

THE GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.

[Kalamazoo Publishing Co.'s Print.]

VOL. 4.—No. 6
WHOLE No. 62.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MARCH 15th, 1879.

{ YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
will Expire with No.

THE GRANGE VISITOR,

Is Published on the First and Fifteenth of every Month

AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,
Invariably in Advance.

J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.

To whom all communications should be addressed, at Schoolcraft, Mich.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

To Contributors.

As the VISITOR now bears date the 1st and 16th of each month, to insure insertion in the next issue, Communications must be received by the 10th and 25th of each month.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Acceptable advertisements inserted at the rate of \$1.00 per square, for each insertion.

A Liberal discount will be made on standing advertisements of three months or more.

Officers National Grange.

MASTER—S. E. ADAMS, Minn.
OVERSEER—J. J. WOODMAN, Mich.
LECTURER—MORTIMER WHITEHEAD, N. J.
STEWARDS—A. J. VAUGHN, Miss.
ASST. STEWARD—WILLIAM SIMS, Kansas.
CHAPELAIN—A. P. FORSYTH, Illinois.
TREASURER—W. M. IRELAND, Wash'ton, D.C.
SECRETARY—O. DINWIDDIE, Indiana.
GATE-KEEPER—S. E. ADAMS, Minnesota.
POMONA—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN, Michigan.
FLORA—MRS. JAS. T. MOORE, Maryland.
LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD—MISS CARRIE A. HALL, Kentucky.

Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw.
O.—THOS. F. MOORE, Adrian.
L.—C. L. WHITNEY, Muskegon.
S.—S. A. TOOKER, Lansing.
A. S.—A. E. GREEN, Farmington.
C.—SALMON STEEL, Bear Lake, Manistee Co.
T.—S. F. BROWN, Schoolcraft.
SEC.—J. T. COBB, " "
G. K.—A. N. WOODRUFF, Watervliet.
CHRS.—MRS. C. L. WHITNEY, Muskegon.
POMONA—MRS. G. W. EWING, Ross, Kent Co.
FLORA—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw.
L. A. S.—MRS. A. E. GREEN, Farmington.

Executive Committee.

F. M. HOLLOWAY, Chairman, Hillsdale.
J. WEBSTER CHILDS, Ypsilanti.
C. G. LUCE, Gilead, Branch Co.
WESTBROOK DIVINE, Belding, Ionia Co.
THOMAS MARS, Berrien Center, Berrien Co.
Wm. SATTERLEE, Birmingham, Oakland Co.
J. Q. A. BURRINGTON, Tascosa, Tuscola Co.
J. J. WOODMAN, J. T. COBB, Ex. Officio.

State Business Agents.

J. M. CHIDESTER, Detroit.
THOMAS MASON, Chicago.

General Deputy.

C. L. WHITNEY, Muskegon.

Special Lecturers.

R. E. Trowbridge, Birmingham, Oakland Co.
Thos. F. Moore, Adrian, Lenawee Co.
Geo. W. Woodward, Shelby, Oceana Co.
Samuel Laugdon, Bowen Station, Kent Co.
E. C. Harrington, Four Towns, Oakland Co.
L. R. Stevens, Perry, Shiawassee Co.
L. R. Brown, Rawsonville, Washtenaw Co.
Andrew Campbell, Ypsilanti, " "
Mrs. Salmon Steel, Bear Lake, Manistee Co.

By order of the State Grange at its late session, Masters no longer receive a copy of the VISITOR free. Secretaries, or other persons, sending ten or more names, with pay for the same, will receive an extra copy free. Sample numbers furnished on application.

GRANGE SECRETS.

I might tell, yes, neighbor, might whisper them low—
And you promise never to let any one know;
For your creed and your conscience forbid you you say,
To gather them in in the regular way.
Then draw your chair near me, for the night wind might hear,
And the dim-lighted wall have a listening ear,
Or a spirit intruding, concealed from our view,
Might share in those secrets intended for you.

If mystery's region had no guarded round,
What myriads would trespass on her solemn ground;
To enter her portals, be armored with care,
Besielded with caution, have courage to spare,
Or be lost in the wake of a speechless surprise
When those awful secrets before you shall rise,
Those secrets so sacred, so solemn and strange,
That hide in the fanciful mist of the Grange.

You say you can hear them, then silence your breath,
And while I am speaking be noiseless as death.
The time is propitious to vent a dark theme,
This lone hour of midnight, by the lamp's sickly gleam;
The windows are curtained, the door is made fast,
No sound but the wail of the snow-driving blast,
And the clock on the mantel, in dismal refrain,
Speaking louder and louder of time on the wane.

You say you are ready, then listen to me,
That the eye of your mind these wonders may see,
When they, at my bidding, shall rise from the gloom
And rally before you, like shades from the tomb.
In that circle of our's, where all bear a part,
Those secrets lay lightly on each faithful heart,
But you, a weak mortal, to our faith unknown,
Would vauntingly carry the burden alone.

You're getting impatient; why hurry me so?
When I am prospecting the road you would go?
On an ocean unknown; would the mariner dare
To thoughtlessly venture, and no guiding star?
When my thought-burthened heart unbuckles my tongue,
And from those misty regions the curtains are flung;
Curiosity then, that famishing guest,
Will cease, in its surfeit, to rankle thy breast.

You're getting uneasy, is that what I hear?
You want me to tell them and not talk so queer.
My talk may be queer, but it is to prepare
A venturesome neighbor those secrets to bear,
And my task is now done, my work now must end,
I think you are fitted to hear them, my friend,
And I am quite ready to tell them some day.
When my creed and conscience are not in the way.
J. W. KELLEY,
Berlin, Mich.

Communications.

Shall We Wash Our Sheep?

J. T. Cobb, Esq.—Dear Sir:
This is a question undecided by the wool growers of Michigan. The difficulty is, how will it affect the sale of our wool? That depends upon where we sell it. If sold at our home market we can each calculate something about the result. If shipped to the wool market (Boston) there it will be sorted, and we will receive for each grade of wool, as assorted, the true market value when sold.
Having received some information from Fenno & Manning, of Boston, on the preparation of wool for that market, I herewith hand you a copy of a portion of their letter, as follows:

"Your valued favor of the 15th inst. is duly at hand, and we note contents with care. As to washing your sheep, we would say that light, clean, well washed, loosely tied wool will sell more readily than any other condition, and next to this, good, carefully handled, unwashed wool.

Half washed heavy wool is hard to sell, so as to satisfy either owner or purchaser. Therefore, either wash thoroughly or do not wash at all. Delaine wool of the fine grades sells better washed than in any other condition, but with long combs and also with the medium and lower grades of delaine, the difference is rather in favor of unwashed wool. Michigan wool, if properly handled, would sell as well as most Ohio, and it is certainly advisable to take a little pains with it and reap the corresponding benefit. But up to this time it has seemed almost impossible to induce Michigan wool growers to correct the most prominent faults, which are,

First, Carelessness in tagging; every fleece, whether it is proposed to ship washed or unwashed, should be carefully tagged, the tags never put in the bundle but shipped by themselves, either washed or unwashed. Stuffing the fleeces with these tags does the wool a great injury, as it turns it yellow, makes it have a bad smell, and is a fruitful source of heavy claims as soon as it is discovered by the purchaser. It is practiced very little in Ohio or Pennsylvania, as the growers in those States have learned that it does not pay in the end. We can not advise you too strongly to discountenance it.

Second, We would mention the matter of doing up and tying the fleeces. Most Michigan wools are either boxed or done up hard and square, and tied with a very unreasonable amount of large, heavy wool twine. This is a mistake. The fleeces should be laid on a clean table (not the barn floor, which has usually more or less litter, hay seed or chaff on it) and rolled up pelt side out, rather loosely, neck, belly, sides and breech of course turned in, and then tied not more than twice each way, using fine short strings; the object being of course to make the fleece look bulky and light, instead of hard, heavy, and compressed.

Third, Keep the hay seed and chaff out of the fleeces, which gets in either from the sheep being allowed to feed at the stacks, and thus shaking seeds, chaff, sticks, &c., all over their backs and necks, making these portions of the fleece almost valueless to the manufacturer, or else from carelessly throwing the fleece, after shearing, on the unswept barn floor, or into bins which have this objectionable matter in them.

If you will take pains one season in handling your wool, we think the result would be so satisfactory that you would always do so. We would also caution our friends, if they conclude to wash their wool, not to let the sheep run too long after washing; they should be sheared as soon as they are dry, otherwise the oil begins to start up into the fleeces again, and much of the labor of washing has been spent in vain. We would say here that, as a rule, well washed wool will net the farmer about 12 per cent more than ordinary unwashed wool.

We cautioned you above to have your wool thoroughly dry before shearing. We repeat this, for if the wool is rolled up damp, the moisture and the animal matter yolk, or oil, combine and produce such intense heat that we have known fleeces after being in a pile for a week to be so rotted and discolored by it that they were almost worthless."

From Livingston County Council.
W. K. SEXTON,
Business Agent.

Notes from the State Capitol.

LANSING, March 12, 1879.
Through your VISITOR I will give you a few notes from the Capitol. We are all very proud of our new State building and expect that as we have furnished our law makers with such nice quarters we shall have good laws, and that while they are here they will attend to business. Perhaps they do; but I could not see the point in the six calls of the roll, on motions to adjourn, last Thursday evening, with the same repetition Friday morning. Acting as Grangers, we are trying to be economical in public as well as in private affairs, but let us figure up a little on running expenses. Thirty-two Senators, one hundred representatives, three clerks to each house, sixteen messenger boys, postmaster and assistant, janitors plenty, and clerks of committees too numerous to mention; all at \$3 a day, Sundays included, (except the messenger boys at \$2 per day,) and we have a total of \$500 per day. Then it takes six tons of coal, with two engineers and two sets of hands, four at each furnace, besides nearly twenty scrubbers and sweepers; then the gas bill is near \$30 per night; to this add \$40 per day for printing, and we have a total of at least \$600 per day as the expense of our legislature. This is probably as cheap as any State Legislature, and we should not complain if we get value received. This week there has been but little done, and all business closed Friday noon until Monday night.

On the 28th of February there was an adjournment to enable the Nationals and Democrats to fix up their party affairs, and on the 6th of March another adjournment for the Republicans, and they felt so good over their nominations that but little business was done until the adjournment for the week. There having been about 1,000 bills presented both houses but few of them have been yet considered. True, many of them are local and many are but crude ideas that will not be put into shape this session. But there is one matter of statistics that might very properly go into the census bill, that is, the wages of labor. It would add but little to the expense of taking the census to show the number of laborers employed and the wages paid for hire in our different industries. It is fully as important to know what our people are earning as to know their numbers.

This is a Republican Legislature, with a good working majority in both Houses, and they are alone responsible for the record made, and they must take the responsibility. If they are industrious and bring forth good results, to them be the credit; but if they drag the session along until the hot days of June drive them from the Capitol, with frequent adjournments and delays, we shall, while toiling through the Spring rains and the Summer heats, think this matter up and see if we can not find better workers for the Legislative halls next time.

Michigan Fruit Catalogue.

The State Pomological Society has just issued a catalogue of Michigan fruits, which describes all the prominent tested varieties and grades, their value for market, for cooking and dessert purposes. The volume will be very valuable for planters in all parts of the State, for it gives the adaptability of each sort to the various localities. The catalogue is issued for the benefit of fruit growers everywhere, and can be secured by enclosing a three cent stamp to Secretary Chas. W. Garfield, Grand Rapids, Mich.

The June meeting will be held at Muskegon.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW

The Agricultural Department at Washington, and Sugar Making.

It seems that the present Commissioner of Agriculture, has taken a "new departure," and instead of running the department in the interest of politics, as it was formerly done, is making it more agricultural, and more practical. For this attempt to make the department subserve the interests of agriculture, he has been made the butt of ridicule by the politicians, and the political press of the country; and the Department of Agriculture, seems to be the only object of especial neglect by Congress.

