem in the crown of glory. Fraternally, Olive Center Grange.

W. D. PIERCE, Secretary.

BRANCH COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

met with Girard Grange February 20. After short 5th and 4th degree sessions and a good dinner the public were admitted and the following program carried out: "Does feeding cattle for market pay under present conditions?" D. D. Buell; "My hobby," Mary Craig. This paper will be sent to the VISITOR for publication. "I didn't know it was there," recitation by Ray Dean; "Is there a just cause for the reduction of the salaries of public officials?" discussed by Thos. Sinclair, G. Vanauken, and E. A. Greenemeyer. "In what does equality of sex consist?" Mrs. H. A. Chase; recitation, Miss Wiggins.

GRATIOT POMONA.

The roads were bad, could hardly have been worse, still the meeting of Pomona held February 29, with Liberty Grange at North Star, was the largest in the history of our county organization. Every Grange in the county was represented. The program for the afternoon consisted of papers and discussions, while the evening exercises conducted by the Lecturer of Liberty Grange was very entertaining and the Grange hall was packed. At the business session it was resolved to have an August farmers' picnic with special invitation to farmers' clubs. The executive committee and Deputy Bovee were instructed to name time, place, and to procure speakers. The next meeting of Pomona will be held with Arcada Grange, May 23.

E. FRANKLIN.

The March meeting of Hillsdale Pomona was held on the 8th with Adams Grange. A free and usual Grange business the forenoon was spent in discussing the GRANGE VISITOR, its circulation and needs, and the Lubin proposition. The afternoon was wholly given up to the Worthy Lecturer, Brother Moore, our Worthy Master, read a fine paper on "Is there a just cause for the reduction of fees and salaries of public officials?" He contrasted our custom of paying high salaries to our congressmen with that of Great Britain which pays none to its members of parliament, whose services are considered but a just tribute of patriotism. We were paying a premium on wealth which was used to carry on the campaign and buy votes, ending in the constituents being sold out. We could not expect congressmen to voluntarily make laws to reduce their own salaries. We are responsible. We should lay aside party and vote for men who care for our interest. We cannot expect good legislation from lawyers; lawyers and brains don't always go together. There are plenty of farmers who are capable of filling the office. We should ask for our rights and demand them.

Bro. VanOrsdale, "There is but one side to this question. Heaven is always on one side, salaries should be reduced."

Sister Hunker: "God helps those who help themselves. There is a class who are not allowed to vote, but the silent partner has an influence."

Brother Edwards: "Chicago is going to reduce her school expenses one-third, so is Detroit. We should reform in this respect."

Sister Bowditch: "Public wrongs should be corrected at the primaries—party spirit should be laid aside. A lawyer has been sent to investigate our agricultural school at Lansing. It is an imposition. While this subject was being discussed and on naming our Worthy State Master, George B. Horton, as our coming governor, the Republican "rascals" cheered. If Pomona could settle it there would be no doubt as to who would be our next governor. Perhaps the most interesting of the exercises of the day was an address by Bro. VanOrsdale on "Must one get in debt to make money?" But I have now exceeded three hundred words, but will say the proposition turned on finance and present condition of the United States as compared to that of ancient Rome, and contrasted with that of France and Japan.

Sister Hunker read a paper on Immigration, which will be farther discussed at our next meeting which is to be held with Moscow Grange on the first Thursday in April.

WM. KIRBY.

EGYPT COMES TO OUR RELIEF

She sends us Teosinte, the greatest fodder producing plant in the world. On her fertile soil it yields 600,000 lbs. green food per acre. We grow all our seed in America, so it is acclimated. It's marvelously wonderful! And Salzer's Sand Vetch and American Sacaline, Giant Spurry and Giant Incarnate Clover, Silver King Barley, 116 bu. per acre, Silver Mine oats, 209 bu. and a great many other rarities are offered in our mammoth seed catalogue. 35 packages earliest vegetables \$1.00.

If you will cut this out and send it with 10c. postage to the Sohn A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., you will receive their catalogue and ten packages grain and grasses, including Teosinte, free. Catalogue alone 5c.

## Field and Stock

### Cooperation.

At State Grange 1895.

J. W. Hutchings, chairman of committee on cooperation, presented the following report, which was acted upon in sections:

*Worthy Master and members of the State Grange:*

Your committee on cooperation would submit the following report:

The resolution offered by Whitford Milliman of Kalamazoo county, asking for a study by the executive committee of the plan of cooperative purchasing known as the "Labor Exchange," would ask that the same be referred to the executive committee. Resolution so referred.

Resolution of Henry Stockwell, of Allegan county, in regard to burial caskets, is referred back to the Grange without recommendation. Resolution laid upon the table.

In regard to the general principle of cooperation we present the following:

The present is an age of combination. Wealth combines, and greater production and greater profits result. With increased capital, comes increased power; the rights of laborer and producer are forgotten.

Labor organizes and demands an honest share in the results of its toil, meeting combinations with combination. But what of the farmer who produces raw material for the manufacturer, and the food supply for all? His isolated life makes organization difficult; the conditions of his business are such that combination of capital into great corporations is impossible. He cannot fix even the price of the products of his farm. Hemmed in by the cost of production on the one hand and the constantly decreasing prices of his staple products on the other, standing room for himself and family is difficult to find. What opportunity for escape has he? We believe his best chance and brightest hope is in cooperation with others whose interests are similar to his own. This principle may be applied in many ways: socially, intellectually, financially. Meeting together, talking together buying and selling together. It is the corner stone of the Grange structure, the creed of its faith, its hope for the future. The social features of the Order have from the first been of the highest value to its members; the opportunities for mental growth have constantly improved with the years until now, with the Farm Home Reading Circle to give him needed scientific and technical knowledge, and traveling libraries composed of the latest and best in history and literature in the Grange hall, the farmer, if ignorant remains so from choice and not from necessity.

But in these days of decreased values and small incomes, the application of the principle of cooperation to the purchase of farm and family supplies is most emphatically demanded. In line with this demand the State Grange of 1894, directed the executive committee to make such arrangements as were necessary to provide for such trade. Some thirty contracts have been made, and considerable business has already been transacted. These contracts have been provided at considerable expense of the State Grange, and great cost in time and anxiety to Worthy Master Horton, who has had this matter in charge; and we feel that we cannot express too strongly upon the Subordinate Granges of the state their duty to give a faithful trial of these opportunities offered for purchasing the necessities of our homes and farms at wholesale prices. You are urged to this not because of the saving to yourselves, which often by a single purchase will pay your Grange dues for a whole year, but also because of the increase in numbers and influence which these plans promise to bring to the Grange in the near future, if faithfully, patiently, and persistently followed. Many who cannot be reached by social or educational influences, will respond to an appeal in favor of the pocket book, and in the end receive great benefit in other lines. But let it never be forgotten that the benefits to be derived from these contracts are for members of the Grange and for no others. To extend them to those outside the gates would defeat one of the objects desired—the securing of new members through this influence—belittle the Order in the eyes of local dealers against whom we claim to make no war, and show a lack of business tact and business judgment.

For the further extension of this system of co-operative purchasing we endorse the suggestions made by the committee on Cooperation of the National Grange of 1894, of which our Worthy Master was chairman that "the Secretary and Master of each Subordinate Grange, or secretary and Chairman of the executive committee, be elected a trade committee to receive and forward all orders for goods. To attach the seal of the Grange to, and sign all orders for goods. To deliver all goods received, to collect pay for the same, and remit amounts due on all bills. To keep a file of all bills for goods, and at the right

time report to the Secretary of the State Grange the aggregate amount of purchases from each firm during the time specified to pass between reports. To give a good and sufficient bond to the executive committee of the Grange for the faithful performance of duty."

In view of the fact that all wealth producers have many interests in common, we would recommend the consideration by the executive committee of the plan of sending fraternal delegations to other organizations of laboring men, and receiving visiting delegations from such organizations by the State Grange, with a view to a better understanding of the needs of the working classes along different lines.

But these are not the only lines along which this principle of co-operation may be applied. "The man is of more value than the farm," or these temporalities which surround him. To elevate the character is better than to fill the purse. Our standard is "A purer manhood, a nobler womanhood, a universal brotherhood."

Kissed by sunshine, dew, and shower,  
Leaping rill and living sod,  
Sea and mountain, tree and flower  
Lift their faces up to God.  
And one common brotherhood  
Pulsing through a thousand lands,  
Reaches for one common good  
With its million, million hands."

"Through all forms of warring life  
One eternal purpose rolls.  
And amid all outward strife  
One eternal right controls;  
Right, at whose divine command,  
Slaves go free and captives fall,  
In the strength of those who stand  
All for one, and one for all."

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. WESLON HUTCHINGS, A. L. JEFTS,  
WHITFORD MILLIMAN, J. D. FANSLER,  
GEO. B. BLISSETT, MRS. M. W. OLDS, MRS.  
LOUIE NORTH, MRS. L. A. BIRD.

### The Good Roads Movement.

The good roads agitation is bearing fruit in several states. More or less admirable laws relating to the management of roads have been enacted during the last two years and form an interesting bulletin just issued from the office of road inquiry of the department of agriculture.

The California bureau of highways established this spring consists of three persons appointed for two years at a salary of \$3000 per annum each, which seems big pay inasmuch as its duty is only to gather statistics and information and to hold a good roads institute in each county annually. One energetic, competent man could do all this work quite as well as three.

Contrast the foregoing with the plan in thrifty Connecticut, where the three state highway commissioners receive \$8 a day only while employed. It is their duty to approve specifications for road improvement and supervise its construction, one of their number at least being an experienced engineer. One-third of the cost of all roads built under their supervision shall be paid by the state, one-third by the town and one-third by the county. The town takes the initiative in building good roads, and the amount of this work in any one year shall not exceed half of one per cent of the town's assessed valuation, and the town must thereafter keep the road in repair. There is no limit to the amount of money the state may pay for its share of such good roads, except that not over \$1000 of the state's money shall be expended in any one town in any one year. Under this law a grand good roads campaign has been inaugurated.

Massachusetts has gone still further and its system of mile-lengths of model state road that were built in the various counties last year, has proven so successful that this year the highway commission was given \$400,000 for its work. The money is obtained by the sale of the state's 4 per cent thirty-year gold bonds; the state also furnishes steam rollers free to certain towns. It is proposed to add link after link to the stretches of model road already built, until within a few years a system of state highways will be completed, when the counties and towns will unite to improve the main ways. In both these states stone is abundant and macadamized roads are the favorite.

The use of convicts in road building is becoming more general. In California a new law provides for rock-crushing plants to be operated by convicts and appropriates \$30,000 for the purpose. In Iowa unused building stone and refuse stone shall be broken by convicts at the state penitentiary and shall be furnished free to the various counties. The excellent roads built in certain parts of North Carolina by convicts have led to the continuance of the system there, which has been very little opposed. In some sections there is strong feeling against having convicts work out on the public roads, but there can be no opposition to utilizing prison labor in yards for preparing stone for the making of good roads. If all the now wasted labor of inmates in prisons and jails, and the grand army of tramps, were utilized in building good roads it would be an immense saving to the country and a blessing to the men as well.

Good highways and good waterways,—the people's means of transportation, free from corporate manipulation, owned and maintained by the people for their common use and heritage—this is the prime issue of these present days.—*Orange Judd Farmer.*

### Free Delivery of Rural Mail.

Free delivery in rural districts is a question which agitates the public mind to a considerable extent in many localities and one which it may not be amiss to discuss briefly on this occasion.

