

# 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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AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,  
Invariably in Advance.

J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.

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

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

### To Contributors.

As the VISITOR now bears date the 1st and 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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### SECRETARIES, TAKE NOTICE!

Granges whose Secretaries have failed to report for the quarter ending March 31st, 1879, will not be entitled to representation in the County Convention of October 7th, 1879.

## Exec'v Com. Department.

### Dedication of a Grange Hall in Wayne County.

YPSILANTI, Sept. 2nd, '79.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I had the pleasure of dedicating a very nice and commodious Grange Hall, August 29th, in Wayne County, erected by Willow Grange, No. 618. Such a Grange home is a credit to any Grange, and it is what every Grange needs very much.

The building is 22 feet by 50, suitably divided into ante-rooms and main hall, all nicely finished, and well painted, except wainscoting and trimming of doors, windows &c., inside which is of selected white ash, oiled—which gives the rooms a beautiful and very cheerful look.

A large company of members of the Order and others came together, and after spending an hour socially, partook of a magnificent dinner, such as our sisters in the Order know so well how to prepare.

Then came the dedication ceremonies, in which all seemed to take a deep interest, after which we made some remarks.

The hall has cost the Grange about \$600, besides a large amount of their own labor furnished, and it is almost paid for.

The brothers and sisters seem very happy in their new home, and long may they live and enjoy this fruit of their labor and zeal for the Order.

The officers are earnest and efficient, and together with the membership, are very successfully laboring to make this one of our very best working Granges. They number nearly a hundred members, and as a rule they have a full attendance at their meetings.

They have adopted the plan of having a Farm Committee to visit all of the members and report upon the system and style of the farming and the results attained. And they tell me it is working admirably, and its influence is plainly seen in cleaner farms and better crops.

Now that they have got moved into their new hall, and thoroughly imbued, as they appear to be, with the principles of our noble Order, I predict for Willow Grange an important and useful future, and may prosperity attend them.

J. WEBSTER CHILDS.

**A FARMER'S WALK.**—It may interest a good many readers to know just how far a poor farmer has to walk during the cropping season. I have gone to the trouble to find out how far a man must walk to put in and tend forty acres of corn. To plow the ground with a sixteen-inch three-horse plow, he travels 250 miles; to harrow the ground thoroughly before planting, he will have to travel 100 miles; to plant the same, he travels 50 miles; to cultivate it three times, he will have to travel 300 miles—making a total of 700 miles, besides the gathering. After this is all done, he has harvesting, etc., to do.—*Er.*

Let Patrons co-operate and secure the fine premiums offered to Grangers by the State Pomological Society, and by the Western Michigan Agricultural and Industrial Society, for the collections of offruits shown at their fairs.

The other day a professor of German asked an unregenerate Junior what the gender of a certain noun was. The Junior quickly replied: "I think it is neuter, sir. At any rate it is neuter me."

## THE ACADEMY BELL.

The rich air is sweet with the breath of September,

The sun is staining the hedges with red: Soft rests on the hill-slopes the light we remember,

The glory of days which so long ago fled, When brown-cheeked and ruddy,

Blithe-hearted and free, The summons to study

We answered with glee. Listen, oh! listen once more to the swell

Of the masterful, merry academy bell!

It sounds not in vain over mountain and valley,

That tocsin in which gathers the far-scattered clans;

From playtime and leisure fleet-footed they rally,

Brave lads and bright lasses, o'erflowing with plans;

From croquet and cricket To blackboard and map

Is but shooting a wicket; No fear of mishap.

Oh hark! how it echoes through dingle and dell,

The jocund, the earnest academy bell!

They fly, at its call, from soft mother-caresses;

The boy will not tarry; the girl cannot wait. So the round head close-clipped and the loose

flowing tresses Together flash out from the vine-trellised

gate! And the house that was holden

By revel supreme, Is wrapped in the golden

Fair piece of a dream. To sisters and mothers, how silv'ern the swell

Of the rest-bringing, easeful academy bell.

The path by the river, where willows are drooping,

Is radiant with children. The long city street,

All busy with traffic, makes room for their trooping,

And rings to the rush of their beautiful feet. For the poet and preacher,

The man of affairs, And the gentle home-teacher,

O'erburdened with cares, Alike speed a moment to wishing them well,

Who speak, when they heard the academy bell.

God bless them, our darlings! God give them full measure!

Of joy at the fountains of wisdom and truth; We tenderly view the enchantment of pleasure

Which royally lies on the days of their youth; For brown-cheeked and ruddy,

When children at home, That summons to study

Once called us to come. And voices departed we hear in the swell

Of the never-forgotten academy bell.

—Margaret E. Sangster, in *Youth's Companion*.

## Sorghum—Its Cultivation and Manufacture.

At a meeting of the St. Joseph County Grange, Brother George Schook, of Riverside Grange, who has for many years been engaged in the manufacture of syrup from cane, read an essay, giving his experience, at considerable length. That part of it which is of more special interest to farmers, is here given:

"About twenty years ago I raised my first crop of sugar cane. The juice was pressed out in a cast-iron mill with two rollers—the ends of the canes having to be mashed before they would enter.

The boiling was done in a pan made of plank, about six feet long and two feet wide, the bottom being of sheet iron. The pan was set on an arch and nearly filled with the juice; milk and eggs, lime water or soda was put in to cleanse it. The juice was boiled down to the proper thickness, which was ascertained by cooling a little of it in a saucer as rapidly as possible.

Twenty years ago we did not know what kind of soil was best adapted to its growth, what variety was best to grow,

or what machinery to use. On these points, our experience may be of use.

### SOIL.

I prefer sandy soil; new ground if to be had; never manure land for sugar cane, unless you can gain one or two other crops before using it for sugar cane. Plow deep and put the ground in good order; furrow both ways  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or 4 inches, and plant as soon as the ground is warm, say from the 10th to the 15th of May. In planting put from 8 to 12 grains in a hill, cover from one-half inch to an inch, and stamp with the hoe, as it will start sooner than if the ground is left loose. When two inches high, thin out, leaving 5 or 6 to the hill, and cultivate the same as corn.

### VARIETIES.

The common Chinese sugar cane which was first introduced in this country, makes about as good molasses as any, but has a weak stalk and generally breaks down before it is harvested. Librarian is another standard variety, has a thick stalk with short joints, and stands up well. It makes good molasses, but is too late a variety for this latitude. It was brought to this country from the west coast of Africa.

Oomseema is an Imphee from south Africa, sometimes called Otaheitan; is a good variety, the juice generally a little sweeter than the common Sorgho or Librarian. It has a tendency to grain, or go into sugar more than the two former kinds.

The Early Amber sugar cane, sometimes called Early Minnesota, is a variety of recent introduction, and is supposed to be an accidental seedling. It is claimed to be a distinct and well defined variety, and is very rich in saccharine matter. Last season I worked up two wagon loads of it, making 23 gallons of syrup, which, when tested by the saccharometer, showed eleven pounds to the gallon. That is as high as any I have had for 20 years.

The past season's crop yielded one gallon of syrup to the square rod of cane; it granulated as high as 7 lbs. of sugar to the gallon.

In harvesting this variety, it is recommended cutting it when the seed is in hard dough. Two men, taking two rows each, cut and throw the canes in the row between them, keeping the butts even with them, and the top or seed end back; let them lie 10 or 12 days, then cut the seed off between the first and second joint, when they may be hauled to the mill with the leaves on, as it does not require stripping before going through the mill. There are other good varieties, but the four I can recommend as the best.

The cane should be cut when most of the seed is in the dough—if too ripe, the juice will dry up in the stalk, and if not ripe enough, the quantity will be less.

### WORKING UP CANE.

In my experience I have had the best results when the cane has been left in field two or three weeks after being cut. It should be laid on rails to keep it from the ground, and lightly covered.

The machinery I would recommend is the Victor mill, manufactured by the Blymzer Manufacturing Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, and Cook's sugar evaporator, made by the same company.

Bro. Schook then gave a detailed description of the process of manufacture, which would not be of special interest to the general reader. He concluded his essay with the opinion that by raising the Amber cane or the Oomseema, the day would not be far distant when every farmer could raise his own sugar.

Dry buckwheat flour, if repeatedly applied, will remove entirely the worst grease spots on carpets or other woolen cloth, and it will answer as well as French chalk for grease spots on silk.



## Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW

### ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE STATE GRANGE.

At the last meeting of the State Grange the time for holding the above election was changed from the third Tuesday in October to the first Tuesday in the same month. The following is the amended By-Law:

#### ARTICLE III.—MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. The membership of the Michigan State Grange shall consist of the masters of the Subordinate Granges and their wives who are Matrons, who shall be chosen in proportion to one Master to every five Subordinate Granges, or major part thereof, in the county. These members shall be elected by ballot by a convention to be held on the first Tuesday in October of each year at the county seat of each county; *Provided*, the place of meeting was not fixed elsewhere by a vote of the last preceding annual convention; that each Subordinate Grange shall have four delegates to said County Convention, said delegates to be chosen from the Fourth Degree members of said Subordinate Grange to represent said Subordinate Grange in said County Convention. The Convention may elect alternates, or empower delegates to appoint substitutes from among the Masters of the county.

SEC. 2. Past Masters of said Subordinate Granges and their wives, who are Matrons, shall be considered as honorary members, and shall be eligible to office, but not entitled to vote.

SEC. 3. Each Delegate and Officer attending the State Grange shall receive mileage at the rate of two cents per mile for the distance traveled in going and returning by the nearest traveled route, and \$1.50 per diem for the time actually spent at the Grange. The Master and Secretary of the State Grange shall give such delegate an order for the amount on the Treasurer of the State Grange, which shall be paid at the close of the session.

The following from the Digest of the National Grange will show how the State Grange is composed:

Rule 2. "The State Grange is composed of the Masters and Past Masters of Subordinate Granges and their wives, who are Matrons."

Rule 3. "Past Masters of Subordinate Granges and their wives, who are Matrons, are *Honorary* members of the State Grange, but not entitled to vote."

Rule 4. "Past Masters may be elected as Representatives to the State Grange, and when so elected, have a right to vote therein."

As any Fourth Degree member in good standing, is eligible to any office in the Order, the words "eligible to office" in Rule 3rd must be construed to mean, eligible to serve on committees or perform other duties in the State Grange while in session.

According to the Constitution of the Order, every Master of a Subordinate Grange and his wife, if a Matron, is a member of the State Grange, and *entitled to vote therein*; and every Past Master of a Subordinate Grange and his wife, if a Matron, if in good standing, is an honorary member, entitled to all privileges except *voting*; *Provided*, that the State Grange may reduce its *voting* membership, by electing a certain number of those who "compose the State Grange" to be its "voting" or law making power.

The above By-Law of the State Grange is not in exact harmony with the Constitution. The word "voting" should have been placed before "membership" in the first line of section 1.