In the experiments which have recently been made, there is everything to struggle against, and contend with, on account of the higgardly and scanty appropriation for the purposes. The implements afforded, are about such as could be picked up around the back yard of a foundry, or the catch room of a tin shop. An old sorghum mill, that has been nearly worn out, and cast aside, is made to do service for a press. Second hand barrels, bought at a bargain, are used for receptacles of the juice, and the products. In extracting the juice from the mass of granulating sugar, an old letter press, or something like it, and operated by hand, is brought into use, and made to do this work, in a necessarily bungling and imperfect way. As a consequence of these defective means, the results must be defective, and it is really astonishing, that they are as good and satisfactory as they are. And what is true in these experiments, is true in all others.

Why is it that Congress, which appropriates millions of dollars for political purposes, cannot set aside a few hundred at least, to further these great objects of industry and practical experiment, which benefit, not only the agricultural interests, but the whole people?

The following notes from Washington will give some idea of the experiments which are being made in manufacturing sugar from saccharine plants, and the results of the same.

"The importance of the experiments in sugar making, now being carried on at the agricultural department in Washington, is considered so great by the *Review*, that our correspondent has been instructed to get reliable data as to the means and results with a special view to adapting the process to immediate use. As for the results, it can be said that the experiments have been entirely successful in securing a good quality of sugar from corn and sorghum cane. It is the intention of the commissioner to embody the precise figures of raw material used and product obtained in a report soon to be published, but it can be said in advance, that while the report may indicate what has been done with the means at hand, it can by no means give the result that may have been obtained had the machinery used been adapted to the work of obtaining all the saccharine substance in the cane and duly reducing it. In the matter of extracting the juice alone, a loss of one-third of the material was suffered; and so in passing through other processes, the elimination of the syrup from the sugar for instance, a process carried on by centrifugal force in the refineries, has been done by hand in a small press. The report will arrive at the fact, then, that sugar of good quality has been made from corn and sorghum, and in sufficient quantities to warrant the conclusion that the process may be used at home, on the farm, by individual farmers, or by small manufacturers, with every expectation of success, and at a good profit. Of course some disappointments will be met with in the trial, but a little experience and a careful consideration of the different processes will result in success.

In its experiments, the Department has followed the following formula very nearly:

1. Heat the extracted juice to 180° Fahrenheit, in copper or tinned iron vessels.
2. Add and stir in one fluid ounce of cream of lime to each gallon of juice, and skim.
3. Heat again to boiling point.
4. Remove vessel, and as soon as sediment begins to settle, draw off with siphon until nine-tenths are removed.
5. Sweep out sediment into a bag, fil-

ter and add the filtrate to the clear liquor as it passes off.

6. Allow to cool to 150°, and not lower, and add sulphurous acid, one fluid ounce to each gallon. Enough is added to neutralize the lime, which can be ascertained by dipping a slip of blue litmus paper into the mixture. It turns red when enough of the acid is used.

7. Evaporate rapidly, skimming as required.

8. When the thermometer in the boiling juice shows 235°, withdraw the sirup. Let it crystallize in a room about 80°. The process of granulation may be facilitated by adding a few grains of granulated sugar when the sirup is at 100°. The residue of sirup after granulation is removed by pressure in bags."

In France and several other countries in Europe, sugar is extensively, and profitably manufactured from beets, grown upon land worth from 400 to 800 dollars per acre. A good crop of beets, is said to yield from 2,000 to 2,500 pounds of sugar to the acre. There seems to be no good reason why many portions of the United States, are not as well adapted to the successful cultivation of beets, as any portion of Europe, and it is to be expected, that the Commissioner will turn his attention to this subject, as soon as Congress shall provide the means to enable him to do so.

Communications.

COUNTY GRANGE.

Inaugural Address of Prof. W. J. Beal,
Master of Ingham County Grange
—Delivered at Its February
Meeting in Mason.

The objects of the Grange have often been plainly stated in the public press and in public meetings, and as often misconstrued or misunderstood by prejudiced people. Our aims and purposes are becoming better understood. The whole Declaration of Purposes is worth a careful reading, and can be seen by any one. I will give a brief summary of the objects as adopted by the National Grange in 1874:

"1. We mutually resolve to labor for the good of our order, our country and mankind.

"2. We shall endeavor to develop a better and a higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves; to enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits; to diversify our crops and crop no more than we can cultivate; to systematize our work; to discountenance the credit system.

"3. For our business interests we desire to bring producers and consumers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with a surplus of middle men, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Our efforts are to benefit the producer and the consumer. We work for cheap transportation; we are not communistic; we are not enemies of capital, but we must oppose the tyranny of monopolies.

"4. We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves and our children by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science and all the arts which adorn the home be taught in their course of study.

"5. The Grange is not a political organization. We seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

"6. This is peculiarly a farmers' institution.

"7. One of our principles is to relieve any of our suffering brotherhood, and another to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership in our Order."

In still fewer words, what are the objects of the Patrons of Husbandry? I answer, "To improve the intellect, to improve the social qualities, to improve our farms, to save and economize by co-operation.

The Grange is a perpetual school for all who join and take part in the proceedings. The members learn to read and speak in public, learn to preside over deliberative bodies, learn to keep accounts, learn to draw up bills and resolutions, to make farming more of a business.

The Grange is a series of socials from one year's end to the other's. Farmers

are isolated and, especially the women, have been cut off from frequent social gatherings.

Granges are a series of perpetual business organizations, ready for buying goods in large quantities, for selling produce in large quantities, for opposing any monopolies, for contesting any suits for fraudulent patents; they are a union for self protection against swindlers of all kinds.

Have any of these objects been accomplished by the Grange? We answer, briefly: The working members have learned to speak in public, learned more about their business, learned to place a higher estimate on themselves and on the pursuit of agriculture.

Mankind and womankind, old and young, are social beings. Before the existence of the Grange the women of the country had tea parties and quilting parties; the men went to town at least once a week to loiter on the street corners, to talk with their brother farmers, to trade horses, to talk politics and the weather, to buy or sell animals of each other, to engage in all sorts of gossip and other unprofitable talk. They assembled in the bar-room, in the blacksmith shop, in the grocery, and some of them in the saloon. They used to have logging bees, husking bees, barn raisings, bees to cut wheat, to cut corn, to dig potatoes; like boys, they must and would get together.

Who wants to live off by himself?

The Grange is a well organized substitute for those rude social gatherings, which were often unprofitable in many respects. The good Patron is not seen hanging on the street corner by the half day; nor does he loaf about the store, or in the bar-room or saloon. He goes to the Grange instead, and thereby not only saves time, but gains time.

As a business organization, the members of the Grange have done much towards gaining their rights with railroad companies; they have broken up a giant plaster monopoly, they have prevented the renewal of some patents, prevented the reduction of the tariff on wool, they have made it possible to obtain sewing machines at one third or one-fourth the old price; they have made money by buying together and selling together. They are learning to save money by paying as they go. They are recognized as a power in the land by manufacturers, by the officers of our State Capitol at the recent meeting of the State Grange, by the commissioner of Agriculture and the President of the United States. Some object to the secrecy of the Grange, but this is not enough to hurt any one. Some say, "Why not have all open? Adrian club closed at one session; why not farmers' club do the same? work?" Why not? I echo; but they do not.

At the Agricultural College we have for some time unmistakably felt the good influence of the Grange. This is manifest in the increased interest of farmers, as shown by more frequent visits and inquiries, and by crowding our halls with students, and in urging its liberal support, also in urging the extension of its usefulness by erecting a hall for girls and by adding a department of veterinary.

Many of our students and alumni are members of our Order. They are Masters, Lecturers or active workers. They often teach a winter school or superintend the schools. If there is a meeting of any kind in the country, for pomology or agriculture, or a fair where our students are to be found, they are called on to preside, to act as secretary, to draw up resolutions, to speak a word, or to write lectures. There is an active demand for educated men in the country, and there will be a still greater demand for years to come. Besides the students, several of the College teachers and several of the State Board of Agriculture are Patrons of Husbandry. This is as it should be, because the College is for the farmer. In many respects the Grange and the College is engaged in the same noble work, that of educating and elevating the farmer. In no respect is there any conflicting in the work of the two organizations. The State Grange has always recognized this, and at its last session took means to bring about a still closer relationship between itself and the Agricultural College. A committee of three was appointed from the Executive Committee to carefully examine the College and its work and report at the next annual meeting.

You see the members of the Grange are working for their College, and the officers of the College are working for the interests of the Grange; or, as pre-

viously said, we are both engaged in the same noble work. In union there is strength.

I have said something about the objects of the Grange in a general way. The chief objects of the County Grange are four in number, viz.: To exercise a general oversight of the educational and the business interests of the Order, and to aid the Subordinate Granges in their district. Another of the objects of the County Grange is to "have a care for the welfare of orphans and worthy needy members of the Order in its jurisdiction." To aid in best accomplishing these objects, our County Grange has decided to try the following plan: We hold a harvest festival where there shall be music and public speaking by prominent members of our Order. The festival of the past year was held on the fair grounds of the County Agricultural Society and was addressed by Bro. C. G. Luce and Thomas Moore. Another part of our plan is to meet as a County Grange or by our committees with each of the Subordinate Granges in the County. Another part of our plan is to hold sometime during the winter a Farmers' Institute, of which this is our first effort. Prominent on the programme are topics pertaining to our schools, and education and culture for farmers.

We expect to be successful in this undertaking. I need say but little on this subject, as the exercises are mostly public and everyone can judge for himself. This, I believe, is the first institute of this kind ever held in Michigan by a County Grange. Every person present, every good citizen of our State, must see that all the objects above enumerated are worthy the attention of every farmer who possesses the true spirit of enterprise and progress.

Saving Manure in the Stable.

In this city, V. B.—, a milk-man stables during the winter a herd of cows—numbering last winter 116. As he enlarged his barns during the summer, I presume the number will be greater this winter. All these cows are kept in one room. The stable is a basement with a wooden floor. It is cleaned only as suits Mr. V. B.'s convenience. When I visited it last winter, the accumulation was not less than one foot deep over the entire floor. There was no stable odor. I wish to emphasize this point. The cows were remarkably clean. Not one in ten had any mark of manure on her quarters or about her udder. This condition of things was brought about by giving the cows plenty of straw bedding. Just enough of the solid excretion was put under the forefeet and covered with straw to enable the animals to stand level. The same gentleman keeps his horses in the same way, that is, he gives them plenty of bedding and removes the manure at his own convenience.

In this way every particle of manure both liquid and solid is saved under cover. I have kept a single cow in that way, and though I cleaned the stable in mid-winter and again in the spring, yet the cow was clean, my stable sweet and milk clean and sweet. My horse-stable—I keep a single horse—was cleaned July 1 and Oct. 1 this summer, without in the interval causing any inconvenience from smell or heat. I have not cleaned my stables during the cooler months for some time, and during the heat of the past summer I tried very successfully the experiment of leaving the manure in it. I care for my stable with the help of a ten-year-old grandson, and never heard a word from my family about the smell of the stable being imparted to my clothing.

This plan gives the animals a soft, dry bed—a cushion to stand or rest on. The cows being clean, are not troubled with inflamed udders, which are caused by wet and consequent cold. When farming I spent much time, money and labor to save manure and to keep clean stables, clean horses and clean cows, and after having spent years in the endeavor, I find this the cheapest and simplest plan to accomplish the end. I commenced reading agricultural papers many years ago and from that time to this have read a great deal on the subject of saving manure. I have dug cisterns and drains; have dug out my barnyards so that they would hold water—and waded through them—have devised plans for pumping and delivering liquid manures; have cleaned cows' bags; pitched filthy straw and corn-stalks through a 15x15 inch hole in the stables, and I have lived to find it was worse than useless labor. I hope the coming generation will not be as foolish

as I have been, but will show their sense by following Mr. V. B.'s plan.

S. L. F.
Grand Rapids, Mich.—*Rural New Yorker*.

North Lake Grange, No. 631.

DEXTER, Feb. 15, 1879.

