

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.

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## THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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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 15th 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.

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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.

## PREPARATION OF WOOL FOR MARKET

Read Before the Livingstone County Council, March 1st, by Louis Myer.

### Worthy Master and Patrons:

The subject assigned me is one of considerable importance to nearly every farmer, and there are many of you who have more experience and are more capable of discussing this subject than I am.

The preparation of wool for market comprises more than the mere handling of the wool after shearing, or the question of washing or not washing sheep, before shearing. In considering this subject, I shall not discuss the merits of the different breeds of sheep, for that I think depends largely on the location, but shall confine myself to the general principles of growing a sound staple and the mode of handling to place it on the market in the best condition.

The first thing to be considered is the growing of a sound and healthy staple. To accomplish this, it is necessary the sheep should be kept in as evenly thrifty condition as possible during the entire growth of the fleece. Any check in the thrifty condition of the sheep, whether caused by disease or poor feed, will show itself in the fibre of the wool. In case of disease the growth of the fibre is checked and becomes diseased according to the severity of the disease of the sheep, and oftentimes the vitality of the fibre is entirely destroyed, if the sheep recovers from the attack and the wool begins to grow again in a healthy condition, the wool will part at the diseased spot, and any growth the fleece may have attained before the attack will gradually drop off.

The same result will follow from an impoverished condition of a sheep caused by poor or insufficient food. When the sheep begins to run down in condition, the growth of the fibre will be checked and impoverished, its growth will be sickly and will only improve as the sheep begins to thrive again. This condition of the fibre is often plainly perceptible to the naked eye even, it has not that brilliancy and evenness of crinkle, firmness and strength throughout its length, and greatly detracts from its value for manufacturing. This may be carried to such an extent as to destroy the fibre the same as disease. Therefore, to obtain the most perfect fibre, we should aim to keep the sheep in the most evenly thrifty condition possible.

The next thing I shall consider is, the importance of keeping the fleece as clean as possible from any foreign substance, which detracts from its value. First I shall consider, the very general practice of turning our sheep on to our summer fallows, to assist in keeping them clean (not the sheep, but the fallows). This is a very questionable practice, as the roots of the grass and weeds are seldom disturbed and continue to grow, and we often delay cultivation until it requires more work to subdue them than it would to keep the sheep off and cultivated in time. It is my opinion that our fallows would be kept cleaner without the sheep and our sheep would certainly be cleaner without the fallows. We should also be careful to keep sheep, away from all kinds of burrs, or better still, exterminate all weeds of this character from our farms. Wool seems to have a great affinity for these, and there are some kinds of burrs which are almost impossible to get rid of in its manufacture, and of course detracts from its value.

Another very important point to look after is the feeding of sheep during the winter season. Letting sheep run to the straw stack we all know to be a

very bad practice, still there are many more farmers than there ought to be, who allow them to run to the stack all winter, no doubt more from carelessness and shiftlessness than ignorance, but care should also be taken in feeding the straw in yards on the ground, or in racks; never throw straw from the stack, where it will fall on the sheep, do not make the piles so large that sheep can burrow into them, nor use racks that will let the chaff fall on the sheep. The same caution applies to feeding hay for hay seed is just as bad and even worse than chaff to get into the wool. The practice of what we call tagging sheep before turning them out to grass in the spring has become quite general and is a necessity with our sheep at the present day, if we wash our sheep before shearing, as we have to wait until the weather and water is warm enough for this operation, which in this latitude delays shearing until about the middle or latter part of June. This practice of tagging would not be necessary if we sheared our sheep without washing and sheared them early, which I will consider more fully hereafter.

In washing sheep we should, if possible, take advantage of a shower of rain not alone for the benefit of soaking the wool before washing, which will make it wash much easier, but also in laying the dust in the roads, especially where we have to drive the sheep a considerable distance to the place of washing. This I think is of more importance than the benefit derived from having the wool soaked, for this will only expedite the operation of washing, while of what use is washing at all, if immediately after washing, when the wool is in the best possible condition to catch all the dust and dirt, we drive the sheep for miles perhaps, as very many of us have to do, over a dusty road. Under such circumstances the wool will have more dirt after washing than it had before. After washing, the sheep should run a sufficient length of time for the wool to become thoroughly dry and the natural oil of the wool to start sufficiently to cause the wool to loose that harshness which it has on drying after having been washed, but not so much as to feel soggy or heavy.

At shearing, care should be taken to keep the pens clean and dry, and every thing about the shearing floor as clean as possible. The mode of tying up the fleece by the use of the folding box now in general use, is, I think, the neatest and most convenient way, and is all right, if the box is large enough not to press the fleece too tight; the fleece should feel elastic and light to handle. There should be nothing put into the fleece but the clean fleece wool; all tags and sweat locks should be kept out, these should be washed and put up separate. Wool handled in this way would show exactly what it is and could be sold on its merits. But I am inclined to think if we should take the proper care to grow a good fleece and keep it as clean as possible, it would have many advantages and would be more profitable, if we would shear early without washing. Providing we can sell our wool on its merits and not have to submit to any arbitrary rule of shrinkage. I think early shearing, about the first of May, in this climate, would promote the growth of a heavier fleece, because wool growing faster in cold weather than in warm, it would start quicker, and would get a sufficient growth to protect the skin of the sheep in hot weather for when not sheared till late the sun will fairly scorch the skin and retard the growth of the wool. The sheep would also thrive much better, as sheep with heavy fleeces, running till warm weather are very injuriously affected by the heat while if sheared early and properly housed during cold nights and

cold storms, as they should be anyway at this season of the year, they will thrive much better. We would avoid, to say the least, the very disagreeable job of washing sheep. All tags and sweat locks should be kept out of the fleece, the same as with washed wool. I think it would be advisable to wash these, as they are generally too dirty to place on the market. I think that wool properly handled in this way would be cleaner, and would sell as well as a large share of our so-called washed wool, and I think would be more profitable to the farmer.

### Programme of Grange Meetings.

LANSING March 18.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

According to promise, I send another sheet such as we give all our members. Many are asking for copies from other Granges and adopting some of the features, especially of introducing a greater variety of exercises adapted to the young. The last meeting of Capitol Grange was the fullest of any ever attended within my knowledge. The programme was planned especially for the young.

Fraternally yours,

W. J. BEAL.

### PROGRAMMES FOR CAPITOL GRANGE.

March 29th, 7 o'clock, P. M.  
"The Back Yard," John Holbrook, Wm. Gladden.  
"A good Map and how to use it," Mrs. Kate Everett.  
"Reading," Herbert Lowell.  
"Washing Windows," Mrs. E. E. Creyts.  
"Taking notes of things," J. E. Nichols.  
April 5th, 7 o'clock, P. M.  
"Improving Pastures and Meadows," Thomas Reeve, W. Appleton.  
"Care of Calves," Henry Reeve, A. Gunnison.  
"When and how to sell butter," Mrs. S. Robbins.  
"Pantomime," A. G. Gunnison.  
Mrs. Fannie Nichols, and others.  
April 12, 7 o'clock P. M.  
"Some household conveniences and how to get them," Wm. Gladden, Mrs. M. E. Moore.  
"Care of gates, doors and windows," G. S. Williams.  
"Green and wet wood, vs. dry," Albert Barker, John Fill.  
"The Manure question," A. Wheeler, Prof. C. L. Ingersoll.  
April 19th, 7 o'clock P. M.  
"Shade trees and lawn," Thomas Reeve, Truman Ingersoll.  
"Reading, short," Miss Melissa Creyts.  
"The flower garden, to manage easily, and a short list of plants for," Mrs. Kate Everett, J. Baumgrass.  
April 26th, 7 o'clock P. M.  
"Getting land ready for corn," Wm. Robbins, O. B. Grinnell, J. Baumgrass.  
"Marking out corn ground," H. C. Everett.  
"Reading," John Holbrook.  
"Killing weeds," E. B. Nichols.  
"Work on the road," John Creyts.  
May 3d, 7 o'clock P. M.  
"Location and care of the well," John Swift.  
"Care of the cellar," B. Valentine.  
"Reading," Lena Gladden.  
"How to lay tile," Prof. R. C. Carpenter.  
"Essay on Temperance," Mrs. Celia F. Gunnison.  
May 10th, 7 o'clock P. M.  
"Labor and culture combined," Mrs. A. G. Gunnison.  
"How to treat a hired man," Samuel Buck, Mrs. E. T. Smith.  
"Marketing wool," G. N. Tower, A. N. Gillett.  
"Grapes for a family," May 17th, 7 o'clock P. M.  
"Short essays," Mrs. F. Barker, Mrs. Rebecca Grinnell.  
"Sowing seed corn," Chas Taylor.  
"Reports of visitors to farms," Henry C. Everett and Wife.  
"Evergreens for screens and ornaments," Prof. W. J. Beal.  
"Charade," Mary J. Valentine and others.



## Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

### County and Dormant Granges.

If we should ever be tempted, in any way, to criticize the work of the founders of our noble Order, it would be that they did not put the County Grange into the system in the beginning. Without, and needing this link of the chain the work of our Order has often been to great disadvantage. The Subordinate Granges needed a medium of co-operation with each other, even as the members needed the Grange as the medium of co-operation between the individuals. Such a medium linking the Subordinate Granges together was, and is, the County and District Grange.

At the meeting of our Granges we hear the inquiry: "Is any member sick and in distress?" and we know what is or ought to be done, and we know too that every want that has been supplied and every comfort that has been given has added to the strength and faith of the Grange organization given in true charity and bound all its members closer together.

What the needs of an individual member are to a Sub. Grange the needs of a dormant or weak Grange are to a County or District Grange, having jurisdiction, and the duty of the latter is precisely similar to the duty of the former.

The members of each Sub. Grange should at once heartily respond to relieve any and all distress of a brother or sister member. So the County Grange should as promptly and diligently learn the wants of any Subordinate Grange and then as cordially go to their rescue, and continue in the good work until all is done that needs to be done, calling in the aid of all the neighboring Granges.

Had the County Grange been in our system from the beginning, few if any dormant granges would have existed, but the past can not be changed, but the effects of errors past may be much modified by the efforts of the present and the plans of the future well carried out. Then as we had no County or District Granges to assist weak Granges and correct errors as they occurred and dormant Granges have resulted, let the existing County and District Granges do their whole duty and labor to revive the past and persevere until they have succeeded. Let those counties not yet in possession of this great agent, of operation, at once organize and go to work and see how soon all granges will have greater faith and do better work. The strong will become stronger in helping the weak and even the weak will develop strength by uniting their efforts. When you have selected your officers, set them to work, and then aid and encourage them in their work by your presence and words of cheer. If after persistent efforts you cannot reinstate the weak and dormant, call to your aid outside influence. Secure the assistance of the prominent public speakers and workers of the Order, but don't relinquish a good project until you have accomplished your object, no matter how long it takes. No matter how discouraging the prospect, remember that the banner of the *Pomona Degree* carries the initial word H. O. P. E.

### Value Of Organization.

In looking over legislative statistics up to the 18th of March, we find that 2,337 petitions have been received in both houses; 40,686 names appear upon them looking for a change in the liquor laws—where did they come from? Ask the Red-ribbon Clubs of our State. But for that organization only a small portion of their names would have been obtained. The petitions for a reform school for girls signed by 18,312 persons have been circulated by the Women's Temperance Union, an organization directly in the interest of the movement, aided by the Church, the Grange and other similar organizations.

The Grange has circulated petitions for a lower test of oils, and they have thus far received 8,911 names and had all names been returned in time 10,000 names would have been sent in. Also the petitions to reduce the rate of interest by the Grange have received 6,167 signatures. Those respecting schools and text books have been signed by 1,532 people. Those for admit-

ting girls to the Agricultural College, 1,572. Those asking for equal taxation by 1,490 tax-payers, while those asking for a law restricting appeals from justice courts have received 5,128 signatures. How many would the last four have had but for the Organization of farmers in the Grange? Petitions for drain laws received but 957 names and those for a chair of Electricity only 756, evidently no organization had charge of the last two. Don't think we would infer that these organizations forget the wants of the people, but have enabled the people to co-operate in these means to let their servants at Lansing know their wants, and to ask that they may be relieved.

Now do you wish any to think that all these organizations have done all they could. We presume to say that not half of the Grange have signed petitions from any source, many men saw them, others refused, yet all endorse the subject matter of all the petitions. When farmers all awake to their higher interests and do their whole duty in connection with an organization for their exclusive benefit. When all Patrons shall use the full working capacity and power of the Grange then may the voice of the agricultural interests of a mighty nation be heard and duly heeded by the powers that be, then will the humblest tiller of the soil know that even he has a voice as well as a vote to be felt in legislative halls, at the bar of justice and in the chamber even of the executive. Bro. Farmers will you work with us in making the Grange the grandest organization of the 19th century, one that is not partisan or sectarian, but would have every man learn political economy and practice the highest morality. By the Grange honesty is inculcated, education nurtured, charity is a prominent characteristic, temperance is supported and brotherly love cultivated.

Brothers and sisters, let your light so shine that all may see your devotedness to principle, earnestness of purpose and faithfulness by your works.

### Respect of Law.

"I have noticed that just in the proportion that the constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations of the Order are lived up to in accordance with obligations, prosperity is more or less secured."—*Mortimer Whitehead, W. L. of N. G.*

Such too has been our observation—have never known a willful persistent violation of law that has not met with punishment in some form at some time. The condition of weak or dormant Granges is in most cases traceable to disregard of Law in some form. How? says one. Had every officer when he or she took the obligation of office, remembered it and fulfilled that obligation to the letter and in the spirit, what would have been the result! Take your Ritual and read: "I will perform all the duties appertaining to the office, as far as in my power, until my successor is duly installed. I will support the Constitution of the National Grange, the By-Laws of this Grange, and I will inculcate a strict obedience to all laws and edicts emanating from proper authority. \* \* \* Can you officers of a dormant Grange say you have kept this obligation? Has your successor been duly installed? No. Then you are the acting master or other officer of your Grange. Yes! you are. Are you keeping your obligation? Are you supporting the constitution—the by-laws of your Grange—which required your grange to meet once a month. Had no quorum. If every officer was present at the meeting keeping the installation obligation, you would have a full quorum. Then go to each officer and point out this duty and see if you can't by "Respect of Law" alone restore your own Grange. Let each officer read again, *may even study the charge given by the installing officer and then try to keep the promise to inculcate a strict obedience to all laws and edicts emanating from proper authority.*

But you don't want to and ask how you can get rid of this obligation. We will tell you one way. Revive your Grange and get them to work and then resign and get a successor elected and *duly installed*. But the trouble is with the members, they don't come out. First get the officers and all to come out and take hold of the work and keep their obligations, setting a good example, then work with the members, read anew to them their obligations and duties, show them that they too have a

promise to keep and work to do, for they too must abide by the rules of the Order and all its rules and regulations or violate a solemn oath. Let every officer brother and sister in this State keep their obligations to the Grange and there will not be a dormant or even a weak Grange in the State in a month. All will be action, at work for the members will be doing their whole duty under earnest and sincere officers.

Think of this Bro. Patron and when you have read this, hand the paper to another delinquent to read.

### Grange Work.

AUSTERLITZ Grange, No. 64, of Kent Co., has just taken in 11 new members.

BARTON Grange, No. 31, in the same county had six in a class passed a few days since.

ALPINE Grange, No. 348, has just advanced 20 young gentlemen and ladies to the dignity of Husbandsmen and Matrons and has more applications.

HUNDREDS of new members are being added monthly to the Grange, and they are largely from the younger members of society, just the ones to build up and invigorate the Order. Let them come.

RAVENNA Grange, No. 379, of Muskegon Co., has so far completed the hall began in the winter that the Grange expect to use it on Saturday March 22. This hall is 24x50 feet and two stories high. Some new members have been added to the Grange.

TRENT Grange, No. 372, of the town of Casnovia, Muskegon Co., is building a new hall, has the timber and the lumber on the ground. It is to be 30x40 feet and two stories in height. This Grange has just passed a class of ten candidates and has 9 more taking the degrees.

THE VISITOR would pay well to take as an investment, said a Patron, for the advertisements alone. I can save \$15 on a wagon, \$10 on what grape-vines, raspberries, strawberry plants I want this spring, by the knowledge gained from the last VISITOR. But I must be a Patron to do it, so it pays to be a Patron and pays a Patron to take the VISITOR.