It will be seen, therefore, that this election of delegates to the State Grange, simply reduces the "voting membership" of that body, and does not deprive Masters of Subordinate Granges who are not elected delegates, of their membership in the State Grange. Every Master of a Subordinate Grange, is by virtue of his office a member of the State Grange, and the wife of every Master, who is a Matron, is also a member. Both are "amenable to the State Grange," and are eligible to be voting members of that body.

As the election of delegates takes

place on Tuesday, the seventh day of October, Subordinate Granges should proceed at once to elect delegates to the County Conventions; and as Granges that are more than two quarters in arrears for dues to the State Grange are not entitled to representation in the Conventions or the State Grange, it is of the utmost importance that delinquent Granges pay up back dues without delay. Every working Grange in the State should be represented in the State Grange.

The following rulings were made upon questions which arose in the last County Convention for electing Representatives to the State Grange:

1st, Each Grange which is not more than two quarters in arrear for dues to the State Grange is entitled to four delegates in the County Convention, "and no more."

2d, A Grange may elect alternates, or empower the delegates to appoint substitutes to attend the Convention, when the regular delegates are unable to attend.

3rd, One Delegate from a Grange cannot be empowered to cast the vote of the whole delegation, or more than one vote.

4th, A convention may divide the Granges into Districts of five each, but cannot empower each District to elect its own delegate. They must be elected by a vote of the whole Convention.

5th, A majority of all the Granges entitled to representation in the Convention must be represented before the Convention can proceed to elect. If a majority are not represented, the Convention should adjourn, after fixing a time and place for a future meeting, and causing notice of the same to be served on the Secretaries of all the unrepresented Granges; and the delegates assembling in the adjourned Convention, shall have power to elect.

#### COUNTY AND DISTRICT GRANGES ENTITLED TO REPRESENTATION IN THE STATE GRANGE.

At the last meeting of the National Grange the following was incorporated into the Digest:

"County and District Granges may be represented in the State Grange under such regulations as the State Grange may provide."

Acting under this authority, the State Grange passed the following resolution, which was incorporated into the by-laws:

*Resolved*, That one delegate and wife from each County and District Grange in the State, be admitted as members of the State Grange, with all the rights of delegates, but in no case shall such delegate be a charge upon the State Grange treasury."

This brings the County and District Granges into closer and more intimate relations with the State Grange, and gives to the State Grange a new and important element of strength and support which cannot fail to result in much good to the Order.

It was a most fortunate event in the history of the Order when the National Grange at its 8th annual session instituted County and District Granges. They were designed and organized for the purpose of aiding and strengthening the Subordinate Granges, and assisting them in the business and educational features of the Order. These interests are of vast importance and daily growing in magnitude, requiring the best wisdom of those to whom they are entrusted. Wherever these Granges have been organized, and have received that support from the members of the Subordinate Granges which their importance demands, they have proved a tower of strength to the Order; and as far as I have been able to learn, subordinate Granges, within the jurisdiction of a good, live, working County Grange, and connected with it, are prospering.

The following will answer the questions of a correspondent:

1st, County Granges pay no dues to the State or National Grange. The initiation fees are \$1.00 for men and 50 cents for women. Dues are 15 cents a quarter. All receipts go into the treasury of the Grange to be used in building up and strengthening the Order within its jurisdiction.

2d, For the reason stated above—that the County Grange pays no dues to the State Grange—therefore the State Grange does not pay the expenses of the delegates attending the State Grange sessions.

3d, Independent County Granges are not recognized by the laws of the Order, and consequently are not entitled to representation in the State Grange.

## Communications.

### Do Unnecessary Expenditures Exceed Necessary Ones.

The following resolution was assigned to a member of Weston Grange, as the subject of an essay, and is published by request of the Grange:

*Resolved*, That our unnecessary outgoes exceed our necessary ones."

Worthy Master, Bros. and Sisters:

I find the subject previously mentioned to be one which to be practically considered, should undergo an enumeration of all our important and useless expenditures; then, if arranged and presented in a ledger-like form, we could most readily determine whether our unnecessary expenses do exceed our necessary ones. But that would be a difficult task for me, in fact, the subject here considered might have been more thoroughly argued by many of you who are far better qualified than I, by your worldly knowledge, to enter into the pecuniary details of every-day life; but as subjects are not always assigned with reference to their fitness, I will make an effort to prove to you that we all have some unnecessary expenses.

As you do not reject criticisms on farming from those who never held the plow; nor do you refuse to follow the guide-post because it has never traveled the road to which it points,—in like manner may you deal with me.

While considering the subject, we can only fairly deal with it by referring to some of those useless outgoes, which seem to pervade all classes of society, some of which are *generally admitted* as superfluous, while others of the same class, by a long continued familiarity are considered as essentials.

Our necessary expenses are those which would be required to meet the demands of nature's wants. Were we to limit ourselves to those for a time, most truly we should have to practice a wise and rigid economy; but in doing so we should not exclude anything indispensable to comfort, health and happiness, unless the last named is based on imaginary needs.

Let us for a moment consider the meaning of the term, "economy," and whence its origin. By this term we mean not avarice, not even the "go without" system, good and necessary as that often is, but the getting of the greatest possible results from the amount of money, time or strength expended. Ruskin has briefly and clearly given the following definition: "In our use of the word economy, it means merely sparing or saving—economy of money means the saving of money; economy of time, the sparing of time, and so on. But economy no more means saving money than it means spending money. It means administration of a house, its stewardship, spending or saving, that is whether money, time or anything else, to the best possible advantage. In the simplest and clearest definition of it, economy means the wise management of labor, and it means this mainly in three senses: namely, first, applying your labor rationally; secondly, preserving its produce carefully; and lastly, distributing its produce seasonably. Economy began when men found it necessary to provide for to-morrow as for to-day. It was practiced long before money was invented. It commenced with the first stages of civilization. It is not a natural instinct, but the outgrowth of experience, example and forethought, involving no small amount of denial—the denial of present enjoyment for future good. In its broadest sense it is the issue of labor, of study, of observation, and of ever increasing intelligence."

Prodigality is much more natural to man than economy. The original savage was the greatest of spendthrifts, for he knew not the wants of to-morrow, and it was until the soil was reclaimed by man, and seeds were gathered for food, and a portion saved for the next year's crop, that the results of economy was even thought of much less practiced. Man would have continued a savage but for the results of the savings made by our forefathers, and with the beginning of these savings civilization commenced, of which we reap the useful benefits. They discovered art and science, and we succeed to the useful effects of their labors. As civilization advances, science and art are multiplying with amazing rapidity,

the comforts and luxuries of life. Science, combined with inventive genius, furnishes us means by which we can perform the greatest amount of work in the least possible time, providing machinery for nearly all kinds of manual labor, of which agriculture has had its share as well as other branches of industry.

Many which are furnished us are now really indispensable to our present needs. The question may be asked, Why are they indispensable, our forefathers have done without them? But was it not owing to the absence of our present and rigid system of competition, and the attending necessary methods of utilizing time and labor, which lessened their needs for them in their days, rather than their frugal modes of living? Would it be economy to again resort to the sickle and the flail? If not, their substitutes must contribute their share to our present needs, and cannot be considered as superfluities. Household economy is also greatly aided in time and strength by labor-saving inventions, as washing machines, wringers, pumps, furnaces, sewing machines, providing the intended use of the last named is not always perverted by a vast amount of useless tucking, ruffling, &c., "because it can be done so neatly and prettily on the machine."

In defense of the sewing-machine and against its opponents, Gail Hamilton has made the following assertion, she says: "The tyrant man invented the sewing machine, and the cunning woman lengthened her seams to meet it. When he came out with his laborlessener and time-saver, she evaded him. Instead of hemming her hems, felling her fells and finishing her garments in the twinkling of an eye, and going out in the bright sun of June and the hazy purple of October, she covers her plain skirt with flounces, she overlays her flounces with ruffles, and cries to her discomfited oppressor, 'I will not be conquered.' He invents a washing machine, but her ingenuity is stronger to baffle than his to create. Her resolutions grow deeper than cashmere or silk, and with her multitudes of invisible quillings and frillings, she contrives to neutralize all his intended benevolence. Oh! ever thus from childhood's hour has her watchword been the grammarians' old cry, 'I will be drowned! Nobody shall help me!' Farther she says, 'If the time should ever come when the irresponsible and irrepensible monarch, man, should simplify matters that all a woman need to do to provide for the material wants of a family would be to wind up a clock, she would so contrive to multiply those wants, that the wall must perforce be set three deep with clocks, and her nature would obtain the desired distraction by running from one to the others stopping one or the other, stopping this, setting that, and regulating all."

Not only is economy poorly exemplified in the fashioning of our wearing apparel, but equally so in the selection of goods, styles of trimming, and the little useless appendages of a complete suit.

Is it not true that the cost of a suit of a well-dressed woman (not extravagantly dressed) would procure the requirements of a respectably dressed one for quite a period of time, and not limit her either to a five cent print or a ten cent pair of gloves.

Again, in the daily preparation of our meals, economy is not always consulted, if so, we should have to discard the delicately prepared pies, puddings, cakes, pickles and highly seasoned dishes of all conceivable forms, which not only incurs an additional expense, but are also detrimental to health. And yet it is not economy to live poorly. Nature requires a certain amount of nourishment, and will have it or be avenged, and the revenge will in all probability take the form of a long doctor's bill, or in diminished working powers. An abundant supply of healthful and wholesome food can be furnished from a well cared for garden and orchard, with but a little outlay of money, while the cost of the delicacies and sumptuous viands with which we ornament our tables and tempt our appetites would far exceed the cost of the healthful substantial.

Also in the ornamentation of our homes is there not a great outlay of money; in building fine and ornamental structures, correspondingly furnished, embellished with its frescoed and richly tinted walls, exquisitely designed draperies, velvety carpets, immense mirrors, memories of palaces, life-sized statues, upholstered furniture,



and many other beautifully executed works of art, which lend a charm to the surroundings, but not a tittle to its utility. While a house of moderate and convenient size, neatly and substantially furnished, would contribute to the general wants of a family.

When we reflect upon the comforts which we now possess over those of our ancestors, it would seem as though we could not consider them essentials for comfort and convenience without fancying that they must have had to labor under a great many disadvantages.

They had fewer of the arts and inventions than we. Their straight-backed chairs and sanded floors were not so luxurious as our easy couches and thick carpets; but for those very chairs, all stiff and straight as they are, we are ready to pay fabulous prices to-day; and now, after repeated trials, the newly transmitted laws of health request us to discard our carpets, which gather and secrete dust, shelter miasmas, and cherish, if they do not engender, disease, and return to bare floors.