While we may congratulate our city friends who are residents of Benton Harbor upon the near prospect of having their letters brought to their doors, we are led to inquire why the distinction is in their favor. Are we who are residents of a farming community just outside the city's limits entitled to less consideration for that reason? Can there be any argument advanced in favor of the free delivery of mail matter in towns having a population equal to or greater than Benton Harbor other than that of better service at less expenditure than is possible in sparsely settled communities? This may be the case, but is the business of the post office department conducted on the principle that communities least accessible shall pay more for the delivery of their mail? Every body knows this is not the case. A letter or paper or book or any merchandise is carried to the farthest limits of Uncle Sam's dominions for the same money that is charged if the distance be but one mile or even a less distance.

If the post office were conducted on the theory that its revenues must pay its expenses at least, the consideration of cost would be conclusive against free delivery. But it is well known that quite large appropriations are made annually to pay the excess of expenditures over the receipts in the department.

If the people of Alaska, thousands of miles away, have their mail delivered to them just as cheaply as the citizens of a state which is honeycombed with railroads, why should not the citizens of Fair Plain be entitled to free delivery as well as Benton Harbor?

The U. S. is almost the only country of importance which fails to complete its contract by delivering letters to the person addressed.

In Great Britain or on the European continent the post office department takes a letter from the place of deposit and puts it in the hand of the person to whom it is sent whether he lives in town or country. Going to the post office for mail is something unknown in those old countries.

Why should such a progressive people as we linger so far in the rear? Doubtless in a country like ours the conditions are different. We have large areas especially west of us where the people are so scattered that such delivery of their mail would be impracticable; but not so with such contiguous territory as is Fair Plain to Benton Harbor.

Again we are confronted with the same old argument "it would cost too much." The expense would be too great. It would? Who pays the expenses of this government of ours if not the people? Who are the people? Who pays the great bulk of the taxes which support the government in all its departments? Who but the people of the rural districts? Shall we wade through the mud and snow to get our mail while our neighbor who has paid less for the service may sit in his comfortable home and have his mail delivered at his door?

I am glad the National Grange recently adopted resolutions urging upon the government the extension of free postal delivery to rural communities. There can be no doubt that the resolutions of the National Grange express a wide felt want among the farmers of this country.

The gain to rural districts would be realized in many ways. They would not only be brought into closer communications with the outside world, but they would be saved many long and sometimes disagreeable drives for their mail. Letters would be received more promptly—a consideration of importance not only to the recipient, but likewise to the business man, whose success depends largely upon the promptness with which their correspondence is conducted.

Farm life would be rendered more attractive to the boys and girls, and fewer cases of leaving the country for the feverish life of the city would naturally follow. Nor the country districts be the only gainers. The closer relations between city and country would result beneficially to the business interests of both. Improved postal facilities in the country as well as the cities and towns would promote the general business interests of the whole nation.

The question is can so desirable a work be accomplished? Ex. P. M. Gen. Wanamaker believed it could be done. Congress, in 1890, made an appropriation of \$10000 with which to make the experiment in 40 or 50 villages. The results were quite satisfactory to Mr. Wanamaker and he urged extending the experiment at the rate of a thousand postoffices a year.

Unfortunately for the country an administration came into power which practice cutting down the expenses which were incurred for the benefit of the laboring classes, and increasing the expense by issuing bonds in the interests of capitalists.

So we have a Hoke Smith and William Lochren to save the country at the expense of the crippled and debilitated defender of the country, and a Bissel and Wilson who could see only ruin to our finances if rural free delivery should be extended.

It is hoped that a more liberal administration may succeed the present one, and that notwithstanding the impracticability of any general free delivery system being adopted with the present condition of our revenue. Yet the recommendations of Mr. Wanamaker might be attempted with excellent results. Let us earnestly hope for a speedy and radical change in the conduct of the postoffice department of our country.

W. H. W.

### Attitude of the German-American Toward Sunday Excise Laws.

We print the following, because it contains food for thought for those who are trying to settle the temperance question.

Not in order to satisfy his appetite, but as a protest against a false and mischievous moral standard, does the temperate and liberal-minded American or German oppose all extreme legislation regarding the traffic in alcoholic beverages or the prohibition of harmless amusement on Sunday. He believes, upon the assurance of science as well as of reason, that the temperate use of pure stimulants is not only a positive good, but that it connotes—to use the logician's phrase—a higher and manlier type of character than bigoted total abstinence; and his fundamental principle regarding Sunday observance is a liberal and enlightened construction of the words of Christ: "The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath." Nor does he command absolute freedom from governmental control for the liquor traffic, or unbridled dissipation on Sunday. On the contrary his support may always be had for rational and even severe restrictions in the interest of sobriety and order, so long as a great and fundamental difference is made, in excise legislation, between wines and beers on the one hand, and distilled liquors on the other, and so long as no Sabatarian interference with proper enjoyment and recreation is permitted. Not by indiscriminate and silly denunciation of the "rum power" or cheap flings at "Sunday beer," but by serious and kindly work in the direction indicated, is it possible for sincere friends of sobriety, and of an orderly, attractive, and enjoyable Sunday, to check the evils which they are combating; and in these efforts they will have no sincerer assistance than that of their American fellow-citizens of German birth or extraction.—*Mr. Frederick William Hells, in the Forum.*

Improve the winter days and evenings by planning for the working season. Note down your ideas, and when the season for using them arrives consult the memoranda. You will be surprised when you read your notes. I once read in a work on the Art of Conversation, "When visiting a neighbor let him open and shut his gates, and you can do the same when he visits you in return," meaning that you should listen a good deal when visiting, and not do much talking. Let the neighbor open the gates.—*Live-Stock Indicator.*

While the present outlook for horses is not very encouraging to the breeder, there is bound to come a time, and that not in the very distant future, when the supply will have adjusted itself to the business and will again be put upon a profitable basis. In the meantime call out all inferior animals and breed for some special purpose.—*Agricultural Epitomist.*

There is money in farming. Those who imagine there are more "croakers" than among any other class of producers are mistaken. There is risk and uncertainty in all businesses; but there is as great certainty of success in farming as in any other business. Farmers have only to follow the principles of good business, and all will be well.—*Homestead.*

### Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, Ohio.  
Sold by druggists, 75c.

**WOMAN'S WORK.**

**Teaching Cooking.**

That there is great need for the teaching of cooking has long been acknowledged. Every class of women needs knowledge, not only of foods, their cost and something of their nutritive value, but of the best methods of preparing them, that they shall be most digestible as well as most palatable.

The servant girl needs definite knowledge of cooking, that she may give good service for her wages, and be able to demand good pay, and hold the pleasant place where she likes to live.

The daughter of the home needs knowledge of all these matters, that she may relieve the over-burdened mother of some of the cares and work, and also that when the time comes for her to step into a home of her own she may know how to best provide for the table in that home.

Most of all does the housewife need knowledge of cooking, whether she do her own work or be mistress of a retinue of servants; for she can command her own strength or that of hired help only when she knows how all work should be done and the process of accomplishing the required results. With the acknowledged need it may seem strange that the teaching of cooking is no more universal. There are comparatively few places where this branch is taught, and yet, when we remember that twenty years ago it was only talked about,—scarcely anything done in actual work,—it is only fair to say that the growth of the teaching of cooking has been nothing less than amazing. Today, most of the large cities have more or less cooking schools. Many of the larger public schools teach this branch, while the agricultural colleges which admit women to their course of study nearly all have a department of domestic science, many of the prominent universities are agitating the matter, and several of the best colleges for women only have a course which treats of home making, and brings in cooking as a part of the training. Like all branches which must be taught to both brain and hand this one needs special equipment; and not only must the lecture be practical and easily comprehended, but the kitchen laboratory where actual cooking is carried on must be enough like a good home kitchen to allow even a girl who is not especially ready to adapt herself to different surroundings to go into the real home kitchen, even though it be a poor one, and do as good cooking as she learned to do in the class. The study of the branch we call cooking means the knowledge of what food will result from various combinations, and the skill of the hands to form those combinations. Cookery can no more be learned from lectures alone or by studying a text-book than one can learn to play the violin by reading music.

There must be good equipment in order to accomplish work. A girl ought first to realize that there are certain fixed laws in regard to diet; that there should be the proper proportion of fatty matter to be eaten with the starchy materials; that just as she plans to eat butter with her bread, so must she plan for some fatty material with all the foods that are largely composed of starch. She will readily comprehend that if little fruit can be obtained, the use of salads and pickles will help to make the heavy meat digestible. All this means that any girl ought to be taught to think, and then she can work out her own home problems if she be given a few mixed principles.

Skill in manipulation is easily acquired by most girls, though occasionally there is one who never makes a dish of food which is perfect, and who always makes a mistake if it be possible. Such a girl is incapable of ever becoming a really first-class housekeeper. Occasionally we find a man who never learns to drive a horse properly. He drives his own horse, but is never pointed out as a good horseman, and we pity his horse. So we find the poor cook, who cooks for her own, and we are sorry for her family. However, I believe every girl can become a fairly good cook.

The class work necessary for teaching the elements of cooking varies in various schools. I believe the best teaching is done not by very small quantities, but by making a dish which is as large as would be required by an ordinary family. This necessitates some way of disposing of the food. In schools where dormitories are a part of the plan, this food is easily managed, as one day the class may make rolls, another day, pie, and so relieve the regular cooks somewhat, and by making plans beforehand their time may be profitably employed in other directions. In schools where no dormitory system is in vogue, lunches sold to students who prefer a hot lunch to a cold one, seems the best way to dispose of the surplus food.

It is not essential that every girl make every dish. It is essential that every girl learn to cook well whatever food she prepares. One boiled pudding perfectly prepared for the table makes the thinking girl

mentally able to cook any boiled pudding she wills; but one day or one week of cooking does not make her fingers deft at handling foods. There is a great difference in the ease and readiness with which a girl's fingers become accustomed to handling the various kinds of dough. While one girl will readily make flaky, digestible pie-crust, another will, with the same material, so maul and handle it as to prevent any possibilities of flakiness. Dexterity of hand must be gained by practice in this branch of work as in any other.

The use of an ordinary stove for much of the cooking will give a young girl more confidence in her own ability when she goes home than cooking by means of heat which cannot be duplicated in her home work; and, after all, the cooking she can do well after she goes home is what counts, not that done in the class under the eye of the teacher.

When the general principles which underlie the providing of good food shall be taught to all girls; when every young woman in high school and college shall have training in the cooking of food until she shall at least know good bread from poor, and can make a few dishes well, then will many of the hard problems of the home be solved. When the homes are rightly managed, there will be fewer puzzling questions of state to answer.

All this necessitates equipment. It is absolutely necessary that proper rooms, competent teachers and good material be provided. The expense is not great in comparison with the expense of teaching other branches of manual training, and the results are quite as far reaching. The day is not far distant when every state will provide for its daughters in the line of their greatest need, and will teach them something of home-making. Then the art of cooking will be put where it belongs in every girl's education, and we shall all rejoice in properly cooked food three times every day.—Mrs. Nellie S. Kodzie is *Kansas Industrialist*.

**What the Teachers have a right to Expect of the School Patrons.**

Read by Mrs. Franc Hutchinson at Grange and Teachers' association, Hesperia.

The law of common decency gives the teachers a right to expect of the patrons at all times and under all circumstances, fair and courteous treatment, and the closer the relationship of teacher and patron, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become. The general law provides that when a school is deemed necessary or advisable, a suitable site shall be secured and a building erected. We might suppose a suitable site to mean: Plenty of room with grounds that may be made beautiful and home-like, ornamented with trees and flowers. Aided and encouraged by the teacher, the pupils will gladly take hold of this work. The school house should be comfortable, commodious and pleasant, properly heated and ventilated, with all the out-surroundings well kept and clean.