A MEAN man—one who will leave his daughter at home from the Grange when she wants to go so badly and is a member. A meaner man, one who will not take his wife to the Grange when a member, and the meanest man one who will not pay his wife's dues to the Grange, allowing her to get in arrears so she can't go while he keeps his own paid up and goes.

CAN a farmer not a member of the Grange take the VISITOR? Yes, and many are taking it and like it. One says: "Can't do without it." "Will join the Grange as soon as the roads become settled and my wife too. One old patron said: "Have read every VISITOR published, and would not do without it." "It improves every number."

Instead of one grand fair in this State next fall, the plans and specifications seem to be in hand for at least three. As noted in our last, the Kent County Society is asking the co-operation of all the County societies in the State for a grand fair at Grand Rapids, and when Western Michigan undertakes to get up a grand fair, it is noticed that it generally succeeds. And now Central Michigan looms up with a proposed consolidated show of unusual proportions. The executive board of the Central Michigan Agricultural Society, after a two days' session at Lansing, has decided to allow competition from the counties of Calhoun, Jackson, Genesee and Montcalm. This practically extends the limits of this society to ten counties, the other counties being Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Livingston and Shiawassee. Various committees were appointed. The question of water supply and extension of grounds were discussed, both propositions were referred to the business committee. The premium list was thoroughly revised, although but few radical changes were made. The rule requiring exhibitors to become members of the society was stricken out, leaving entries in all but the speed classes free. We may expect, therefore, a first-class fair also at the State Capital next fall.—*Mich., Homestead.*

## Communications.

The Ingham County Grange.

EDEN, Mich., March 9, 1879.

### Worthy Secretary:

The last meeting of Ingham County Grange was held at the rooms of Delhi Grange on the afternoon and evening of the 7th inst. The meetings of this Grange are becoming very interesting. It is the practice of this Grange to meet around with the different Granges in the county. The afternoon meetings are usually open to the public and are always well attended. There are usually from two to three essays read at each meeting, which are followed by quite animated and interesting discussions.

The following was the programme for this meeting:

The Importance of our Calling.—Prof. C. L. Ingersoll, Lansing.  
Are We True Patrons.—Mrs. S. A. Tooker, Lansing.

How to Educate the Farmer.—E. B. Browne, Fitchburg.

The Importance of Taking Notes.—Prof. W. J. Beal, Lansing.

The evening meetings are opened in the 4th degree, and the business pertaining to the good of the Order is transacted, after which the fifth degree is conferred on all those entitled to receive it. At the last meeting the following resolutions were unanimously passed:

*Resolved*, That the members of the Ingham County Grange become members of the Farmers' Mutual Defense Association of Ypsilanti, and that the secretary be instructed to notify the secretary of the State Grange that the order of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, upon the treasurer of this Grange for the sum of \$25 will be honored at any time when necessary to defend the Patrons of this State in a court at law against the Lee & Teal patent gate swindlers.

*Resolved*, That this Grange recommend to each Subordinate Grange in its jurisdiction to take immediate action in this matter and appropriate such sums as they can afford, to protect its members against these swindlers.

Fraternally yours,  
O. F. MILLER,  
Secretary.

### Preaching and Practice.

When I read of the excursion of the National Grange, the free ride furnished to them by the Transportation Co., how everything was done that could be done to make them comfortable and happy, even waiting till another boat could be secured when they found it necessary to change. As I read of the courtesies shown to the distinguished guests, thoughts like the following rushed through my mind: Will those guests do the square thing, will they write long newspaper articles puffing the company that gave them their free ride, as do the newspaper correspondents and political candidates, etc., are always expected to do after all such free excursions.

At the last session of our State Grange a free supper was tendered to all of the members of the Order who were in attendance. When we listened to a rehearsal of the experience of those who were with that crowd of men and women, who were so long in restless waiting for their turn to come to be served, we could not help wondering if they once thought of the principles of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, how we talk of no more dead-beats, no more free rides for representatives of corporations, or of political parties and members of the legislature.

After these things, comes an article in the last VISITOR headed, "Free passes to Members of the Legislature," which comes from the Detroit and Bay City District Council of Patrons of Husbandry.

If any of the members of the above Council who voted for the resolution referred to, attended the State Grange and partook of the free supper, we would suggest that they set the example and refuse all such offerings. Then reform all brothers and sisters who did the same.

Having done all this, it will be much easier for you to live your preaching when you reach the honored position to which some of our Order aspire.

I do not say that the resolution is not right as far as it goes, but would not our influence have greater weight if we lived our preaching. Legislation will not cure all the evils of the age. If we







## THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, APRIL 1, 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.

## PLASTER.

SCHOOLCRAFT, Mich., March 25.  
Patrons of Michigan:

The unsatisfactory condition of the plaster trade of Day & Taylor makes it necessary that we call your attention to the situation.

You all know that on account of a most wicked combination of manufacturers four years ago to compel the farmers of Michigan to pay \$1 per ton for plaster at the mills, and a discrimination against Patrons, requiring that cash should accompany a Grange order, that through the vigorous measures adopted by the Executive Committee of the State Grange the combination was broken up, and that not only Patrons, but all farmers in the State have had cheap plaster now for three years. The stand taken by us has saved very many thousand dollars to the farmers of Michigan, and this result could not have been reached without the aid and co-operation of Messrs Day & Taylor. That they have been faithful and true to their agreements with the Order, done all they possibly could to accommodate, and have always been ready to make good any claim for shortage, loss or damage by delay or otherwise, even when the claim was not always quite reasonable and just, from my knowledge of the business has seemed to me true; and that they have claims on the Order that we cannot ignore is recognized by every well-informed member in the State.

In the face of difficulties that few young men would have dared to encounter, they have developed a mine, remodeled a water mill, putting in the best machinery, built a large warehouse and made every preparation for manufacturing plaster of the very best quality at the very lowest cost. To do this required a large investment of money, and that investment has been made—made too, relying on the Patrons of Michigan to see them through, not by contributions or donations, but by ordering plaster of them in accordance with arrangements made by the Executive Committee.

The result of our effort to break the combination was to throw two of the old companies into bankruptcy, and the properties fell into the hands of the mortgagee, the Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Maine. This new interest together with another new firm, that of A. D. & F. L. Noble & Co., have undertaken with cheap plaster, to capture the whole trade. The price with them does not seem to be at all important, for plaster is being sold by them from 85 cents to \$1.50 per ton without regard to cost. The plaster sold by these firms, has been taken out of their mines since last November and without seasoning, the rock is ground green, and not well ground and really not first quality plaster. These firms have been wide-awake and pushed their goods into the market everywhere.

Day & Taylor, as we have already stated, incurred a large expense getting ready for a permanent business, and early last season they got out a large amount of rock for this season's use. It was of good quality—and

with the best facilities has been manufactured into the best land plaster that has ever been offered to the farmers of Michigan.

They had a right to expect, and did expect; orders from Patrons for as much as they sold last year. Up to this time they have not sold half as much and from present appearance are not likely to. They have now on hand over 4,000 tons that must be sold, as certain liabilities must be met. They have already delivered by teams 30 cars of plaster across to the L. S. & M. S. R. R., some two miles, at their own expense, and had charged back to them the trackage to Grand Rapids when sent over other railroads, which is equivalent to a rebate of 50 cents per ton to the customer.

They have also secured wherever possible a reduction of freight rates, and in this direction have accomplished as much or more than any of the old established firms have ever done.

We take it for granted that the Patrons of Michigan will use as much plaster this spring as ever before. And we know that Day & Taylor are offering a stock of plaster manufactured from pure rock, from which no part has been selected for stucco, the rock well seasoned and very finely ground. They have track scales and know that the amount billed is in the car in good order when it leaves the mill. They wish it understood, of all that has been delivered so far this season, not a single complaint has been made of shortage, quality, or condition and also that the \$5 charge for trackage to Grand Rapids may be charged back to them from this date.

Now Bro. Patrons we have given to you the facts of the situation. What do you intend to do about it? Will you lend yourselves to the opposition and buy poor plaster to save a few shillings, and do what you can to break down Day & Taylor? That is the question, and it is a question that demands a practical answer. Shall we lose the ground we have gained and the good record we have made in this plaster business?

We have been proud of the Patrons of Michigan for achieving so signal a victory over a powerful combination, and to loose this battle after it has been won, would be both humiliating and disgraceful. Brother Patrons, we only ask you to do your duty and in so doing, show the wise foresight that sees beyond the near horizon of the "penny wise and pound foolish."