They drew their water from wells in honest buckets, with well-sweeps, and were never bewildered with the various demerits of poisonous metals; while we, with our lead and iron pipes and zinc tanks and multitudinous filters, never know what we are drinking, and after plodding through numberless scientific investigations, one feels that with all of us the question of poisoning is but a matter of time.

They never experienced that anxiety of awakening on a cold winter's morning and finding an icicle hanging from each little silver water-pipe, and the plumber ten miles away, engaged a dozen houses ahead. They knew not that keen sense of humiliation attending the occasion of wearing a suit completely out of fashion, three months from making.

We now send hot air pipes through our houses, and we shelter ourselves with double windows and storm doors, and wonder how they of old survived the winter. But a house there is near by, whose building no man remembers, which is a marvel of warmth and snugness, its walls being admirably contrived to repel the advances of old Jack Frost, and the delicate plants which are reached by him in the modern furnace-heated drawing-room, laugh to scorn the long winter nights in this low, large, wood-warmed parlor.

So it seems that in many things they might have had a far more tolerable time of it than we might suspect.

In summing up the subject, where and when do our unnecessary expenses generally occur? Mostly in indulging in shams, false appearances, personal adornments and selfish extravagances. Very few persons of ordinary economy would deliberately make large purchases which they cannot afford; and yet many, yes, very many, spend just as much in the long run in little expenditures, which they scarcely think worthy of notice. Until we make an estimate of small sums when taken collectively, we can not realize the full value of such. Let us notice what even a trifling sum will amount to in a given time: 2½ cents per day will amount to \$10.00 in one year, \$130.00 in ten years, or \$2,900 in fifty years; 5½ cents per day will amount to \$20 in one year, \$200 in ten years, \$5,800 in fifty years; but suppose a person spends ten cents a day for any useless article, (we say ten because we can more readily reckon by ten,) which may be the price of a cigar, if indulged in daily will amount to seventy cents a week, in one year to \$36, when if put out at interest at ten per cent. per annum will amount to \$222 in five years, or \$2,090 in twenty years; 10 cents a day for fifty years at ten per cent. annual interest would amount to \$42,483.

While considering the subject of necessary and unnecessary expenditures, we should omit one of the greatest extravagances of the age, were we to pass by that selfish indulgence of unrestrained appetite prompted by alcohol. We can hardly realize that "more money is spent for drink in 10 years than the entire value of all the landed and personal property in the United States. The annual cost of alcohol, as careful statistics prove, is six hundred million dollars,—enough to wash out the whole national debt in 34 years. Dr. Young, chief of Bureau of Statistics, estimates the consumption of alcohol in 1867 to be 221,200,000 and the cost \$600,000,000. He says:—These figures are sufficiently startling, and need no exaggeration. Six hundred million dollars! The minds of but few persons can compre-

hend this vast sum, which is worse than wasted each year. It would pay for 100,000,000 barrels of flour, averaging 2½ barrels to every man, woman, and child in the country. Let us again compare the amount spent for this article with the aggregate value of necessities consumed during the year 1870, taken from official records: The cost of flour and meal was \$530,000,000; of cotton goods, \$115,000,000; of boots and shoes, \$95,000,000; of clothing, \$70,000,000; of woolen goods, \$60,000,000; of newspaper and job printing, \$40,000,000. Total, \$905,000,000. While the whole amount spent for intoxicating liquors during the same year was \$1,483,491,805. Again, according to the United States internal revenue report of 1872 we find that there is spent annually over \$735,720,000 for liquors,—as much as is spent for all the food of the people, and this amount has since been enlarged from year to year. The money expended in this way is not only lost but the use of the article entails upon our people the additional evils and expenses of pauperism, wretchedness, vice, crime, and demoralization, which far exceeds the value of the money originally invested. That the habit of intemperance is the chief cause of crime is the testimony of all the judges of large experience. Dr. Elisha Harris, after a thorough inspection of nearly all the New York prisons, and in conversation with nearly every prisoner, learned that 80 per cent. came to their sad fate through the use of strong drink. Of the convicts in the prisons of fifteen States, only ten per cent. claimed to be temperate. Further, he states, that of the murders perpetrated in the United States, full fifty per cent. occur during drunken brawls.

Judge Noah Davis states, that seven-eighths of the crimes involving personal violence are traceable to liquor. Some years ago a legislative committee investigating pauperism in New York, found that out of 251,252 cases, seven-eighths were brought to pauperism through drink. The relation of intemperance to crime and pauperism is strikingly shown by the decrease of the latter whenever the former is wholly or partially suppressed.

It is stated by reliable authority, that in exceptional communities where intoxicating drinks are excluded, there is scarcely any crime or pauperism. Vineland, N. J. and Greeley, Col. are notable instances. In Potter Co. Pa. where prohibition has been the rule for ten years, there is neither jail or criminal. In the town of Resbrook, Ireland, with 4000 people and no liquor shop, there is no poor-house or police station.

"So it seems that this hard earned capital which should be spent for food and clothing for the half clad and ill-fed thousands, is devoured by the 'demon of the still,' and in consequence our jails are filled with criminals, our poor-houses with paupers, our asylums and charitable institutions with dependents, and our industrious and sober citizens are burdened with taxes that would not be needed but for this waste of money."

#### Programmes for Capital Grange, Lansing, Mich.

SEPT. 13th, 1879, 7:30 O'CLOCK P. M.—Initiations during this evening, and the three Saturdays following. "What to read, and how to read it," John Holbrook. "Reasons for Co-operation," A. S. West. Reading, Mrs. Florence Barker. Declamation, Henry Livermore.

SEPT. 20th, 7:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"Plans ahead on the farm," John Creyts, Wm. Dunham. Reading, Fred Mast, Eugene Jenne. "Relating an Anecdote," Wm. Appleton.

SEPT. 27, 7:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"The model farmer," Mrs. L. Robbins. "The model boy," Mrs. Everett. "The model neighborhood," Mrs. A. D. Gladden. Dialogue, Our young folks.

OCT. 4th, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—A paper, Mrs. Lizzie Turner. Comic song, Geo. H. Limbeck.

OCT. 11th, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.—"Education and choice of business," L. G. Hunt. "Washing machines," By all who have used them. "Work for the children; and how to interest them," Mrs. Wm. Appleton. "The needs and success of our store," C. Goodnoe. Reading, Mrs. Jane Barker.

OCT. 18th, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.—"A list of plants for a room in winter," Mrs. E. A. Tooker. Reading, Sarah Burr. "Going to mill," Henry Robbins. "Stock in the highway," Geo. Sutliff. John M. Carrol. An impromptu

speech, E. S. Thompson,—subject selected and announced by Mrs. D. Williams.

OCT. 25th, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"Care and feed of swine," A. N. Gillett, A. D. Felton. "Woman's Right to property," Mrs. A. Nichols. Declamation, M. T. Foot. Reading, Miss Marion Creyts. "The grumbler," Without previous warning the persons to speak on this topic will be selected by Mrs. E. Towar.

NOV. 1st, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.—"Breaking colts," P. G. Towar, Wm. E. West. Reading, L. H. Critehet, Ella Francis. "Amusement for Children," Mrs. C. D. Buck. Declamation or Reading, Fred Affeldt, Hiram Arnold. Essay, Mrs. Thos. Reeve. Pantomime, By our young folks.

#### St. Joseph County Picnic.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

All the Granges of St. Joseph Co., Mich., united in a picnic at Klinger's Lake, six miles east of White Pigeon. It is a grand place to have a good social time amid such charming scenery and delightful breezes. The lake is about two miles wide and five miles long, covering hundreds of acres. It is a beautiful sheet of water, and on the south side of the lake a high bluff rises from the water's level, leaving a nice beach along the shore, and the cool, breezy groves above afford a delightful place for picnicing.

Here, in these pleasant scenes of nature, the farmers of St. Joseph County gathered, to the number of about 1,500, on Wednesday, August 27th. Never before has there been such a large social reunion of the farmers of this rich County, and you may mark this down as another item of credit to the honor and usefulness of the Grange.

The morning was spent in general amusement, visiting together, talking over old times and the interests of the Grange; steamboat riding, and a match game of croquet between representative members of Centreville and White Pigeon Granges, resulting in favor of the latter.

Dinner was a prominent feature of the day, and the delicious eatables, which were spread upon the tables that were scattered through the grove no doubt had much to do in getting the people into such good humor for hearing the speeches of the afternoon. It was a genuine Granger dinner, and it was a pleasant sight to see all so happy.

Promptly at 1:50 P. M., the afternoon exercises, consisting of speeches and music, were commenced. The orator of the day was Hon. J. J. Woodman, our Worthy Master of the State Grange, who spoke for nearly two hours upon agriculture and the agricultural classes in Europe, as contrasted with agriculture and the farmers of the United States. Brother Woodman made a telling speech, and not only gave us the fruits of his observation and travels in Europe, as bearing upon this subject, in a most interesting and instructive manner; but he made strong points in behalf of the Grange, and we doubt not that hundreds went to their homes that evening with their eyes opened in regard to the necessity and the usefulness of the Grange, as they never saw these things before. We hope that it will result in large accessions to the membership of the Granges of the County, as well as in the quickening of the spirit and zeal of all Patrons and matrons present.

We also had the pleasure of the presence of Bro. J. T. Cobb, who made a short speech just before Bro. Woodman's address, and who was busy all day in social intercourse among the farmers, trying to make all happy and talk up the interest of the Grange. A good list of new subscribers for the VISITOR crowned his effort.

Rev. E. R. Williard, of White Pigeon, closed the afternoon exercises with a brief and earnest speech, urging upon the farmers of the County that they see to it that the Grange proves and accomplishes what it should, in its practical results.

The music of the day was excellent. The White Pigeon Cornet and Martial Bands were present and discoursed sweet strains to charm the ear and rouse the soul. The Misses Titus and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, as the Glee Club of the day, sang some excellent songs. They threw their souls into the work, and enlisted the applause and admiration of the large crowd.

The picnic was a decided success in every way. Long will we have pleas-

ant memories of the day. The president of the day, Hon. Wm. Hull, did nobly, and the brethren, Snyder, Parker, Runyan, Langley, Richards, Dexter and others throughout the County, have thus practically demonstrated what the earnest efforts of a few good men can do in promoting the interests of our Order. Who else will follow this example? W.

#### Zeal.

An essay read before Langsburg Grange, No. 228.

We should always be in earnest in all that we do because life is short, and also in obedience to the divine injunction, "Whatever thy hands find to do, do with thy might and strength."

Zeal insures success in many ways, although much depends on the amount exercised. It may act as a propelling power, carrying our hopes and ambitions onward over all obstacles lying in our path, to the one thought of reaching the goal at last.

