

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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INDEX TO THIS NUMBER.

Compensation—1 Wonder Why—The Fertility of Sandy Soils—Pay as You Go—The American Meri- no—Percentage of Wool to Weight of Carcass— Horse Stable Floors—Hen Manure.....	1
Annual Address of Worthy Master Woodman.....	2
The Middleman in his Highest Development—Trip- let Maxims—The Farmer and the Railroads—The Texas Cow—Advertisements.....	3
The VISITOR for 1882—Special offer—The Executive Committee's Circular and the Newspapers—The World Moves and so Does the Michigan Farmer— The Death of L. E. Taylor—We Can't Do It— Michigan State Grange, Ninth Session—The The Railroad Commissioner—The Ladies' Depart- ment—Railroad Management.....	4
Reply from the Railroad Commissioner—Work for State Masters—Go to the State Grange—Grange Relief Fund—Postoffice Life Insurance in England. Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan—Notices of Meetings—An Imaginary Visit to the Editor—A Reply.....	5
Season Grit—Letter from London—How are we and the Community at Large Benefited by the Grange Movement?—From a new Correspondent—Is the Grange Dead?—Training Shepherd Dogs—Our Meeting that may Interest Wool Growers—Our Plan with Poultry.....	6
Love and Vegetables—Hired Help—Nobles—On Laughing—Advice to Boys—The Resper Death- Advertisements.....	7
Advertisements.....	8

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COMPENSATION.

It was the time of Autumn,
When leaves are turning brown—
Green to yellow and pied and black;
And some were tumbling down.

It was the time of Autumn,
When the fruits are gathered in,
Some for the press, some for the vat,
And some for the miller's bin.

Then poor men fell a-playing,
For that their work was o'er;
And rich men fell a-sighing,
That they could play no more.

For the summer-time is a merry time,
If a man have leisure to play;
But the summer-time is a weary time
To him who must work all day.

Then thanks to God the giver,
Who loves both great and small;
To every one He something gives,
But to no man gives it all.

The rich, who careth for himself,
Finds, after pleasure, pain;
But the toiler, whom God careth for,
Rests, and is glad again.

I WONDER WHY.

I meet with people here and there
Who walk through life with muffled tread;
And when you say, "The day is fair,"
They softly sigh and shake their head;
The bright and gracious summer sky
In wide blue arcs is o'er them bowed,
And yet they shake their head and sigh,
And point you out a tiny cloud.
Why do they shake their head and sigh,
And view that speck of all the sky?
I wonder why.

And when young lovers bill and coo,
And play at being man and wife,
And talk of all the things they'll do
In yonder lovely sweep of life,
It seems to them so sad a fact
Young folks should draw such giddy breath,
They beg acceptance of a tract
On Early Culls and Sudden Death.
When happy hearts are beating high,
Why do they tell them they must die?
I wonder why.

And when the children shout at play,
Or peals of laughter break their chat,
Why do they grimly smile and say,
"Ah, yes! you'll soon be cured of that."
Wise heads will come another day,
And boys are boys, and still will be;
So laugh, young people, while you may—
Ere long you'll know the world like me,
Why is it wise to smile and sigh,
And hold your camicie to your eye?
I wonder why.

London Graphic.

The Fertility of Sandy Soils.

Every farmer who has cultivated a sandy farm knows how soon the fertility is exhausted by a continuous system of cropping, and how soon it can be made valueless for profitable farming. An important element of success in working such soils is to know how to increase the fertility, and render it capable of absorbing and retaining its fertilizing properties. The barrenness of pure sand is proverbial, and even when fertilized it has no lasting effect. A crop or two taken off reduces it to its former state of sterility. The reason is it has no capacity to retain the elements necessary to the growth of plants, and each successive crop renders it more barren. There are degrees of barrenness, and some sandy soils are reduced sooner than others, yet the most of the Michigan soils can be made profitable for the labor expended in their cultivation, if they are properly handled. Those farmers who make money from sandy farms are very careful to retain and accumulate as much vegetable matter as possible in the soil. This retention and accumulation is not assisted by constant plowing—nothing will wear out the soil faster—but by letting it lie, keeping it shaded by clover and other grasses. Naked fields seem to attract and have an affinity for bad luck and poor crops, and the owners of such fields can advertise their inefficiency in no better way. The character of the soil is such that it is permeated by every passing wind, dried by the sun, and bleached by the rains. These elements which tend to make an exposed surface more barren, render them more fertile when covered with grass or clover. A strong wind will carry away every article of loose vegetable matter on the surface, and drop it along the fences, and on grass-covered fields, adding to their legitimate accumulations a deposit which is readily perceived along a board fence. This has seemed to settle into the ground, when the opposite fact is true, that the soil has been raised by particles brought by the wind. Every

strong wind that passes over a field of clover drops a benediction in the shape of a top dressing of vegetable matter that has cost the owner nothing, even if it has been robbed from a field poorer than itself.

A sandy soil that is rich in vegetable matter or humus, retains the warmth gathered from the rays of the sun much longer than a barren soil. Certain soils are rich in fertility, but are naturally cold and uncertain for growing crops, but where this fertility is united with sand, the best conditions possible for farming are attained. Crops are not so badly affected in a cold season; a few days of sun will so quickly warm the soil; and this warmth will be retained, giving the plants an impetus which will tide them over a bad spell and make a crop, when a less kindly soil will produce a poor one. The barren, sandy soil burns and blisters the plant under a scorching sun, drying out the moisture beyond the reach of the roots, while the fertile soil interposes a non-conductor that protects and shelters the roots from harm, holds the moisture and prevents its escape.

Rains falling on loose sandy soil run quickly through, taking with them some portions of the soluble substances of the soil, carrying them beyond the reach of the roots of grain crops. But when the soil is well mixed with vegetable matter, and covered with a coating of verdure, the roots of which, living, dying and dead, fill the soil, the rains are retarded in their descent. The gasses brought down from the atmosphere are separated and retained. The filtering process is slow. The soluble nutriment in the soil, on which the roots feed, becomes more effective, and the plant thrives.

Nothing can take the place of a sod covering for sandy soil—either of clover or of June grass. A top-dressing of manure, to stimulate root growth, is very effective in promoting fertility. Manure applied to a barren field, and drawn upon at once for a grain crop, gives a poor recompense for its real value. No such lasting benefit is perceived as when the sod receives the stimulus. Successive croppings will feel the force of it. The secret of success in farming sandy land is sod, and a sod stimulated into a vigorous growth by the application of manure to its surface and allowing it to remain a year and become committed with the surface. We are aware that other views are maintained by farmers, and we invite discussion, and will gladly give space for different opinions, with the grounds for the belief.

Pay as You Go.

We have never yet attempted to write an article on finance, and do not propose to desert our column yet to make the attempt, but shall try to make a practical application of the heading in another way.