## THE PATENT GATE.

Our correspondence relating to the patent gate claimants and the defense, indicates that the Granges intend to hold together and prove the value of organization. And it also presents some evidence that if sustained, as we have no doubt it will be, must determine in favor of the farmers the question at issue in the Courts.

When such scamps as these gate swindlers organize to plunder a community under color of law, and succeed in effecting their purpose, as they frequently do, the question naturally arises are we governed too much or too little. If governed less a few cheeky plunderers would never think of commencing such a systematic raid on the pockets of 10,000 Michigan farmers. The attempt would be followed by such prompt treatment that the beginning and end would not be far apart.

If governed more or rather better we should not spend so much money to block the wheels of justice and protect rascals of all grades as we now do. Our best legal talent is now employed, not to protect the inno-

cent, but to devise some way of escape for the guilty. Our greatest lawyers will turn a first-class scoundrel loose on the community, on any irregularity or technicality.

But we did not start out to say anything of this kind, but only this. Quite a number of Granges have sent forward their pledges, and we have presented only enough to show the temper and spirit of the Patrons.

As this is a matter which nearly every farmer in the State has an interest in, we hope the Granges will not be backward. Let each vote a small sum to be drawn upon, to meet the expense incurred in this defense which has been forced upon us. The cause is a common one, let the burden of defense be well distributed.

## ADMISSION OF GIRLS TO THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The bill before the Legislature for the admission of girls to the Agricultural College and the erection of buildings for their accommodation from any thing we have so far seen is waiting its turn in the legislative mill.

We understand that this measure has the cordial support of all the members of the State Board of Agriculture. With no special effort to enlist public attention a considerable number of petitions fairly signed have been forwarded to Lansing in behalf of this enlargement of the sphere of usefulness of this farmer's institution.

Men make laws, and in so far as they are intended to confer benefits, generally look out for themselves first. In founding and supporting public institutions, they have next looked out for the young men and boys. This probably grew out of the fact that the men of the future must come from the boys.

Those who take a broader view of mankind, or the mutual rights, or those held in common so far as the obligations of society to its members are concerned, have to fight, for and gain inch by inch, the equal rights of the sexes. The best evidence that these innovation on the ideas of past ages are right, lies in the fact that every step gained is held; if not right, one experiment would furnish the proof, and a re-action would take place. The Legislature is called upon to be just in this matter, as well as generous. It can hardly be considered an experiment, and we have gone so far in founding State Institutions that we cannot stop at this point of discrimination against the rights of girls to whatever benefits the State provides for its boys.

It is no longer necessary to argue the point whether females are susceptible of the education and cultivation of the sterner sex, and with this point conceded it is difficult to understand how a State Institution can debar one sex from its educational advantages while it demands appropriations of thousands of dollars annually for the benefit of the other.

From our stand-point we shall insist that girls have an even chance with boys for an education at the expense of the State so long as we spend money so lavishly upon our University to educate lawyers and doctors to prey upon our pockets.

The Michigan State Grange gave expression to its views on this subject at its late session in the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, That inasmuch as the Agricultural College of Michigan has proven a success in furnishing to farmers' sons a field of higher practical education which no other school has done or can do; and,

WHEREAS, Farmers' daughters need just as broad and liberal intellectual development as their sons; therefore,

Resolved, That the State Grange of Michigan respectfully and earnestly urge the Legislature which is soon to convene to make a liberal appropriation for buildings suitable for this purpose.

This demand is so obviously just, fair, and right, that there seems little room or necessity for argument.

## CONSTITUTIONAL OBJECTIONS TO APPEALS CONSIDERED.

We understand an effort is being made to defeat the Bill before the Legislature restricting the right of appeal from justice courts when the judgment rendered in such court is less than \$100, on the plea that it conflicts with Sec. 8 Art. 6 of the Constitution, which is as follows:

"The Circuit Court shall have Original jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, not excepted in this constitution and not prohibited by law; and appellate jurisdiction from all inferior courts and tribunals, and a supervisory control of the same."

Now if this Section has any purpose whatever, it is to define the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court, and it states in a straight-forward way—that The Circuit Court shall have "Original jurisdiction" except in certain cases and then goes on to say that it shall have "appellate jurisdiction from all inferior courts," which if it means anything means that its jurisdiction shall extend to, and cover all cases that come regularly to it, under the laws of the State. As first stated its "original jurisdiction" covers all cases "not prohibited by law."

Is it not inferentially correct to presume that its "appellate jurisdiction" covers all cases "not prohibited by law," also, which come before it on appeal "from all inferior courts and tribunals."

This part of the section simply invests the Circuit Court with authority to hear and decide cases appealed to it from inferior tribunals.

The first part of the section in defining jurisdiction by the use of the words "not prohibited by law" really invests the Legislature—the law-making power of the State, with the right to enlarge or curtail its "original jurisdiction" and as the Circuit Court is given this "appellate jurisdiction from Inferior Courts" in the same section it is a plain and direct conclusion that such jurisdiction must also be exercised under such laws and restrictions as the Legislature may see fit to enact.

This, from the language employed is the more easy and natural understanding of the section. The right of appeal with all the conditions, liabilities and requirements surrounding it, is determined by statute, and is a thing entirely different from the power to hear and decide cases after an appeal has been taken. Now what is left of the section we are now considering—only this, "and a supervisory control of the same." Not being a lawyer we must be excused for not quoting Blackstone or some other eminent jurist long since dead, but content ourselves with applying a little common sense to this last clause of the section. If this is what is relied on by these constitutional objectors to the bill we insist that if in any way relates to the right of appeal, it is worth just as much in favor of restricting as against it. If "supervisory control" is explained to mean that the Circuit Court shall make any rule or regulation governing the inferior courts in matters of appeal, then we can as well claim that such rules may be restrictive, as in fact a rule must be.

Now these pettifogging objectors are not going to say that this part of



the section property construed, means that the circuit court in the exercise of a "Supervisory Control" shall say what class of cases shall come before it on appeal or for what amount.

This "Supervisory control" evidently means that the circuit court may require inferior courts to conform to law in the trial of cases that come before them, and does not invest the circuit court with any authority affecting the right of appeal, one way or the other. This right of appeal with all its details is determined by legislative enactments.

If the framers of the constitution intended to make the right of appeal unlimited, they would have expressed it in unequivocal language and not left so important a matter to rest on such a feeble implication. The object for providing for appeals is to protect litigants in their rights and this unrestricted right has been greatly abused.

We think this has been made to appear so often in this paper that we shall not pursue the subject in this number.

#### ALONZO SESSIONS.

As promised, we present in this number so good a portrait of Lieut. Gov. Sessions that many Patrons in Michigan will recognize an old friend at sight.

From his long residence in, and extensive acquaintance throughout the State, many are quite familiar with his life, yet there are, of course, many more of our readers who know little or nothing of his personal history. For these, and all who admire that success which comes of persistent, honest work intelligently directed, we give a brief sketch of his life.

Alonzo Sessions was born in Marcellus, Onondaga county, N. Y. Aug. 10th, 1810. His father was a farmer on a small scale and had an old-fashioned family of twelve children. Of six sons Alonzo was the oldest. From childhood he had plenty to eat, plenty of work, and the chances for education afforded by three months attendance each year at a district school until he was seventeen years old. After this his winters were devoted to teaching, and the rest of the year to work on his father's farm.

At 21 he left home to do business for himself, his capital being his clothes, habits of industry and frugality, a good constitution, secured, as he sometimes said, because his mother had the good sense to keep the doctors away from him, not only able and willing to work, but capable of more than ordinary effort and endurance and an ambition to rise by laudable means to a condition of independence and usefulness.

For the purpose of getting some practical knowledge of business, he spent two years in a store in Genesee county, N. Y., receiving \$10 per month and board.

The first year he saved \$100 which he loaned at seven per cent per annum, commencing then and there in a small way the business of banking.

The second year he saved less of his wages, as his home outfit by this time needed replenishing, but all was saved that could be, and with that little, he started for Michigan. Landing at Detroit he traveled, on foot via Mt. Clemens, Romeo and Pontiac to Farmington, and by Indian trail from there, through the counties of Shiawassee and Clinton to Ionia.