Elect as members of the school board patrons who have the interest of the school at heart; who have some care for the education of the masses, as well as for their own selfish interests; who know their duty and do it fearlessly; who need not to be reminded that "tonight is school meeting," and then make themselves either conspicuous by their absence, or obnoxious by their presence, figuratively grasping their pocket books at the mere suggestion of needed repairs on buildings or grounds, or the necessary accompaniments to the school room for the convenience of the teacher, and the advancement of the pupils. Elect patrons who will do as much for the school as they would if they were to receive a remuneration in dollars and cents; who recognize the laborer as worthy of his hire, and are willing to pay good wages; who are ready to accept any conditions which they have reason to believe will benefit the school.

It has been said by someone that "there seems to be a growing demand that men of wealth and education must lead in civic reform because they have both the leisure and the means to bring it about." This same statement, might, perhaps, be well considered in the election of school officers. The board should be judicious in the selection of a teacher. Fitness for the particular place is a qualification sometimes overlooked or deemed not worthy of consideration. Much is to be gained in hiring by the year. The teacher becomes thoroughly acquainted with the pupils and their capabilities, knows how much to expect of them, and if they are accomplishing all they can. The work goes on from term to term without the break which necessarily follows the advent of a new teacher. The pupils have learned what to expect of the teacher, and no time need be wasted in speculating in what is meant by what is said. The teacher is the nominal head of the school and when employed has a right to expect of the board its full support and encouragement, and that everything shall be done which may be, to sustain him in this position so long as he is worthy of the place. The teacher should exercise his right to run the school. An intelligent,

efficient teacher ought to be competent to manage the affairs of the schoolroom without the aid of suggestions from some patron who never taught a school, and who has not visited one in the last decade; or from someone who taught when the methods of teaching were altogether different than at present; or from one who taught in the days when it was considered sufficient to keep school. Teachers have a right to expect that we will supply good teachers and pay good wages.

Supply the teacher with conveniences to facilitate the work, and less time will be spent in explanations, and more in instructions. What the child sees it grasps more readily and retains better, than that which is learned by note. The teacher who would not make good use of these advantages, and strive to make his school one point better each day, is not worthy the name, and the sooner the school is relieved of his presence the better for all concerned.

If patrons will visit schools and note the vast difference between rooms adorned and beautified with pictures, plants and flowers, and those in which we see only the cold, bare walls; and also note the far greater advancement made by pupils where the conveniences for teaching are supplied, methinks further argument along this line will not be necessary. The teacher has a right to expect that the pupil will come to him bearing the marks of home culture that make him well-mannered and respectful; that the pupil will come properly clothed, fed and groomed; and please take home with you the thought that much may be gained for the child by a good thorough grooming. Then the intellectual food furnished will be richly assimilated and productive of much good. This will be found especially true of country schools.

If the child comes from a home which is comfortable, and which is made cheerful and happy by the spirit which pervades it, then indeed should the association of school life be such as to preserve in him his estimate of right living. If, on the other hand, he comes from a cheerless, unhappy home, where all is contention and strife, with never a ray of sunshine from happy hearts to lighten and gladden it, surely in the schoolroom should he find bright beams of gladness to penetrate his heart, to permeate his whole being, and instill in him a love for the good, the true and the beautiful.

In considering this subject we have to do only with the true teacher and the true patron. The true teacher has made the subject a study until it has become an art. His ambition does not end in having secured a certificate and a school, but he continually strives to broaden his mind, to develop and quicken his faculties, that he may give in return for his hire the very cream of his ability. He studies his subject from all points, as the sculptor studies the marble out of which he expects or aims to chisel his ideal. He has the thought in mind, and works with faith in his ability to do that to which he has set his hand. With an eye single to his purpose he guides the modeling and developing of his subject, that it may work net and gain to the world, the result for which he has spent time, money and energy.

The true teacher successfully instructs the child to launch his tiny bark in the stream of life, and so guide it as it floats onward toward the river of youth and the great ocean of manhood, freighted with high hopes and aspirations, that it may gather strength to stem the tide through the straits and channels of life, and around the shoals and hidden rocks of its trials and disappointments, and at last anchor in the harbor, enriched with a store of useful knowledge, fitted to make life worth living, and the end a glorious triumph.

The true patron watches with anxious care and solicitude the launching of these ships of the youth of our land, and looks forward with fond anticipation and speculation, as to the ultimate success of the undertaking, but through incompetency along some lines the little vessel is swamped at the outset and goes down in the stream in which it set sail; or, perhaps the gay vessel of youth is engulfed in the river formed by the little streams of influence; and often the magnificent ship of manhood is broken on the rocks or swallowed by the huge waves of the mighty ocean. Let us then, if we be patrons, strive to guard against any adverse influence. If teachers, to merit the name of true teachers. "If we work upon marble it will crumble into dust; if we work upon brass time will corrode it." But if we work upon immortal minds it will be like "the ripple marks upon the rocks, formed quietly, gradually and all unseen, yet firm and lastingly fixed.

**From an Address of Welcome.**

By Miss Bertha Lyon to Clinton county Pomona at the Bengal Grange hall, January 23, 1896.

We must choose our ways of application and thereby enrich our minds even in spite of home cares. Let us make what ever culture we have a means of doing good. Let position and wealth hold simply their rightful place. Remember that the whole of this life with all its glories, all its fascinations, is but the opening scene. We all

must have perseverance. Perseverance built the mighty pyramids along the valley of the Nile, leveled the forest, sent the railroads to every quarter, spanned the broadest rivers, reared a community of states equalled by none on the face of the globe. For some of us the race may be a long one, through rugged and thorny pathways, perchance, but the flowers bloom in many a work. Then through sunshine and shadow, joy and sorrow, life passes, ever coloring, ever forming, not only our portraits, but also either brightening or marring those we meet or join on the way. In after years bright flowers will be scattered in the foreground by memory's brush as she recalls the happy associates here and the firm friendships formed.

And now, dear Patrons, may all go well with you. May life's short day glide on peacefully and brightly, with no more clouds than may glisten in the sunshine; no more rain than may form a rainbow, and may the King of Heaven bring us to meet again.

**The Juveniles.**

**Memory Gems.**

I live for those who love me,  
For those who know me true,  
For the heavens that bend above me,  
And await my spirit too,  
For the cause that needs assistance,  
For the wrongs that lack resistance,  
For the future in the distance,  
And the good that I can do.  
*Thomas Guthrie.*

Labor with that zeal we will,  
Something still remains undone—  
Something uncompleted still  
Waits the rising of the sun.  
*Longfellow.*

He liveth long who liveth well,  
All else is life but flung away;  
He liveth longest who can tell  
Of true things truly done each day.  
*Horatio Bonar.*

Some days must needs be full of gloom,  
Yet must we use them as we may,  
Talk less about the years to come,  
Live, love, and labor more today.  
*Alice Cary.*

If we do not plant knowledge when  
young, it will give us no shade when we  
are old.  
*Lord Chestertield*

"Better to strive and climb,  
And never reach the goal,  
Than to drift along with time,  
An aimless, worthless soul.  
Ay, better to climb and fall,  
Or sow, though the yield be small,  
Than to throw away day after day,  
And never to strive at all."  
*D. Mulock Craik.*

The shortest way to do many things is  
to do only one thing at a time.  
*Cecil.*

**The Way People used to Travel**

It was a slow team, but there were no railroads then. There were no good wagon roads a large part of the way. A great many people wanted to go west, and the only way they could go was to take the best they had and start. Sometimes it was an ox-team, sometimes a horse-team, with one or more horses. The wagon was covered with cloth, so as to make a shelter from the hot sun and rain.

Inside the wagon were packed all sorts of things. Most of these people were poor, and the wagon held all they had. There was a bed in the wagon, and some furniture. It was a crowded house, and just how the family was able to stow themselves away for the night we cannot tell.

The emigrant team in the picture shows a resting-place. The horses are getting a bite of grass, and the father is looking out for them. The mother and children are amusing themselves. You see it is on the banks of a small stream, and there are many things to interest. While the children were running about Harry discovered a new bird. It did not look like anything he had ever seen. He called his mother to come and look at it. So it was until they reached their new home in Iowa, there was something new every day. The journey was a long one, and there were many days they saw no other persons.

At last home was reached. Shall we call it a home? There was no house, no fields, no grain, no barn. A large prairie rolled out before them. Yes, this was their home, but everything was to be done. The new land was plowed up and planted. A dug-out was all the house they had the first year, but the next year a small house was made. So the work went on until a pleasant home was made.—*Our Little People.*

**Cheapest and Best.**

Jefferson Co., N. Y., Feb. 29, '96.

Mr. O. W. Ingersoll,  
Dear Sir: Please send the secretary of Indian Grange and also myself, sample cards and prices. I have used a great deal of paint in the past 25 years and pronounce yours the best and cheapest I ever used.  
Respectfully yours,  
S. G. WIGGINS.

See adv. Ingersoll's liquid rubber paints.

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

CHARLOTTE, MICH.

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NEXT ISSUE, APRIL 2.

## TO TEACHERS AND PATRONS.

We urge the following upon the attention of all Patrons of schools and school teachers. It is hardly necessary to argue for this, but we do wish to call attention to the opportunity presented. The circular is self explanatory.

In order to awaken an interest in the beautifying of rural school grounds, the State Agricultural College offers to the first ten school districts in each county that make application, a collection of flower seeds, to be planted upon the school grounds and to be cared for by the children.

They will be selected with reference to their adaptability for the purpose and will be accompanied by directions for their planting and care.

We urge all persons interested in the schools, or in the welfare of the children to aid in instilling in the pupils a love of flowers and regard for the appearance of the grounds about the school houses, as we believe that it will not only aid in cultivating in them a love of the beautiful, but it will be a means of interesting them in the work of the school room.

Applications should be made as promptly as possible, as we cannot promise to honor any received after April 1. The seeds with full directions will be sent about April 15.

L. R. Taft, professor of horticulture, Agricultural College, Mich.

## APPLICATION BLANK FOR SEEDS.

Prof. L. R. Taft,  
Agricultural College, Mich.:

Dear Sir: Please send me one of your collections of flower seeds for the school in District No. .... township of .....

which I agree shall be presented to the pupils in the name of the State Agricultural College. I hereby agree to see that they are planted in the school grounds of said district, according to the directions accompanying them, and that they receive proper care, the planting and care so far as is possible to be done by the pupils.

We further agree that on or before November 1st, 1896, we will report to you the result of the experiment, together with such suggestions as we may be able to offer as to how to make our school grounds more beautiful.

Teacher  
P. O. Address, .....

County, .....

I hereby certify that ..... has been employed as teacher in school No. .... township of ..... for the spring term of 1896, and that we believe ..... will endeavor to carry out the above agreement.

Director

## On the Wing.

BY THE EDITOR.

I have been spending something over three weeks visiting in the states of Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin, with the purpose of studying the farmers' institute systems and methods in use in those states. Naturally there were many other things which I made note of, and I will endeavor to give the readers of the VISITOR a brief summary of some impressions in regard to institute work as well as of these other matters.

I visited three institutes in Ohio, all in the southwestern portion of the state. This is the great corn and hog district of Ohio. The institutes in Ohio are all two day meetings with one evening session. The state furnishes two workers who stay throughout the meeting and come on the program from three to five times each. The meeting is run entirely by local authorities. Under this system the state holds about 160 institutes a year for a sum of five thousand dollars, but there is raised by tax some seven thousand more which goes to pay local expenses of the institute. In addition to these state institutes, there are fifty or sixty independent institutes held without state aid. The meetings I attended were of good size and interest, and would compare well with our average meeting in Michigan. I had a very pleasant interview with Secretary Miller of the Board of Agriculture, who has been an active Patron for many years and for a number of years has been assistant secretary of the National Grange. From him I learned a great deal about the details of institute work in his state. I also met Brother F. A. Derthick, chairman of the executive committee of the Ohio State Grange, who at present conducts the Grange department in the *Ohio Farmer*. Brother Derthick is one of the prominent institute workers of Ohio, and was also candidate for the office of Dairy and Food Commissioner, but was defeated.