The farmer stands in the relation of a debtor to his soil—the question is, does he pay back as fast as he takes away? Is there a compensation in rest or manure that will recompense for the crop? The course pursued by some farmers would seem to convey the idea that the soil possesses of itself some re-invigorating power—that to sow and to reap are the only duties devolving upon the cultivator of the soil—that an exhaustless supply of energy lies hidden in the earth that only needs to be tickled with scattered seeds to generate annual crops of grain. Such farmers have not yet learned to pay as they go—to return to the soil, for every crop taken off, such an offset as will make the account balance, but they continue to run up the bill until both parties are bankrupt.

"Pay," to become an equivalent, must be tendered in one of two ways, either to let the field rest in grass, or to apply manure directly to the soil. Where cropping is expected to be continued, the latter plan must be adopted. Doubtless some heavy soils would be largely benefited by under-draining, rendering the mechanical texture of the soil more desirable, and would in a measure be payment for value received.

The late John Johnston, of Geneva, N. Y., in a letter written in Nov. 1856, speaking of the deterioration of wheat production, and the causes, said: "The land has been producing wheat almost constantly since the forests were cleared off—say thirty to sixty years—in fact, the land has been working that length of time with little or no food, and having become exhausted can produce paying crops no longer, unless it

has rest, or more and better food. I am satisfied from my own experience that by thorough underdraining and rest, or high manuring, as good an average of wheat can be obtained as ever from the real wheat lands of the State. My own wheat crops for the last eight years have averaged more than they ever did in the same length of time for thirty-five years. The reason is, for the last ten years I have sown no wheat on underdrained land, and for thirty years I have fed a large quantity of stock in winter, and fed them fully, making rich manure, and have kept up and increased the fertility of the soil; that is, although I worked my land hard, I fed it well, and I found it grateful for what it received, repaying me abundantly, and I have no doubt that it will keep on paying as long as it has a master that treats it as I have done. I commence winter this season with over 500 sheep to make fat, beside some cattle. I am now having brought home twenty tons of oil-cake meal for feed, which, together with my corn, will fully fatten all the stock I have. That is the way I feed my land."

The Markham Express, in speaking of the farm of Richard Dawson in North Lincolnshire, remarks as follows: "The farm of Mr. D. contains 2,700 acres. This land was, a few years back, a wilderness. One field of 352 acres was an old rabbit warren when Mr. Dawson entered upon the farm. It now contains 1,000 ewes, with each a lamb, making 2,000 sheep, beside some young cattle and horses. About \$10,000 are paid each year for artificial manures. For twenty-two years in succession \$7,500 per annum have been expended in the purchase of bones, besides large sums yearly for oil cake." M. J. Gard, one of the most successful farmers of Cass county, manures one-tenth of his farm every year, going over the whole in ten years. Without manure, successful farming must be abandoned; the land will become poorer and poorer until neither soil nor owner will be able to pay anything for the general welfare.

The American Merino.

The Merino is exceptional in its relation to American sheep husbandry. In that, while embodying more nearly than any other sheep the essentials to food and raiment for the million, it is the only sheep whose place could not be filled by importation, should it from any cause be eliminated from our live stock economy. While England or Canada could confidently be depended upon for supplying the most admirable specimens of the Long-Wools, as well as the Downs in their highest merit and full variety, in vain would the Merino fancier search through flocks of other countries for the peers of those animals, which have won, and are destined to keep a name and place in the history of the ovine races as the American Merino. From France he might secure animals of larger body, while Germany could furnish him those of finer fleece; but neither these nor their crosses could fill the void that would follow the absence of the unique Merino—the result and triumph of American skill in manipulating the pure blood coming hither from the flocks of Spanish Dons, whose stars set in the dawn of the nineteenth century. Hardy, long-lived, yielding a high percentage of wool to gross weight of carcass, responding to the growing demand for cheap mutton, by adapting itself to the varied conditions and inclinations of the American farmer, the typical Merino has reached a standard against which is no humiliation to stand as second.—Texas Wool.

Percentage of Wool to Weight of Carcass.

The sheep as imported from Spain sheared only about 7 per cent. of unwashed wool to live weight of carcass—indeed, selected specimens rarely exceeded that, while the average yield was much less. At the present time whole flocks shear more than twice as much, and the best specimens from 20 to 30 per cent. of wool. In some extreme cases there have been 35 per cent. of unwashed wool to live weight, while those selected rams shorn in Vermont within five years gave a yield of 31, 35 and 37 pounds of unwashed wool that, after thorough scouring for the cards weighed 8 lb, 6 1/2 ounces, 9 lb, 13 ounces, 9 lb, 11 ounces; the live weights of carcasses of these three rams, after shearing were 108 lb, 121 lb, and 148 lb. This would give 27.3 per cent. of unwashed, and 7.1 per cent. of cleansed wool to live weight. The latter, it will be observed, is the same per cent. of cleansed wool as was given of unwashed wool by the three rams that were imported. Twenty-one rams, from which fleeces or samples were taken to send to the last Exposition at Paris, gave 22.3 per cent. of unwashed wool to live weight; nine of this number, whose live weight averaged 120 lb, gave an average yield of a little over 20 lb each, or a per cent. of 24.1 to live weight of carcass.—Chapman, Sec'y Vermont Merino Sheep Association.

Horse Stable Floors.

The long debated question as to the best material for stable floors, is being again revived. A clay floor was by some adhered to for years, and such was the earnestness of its advocates and the many arguments brought to bear upon it that we were induced some 20 years ago to try it. In three or four months we had the planks back again, being satisfied with the disadvantages of clay for this purpose. Our present floor of plank is simply inclined a little from front to rear, where a gutter is made to carry off the liquid voidings. We do not believe in sand, coal ashes, sawdust, asphaltum, flags, cobblestones, or any of the modern devices to injure horses. Thus far we have never noticed that this little inclination was in any way injurious; and we doubt whether the wooden grating that we frequently see placed over the planking that some use would be advisable on the ground that the animal would be more comfortable, while this movable grating or second floor might lead to accidents. When a person can keep horses in a sound, healthy condition for five to seven years, as we have done on a carefully constructed plank flooring, inclined a little to the rear, it is just as well to be satisfied with it. Do what we will holes will be dug by the stamping of the feet in clay and these will be filled with moisture, which will necessarily result in scratches, quarter crack, etc. If the clay is leveled off and beaten down daily, it will make no difference. Some time ago we inspected a number of stables where many horses were kept, and we encountered only one that was composed of anything but wood. Of course there will be new things inventions—springing up, which are to meet and overcome every objection, and there will be some to adopt them, but we shall be satisfied with what we have until there is something produced about which there is no mistake.

Hen Manure.

Speaking of hen manure, I think few farmers value it enough. In my experiments it has produced so great results that I can account for it only on the idea that the ammonia in it has an affinity for and attracts the nitrogen from the atmosphere. If anyone doubts that it is rich in ammonia, let him sprinkle a barrel of it with enough water to cause fermentation, and then stir it; the fumes will be overpowering. A single experiment of mine indicated that a barrel of hen manure is worth as much as ten loads of stable manure.