With the inherited notion that "wood, water and stone" were indispensable to the successful farmer, he found such an abundance of each near the Grand River, in the county of Ionia, that he made a selection and started for the United States

land office at White Pigeon to purchase his future home.

On board a Frenchman's Bateau he floated down the Grand River to Grand Rapids, stopping one night with Rix Robinson, the well-known Indian trader, at the mouth of the Thorn-apple. From Grand Rapids he pursued the old route, via Gull Prairie, Kalamazoo, Prairie Ronde and Three Rivers to White Pigeon. His investment made, he went to Ohio where he spent the next two years in a store or teaching, mostly in the vicinity of Dayton. In the spring of 1835 he bought a pair of horses and started on horseback for what was to be his Michigan farm and home.

This journey of sixteen days was mainly through a dense forest and included obstacles and hardships that pioneers only fully understand.

During these four years since he left his father's house he drank neither tea, coffee or spirits of any kind—only water—and used no tobacco in any form. With a little money for the purchase of necessary tools, in June 1835 he set about the work of carving a farm and future home out of the wilderness. Those who have done that work, single handed and alone, in a new country need not be told that this to the sturdy worker seems no right royal road to fame and a competence.

Alone, in the woods, his strength energy and courage long taxed to their utmost, yielded to his first sickness, and with insufficient means to carry him through to that point where from his own farm his wants could be supplied, he came to regard the man that would loan him money to buy provision and clothing as his best friend.

From such a beginning, with such unflagging perseverance, personal application and that intelligent industry which extorts success from even untoward circumstances, Gov. Sessions through all these years has steadily advanced, step by step, until now, when he has nearly reached the three score and ten allotted to man his cultivated acres number nearly a thousand, and his flocks and herds are living evidences of that agricultural advancement in this State of which he is so justly proud, and for which he has so long and faithfully labored.

This success is not his alone, for he who transforms the wilderness into fertile fields and adorns the earth with cultivated beauty, making it tributary to man's varied wants, has



been a most important factor in all those essential elements that give character and importance to a State. To its material wealth, Alonzo Sessions has contributed his full share; to its reputation for official integrity and honesty few names can add more weight; to its population, no one can turn with more satisfaction than he, for the state of his adoption he has given four sons and three daughters, young, healthy and vigorous, free from all bad habits, able, capable and willing to labor, and all doing good honest, faithful and creditable work. These are his pride, and constitute the richest legacy the citizen can bequeath to his country.

From such men the public demands service, and from one so capable, much has been required. When his township became sufficiently settled to require organization, he became its first supervisor and has served in that capacity nearly half the time since, and has uniformly received the support for the various elective positions that he has held, of the people of his own Township and District.

He took an active part many years ago in organizing a County Agricultural Society, became its first President, and was continued from year to year until accumulating duties forced him to decline the service longer.

Soon after the State Legislature authorized the organization of Farmers' Mutual Insurance Companies, Mr. Sessions, always ready to aid in securing by organization among farmers the advantages properly belonging to them as a class, took part in establishing on a permanent basis the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Ionia County, of which he is and has been for many years the President. The success of these Farmer's Insurance Companies has always been assured when men like Mr. Sessions participated in the management, and that of Ionia County like many others, presents a satisfactory record. As in every other business association in which he took part, so in his connection with the First National Bank of Ionia, his sound judgement and executive ability has given him its Presidency,—farmer as he is, for twelve consecutive years though his associate Directors are among the best business men of Ionia.

By President Lincoln he was appointed assessor of internal revenue of the fourth district of Michigan in 1862 and served until removed by Presi-

dent Johnson. He represented his county for several terms in the legislature—is to-day in possession of the second office in the gift of the people, and as president of the Senate is maintaining a reputation long since established, of close discrimination and unbiased fairness in the discharge of official duty. With such men holding public trusts, those plunderers who infest the body politic, and rob and disgrace the State, for the time being, must betake themselves to other fields to ply their chosen vocation.

No man more heartily despises cant, pretense, shiftlessness, dishonesty or any other form of human weakness and wickedness, and in his estimate of men he may sometimes forget it is not alike easy for every man to be honest, frugal and industrious. If herein he demands sometimes, more than the largest hearted philanthropist, it cannot be said that he demands more than the well-balanced scales of justice require.

Our brief review would be quite incomplete without reference to his connection with the Grange.

His faith in the farm, and in farming, has always made him the friend of every enterprise that he believed would advance agriculture and elevate the farmer, and he saw at once that the Grange furnished additional facilities for benefiting the farmer and stimulating him to individual improvement. Bro. Sessions did not wait to see whether the Grange would become popular, but identified himself with it and has always been ready either as Master of his Grange or when on the Executive Committee of the State Grange, with words of encouragement and advice to promote the best interests of the Order.

To assume that Bro. Sessions is always right, is more than we shall undertake and we cannot better present his individuality than to quote from Bro. Armstrong, of the *Husbandman*: "Mr. Sessions may truthfully be called an obstinate man. He is vigorous in thought and clear in his conceptions of right and when he has reached a conclusion, which is done carefully, yet quickly, he has reached it to stand by it. He never thinks of making his opinions conform to political considerations, but with a consciousness of right he is ready to combat all forms of prejudice, to meet all the darts of demagogues and to defend single handed, if necessary, the truth of his convictions. Such men are seldom radically wrong. Their intuitive ability and unyielding honesty enable them to reach safe and wise conclusions."

The Patrons of Husbandry have been, and are demanding for the farmer more recognition. This is right, and such representative men as Bro. Sessions are doing much to vindicate the validity of this claim. Michigan has other farmers like him, honest, industrious and capable, and the Grange is rapidly developing more for future use.

We shall only add that with Alonzo Sessions nature dealt generously, for she endowed him with those mental qualities that have given his opinions weight among his fellows through all these years from youth to ripe manhood, and in manhood's prime through other succeeding years to that age where we find most men show the decrepitude of years. We find him, however, to-day with the same bright eye, clear head and sound judgement that gave him prominence, influence and position years ago. We believe the government of the State is in the hands of honorable, capable men, and none have a better record than farmer Sessions.



A FRIEND has sent us the following closing paragraph of the article entitled, "Illuminating Illustrated," in the Lecture's Department of the VISITOR of March 15, and attached a rather caustic rejoinder.

We think this first paragraph should not have been written, and can see that no good can arise from hits, and retorts of this sort. We recognize our responsibility for the contents of the VISITOR but we have never felt at liberty to meddle with the Departments of Officers of the State Grange and will only add that we hope this *beginning* is the end of this apparently uncalled for reflection upon the integrity of Prof. Kedzie:

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.—VISITOR, March 15, page 6.

There is a class of minds which always attribute base motives to public men. Unable themselves to walk uprightly, they can never comprehend uprightness in others and believe that a crooked path is taken from choice, as they would take it themselves. Q.

We are always willing to give space to brief Obituary Notices. But we repeat what we have had occasion to say several times before, that such notices usually have little more than local interest, and the accompanying resolutions of one notice are so nearly a copy of the next that we do not feel justified in devoting the space which the publication of *all* would require. We hope our friends will not only read this but remember what we have here said as it is not pleasant to be compelled to reject so much of this matter sent us for publication.

WE call attention to the new advertisement in this issue of the Kalamazoo Grain Drill Company. We are personally acquainted with the gentlemen comprising this company and can assure all parties interested, of their willingness and ability to make good any promise or guarantee made by them. We shall refer to the merits of this new drill tooth at some future time.