Dear Bro. Cobb:

Perhaps you never heard of it, yet it is a reality. There is a Grange by the name and number given above. Though young in experience, just commencing its third year of existence, it has a present membership of forty-one, was organized with twenty, and has steadily increased, without the loss of a member, either by death, removal, expulsion, or dimitt, with a prospect of yet adding to its numbers.

For the first year, we met around at the houses of the members, then hired a house that answers very well, with our present number, but if we increase much more, we shall have to look for more commodious rooms.

Although as a Grange, we have not been very demonstrative, we have not been idle, meeting every two weeks, and filling the time from three to five hours, profitably and pleasantly, first opening in due form, attended with singing by the young folks, of whom there is a goodly number in our Grange, then comes business. After this, some question is raised, and discussed by both ladies and gentlemen, followed by essays and reading of the Grange paper, which is a monthly. In its columns have appeared the names of nearly every member now in the Grange. We find this feature very interesting and profitable, especially to the young folks. We are quite apt to have a good attendance the evening the paper is read. In order that it should not come hard on any one, we have changed editors every paper, the Lecturer appointing the editor and staff of contributors, (after the reading of the paper), for the next paper, which gives one month in which to prepare it. The reading generally takes up about an hour. I would not advise other Granges to establish a paper as they may already have something better; if so, good—if not, try it, as it gives the young members who have not the courage to make a public speech an opportunity of expressing themselves. But this is all concerning our own interests.

Now a few words in regard to outside work. The most of our members have joined with other Grangers around Chelsea, and taken stock in, and built a warehouse, 30x40 feet on the ground, with 18 feet posts, well situated on a side track of the M. C. R. R., this company giving us the use of the land, as long as we need it, to store produce for shipment on their road. It was thought by some, the building was too large, but it looks now as if an addition would be the next thing required, from the way wheat has been put in the last few days. Those living at a distance can make it pay, if in no other way, by taking advantage of good roads, and leisure time, this is as good as seven per cent on money, as compared with drawing in warm weather, with mud and sand for roads. A portion of the upper story of the warehouse is finished off into a nice large room, and furnished, making a good hall to hold Grange meetings for the good of the Order.

I heard one of the merchants of Chelsea say that he would pay so high and sell so low that the Granges could not make any saving by ordering in bulk, or shipping their produce. Very good. Would they have done so if the house had not been built. They don't seem to make any one sorry for building it, as it will answer for a prompter, if the Grange lives; if it dies it will make a good monument. At a meeting held there a short time ago, we were met by parties from Ypsilanti, and others, and after a feast of good things, organized a Mutual Defence Association, to act auxiliary to the one by that name at Ypsilanti, and like it, only that it takes in all patent right swindles, as well as the Lee farm gate. Officers were elected, and we agreed to aid the Mutual Defence Association, in their present suit.

As I am afraid I have written too much, I will stop until I see what disposition you make of this, my first effort in this direction.

P. S. Your excellent paper is taken largely in our Grange, and appreciated for its close adherence to Grange interests. Yours in the faith,

WM. H. GLENN,
Lecturer.

THE FORMATION OF CHARACTER.

Essay Read at the Union Grange, at
Canonsburg, Feb. 22d, 1879, by
M. P. Berry.

The peculiar qualities of a person which distinguish him from others is his character. This is formed in two ways: First, by nature; second by habit.

The strongest traits of character are impressed by nature. The child while young has nothing whatever to do in forming character, for its natural characteristics are born with it, and are formed very much by maternal impressions. You all know these influence the human body, sometimes making it badly deformed. The same principle holds good with the mind and character. How important is it then that these impressions be favorable to the development of a being that shall be an honor to the parents and a blessing to the world! If the child be born with acquisitiveness very large, firmness and conscientiousness very small, he will steal in spite of himself or anyone else; add to these, very large secretiveness and cautiousness, and he will make a first class thief, for he will not only steal, but it will not be very easy to catch him at it; add large destructiveness, and he will murder also to effect his object. Again, if he has large conscientiousness and firmness with acquisitiveness and destructiveness only moderately developed, he will do neither. Large conscientiousness and firmness will make him truthful; add large combativeness and individuality, and he will be ready to stand up for what he thinks is right, and will argue the question with anyone. By the combination of the different faculties, all grades of character are formed. The parents are the principal ones on whom the responsibility of forming the child's character rests. The father should not shirk his part of it, and think he has no duty to perform towards the child, until it is a year, more or less, of age, when the law, I believe, unless in particular cases, judges him more capable of its guardianship than the mother. (This may be because the law was made by man alone; I do not know.) The thousand influences that affect or go to make up the natural character are not so well understood as they should be, or will be in the future when physiology or the laws of health are more universally understood. That part of one's character formed by nature, to a great extent, follows persons through life. It is, of course, modified, more or less, by their surroundings, and here again parents are the ones responsible for the habits formed in youth. Follow the advice, "Do to others (your children) as you wish they should do to you." If you would have them truthful, be so yourself; if you wish them to seold, and when they get older, to strike, do just so to them. If not, beware, "For with what measure you meet, it shall be meted to you again." As the child grows older, the parent's influence is still great, but there are many brought to bear upon him. Every person exerts an influence, in a greater or less degree, upon every other person whom he meets. Dr. Brittain says, "It is well known that the invisible elements of contagion are often transported in one's clothing. The history of pestilential diseases furnishes painful evidence on this point. In like manner, people carry along with them the moral emanations of every clean and unclean place they visit. The keen sense of the observing reader of mind and character discovers these qualities a long time after. If these emanations are impure and exert a corrupting influence on the character and life of a person, they are liable to go with him from year to year, and through all time." If he be correct, it proves that each one of us is more or less responsible for the character of those about us. The best way to help others is to do just as near right as possible ourselves; for "Example is better than precept."

One thing that hurts our young men (and old as well) is the prevalent idea that it is right for them to go to places and do things that would be disgraceful for women to do. It is false. Make every place pure enough for your brothers, sisters, wives, and daughters, and you are all right. Again, don't say of young men, "They are only sowing their wild oats, and they will settle down by and by," for when they settle

down, there is nothing but wild oats for them and their families to reap from that sowing. "As ye sow, so shall ye reap."

I consider the Grange one of the greatest blessing ever given to farmers, in respect to the formation of character. It brings together old and young of both sexes, for mutual instruction and improvement, and cannot help being elevating in its tendency. These remarks apply to one's real character. There is also an estimated character, which comprises those qualities one is supposed to possess, or in other words, reputation. I will only say of this, that if one's real character be good, the reputation will scarcely ever fail of being good also.

The Interest Question.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

A few more words on the interest question. In Mr. Spaulding's article in the VISITOR, Feb. 15th, I fail to see the point. I have loaned my wagons to my neighbors till they are the worse for the wear, and let them money on short time without charging them for either; but this is no argument as to the right or wrong of government regulating interest. It is, of course, necessary for government to say what our currency shall be, but it does not therefore follow that it shall say what we shall do with it, or what we shall ask for the use of it. Neither do I believe with Bro. Taylor in the amount of "toll" being restricted by law any more than the law should say how much a miller should ask for his flour, a manufacturer for his plow, or a merchant for his goods. To me this, like the interest question, has nothing to commend it but its antiquity. Either can be avoided. The miller can refuse to grind for the "toll," and charge what he thinks right for grinding in money, and the man who has money to let can ask a bonus for making the loan, and your Michigan banker can sell bills of exchange on Chicago, charging legal interest and enough for exchange to make it 10 per cent, and how can we help it? If let alone it will regulate itself, and money, like everything else, will bring what it is worth. I have been borrowing money here in Vermont of a savings bank, paying until two years ago 8 per cent, then 7 per cent, now six per cent. I never asked the bank to charge less; they reduced the interest because money was worth less. Then again much depends on the character of the security *vide* Government 4 per cent bonds, a large amount of which are being taken in Michigan. Would it not be well for the Grange to put the co-operative principle of the Order into operation in the matter of borrowing money? If they could not, combined, offer such security as to get money as low as the Government, they could, I think, at least get it at 7 per cent.

VERMONT FARMER.

Squaws.

FARMINGTON, Oakland Co., }
February 24. }

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

In the VISITOR for Feb. 15, under the heading "The Interest Question Once More," "Patron" says: "We should petition Congress to pass a law reducing the rate of interest to six or seven per cent and make it uniform in every State in the Union."

Would "Patron" have Congress prohibit our hiring money of Eastern capitalists at five per cent? They would be glad to furnish us with all the money we need at that rate if they could only be sure of their interest; they want to be money lenders, not landed proprietors.

"Patron" says: "The Constitution of the United States makes it the duty of Congress to coin money and regulate the value thereof."

In regulating the value of money, Congress has regulated the value of farms and their products till now they will bring just half price! But what of that? If Congress will only regulate interest up one per cent in some States and down two per cent in other States, and retain the tariff on wool, we will send back every lawyer of them to gnaw at our crib.

Fifty-two per cent of farmers in the nation, but not one per cent of representation. In common with women, we still retain the right of petition. Farmers and women have almost as much to do with this Government as squaws

have with the government of their respective tribes.

(One who did not vote for a lawyer for Congressman, and who will not petition 281 lawyers for anything.)

The Grange Interests in the Grand Traverse Region.

SILVER LAKE GRANGE, No. 624. }
Feb. 24, 1879. }

Editor Grange Visitor:

Not having seen a word in the VISITOR, for months, from Grand Traverse, I write to say that we still have a few live Grangers as well as Granges, in these northern woods, although a few organizations have died.

Silver Lake Grange, not old in years, or large in numbers, is a live working Grange and has had steady growth since our organization. During the year just closed, we have added twenty-six new names to our roll-book, and still there are more to follow. Finding that our hall was going to be too small for our future accommodations, we added ten feet in length last fall, giving us a building 18x40 feet. During the summer we purchased and placed in our hall, one of Beatty's Organs, which we find, adds much to its attractions and our enjoyment.

Each family has been furnished with one copy of the VISITOR, and we buy our plaster of Day & Taylor, notwithstanding the "ring" offer it laid down in Traverse City for one dollar less per ton.

Traverse Grange, No. 370, have been holding meetings at the houses of different members during the past year, and in the mean time have gathered together means to build a hall, which they intend erecting as soon as spring opens. This Grange has been using the pruning-knife freely of late, with good effect. Some old members are paying up back dues, and new applicants begin to knock at the door for admission.

Almira Grange, No. 381, is contemplating building a hall the coming summer. Evergreen Grange, No. 380, has a hall, and both Granges are in a prosperous condition. Take the VISITOR, buy their plaster of Day & Taylor, and are happy.

Inland Grange, No. 503, is also adding new members to their list. They keep a small stock of goods, bought with money taken from the treasury, which they sell to members of the Order at special rates, and to others at the regular retail price, by which means they are increasing the money in their treasury quite rapidly, which means a hall of their own at no very distant day.

Old Mission Grange, No. 408, was located on the Peninsula, in the midst of what is supposed to be the Garden of the Grand Traverse region, and numbered among its members, some of the largest fruit growers of the State, an ex-Professor of the Agricultural college, and some of the college graduates, as well as several others of liberal education and prominence. I am sorry to say that this Grange, which should have been one of the "shining lights" in our Order, has quietly breathed its last. Like one of old, I cannot but exclaim, "too much learning has made them mad." The only Grange in the neighboring county of Antrim, died some time ago, and one located at Northport, has also succumbed to that "grim monster," death.

This region would be a good field for Grange missionary work. We are making an effort to secure the services of Bro. Thompson for a series of lectures. We feel confident if we succeed, that many standing outside the gates, "almost persuaded," will be gathered in and our membership and usefulness doubled within one year, and perhaps new Granges added to our number. We have the material, but lack in good lecturers. Fraternally,

S. A. GARDNER, Sec. of 624.

It may be that our W. Sec., O. F. Miller, will not write you in time for the next VISITOR, of the last meeting of Ingham County, Pomona Grange, held March 7th at Delhi. We had a full and interesting open meeting in the afternoon, with initiations in the evening. With considerable enthusiasm, the Co. Grange passed two resolutions, which I cannot now give the exact words of. The first was a pledge of \$25 to defend the gate suits we hear about; the second was urging each of our thirteen subordinate Granges to take a similar course at once. Will other counties do likewise?