At Lebanon I met Brother S. H. Ellis, past-Master of the Ohio State Grange, and well known to all Patrons as one of the earliest of the prominent workers of the Order. The Grange in Ohio is quite strong and progressive, but the state is so large that it has not yet covered the entire territory. In fact in southwestern Ohio the Grange appears to be comparatively weak. The farmers are quite uneasy as regards the economic situation, and seemed prone to discuss semi-political topics. I thought they were rather more interested in these than in the practical farm topics. At Lebanon there was a committee appointed to

consider the advisability and practicability of forming a farmers' organization. Brother Ellis was made chairman of this committee, and I presume that whatever is done will be wisely managed. At Columbus I visited the Ohio State University, and was very much interested in the recent progress of the agricultural department under Prof. Hunt. A few years ago this department was the butt of ridicule of Ohio farmers. Today there are over one hundred students in this department, and seven boys graduate from the long course in agriculture this year. The short course of two years is so arranged that those who wish to go on and complete the long course can get credit for their work, and I was told that quite a number of the boys went on each year. Most of the students go back to the farm.

In the state of Indiana I was able to visit but one institute, which was the last one of their season, and was held at Lebanon, Ind., between Indianapolis and LaFayette. It was a three day meeting and was a success in every particular. I there met Prof. Latta, who has charge of the institute work in Indiana; also Mr. T. B. Terry, whom I met for the first time. I was exceedingly glad to meet him and enjoyed his talks thoroughly, and also the brief opportunity for getting acquainted with him. He impressed me as being one of the royal men in agriculture. The Indiana institute system is much like that of Ohio; it is managed very economically, the total appropriation being only \$5,000. \$25 per county is paid out of this fund to each of 92 counties for local expenses. I discovered that there is a large amount of tenant farming in central Indiana, and it seems to be on the increase. For the first time in my life at a farmers' gathering I heard the words "landlord" and "tenant" commonly used. These words sounded ominous to me, but they did not seem to trouble the minds of those who used them. This matter of the increase of tenant farming is a serious problem. Perhaps the tide can not be stemmed, but I trust the day never will come when our country becomes a land of landlords and tenants. The actual possession and ownership of a home is the great safeguard. I visited Purdue University at LaFayette. This is an industrial institution, and the agricultural students are not very numerous comparatively. However, there are about forty in the short winter courses.

I spent two weeks in Wisconsin, the latter of which was in attendance at their "round-up" at Watertown. Wisconsin in principle is at the opposite extreme of Ohio in institute work. In Ohio and Indiana the state makes out the schedules of trips and speakers and then turns the meetings entirely over to the local talent. In Wisconsin the meetings are run entirely by the state, including the publication of programs, advertising, and all expenses except the furnishing of a hall. The state sends out a corps of workers consisting of the conductor and his assistant, with perhaps some special worker on dairy or fruit topics, or both. The conductor and his assistant remain for two days, and they appear on the program two or three times each. The conductor presides at all sessions of the institute. Local people do not appear on the program as a rule so frequently as they do in Michigan. The workers are well trained, however, and the average institute is carried on with promptness and precision, the questions being prompt and the answers equally so. The "round-up" meeting was a great success in point of attendance, being, I think, considerably larger than our own at Grand Rapids; but the attendance was not so representative of the state, most of those outside of institute workers being from the adjoining country. Otherwise the meeting was not greatly different from our own. Wisconsin has an appropriation of \$12,000 per year, and this year holds 105 two day meetings and 10 one day meetings. Mr. McKerrow, the superintendent of institutes, devotes his entire time to the work, and is as able an institute worker as I have ever met. In Wisconsin I met Mr. John L. Shawver of Ohio who has been a worker in Ohio, and has also done institute work in Wisconsin. I also met Brother Carr, past-Master of Wisconsin State Grange. Although the Grange is not very strong in Wisconsin, he is just as earnest as ever in the advocacy of Grange principles. The state University at Madison has a most beautiful location, hard to excel. The Agricultural College, under the direction of Prof. Henry, has obtained an attendance of nearly 200 boys. About 90 of these are in the dairy course of three months, and the remainder are in the short course in agriculture. There are very few in the long course of agriculture. These short courses are three months for two years. Some of the boys come back for the second year, and most all of the students go back to the farm or into dairies.

I have outlined a few notes taken by the way, and will now give a few general impressions of the trip. In the first place I became more than ever convinced of the value of Grange work in training farm men and women. It so happened that most of the communities which I visited

were not Grange communities, and the absence of local talent was very marked. There seemed to be some doubting Thomases at the meeting of institute workers for the purpose of organizing an international association, (which, by the way, was a very profitable and pleasant affair,) when I said that we had one hundred men in Michigan who, with a little practice, would make creditable institute workers, but I was simply stating facts. I do not mean to cast the least reflection on any of the workers in any of these states, for it is only fair to say that in each of the three states I have named, the institute workers are men of practical success and of a high order of quality in institute work; but there did seem to be a lack of strong local talent, and I attribute it partly to the fact that the Grange has not been strong in these localities.

Just a word about the institute work in these states as compared with our own. Of course we have borrowed in our Michigan system some good points from the others. We borrowed the idea of the county societies from the Ohio law, but I find we have organized much more completely than they have in this respect. We borrowed the idea of having conductors from Wisconsin; also that of a "round-up" meeting and the bulletin. On the other hand, the thorough organization of our institute societies, our woman's work, our long institute, and our division of state and local authorities, are distinctively Michigan features. From a careful study of institute work in these three states, and from hearing reports from three other states, I see no reason to change any fundamental idea of our Michigan system. There are certain matters of detail that we can improve somewhat, but so far as the general plan is concerned, I am more than ever satisfied that the Michigan system has more stronger points than any other. I say this without in the least making light of the institute work in other states. They all have their strong features, but I honestly think that, taking everything into consideration, the Michigan system is the broadest yet devised.

A word about agricultural colleges. I visited three agricultural colleges on this visit, and I met men who were acquainted with the work in several others, and I became more than ever convinced that the Michigan Agricultural College is still at the front. Those who are inclined to criticize our college ought to listen to the words of farmers from other states who have visited our institution. In almost every case they acknowledge that it is the finest institution of its kind they have ever seen, and professors from other institutions acknowledge that the Michigan college has always stood at the very front. Sometimes one has to get away from home in order to appreciate some of the good things at home.

I returned to Michigan realizing that Michigan is not the only state in the Union. Ohio has a large population and a large area of tillable land with a progressive and cultured farm population. Indiana has a large area of some of the most fertile land imaginable. Wisconsin is very strong in her dairy and stock interests and in the men who represent them. But taken all together, I would see no reason for one moving out of Michigan into any one of these other states. I was impressed with the prestige Michigan is gaining with regard to her fruit interests, and also in her production of potatoes. Compared with Wisconsin, however, the dairy interest is very slight. I may be wrong, but my impression is that there ought to be carried on in Michigan a campaign of education in home dairying.

Such are some of my impressions of a very useful and pleasant trip.

## From Lecturer's Office.

I wish to call the attention of the lecturers of subordinate and Pomona Granges to the National Grange quarterly bulletin issued by the lecturer of the National Grange.

On the first page of the bulletin will be found the resolution of the National Grange authorizing its publication. It will be seen that Subordinate and Pomona Lecturers are requested to report to the state lecturer, giving at the close of each quarter a summary of discussions held and conclusions reached on the topics presented by the National lecturer. It would be well to report such other subjects as may be discussed or upon which papers are presented at Grange meetings.

If lecturers of Subordinate Granges do not receive the bulletin, let them forward their names and addresses to Alpha Messer, Rochester, Vermont, and the bulletins will be sent to them.

JASON WOODMAN.

## Tally Five For Lenawee County.

Since January 1st five good, strong Granges have been added to the list in Lenawee county and made up of the progressive and thoughtful farmers and their families of their respective localities. The county now has sixteen granges in active

working order. Other neighborhoods are in process of formation which will quite likely bring the list up to twenty by next state Grange.

Deputy E. B. Ward is studiously pointing out the way to the farmers in the northern counties.

Bro. J. W. Hutchins is on the move again.

Concord Grange was, after long years of sleeping, reorganized on March 5th. This gives Jackson county four Granges. They should now move for a Pomona Grange. No other work could so much assist in the further reestablishing of the Grange in Jackson county.

Bro. Jason Woodman is preparing the field in Kalamazoo county for reoccupying its Grange strongholds.

Under the lead of D. H. Stebbins, Antrim county Pomona Grange is to be organized on the 20th.

## The State Grange and the Silver Question.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR: There seems to be a general misapprehension as to the action of the State Grange on the silver question. The executive committee in its report did not advocate the "free coinage" of silver, but the coinage of the products of American mines with a duty on foreign silver. The objections of a part of the committee were based not on the impracticability of the idea, but on the inexpediency of the State Grange expressing an opinion on the currency question; and the matter came before the State Grange in that shape. The discussion of the report, however, merged into a debate on the silver question itself; and when the vote was taken, it practically was a vote for and against silver, and not on the wisdom of adopting the report. I do not understand that this vote commits the members of the Grange on the silver question; it was an expression of individual opinion by the delegates who voted. Many were in committee rooms, a few who were in the hall, did not vote on either side. Of the delegates who voted, if I counted straight, 66 voted for silver and 10 against.

Bro. Kelley, in his article in the VISITOR of February 20, says, "We all made a solemn promise when we became Patrons to avoid bringing political questions into the Grange for discussion." If Bro. Kelly will recall the obligations of the degree, he will acknowledge a slight mistake. "Partisan questions" are debarred from Grange discussions. The silver question is not yet a partisan question. It has never been antagonized by a great political party and endorsed by another party, as has been the tariff question, and is still a legitimate subject for discussion in Grange meetings; although it may not be wise to do so, unless we remember that "Progress toward truth is made by difference in opinion," and that "The fault lies in the bitterness of controversy."

A word as to the subject matter itself. We hear much at this time about "sound currency," "A dishonest dollar," "national honor," "goldbugs," and "silver lunatics," etc. It is evident to the careful reader and observer that there are many who write and talk on both sides of the currency question who have never taken the lessons from historical facts, relating to currency, applied them to present conditions, and reasoned to logical conclusions. If this is done it seems to me that silver and gold men both in the main will agree in their conclusions.

The rehabilitation of silver is advocated by a majority of our United States senators, and by thousands of the ablest thinkers and leaders in the country. Many of them have given careful and exhaustive study to the subject. These men are neither knaves nor fools. Does any sane person for a moment believe that such men would deliberately advocate the re-enactment of laws that have proved or would prove disastrous to the country?

On the other hand, the present gold standard can be successfully maintained. This has been proved under the present administration. Both plans are practicable and feasible. Neither is entirely right nor entirely wrong. Under the operation of either there will be individual cases of injustice. The restoration of silver means higher prices. A continuance of the present experiment of a gold standard means lower prices. The struggle is, and will be, between those who want to buy more with the dollar and those who want to give less for the dollar. The question for us to decide is, which, according to the world's experience, is the better for the great mass of the people?

JASON WOODMAN.

Paw Paw.

## Wives Had a Share.

Some Moralizing on the Recent Farmers' "Round-Up."