My experiment was this: In the fall of 1879 I sowed three acres of wheat, the first week in October, on the poorest land on my farm. We had just cut off the corn, which was a very light crop, but the land was in excellent order, as we had plowed the corn very late and had taken out all the weeds and grass with hoes, and when we cut up the corn all that was needed was to harrow thoroughly and roll, to give just the right kind of a seed bed. I divided the plot into three strips of an acre each, and manured No. 1 with one barrel of hen manure, which I had so sifted that I drilled it in with the wheat; No. 2 I dressed liberally with stable manure, and on No. 3 I drilled in 200 pounds of pure ground bone. I left strips about eight feet wide without fertilizer of any kind, between the different plots. We harvested over 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, and, judging from the fertilized strip, the crop was doubled by the manure. There was hardly a perceptible difference between the three plots, but one could see in riding past the field the difference between the unmanured strips and the rest. My observation leads me to believe that not one farmer in ten makes any use whatever of his hen manure, and yet I believe that it will pay for the keeping of the fowls, and is worth as much per pound as bone meal.—Selected.

"What is the secret of your long life?" asked Alexander, the young master of the world, of a peasant numbering 160 years. The reply was significant whether regarded as fact or symbol; it was simply: "Oil without and honey within." A sweet soul breathing good will and a hygienic kindness: an external suave, genial, unctious, smoothing the roughness of everyday contact, will of itself insure long years. Never give way to melancholy; nothing encroaches more; I fight against it vigorously. One great remedy is to take short views of life. Are you happy now? Are you likely to remain so until this evening or next week or next year? Then why destroy present happiness by a distant misery which may never come at all, or you may never live to see it? For every substantial grief has twenty shadows, and most of them, shadows of your own making.—Sydney Smith.

At Baldwin, Kan., a sorghum mill has been erected this season, and its owner, last Spring, furnished the farmers in this vicinity with sorghum seed to plant, and now they are selling the crop to a manufacturer of syrup. He pays the farmers at the rate of \$1.75 a ton for cane, or allows them six gallons of syrup. One farmer planted 12 acres to sorghum and has raised a fine crop. It averages 12 tons to the acre, and he has contracted his syrup to other parties at 40c a gallon and has the barrels furnished him. So writes our correspondent, H. C. M.—Exchange.

ANNUAL ADDRESS OF WORTHY MASTER WOODMAN

At the Fifteenth Annual Session of the National Grange, held at the City of Washington, November, 1881.

Worthy Patrons and Members of the National Grange:

As the chosen representatives of the greatest industrial interest of this nation, and members of one great brotherhood of agriculturists which extends into every State, and almost every neighborhood in this broad land, we have come from the East and the West, the North and the South, to counsel together and devise ways and means by which that interest may be better protected, and the prosperity of agriculturists more fully secured.

At the sixth annual session of this National Grange, held in this city in January, 1863, Worthy Master Saunders, in alluding to the duties of the National Grange, in his address to that body, said, "I conceive that its principal duties are to collect and disseminate information for the benefit of the whole Order, to place State Granges in co-operative communication, and advise Subordinate Granges with reference to matters of special interest. Thus it acts as an agency. But it should be something more than this; being in communication with the whole Order, it is eminently placed in a position to judge as to the value of measures calculated to be for the best interests of the whole, and thus it should be creative as well as administrative."

No language of mine could more clearly define the powers and duties of this body as the National Legislature, the Congress of our great organization of farmers. Although it is not our province to enact laws for the people, yet no Congress ever assembled beneath the dome of yonder National Capitol with duties more closely allied to the general welfare than are devolving upon this National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry.

Although we represent a class, yet it is an industrial and wealth producing class, upon which the prosperity of all other industries and interests depend. We produce more wealth, and contribute more to commerce, more for the education of the masses, and more for the support of the Government and its institutions than all other interests combined. Upon the prosperity of agriculture depends the welfare, if not the very existence of all other interests, and the strength and perpetuity of the Government. When the soil yields an abundant harvest every channel of business is electrified into life, but a partial failure of crops, as the returns of the present year indicate, operates like the dying away of the stream which furnishes the propelling power of the mill, the machinery moves slower, and much of it will stop altogether.

Washington and Jefferson based their faith in the ability of the people of this country to maintain a republican form of government upon the fact that their occupation was to be mainly agricultural. Hence it cannot be said, that we overestimate the importance of agriculture, or the work of our organization.

The establishment of free institutions upon this continent was not only a new era in the history of civil governments, but in agriculture and the intellectual development of those engaged in it. Farmers have been made not only owners of the soil they cultivate, but their own readers, thinkers, and executors, the crowning glory of which has culminated in their demand for a more elevated social and intellectual life, the cultivation of a noble manhood and womanhood among themselves, and by organization and co-operation, endeavor to dignify labor, honor their profession, protect their rights, and maintain their equality among men.

It is a wise provision in our organic law which requires that the voting members of this body shall be composed of the Masters of State Granges and their wives who are Matrons. This does away with the strife incident to all elections, and brings together in annual session the men and women who have had the care and responsibility of superintending the work of the Order in the several States, and who of all others should best know the condition and wants of the Order, and ought to be best qualified to originate a system for practical work by which the interest in the Subordinate Granges may be kept up, united and harmonious action secured on all important questions, and thorough business co-operation encouraged and made practical.

Worthy Master Saunders was one of the honored founders of this Order, and for six years Master of the National Grange. He well understood the theory of the organization. No one was better qualified to define the duties and powers of this body. He says, "your duties are creative as well as administrative." That is, you should not only consider and act upon the petitions and memorials which come up to you from State, County and Subordinate Granges, but you should bring together the valuable ideas and practical knowledge which you have acquired by your experience in the work in your several States, and as far as possible devise a system, simple yet comprehensive, for building up the Order and accomplishing its noble purposes.

I am aware that the task of devising such a system is no ordinary one, but to assume that it cannot be done is to admit that our organization is a failure; and that farmers, as a class, cannot be brought together in a close organization, for the protection and advancement of their interests. Such an assumption has been disproved by the history, achievements, the present condition and standing of the Order.

There can be no doubt of the existence of a principle or propensity in man's nature which leads him to study his own interest, gratification and happiness; and it is only necessary to make farmers understand that our organization is promoting the interests of agriculture, and adding to the prosperity and happiness of those engaged in it, to induce every worthy and intelligent tiller of the soil to enroll as a member of our great and fraternal brotherhood. What they want is information—knowledge of the absolute necessity of an organization for the protection of agricultural interests from the growing power and avariciousness of incorporated and combined monopolies, which are absorbing a large share of the profits of labor, and consequently reducing the value of every farm in the land—knowledge of the theory of our organization, of the principles we inculcate, of our system for practical work to accomplish our purposes—knowledge of what we have done and are doing to ameliorate their condition and elevate farmers as a class, and a clear conception of the real benefits and enjoyments to be derived from

belonging to and engaging in the exercises of a well disciplined and wisely conducted Subordinate Grange.