W. J. BEAL.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MAR. 15, 1879.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the Number of their Grange.

COURTING—THE LEGAL KIND.

We do not wish our friends to suppose that we have done referring to the wretched work resulting from years of legislation, by lawyers, for lawyers, (but not at their expense), which taken in connection with the rules and usages of courts of justice of every grade have made it impossible to use our judicial system for the purpose for which it was originally designed.

So long as we have charge of this paper, and after that so long as we are able to write an article deemed worthy of publication by any independent journal within reach, we will not hesitate to show up, as occasion presents, the humbug character of our courts of justice.

There is much complaint about the salaries of our Circuit Judges, and two attempts have been made to amend the Constitution in behalf of the bench. The result in both cases seem to indicate that the people feel that they are now paying for more than they get in return, and we apprehend that it is a waste of time for the legislature to consider the question of submitting to the people an amendment to the Constitution authorizing an increase of salary of Circuit Judges.

The defects of the system, or the inefficiency of those who make up the several parts of the judicial machinery of our courts, or all together, must be held responsible for this unwillingness on the part of the people to increase the salaries of Circuit Judges. It is not true as we have heard it charged by lawyers that the people are mean and niggardly in this matter, and the proof lies in the fact that while the people are complaining of high taxes and public burdens, an examination of the tax roll will show that these taxes are mainly self-imposed—the result of a popular vote.

We have voted to build expensive public buildings, have voted aid to railroads, and in many ways have encumbered our future resources, have, in short, been more liberal than prudent all these years that cover these attempts to increase the salary of Circuit Judges.

These votes upon this question have been the people's verdict, "want of confidence." And the explanation is right here. When public notice is given some weeks in advance that a term of court will commence on a certain day, with a calendar of cases that has been on the increase perhaps for years, some of them nearly old enough to vote; and a jury of twenty-four men "good and true," has been summoned by the Sheriff from all parts of the county and appear on the day designated, and the machinery of justice is apparently all nicely oiled and in working order, His Honor on the bench, the clerk in his place, ready to earn his money, the Sheriff and his deputies on hand to serve any papers that figure up fees, a half dozen victims that had been notified that their cases would probably be about the first called, together with their witnesses, are wait-

the pleasure of the court, a score or so of educated gentlemen, learned in the law, and absolutely indispensable to elucidate it and make it fit the case of the fellow whose retainer has been pocketed, are within the bar, and it just looks with all this array of books and brains as though these cases of crookedness were going to get straightened right off, and men sent home about their business. But no one is so verdant now as to have any faith in these appearances.

Probably the time was when such preparations meant business, but now it means bread and butter for lawyers. The Sheriff makes proclamation that the court is now in session, and a case is called. Now commences the *real business* of the bar for the term. On one pretext or another cases are put off for a day or two, or for the term, with little or no regard to the interests of litigants themselves. Objections are interposed of the most trivial character, and argued for hours when the court and bar all know that they are without a particle of weight or value. Anything is done or left undone that will consume time and make costs.

Witnesses are sworn to "tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth," and every attempt to do so is baffled, if the ingenuity of the bar is equal to the effort. Men of respectability, integrity, and influence are badgered and browbeaten when on the witness stand, by any upstart of a lawyer, with a freedom and impertinence of manner known nowhere else in the bounds of our civilization.

The fact that a far greater proportion of cases are appealed from the circuit to the supreme court than there were thirty years ago, and the decisions if the circuit court are not then sustained more than half of the time, is opening the eyes of the people to the unreliability as well as the expensiveness of going to law, and the persistency with which lawyers hang to a case when they once get hold of it, and the client is able to pay fees, is perhaps doing more to correct the system than anything else. Lawyers themselves are helping to bring about reforms by ignoring the commonest demands of those rules which govern business men in business affairs. And they are already beginning to feel the effect of this vicious system. While there is perhaps as much time spent as ever, fewer cases get on the calendar than we had a dozen years ago. With all their shrewdness, lawyers will never come to understand that the course they are pursuing is gradually "killing the goose that lays the golden egg."

There has as yet been no innovation, no improvement to give confidence to the people, nor will there be until the lawyers by the course which they have adopted shall have taught the community to shun lawyers and litigation as they would inevitable ruin. That point seems much nearer than ten years ago, and we trust will be hastened if a plain statement of facts is made from time to time, so that we may see how this judicial machine looks from a business standpoint.

The court and bar of Kalamazoo county is for aught we know neither better or worse than afflict other counties in the State. And now let us see as a business institution what it has to commend itself to the support and confidence of the people who pay the taxes in this county.

A regular term commenced on Tuesday, the 25th of Feb. There were 69 cases on the calendar, and the Judge was ready and anxious to be earning his "meager salary." The in-

evitable 24 "good and true men" were ready, in equal sections, to serve the county. Of these cases, six were criminal, issues of fact 25, or 31 cases for court and jury. With a bar of some 40 lawyers, after a diligent search of one day, it was found that there was not a case ready for trial. All alike had learned "how not to do it," and the jury having earned mileage and per diem, were discharged, and the Court adjourned until the following Monday.

This apparently trifling matter will cost the county some money, and parties who had cases in Court perhaps as much more. Of itself it is not vastly important and has added nothing to the uncertainty attending this judicial business, as expensiveness and uncertainty were as well known to be its chief characteristics before the term commenced as now.

We have alluded to the manner in which the bar came into Court the first week—let us say a word about its subsequent proceedings. On the second week there was a murder case disposed of, with creditable celerity; then followed a few small cases, three or four, and the Court entered upon the trial of a case which occupied nearly ten days (it had been tried before in this Circuit). All this time the twelve idle jurymen were kept here, at the expense of the taxpayer. This case was at last disposed of, one or two other cases were tried, and the Court was over with, so far as a jury was needed—chancery cases alone remaining. The amount of real business done need not, it seems to us, have occupied over ten days. It is pertinent to inquire, what has become of the other cases? Will they reappear at the next term, and the next term? The fact may be not worth mentioning that several parties have been in jail several months waiting trial, some of them only *nolle prosequi*, at the close of this term.

It seems pertinent to enquire whether the bar runs the Court to suit their convenience, or to come closer to the real question, whether the people who sustain this department of the machinery of Government have any rights in the premises.

In good times, when paying taxes was not taking the bread from the family of a poor man, and when the great "middle class" found no hardship in these annual demands upon them, less attention was given to "where the money goes." But now, when nearly every one finds it extremely difficult to make their income cover their necessary wants, people have become more anxious to know how their money is disposed of. They want to know what they are getting in return for it.

That their interests are wantonly and shamefully disregarded by those to whom they are committed is a fact so notorious and indefensible that we can but think that continued and persistent reference to the subject will provoke discussion and fix such well earned odium upon this expensive swindle, that these men who have loaded the judicial machine with such expensive abuses will be compelled to recognize the necessity of applying to the administration of justice some of those *business principles* which give success to business men.

It is too much to expect a usage so deeply rooted to be corrected in a short time, but we believe the bill now before the Legislature restricting appeal cases to judgements of over \$100, if enacted, will not only cut down the business of the Circuit Court, but is clearly in the interests of litigants themselves, for a very large proportion of cases originally involving small sums, under the dilatory man-

agement which has obtained throughout the entire judicial department of the government, if allowed to get beyond the justice Court, are ruinous to the parties themselves, and impose an onerous burden on the people who have no sort of interest in the matter, and should by legislation be protected from the bad blood of bad neighbors and the rapacity of unprincipled lawyers.

The people are giving this matter more attention than ever before, as indicated by the many petitions to the Legislature upon this subject. That the interests of the people will be subserved by the passage of the Bill now before the House is of little doubt, and we trust our friends see the need of this reform, and will not allow this matter that would save thousands of dollars to the people of the State annually, to be lost sight of. There are a number of members pledged to the support of this measure, and we shall expect good, honest work for it.

THE INTEREST QUESTION.

"Vermont Farmer" comes again to the defence of what if reduced to a proposition would be about this.—The government should not in any way circumscribe or restrict the people in their business relations with each other. We are aware that it is a point so fine that it probably will never be exactly determined just where governmental interference with the untrammelled freedom of the citizen should stop.

But the very significance of the word itself, implies a surrender to some extent of the right of the governed, to act, or do, or say, whatever the unrestrained impulse of the subject might demand. Some things are so obvious that it seems a waste of time to stop and prove them, and we assume that this theory of non-interference is so exactly contrary to all history, and to all our observation that it is unsound.

I apprehend that "Vermont Farmer" is entirely mistaken in saying that "The miller can refuse to grind for toll and charge what he thinks right for grinding, in money."

A case akin to this has been tested in this State. A farmer in this county who, from some cause or another, was not on good terms with a miller whose custom mill was within a mile of his farm, took a grist to mill and the miller refused to receive and grind it. The farmer sued for damage, and the case was carried through the several courts until it was decided by the highest tribunal in the State, that a miller doing custom work had no legal right to discriminate against any man, but must grind for all customers in the order the work was offered, up to the capacity of his mill.

And while we are well aware that the money lender, when he has become a sharper, has been taking advantage of men's necessities, and has resorted to all sorts of dodges to evade the law fixing ten per cent. as the maximum rate of the State; yet the miller who undertakes to say, when grain is cheap and the toll unsatisfactory, that he will make his own price in cash for grinding grists brought to his mill, will find but little support at the bar of public opinion, and stand but a poor show in Court.

"And the man who has money to let can ask a bonus for making a loan." So he can, and get it, but if he could be headed off, and not get more than seven per cent. would not the community as a whole be better off for it? Are not lenders few compared with borrowers, and is not the interest of the many, superior to the interest of the few?

Our "farmer" thinks that "this matter of interest if let alone will regulate itself like everything else, and money will bring what it is worth." If his theory is correct we are ready to assign him a place with those advanced thinkers who have lived before their time. All great reforms are introduced by innovators whose ideas make but small headway at first with the mass of the people, and it may in time prove to be true, that if we let every body do just about as they have a mind to, that the community will be the better for it.

We know, that as the matter now stands, laws are very meddlesome, that we are regulated and restrained in every conceivable direction, and with 130 members at Lansing, and as many more at the different State capitols all over the country, who will turn out at the close of their several sessions huge volumes of laws in addition to those now in force, the prospect is exceedingly poor of enlarging the area of individual liberty so that everything will have a fair chance "to regulate itself."

THE *Husbandman*, of Elmira, N. Y., conceived the idea of presenting to its numbers readers portraits of those who, in one way or another, had become identified with the agricultural interest of the country.

It commenced the series Jan. 1st, with a portrait of Geo. W. Hoffman, President of the Elmira Farmers' Club, which has become famous all over the country.

The reports of the Club are so identified with, and go to make up so much of the paper that the suitability of first presenting its President was quite apparent to the readers of the *Husbandman*.

Its next issue, Jan. 8th, gave us an excellent portrait of Bro. Alonzo Sessions, Lieut. Governor of Michigan. The discussions of the club and the advocacy by the *Husbandman* of the various interests of farmers attracted the attention of Brother Sessions, and he became some years ago a voluntary contributor to the columns of the paper. The editors of that journal were in time attracted by the sound practical character of his communications and have expressed their appreciation by a brief and truthful reference to the prominent characteristics of the man.

By the courtesy of the editors of the *Husbandman* we are offered the electrotype plate of Gov. Sessions, and shall take pleasure in introducing to our readers in our next issue this representative farmer of Michigan.

We have also been offered the use of other plates and while we do not expect to continue in the picture business for any great length of time, we are confident that our friends will be well pleased with this new feature of the *Visitor*.

SEVERAL communications already in type, go over for want of room.

OTISCO, March 8th, 1879.

Ed. Grange Visitor:

At the meeting of Otisco Grange held this day, the Grange responded to the invitation of the State Grange, to make common cause and defend their rights against the Lee and Teal patent gate swindlers, to the amount of \$20.