The farmers' institute for Kent county, the "Round-Up," fully met the expectation

of its friends—was a grand success and has been a power for good. There were several features about it worthy of the highest commendation. The speakers were all practical men, not mere theorists. They knew what they were talking about from actual experience, and those who heard them will make no mistake if they follow the instruction and advice given. The mechanical section for the benefit of young men was a very interesting and creditable feature of the institute and was worthy of all praise. The education of the young along industrial lines will have a most salutary influence for the good of the state. The most commendable feature of the whole was the provision made for a portion of the time to be devoted to the promotion of that part of the farm business attended to mostly by the wives of the farmers. The State Board of Agriculture for Michigan have set an example which should be followed by other states and they deserve the highest praise for thus recognizing women as an essential part of the farming community and entitled to their full share of any money appropriated for educational purposes. The general impression seems to be that it is only the men on the farms that are the farmers. Most of men as they pass by a fine farm well kept, showing

good farming, will speak of the man of the farm as a good and successful farmer, never for a moment allowing or considering that the wife of the prosperous farmer has contributed to make the farm a credit to its owners. In my observation for over sixty years I have found that almost invariably when you find a man that has the credit of being a first-class farmer and has a number-one farm, the wife has had full as much to do in bringing success as has the husband, who gets all the credit, and the wife is often the best farmer of the two. She has had more cares and made more sacrifices in the rearing of the children in addition to the cares of the farm and has carried heavier burdens that success might be won than has the husband.

When ex-Governor Luce, the farmer orator of Michigan, was speaking of "The Farmer's Contribution to Society" it was noticed that almost every man lifted his head a little higher and said in thought, "he means us men farmers and gives us great credit." The idea that the farmers' wives were included did not enter their minds. He meant both the wife and the husband, the one just as much as the other, both in partnership working for and contributing to the highest and best interests of society. In the moral influences that are

exerted for the upbuilding of society much more is due to the wife and mother than to the husband. It is beyond the power of man to fully realize and appreciate the refining, redeeming, ennobling and, may I not say, evangelizing influences of the farmer wives and mothers. They are the ones who contribute most largely to the lifting up of society to a higher moral level, and they should on all occasions receive proper recognition. It is their good fortune that we have woman orator of Michigan as well as a man-farmer orator. The work of Mrs. Mayo for the encouragement of women on the farm and for the upbuilding of society will not soon be forgotten. The good words spoken by her and her co-laborers will, in the near future, bring satisfactory results.

So I say again that the State Board of Agriculture are to be highly commended for stepping out of the beaten path and recognizing the farmers' wives as entitled to their share, for the benefit of the money appropriated for these institutes. It is the first time in the history of the state where woman has been specially recognized in the disbursements of monies appropriated for public purposes of this character. It is hoped that this recognition will be but the

commencement of the good time coming, when, as we emerge further out of semi-barbarism, the wife will be given equal rights with the husband—when one-half of all the property earned by them conjointly will be given her to be used or be disposed by will or otherwise as she may see fit. As the law now is, the wife, anticipating death, can make no provision out of the property which she has helped to earn, for the children which she has reared and loved. The property all goes to the husband. If the husband dies the wife gets one-third and struggles through life as best she can. If the wife dies the husband takes it all and gets another wife. The wife has had no legal voice in providing for the children for whom she has made much greater sacrifices than has the husband. It is hoped the time will soon come when, in law, the wife will be recognized as the equal of the husband and on the death of the husband be entitled to her full share of the property which she has labored so faithfully to earn. In the institute work a noble example is set, and may this feature of it be greatly enlarged another year. We all give thanks to the State Board of Agriculture and to the managers of the institute.—S. S. Bailey, in Grand Rapids Democrat.

# H. R. EAGLE & CO., 68 and 70 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## BARGAINS! BARGAINS! BARGAINS!

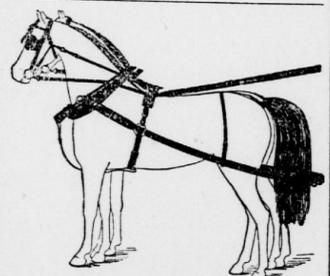
If anybody offers you something at a low price, it is not necessarily a bargain simply because it is low-priced; but if a firm of unquestioned reliability offers you a reliable article at a lower price than anyone else can sell you the same quality, that is a bargain. Every harness item quoted over our name is a bargain, for we are reliable and stand back of and GUARANTEE everything we sell. THESE ARE NOT CHEAP GOODS, but GOOD GOODS CHEAP



No. 91 A.—Heavy Stock Saddle, Roll Cantle.

Steel Fork Tree, 14 1/2 inch hide covered, California oiled skirting, roll cantle, leather flower ornament in seat with steel plate, leather covered and stitched horn, raised and headed gullet, large leather locket, fancy flower ornamentation, skirts 22 1/2 inch wool lined, stirrup straps 1 1/2 inch wide running over fender, double below and faced, large fenders, fancy flower ornamentation, heavy cinch rigged with leather covered rings, and the lat goe straps 1 1/2 inches, long lace strings, two Mexican string cinches, 3 inch California wood straps, leather bottom. Price..... \$13.00

No. 107.—Special Bargains in Saddles  
We have a few dozen saddles made on McClellan tree, regular size, full russet leather, covered with large skirts, 1 inch stirrup straps, with 3-inch wood stirrups, 1 1/2-inch tie straps, single rig and heavy cotton web cinch. Price..... \$5.00  
These are slightly soiled but not damaged in any way. Regular price, \$9.00. When you brush them up they are as good as new.



No. 85.—Team Harness.

Bridle 3/4 long check, with harness leather Concord winkers, flat winker stay and long round side check, fancy leather front and rosettes, hames No. 450 black high top, combination loop, hame tugs 1 1/2 inches, with 3/4 inch spreaders, hame tugs 1 1/2 inches, double and stitched, with round edge finish; 3/4-inch turnback, scalloped and creased crupper; martingale 3/4-inch, pole straps 1 1/2 inches belly bands double, folded and stitched, coach pad with iron plate, patent leather top and bottom, double stitched trace bearers, round lines with 1 1/2-inch russet hand parts, full nickel trimmings. Price..... \$14.49

No. 71.—Double Carriage Harness.  
Bridles 3/4 inch, box loops, patent leather blinds, round blind braces, 3/4 inch overdraw checks; hames japanned, with 3/4 inch spreaders, hame tugs 1 1/2 inches, double and stitched, with round edge finish; 3/4-inch turnback, scalloped and creased crupper; martingale 3/4-inch, pole straps 1 1/2 inches belly bands double, folded and stitched, coach pad with iron plate, patent leather top and bottom, double stitched trace bearers, round lines with 1 1/2-inch russet hand parts, full nickel trimmings. Price..... \$14.49

No. 75.—Double Carriage Harness.  
Same size and style as No. 71, but made finer finished, with collars. Price..... \$17.50

Sweat Pads.  
No. 109—Mixed hair stuffed, white duck covered, closed top, patent hooks, each..... 23 cents  
No. 111—Patent hook pad, stuffed with cattle and deer hair mixed, covered with white duck, very large and extra well made; as good a work pad as any one needs, each..... 33 cents  
No. 113—Pure deer hair stuffed pads, closed top, patent hooks, white duck covered, each at..... 48 cents

If you own mules or small horses here is your chance.  
No. 115—Sweat pads, mixed hair stuffed, patent hooks, covered with duck either plain white or striped, 17 and 18 inch only, the 20-cent kind, at..... 11 cents



No. 101 A.—Heavy Draught Collar.

All kip, strong sewed, extra strong middle seam, whole rim, black rim and shoulder, russet face. Extra heavy leather pad in top. Price..... \$2.00 each  
17 to 22 inches..... 2.35 each  
23 to 25 inches..... 2.35 each  
No. 103 A same as No. 101 A, but much heavier. Price..... \$2.25 each  
17 to 22 inches..... 2.40 each  
23 to 25 inches..... 2.40 each

No. 99 A.—Team Collar.  
Heavy, thread sewed, all kip, whole rim, black rim and shoulder with russet face, harness leather pad in top. Price..... \$1.75 each  
17 to 22 inches..... 2.05 each  
23 to 25 inches..... 2.05 each

No. 97 A.—Team Collar.  
Heavy, all kip collar, well made, thread sewed, whole rim, all black, a splendid wearer and a very neat appearing collar. Price..... \$1.50 each  
Sizes 17 to 22..... 1.75 each  
Sizes 23 to 25..... 1.75 each

No. 105 A.—Buggy Collars.  
All kip, all black, extra well made. All sizes, at..... \$1.35 each

No. 548.—Riding Bridles, made of black leather, 5/8 ft. rein, riveted to bit, with buckled hand part, nickel trimmed and rosettes, regular \$1.25 bridles, but a little soiled. Price..... 50 cts. each

No. 549.—Russet Leather Riding Bridles, buckled on reins, 5/8 feet long, laced hand part, leather or nickel rosettes; no bits; slightly soiled, 50c.

No. 550.—Riding Bridles, head stalls, russet, each..... 20 cts



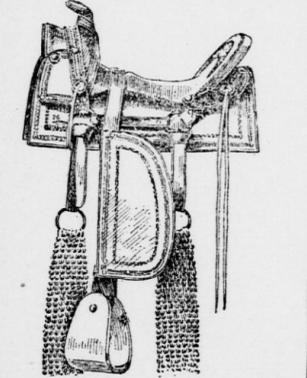
No. 81 A.—Team Harness.

Traces 1 1/2 inch doubled and stitched with clip cockeyes, hames high top, hame tugs 1 1/2 inches, folded with Champion trace buckles, pads XC plate hook and terret, patent leather housing, leather bottom, skirts 1 1/2 inch single strap with buckle running through loop in the pad, belly bands single strap 1 1/2 inches, martingales 1 1/2 inches, back strap 3/4 inch, hip strap 3/4 inch, with wide trace loops, bridles 3/4-inch, harness leather Concord blinds, round winker stay and round long side checks, heavy ring bit, breast straps 1 1/2 inches, with snaps and slides, lines 3/4-inch, 18 feet, with snaps. Price with collars..... \$19.75  
Price without collars..... 17.00



No. 87 A.—Stock Saddle, Roll Cantle.

Tree steel fork, rawhide covered, 13 1/2 inches solid seat, skirts 21 inches unlined, stirrup straps 5 feet by 1 1/2 inches to buckle, riv. tied to fender, Texas wood bolt stirrup, double cinch rigged, with the ladigoe straps, 1 1/2 x 4 feet, long lace tie strings, two woven hair cinches. Price..... \$7.25



No. 89 A.—Stock Saddle, Roll Cantle.

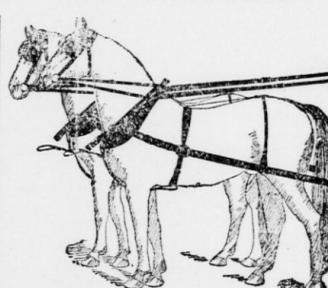
Made of rawhide, steel fork tree, all over leather covered, rolled cantle, stitched horn, steel plate in seat, made of oiled leather, double cinch rigged, skirts 22 1/2 inches, stirrup straps 1 1/2 inches, with wood sized fenders, 4-inch Texas wood stirrups, tie straps 1 1/2 inches, two woven hair cinches, long tie straps and leather horse tie ornaments. Price..... \$8.25

No. 95 A, same as 89 A, with solid fork tree, \$7.25.



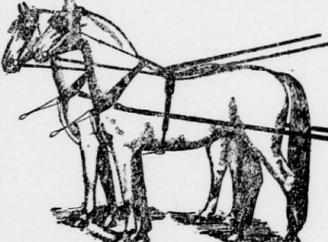
No. 93 A.—Ladies' Saddle.

Made on Ruwart tree, imitation hog skin skirts, with raised figure on forepiece, finely figured carpet seat, two solid hair woven cinches, stirrup strap with tinned shoe stirrup, leaping \$7.00 horn seamed. Price..... \$7.00



No. 83 A.—Team Harness.