A well matured system for the dissemination of such information, should be devised and recommended by the National Grange; and the State Granges should aid and encourage the County and Subordinate Granges in carrying the same into effect.

I re-submit for your consideration the recommendations on this subject to be found in my communication to the last National Grange, under the head of Subordinate Granges, and ask that the same be referred to the Committee on the Good of the Order.

GRANGE LECTURES.

Although great progress has been made in most of the States, during the past year, in perfecting a lecture system and in supplying the demand for lectures, yet I have found that in many instances the Lecturers, both of the State and County Granges, are seldom if ever found in the lecture field; and that Subordinate Granges, in the immediate locality of such Lecturers, have never been favored with a public or private lecture in the interest of the Order. They are plodding along, and even prospering, with the imperfect instructions received from the organizing deputy years ago, and the inspiration of the Grange press. While this speaks well for the intelligence of the members and the influence of the press, yet in the theory and work of our organization it is all wrong. The office of Lecturer was created for a purpose, and in a Subordinate Grange should be filled by one competent to arrange and conduct the literary exercises and discussions of the Grange, and if unaccustomed to public speaking, willing to improve that faculty. It should be made the duty of the Lecturer of a County or District Grange to visit every Subordinate Grange within his jurisdiction at least once in each year, and oftener if the condition of the Granges require it, and lecture to and instruct them. The office of Lecturer in a State Grange should be filled by one eminently qualified to deliver both public and private lectures upon topics relating to the interests of agriculture and the welfare of the Order. It should be made his duty to lecture within the State whenever called upon, if his per diem and expenses are provided for. If the finances of the State Grange will justify the expense, he should be paid from the State Grange Treasury, but if not, the County and Subordinate Granges employing him should provide the means.

THE GRANGE PRESS.

There can be no better evidence of the increasing prosperity of our Order than that indicated by the improvement which has been made in the journals published in its interest, and their increasing circulation. They should be encouraged by every possible means consistent with the financial condition and dignity of our Order.

BUSINESS CO-OPERATION.

There has been so much said and written upon this essential feature of our Order, so many different theories advanced, experiments tried, losses sustained and successes achieved, that it seems but necessary to utilize and systematize the knowledge already acquired to enable us to perfect a system of practical business co-operation, adapted to the wants of our members. That co-operation in buying and selling among farmers is essential to their welfare, must be evident to every one who has given thought to this subject.

Though not in itself the most essential and important feature of our organization, yet taken in connection with the educational, it is an indispensable necessity.

The farmer is brought into business relations with almost every other interest, and to be independent and successful in business transactions, he must have a practical knowledge of business and the laws of trade. Hence any system of co-operation which fails to inculcate practical lessons, and teach farmers to do business in a business way, will fail to meet the wants of our members. What we want is a system, simple, practical, and adapted to the wants of not only every Subordinate Grange, but of every member of our Order. The amount made or saved in buying or selling is not always as essential to the operator as the experience and knowledge acquired by the transaction. When our Grange ship was launched upon the stormy sea of the business world, we floated from the mast-head a banner on which was inscribed, "National and State Co-operation." "Trade and Manufactures supported by the Common Fund."

A few State Granges tried the experiment. Extensive manufacturing and business enterprises were attempted with the State Grange funds, and salaried agents to sell farm produce and purchase supplies for the farm, with power to create debts binding upon the State Granges, were appointed in commercial centers. Our ship carried too much sail, and was deficient in ballast. It foundered in the great financial storm which proved so disastrous to all business enterprises. This system was not adapted to the wants and condition of our organization. It was not sufficiently educational and co-operative in its operation; and was wanting in safeguards. It attempted to grapple with great business enterprises without the experience and skill necessary to manage them. While these failures were disastrous to the welfare of the Order in the States embarking in the enterprises, yet there can be but little doubt but what they proved valuable lessons to our members in other States, and saved the Order from similar losses and disasters elsewhere.

The National Grange next recommended co-operative associations with equally distributed burdens and profits, giving each operator an equal voice and vote in their management, and devised a well guarded and thoroughly practical system for conducting them. Many have been organized, and operated with varied results. Some have succeeded beyond the most sanguine expectations of those interested in them, others have failed. This was to have been expected. Some men succeed in business, others do not. Why is it? It is not luck, but in management. So with our co-operative associations. But enough have succeeded to demonstrate the wisdom and practicality of the system.

Some State Granges have employed reliable agents and responsible business commission houses to sell farm produce and fill orders at a fixed commission, taking ample bonds for a fair dealing and prompt returns.

This system has proved to be of much value to members, stimulating them to study the market reports, and familiarize themselves with the principles and customs of trade and transportation. It is both practical and thoroughly educational.

There yet remained another want in our business system. Many Granges were so situated that they could have no access to co-operative stores, and to make small orders from agents or supply houses was attended with too much trouble and delay. This want has been provided for, and many Subordinate Granges are now enjoying its benefits in a most satisfactory degree. They raise a small purchasing fund, and invest it in such articles as are constantly needed in every family, and keep them in a room, provided for that purpose at the Grange hall, and deliver them to members at the regular meetings, at nearly cost. The purchasing agent, or storekeeper who has charge of the business, gives security to the Grange for the funds placed in his hands, and a small per cent. added to remunerate him for time and expense. This brings the primitive lessons and pecuniary benefits of co-operation, within the appreciation and means of the humblest member of the Grange.

It is both practical and safe. No great losses can occur, as everything is done on a cash basis. There are instances in the history of this practice, where results similar to those which have marked the history of successful business men have been obtained. Commencing with a small capital and small business, they have extended their business as the confidence and wants of members and their knowledge of business has increased, until the little room at the Grange hall has been exchanged for a first class business place upon a commercial street, and a large and prosperous co-operative store is the result. I am clearly of the opinion that supply houses or arrangements for purchasing at wholesale rates, co-operative stores where they can be supported and well managed, arrangements for shipping and selling farm produce, and the Grange purchasing fund where needed, if properly systematized and encouraged, all working together, will constitute a system of co-operation well adapted to the wants of our members, and give to all both educational and financial benefits. But in no case should an agent be employed to create debts against the Grange, nor should the funds of the Grange be placed in the hands of an agent, or invested in business, without ample security for the return of every dollar to the Grange treasury.

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT AND GOVERNMENTAL AID TO AGRICULTURE.

At the last session, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by this body: Resolved, That the Commissioner of Agriculture be made the Secretary of Agriculture and a member of the President's cabinet, and with the same salary as Secretaries of other departments, and that this department be sustained and encouraged by appropriations commensurate with its importance.