J. C. NOBLE, Sec.

UNAFFILIATED Patrons may get a permit by application to Secretary Cobb. Send a postal card and learn all particulars. First, however, try to revive the Grange to which you belonged—if dormant.

MEMBERS of dormant Granges can keep up with the movements of the Order by taking and reading the *Visitor*.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

FIELD NOTES.

On Thursday the 12th ult. the February meeting of the Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, met at Hudsonville, Ottawa County, and, of course, duty brought us there. Worthy Master Nathan Whitney entered promptly upon the discharge of his duties in a manner that impressed us all that he meant business, and that success would crown the efforts of our District Grange for the year to come. There was a large attendance of members, all of whom took great interest in the meeting. Twenty brothers and sisters made application and received the instructions of the Degree of Pomona. The question of mutual aid and benefit associations was discussed at length and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Life Insurance, as now in practice, is too expensive and unsafe to meet the wants of the farmer and Patron; therefore,

Resolved, That the Patrons of Michigan should form a Mutual Aid and Benefit Association at an early period, upon the plan of the New York and New Hampshire Associations.

The following question was also largely discussed: "What amount of attention, time and expense should be given to the decoration of Grange halls, and what results may be derived therefrom?" All agreed in the effect of a neat and well decorated hall and home. The subject is one worthy of the attention of every Patron.

On Friday evening thirteen of us went from Hudsonville to Jamestown, where we met a few of the many Patrons of that once flourishing Grange No. 105, and, after a brief talk, we left with an appointment for March 6th.

At the Hudsonville meeting we were pleased to meet Bros. Porter, Norton and Hamilton, of Kent County Grange, and learned from Bro. Porter that that Grange meets March 5th at Sparta.

Monday morning the 17th ult. found us en route for Springport, Jackson Co. At the appointed time, Bro. Fitzgerald met us at the train and invited us to the hospitalities of his home, which we enjoyed. A fair audience met in the evening in the hall of Grange No. 45 and gave good attention to an hour's address and the exemplification of unwritten work which followed.

Tuesday evening the 18th we met with the State Pomological Society in the new Capitol at Lansing. A goodly attendance and a fine show of winter apples were apparent to all who could climb to the high position assigned us—the fourth story. The question of the "decoration of the grounds of County school houses by the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers" was discussed and a resolution adopted recommending the same to the attention of the people of the State. What class of people should be more interested in this than the members of our Order? Why not discuss this question in both County and Subordinate Granges?

The winter meeting of the State Pomological Society closed with a grand display of fruits and with appropriate addresses and resolutions at the evening session, held in the Representative Hall on Thursday evening. For the full report of this meeting we refer all to the annual report of the Secretary for 1879. The next meeting, in June next, is to be at Muskegon.

The Mason Institute, noticed in our last, next claimed our attention, and thither we went on Friday morning, Feb. 21st. Bro. Childs not being able to be present, the labor of a public installation of the officers of Ingham Co. Grange fell upon us, in doing which we had the assistance of excellent and appropriate music, under the direction of Bro. Sturges, of Cedar Grange.

This Institute was as well attended as any we have ever seen. The Court House was full at all sessions, and the programme fully carried out. The inaugural address of Bro. W. J. Beal, Worthy Master, is a good paper in the interest of our Order. We solicited a copy and it appears in this number of THE *VISITOR*. Bro. Thomas F. Moore was also present and helped, as he said, "To keep the meeting red hot to its close, and not a moment was wasted." Friday evening the County Grange met in the hall of Mason Grange—which was filled to overflowing with brothers and sisters from all parts of the

County who had come to enjoy the intellectual and social feast provided. Bro. C. L. Ingersoll was appointed toast master, and well he performed his duty. The music was excellent and well put in by the choir. The first toast was: "Our Rural Homes; God Bless Them;" we tried to respond, but we think the choir done better when it sung, "Home Sweet Home." Next came, "Our Agricultural Press; May it have Greater Prosperity," response by Bro. King. "The Farmers' Sons and Daughters, the Life of Our Country," was responded to by Worthy Chaplain Jones Wiley. "All Honor to the Husbandman" was the sentiment to which Worthy Secretary O. F. Miller gave response. "The Weaker Sex, the Source of our Pleasure and Strength," was the theme assigned to Bro. and W. M. Beal, and he did as well as he dared, "being afraid of women." The Worthy Lecturer, L. H. Innis, ably responded to "The Grange, an Educator and Enlightener." Bro. Moore, W. O. of the State Grange, filled well the place assigned him, in response to "May We Ever Study Nature, the Foundation of All True Art." Next came, "The Farmer, One of Nature's Noblemen," and the response was by Worthy Overseer S. E. Jeffries; it was followed by "The Agricultural College, the Farmers' School," and this was responded to by Bro. Rowe—while Bro. Ingersoll ably answered the call for "The Educated Farmer, the Peer of Any Man." To close, came the toast, "Music, Heavenly Maid, Born ere the Morning Stars Sung Together, and All the Sons of God Shouted for Joy, May the Grange Successfully Woo Her," responded to by the choir. A brief time was given to business and the exemplification of the unwritten work, and the only secret session closed (all the other sessions were public, and all productive of much good). We heard the outsider say that "the meeting was worth hundreds of dollars to the farmers of the County." The next meeting is to be at Delphi, March 7th.

Not satisfied with this, in company with Bro. Moon, we spent Saturday evening at Capital Grange, No. 540, in North Lansing. A full hall, neatly decorated, good music, and a fine programme well executed, made the evening pass very pleasantly and quickly. I commend the programme of this Grange, as published in THE *VISITOR*, to other Granges, and say: "Go and do thou likewise."

Of course we called upon the Legislature, and we are prouder than before (if it is possible) of our Brothers on duty there, both as members and attendant officers. Our Worthy Bro. Lieut.-Gov. Sessions presides with able dignity over the Senate, never forgetting anything in his line of duty, even the ventilation of the chamber. Bro. Childs is overworked in looking after the farmers' interests there, and he fears to leave his seat for a moment lest our interests suffer. Bro. Hine, of Kent, ably does his part, as do all our brothers in both Houses. Let us help them by sending in more and more petitions, to show the whole body what we want and mean to ask for and keep asking for until we get it.

While at Lansing I saw Wesley Emery, a book-seller there, and he will supply Granges with books for their libraries at 30 per cent off from the retail prices.

On the 5th of March, we visited, in company with eight other members of Pomona Grange, No. 19, Kent County Grange, in its session at Sparta. There was a good turn out, and 14 new members were added to their list by taking the lessons of the degree of Pomona. We were much pleased by the report of the executive committee, on business arrangements in Grand Rapids, and wish that other counties were as fortunate, and we trust that all in Kent County will stand by these arrangements. Help those who help us. Their next meeting is at South Lowell Grange Hall, early in May.

On the evening of the 6th, we gave a public lecture at Jamestown, Ottawa County, with fair success, and shall, in a month or six weeks, have that dormant Grange in running order again. We heartily thank Bro. Hudson for his many favors in the way of transportation and entertainment at his house.

Friday evening, the 7th inst. found us enroute with Bro. Harrington, of Georgetown Grange, (which always turns out by the load), to Allendale Grange hall. We found Bro. Rose of this Grange, hard at work, putting every thing to rights in their new hall, now paid for, in which we found a sup-

ply of new tables, chairs, and lamps which with the trimmings and decoration of the walls with pictures, evergreens, &c., gave the hall a home-like appearance, ever welcome to strangers. The hall was well filled by Patrons and their friends, who gave marked attention to the installation service and the address that accompanied it. An excellent oyster supper followed, to the satisfaction of the inner man, in the discussion of which, all took an earnest part. This Grange is in a prosperous condition. Four members took the degrees, and two applications were received at the oyster supper. Additional subscriptions to the *Visitor* were taken, and "onward" is their motto.

Benefits of Grange Co-operation.

Actual results are always of more weight than theoretical or speculative returns, so we give a few facts showing the benefits of co-operation, drawn from a paper read by Bro. G. M. Towar at Capital Grange, No. 540, on the evening of our visit there, Feb. 22d.

Plaster, at the time of the organization of this Grange, was \$8 per ton in Lansing. The Grange ordered 20 tons in, direct from Grand Rapids, costing them in Lansing \$5 per ton, saving \$3 per ton or a total of \$60, more, we venture to say, than all the fees and dues paid up to that time by all the members. Yet not one farmer in ten who does now, belonged to the Order then; but had all belonged and joined in the co-operative effort, nearly \$1,000 might have been saved then.

The books of the Lansing Co-operative Store show Bro. Towar to have traded to the amount of \$1,103.84 since May 4th, 1877, or 17 months' time, and a discount of from 5 per cent to 75 per cent, or an average of 25 per cent from the usual Lansing rates—a total saving of \$275, to have earned which would have required a whole year's labor, at least, or nearly \$4,000 at interest for a year at 7 per cent. Surely, a co-operative store well managed is a good investment.

Bro. Towar also saved \$300 in the purchase of a piano; and by a trip to Chicago last fall of himself, wife, son, and daughter, saved enough in purchasing clothing through Grange agency, to pay their entire expenses and had \$3.20 cents left—yet how many don't think the Grange pays! He claims to have saved \$50 in shipping his wool last year. A wagon was bought through the Grange store for \$62 that other dealers charged \$85 for. Tea was sold for 60c. that other stores charged 85c. for. These are a few of the facts set forth by Bro. Towar.

Now what one man or community can do, another man or community can do under similar circumstances. The capital stock of the Lansing Co-operative Store is less than \$1,000, and pays all expenses and 8 per cent on the stock, and yet sells at the above advantage to Patrons. Of course it is well managed by Bro. Goodnow, of North Lansing, Mich., but he is also warmly seconded by true brothers and sisters who try to make their store a success. Of course they have had some opposition, and expect to have. One brother opposed buying plaster at a saving of \$3 per ton, and made beautiful speeches about building up the town, markets, etc., and used about 40 pounds of plaster yearly. The Agent ought to give him his plaster.

Now doubting, faithless, dormant, or sleeping brother, you say you don't need a piano, wagon, etc., but you use lamp wicks at 3 cents each, that can be had for 4 cents per dozen by taking a gross, and 12 families in any Grange could do it. What is true of wicks is true of burners, and so with a thousand other little things used in every farmer's family. A saying can thus be made not only of money, but of labor in travel of yourself and team, and the time lost. Haven't a \$1,000? then try \$100 or \$50 in your own Grange—no matter how small, and keep account of everything, to see the saving. Buy at wholesale of our Business Agents in Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, or Cleveland—try it.

Before you can succeed, you must have knowledge of what you undertake, and the Grange—its meetings, the *Visitor*, the County Grange are the means you can freely use, and the more you use them, the better they will be—try them and see.

READERS! if you don't want this number after you have read it please hand it to some fallen Patron or some earnest farmer who will like to read it.

What Has the Grange Done?

This is a question often carelessly asked by those who have either not had opportunity to learn of its works; or purposely by those who would belittle the Order of Patrons because the members are "nobody but farmers."

All true, earnest Patrons know what the Order has done. The hordes of once middle men are now trying to earn an honest living by producing something to benefit the world, and they know what the Order has done. Many farmers yet outside the Gate can honestly testify of the change made for the better by the Grange. Politicians can swear the Grange has never done them any service, but has rather, by the inculcation of thought and independent action, often defeated their schemes and wire-pulling.

Public opinion has heard the voice of our Order, and yielded to its influence. Congress knows there is a mighty power within our well-guarded gates, and hears and answers our memorials.

The President of this nation of agriculturists has felt the Patrons' influence, and would consult them regarding their Department at Washington. The Governor of the Peninsular Empire of Agriculture and Horticulture remembers our desires in his annual message. The most beautiful State Capitol in the land is dedicated by our State Grange, and the Legislature daily hears the voice of the Order under the head of Petitions.

Peddlers, patent right men, lawyers, grain thieves, and other wicked men know what the Grange is doing and shun us.

Every well informed Patron knows what the Order has done, and those who attend its meetings regularly and read the VISITOR, keep posted as to what we are doing now. They feel proud of the past, happy in the present, and confident of the future.