Everyone who expects to reach the goal triumphantly should possess inward power enough to overcome the surrounding difficulties. Each may have different objects in life, to which they wish to attain, and yet each depends on the zealous labor effected for success. Some have spent the greater part of their lives waiting and longing for something to happen that will bring them wealth, honor and position—or waiting for some one else to do the work, and they only be the recipient of all, without any effort on their part.

If adversity attends them, they think it is because they are not the "favored child of fortune," and whatever they do, the result is usually given in that one word, "misfortune," or bad luck. We cannot account for it in that way, but because they have not force of character sufficient to carry out any pursuit. It requires vim and energy to accomplish anything, not folding of the hands and waiting for the result. Clouds often hover over our pathway, shutting out the last gleam of light,—but yet there is hope. Faint heart never won great victories. If we do not attain eminence, we can have a view to greatness, and gain for ourselves the best of all possessions, a good name.

Zeal is a good capital to start out with in life, whatever the occupation. We can not draw a plan for each individual's work—no two persons are situated exactly alike. We can only prompt them to greater earnestness in life's work. At home there is a multiplicity of ways and means for making home attractive and the inmates happy, which, if improved upon, will a thousand times pay all trouble.

If in social intercourse with others, remember society is just what we make it. If apparently listless and dead, so are the majority of its members; if alive and earnest, so are its members. A cold and indifferent member of an organization is a dead weight upon their hands, and no society is exempt from some such members. Even in our own Grange we occasionally hear some member complain of a want of interest, and express their fears as to ever accomplishing much. They acknowledge it might be made very beneficial, but they have failed to derive any good.

In the first place they never fully understood the true object of the organization, consequently do not know where to look for benefit. This, together with a neglect to post themselves concerning the workings of the Order in different places, and an irregular attendance, causes them to grow more dissatisfied, and instead of tracing the difficulty to its true source, they condemn the Order.

If such members would arouse from their lethargy, and either conclude to withdraw or become earnest working members, they would not fail to derive benefit, and become mere parasites in society; but whatever work we deem worthy our attention. Let us labor with a zeal worthy a true Patron and citizen. Let each study his own heart and see that nothing is allowed there but what is noble and elevating.

Because we can not compete with others in oratorical and intellectual powers we are not excusable from doing what we can. We do not need all leaders.

If our heart is in the work, we will be found, like good soldiers, at our post, ever watching for an opportunity of aiding the cause. E. R. B.



## THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, SEPT. 15, 1879.

## Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

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

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

Just before going to press, we learn, on good authority, that a call has been issued by the Chairman for a meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Grange.

Its first session will be held at the Morton House, in the city of Grand Rapids, on the evening of

OCTOBER 7TH.

As the Committee have not been together for some months, and will not have another meeting before the State Grange session in December, it is hoped that all persons having business with the Committee, will be prepared to present it on the 7th, or the following day.

## GENERAL NOTICE.

The following Granges are entitled to representation in the County and District Conventions, to be held Tuesday the 7th of October, 1879, by virtue of Sec. 1, Article 3, of By-Laws of Michigan State Grange, as appears by the accounts of the several Subordinate Granges of this jurisdiction on this 15th day of September.

Any Grange not included in this list whose Secretary shall report and pay dues after this 15th day of September, whose Representatives duly elected show a receipt for such dues, signed by me for the quarter, ending March 31st, 1879 on which receipt is endorsed "Entitled to Representation," should be allowed to participate in the work of the Convention.

*Allegan*—3 Rep. Nos. 37, 53, 154, 238, 247, 248, 271, 296, 338, 339, 364, 390, 407, 461, 521.

*Barry*—2 Rep. 127, 128, 145, 243, 264, 424, 425, 472, 590.

*Berrien*—3 Rep. 14, 40, 41, 43, 46, 80, 81, 84, 87, 104, 122, 223, 188, 194.

*Branch*—1 Rep. 152, 332, 400.

*Cathoon*—2 Rep. 65, 83, 85, 96, 129, 130, 143, 200, 292.

*Cass*—1 Rep. 42, 162, 167, 427.

*Clinton*—2 Rep. 202, 225, 226, 342, 343, 570, 459, 487.

*Eaton*—1 Rep. 134, 260, 301, 315.

*Genesee*—1 Rep. 118, 250, 337.

*Hillsdale*—3 Rep. 74, 78, 106, 107, 108, 133, 183, 251, 269, 273, 274, 285, 568.

*Ingham*—2 Rep. 54, 115, 235, 262, 289, 322, 347, 540.

*Ionia*—2 Rep. 163, 174, 175, 185, 187, 190, 191, 192, 272, 291, 325, 430.

*Jackson*—1 Rep. 2, 45, 155, 227, 321, 344.

*Kalamazoo*—2 Rep. 8, 11, 16, 24, 49, 61, 72, 171, 203.

*Kent*—4 Rep. 19, 31, 39, 64, 73, 110, 170, 219, 220, 221, 337, 340, 348, 350, 353, 479, 563, 524, 634.

*Lenawee*—2 Rep. 212, 213, 276, 278, 280, 293, 384, 576.

*Livingston*—1 Rep. 6, 90, 114, 336.

*Macomb*—1 Rep. 403, 414, 637.

*Manistee*—1 Rep. 556, 557, 580.

*Mecosta*—1 Rep. 362, 474, 475, 517, 530.

*Muskegon*—1 Rep. 372, 373, 316.

*Newaygo*—1 Rep. 494, 495, 511, 544, 545.

*Oceana*—1 Rep. 393, 401, 406, 497.

*Oakland*—2 Rep. 141, 259, 267, 275, 283, 323, 328, 335, 377, 395, 443.

*Ottawa*—1 Rep. 30, 112, 201, 313, 421, 458.

*St. Clair*—1 Rep. 404, 462, 463, 480, 481, 491.

*St. Joseph*—2 Rep. 76, 239, 236, 266, 291, 303, 304, 333.

*Shiawassee*—1 Rep. 180, 229, 252, 388, 606.

*Tuscola*—1 Rep. 513, 523, 526, 548, 582.

*Van Buren*—2 Rep. 26, 32, 60, 158, 159, 172, 330, 355, 610.

*Washtenaw*—2 Rep. 56, 59, 92, 329, 351, 476, 631.

For the purpose of representation as provided in said Section 1, Article 3, the following counties are formed into representative districts. And I would recommend that the several Conventions for these Representative Districts be held at the County seat of the County having the largest number of Granges entitled to representation.

First District—1 Rep.

Saginaw—Nos. 464, 572.

Bay—Nos. 597, 635.

Midland—No. 603.

Second District—1 Rep.

Grand Traverse—Nos. 379, 638.

Leelanaw—Nos. 374, 375, 380.

Benzie—Nos. 381, 503.

Third District—1 Rep.

Montcalm—Nos. 318, 337, 440, 441, 530.

Gratiot—No. 431.

Fourth District—1 Rep.

Oceana—Nos. 393, 401, 406, 497.

Mason—No. 415.

Fifth District—1 Rep.

Wayne—Nos. 331, 398, 467, 618, 636.

Manroe—No. 509.

Sixth District—1 Rep.

Mecosta—Nos. 362, 474, 475, 517.

Oscoda—No. 629.

Seventh District—1 Rep.

Manistee—556, 557, 580.

Wexford—632, 633.

## OUR SCHOOLS.

That the people of this country have an abiding faith in the value of education seems to be shown by the attention given the subject in the sparsely settled country as well as in hamlet and city.

A vast amount of territory has been appropriated for educational purposes, a vast amount of money is annually raised by taxation for the purpose of educating all the children of the land. It is our pride and boast that we not only offer to every child the opportunity to obtain an education but have a compulsory law requiring the unwilling to receive the proffered good.

There must be some purpose or object in this, that is supposed to warrant the outlay, and as we have gone on from one stage to another until the tax in one way or other has become so onerous we think it time to enquire whether we have not gone far enough in this direction, and perhaps a little too far.

We suppose the founders of our school system believed that the education of the people would tend to diminish crime and pauperism and in so much lessen the cost of their protection and government.

We understand the theory of our free school system to be based on that idea. We believe it to be sound doctrine. We do not, however, suppose that they intended the system should be enlarged to include all the branches and languages which are now found in the course of study adopted in our union schools all over the State. We see no reason why a few scholars in each school should be taught Greek, Latin, and kindred studies, at the expense of the tax payer, any more than horseshoeing or telegraphy. It certainly will not be claimed that beyond a good common school education, these other acquisitions give society additional security for the good behavior of the citizen or increased chances of self support.

We have no right to impose these heavy burdens upon the many in the interest of the few. It is alleged that our present system furnishes such splendid opportunities for the ambi-

tious poor young men and women placing them on a level with the rich. Very true, but how small a percentage of that class that have these opportunities become really good scholars. The boy who has capacity, with ambition and industry, will find ways and means to get a liberal education, as hundreds have before without the aid of this sort of public charity.

We have great faith in the value of correct spelling, good reading, good writing, such knowledge of geography as will enable the readers of our newspapers to read intelligently, and with a clear understanding of the location of places and their relative situation to other places, districts or countries.

W. S. George has well said that the true system of education in geography "would be to begin with the child's cradle, proceed to the different rooms, then to the outside of the house, the lot, the street, the ward, on to the township, the county, the state, the nation, and lastly the globe."

So of other studies. The elementary branches are not well enough understood. Our graduates are not good readers, and often murder the "king's English" in spelling, don't know that there is a base line running east and west through the State, and that townships are divided into sections regularly numbered.

With many teachers, a child's time is too valuable to be spent in learning to spell. After he has mastered mental arithmetic he should take up the higher mathematics, and as soon as possible reach algebra and—well, and something else that will never be of any sort of use to him beyond the mental training received during the time of study.

Now reading is an accomplishment as much as music, and requires years of drill and practice. With all the advantages of costly and convenient school buildings, fixtures, and expensive teachers we have no more good readers than we had forty years ago. All children in this latitude, of course know how to read, that is, to know one word from another, but it is safe to say that reading is very imperfectly taught in our schools, and that of those who graduate not one in ten can read creditably well, and how small a percentage of those who "flourish their diplomas" have an accurate knowledge of the elementary branches of an English education.

The school year has just commenced. The course of study should be carefully revised, and those in authority should insist upon thoroughness in those studies which enter into daily use with us all. Teachers are not any more likely to be practical than other people, and their pet purpose to run a school so as to have the finest show at the end of the year should not be allowed to squander the often hard earned money of the tax payer, nor waste the time of the children on studies of no practical value.

Fortunately, most people in this country have to do something for a living, and that fact should not be lost sight of by parents when children are sent to school, and when all our people find out that the learning of the schools will not, as a matter of course, produce an abundant supply of bread and butter and discriminate more wisely in this matter of educating their children, we will have more good readers and, possibly, fewer diplomats.