Bridles 3/4 inch, with Concord blinds and flat checks; pads folded with loop for back strap, lines 3/4 x 18 feet, back strap 1 inch with round crupper and trace carriers, with 3/4-inch hip strap, folded belly bands, times wood with iron over-top, traces 1 1/2-inch double and stitched with cockeye; breast strap and martingale 1 1/2 inches with snaps and slides. Price, XC Trimmings..... \$21.00  
If with collars add..... 2.75  
If with 1 1/2 inch traces..... 22.00  
If with breeding add..... 3.00



No. 69.—Double Carriage Harness.

Traces 1 1/2 inches, double and stitched; coach hames with hame tugs and 3/4-inch spreaders, box loops and buckles, with leather safe under-buckles; bridles 3/4-inch, with box loops, patent leather blinkers, round blinker braces, overdraw checks plain stitched and rosettes, coach pads with iron plates, patent leather tops and bottoms, with housings, double and stitched skirts with single trace bearers; martingales 3/4-inch, breast straps 1 1/2 inches, lines 1 inch, solid oak tan; the most elegant \$20.00 harness made; full nickel trimmed. Price..... \$13.75

No. 73.—Double Carriage Harness.  
Same style and size as No. 69, but finer finish, with collars. Price..... \$16.50



No. 77 A.—Team Harness.

Bridle 3/4 inch, with Concord blinds, round winker brace and round check rein, patent leather front and rosette; hames Concord bolt, high top, with 3/4-inch spreaders, hame tugs 1 1/2 inch with 1 1/2 inch Champion trace buckles; traces 1 1/2 inch double and stitched, sewed in cockeye; belly band folded, back strap 3/4 inch double, running to side of hame; hip strap, double 3/4 inch; breeding heavy folded, 1 1/2 inch layer, with 3/4 inch trace support; side straps 3/4 inch running under horse to snap into belly band; martingale 1 1/2 inch, with 1 1/2 inch collar strap; breast strap 1 1/2 inch, buckle, snaps and breast strap slides; lines 1 inch, 18 feet, with snaps. Price..... \$25.00  
With Collars..... 28.25  
With 1 1/2 Traces add..... 1.00

No. 79 A.—Team Harness.  
Same quality as 77 A, but made same as 39 R. Without collars..... \$26.00

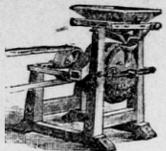
Any of the above sent C. O. D. on receipt of \$2.00. If full amount of cash accompanies order we put in hitching straps FREE with every set of harness, if requested.

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The Best.

Mills for Farmers and those doing a Custom Meal and Feed Grinding Business:



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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. A boy can keep them in order.

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Estimates furnished on application. Special prices for 1896. Write for Book on Mills.

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Overseer—E. W. Davis... New Hampshire
Lecturer—Alpha Messer... Rochester, Vt
Steward—John T. Cox... New Jersey

Executive Committee.

- Leonard Rhine... Center Hall, Pennsylvania
N. J. Bachelier... New Hampshire
J. J. Woodman... Paw Paw, Michigan

Officers Michigan State Grange.

- Master—G. B. Horton... Fruit Ridge
Overseer—M. T. Cole... Palmyra
Lecturer—Jason Woodman... Paw Paw
Steward—George L. Carlisle... Kalkaska

Executive Committee.

- H. D. Platt... Ypsilanti
C. G. Luce... Coldwater
W. E. Wright... Coldwater
Perry Mayo... Battle Creek

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- Mrs. Mary A. Mayo... Battle Creek
Mrs. Mary Sherwood... Stanton
Mrs. Belle Royce... Baroda

General Deputy Lecturers.

- Mary A. Mayo... Battle Creek
Hon. J. J. Woodman... Stanton
Hon. C. G. Luce... Coldwater
Hon. Perry Mayo... Battle Creek

County Deputies.

- D. H. Stebbins... Atwood, Antrim Co.
L. C. Root... Allegan, Allegan Co.
R. B. Reynolds... Inland, Benzie
George G. Sawyer... Dowling, Barry

Revised List of Grange Supplies

Kept in the office of Sec'y of the

Michigan State Grange

And sent out post-paid on receipt of cash order, over the Seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

Table listing various supplies and their prices, including Porcelain ballot marbles, Secretary's ledger, Treasurer's orders, etc.

College and Station

Profitable Grape Growing.

This is the time of the year when the grape growers of all the eastern states should be thinking of how to make their vineyards better, and more fruitful this coming season.

The culture of table grapes on a large scale has now become, in acreage and money invested, one of the most important out-door industries of New York and Ohio.

The annual yield of table grapes has become enormous, the New York state crop alone amounting to 40,000 and 45,000 tons in good seasons.

It seems to me that the problem which our grape growers must solve is this one: How can grapes be grown at a profit at present prices?

The question naturally arises, "Why do some vineyards show a profit, while others do not?"

The answer in most cases is to be found in the difference in yields. For example: The successful vineyardist is almost always a man who has a big crop.

These and other considerations lead me to think that future profit in grape growing can only come from better yields. From what I have seen the reason why a great number of vineyards do not pay is not only bad management, but in poor crops.

The trouble is, hundreds of vineyards are located on poor soils. You see grapes growing on lands too poor for grain and other crops and because the vines do fairly well in such places, the owners expect fair returns.

My own experience is, that grapes grown on poor soils do not and will not pay the grower. Good results always come from good soils.

So I think that grape growers who have poor soils and who complain of small crops, must spend more money for fertilizers than they do now.

that they cannot afford it. I hear them say "It costs too much." Not at all. They do not begrudge the money expended for keeping their stock in condition.

Of course the grape grower must find out first what kind of fertilizers his soil and plants need. This he will do by trial or experiment to see which gives the best results.

As we know the principal fertilizing ingredients required by the vines are nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash.

The most expensive material the grape grower has to buy is nitrogen. It costs from 12 to 15 cents per pound, while potash and phosphoric acid cost about one-third of that amount.

Now, the cheapest means of fertilizing the soil with nitrogen is by green manuring, or plowing under green crops.

This spring our grape growers at a very small expense can raise a crop of clover between the rows.

Then a fertilizer containing about 9 per cent of phosphoric acid and 10 per cent potash should be applied at the rate of about 700 pounds per acre, or, instead, an application of 250 pounds of muriate of potash and 450 pounds of acid phosphate.

By following out the above plan and giving the orchard careful cultivation there is no reason why a grower cannot secure a good yield and fine quality of grapes.

The Value of Grass in the Production of Pork.

Bulletin No. 40, Agricultural College of Utah.

We have received from the Utah Experiment Station bulletin No. 40, which treats of the value of grass and its relation to exercise in the production of pork.

- (a) With full grain rations.
(b) With part grain rations.
(c) Without grain.

The bulletin gave tabulated records of the experiments, with comments thereon, and illustrations showing the appearance of some of the animals after 91 days of four different systems of feeding.

1. Pigs allowed to run at large over eighteen acres of good pasture and fed a full ration of grain, made the most rapid growth and required the least grain for one pound of gain.

2. Pigs confined in movable pens in the pasture grew more slowly than those running loose and required an increase of 20 per cent of grain to make one pound of growth.

3. Pigs at pasture, fed under three different conditions gained 92.5 per cent more and ate but 2 per cent more than the pigs getting grass and otherwise similarly fed but confined in pens. The

grain required to produce one pound of gain was increased 40 per cent with those in pens over those in pasture.

4. Pigs fed but part rations of grain at pasture made satisfactory gains. Those at pasture getting the three-fourths grain ration gained more than those fed a full grain ration and grass, either in the yards or in the pens.

5. Pigs pastured without grain made about the same growth for three seasons in succession, this averaging .36 of a pound per day.

6. As nearly as can be judged, exercise alone increased the gain 22 per cent., and the amount eaten but 1.5 per cent, but decreased the amount required for one pound of gain 22 per cent.

7. Grass when cut and fed green to pigs, whether fed in pens or yards, or with full or part grain ration, or without grain proved to be of very little value.

8. Pigs confined in pens and fed on grass alone, mostly lucerne, for 91 days, lost over a quarter of a pound per day.

The average of the pigs fed on grass gained a little more than those without the grass, but not enough to pay for the extra feed in the grass.

10. With the pigs confined in the hog-house pens, the grass proved beneficial, while with those in the yard it proved detrimental, the latter requiring more grain to make a pound of pork with the grass than without it.

11. Pasturing either with full or with part grain rations, appeared to be by far the cheapest and best way of making pork.

NOTE: The grass is a mixture of eight varieties in which lucerne constitutes at least one-half.

Field Experiments with Wheat.

By W. C. Latta and S. P. Carithers, at Purdue University, Indiana.

The wheat crop on the station farm was in a most promising condition up to the first of April, '95. From that time forward the crop steadily declined through lack of moisture and excess of temperature.

The experiments, detailed below, were conducted on a dark colored clay loam, with gravel subsoil. The soil possesses medium fertility and is subject to rotation consisting of (1) corn, (2) oats, (3) wheat, (4) and (5) clover and timothy.

Timber.

This is the title of bulletin 10 of the Division of Forestry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which is further described by Prof. B. E. Fernow, chief of that division in his letter of transmittal as "a brief but comprehensive discussion of the characteristics and properties of wood in general and of our American timbers in particular, which it is hoped may be useful to engineers, architects, carpenters, lumbermen, and all wood workers."

The paper was prepared by Mr. Filibert Roth, in charge of investigations in timber physics Professor Fernow also states that "the information it contains is largely based on actual experiment and scientific observation, and will, it is hoped, not only explain the experiences of the practical worker with his material, but will remove erroneous notions and thus aid in improving the practice and lead to a more rational use of our forest resources."

The bulletin begins with a discussion of the structure and appearance of wood in which the elements of wood structure and the most important properties of grain and color, weight, shrinkage, strength, chemical composition, durability, and decay are duly considered. The relations of

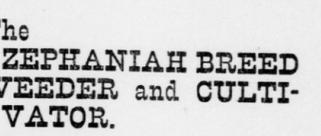
weight and strength to structure, to position on the trunk, to age of tree, to conditions of growth, of moisture, etc., are pointed out. The subject of seasoning is discussed and some of the special uses of wood as in dry distillation, manufacture of cellulose, charcoal, etc., its value as fuel, are briefly outlined. A key is supplied for the identification of woods based on the structural features and appearance of the cross sections which it is believed will substitute for the present empirical method, based on certain impressions resulting from years of experience, a scientific method based on a knowledge readily acquired of certain invariable features. Eleven pages are devoted to a list of the more important woods of the United States. The bulletin consists of 88 pages, illustrated by 49 figures, and may be obtained upon application to the Superintendent of Documents, Union Building, Washington, D. C., for the sum of ten cents per copy.

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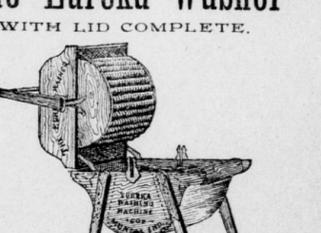
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Kathleen Hessegrave, a pretty young English artist, and Arnold Willoughby, a Bohemian amateur, meet casually at the Royal Academy gallery in London. They hold mutual views upon art and upon the stupidity of the judges who have rejected their pictures. Rufus Mortimer, a rich American idler, joins them. He is a friend of the Hessegraves 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. Rufus 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. Hessegrave 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 now to contest it, as he prefers to be taken by the world at his "Market Value." XV—Canon Valentine and Mrs. Hessegrave die, thus leaving Willoughby's secret unguessed except by Kathleen. The remaining chapters show how Willoughby keeps his purpose. He is shipwrecked and makes a hit in literature, through which Mortimer traces him. Mortimer has promised to find him for Kathleen and proves to him that Kathleen loved him before she knew his real character and has loved him through all. He scores a second literary success and marries Kathleen, but renounces all claims to his earldom.