From what has been done, they often think what might have been done had all who have become Husbandmen or Matrons worked with all their ability and in unity, to secure the highest attainable objects of the Fraternity. What might have been done had all who till the soil become workers within the Gates! So in the future what might be done if all farmers would join our mystic circle, and the then united Fraternity of the most ancient and noble of callings remember the watchwords, *Onward Forever!*

Our homes, youth, and women can tell volumes for the labors of the Order in thousands of homes in this State, and show imprints of the noble precepts and worthy practices inculcated by the Grange—nor is the harvest yet fully ripe. Let years and abler pens tell of this! The young men and women of our Order—the boys and girls when the Grange first began—know what it has done, and what it is doing now. Do all appreciate the advantages they enjoy, which but for this Order, they would not now have? Stop and think. Let fathers, and mothers, and friends of our youth make the Grange still better for the sake of the children of to-day, who are to be the citizens of tomorrow. Bring in the boys and girls as soon as old enough, and throw around them those hallowed influences which our Fraternity can give. Help them to find or make it a school of instruction where practice goes hand in hand with theory, and pleasant social recreation and enjoyment make the place attractive.

O, reader! seek and hold fast to the Grange for the sake of your children. Make it attractive in every way, and pure and elevating in character. *Do your Duty!*

What has the Grange done for women? Sisters, need I speak for you who, thanks to our noble Order, have had a chance to speak for yourselves? You earnest workers need not my testimony; but to doubting, faithless sister, I wish to say a word—yes, and to the man who doubts women's capabilities and influences. What has the Order done for women? It is the first organization that has formally, in deed as well as in word, given to women her true position, for all the past has excluded and ignored her. As says our beautiful dedication service, "This Order, the last and grandest outgrowth of the necessities of mankind, admits her to a full and equal participation in its mysteries, its instructions, and its benefits. To it, belongs the honor of recognizing her equal rights, and of calling to its councils her finer perceptions and intuitions. The Grange doors

swing inward as readily at the gentle touch of woman as at the ruder knock of man. She is conducted, not to a silent and humble seats in its congregations, but is given an equal voice in its councils, and shares with her brother, its most exalted honors. This noble Order bears her up upon its strong arm, and holds above her its shield of protection. We recognize and will defend her title to this position, and ask of her in turn to strengthen us by her sympathy, and encourage us by the elevating and refining influence of her presence."

Nobly has she done her work in the Grange—instant in season and out of season. She has reciprocated the efforts of the Order in her behalf. Many an active Grange would have been dormant to-day, but for the hope and perseverance of the women who belong to it. They have attended meetings, and devised ways and means to sustain and build up their Grange. Many Granges have been formed by the efforts of women, and many a dormant Grange revived and restored to position by the energy of its female members.

In short, I don't believe it possible for a Grange to go down or lag in its work if the women within its gates take hold as they should, and I think any dormant Grange in the State may be reinstated if the women who were members take hold and try to do it.

Sisters! will you stand by the Order which has done so much for your sex, and can do so much more for you and your families. I know well enough you will.

Doubting sisters, how is it with you? Shall the Grange falter and fail for want of efforts on your part; when a word, a little time and effort will do so much to advance it and strengthen all within its influence? Do you want a safe place for your sons and daughters to go for instruction, amusement, and preparation for the higher duties of life? Then build up the Grange and aid it in its great work, as you owe it so much.

Illumination Illustrated.

We quote from the Lansing Republican, of the 4th inst.

"At representative hall, last Wednesday night, a lecture was delivered by Prof. J. W. Langley, of the university, on illuminating oils. He had a blackboard, with diagrams and statistics, also colored drawings of two different lamps, with wicks and flame, and eight different lamps, burning on the desk before him. Prof. Langley is fluent and somewhat rapid in speech, quiet in manner, and aims to instruct by candor and clearness. He answered many questions from the audience, which was largely composed of legislators.

The professor praised the oil-tester invented by Dr. Kedzie, but did not believe the high test of 140° was necessary for safety. The Michigan test is also 10° more severe than the Ohio test. The Ohio test of 120° he considered perfectly safe; also that the Ohio oil gives 3½ times as much light for the same weight as Michigan oil, for the reason that the latter oil is thicker, is more like sirup, and cannot rise through the wick so freely. He demonstrated the inferiority of light from Michigan oil as compared with that from Ohio oil by burning the two kinds in two lamps exactly alike before the audience. He maintained that explosions, injury, and death are caused by burning oil only when it contained naphtha, and was sold in violation of all legal tests. He dipped a piece of cotton cloth in naphtha and lighted it with a match, to show that it flashed almost like gunpowder, while strips of the same cloth, dipped in Michigan and Ohio oil, burned so slowly that they could be extinguished by hand without serious injury. The thermometer was used to indicate the heat in vapor-chambers of different lamps, and it was proved that this heat ranged from 82° to 89° in lamps burning with chimneys, and 99° in a lamp burning without a chimney. The Michigan test being 140°, there is a difference of 41° in the extreme heat that can be caused in a vapor-chamber, even without a chimney, and the flash test of Michigan oil; or 21° difference between the heat of a vapor chamber and the flash test of Ohio oil. The difference between the Michigan test and the heat of the vapor chamber is like the difference between a cake of ice and summer warmth; and in the Ohio case it is equal to the difference between a comfortable outdoor climate and the middle of a snow-bank. This security would seem ample against explosions.

The different varieties of burners for

kerosene oil were described, and an explanation given of the Moehring burner, which is one of the class invented to burn heavy oils by heating them intensely; for, as the law has required kerosene oil to be heavier or thicker, the burner-makers have increased the heating power of their burners so as to bring the oil up to the top of the wick in spite of its thickness.

Please read the above carefully, and note that Prof. K. "has no interest in the oil question"—also that this lecturer could use two lamps exactly alike, another lecturer could not or did not, but had an Argand burner for high test oil and a common one for low test oil, and then put the edge of the flames toward the instrument.

COUNTY Granges will please send the address of one or more earnest members of each weak or dormant Grange in their jurisdiction to the Lecturer of the State Grange.

DORMANT Granges can with little or no expense, re-organize, and get to work again. Any officer or member may correspond with the State Lecturer and General Deputy in regard to the matter, and obtain full particulars.

MORENCI, March 4th, 1879.

Worthy Sec'y Cobb:

It being some time since we have seen anything in the VISITOR from Morenci Grange, I am inclined to let the readers of the VISITOR know how we are prospering. The hall of Morenci Grange, No. 280, is situated on the main corner in the village of Morenci, and we number only 55 members, but are active, working Patrons of Husbandry; and willing to stand for the right, to put their shoulders to the wheel, and help roll on this grand and noble institution.

Since the beginning of this year we have initiated four candidates, received three dimitted members, and reinstated five suspended members by payment of back dues. We feel that we are gaining strength, not so much financially as educationally and socially.

As our Grange is near the Ohio State line we often make and receive visits from neighboring Granges over the line. One week ago last Saturday evening we were agreeably surprised by about 30 members from Chesterfield Grange, entering all at once, and as they were forming in front of, or rather around the Overseer, our Worthy Master called up—in respect to these friends who surprised us. After which a recess was announced, and a good, general social time was enjoyed, to say nothing of the supply of apples which seemed to find their way to the hall.

After recess the third Degree was conferred. In our enjoyment and prosperity I trust we shall try to help our Brothers and Sisters who have been less fortunate. Last Saturday evening our Grange, with a portion of Chesterfield Grange visited Fayette Grange, situated in the village of Fayette, Ohio, which for the past two years has been struggling along with its head above water; but they have taken a new hold of the work and are making an extra effort to live, and although their numbers are small and their laborers few, yet with the zeal and energy they manifested that evening they cannot die. We believe in the old adage, "In trying to help others, we help ourselves," for we all came home determined to labor with renewed diligence, and to heed the teaching that "whatever we attempt to do, strive to do well."

The Lenawee Co. Pomona Grange holds its next session with the Fairfield Grange, by invitation, to give them a helping hand, as they need encouragement. Let all Patrons attend that meeting who can and let us sustain each other. I will vouch for a goodly number of Morenci Grange being present on that occasion.

Yours fraternally,
SECRETARY.

COUNTIES not having County Granges need to organize them for the benefit of the dormant or weak Granges in the County. Remember those who help others, help themselves."

THE State Lecturer has written on an average, 5 letters per day since Jan. 1st, on Grange business.—appointments and Dormant Granges taking most of the correspondence. This Order gives the Post-office department some work.

Ladies' Department.

A PLEA FOR THE VISITOR.

Wafted on the morning breezes,
Bourne to us from lands afar,
Come the news from many Granges,
Of strong resolve, and prospects fair.

Evening zephyrs whisper to us,
Telling us, be of good cheer,
That the Grange is stronger growing,
And improving every year.

More good news is wafted to us,
Through the VISITOR it comes;
This spicy sheet we ever welcome,
Welcome it to all our homes.

Kind VISITOR, it is thy mission
To urge all to forward press,
Work for the right, work cheerfully,
Demand your own, and take no less.

When we read thy cheering pages,
Hope anew our hearts inspire,
For we see your earnest purpose,
To raise the farmers' calling higher.

We will bless thee, ever bless thee,
For thy helpful words of cheer,
And thy bright and cheering presence,
We will ever welcome here.

May thy life be long and prosperous;
To every Grange, good news impart,
There, will we greet at every coming,
And you will strengthen head and heart.

Fraternal Grange, No. 406.

Flowers.

Flowers have rightly been called the stars of the earth, embracing many emblems of virtue unknown to man. They purify the air, and are beautiful to use for adornments, especially during the winter months. They can cheer and comfort the sick, and by their aid even a bare and cheerless room can be made pleasant and homelike.

June is thought by some to be the most delightful month of the year, because it is the month of flowers. In this month there is no lack of flowers; they smile at us from under the shadow of the great trees of the wood; they gleam in the sunlight that falls on the green carpet of the prairie like beautiful stars of different colors, and fill the air with the most delicious perfume. Their variety is almost endless. God has scattered His beauty all over the world, with a lavish hand.

Flowers abound on the mountain side, in the shady dell by the river's bank, and even in the ugly swamp. They are as free as air, and about as necessary to a happy life. In no other country in the world is their love and culture making such wonderful and rapid progress as in our own favored land.

Our country is becoming very beautiful. Flowers are to be seen almost everywhere in town and country. New gardens, well-kept lawns, and pleasant homes are springing up everywhere. If we do not travel, we know but little of this general and rapid improvement. But what we see in our own town and neighborhood is, perhaps, a fair sample of what may be observed from Maine to California.

The advance of floral taste in America during the past few years has been truly wonderful, perhaps unequalled. Beautiful lawns, gardens and tasteful houses abound where, a few years ago, we saw the crooked rail fence, the trees and stumps and small log cabins. A person can succeed in beautifying the rudest home by the aid of flowers. They are beautiful wherever you may place them, whether in the mansions of the wealthy or in the cottages of the poor.

In the Spring and Summer the prairie is made beautiful by them; nature has scattered them there in great profusion.

How pleasant it is on a warm Summer's day to sit in the cool shade of some great tree and look at the flowers, swayed by the gentle breeze, their perfume pervades every nook and corner. But to really love and enjoy them one must study and cultivate them. We should beautify our homes with them, for they are the most beautiful and the least expensive of anything which we can use as adornments. We should protect and cherish them. Their study and culture generally elevate and refine a person, and tend to make him better, but they never degrade nor ever lower any one in any manner whatever.

Though their cultivation takes both time and labor, and perhaps patience, we are always amply rewarded.

Flowers are beautiful in their simplest forms. They develop in our heart a love for the beautiful and a taste for nature's higher forms of loveliness. They also increase the attractions of our homes.