## Correspondence.

### Un-Holly Grangers.

GROVELAND, Mich., March 24, 1874  
Brother Cobb:

Not seeing my last, I propose writing again nevertheless in regard to Plaster, and I don't care who I hit. Our Grange for this last two years have ordered by me four cars of plaster each year, and it cost us about 30 or 40 cents per ton more than agents have been selling it for. A good many of our members did not like to pay more than those outside the gate. Did not look at the quality of the plaster nor their own principles. This winter, when I received my blank plaster orders and requested them to put down their names and amount required, all that I could get to do so was for about 3½ tons. Well I sent to Day & Taylor for one car and when it came we were 2½ days getting it out of the cars. You see we had hard work to get our members to come and take it at \$4.20 per ton. Outsiders selling plaster at Holly at \$3.75 to \$4.00. Now is this grange principles, is this for the good of the Grange or the farming community. I think not. I say not. Our Grange uses about 40 tons of plaster every spring. This spring we have bought of Day & Taylor 12 tons, having about 28 or 30 tons bought of outside parties. Is this right? I say no. No man is a good member of the Grange who does anything of the kind. Now I will say this, if all the Granges in the State have bought of Day & Taylor at the rate our Grange has, the farmers next spring will have to pay at the rate of \$5 to \$6 per ton at Holly, grang-

ers as well as others, and it will serve the grangers right, too. If I was a member of a Grange I would be one or get out. Work right up to the bit for the good of the Order in every thing. But that *are* is human nature and it takes all kinds of people to make a world, is an old saying, grangers not excepted. And it is so with the store connected with our Grange. Most of the members will go to the village stores and buy things that are kept at our Grange store, saying they can get things cheaper. Well they don't look at it right. The merchant at Holly knows almost all of our members and will try and get them to buy. I know how they do it—let them have goods a little cheaper and sometimes a good deal cheaper than to their regular customers all the time trying to brake down the Grange store. But look to your rights, Bro. Grangers. See that you get good weight. Maybe you don't get good weight. The Holly merchant has got to live so he aint a going to let you have his goods for less than cost if you are a good granger.

And another thing, all wrong in the Grange. I don't know whether other granges are troubled in that way or not, but ours is. First. A good many members would like to be master, and at election if they are not elected master, will stay at home and find fault with what is done at the meetings and try and do all in their power against the work of the Grange. Second. Some think they do more for the Grange than any other member and are always talking about it in the Grange and out of it. Worthy Secretary, I don't write this finding fault with the Grange, only some members of it. I wish they would do better, likewise taking the VISITOR. Our Grange or the members ought to take 25 or 30, but only take 10. Is it not the same with the VISITOR as with plaster. I don't like to be talking at every meeting about the same thing without some success. But this for one time are complaints enough.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL,  
Secretary 443.

### How to Buy a Horse.

The Rural New Yorker says: "An intended purchaser should have the horse brought out before him, and watch the animal as he stands at rest. If the owner is continually starting the horse into motion, and urging him to 'show off,' something may be suspected, because it is when the horse is in perfect rest that his weak points are divulged. If the horse be sound he will stand square on his limbs, without moving any one of them, the feet being placed flat on the ground and all his legs plumb and naturally poised. If one foot be thrown forward, and the toe pointing to the ground, and the heel raised; or if the foot be raised from the ground and the weight taken from it, disease or tenderness may be suspected."

Much has been said of the abominable practice among the Chinese of California of congregating in immense numbers, and sleeping in rooms crowded as bunks can be fitted, and which anywhere else than California would breed a pestilence. The recent "Tenement House Society" in New York, city shows that, and other cities are awakening to the importance of the evils, dangers and abominations of the tenement house system, and overcrowded quarters of other places besides the Chinese division of San Francisco. Half the population of New York live in tenement houses—overcrowded and illly provided with the conditions necessary to a half decent home life. It was asserted in a public meeting that the whole social structure is being undermined. The industrial classes are doomed to live and sleep in the vilest places, and it should be remembered that the peril of one generation becomes the inevitable destiny of the next. At the mission schools on Sunday the children of the poor are lifted an inch, and they fall back fifty feet before the next meeting.—Such facts challenge, not the sympathies only, but the earnest, active efforts of the humane, and present a home field for the practice of the "applied science" of Christianity. The growing importance of the evil must at no distance day compel a reform of the system by the great cities of the country.—Grange Bulletin.

MAKE a minute of your contract with those employed by the month. It will pay.

## Ladies' Department.

### White Lake Grange.

Worthy Brother Cobb:

My pen I now take,  
To write you concerning our Grange at White Lake.  
It numbered, I think, in the bright days of yore,  
If I am not mistaken, very nearly four score.  
Soon some of them left, you would laugh to know why,  
And anxiously looked to see the Grange die.  
But they looked in vain; the stupor passed off,  
From a comatose state the remnant came forth,  
Donned the whole armor, and worked with a will,  
And I am glad to say we are living still.  
We are stronger than ever, I think, to-day,  
And those outside the Gate know we've come to stay.  
We have talks about farming, fruit-culture and plows,  
About plaster and "powders" for horses and cows.  
We have our discussions about this thing, and that,  
Our music and essays, and pleasant chit-chat.  
We have a good recess, when time can be found  
When apples and pop-corn are freely passed around.  
With officers genial, kind-hearted and true,  
I see no near failure, dear brother, do you?  
We all love the Grange, and mean to be there  
When the weather is foul and when it is fair.  
Through the Summer's fierce heat and Winter's stern cold,  
For it keeps our own hearts from fast growing old,  
It leads us to think of that fadeless shore  
Where the pure in heart shall be parted no more.  
If a Michigan Grange a programme can give,  
Whereby we can better make progress and live,  
We want it, we'll try it, by doing our best,  
And report in future to you our success,  
I think of no more that I wish now, to say,  
And will close, if accepted, till some other day.  
S. P. A.

March 19th, 1878.

### "From Death to Life."

Friends of the Grange.

When it was suggested to me some time ago that I write for the VISITOR, I answered, "How can I find time?" and with a family of small children to cook, wash, make and mend for, the milk of four cows to manufacture into butter, the endless detail of house-work to dispose of, and all with one pair of hands—except assistance from husband after his hard day's work on the farm was done—I felt writing to be an impossibility, but I have derived so much benefit from the "Ladies Department," and it appeared to me that many of those articles came from mothers' fingers as tired and brains as busy as my own, so I resolved to do what I could to help fill the space allotted us.

Now I do not wish you to infer from what I have said that I consider housework a drudgery; on the contrary I love it, that is, a moderate amount of it, but when it comes in overdoses it is not so pleasant. I read an article a short time ago on "housework," in which the writer urges the acquirement of knowledge outside of house, and says: "Draw the line wisely between slovenliness and that devotion to neatness which regards neatness as an end, and not as a means, and you will have time enough outside of house-work."

Now there was no sympathy or help in that for me, and I felt as if a wet sheet had been flapped in my face, for after trimming off and cutting down on unnecessary work, economizing and systemizing, etc., I find still a very small margin left for amusement or improvement.

I wish that some one possessing more ability than myself would report our Grange to the VISITOR for the encouragement of other sickly Granges, for less than a year ago our Grange was, to all appearances, breathing its last, and enemies of the Order stood off witnessing its death struggles, as they supposed; but it did not die, on the contrary it rallied under the continued treatment of a few friendly members and is now in a good, healthy condition. We removed from the sick-room—school-house—into a pleasant, comfortable little hall where all feel at home. Such a good friendly feeling as now exists is

seldom found I think, in any Grange, no jealousies, no back-slidings, no "pulling and hauling" for his or her own way, but a ready yielding of particular preferences, for the good of the Order.

We have had nine additions to our membership this year, with prospects of more. At our last meeting we conferred the fourth degree, had a feast, several short speeches, and all appeared to have a good time.

We have lately introduced subjects for discussion, and expect to find it both profitable and interesting. With many wishes for the success of the VISITOR, and also of the Grange, I will close,

HELEN L. HOWARD.

Ionian Grange, No. 191,  
March 11, 1879.

### Pen Photographs Continued.

Editor Visitor:

I had thought to discontinue these sketches as the indications were that the ladies department could be filled with more interesting matter; however, I will send this, asking the editor to wait till there is room.

Passing around the hall from the chaplain we next come to the Assistant Steward and Lady Assistant, Mr. and Mrs. Mattison; the Lady Assistant is a pleasant little blonde and occupies herself mostly in working something pretty on canvass, her husband I scarcely remember; no doubt he is tall and dark and very gallant, caring more for the good looks of his wife than for his own. The Overseer, Mr. Adams, is short of stature and also of speech I judge, as I do not remember of hearing his voice in debate during the entire session. The Steward, Mr. Tooker, has pleasant eyes, shaves once a week and is noted for his fidelity. And now we will step into the anti-room and be introduced to the Gate Keeper, Mr. Woodruff; you at once pick him out for a ladies man, but there you are mistaken, not that he lacks in gallantry, but he seems occupied with more important themes; he has a light complexion, light hair, and light or build, precise in movement and faultless in dress. Mrs. Woodruff, who is also small, dresses with taste, has a business air, is not easy to form an acquaintance, and I think would have strong likes and dislikes. Last but not least, Pomona, the peerless! Mrs. Adams of Grand Rapids is a noble specimen of womanly grace; is the picture of health and happiness, her countenance indicates geniality and amiability. I have reason to believe that her shapely hand could wield the pen as well as the broom and dishcloth, for I saw her pencil move rapidly over the paper, and have been looking anxiously for her communications in the VISITOR. I hope she will not deprive us of her observations.