### CHAPTER XVI. WITHOUT SECURITY.

As soon as the funeral was over Kathleen returned to town to prove her mother's will. Mrs. Hessegrave had little to leave, and her pension died with her. Her own small property, a trifle scarcely worth considering, she divided in equal shares between Kathleen and Reginald. But Mr. Reginald was not a little surprised at this equitable arrangement. "Of course I don't grumble," he said magnanimously to his sister as she turned her pale face up to him from her newly made mourning, "but it's beastly unfair, that's what I call it, and I confess it isn't quite what I'd have expected from the matter." Kathleen stared at him with tears in her eyes. It shocked her inexpressibly to hear him speak of their mother at such a moment with so little feeling. "Unfair?" she exclaimed, taken aback. "Why, how do you make that out, Reggie? We're both to share alike. I don't quite see myself how anything could well be made very much fairer." But Reggie plumed himself on the sense of what Aristotle describes as "distributive justice." "I don't at all agree with you," he answered, with vigor, digging his hands into his trousers pockets doggedly. "I'm a man; you're a woman. That makes all the difference. A man's needs in life are far greater than a woman's. He has society to think of. A woman can live upon anything. Her wants are so few. A man requires much more—cigars, cabs, theaters, an occasional outing, a Sunday up the river, a box at the opera." In which chivalrous theory of the relations of the sexes Mr. Reginald Hessegrave is kept in countenance by not a few of his kind in London and elsewhere. "I don't see why a man should have all those things any more than a woman, if he can't afford them," Kathleen answered, with more spirit than she was aware she possessed. "Because so many women are content to scrape and slave for the sake of the men of their families I don't see that that entitles the men to suppose every woman is bound to do it for them. Why should you be any better entitled to a box at the opera, if it comes to that, than I am?" "Oh, well, if you've no sense of family dignity," Reggie interjected obliquely, taking the enemy by a flank movement at the weakest point, "and would like to see your brother sit stewing in the pit among a promiscuous pack of howling cads or wearing a coat that would disgrace an office boy, why, of course there's no answering you. It's wasting words to argue. I was taking it for granted you had still some sense left of sisterly affection and some decent pride in your relation's position. But I suppose you'd like to see me sweeping a crossing. Besides," he went on after a brief pause, "you've your painting to fall back upon. You can earn money at that. It's a jolly good profession. The matter ought to have considered the difference in our positions and have governed herself accordingly, as we say in the city."

"But you have your salary," Kathleen exclaimed, distressed to hear him question so lightly their mother's sense of justice, for, like most good women, she was more loyal to her mother than her mother, to say the truth, had ever deserved of her. "That's something fixed and certain. You can always count upon it, while my work's precarious. I may happen to sell, or I may happen to make a failure. And then, too, you're a man, and what's the use of being a man, I should like to know—a superior being—a lord of creation—if you can't be trusted to earn your own livelihood better than a woman could? If there's to be a difference at all, surely it's the women, the weaker of the two, and the less able on the average to take care of themselves, who ought to receive the most! A man can work for his living. A woman can't so well—more doors are closed to her—and I think all that ought to be taken into consideration in arranging inheritances as between sons and daughters." "My salary," Mr. Reginald repeated, with supreme scorn in his voice. "My paltry salary! A beggarly 200! How can you expect a man brought up with the tastes and feelings of a gentleman to live upon a miserable pittance like that? You don't understand these things, that's where it is. You're not in society. You go and paint half your time at some place or other in Italy!" Mr. Reginald had a profound and impartial contempt for all foreign countries—"and you don't understand the needs and requirements of a man about town. They don't come home to you. Why, neckties alone! There's an item for you! I'm distracted with the difficulty of providing good neckties. And flowers again! How can one do without flowers? I don't suppose I should ever have a chance of rising to be an authorized if Jones were to see me without a gardenia in my buttonhole!" "Rising to be a what?" Kathleen inquired, looking puzzled. "An authorized," Reggie replied, with a superior smile. "Oh, no, I didn't expect you to understand what I meant. It's a beastly vulgar slang, the slang of the Stock Exchange, but what can you expect? If a man's put by his people into a hole of a stockbroker's office instead of into a cavalry regiment, where his appearance and manners entitle him to be, why, of course he must pick up the vile lingo of the disgusting hole he's been stuck in. An authorized is a clerk, a superior clerk, a sort of trusted servant, who pays a special subscription to the house and is entitled to act on his employer's account exactly like a broker. He gets a jolly good screw, an authorized does, in a good firm. I hope in time, by my merits, to rise to be an authorized. I'll make things hot then, I can tell you, Kitty. Threadneedle street won't know me!" "And who's Jones?" Kathleen inquired once more, never having heard till that moment of this mysterious personage. "Why, our senior partner, of course," Reggie answered, with gusto. "But I thought he was a Greek, with a very long name," Kathleen answered, much puzzled. "So he is," Reggie replied. "His full name's Ioannipoules. Now, no Christian body can be expected to say 'Mr. Ioannipoules' 50 times over in the course of a working day, which is only eight hours, so we call him Jones for short. It's every bit as effective and a deal less expensive on the vocal organs." "I see," Kathleen replied and was silent for a moment. "However," Mr. Reggie continued, returning to the charge unabashed, "it doesn't much matter how the poor matter left the money, don't you know, one way or the other—that's neither here nor there. The long and the short of it is, whether you like it or whether you lump it, you'll have to fork over your share to me as soon as we've got clear through with this beastly probate business, for I want the tin, and, to put it fair and square, I can't do without it." Kathleen stood aghast at the proposal. "What, all dear mother left me!" she cried, thunderstruck. "You expect me to give it up to you?" Mr. Reginald assumed a severely logical expression of face. "I don't expect anything," he replied, with conscious moderation. "In this world I know one's exposed to perpetual disappointment. People are so selfish, that's the fact, they never think at all of other people's situations. They won't put themselves in their shoes. All I say is this—I expect nothing, but if you want to see your brother hauled up in the bankruptcy court—liabilities, seven hundred and fifty odd; assets, four and tuppence—the bankrupt was severely reprimanded by the learned commissioner and did not receive his discharge—why, of course you're quite at liberty to look on and enjoy that charming spectacle. It don't matter to me. I'd soon get used to it, though I would have thought more family affection, to say nothing of family pride, for I perceive you haven't got any." "But Reggie," Kathleen cried, horror-struck, "you don't mean to tell me that with an income of £200 a year you're more than £700 in debt. It isn't really true, is it?" Reggie gazed at her contemptuously. "What a storm in a teapot!" he answered, with gentlemanly scorn. "Maybe £650. Maybe £800. A gentleman doesn't generally trouble himself about the details of these matters. He buys what he can't possibly do without, and he pays for it by installments from time to time as occasion offers. His tailor says to him, 'Would it be perfectly convenient to you,

sir, to let me have a few pounds on account within the next six weeks or so? For, if so, I should be glad of it. I'm sorry to trouble you, sir; but, you see, your little bill has been running on so long, and he rubs his hands apologetically. And then you say to him in a careless way: 'Well, no, Saunders, it wouldn't. I don't happen to have any spare cash in hand to waste on paying bills just at the present moment—Ascot coming on, don't you know, and all that sort of thing—but I'll tell you what I'll do for you, you can make me a couple of more suits, tweed ditto and knickerbockers.' That's the way to manage tradesmen. They don't mind about money as long as they get your custom, though as a consequence, of course, one doesn't always remember exactly what one owes within £150 or so." "Reggie," Kathleen said firmly, "I call it wicked of you—wicked." "So one's people generally remark," Reggie answered, with perfect unconcern. "I was talking over this subject with Charlie Owen yesterday, and he told me his governor made precisely the same remark to him last time he struck for an increased allowance. It's astonishing how little originality there is in human beings." It was useless being angry with him, so Kathleen began again: "Now, Reggie," she said in a serious voice, "I'm not going to make you a present this time of anything. You must find out what you owe and show me the bills, and then perhaps I may be disposed to lend you what you need, on note of hand, you understand, till you're rich enough to pay me." "Oh, dear, yes, I understand," Reggie answered, with alacrity. "I understand down to the ground. Notes of hand are my specialty. Almost all this that I want to clear off just now is on note of hand, Kitty. Fact is, I'm in a hole, and it's no good denying it. Of course, if you choose to leave your brother in a hole, like Jacob's sons, for the *Midianites* or somebody to pull him out and sell him up, you're perfectly at liberty, I admit, to do it. But a hole I'm in, and it's notes of hand have put me there. You see, I expected to come to whatever private property the poor matter had, and I expected it to turn out a good deal more than it actually has done. I'm a victim of misapprehension. I flew a kite or two, making 'em payable within six months or so—well, you know what they call a postbill. And now I find I can't meet 'em, which is awkward, very, and unless the members of my family come forward and help me I suppose I must go into the court and lose my situation." "That was a good trump card, and Mr. Reginald knew it." "But you solemnly declared to me only six months since you hadn't a debt in the world except the ones I paid for you," Kathleen exclaimed reproachfully. "Why didn't you tell me then the exact amount of your indebtedness?" "No fellow ever does tell his people the exact amount of his indebtedness," Reggie answered, with airy candor. "It's a trait of human nature," which was no doubt quite true, but not particularly consolatory to Kathleen in the present emergency. "It's very, very wrong of you, Reggie," she said again, trying to be properly stern with him. "Oh, that's all rot!" Reggie answered, with his usual frankness. "It's no good pitching into any chap because he behaves exactly the same as every other chap does. I told you there's precious little originality in human nature. I've gone on as all other young men go on in a decent position, and you've gone on in the ordinary way common to their people, so now suppose we drop it all and get forward a bit with the business." And get forward with the business they did accordingly. After a great many subtleties and petty attempts at deception Reggie was at last induced to furnish Kathleen with the best of his ability with a tolerably complete list of his various creditors and the amounts he owed them. Every item, he explained in detail, was simply "unavoidable." These gloves, for example, were necessities, most undoubted necessities, any judge would pass them for a fellow in his position. Those flowers were naturally part of his costume—hang it all, a man must dress. If people appeared in public insufficiently clad, why, as a matter of common morals, the police interfered with them. As for that fan put down at 50 shillings, Florrie Clarke had bought that one evening when she was out with him, and he said to the shopman, "Put it down to me," as also with the bouquets, the brooch and the earrings. "But what could I do?" he pleaded plaintively. "She said she wanted them. I was a man, don't you see? I couldn't stand by and let a woman pay for them." "It strikes me you're going to let a woman pay for them now," Kathleen put in, with just severity. Reggie smiled his graceful smile, and as he did so Kathleen couldn't help admitting that, after all, he was a very good looking boy, Reggie. "Ah, but that's quite a different matter," he answered, laying one brotherly hand on her shoulder, with caressing glance. "You see, you're my sister." And what a creature a woman is! How inconsistent! How pleasurable! That one fraternal act made Kathleen overlook all Reggie's misdeeds at once and forever. I regret to have to chronicle it, but she stooped down and kissed him. The kiss settled the question. Reggie swept the field in triumph. Before he left Kathleen's room that afternoon he had extracted a promise that on his producing his bills and stating the precise amounts of his funded debts in the way of notes of hand

with his various creditors he should receive a sufficient sum in ready cash to settle in full and begin life over again. He meant to turn over a new leaf, he said, cheering up at the prospect. And so he did—in the ledger. A clean sweep of all his bills would allow him to start afresh with increased credit, since his creditors would now conclude he had come into money. Indeed he instantly formed in his own imaginative mind a splendid scheme for inviting Florrie and her mamma down to Richmond on a drag, with Charlie Owen to help drink the Dry Monopole. What's the good of getting your people to pay off all you owe if nobody but the beastly tradesmen is to derive any benefit from their generous behavior? So convinced was Mr. Reginald of this truth indeed, and so firmly determined