Our organization was pledged to use all honorable means to induce Congress to pass the bill, then pending before it, to accomplish that purpose. The bill had met with serious opposition from the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, yet a majority of the Committee reported it favorably, and placed it in charge of Bro. Aiken, who was a member of the Committee. By his perseverance he succeeded in pressing it to a final vote and 162 members voted for it, and 84 against it, lacking but two votes of the necessary two thirds required to pass it.

The discussion on this bill was exceedingly interesting and deserves special notice. Bro. Aiken having the floor, yielded to give the opponents of the measure an opportunity to tell us and the farmers of this country why they voted against it.

Mr. Reagan (of Texas) opposed the bill for the reason that it was legislation for the protection of a special interest. If most of the important legislation of Congress for the last fifteen years had not been for the protection of special interests this objection might have had some force. But I will do him no injustice but use his own language: "I am not unfriendly to a new department of the government, indeed I favor the creation of a new department, but I do not favor this bill. This bill is simply an enlargement of the powers of the Agricultural Bureau, and making the Commissioner of Agriculture a Cabinet officer. The subject is one of very great moment. The agricultural, the manufacturing, and the mining interests ought, it seems to me, to be placed under a separate and independent department of the government, which I would call the Department of Industry, in order to embrace the whole of them, and doing that, the bill ought to provide for transferring the different bureaus in the Interior, the Treasury and the War Departments to this new department of the government. With that done, its great agricultural interests, its great commercial interests, its great manufacturing interests, its great mining interests would receive the supervision and direction of a first-class man, and undoubtedly they deserve the supervision of such a man." Mr. Dannel (of Minn.) favored the bill as the initiatory step to the creation of such a Department of Industry. He agreed with Mr. Reagan, but would go one step further and include "the great railroad interests of the country."

Is it not quite probable that we see foreshadowed in the above, the policy which we may expect to see incorporated into a bill to answer the demands of the agricultural interests of the country, as indicated by the above resolution of this body? Would not such a course be in harmony with much of the previous legislation of the country, ostensibly to benefit agriculture, but really to aid and build up other interests at the expense of agriculture, and fasten upon the country some of the most oppressive monopolies that ever cursed any people?

Passing over the inference that an Agricultural Department, standing upon its own bottom, could not "be presided over by a first-class man," and admitting that a department for the further protection of the combined and incorporated interests, with agriculture attached as a "side show," could be, is any one credulous enough to believe, in view of the history of the past and the influences which generally control such appointments, that such a department would ever be presided over by a man either qualified or disposed to give agriculture the consideration which its importance demands? Might we not rather expect a repetition of that policy which ignores the representatives of the farming interests and selects a chairman for the Committee on Agriculture in Congress from the legal profession of a large city, where agriculture is not supposed to be extensively practiced or well understood?

Mr. Covert opposed the bill; and standing as he does at the head of the Committee on Agriculture, it is due to him that his reasons

for so doing should be understood and well considered by every farmer in the land. That portion of his remarks which seem to apply directly to the action of this body and its authority to speak for "the real agriculturists, or of thoughtful and intelligent men engaged in that business," it seems proper that I should quote for your benefit. Mr. Covert says:

"We have here the spectacle presented of a large class of the people, already strong in numbers, strong in material resources, and abundantly able to protect their own interest, clamoring for the elevation of this department and for the dispensing of special favors to them, when with the same glance we see our commercial interests lying prostrate, and our manufacturing interests by no means such as they should be, yet no demand comes from those engaged in either commerce or manufactures asking special governmental intervention in their behalf. * * * I say without the fear of successful contradiction, that this request is not made by the real agriculturists of this country, or by any relatively large number of thoughtful or intelligent men engaged in that business throughout the length and breadth of this land. The intelligent and thoughtful farmer belongs to his local Grange, to his town, county or State agricultural society, and has the benefit of periodicals and newspapers published specially for his uses and his needs. He is self-reliant, and does not come here to besiege the doors of Congress, asking that this be made a Cabinet department, or that the Commissioner be made a Cabinet officer under the government."

It does seem strange that a man of Mr. Covert's intelligence, in speaking for the farmers of this country, should convey the idea to them that the commercial and manufacturing interests do not receive "special" and substantial "governmental intervention in their behalf," when it is well known that nearly every other important interest except agriculture has a voice either directly or indirectly in the Cabinet, and an organized system in the government to look after its welfare and protect its interest.

Upon the constitutional question he declared that "there was absolutely no warrant in the Constitution for the so-called elevation of this Department of Agriculture, or even for the establishment or existence of the department as it stands to-day;" and that "the department as it stands to-day is an illegitimate child of the Government," deserving support only "during its infancy," or while the act creating it "remains un-repealed."

Members of Congress would have acted wisely, had they taken the advice of Mr. Hatch (of Missouri), who said in reply, "If this department is an illegitimate child, then, in the name of the great agricultural interests of this country, let the Forty-Sixth Congress of the United States do to-day the grandest act of its official life, and legitimate this child of agriculture. Illegitimate! If it be so it has done more for the country than any other child that has been born to it since the Declaration of Independence. It is the foundation of our wealth, the cornerstone of our prosperity, and the fruitful source from which we derive our richest and surest revenues."

The favorable consideration and large support which this measure received, should encourage us to again press the matter in its original form before the next Congress, and to oppose and resist every effort made by friend or foe of the measure, to consolidate the Agricultural Department with the incorporated interests of the country.

PATENT RIGHTS.

This National Grange and the State Granges have repeatedly memorialized Congress, and tens of thousands of our citizens have petitioned, for the enactment of a law to give some degree of protection to innocent purchasers and users of patented articles; but as yet no definite action has been taken by that body, and the outrages under the law as interpreted by the courts are still being perpetrated with a high hand. Thousands of farmers and others are being prosecuted before the United States courts, and put to great inconvenience and cost, for innocently violating the patent laws by using some article claimed to have been patented. A law which will allow a patentee to abandon his invention to the public and allow it to go into general use, and then permit him to collect royalty of every one who has ever used the article, is an outrage against justice and common sense.

Drive-well suits are being commenced all over the land, and innocent purchasers, who have paid full price for their wells, are compelled to go into the courts to defend their rights, or to be robbed under any pretext which the holders of the patent may claim. How long must these things continue? How long will the people's representatives ignore the prayers of those electing them, and neglect to provide statutory relief from these unjust burdens? Will farmers ever realize what the Chairman of the Agricultural Committee in Congress has told them, that "they are strong in numbers, strong in material resources, and abundantly able to protect their own interests," independent of any "governmental aid or intervention?"

We must not relinquish our efforts to bring about this much needed reform, but continue to agitate, enlighten and educate the masses; and at each returning Session of Congress renew our appeals, until success shall finally be attained.

TRANSPORTATION.