Many people admire flowers, yet are unwilling to cultivate them, but would at any time gladly accept a bouquet which had taken the labor and time of another to produce. But you would think that any one would enjoy them more if they would raise them themselves. This is not, however, always the case. If we are worthy of a home, we should strive to make it pleasant and cheerful. This is necessary at all times of the year, but especially so during the winter. Nothing will aid in this work as cheaply and well as flowers. They are a constant source of delight; every day presenting new buds and blossoms, and new forms of loveliness, and we look and admire.

A little skill and knowledge, perhaps, is necessary to management of flowers, in order to have success, which is necessary to enjoyment. We should have flowers, with which to cheer the winter hours, for by the exercising of a little taste, a great deal of pleasure may be derived from their cultivation. There are some plants that are particularly suited for winter flowering. The hyacinth is a very beautiful and fragrant flower, and seems especially designed for house culture. It does more than any other to make winter cheerful. The primrose adds a great deal to winter beauty. The ten-weeks stock is also a fine winter-bloomer. A pot of mignonette costs but little, and affords a great deal of pleasure. The ivy and Madeira vine are graceful climbers and look beautiful.

In summer we should have at least a few showy beds. Many people, when they see a fine display of flowers in the gardens of their neighbors in the Spring, resolve to have at least a few next year; but the matter is forgotten until the Spring flowers again remind them of their neglect. In order to raise flowers successfully, we should study their nature. Some delight in shade, others in sunshine; some need a great amount of moisture, while others require scarcely any. Therefore, unless we know their nature, we may kill many by what we think an act of kindness. If we wish to make a pretty and tasteful flower garden we must know what kind of seed to select. Many fail with their gardens from want of this knowledge. Those who are just beginning to raise flowers (and consequently have had but little experience) should select the kinds most easily grown, such as balsams, petunias, dianthus, phlox, etc., with only a few of the more difficult. Seed should also be selected suited to the purpose for which it is designed. Fences or porches can be covered quickly by the Morning Glory or some other free-growing climber. If we wish showy beds, geraniums, petunias, verbenas, and gladioli, look beautiful. For small bouquets, mignonette, alyssum and geranium leaves are desirable. A great many garden adornments can be purchased at a very little cost, and some can be made at home by exercising a little taste and skill. A well filled vase is a beautiful adornment for the lawn. If we wish to have early flowers we should send for the seed early in the Spring, in order to have it sown and the plants transplanted in good season. Now is a very good time to send for seed. Let us all, this year strive to have a showy yard of flowers.

KATIE E. SHEAP.
Sturgis Grange, No. 332.

Correspondence.

SYLVANIA, March 1st, 1879.

To Ed. Grange Visitor:
Enclosed find three dollars and a half, for which send seven copies of the Visitor to the following persons: * * * Nearly every family in our Grange takes the Visitor now (with these). Our brothers and sisters all say the paper is far better now than it has ever been before. Its bold and fearless stand on all important questions which engross public attention, gains for it many warm friends outside the Order. The wider it is circulated and the more it is read, the better will the public understand and appreciate the true aims and objects of our organization.

T. G. CHANDLER,
Sylvania, Lucas Co., O.

LEONIDAS, March 8th, 1879.

Brother Cobb:

At our last regular meeting, March 5th, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the sum of \$10 be appropriated from our Grange funds for the purpose of helping to defray the expenses of the suits now pending in the U. S. Courts, involving the Lee & Teal patents on gates.

The same to be subject to your order when needed; and in case it is wanted, \$10 more will be also placed at your disposal. We feel that it is important that these suits should be decided as soon as possible.

By order of Vergennes Grange, No. 221.

LEVI NASH, Sec.

DANSVILLE, Mich. Mar. 6, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Dansville Grange No. 54, as its number indicates, was early organized. Quite a number dropped off after the first year; it happened to be those we could spare as well as not. Twenty good and strong members were left. These put their shoulders to the wheel and held it until assistance came and relieved them. Now we can boast of as good a working Grange as there is in the State. Our members number 45. We have taken in ten since the first of Jan., and have a number of applications to act upon, and more are coming.

We have a nice new hall and with the aid of our noble Sisters we have it decorated in grand style. We received a call from Bro. Brown of Rawsonville, Mich. Throwing open our doors, the hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. He gave us a brief history of the Grange, from its organization up to the present time; also touched upon points of general interest to the Order. A few of our number, "not being fully fed," followed him to White Oak, thence to Fitchburg Grange, and wished that he might stay in the County longer. More anon.

Yours fraternally,

R. P. DAYTON.

PALO, March 7, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

At a meeting of Woodard Lake Grange, No. 190, held on the 6th, it was voted to set apart \$25 to contest the slide gate swindle, subject to order of committee, with an additional twenty-five if needed. We want to present a solid front and pay nothing but what is right and just. Count on Grange, No. 190, to stand their share every time to fight monopolies and swindlers.

Yours fraternally,

E. D. DECKER, Sec.

THREE RIVERS, March 9, 1879.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

St. Joseph Co. Pomona Grange, No. 4, at its last annual meeting, March 6, voted \$25 subject to your order, to be used as needed in defense of suits now pending or hereafter instituted by the swindling agents of the Lee or Teal patent gates.

Please notice in VISITOR that St. Joseph Grange will hold its next annual meeting at Centerville, the first Thursday in April, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. All Patrons cordially invited to attend.

W. G. LELAND, Sec.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 25, 1879.

Bro. Cobb:

Will you please insert the following in the GRANGE VISITOR. When I accepted the invitation to be present at the meeting of the Grange at Porter, it had not occurred to me that it would conflict with our annual meeting of the Northwestern Produce Association, at which it was my duty to be present. While regretting the necessity of having to excuse myself at this time, I am very respectfully at the service of the Order.

Yours fraternally,

THOS. MASON.

The next meeting of the Ingham Co. Grange, No. 14, will be held in the rooms of Bunkerhill Grange, on the 25th day of April, afternoon and evening.

O. F. MILLER, Sec.

Dividend.

The Patrons' Paint Company have declared a cash dividend of seven per cent. for the year 1878, payable March 1st 1879, to stockholders of record, Dec. 1st, 1878. This is the 3d annual dividend the company has paid, and with guaranteed dividend, 25 per cent, makes 96 per cent for three years.

Fraternally, O. R. INGERSOLL.

STURGIS, March 5th, 1879.

Worthy Brother:

Enclosed, I hand you an essay for publication in the GRANGE VISITOR, written by Miss Katie Sheap, (which appears in this number.) Miss Sheap is only about 16 years of age, and is the daughter of Worthy Master Sheap of Sturgis Grange, No. 336. It is one of a series of essays to be read by the younger membership of our Grange, as a part of the literary entertainment furnished at our regular meetings.

Short essays, select readings from our best American authors, together with discussions relating to the farmer's interests have added much to the profitability of our social gatherings. While we do not number so large a membership as at the beginning of last year, yet so far as the working of our Order is concerned, we do hesitate in saying that we have a more efficient corps of workers, who are ready and willing to co-operate in rightful measures to insure its growth in interest and prosperity.

Yours respectfully,

G. D. G. THURSTON, Lecturer.

PEWAMO, March 3d, 1879.

Ionia County Grange, No. 16, will hold its next meeting at the Hall of Woodward Lake Grange, No. 190, on the 18th inst. A good time may be safely anticipated.

A. W. SHERWOOD, Lecturer.

Important Testimony on Paint.

NEW EGYPT, N. I. Feb. 12, 1879.

O. R. INGERSOLL, Esq., Manager Patrons' Paint Company. Dear Sir and Bro.:

My house, painted last year with your Ready Mixed Paint, looks up before the eye grandly, and is the cynosure of all sightseers. You recollect I tried to have Dr. — and Mr. S. of this place adopt your paints, but could not induce them. Now mark the contrast at this present time. The Doctor's is in streaks and looks dirty and old, as if painted many years. Mr. S's house has faded very much, while mine looks more brilliant than ever. When the full moon shines upon the house, it looks like a block of silver at broad daylight. The verandah ceiling reflects the arched brackets of the columns like a huge mirror. Every one notes the contrast of the mixed paints over the old way, and admires the glossy appearance of the building. You can fully refer any one to this house, for it is the largest and most conspicuous building on the line of the Camden & Amboy R. R. via Pemperton. Signed,

JOHN S. MALLORY.

NOTE.—Patrons' Paint Company's book, "Every one their Own Painter," mailed free. Address, South and Dover streets, New York. Cheapest and best paints in the world.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

DIED, at his home in Wyoming, Jan. 31st, 1879, SAMUEL KIEFER, a beloved member of Wyoming Grange, No. 353. In the death of Brother Kiefer, the Grange sustains a great loss of one of its most worthy members, and the family a devoted husband and father. The memory of his noble deeds will remain in the years which are to come.

MRS CORDELIA M. ARNOLD, Sec'y.

FOR SALE AND WANT NOTICES.

WANTED.—100 LBS. MAPLE SUGAR, in exchange for good, two years old Apple Trees of choice varieties, Currants, Gooseberries, Strawberries, &c.

HENRY COLLINS,
Past Master of Oakwood, No. 333,
White Pigeon, St. Joseph Co., Mich.

March 10, 1879.

FOR SALE. THREE SCOTCH COLLY SHEPHERD DOGS.

Address, M. J. SPENCER,
Pontiac, Mich.

Garden & Flower Seeds.

Thanking former patrons, we again offer GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS and PLANTS, &c., at low rates.

We will send \$1.50 worth of Seeds, in Papers or by the Ounce for One Dollar.

* We will send PLANTS and SHRUBS by Express at 25 per cent Discount—and add enough to pay expressage. Correspondence, with stamp, invited. Send Orders early to

Lake Shore Greenhouse and Garden,

March 12-22.

Muskegon, Mich.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Kept in the office of the Secretary 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.

Ballot Boxes, (hard wood),.....	\$1 25
Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred,....	60
Blank Book, Ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members,.....	1 00
Blank Record Books, (Express paid),.....	1 00
Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound,.....	50
Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound,.....	50
Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound,....	60
Cushing's Manual,.....	60
Applications for Membership, per 100,....	50
Membership Cards, per 100,.....	25
Withdrawal Cards, per doz,.....	25
Dimits, in envelopes, per doz,.....	25
By-Laws of the State and Subordinate Granges, single copies 3c, per doz,.....	35
New kind of Singing Books, with music, Single copy 15 cts. per doz,.....	1 80
Rituals, single copy,.....	15
" per doz,.....	1 50
Blanks for Consolidation of Granges, sent free on application.....	
Blank Applications for Membership in Pomona Granges, furnished free on application.....	
Blank "Articles of Association" for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges with Copy of Charter, all complete,....	10
Patron's Pocket Companion, by J. A. Cramer, Cloth,.....	60
Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100,....	40

Address,

J. T. COBB,

Sec'y Mich. State Grange,

SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

Grange HEADQUARTERS.

THOMAS MASON,

General Commission Merchant,

183 SOUTH WATER STREET,

CHICAGO, - - ILLINOIS.

Purchasing Agent for the Patrons of Husbandry, authorized by Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange; Agent of the N. W. Produce Exchange Association, principal office, Buchanan, Mich.; also, Agent of the Michigan Lake Shore Fruit Growers' Association, Stevensville, Mich.

Respectfully solicits Consignments of

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, BUTTER, EGGS,

Poultry, Wool, Hides,

PELTS, TALLOW, and DRESSED HOGS.

CRAIN, HOGS, and CATTLE

In Car Lots. Also,

LUMBER in Car or Cargo Lots.

Having a large and conveniently arranged House in the business part of the city, we are prepared to handle goods in any quantity, and, being on the SHADY SIDE of the street, can show PERISHABLE goods in BEST CONDITION, throughout the day. With

SUPERIOR FACILITIES,

and close personal attention to business, we hope to merit, receive, and retain a liberal share of your patronage.

Orders for goods in this market will be filled at lowest wholesale rates.

Cash must Accompany Orders to Insure Prompt Attention.

REFERENCES:—

Executive Committee of Mich. State Grange.
J. T. Woodman, Paw Paw, Mich.
J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.
Herman Schaffner & Co., Bankers, Chicago, Ill.
Thomas Mars, Berrien Centre, Mich.
W. A. Brown, Sec'y Mich. L. S. F. G. Ass'n, Stevensville, Mich.