We need to extinguish this notion that an education means an exemption from work, in the kitchen, in the field, or work shop. It has been said with more truth than beauty of expression, that "we have already more learned fools in this country than

natural ones," men who have studied enough, and learned enough, but, unfortunately, have learned what does them no good, and failed to learn that the professions have already several thousand common men, like themselves, more than the public wants require.

In this fast age we have become extravagant in our public buildings, we have placed too high an estimate upon the value of the learning of the schools, while good, sound practical knowledge has been at a discount. These facts are beginning to attract more attention. This matter of preparing a few pupils for college every year in every village of the State at the public expense should awaken discussion, and if, on investigation, it is found that the public interest is promoted, then it should be continued. Let us think about it and talk about it.

## POLITICAL GRANGE WORK.

To see the word politics associated with that other familiar word, Grange, or Granger, is a cause of apprehension and alarm to some of our sensitive Brothers, whose ideas of the future welfare of the country are confined to the success of the political party to which they happen to belong.

We wish, therefore, to say, right at the outset to all such who have caught sight of the heading of this article that we don't mean to violate our obligation, the constitution of the National Grange, or any law of the Order, in what we may happen to say under this head.

Secretary Armstrong in enumerating the good results of the Grange movement in his own State uses this language: "As a direct outgrowth of the Grange there is in New York a powerful organization known as the 'Farmers' alliance,' whose work reaches nominating conventions, reversing the results, thwarting partisan schemes, and is rapidly tending to the emancipation of honest men from the toils of designing politicians."

It is to the work of this Farmers' Alliance that we wish to call attention to. Organized, as we remember, some three or four years ago for the purpose of resisting the encroachments of political shysters, who, for their own purposes and as the willing tools of corporations have for many years manipulated the legislation of a great State without regard to the interests of the agricultural class. This alliance of farmers with the right clearly on their side, armed with facts which were well disseminated in 1878, made the weight of their influence felt in the election of that year.

On a review of the situation, the farmers saw that their visible property bore a very unequal share of the burdens of taxation, and that they were paying more for sending their products over the railroads, a hundred miles, more or less, than was charged Chicago shippers for transporting an equal amount ten times as far.

Discussion in the Grange of the wrongs endured, served to draw the attention of the farmers to these several subjects of complaint, and resulted in this organized effort to correct the evils complained of.

This organization made itself felt in the legislature last winter, and has been active in its efforts during the summer to arouse the farmers of the State to a clear understanding of the situation. They have been shown that upon independent political action depended the recovery of those rights and influence in governmental affairs that belong to them.

The work of the Alliance secured a railroad investigating committee, with ample power to ascertain the in-



side machinery used in operating the railroads of the State and doing their vast business. That committee, unlike committees into whose hands such work has usually fallen, have an honest purpose and determination, and to this end have used Wm. H. Vanderbilt, President of the New York Central, Michigan Central, and the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern railroads, in such a way as to make him eat his own words and appear rather ridiculous for so big a man. He was altogether ignorant of the fact which the committee had ascertained that 6,000 cases of special contracts had been made within the period of eight months. He believed, over his signature, that "shippers should all be treated alike," but at the points where there was competition, the principle was quite unimportant, "he would give special rates to meet that competition, and people who had important business would be careful to see to it that they got special rates."

The Alliance has undertaken a big job, but its labors are seconded by the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, which, under the name of Cheap Transportation Company, has been laboring to secure through State and National legislation some system of uniform and equitable rates of transportation.

The work done by these organizations is beginning to give evidence that the public mind is awakened, and we expect the important questions involved will enter largely into the work of caucuses, nominating conventions, and at the polls in the State of New York this fall.

We are glad to see this. If political parties are of any use, it must be to continue good, or secure better government, and no greater duty devolves on the citizen than such independent action as will bring to the front honest, capable men for official position.

The Grange though not a political organization, and in no way affiliating with any political party, by bringing forward and discussing in the Grange Hall, in social gatherings, and through the Grange press, practical questions that can only be reached by legislation, is doing a valuable work, not only for the Patron, the farmer, but for all who labor, as well; and in this way we expect it to affect politics.

Some of our people in this State, because we did not succeed in obtaining all we asked for last winter, by our numerous signed petitions, have lost faith, and would give up the ship. Not so those who take a broader view, whose horizon extends out and beyond the work of that session. We often learn as much by failure as by success. Large bodies move slowly. We expect some progress will be made this year in New York, and that the election returns will prove it. So many earnest men acting in concert, unitedly working for a good object that involves such immense pecuniary interests, can hardly fail to make real progress.

By a mistake which could not be corrected, and get out this paper on the 13th, the last half of the State Lecturer's lively description of the series of Grange meetings, advertised for Nat. Lect. M. Whitehead, had to be left out. We can only say that while we are sorry the mistake occurred, the matter will keep well until the next number.

BRO. T. B. HARWELL, Master of the State Grange of Tenn., has favored us with so good an endorsement of the Visitor, that we take great pleasure in presenting it on another page. We think our readers will be glad to hear from him again.

## SECRETARIES!

Please report at once for quarter ending March 31st, 1879.

THE PATENT GATE LITIGATION has reached the conclusion we expected, as will be seen by the letter of the Mutual Defense Association, H. D. Platt, of Ypsilanti, which appears on another page. No more important and valuable work has been done by the Order in Michigan than has been effected by this combination of Patrons to resist a band of organized plunderers who, under the specious pretense of having legal rights, undertook, by well-planned, systematic robbery, to victimize every farmer in the State. This fight has saved to the farmers of the country hundreds of thousands of dollars, and will encourage farmers to resist other impositions whenever attempted. The world moves.

We present below a list of Granges that on account of being delinquent in their reports for the quarter, ending March, 31st, are not entitled to representation in the County Convention of October 7th. There are still three weeks before the meeting of the convention, and these should all, by complying with the law, be represented in the County Convention.

Masters should see to it that their Grange has been regularly reported to this Office, and its dues paid. A few reports may add to the representation of some Counties. We call attention to the Master's Department for instruction in relation to the Convention.

List of Granges delinquent in reports for the quarter, ending March, 31st, 1879.

3, 7, 10, 13, 18, 21, 23, 28, 55, 57, 62, 66, 67, 68, 86, 88, 102, 113, 125, 126, 136, 140, 147, 178, 189, 191, 199, 214, 217, 218, 228, 239, 245, 246, 256, 257, 263, 268, 279, 286, 297, 320, 326, 334, 345, 358, 360, 361, 367, 368, 382, 383, 399, 422, 426, 402, 409, 431, 438, 455, 465, 485, 492, 521, 553, 562, 566, 589, 602, 630.

## Who Owns the Land in England?

More than half the soil in the United Kingdom is nominally owned by some 2,000 persons. According to a valuable analysis of the very ill-arranged and incomplete parliamentary return of the land owners of the United Kingdom, published in the *Financial Reform Record* for 1878, 421 persons are the owners of 22,880,755 acres, or nearly 5,000,000 acres more than one-fourth of the total area of the United Kingdom. The mind is unable to grasp what such a monopoly costs the country, but certain features of it stand forth with a prominence sufficiently notable. In a most absolute sense, the well-being of the entire population of some 32,000,000 souls is placed in the power of a few thousands. For these thousands the multitude toils, and it may be on occasion starves. Hence it is that all through rural England we have continually before us that most saddening of all spectacles, two or three families living in great splendor, and hard by their gates the miserably poor, the abject slaves of the soil, whose sole hope in life is too often the workhouse—that famous device against revolution, paid for by the middle class—and the pauper's grave. Our land-owners have not only burdened the land with their game preserves; they have tied it up, and actively conspired to prevent its due cultivation. Instead of rising to the true necessities of the case, they cling to their game, make penal enactments about it, and struggle to augment the evil, which is to the people, as if the very existence of the country depend upon hares and rabbits. In his absolute supremacy, the land-owner overrides all justice, takes precedence of all ordinary creditors on his helpless tenants' estates, and controls the system of cultivation, often in utter disregard of private rights or private judgement, and, in addition, secures to himself the absolute reversion of every improvement which the tenant may make on the land.—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

## Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

## Our Harvest Feasts.

[CONTINUED.]

An all night ride on the D., G. H. & M. Ry., and morning found us nearing our destination. "Coopersville!" shouted the conductor, and he was right, for on the platform was our worthy brother, P. D. McNaughton to greet us, and say "breakfast is ready." At the house we found the worthy Ceres of the State Grange, who had ridden 25 miles that morning to meet us, and attend the picnic at ALLENDALE.

Breakfast over, letters written, and dispatched, and Bro. and Sister McNaughton, of Ottawa Grange, are ready to take us across Grand River. The river was soon reached, and crossed by the ferry, in company of Bro. Wilde, of Western Pomona Grange, No. 19.

As we neared the grove, we knew a busy day was before us, for teams were plenty going to the grounds, and others going to the landing on the river to meet Spring Lake Grange. As we drew in, good old Robert Milne, Chaplain of the day, met us, and pointed out the way. As we passed the orchard, barrels of apples were placed at intervals, with an invitation to take, and just in the woods was a long bench filled with fruit for visitors. The grounds were well selected in a dense but pleasant piece of beech and maple timber. Tables and seats were in place, and a good stand well decorated with green, flowers and fruits.

Bro. Rose was busy, as usual, putting everything to rights, assisted by Bros. Brown, Knowlton, and others. Dinner was served in good time, and everybody seemed happy.

The Master of the Grange, finding more pleasure or profit elsewhere, was not present, and Bro. Cooley, the Overseer, did the presiding honors of the day, with credit. Singing, prayer, singing again, speaking, etc., were the order of the day. Bro. Whitehead did himself great credit in addressing many who had heard him before upon new phases of the Order.

Tea was served for us at Bro. Cooley's, when Sister Blood entertained us with sweet music. The evening session was well attended, the hall being full—many from a distance remaining. We have seldom had the beauty of our work more forcibly impressed upon us than it was that evening by the talk of Bro. Whitehead. At a late hour we ferried Grand River, returning to Coopersville to spend the night.

Early on the 19th, we were active in preparation; a lasty breakfast, a hearty goodbye, and we were enroute for Montcalm County. Changing at Ionia, we met Bro. Sessions, Lieut. Gov. of Mich., and passing the time of day with him, and hurried to the Stanton train, we ticketed for FENWICK.

At this station, Bro. Brown took us in charge, and after a short ride, we reached the grounds near Bushnell Grange Hall, we were early; but soon the loaded teams, singly and in procession began to arrive, until the woods swarmed with people. The Palo Cornet Band added to the pleasure of the day with some of its finest selections. At the appointed time, the assembly was called to order by Bro. Divine, who acted as president of the day. Our address came before dinner, after which Bro. Whitehead added to the laurels he had already obtained in our State.

Ionia County was well represented at this meeting, while every Grange in Montcalm County had some present. Gratiot, even the extreme north, was on hand. In all, 15 Granges were represented.