Intimately connected with the history of our organization, is the agitation of the transportation question. The profits of the farms, many of which had already been mortgaged to build the roads, were being absorbed by exorbitant freight and storage charges, in some instances exceeding the value of the article itself. The agitation of this question commenced in the Subordinate Granges, and an influence was brought to bear upon the Legislatures of some of the Western States, resulting in the enactment of laws limiting the amount which might be charged for transporting freight by the railroad companies, and for storing the same by the elevator companies within the State, to what was deemed just and reasonable rates. These laws were resisted by the companies, and through the united action of the Granges the companies were prosecuted, and the cases carried to the Supreme Court of the United States. After having the cases under advisement for more than a year, in order to give mature deliberation to every point connected with the questions at issue the Court affirmed the constitutionality of the laws, and established the doctrine that "When private property is devoted to public use, it is subject to public regulation." This

decision also affirms that the power to regulate is with the legislative department of the government. We, therefore, next appealed to the Congress of the United States, the only body having the power under the Constitution, "to regulate commerce between the States," and demanded an investigation of our grievances, and if found to be well grounded, the enactment of the necessary statutory remedies. In compliance with this request, in 1874 the Senate appointed a special Committee on Transportation to the Seaboard, composed of the following able statesmen and prominent leaders in the great political parties of the country: Senators Wm. Windom (Rep.), Minn.; John Sherman (Rep.), Ohio; Roscoe Conkling (Rep.), N. Y.; H. G. Davis (Dem.), West Va.; T. M. Norwood (Dem.), Ga.; J. W. Johnson (Dem.), Va.; John H. Mitchell (Rep.), Oregon, and S. B. Conover (Rep.), Fla. After devoting several months to an examination of the subject, they made a very able and exhaustive report to the Senate, in which they declare: "In the matter of taxation there are to day four men, representing the four great trunk lines between Chicago and New York, who possess, and who do not unfrequently exercise, powers which the Congress of the United States would not venture to exert. They may at any time, and for reasons satisfactory to themselves, by a single stroke of the pen, reduce the value of property in this country by hundreds of millions of dollars; and that by combination and consolidation, these colossal organizations were daily becoming stronger and more imperious."

They also affirmed that Congress had full power over inter-State commerce and could therefore remedy these abuses. Seven years have passed since this report was made and the country warned of the growing power of incorporated monopolies, which are absorbing the products of industry and subverting every principle of a government of the people and for the people; and yet no definite action has been taken by Congress, although the people, groaning under the crushing power of this despotism which the United States Senate committee have assured them does exist, have appealed for relief at each returning session. And yet we must not be discouraged or grow faint-hearted. There is every reason to believe that decided progress has been made during the past year in enlightening public sentiment upon this question, and arousing the people to understand the situation and to know what means are necessary to be put forth to bring about practical results.

It is also gratifying to know that prominent among the advocates of wholesome reform in the management of corporations, who have taken a stand with us upon this question, are Judge Jeremiah S. Black, of Pa., and ex-Secretary Wm. Windom, of Minn. The latter has just been re-elected to the United States Senate.

I desire to call the special attention of members of our Order, and farmers generally, to the following brief extracts from the letter of Judge Black to the New York Chamber of Commerce, under date of November 16th, 1880. "If railroad corporations have the unlimited power which they claim, then all business is at their mercy—agriculture, commerce and manufactures, must suffer what they choose to inflict. They may rob labor of the bread it wins, and deprive all enterprise of its just reward. Though this power does not belong to them legally, they have been permitted to usurp it; and I need not tell you that they have grossly abused it. We know that they make their exactions with an eye single to their own advantage, without considering any right or interest of the public. They boldly express their determination to charge as much as the traffic will bear; that is to say, they will take from every man's business as much as can be taken without compelling him to quit it. In the aggregate this amounts to the most enormous, oppressive and unjust tax that ever was laid upon the industry of any people under the sun. * * * The farmers of the great west have raised a large crop of grain which they may sell at fair prices if they can have it carried to the Eastern ports, even at the unreasonable high freights of last summer. But just now it is said that the railway companies have agreed among themselves to raise the freights five cents per hundred weight, which is equal to an export tax upon the whole crop of probably seventy five millions of dollars. The farmers must submit to this highway robbery or else keep the products of their land to rot on their hands. * * * Common justice imperatively requires that freight charges be fixed, settled and prescribed by law; and that they be not charged at the mere will of the railroad companies."

The above contains all that we as an organization have ever charged against the railroad companies, and prescribes the same remedy which we have advocated. We took the initiatory in this movement against the "tyranny of monopolies," and stand to-day before the world vindicated in our acts by the ablest statesmen and jurists of our country. Senator Windom has recently spoken upon this great question in words of no uncertain meaning, and the country will be disappointed in him if his voice is not again heard in the Senate Chamber for the right, and his influence, with that of the President of the Senate, given to the people's cause. The New York Board of Trade and Transportation, and the New York Chamber of Commerce, are not only disseminating valuable information on the transportation question among business men in the commercial centers, but exerting a salutary influence among all classes of our citizens. They have lent their aid to the organization of a "National Anti-Monopoly League," with the headquarters in the city of New York, and State and Subordinate Leagues in the several States. I regard this new organization as a valuable ally in this struggle for the emancipation of the industrial interests of the country from the despotism of monopolies. It is dealing heavy blows in the fight, and cannot fail to accomplish much good. It is worthy the aid and encouragement not only of farmers but of all classes engaged in industrial pursuits. Yet our organization, with its perfect system of State, County and Subordinate Granges, is regarded as the great medium through which the ears and minds of the masses in the rural districts must be reached and made to understand the situation, and warned of the impending danger. By request of the National Anti-Monopoly League, Judge Black drafted a petition to Congress praying for the legislative regulation of inter-State commerce by railroads. The League kindly offered to furnish copies of it to our Order for circulation for signatures by Subordinate Granges; and I

directed them to be sent out, under the endorsement of the National Grange. I submit this action to you, and trust that you will take the necessary steps to encourage Patrons everywhere to interest themselves in circulating them and carrying out the recommendations of the League.

Then let us, with renewed courage, hope and perseverance, renew every effort heretofore put forth, and acknowledge, encourage and utilize all the means and forces which are being employed by other classes to educate and enlighten the people upon this subject, and induce Congress and State legislatures to meet this question and forever settle it in fairness, protecting equally the interests of the people and the rights of the railroad companies.

THE ORDER NOT PARTISAN.

I have been requested to define "What class of political questions may be discussed in the work of a Subordinate Grange, under the laws of our Order?" This matter has been so clearly defined by the constitution and laws of the Order, that further explanation seems unnecessary. Our constitution provides that "Religious or political questions will not be tolerated as subjects of discussion in the work of the Order, and no political or religious tests for membership shall be applied." In our Declaration of Purposes—

"We emphatically and sincerely assert the old-fashioned truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange—National, State or Subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

"Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good to the greatest number."