Stencils, Shipping Tags, and Market Reports furnished on application.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. mar.12'79

J. M. CHIDISTER,

STATE BUSINESS AGENT, P. of H.,

DEALER IN

GRAINS.

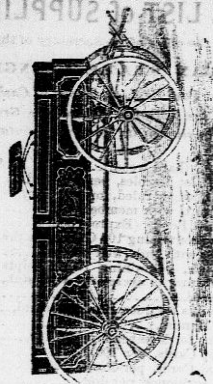
—AND—

All kinds of Country Produce,

80 WOODBRIDGE ST., West,

DETROIT, - - MICHIGAN

Wagons!



Prices to the GRANGE TRADE.

I will sell three inch and three and one-fourth inch THIMBLE SKEIN WAGONS, complete on cars at Niles, Michigan, for (\$45) forty-five Dollars each. Without Box or Seat, Thirty-Five Dollars.

E. MURRAY.

Niles, Mich., March 1st, 1878.

Important to Bee-Keepers!

COLVIN'S
Excelsior Bee Hive!

With the Latest Improved Honey Racks.

THE GREATEST ADVANCEMENT
in BEE CULTURE Ever Made.

Great scientific principles involved for Wintering Bees and securing a larger amount of honey, in lightest but strongest Racks now in use, its weight being one-half ounce for each pound of honey. Every Bee-keeper NEEDS these Racks. Can be used on nearly all hives.

Sample Hives with Racks for 60 pounds of Honey,\$2.75
Sample Hives with Racks for 30 pounds of Honey,2.25
Two Section of Honey Racks sent free on receipt of 5 cents.

Address L. F. COX,
Portage, Kalamazoo Co., Mich.

SMALL FRUIT

-AT-

Low Prices to Patrons.

GRAPES.

No. 1 well Rooted Concord plants,\$3.00
No. 1 well Rooted Delaware plants,5.00

RASPBERRIES.

Mammoth Cluster, (Black)Per 100
Doolittle,60 cts.
Highland Hardy, (Red),75 "
Turner,75 "

STRAWBERRIES.

Wilson's Albany, Jamaica, President Wilder, Seth Boyden No. 30, and Monarch of the West.

Any of the above varieties at 50 cents per hundred, well packed and delivered at the Express Office at Benton Harbor. Or will send in small quantities, by mail, any of the above plants, to any one forwarding pay for plants, and money to pre-pay postage thereon.

Please send money in Registered Letter, or Post Office Money Order, to
WM. J. NOTT,
Benton Harbor, Berrien Co., Mich.

5-TON STOCK SCALES,
\$50.

FREIGHT PAID, AND NO MONEY ASKED TILL TESTED.

JONES, of Binghamton,

may6m

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

Paw Paw, Mich., May 18th, 1878.

JONES, of BINGHAMTON, N. Y.
My Scales give entire satisfaction. I have subjected it to the most severe tests, and find it not only correct in weighing large or small amounts, but perfectly reliable.

Yours, Fraternally,
[Signed] J. J. WOODMAN.

Choice Stock for Sale, Cheap.

H. H. Taylor, of Dowagiac, Cass Co., has for sale, at hard pan prices, a first-class Business Horse, the choice in two fine grade yearling Durham Bulls, and a fine three-year-old Mare-no Back.

Paints and Paris Green.

PRICES REDUCED FOR 1878.

PATRONS' PAINT COMPANY!

Ingersoll's Ready Mixed Paints,
Paris Green and Brushes.Best and Cheapest Paints in
the World.

Freight paid on Paint and Paris Green to all parts of the country. So it makes no difference where you live, you get goods at the same price as if you were at the Factory.

Our Book "How Every one can Paint," with 20 Brilliant Colors, Brushes, etc., illustrated, mailed free upon application to PATRONS' PAINT CO., 162 South St., N. Y.

—TRUSTEES:—

T. A. Thompson, Pres., Past Lec. Nat. Grange
Samuel E. Adams, of Minn., Master "
D. Wyatt Aiken, of S. C., Ch'm Ex. Com. "
Mortimer Whitehead, of N. J., Lec. Nat. "
O. H. Kelley, Past Secretary National Grange.
J. W. A. Wright, Master Cal. State Grange.
M. D. Davis, Master State Grange, Kentucky.

The Husbandman!

EVERY FARMER Should TAKE IT.

It is thoroughly Reliable
and Practical in Every
Department.It is Owned, Edited and Managed
by FARMERS, and is an able Ex-
ponent of the Agricultural
Interests of the Country.

THE HUSBANDMAN discusses public questions from the farmer's standpoint. It demands that the burdens of taxation should be more equitably placed on all classes of property, and that the farming interests be thereby measurably relieved.

THE HUSBANDMAN contends against unjust discrimination in freight charges, by which the present railroad management is heaping heavy burdens on the farmers of this and other States. No other farmer's paper pays as careful heed to its Market Reports, which are thoroughly reliable and accompanied with comments showing the condition of the market and tendency of prices.

In short, THE HUSBANDMAN seeks to promote in every way the greatest good of the agricultural class, and is such a paper as farmers everywhere ought to read and support. The reports of the discussions of the famous

Elmira Farmers Club

occupy about one page of the paper each week, and are alone worth more to any practical farmer than the cost of subscription.

Many of the leading farmers in different parts of the country are among its large number of correspondents.

Hon. Alonzo Sessions, the present Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, and an old and successful farmer, in a letter urging the farmers of his own county to take this paper said: "I have read THE HUSBANDMAN for more than two years, and I do not hesitate to recommend it as the BEST FARMERS PAPER that I ever read. I take and read several other papers, but I will say frankly that no paper comes to my house that is more welcome to myself and to all my family, and not one that is read with so much pleasure and profit."

As a representative of the GRANGE, THE HUSBANDMAN is highly prized by the leading members of the Order, in all sections of the country. It is not sensational, but is candid and influential.

The Husbandman is a Large Eight-Page Paper, and Only \$1.50 per year. Postage Free.

The interesting character of THE HUSBANDMAN, and low price, commend it at once to farmers everywhere, and make it an easy task to secure a club of subscribers in any Grange or community. Send for sample copies which are furnished free. Address,

HUSBANDMAN, Elmira, N. Y.

We will send THE HUSBANDMAN and THE GRANGE VISITOR for one year, for \$1.70, and in Clubs of five or more, \$1.60 each.

THE TWENTY THIRD

DESCRIPTIVE ILLUSTRATED

PRICE LIST is now ready and will be SENT FREE to any person who may ask for it. From this desirable book you can obtain the Wholesale Prices of nearly every article you require for personal or family use, such as Dry Goods, Hosiery, Notions, Clothing Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Carpets, Oilcloths, Cutlery, Silver, and Silver Plated Ware, Watches, Jewelry, Sewing Machines, Trunks, Traveling Bags, Pipes, Tobacco, Cigars, Brass, Tin-Ware, Saddles, Baby Carriages, Rocking-Horses, Velocipedes, &c.

We sell all our Goods at Wholesale Prices, in any quantities to suit the Purchasers. The only institution of the kind in America. Address,

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,

227 and 229 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

\$500. CARRY THE NEWS! \$500.

"Behold! we bring you Glad Tidings of Great Joy!"
The Deaf Hear! The Blind See, and Leap for Joy!

The undersigned having been appointed Sole Agent for

M. L. James' Great Remedy

With power to use it for the best interest of Humanity, and having also consented to continue as Agent of the Kalamazoo Co-operative Association of the P. of H., and being so PRESSED WITH ORDERS that it is impossible for him to attend to them promptly, and feeling that he cannot justly refuse the URGENT APPEALS for THE GREAT REMEDY, has consented to make the following offer to those who desire to take advantage of the same. The price of the Remedy, as all know, is 50 cents and \$1 per Bottle, BUT TO ALL SENDING ONE DOLLAR the Recipe to make the Medicine will be sent, so that anyone can make for themselves, and SAVE OUR TIME and themselves a vast amount of suffering at times, as well as many dollars in money.

The inventor has often offered \$500 for a case of Deafness, Roaring in the Head, Catarrh, Sore or Weak Eyes, Lame Back, Kidney Complaint, Rheumatism, Nervous Complaint, Piles, Dyspepsia, or Stiff Joint, THAT HE COULD NOT CURE WITH THE REMEDY.

Without stopping to enumerate hundreds of cases in various parts of the Country where success has attended the use of this GREAT REMEDY, suffice it to say, the case of Mrs. Pierson, of Allegan County, who had not stepped for six years. Mrs. Sprague, of Branch County, who was a confirmed invalid for years. Miss Cripe, daughter of Rev. Jacob Cripe, of South Bend, Ind., who was blind. The old gentleman at Niles with Palsy. The daughter of John Cochran, blind from inflammation of the eye. Avery B. Snyder, deaf for several years. Samuel R. Dolph, for several years roaring in the head. Miss Derby, daughter of Spencer Derby, of Jackson County, who was blind and had no use of her limbs. The gentleman at Hudson, Mich., who had been troubled with Rheumatism for twelve years, and for several months unable to walk—together with hosts of others warrant us in the belief that it is a SURE REMEDY in DEAFNESS, CATARRH, ASTHMA, PILES, DISEASES OF THE EYE, RHEUMATISM AND NERVOUS COMPLAINTS, DYSPEPSIA, &c.

Ladies with Nervous Complaints will find it a friend in need.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.—To sell the Great Remedy. Any good active man or woman can make money selling the Remedy. Address,

R. E. JAMES,

Bus. Agt. Kalamazoo Co-operative Ass'n, P. of H.

Lock Box 295, Kalamazoo, Mich.

P. 4.—To those who are not personally acquainted with the subscriber, Dr. James, we will only say as reference, that he has, for the past four years acted as Master Arcadia Grange No. 21, and for nearly three years as agent of the Kalamazoo Co-operative Association of the P. of H., and makes this offer for the good of those who may be in need or relief. Enclose a stamp if you wish an answer to your letters.

\$500. \$500.

German Horse and Cow Powder.

It should be the aim of every farmer to make his horses and cattle as handsome and useful as possible. Nearly every teamster who drives a team of very fine horses feeds Condition Powders, either openly or secretly.

The German Horse and Cow Powder is of the highest value for stock. It aids digestion and assimilation. It helps to develop all the powers of the animal. It improves its beauty and increases its usefulness. It makes fat and milk. By using it a horse will do more work, and a cow give more milk, and be in better condition, with less feed.

By giving poultry a heaped tablespoonful occasionally in a quart of chop, it will keep them healthy and increase the quantity of eggs. By giving hogs a large heaped tablespoonful, with the same quantity of salt, in a half peck of scalded wheat bran for every four hogs, twice a week you will prevent Hog DISEASE.

Put up in five pound packages, six packages in a box, at 12 cents a pound; or in sixty pound boxes at ten cents a pound. The receipt is posted on each package and box. Made by Dr. Oberholzer, at his mills, No. 2 Fetter Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by R. E. JAMES, Kalamazoo Co-operative Association, No. 31 North Burdick St., Kalamazoo, Mich., and by J. M. CHAMBERS, Illinois State Business Agent, Chicago, Ill., at the Lowest Wholesale Price, when ordered under the seal of the Grange.

may16-4

COLVINS'
EUREKA BEE-HIVE
and Honey Racks.

MADE ON AN ENTIRELY NEW PLAN.

A Great Advancement in BEE-CULTURE. Gives UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION where introduced.

Sample Hive—Complete, - - \$3.50.

Liberal discount on large Orders.

Address,

McCALL & WILLIAMS,

Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo Co., Mich

—McCALL & WILLIAMS:—

GENTS:—After a thorough trial of the EUREKA BEE-HIVES, both for Comb and Extracted Honey; I can positively assert, that for saving and making large colonies, and for the production of surplus Honey, it is unequalled by any Hive that I have ever seen or used.

Yours,

LYMAN THOMPSON.

I do hereby endorse the statement of Mr. Lyman Thompson.

O. H. FELLOWS