Bushnell Hall, a commodious one story building, was filled to overflowing at the evening session, where, as usual, Bro. Whitehead did his best for the good of the order. At a late hour, the labors of the day were closed, and we went to Bro. Brown's to rest for the night, preparatory to the meeting at GRAND LEDGE.

At Ionia, enroute for the day's appointment, we found several members of Ionia Grange, waiting to take the train. Among them was Bro. Welch. As soon as we reached the Hall of Grand Ledge Grange, in company with Bro. Reed, we saw that we could safely

predict a crowd, and we were not long there before we realized our anticipations.

With Sunfield Band to lead, we were placed at the head of a long procession of loaded teams. After crossing the river, we had a fine view of the crowd, as they filed through the Main street of the village, and crossed the bridge.

At the beautiful grove selected, we found a large crowd awaiting us, so that when the procession had arrived, we found the largest meeting of the series, so far. Eighteen or more Granges were present, representing Ingham, Ionia, and Eaton Counties. Good vocal music, supplemented that given by the band, and Bro. H. Shipman, President of the day, was here, and there, and everywhere, guiding, directing, and superintending everything with his usual energy and zeal. There was the usual opening exercises, and speaking before dinner, after which Bro. Whitehead made one of his best efforts, in such a conclusive manner that some of the listeners from the outside squirmed a little, and have sneered through the press since; "but let them laugh who win," is our motto, and we laugh.

At 5 P. M. the open air exercise closed, and "to Union Hall" was the cry, for a secret session. The largest hall was filled to overflowing. For an hour, Bro. Whitehead talked upon the good of the Order and the higher teaching of our emblematical work. Let the wise lessons of that hour be cherished by the Patrons present, and bring forth fruit in a higher and nobler manhood and womanhood. We noticed in to-day's procession and meeting, Capitol Grange, from Lansing, in full force, with banner, and Bro. S. A. Tooker, Steward of the State Grange, and wife.

A late ride brought us to Nunico en route for Oceana County, and after an early breakfast, on the morn of the 21st we took train for SHELBY.

Changing cars at Muskegon, we met Bro. John Ruddimon, and learned that all was correct at home. At Shelby we were met by Sylon and Fraternal Granges, with band to escort us to the place of meeting, two miles distant. Bro. O. K. White "took us in" with his family, and also Friend Neapass, of the *White Hall Forum*. Ahead went the cornet band, and a four horse team followed, drawing a wagon trimmed with evergreen, in which rode a large choir of well trained singers, who alternately with the band gave music the entire distance to the place of meeting. The previous very dry weather, and rain the night before, prevented many from attending, yet we found many present from all parts of the County and from Hesperia.

After dinner we left the meeting to the tender mercies of the National Lecturer to go home and prepare for the next day's programme, and take a night for Grandville, but for all our care and plans, we failed to get the evening train, so had to remain home—the first night in two weeks. We learned from those present that Bro. Whitehead did well in our absence and under the direction of Bro. G. W. Woodward, a former member of the S. G. Ex. Com. A large meeting gathered in the evening at the hall to learn more of the higher teachings of our Order, and how to promote them.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Scientific American* says: "Let anyone who has an attack of Lockjaw take a small quantity of turpentine, warm it and pour it on the wound, no matter where the wound is, and relief will follow in less than one minute. Nothing better can be applied to a severe cut or bruise than cold turpentine; it will give certain relief almost instantly. Turpentine is also a sovereign remedy for croup. Saturate a piece of flannel with it and place the flannel on the throat and chest, and in every severe case three or four drops on a lump of sugar may be taken inwardly. Every family should have a bottle on hand."

Statistics show the annual tax his fences occasion to the farmer of New York State, to be \$1.12½ per acre, and the total average cost to each farmer in Maine to be \$100; the total annual cost of fences in the United States is estimated at \$200,186,172. In view of these facts, a cheaper and at the same time equally efficient substitute for our old fences seems to be demanded.—*Exchange.*



## Ladies' Department.

## BEAUTIFUL HANDS.

Such beautiful, beautiful hands,  
They're neither white nor small,  
And you, I know, would scarcely think  
That they were fair at all.  
I've looked on hands whose form and line  
A sculptor's dream might be,  
Yet are those aged and wrinkled hands  
Most beautiful to me.

Such beautiful, beautiful hands,  
Though heart were weary and sad,  
These patient hands keep toiling on,  
That children might be glad,  
I almost weep as looking back  
To childhood's distant day,  
I think how those hands rested not;  
When mine were at their play.

But oh! beyond this shadow-land,  
Where all is bright and fair,  
I know full well these dear old hands  
Will palms of victory bear.  
Where crystal streams, through endless time,  
Flow over golden sands,  
And where the old grow young again,  
I'll clasp my mother's hands.

—Dirigo Rural.

## Work in Minnesota.

## Worthy Master:

Your committee to whom is assigned the duty of selecting subjects for your laborers, have manifested some curiosity in desiring to learn something of the work of our noble Order in a neighboring State.

As your committee is composed in part of sisters, I can easily account for the inquisitiveness, and as the request does not seem unreasonable, and being just now of an obliging turn of mind, I will introduce you to Anoka County Grange, Minnesota.

As you enter the hall you may be somewhat shocked at the chilly appearance of the bare walls and carpetless floors, but reaction will soon ensue as you look about on the intelligent looking audience before you.

Let me now present Bro. Small, the Worthy Master. Do not think the name an index of the man, for in intellect, size and appearance, I think he has outgrown it. He seemed quite at home in the chair and presided with ease and dignity.

The devotional exercises were ably conducted by the Worthy Chaplain. He was not confined to the Ritual, but gave an eloquent expression of gratitude and love to our Heavenly Father.

The Secretary, who by the way is State Librarian, then read a good report of the last meeting, which on motion was adopted. After this there arose an interesting discussion in regard to bulking their wheat, and employing one man to sell it; such agent to be chosen by the men signing the contract. They are stimulated to do this by speculators combining with railroad men and getting control of all the elevators along the line, and intending to compel farmers to come to their terms. Some of the brothers felt that rather than suffer imposition, they ought to test the advantages of co-operation. The Secretary compared the farmer to the goose that had been plucked by every one, and sincerely hoped that their pin feathers would be plucked so as to sting them sufficiently to arouse them to a sense of duty and obligation to themselves. They were accustomed to being led and having others care for them, that they were slow to burst their fetters and assume responsibilities as men. A brother stated that in conversation with a miller he was surprised to find him so thoroughly posted in regard to the liabilities of the farmer. He was then shown a list of the names of men who had given their notes, the amount, and when due. He was informed that the produce dealers and business men understood this well, and could estimate the amount of wheat that must be sold at a given time to meet their indebtedness.

Suggestions were made and concurred in, that with united action, the farmer might meet the exigency of the case and thwart the plans of the grain ring. As it was about time to market wool they proposed to take action in regard to it. Remarks were called for. A member from the committee of last year was called out to give his opinion and experience. In the course of his remarks on the course he pursued, and his success in purchasing from some of the heavy wool growers, he stated what was new to me, yet I presume not to my Brothers. "That

buyers in order to secure the stock of some heavy wool growers or some leading man will make them a secret present of some satisfactory amount, then, as soon as it is announced that Mr. A. has sold his wool for so much, there is no difficulty in purchasing his neighbors'." That proved to me that man cannot always keep a secret, and that he has his full share of craftiness and duplicity.

Dinner being ready we took a recess for an hour. When seated at the table I looked upon the supply of tempting luxuries, and thought, surely, a Patron's feast is the same everywhere. A matron's skill goes hand in hand with the principles of our Order.

There was the usual amount of criticisms and commendation, a free exchange of thought, for we all felt at home in the work in which we were engaged. Time passed rapidly, and unexpectedly the Master's gavel called to order. It was moved that we set aside the unfinished business of the morning and listen to essays prepared for the occasion, which motion prevailed.

The Worthy Master then announced that a Sister from Michigan was present and before listening to the essays he would like to hear her give a history of Michigan Grange work. Let me assure you I felt a realizing sense of neglected opportunities, moments, yea hours wasted when I should have been learning to talk in my own Grange that I might be prepared for such an emergency. But I had no one to blame but myself, therefore, in a spirit of humility which I hope I shall not soon forget, I could do no better than confess my ignorance and inexperience and respond to the call which I felt was just, in a way that, of course, did not reflect much credit to myself. The imperfect manner in which I expressed myself, the ideas that came too late, the disjointed sentences, all rise before me, and I trust will teach me to improve the golden moments.

Sisters, let not my experience be yours, but be diligent in searching for knowledge and wisdom, then be generous and impart to others, become so accustomed to expressing your ideas, and exchanging thoughts with your fellow laborers that when called out in a neighboring Grange, you may be spared the mortification of acknowledging your ignorance, your slothfulness in gleaning so slowly.

We then listened to interesting, practical essays, from the Sisters and Brothers. The subject of the Worthy Lecturer was "Agricultural Colleges," she deplored the manifest indifference of the farmers of Minn., in sustaining that department, which to her seemed of vital importance. She complimented Mich. highly on her success, and treated her as a model in this as well as in other respects.

An allusion to the excellent qualities of my own State was unlooked for, but it was none the less gratifying, and I sincerely hope she will not retrograde, but that virtue and progress may ever be her watchwords, and that she may ever be adding new laurels to her fame.

The Lecturer I consider a true matron, she wastes no time, but is ever diligent seeking wisdom, gleaning wherever she goes, that she may impart knowledge, thereby increasing interest and united action in her different fields of labor.

Our own Grange VISITOR comes regularly to her home, and I was informed that members from four different Granges there represented were also subscribers to it. They commended it highly, and claimed that from it much useful information could be gleaned to assist them in their Grange. When I thought of the many at home that really knew nothing of it, these words came to my mind. A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country.

The Grange was appointed for two days, but some felt they could not attend, and it was proposed to close that day, and they decided to do so.

Bro. B. from Minneapolis, remonstrated. He could not understand why they did not wish to tarry longer, he enjoyed the meetings so much. They furnished food for thought, when engaged in his daily avocations oftentimes in anticipation of the good time coming, he became so animated and worked so rapidly that his work was done, and he actually became tired of waiting for the appointed time.

In conversation with his wife, I learned their own Grange was dying. In a city like Minneapolis, 'tis constantly rowing against the tide, everything against them. Still it seemed to me

that two Patrons with such honest faces, that uttered true sentiments in such an earnest convincing manner, might infuse enthusiasm into all with whom they associate, and that their Grange might flourish like a green bay tree. God forbid that they should become so humiliated as to surrender their Charter, but may they that are sleeping awake to their own interests, become inspired with new zeal, double their diligence to atone in some degree for past neglect, and be able in the future to give a good record of themselves.

As their time was limited, every moment was improved.