To the above the following decision of the National Grange was added: "The word 'political' in the constitution means *partisan politics*, and does not include or refer to general questions of political economy."

As members of the Grange belong to all the different political parties and religious denominations, to allow questions to be discussed in the Grange meeting, of a partisan or sectarian nature, would lead to dissensions and disintegration. Hence the Master of the Grange must use due discretion, and protect the feelings and political or religious views and beliefs of members from assault or undue criticism.

The Order was never intended and cannot be made to serve the special interests of any political party; yet to prohibit the discussion of all questions relating to public policy would be to defeat some of the very objects of the organization. There are favors which we need and reforms which we seek, which must be obtained, if at all, through the legislative department of the Government. This can only be reached either through the influence of public opinion, by petition or the ballot box. We therefore claim the right to influence public opinion by the dissemination of documents, the circulation of journals devoted to our interests, and by public lectures.

We must discuss in the Grange all questions relating to the farm and the household, and all questions pertaining to the great public welfare which are not strictly partisan in their nature. But when we come to political action and the ballot box, we say to our members: Work in the political parties to which you belong, "putting down bribery, corruption and trickery, and see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and carry out the principle, which should always characterize every Patron, that *the office should seek the man, and not the man the office*," then exercise the elective privilege as your best judgment and enlightened wisdom may dictate.

The Order cannot become a political party, nor take independent political action. And yet, if politicians and political parties shall continue to nominate and urge men for legislative and judicial positions, who are known to be in the employ or under the control of the "Great Railroad Monopolies," if legislative bodies shall continue to turn a deaf ear to petitions, and show no disposition to ameliorate the condition of the producing classes and release them from the burdens which have been placed upon their industry by this legalized power, "which arbitrarily controls the whole business interest of the country, including the value of its products,"—the time may come—and may God speed it—when the farmer, the mechanic, the laborer, and the business man, arm in arm, will march up to the polls and cast the ballot.

"Which shall fall, as silently as falls the snowflake on the sod,
To execute the freeman's will as lightning does the will of God."

EDUCATION.

To educate and elevate the American farmer is the paramount object of our organization. We have declared to the world, that we shall advance the cause of education among ourselves and for our children, by all just means within our power, and advocate our Industrial Colleges, that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their "courses of study."

No subject is more closely connected with the welfare of agriculture than that of education. No other calling or profession requires more close study, deep thought, or a more thorough application of the deductions of science to its purposes.

The condition and necessities of agriculture in this country, demand more technical knowledge among those who cultivate the soil. The earth is the great repository of God's blessings to man; and its rich and bounteous products cannot be fully developed and prepared for his use and comfort without the aid of educated and well directed labor.

The great problem to be solved in American agriculture is, how to produce crops at a profit, and at the same time not only maintain, but increase the fertility of the soil. This has been accomplished in some of the older countries of Europe, and the soil which has been under constant cultivation for a thousand years or more, is richer and more productive to-day than it was when first reclaimed from the forest or morasses.

If similar results are to be obtained in this country, similar means must be put forth.

There, Agricultural Departments, with Ministers of Agriculture at the head, model farms for experimental purposes, stock and dairy farms, agricultural colleges, schools of physiology and agricultural chemistry, schools of rudiments of agricultural science, and the rudiments of agricultural science are taught, have been established and are maintained by the government; and agricultural enquirers are employed and kept constantly among the farms collecting and imparting useful information on all subjects relating to the operations of the farm.

Agricultural and Industrial Schools in this country are of but recent origin, and have received but meagre public support and encouragement, while Universities and Colleges, with a course of study and all the influences surrounding them, literary and professional rather than practical, have been established, amply endowed, and liberally supported. We have no fault to find with the liberality shown to these institutions; but does not the public good, and general prosperity require that man should be educated for business and industrial pursuits, as well as for professional life?

As but comparatively few of the sons and daughters of farmers can hope to receive the advantages of the Agricultural Colleges, and must depend upon the common school for their educational advantages, should we not devise some practical measures for carrying out the recommendations of this body, made at its previous sessions, that "the elements of scientific agriculture be taught in our common schools?"

Perhaps no other country in the world places a higher estimate upon the value of a prosperous agriculture for increasing the nation's wealth and the general prosperity of the people than France, and in addition to all the encouragements and aid already given to her agriculture by the government, measures are now being inaugurated to introduce the "Elements of Agricultural Science" into all the common schools in that country. Shall we be behind the young Republic in this movement? These questions are important and should not be overlooked in your deliberations.

LECTURERS' DOCUMENTS.

The action of the National Grange in requiring the National Lecturer to prepare and send quarterly to the Masters of Subordinate Granges and the Grange press a programme of literary exercises, social recreation, and a comprehensive list of topics suitable for discussion in Grange meetings, has been faithfully carried out by that officer; and all who have examined these documents cannot fail to be impressed with the good judgment, taste and ability exhibited in preparing and arranging the same. The questions for discussion have been well selected and are practical. I have received many letters commending these documents, and expressing great confidence in the ultimate good which would come from them. But you, brothers and sisters, coming fresh from your several fields of labor, are able to judge of their usefulness and will act accordingly.

REPORTS OF MASTERS OF STATE GRANGES.

This was also a new departure in our Grange work, and intended for a wise purpose. There can be but little doubt of good results from these reports if regularly made by all Masters of Subordinate and State Granges. It requires time to inaugurate a new system of reports, coming from so many officers and so widely scattered; but some progress has been made, and if the system is to be continued, would it not be well to prepare a suitable form of blanks to be used by the Masters of Subordinate Granges for these monthly reports?

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

As State Masters are required by law to report in writing to this body, the present condition of the Order in their respective States, for details on this subject I refer you to their reports. Yet I cannot pass over this question without expressing my convictions, founded upon correspondence, and personal inquiries and observation while among Patrons in several of the Western States, that as a whole the work of the Order is steadily moving on, and overcoming prejudices and winning the approbation and confidence, not only of farmers but of all classes. Farmers who have hitherto withheld their influence from the Grange, are beginning to realize the necessity of united action on the part of those engaged in agricultural pursuits, to prevent their interests from being wholly ruined by the overreaching power of the monopolies which have been created by the legislation of the country, and are looking to this organization as the only medium through which such action can be consummated. In some of the States decided progress has been made and the Order has become a power which can no longer be ignored.

I appointed Deputies in the States of Arkansas, Louisiana and Nebraska, to impart instructions and take charge of the interests of the Order in those States until such time as the State Granges could be re-organized, and resume their positions in the National organization.

Arkansas has already reorganized, and Louisiana is nearly ready to do so, but the Deputy thought it wise to defer until the winter months, when farmers would have more leisure, and could devote more time to Grange work. There are many worthy and earnest members in Nebraska, and some strong Granges; but the business failures, and financial embarrassment which overwhelmed their State Grange, has so impaired their confidence in the State organization that they have expressed a very general preference to remain at present where they now are, under the jurisdiction of the National Grange. There is work in these States for the National Lecturer, and a necessity for a dissemination of more Grange documents, and a more general circulation of Grange journals and periodicals.