I would like to go back with you into the audience and introduce you to some of the delegates, but I desist, as it might be too gossipy for the matter-of-fact readers of the VISITOR; but I wish you could all have been there on Wednesday evening at the reception of the State Officers and heard the speeches. O, weren't we proud of our farmers, as they arose one after another to answer speeches made by the State Officials, and aren't we proud of the Grange that has been the means of making some of these farmers public speakers worthy to address the governor and his associates. The best description I can give of Gov. Crosswell is that manliness is stamped on every feature and nobility of character in every action. Secretary Holden I can compare in general appearance to my idea of Lord Byron, he is simply indescribable, his hands have the roundness and shapeliness of a woman's, fit hands to pen "thoughts that breath and words that burn"; but I will detain you no longer.

### Has the Grange Been of Any Benefit.

This question may seem strange to those members who have been regular in their attendance, or taken an active part in making its meetings interesting but there are persons who still doubt the necessity or expediency of the organization and to such ones we will direct a few words, hoping to convince them that it is no trivial thing "To be a Granger and with the Grangers stand."

When we first organized some of us thought we knew what an amount of good might accrue from banding ourselves together and helping each other by our counsels and experience, but I think we hardly realized the



length, breadth or depth of what was before us.

We were scattered and wrapped up in our own cares and knew little of those whom we now, through this beneficial Order, have come to know and esteem as dear friends. We have met each week, extended the cordial welcome, cemented friendships where before was only a slight acquaintance. We have exchanged thoughts, given counsel and very many of us can truly say we have received real and lasting benefit. But there is another benefit. We have massed our experience of long years of toil and experiment, and brought it out for the lasting good of the members, who have thus saved to themselves many weary waitings and uncertainties by following the advice of those who were practical agriculturists. I appeal to the young farmers, have you not learned many valuable lessons in the Grange?

Then intellectually what has it done for us? Many of us had not written a line since we left school, except an occasional letter and even that duty was getting irksome, but now we have brushed up our ideas somewhat, and are better able to express what we wish to write or say than before these efforts were called out. I often wonder if those without the gate cannot notice a change for the better in us, we certainly can see it in each other and ourselves.

You that never express your opinions on any of the subjects brought up at our meetings, don't you think more than you did before you were a Patron? It has been a benefit financially. Perhaps not in a direct lessening of the price of most of the articles we buy, but in some cases it has even done more for our pockets than the most sanguine hoped. For instance plaster! Not one Patron in a dozen ever expected the plaster ring would be so effectually broken. It has benefited us more by making us inquire and find out the cost of what we buy, and what is a fair living profit.

Farmers as a rule think more for themselves, and rings both financial and political can say with Caesar, "He thinks too much, such men are dangerous." Yes, it is dangerous to have men and women think, if you wish to make them serfs and vassals, tools of wrong and fraud; but if you would bring out the good they are capable of, if you would raise them to a higher and more noble life, let them think, and let them utter their thoughts aloud, that they take a shape and being, for he that pondereth in silence crowdeth the storehouse of his mind, and though he have heaped great riches, yet is he hindered in the using.

CHLOE.

## Correspondence.

Bro. Cobb:

While I have been resting, (not by the wayside) but in the "cozy nook by the fireside," giving my time to reading, thought and study; also giving some of those "lectures" so graphically described in "Personnel of the Grange," with what success time alone will tell, some of the time kept in home seclusion by the deep snow, at other times an invalid, occasionally helping my husband in his arduous labors for the church, and thus the winter has passed pleasantly, and I hope profitably. Bro. Woodman's visit and lecture was not only a leave offering to our Granges, but has left its impress on the minds of all who listened so intently for two hours to his clear and lucid exposition of the foundation, work and objects of the "Patrons of Husbandry."

I have been deeply interested as I learned through the VISITOR that others are at work, not only in the able contributions found in its columns, but steadily upholding and advancing the noble principles of our Order in various ways; and by active work in reviving dormant Granges and encouraging the discouraged ones. I am glad the sisters are "falling into line" and filling the ladies' department so ably. "Our modest sister" of the name covered by a "Tiny Star," in "Pen Photographs" gave me some very good advice, which is duly appreciated, part of which, (that referring to the work by the fire-side during the inclemency of winter), has been followed this winter from dire necessity—part has been heretofore neglected, waiting to find that "Cozy corner in the VISITOR" vacant. After long waiting I venture to risk my chance among the rest, and the remainder, although kindly received, we consider unnecessary as we have long since

learned that earthly laurels fade and droop and die, but the laurels we seek bloom forever on the "Evergreen Shore." There none grow weary in the labor of love, which gives joy and peace forever. There toil and sickness bring no decay and death blasts not the sweet flowers and the good shall be beautiful there. When we lay down our implements on earth, may our work be complete and may we all meet there and wear the victors "Laurels."

A. R. STEELE.

Bear Lake, March 10.

COLDWATER, March, 24.

J. T. Cobb, Esq.—Dear Sir: The Branch County Pomona Grange met on March 20th, pursuant to notice for the election of officers. The work was performed satisfactorily with the following results:

Master—George W. VanAiken.  
Overseer—William Joseph.  
Lecturer—John G. Parkhurst.  
Steward—Byron Benton.  
Ass't Steward—J. C. Pearce.  
Chaplin—J. B. Craw.  
Treasurer—Henry B. George.  
Secretary—Wallace E. Wright.  
Gate-keeper—Edward Lockwood.  
Ceres—Mrs. S. M. Treat.  
Pomona—Mrs. H. B. George.  
Flora—Mrs. R. F. Parker.  
Stewardess—Mrs. J. C. Boom.

After the election a report was prepared by the ladies which seemed to be highly appreciated by all present. This Grange now numbers 45 members and some of the best men in the county are of this number. We have a plaster-house and have already shipped 4 car loads of plaster. All are enthusiastic in the work of the Order. We are receiving applications for membership at nearly every meeting. The installation of officers will occur at Bronson on May 2d at 10 o'clock, A. M.

W. E. WRIGHT, Sec'y.

LITCHFIELD, March 10.

Dear Bro. Cobb:

At the last meeting of Hillsdale Pomona Grange, No. 10, held at the Grange Hall in Jonesville, a special committee upon the patent gate subject made the following report, which was adopted and ordered sent to you:

WORTHY MASTER.—The committee that was appointed upon the gate question and all evidence relating thereto would respectfully report that from the evidence before them they are fully satisfied that the question of defence against the claims of certain parties is no longer one of theory, but is now one of fact and creates a necessity for a bold, united and decided stand on the part of the Patrons of the State, prompted alike by personal interest and the obligations which we as an organization recognize. Your committee find upon inquiry that sufficient evidence can be provided to show that this gate has been in use over 30 years. And your committee would recommend that \$15 be set apart from the funds of this Pomona Grange for the purpose of aiding the Defense Association, subject to the order of the Secretary of the State Grange. H. D. Pessell, T. D. Benedict, A. J. Baker, H. N. Rowley, E. J. Hodges, Committee.

G. M. GARDNER,

Secretary.

DOWAGIAC, March 12.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The oil inspector reports not a single accident from Michigan test; according to Bro. Hunt the board of health report one, the newspapers have reported at least three and perhaps more, one in this county, a house burned, being the only accident from oil in the last 15 years, a barn in one of the northern counties was destroyed by a lamp explosion, and a little girl burned to death in Bay City shows the ignorance, or the wilful suppression of facts by officials and other advocates of this legalized outrage upon the rights of the people which costs us nearly half a million of dollars annually to support a grinding monopoly and a gang of useless oil inspectors. There is no evidence to show that any more accidents occur in Ohio than in this State in proportion to the population, while we are compelled to pay nearly double for the oil. The fact is nearly all the accidents are the result of carelessness. I have used all grades of oil, from crude up to the most refined, for nearly 30 years without accident, and Michigan test is no better than the average. Let the Legislature repeal the law and save to our tax-ridden people nearly half a million dollars annually. We are governed too much

and have too much legislation in the interest of officials and monopolists.