The disposition on the part of Legislators to ignore the rights and wants of the farmer called out a very spirited discussion. They denounced in strongest terms, the course pursued by politicians in securing legislation.

From the tenor of their remarks, I concluded their eyes were opened to the necessity of setting aside party and selecting honest farmers, with good principles and firmness of character—men who cannot be bought, but will bravely resist the influence that will be brought against them, and will insist on the farmers' rights being respected.

I was interested and gratified at the sentiments advanced, and hope that they may have strength to practice what they preach, and may every Patron in the land come to see the necessity for such independent political action as will secure by suitable legislation, the rights of the great agricultural class.

When principles are considered rather than party, when those in power regard the welfare of the people more than self, then may we look for reformation.

I believe the Grange can be made a power in this respect, and we do not do our duty when we neglect to discuss these subjects which are of such vital importance.

As we see where we have been remiss in duty, may we be the more active to improve the present for to-day is all we can call our own.

So let us waste no time in mourning over neglected opportunities, nor in planning what we will do on the morrow, but take up the work of to-day, remembering that when to-morrow comes, 'tis but to-day.

H. F. C.

## Learning.

BY LETTIE LESTER.

Editorial from the Grange Amateur.

How many times we have heard the progress one makes in learning compared to a long ladder, to ascend which we must begin, of course, at the very bottom. As we go up, step by step, what new beauties open before our eyes! The pleasure of acquiring knowledge is indeed a great one. It has been said that knowledge is power. Indeed it is a power, for good or for evil. See with what an air of triumph the fortunate one, at the top of the ladder, looks down on those who are still nearly, or quite, at the foot! And at the same time their glances are turned upward, and their faces wear a look of admiration and even awe, as they think, "Only yesterday, as it were, he was here with us and one of us, now he is quite out of our reach." And why is this? Doubtless he, by perseverance and hard labor, has stored his mind with useful knowledge, and so has won the position above the rest which he occupies. Perhaps he has had greater advantages than some; but if he had not studied and tried to learn, his advantages would have amounted to but little. Then it is really the study, the work, that benefits us, and not entirely the opportunities we have.

Those who go away to school are not always the best scholars, those who have expended the most money on their education are not always the most accomplished.

While I do not wish to discourage those who can have the advantages of a higher education than our district schools can give, I do wish to encourage those whose means will not allow of anything more. To them I would say, Attend the district school as long as you can, and then continue your studies at home.

Read useful books and newspapers, and keep yourself posted as regards things that are transpiring, both at home and abroad; and if you wish to learn something continually, from the present time to the end of your life, join the Grange.

Weston Grange, No. 276, Weston, Mich.

## Dear Sisters of the Visitor:

Shall I intrude if I call again so soon? I am so sorry I was not permitted to hear Bro. Whitehead speak, either at Bainbridge or Paw Paw, the reason was, the ague had taken possession of me days before and would not let up. However I had the pleasure of a short chat with him, and I made the most of my opportunity. He gave me a copy of the *Little Granger* and the *Cincinnati Bulletin*, and I forthwith carried them to the Grange and moved that a copy of each be ordered for the use of the Grange, motion was carried. Now we intend to keep informed on Grange movements through the best Grange paper I have seen. The *Little Granger* has only to appear among the children to insure a heavy demand; no child can fail to be pleased with it.

Bro. Whitehead speaks favorably of our little VISITOR also of the *California Visitor*. He said the Ladies' Department was an honor to them; and that makes me enquire, where so many of our former contributors are? In look-over last year's VISITOR I find many who have not put in an appearance this year, and it is not for want of room, for sometimes that department has been filled largely with scissoring. I am glad to learn "Aunt Betsey's" identity but am sorry it cost a life; however the poet says:

"Life evermore is fed by death,  
In earth, and sea, and sky;  
And, that a rose may breathe its breath,  
Something must die."

Thus in this case, Sister Dickson receives life through the death of Aunt Betsey, and now I hope her spicy talks may frequently be a part of the VISITOR. Yes, Sister Dickson you may cudge as many good Brothers over my shoulders as you please, they are a little rheumatic, but strong to bear burdens. The Brothers ought to be chastised, I think, when they go astray. And as to high-cock-a-lorums, I meant our Grangers, of course, but not in the sense you put it; for from the blessed Bible we learned that all cannot be teachers, or all ministers, and those who are higher should not despise the lower, or those lower envy the higher, but all should work together as the members of one body, the eye sees for the body, the ear hears, etc. Thus we each occupy our own niche. I do not complain because mine is so small, on the contrary I try to fill it full. The officers of our State Grange have larger niches because their larger capacity requires it. I look out from my niche upon their higher work, and feel thankful that I can in so large a measure understand and appreciate their lofty sentiments, and I assure you that I am not unselfish in this matter, for I am to appropriate all I can digest, to the growth and enlargement of my own faculties. Mrs. Sexton's article on "Charity" should define aristocracy in the Grange. Mrs. O. M. SIKES.

ROYALTON, Aug. 27, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

As I have not seen anything lately from this part of the work I thought I would write a few lines this morning.

We had a Pomona Grange meeting which I attended, on the 25th and 26th, at Fruit Grange Hall, and I expected to be very tired, but was not. I have my work done in time to write some before getting dinner.

Now I would say to the Sisters to try my plan, a new one to me. When there is to be an extra meeting near you, or one that you are expected to provide for, be it church or Grange, do not try to kill yourself by making so many different kinds of cakes and pies. If you bake only one kind it will be easier, cheaper, and I find better.

Many I would have been glad to see, were not at this meeting, but we had a very interesting, pleasant, and profitable time, at least to me.

I know many of our sisters think they have not the time, or cannot get ready to go to Grange, but I tell you your collars and cuffs will look just as well if they go in your basket, and there will be some kind sister to pin your collar on while your husband or some one else is putting the team away, and you can tie or button your shoes while on the road. I have done those things myself for years, but I never knew until yesterday that anyone else did the same. I actually knew one dear Sister who went yesterday without combing her hair, and we love her the better. She was not late, and she loves to be there.

Of all the work I have to do I consider the churn, or the care of it, the most important, or needs more attention



than any one thing; but I would leave that unwashed even if I knew it would spoil it rather than not go to Grange, or even be late, and then ask my husband as pretty as I could to make another. Until we can reach this point in Grange, church or whatever institution, we are interested in, we are not as whole-souled as we might be. I hope you will receive a full report of this very interesting meeting, from some one better able to give it than I.

M. B.

### Humor in the Family.

Good humor is rightly reckoned a most valuable aid to happy home life. An equally good and useful faculty is a sense of humor, or the capacity to have a little fun along with the humdrum cares and work of life. We all know how it brightens up things generally to have a lively, witty companion who sees the ridiculous points of things, and can turn an annoyance into an occasion for laughter. It is a great deal better to laugh over some domestic mishaps than to cry and to scold over them. Many homes and lives are dull because they are allowed to become too deeply impressed with a sense of the cares and responsibilities of life to recognize its bright, and especially its mirthful side. Into such a household, good but dull, the advent of a witty, humorous friend is like sunshine on a cloudy day. While it is always oppressive to hear persons constantly striving to say witty or funny things, it is comfortable to see what a brightener a little fun is—to make an effort to have some at home. It is well to turn off an impertinent question sometimes, and to regard it from a humorous point of view instead of becoming irritated about it. "Wife, what is the reason I can never find a clean shirt?" exclaimed a good but rather impatient husband, after rumaging through all the wrong drawers. His wife looked at him steadily for a moment, half inclined to be provoked, then with a comical look, she said: "I never guess conundrums; I give it up." Then he laughed, and they both laughed, and she went and got his shirt, and he felt ashamed of himself, and kissed her, and then she felt happy; so what might have been an occasion for hard words and unkind feelings, became just the contrary, all through the little vein of humor that cropped out to the surface. Some children have a peculiar faculty for giving a humorous turn to things when they are reproved. It does just as well oftentimes to laugh things off as to scold them off. Laughter is better than tears. Let us have a little more of it at home.—*Manufacturer and Builder.*

### A Secret Worth Knowing by House-keepers.

A sort of trade-secret among upholsters it is said, is this recipe for ridding furniture of moths: A set of furniture that seemed to be alive with the larvae, and from which hundreds of these pests had been picked and brushed, was set into a room by itself. Three gallons of benzine were purchased, at 30 cents a gallon retail. Using a small watering-pot, with a fine rose-sprinkler, the whole upholstery was saturated through and through with the benzine. Result: Every moth, larva, and egg was killed. The benzine dried out in a few hours, and its entire odor disappeared in three or four days. Not the slightest harm happened to the varnish, wood, fabric or hair-stuffing. That was a month ago, and not a sign of a moth has since appeared. The carpets were also well sprinkled all round the sides of the room, with equally good effect. For furs, flannels, indeed all woolen articles containing moths, benzine is most valuable. Put them in a box, sprinkle them with benzine, close the box tightly, and in a day or two the pests will be exterminated, and the benzine will all evaporate on opening the box. In using benzine, great care should be taken that no fire is near by, as the stuff, in fluid or vapor form, is very inflammable.—*Indiana Farmer.*

While we have little doubt that the benzine will kill the moth, yet we would emphasize the latter point of care concerning fire. A room in which such a quantity of benzine was evaporating, would be about as safe a place to bring a lamp or candle, as a powder magazine. The vapor of benzine mixed with air produces a most terribly explosive mixture, and the can containing it should never be allowed to come into a room containing a fire.

"LIVE PATRON."

### Teaching Children to Pick Things Up.

We know a man who is quite particular about keeping every thing in its proper place. We heard him say that he acquired this habit through the training of his mother. When a boy, even as far back as he could remember, his mother always made him pick up and put away his playthings after he had got through with them. He was often allowed to get out all the materials he wanted for a good time. In bad weather the kitchen was often at the disposal of himself and brother, but they always understood that everything was to be cleared up at the close of the play. No doubt there is a difference in children, for we have known boys of the same family, of nearly the same age, brought up in all respects as nearly alike as possible, yet one of them was always careless, and became a careless, easy man, while the other was extremely particular in all the details of his dress, sports, and work. Still, granting this difference, which many would call a natural difference, we believe a persistent training in early childhood would make an orderly man of the most careless child.—*Kansas Farmer.*

### Correspondence.

ASPIN HILL, Tenn. Aug. 28, 1879.

Worthy Secretary Cobb:

Your last number of Aug. 15, has proved so welcome a "Visitor," that I am constrained to make my acknowledgments, though it usually commends itself so well that it needs no word of encouragement from me. There is no icy chill in its breath, though it comes from the far North; but a warm, fraternal spirit that proclaims our relationship throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Several topics, of great interest to the farmers, are forcibly presented in its columns, which proves that it is alive to the demands of the hour. The article on Public Buildings and Education is a very timely one, and presents further evidence of the growing demands for a more practical education for the masses—not such an education as confines itself to the faculties of the mind, and tends to elevate the pupil above the ordinary industries,—but which will elevate, dignify, and give respectability to honest labor; an education that prepares the recipient for the active duties of life, that fits him to be useful as well as ornamental, that imparts cunning to the fingers as well as intelligence to the mind.