proceedings gave Mr. Reginald Hessegrave a single qualm of conscience you very much misunderstand that young gentleman's character. On the contrary, meeting Charlie Owen on the way down the Strand, he begged that like minded soul to partake of a dinner with him forthwith at a first class restaurant, triumphantly confided to him in the course of the meal, without extenuating aught or setting down aught in malice, the whole of these two dialogues and finally extended to him a cordial invitation to share a boat up the river with him and the Charles some day very soon out of the remainder of poor Kitty's plundered money. [TO BE CONTINUED.] Without Food or Sleep. THE TORTUROUS TRIALS OF MISS CALLIE HUMMEL. Doctors said she had Chronic Trouble of the Stomach and Could not be cured. She has now Recovered her Good Health and Spirits and the Neighbors say It's a Miracle. From the New Era, Greensburg, Ind. The editor of the New Era had heard that Miss Callie Hummel of Sunman, Ripley county, Indiana, had been cured of a severe case of chronic stomach trouble and dyspepsia. As the story sounded almost improbable we determined to learn the truth of the matter, and went to Sunman the other day for that purpose. We called on Miss Hummel and found her to be a beautiful and charming young lady still in her teens and quite intelligent. The glow of perfect health appeared on her ruddy cheeks, and she was not the least disinclined to relate her marvelous experience. "I had stomach trouble and dyspepsia nearly all my life," she said in her pleasant way, "and the older I got the worse it grew on me and the more severe it became. I could eat scarcely anything and sleep was a rarity with me, my trouble was so painful. After doctoring with my physician here for several years, he failed to do me any good beyond the reach of medical aid, I went to Cincinnati where I was treated by the ablest physicians without the least success. Discouraged and distressed, I returned home and began trying the many different medicines which I saw advertised, but not one did me the least noticeable good. My troubles grew steadily worse, and, in almost unbearable misery, I became sadly despondent and became pale and thin as a skeleton for want of sleep and food, but neither could I enjoy. My mother saw an article about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and their marvelous cures and they were a god send to me. I had lost all faith in medicine and had given up all hope of recovery, grim death staring me in the face. She wouldn't let me rest, however, till I had tried a box of the Pink Pills. With the first box I began to feel better, my appetite was partially restored and I could sleep. Within a short time I had taken some seven or eight boxes and I was, as you see me today, in perfect health and able to sleep soundly enough, with an appetite that I can eat almost anything without reluctance. I feel that I owe everything to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and do not hesitate to recommend them through your paper to suffering humanity. I earnestly recommend them for bringing up the blood, for they proved a great wonder for that in my case." Such was the wonderful story as told by Miss Hummel herself. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are now given to the public as an unfailing blood builder and nerve restorer, curing all forms of weakness arising from a watery condition of the blood or shattered nerves. The pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price (50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50—they are never sold in bulk or by the 100) by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y. A Good-Sense Book for Sensible Planters. Those planters who wish the latest information about Seeds, presented in a straight-forward, matter-of-fact way, will be gratified by the practical good sense evidenced in Gregory's Seed Catalogue for 1895. The purpose of this book is to help the planter in the choice of seeds best adapted to the conditions of his particular locality, and it probably contains descriptions of a greater variety and more new varieties of seeds, than any other catalogue. It gives plain, useful information in place of chronicles, and hard facts instead of fanciful descriptions. It is a work worthy of the reputation of the firm that publishes it, and one that cannot fail to win the approval and appreciation of all farmers and gardeners. Anyone who plants seeds can obtain a copy free of postage upon application to J. J. H. Gregory & Son, Marblehead, Mass., who are the oldest and largest seed growers in New England, and one of the best known firms in the entire country. Their business was established in 1826, and its growth has been continuous and healthy. There is probably no section of the country where Gregory's "Home Grown" seeds are not sold and planted. TREES GROW WHILE YOU SLEEP, and cash returns come quickly! Ask for our low prices. 500 acre —10 greenhouses—best stock. Flower City Nursery Co., 20 Voorhes St., Rochester, N. Y. Remember we pay the freight.



Notices of Meetings.

HURON POMONA.

The next regular meeting of Huron county Pomona Grange will be held with North Burns Grange on March 26. We hope there will be a large class in readiness to receive the 5th degree in full form. 4th degree members are cordially invited.

Mrs. B. NUGENT, Sec'y.

BERRIEN COUNTY POMONA

will hold its next meeting with Twelve Corners Grange April 9 and 10. There will be an open session the afternoon of the 9th. Several Granges in the county have been holding grand revivals, so we are strong in faith that the coming meeting will be full of new life and energy.

Mrs. J. H. ROYCE, Lecturer.

ALLEGAN COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

will meet with Moline Grange April 16, commencing at 10:30 o'clock, a. m. The following is a part of the program: Music, address of welcome, Mrs. Emily Emmons; response, Mrs. James Kent; music; recitation, Mrs. A. Bragg; discussion, "Redfern liquor commission bill" led by T. G. Adams; paper, Brother Houser of Allegan; music; paper by Brother Briggs, Bradley.

Mrs. E. S. ALLEN, Lecturer.

KENT COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

will hold its quarterly meeting at the court house in Grand Rapids, March 15. The forenoon will be devoted to business and reports of Subordinate Granges. After dinner the following program will be rendered:

Opening remarks by Worthy Master Adams: "Should immigration be restricted?" John Preston and H. C. Hogadone; singing, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Keech; paper, Mrs. Martha Berry; "The liquor question and its relation to hard times," Wesley Hartwell, Robert Dockery and W. T. Adams; recitation, Myrtle Preston; paper, Mrs. G. Holt; instrumental music, Mary Blood; "How to make a pleasant home," Sisters Martha Edison, J. D. Davis and Adams. Cascade Grange choir will furnish music for the occasion.

ADELIA M. PETERSON, Lect.

GRANGE NEWS.

BARNARD GRANGE NO. 689.

We are glad to have your valuable paper visit us twice a month, for we find all the news from the Granges throughout the state, which gives us much pleasure. We are the first organized Grange in Charlevoix county. After running seven years we find more need for this Order among the farming class. Starting with 20 charter members we now have 50 and good prospects for more. Our present officers are: Worthy Master, William Shapton; Lecturer, Nettie Shapton; Secretary, Lizzie Tumble.

We are very grateful for the state appropriation for farmers' institutes and hope the state will continue this work for the benefit of the farming class.

BANNER GRANGE 640

It is my privilege of greeting through your columns, the brothers and sisters of adjoining Granges and also take pleasure in assuring you all that our Grange here is in a most healthy condition. The membership shows a substantial gain during the past winter and all take a lively interest in promoting its sociability and good comradeship, accomplished through its literary department which has been one of the main features of our meetings during the past winter, and has effected much good in several directions. It has attracted new members, establishing a good fellowship among those taking part in our contests and in advancing the Grange in elocutionary and dramatic effort. We are supplied with good reading in the quarterly installment of books from the Michigan traveling library. We have a store in connection with our Grange, which though not run on an extensive scale is of material benefit to all. A few weeks ago we were pleased to meet with friends at the session of the county Grange in Ronald, and are now looking forward with pleasure to a session of county Grange which will be held at Woodward Lake. These meetings are creating a progressive spirit among farmers and awakening them to greater effort in the concentration of the cooperative influence of the Grange in matters pertaining to state legislation, and also to systematize their work. I think the farmers' institutes which have been held throughout the state the past winter have been of much benefit to all. Such gatherings cannot fail to awaken an interest in every community where they are held.

We are looking forward to seeing much good done through the influence of the Grange the coming year. Through the kindness of a brother in the Grange I have a copy of the GRANGE VISITOR, the first I have seen. I feel like saying right here that every family belonging to a Grange should be a subscriber. It would be of much benefit, especially to the active workers, in furnishing topics for discussion, offering new ideas and keeping us in touch with other Granges throughout the state.

Mrs. E. J. VANDOSSEN.

A SUCCESSFUL SESSION.

A joint session of the Ensley Centre Grange, No. 544, and the Ensley Township Teachers' Association was held at the Ensley Grange hall, Saturday, March 14. The Ensley Grange, although small in numbers, is progressing and

is alive, while the Ensley Township Teachers' Association is the first and only township teachers' organization in Newaygo county. At 10:45 o'clock a. m., the meeting was called to order by singing that grand old song "America." When Worthy Master Whitbeck gave a gifted address of welcome which was responded to by President M. D. Peterson in a very appropriate address; he thought it was indeed an honor to be allowed to enter the sacred enclosures of the lodge room of one of the greatest of organizations—and the goat hadn't been seen yet either. He spoke feelingly of the helping hand of the Patron which was always thrust out to help the teacher. Fred Moore ably discussed the subject "Relations of Parents and Teachers." Brother Moore is both a Granger and a Teacher and he spoke in a very able manner of the vital importance of this subject, which was further discussed by County Commissioner of Schools, F. C. Stillson. Mr. Stillson said that in his mind there was no subject of such vital importance as this, and that the relation of parents and teachers should be much closer. C. T. Haskins gave a very good illustration of this subject, also. After this discussion Miss Nora Kinney favored us with a fine rendition of "Curfew shall not ring tonight."

After dinner the subject "Our Country schools and their relation to the farming population," was called for. Commissioner Stillson talked for a short time. He said that the relation was growing stronger, and that it should grow a great deal stronger yet, that farmers' children should have equal advantages with city children, and that it was a shame that people thought more, as a general thing, in a literal sense, of a few paltry dollars than they did of the education of their children. The subject was further discussed by E. R. Clark, who brought out a great many good thoughts, after which Fred Moore read us a humorous selection entitled "The Modern Barbara Freitche" after which Commissioner Stillson gave a very spirited address entitled "Needs of our schools." The commissioner, unlike most Patrons, believes in a township unit school system and although there were some present that disagreed with this part of the discussion, he surely gave some very plausible reasons for his belief, and a vigorous appeal for better school houses, better teachers better schools and longer school years. He considered it a curse that a majority of the farm boys and girls should be cheated out of four months of school in every year, they having only five months in a year while city pupils have nine. He also gave an appeal for better and more efficient school officers. Mr. Stillson is a live, wide-awake educator of today.

The subject was further discussed by G. McCutcheon, who gave a very good talk. Then the subject "How shall we interest the parents in our schools?" was ably handled by Mrs. Della Cook, who brought out a great many good ideas which were followed with "supplementary reading" by Ernest Koyl, who believes in this feature of the subject. Mr. Koyl gave some valuable hints relative to this line of work.

The question box and general discussion then followed, after which Mr. J. R. Howard favored us with a song and was called back. The resolution favoring Daniel E. McClure, Oceana county's efficient commissioner for superintendent of public instruction, received a unanimous vote. This was a very successful meeting brought to a close, which we think is only the first of a series of meetings which will give an inspiration to educational work. Ensley Centre Grange No. 544, has initiated five new members since the new year began with more to follow.

JAMES B. HASKINS.

The Outlook's "Magazine Numbers" continue to improve in quality. The February issue is strong in illustration, and has variety and timeliness in its articles. Among the special features are "The Higher Life of Chicago," by Melville E. Stone (twenty-five illustrations); "The Salvation Army"—made timely by the recent removal of Mr. and Mrs. Ballington Booth from the American leadership; "seven illustrations"; "Recollections of my Boyhood" by John Burroughs (with seven charming pictures in half tone); "Kate Carnegie" (Lan Maclaren's new novel, third installment); "From Atlanta to the Sea" (with seven illustrations); and "How Christ Would Deal with the Labor War," by Lyman Abbott. There are sixty-eight pages, and nearly fifty illustrations. (\$3 a year. The Outlook Company, 13 Astor Place, New York.

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