H. H. TAYLOR.

ALTON, March 9.

Worthy Secretary:

It has been some time since I have seen anything in the VISITOR from this Grange; a few words may be of interest to many of its readers.

Alton Grange, No. 634, was organized Oct. 26th, 1877, with 43 charter members and we have had several additions and corresponding losses so that the Grange still numbers forty-three members in good standing and I am happy to say is in a prosperous condition, holds its meetings every Tuesday evening when the weather will permit, and generally has a good attendance. We have a neat little hall 20x40 feet in size, nearly finished. Have some earnest workers, who are ever at their posts, ready and willing to do all they can to make our meetings profitable. We have essays, select-readings, discussions, etc. At our last meeting we had an application for membership and hope ere long to see many more within the gates. With best wishes for the success of our Order I remain,

Yours fraternally,  
GEO. H. GODFREY,  
Secretary, No. 634.

BIRMINGHAM, Mich., March 15.

Bro. Cobb:

The next regular meeting of Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, Patrons of Husbandry, will be held at Birmingham on Tuesday, April 8, commencing at 10 A. M. All fourth degree members of the Order are cordially solicited to attend. No pains will be spared to make this meeting attractive, interesting and useful.

J. JACKSON,

Secretary.

SARANAC, March 12.

The Lowell District Council will hold its next meeting at the hall of South Boston Grange April 9th, 1879. An invitation is extended to all fourth degree members.

D. H. ENGLISH,

Secretary.

DOWAGIAC, March 17th.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

A regular meeting of Cass County Pomona Grange will be held at Cassopolis on Wednesday the second day of April and I earnestly solicit all its members to be present at the meeting. Bro. Mason of Chicago and Bro. Franklin of Buchanan are expected to be present.

GAYLORD COREY,

Master.

## THE REAPER, DEATH.

WHITE.—Death has again entered our circle and struck from our roll book the name of our worthy sister Sarah B. White, a most estimable member of Summerton Grange, No. 310.

B. E. JOHNSON,

Secretary.

COOLIDGE.—At Bowens Mills, Barry Co., March 8, Miss Mehala Coolidge, a much beloved member of Yankee Grange, No. 243.

Our members most deeply sympathize with the aged parents of our departed sister.

J. H. MARTIN,

Secretary.

HAND.—Died at his residence in Oceana Co., in the 68th year of his age, Bro. H. H. Hand, a worthy member of Sylvan Grange, No. 394.

A. C. WHITE,

Secretary.

FISH.—Jan. 15th, at Covert, Van Buren Co., Mrs. Mary A. Fish, aged 37 years, a beloved mother of Bee Hive Grange, No. 158.

TOTTEN.—Died at Taymouth, Saginaw Co., on March 24, after a year of severe suffering, Bro. Henry Totten, a worthy member of Birch Run Grange, No. 584.

WHITNEY.—At the advanced age of 73 years and 6 months, Bro. Job Whitney, a venerable and beloved member of Byron Grange, No. 73 was called from the endearing associations of his family and fellow Patrons by the Divine Master of the Great Grange above.

MC.PHERSON.—Died of pneumonia, Miss Catharine McPherson, in her 75th year, a most worthy and respected sister of Eureka Grange, No. 11, Patrons of Husbandry.

SANDERS.—Sister Sarah Sanders, a youthful and worthy member of Monguagon Grange No. 622. (Time and place of death did not accompany this notice.)

CORYELL.—In the township of Allen, Hillsdale County, Mich., Feb. 14th, sister Mary A. Coryell, wife of Bro. C. B. Coryell, Past Master of Fayette Grange, No. 251, aged 48 years.

In this dispensation of Providence the Grange

has lost a cherished member and friend, the memory of whom will not soon be forgotten by those who knew her within the gate. In behalf of the Grange we extend our sympathy and condolence to Bro. Coryell and his surviving family in their hour of affliction believing that our loss is our sisters gain.

Mrs. P. C. RICHARD }  
Mrs. E. M. SMITH } Committee.  
F. M. HOLLOWAY }

## 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, looms 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.

## 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.

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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,...	50
Cushing's Manual,.....	60
Applications for Membership, per 100,...	50
Membership Cards, per 100,.....	50
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
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Address,  
J. T. COBB,  
Sec'y Mich. State Grange,  
SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

## I AM RECEIVING ORDERS FOR

### HONEY LOCUST,

From Patrons at Wholesale Prices, as follows:

One year, No. 1, very fine,.....\$4.00 per 1000  
" " No. 2, good,.....2.50 "

I wish to deal directly with the farmer. Dealers are taking orders at \$6 to \$10 per 1000. Patrons will save money by dealing directly with me. I have several thousands yet to sell.

HENRY COLLINS,  
Past Master 333, White Pigeon, Mich.  
April 1st, 1879.



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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, 1879.

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General Commission Merchant,

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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.,

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FRUITS, VEGETABLES, BUTTER, EGGS,

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GRAIN, HOGS, and CATTLE

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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

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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. J. Woodman, Paw Paw, Mich.

J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.

Herman, Schaffner &amp; Co., Bankers, Chicago, Ill.

Thomas Mars, Berrien Centre, Mich.

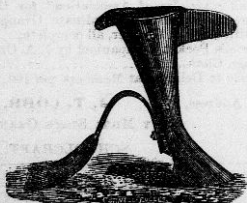
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SCATTERS THE SEED EVENLY 3/4 inches, wide under the Shoe. An Adjustable Governor Regulates the Depth, and Covers the Seed Uniformly from one to three inches, as desired. Combining all that is desirable in Broad-cast Seeding, with the advantages of Drilling.

We also manufacture a Grain Drill, using this Tooth, which is Warranted to Give Satisfaction, or no sale.

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Paints and Paris Green.

PRICES REDUCED FOR 1879.

PATRONS' PAINT COMPANY!

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Best and Cheapest Paints in  
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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.

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Samuel E. Adams, of Minn., Master "

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Mortimer Whitehead, of N. J., Lec. Nat. "

O. H. Kelley, Past Secretary National Grange.

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The Husbandman!

EVERY FARMER Should TAKE IT.

It is thoroughly Reliable  
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It is Owned, Edited and Managed  
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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."

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

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We sell all goods at wholesale prices in any quantity to suit the purchaser. The only institution of the kind in America. Address,

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SMALL FRUIT

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Low Prices to Patrons.

GRAPES.

No. 1 well Rooted Concord plants,.....\$3.00  
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RASPBERRIES.

Mammoth Cluster, (Black).....60 cts.  
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STRAWBERRIES.

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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 pay postage thereon.

Please send money in Registered Letter, or Post Office Money Order, to  
W. J. NOTT,  
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5-TON STOCK SCALES,  
\$50.

FREIGHT PAID, AND NO MONEY ASKED TILL TESTED.

JONES, of Binghamton,  
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

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

JONES, of BINGHAMTON:

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.

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 12-12. Muskegon, Mich

EXCELSIOR

Honey Racks and Case.

SAMPLES SENT FREE TO ANY ADDRESS ON APPLICATION.

Every Bee-keeper will Have Them.

They save Time and Money, and increase the sale of Honey at better prices. Can be used on nearly all Hives.

To assure Bee-keepers that this is no humbug, I will send a Case with Racks for storing 30 pounds of honey, FREE. In sending, name the size of hive you use, inside of the cap.

Bees are successfully wintered on their Summer Stands in the Colvin Excelsior Bee-Hive. Send for Circular.

Address, L. F. COX,  
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EUREKA BEE-HIVE

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MADE ON AN ENTIRELY NEW PLAN.

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

Sample Hive—Complete, - - \$3.50.

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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.

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

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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 Pether 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. may15-11

FARM FOR SALE!

Very Cheap.

Situated about 6 1-2 miles south of Ypsilanti in the township of Augusta, Washtenaw Co., containing 200 acres of land. A very pleasant and desirable location; well adapted to grain raising and dairying—a first-class cheese factory just across the street from it.

There is about 40 acres of good timber upon it; a fine orchard of choice fruit, and pretty good buildings. It is located within one-half mile of a first rate district school, a saw mill, post office, blacksmith shop and two stores.

This farm, having come into my hands by assignment, I will sell either the whole or a part of the same, at the very low price of \$6,000. Terms of payment made easy. This is a very cheap and desirable farm. Address, J. WEBSTER CHILDS, Ypsilanti, Mich.