In another article, the attention of farmers is called to the subject of legislation, and should they be awakened to the importance of giving more attention to this subject by coming letters, a good work will have been accomplished. I think from the manner in which Lt. Gov. Sessions introduces the subject, his letters will prove immensely valuable and instructive, and should receive a careful consideration from those to whom they are addressed.

A sound, practical education, which is made possible to the farmers through our public schools and the Granges, must underlie all real progress, and will lead to the adoption of improved industrial methods, a more careful investigation of governmental methods, and a juster estimate of such legislation as is needed to foster our industries and prosper us.

It is a hopeful sign of the times that these subjects are receiving so much attention from our leading papers, for they must soon awaken the people to the importance of clearly defined and intelligent views of the true needs of education and legislation.

Our educators are already rapidly elevating the art of teaching into a distinct and noble profession, while our legislators, through the better education of our farmers "in a knowledge of public affairs and the methods of self-government," must become our public servants in fact, as well as in theory.

There are other subjects in the same number of deep interest to the people and to our Order that I should like to notice, if I were not afraid of trespassing. Altogether, the last number of the Visitor is unusually newsy and instructive, and proves it to be clearly abreast with that spirit of progress which demands a better education for the masses, not only in the principles which underlie the ordinary industries, but in the knowledge of those leading questions of public policy which so in-

timately affect their interests, and the general prosperity.

T. B. HARWELL.

MONTEREY GRANGE, No. 247.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I want a little space to report how our Grange is getting along. We have one of the most prosperous Granges in the county. At our last meeting we discussed the question how to sow wheat, when, the amount per acre, etc., also how to eradicate Canada thistles. We had a lively discussion. The only drawback to the good times we have, is the diffidence of the sisters. They sit like a bump on a log, and say nothing. Perhaps if they would talk more in the Grange, and less at home, their husbands would like it better.

In order to make the Grange most successful, every member should say or do something—both brothers and sisters, and work with a zeal for the good of the Order. There can be no drones in the Grange where all the members want to do their duty. We have a membership of over 130, and still they come.

Fraternally yours,  
GRANGER.

ORION, Sept. 3d, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Enclosed you will find \$8.33, the amount of our second quarter's dues and initiation fees.

Last Saturday was the time of our regular meeting, but we did not meet at our hall, for all the brothers and sisters were, by invitation, at the house of Bro. C. K. Carpenter, where we had a good, social time. How many were there I do not know, but over a hundred took supper. The tables were set in the well shaded front yard—a beautiful lawn furnishing a splendid place for this large social gathering.

In the spring of 1876, Bro. and Sister Carpenter had a similar meeting of their Grange friends, and at that time each brother set a tree where to-day appears a beautiful grove, which in the lapse of years will become still more attractive, until old age, which overtakes all the labors of man, shall bring that decay, fatal alike to beauty and to life.

We have faith to believe that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, now so well established, so useful, and so necessary to the farmers of America, will be in the youth of its existence when these trees shall reach a ripe, old age.

The Grange is rapidly educating the farmers so that he can defend his own rights, and that sort of education is quite as valuable as any other.

The farmer who has transferred the forest to field, the marsh to meadow, an opening to an orchard, tickled the soil till it laughs forth a harvest, and surrounded a home with beauty, has done well, but not all that duty requires. He should not forget that the rights of his class need protection, and that in organization alone can those rights be vindicated.

Brother farmers, in a thousand ways will the Grange educate us, and do us good.

No. 259.

MONTEREY, Sept. 4th 1879.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

In looking over the VISITORS of a neighbor for the first quarter of this year, I found in the number of March 1st two communications from this Grange, one from Moses Farmer, and one from "Mother," and in the No. of April 15, I find an article from "Secretary" of 247, in which he says, "I have never seen anything from this Grange in your paper." Now I told the truth, for I did not have the VISITOR the first three months of this year; therefore I misjudged those articles, and for fear of being misunderstood by that Brother and Sister, I take this opportunity to explain, hoping to hear from them again, as I receive the VISITOR regularly now.

A large number of Brothers and Sisters from No. 247 attended the State Grange picnic, besides a number of our neighbors outside of the Gates, and all were pleased with the day's work. I think the Brothers and Sisters all came home fully determined to work harder to accomplish the great objects of our Order. I hear all speak of the speeches of Bros. Woodman and Whitehead as being full of good cheer and instruction for the Order. Hoping the labors of Bro. Whitehead in this State may bring forth a large harvest, I remain

Fraternally yours,  
SECRETARY, No. 247.

### Canada Thistles.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I have not read in the Grange Visitor anything lately about Canada thistles. That they are a great scourge to the farmer was settled long ago. We have a very stringent law in Michigan, which if lived up to would prevent them from spreading, or would at least keep them back for many years. It is the duty of every pathmaster to see that all the Canada thistles in his road district are cut down and not allowed to go to seed. If he does not, he is liable to a fine. At a meeting of Harmony Grange No. 337, Aug. 30th, a committee of three was appointed by the Grange to look after the Canada thistles in the town of Walker and city of Grand Rapids, and see that our State law is enforced.

J. R. BROWN, Sec'y.

YPSILANTI, Sept. 10th.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I am happy to inform you, and through you, the Patrons of the State, that the patent slide gate cases against Randall and Prenmore were decided Monday, Sept. 8th, in their favor, effectually wiping out this grand swindle, and for the purpose of informing Patrons of other States, I will give the standing before the courts of the Lee and Teal patents on slide gates, as I understand and have good reason to believe that they intend to make a raid upon the farmers of some other State, and gain, if possible, what they have lost in Michigan. With this information, and a little trouble, farmers will be able to put their foot on the swindle wherever it may crop out.

The Lee patent is void from the fact of its being preceded by a cut of the gate in the *American Agriculturalist*. It is also an infringement on the Teal patent. The Teal patent is good for nothing from the fact of the gate being in general use more than two years prior to the issuing of the patent.

Hoping, sir, that this contest will assist in showing farmers the good there is in co-operation, and the beauty there is in having sand enough to stand up and fight when their rights are being trampled upon,

I remain, yours fraternally,  
H. D. PLATT,  
Pres't Mutual Defence Ass'n.

SARANAC, Sept. 2d, 1879.

The next meeting of the Lowell District Council will be held at South Boston Grange Hall, on Saturday, October 11, at which time the election of officers will take place. A full attendance is requested.

D. H. ENGLISH,  
Sec'y of Council.

BIRMINGHAM, Aug. 29.

Bro. Cobb:

The next meeting of Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, P. of H., will be held at Farmington Grange Hall, on Tuesday, October 14, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. All 4th degree members are respectfully requested to attend.

J. JACKSON,  
Secretary.

CLEANING CISTERN WATER.—Add two ounces powdered alum and two ounces of borax to a twenty barrel cistern of rain water that is blackened or oily, and in a few hours the sediment will settle and the water will be clarified and fit for washing and even for cooking purposes.

### THE REAPER, DEATH.

HALL OF POKAGON GRANGE, No. 42,  
August 30th, 1879.

WHEREAS, Death has removed from our midst our Bro. JOHN H. SIMPSON, who died August 19th, after a lingering illness, borne with sweet patience and Christian fortitude; therefore,

Resolved, That in the life of our deceased brother we have the example of a man honest in purpose and full of good works; as a Christian, devoted in life and peaceful in death; as a brother, ever ready to extend the open hand of charity.

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved wife and daughters in this, their great affliction.

Resolved, That our hall be draped in mourning, and that these resolutions be spread upon the records of this Grange, a copy sent to the friends of the deceased, and also to the Cassopolis Vigilant, Niles Republican, Cass County Republican and GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

R. J. DICKSON,  
MRS. R. J. DICKSON,  
WM. H. LEWIS,  
WM. E. WILLIAMS,  
Committee.



**MOLASSES CANDY.**—One pint white coffee sugar, one pint molasses, one teaspoonful of vinegar, one tablespoonful of butter; cook slowly a long time, until it "strings" from the spoon when dipped up; pour upon a greased tin pan; then pull till it becomes white.

A YOUNG lady applying for admission as a pupil in the Ypsilanti schools informed the superintendent that she had studied in arithmetic as far as *revelation*.

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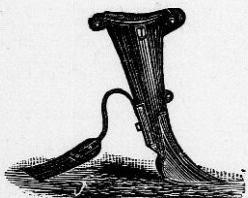
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Patented April 30, 1878.



Also, Jan'y 21, 1879.

SCATTERS THE SEED EVENLY  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches, wide under the Shovel. 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.

Can be attached to any drill in place of other.

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KALAMAZOO, MICH.

*W. J. Parsons*  
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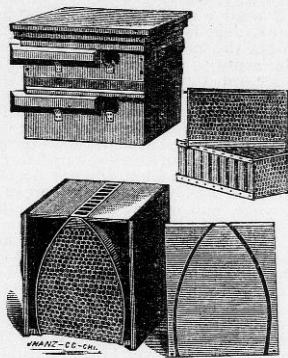
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—AND—

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### SUPERIOR FACILITIES,

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

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

**Cash must Accompany Orders to Insure Prompt Attention.**

### —REFERENCES:—

Executive Committee of Mich. State Grange.  
J. J. Woodman, Paw Paw, Mich.  
J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.  
Herman, Schaffner & Co., Bankers, Chicago, Ill.  
Thomas Mars, Berrien Centre, Mich.  
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These are 15 to 20 cent plants; we sell low because we need money more than the plants. This offer is good for one month. Send early to  
C. L. WHITNEY,  
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### UNJUST TAXATION

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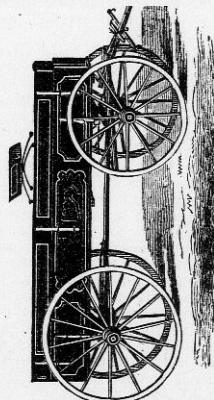
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Delivered on Cars at Niles, Mich.

The advance in iron and all the material we use makes this small advance in the price of wagons absolutely necessary.

**E. MURRAY.**

MASTER'S OFFICE,  
Paw Paw, Mich., April 20th.

E. Murray, Niles, Mich.

DEAR SIR.—Your's of the 7th came in my absence, hence this delay to answer. In reply to your inquiry, I will state that the wagon you sent me, and which has been run one year, is entirely satisfactory. As yet, every part is perfect. There are several of your wagons in this vicinity that have run for several years, and I have heard of but one complaint, and that I do not regard as strictly reliable.

Yours truly,  
J. J. WOODMAN.

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