CONCLUSION.

It seems quite impossible to refer to all the questions, in this communication, which are likely to come before you at this session. I have called your attention only to those which I deem most important to the general welfare of agriculture, and which relate directly to the work of our organization. The field for work is broad, and it is your duty to explore it well, and originate and recommend measures for carrying forward the work so well begun, and accomplishing the great purposes for which we are organized. Let the members of our Order understand and feel that the social, literary and refining influences, and financial benefits of the Subordinate Grange, do not constitute all of the objects and purposes of our Order,

but we aim to make our influence rise above and reach beyond all these, and benefit "our country and mankind."

In conclusion, I need make no apology for referring to another growing evil in the political system of our country. I have reference to the *spoils system*, upon the altar of which the President was sacrificed. In France, I saw the President of that Republic following the remains of a General of the French army to his last resting place, surrounded by a body-guard with drawn weapons, ready to punish with instant death any miscreant who should dare to do him any injury; and I asked myself if the time would ever come when the President of this Republic would be unsafe among the people. It would be a reproach upon the good name of the intelligent, liberty-loving people of this country, to even imagine that the life of their President would be unsafe among them. But in the assassination of President Garfield by a political fanatic, are there not reasons to inquire if the time has not come when the newly inaugurated President is unsafe among the half million irrepressible office seekers by whom he is assailed, demanding their share of the spoils of office as a reward for political services in electing the President, who is made the great dispenser of public patronage; and is it strange that among the great number of humiliated, maddened and disappointed ones there should be one Guiteau?

This system, wrong in principle and corrupting in its influence, has been allowed to grow up under our indulgence, until it is now able to rear its giant form and demand its office, or the life of the dispenser. It becomes, therefore, the duty of every statesman, philanthropist and citizen, to seek the cause of this terrible crime which has so shocked the world and disgraced the good name of our nation, and endeavor to remove the cause. To this great purpose let us, also, commit the influence of our Order.

With this session my term of office expires, and I shall return to the altar of the Grange the emblem of office with which I have been invested for the past two years, trusting that it may be placed upon one better qualified to discharge the responsible duties of the position, and inspire more confidence and enthusiasm among the members of our fraternity; and I ask you, and the members of our Order everywhere, to give to my successor the same support and encouragement that you have given to me. May your deliberations be harmonious, your conclusions wise, and result in making our principles better understood and appreciated, and more potent for accomplishing the great objects set forth in our Declaration of Purposes.

J. J. WOODMAN,
Master of the National Grange, P. of H.

The Middleman in his Highest Development.

The following seems to be going the rounds of our exchanges, under various headings: Newspapers are opposed to the drummer, as it cuts down their advertising, and yet many of the papers that copy this article are continually putting in free personal and puffs for this and that traveling agent. These drummers and agents are recognized by business men as parasites on the great body of trade, exercising growing on the commercial world, but few have the nerve to take the knife to them. The business man is born clever and obliging, and hates a rumpus. He lives by his custom, and fears to do anything that may lose any of it, and so allows the drummer with his enormous cost is allowed to live, and love, and labor on. And some of them "love" more than they labor, for the girls on every side are "mashed" by them, and every little town has its scandal. But this is another feature not mentioned by our exchanges, who are after their loss in advertising:

"During the past few years there has been a manifest change, on the part of wholesale merchants, in the appreciation of the value of travelers as compared with newspaper advertising. A firm of heavy dealers in Chicago about three years ago dispensed with its drummers, and for the purpose of experiment expended the amount of their annual expenses in advertising, with such excellent results as to cause them to do away with drummers altogether. Other firms in various parts of the country are said to have done likewise.

"The cost of 'drummers' is enormous. It is stated that the weekly cost of the commercial travelers of New York city alone for railroad fares and hotel bills exceeds half a million dollars. Add to this their salaries, which are not less than half a million, and it will be seen that the annual cost of drummers of that one city exceeds 50,000,000. The same proportionate cost prevails throughout the country.

"Merchants are beginning to see that the results do not justify this outlay, and that the methods of many drummers are such that the interests of legitimate tradesmen would be as well, if not better secured by newspaper advertising, and at much less expense. The newspaper nowadays reaches every household and every dealer, and addresses thousands, where the commercial traveler addresses one, a fact that is being appreciated more and more every day by merchants, wholesale as well as retail.—Ez.

Triplet Maxims.

Three things to love—courage, gentleness and affection. Three things to admire—intellect, dignity and gracefulness. Three things to hate—cruelty, arrogance and ingratitude. Three things to delight in—beauty, frankness and freedom. Three things to wish for—health, friends, and a contented spirit. Three things to like—cordiality, good humor and cheerfulness. Three things to avoid—idleness, loquacity and flippant jesting. Three things to contend for—honor, country and friends. Three things to teach—truth, industry and contentment. Three things to govern—our temper, our tongue, and our conduct. Three things to cherish—virtue, wisdom and goodness. Three things to do—live, think, act.

THE Grange is the only National organization of farmers known to the civilized world, and it is not only the duty, but actually necessary that every farmer should belong to some organization, competent to afford protection and promote the interests of his calling. We see no reason why every farmer should not be a Patron of Husbandry.

THE FARMER AND THE RAILROADS.

The farmer, in the paper,
Read the editorial mentions
That the public welfare rested
On political conventions;

But the trees had leaved and blossomed,
And the grass continued growing;
All the sprouts of corn were starting,
And the farmer went on hoeing.

The wheat grew white and yellow,
And the corn was nicely growing;
The farmer smoked his pipe in peace,
And 'bout his turnips went on hoeing.

All this time the railroad men
Were busy shaping things political.
Why, apparently no one knew
The farmer least of all was critical:

For the earth was filled with plenty,
And the time was past for hoeing,
Markets everywhere were bare—
Surely prospects now were growing.

But when the farmer shipped his grain,
Little caring, little knowing,
What freights were charged to market it,
It left a truly sorry showing.

The price was high, but so were freights:
Instead of rich it left him owing,
Then wroth the farmer quick became.
Quoth he, What is the use of sowing?

We laws must have to fair decide
What share the carrier, what the grower;
But when he came to get the laws,
He found 'twas quite beyond his power.

The railroad men had busy been
Shaping and moulding things political;
The reason why now plain to all,
The situation somewhat critical.

MORAL.

If farmers will not take an interest in public affairs they may expect to be preyed upon by the railroads. Railroad men now boldly advocate a new principle of fixing charges—viz., "what the traffic will bear," instead of the old one upon which carriers' charges were based—"cost of service." Once recognize the new theory with watered stock for an excuse and the new pooling system furnishing the power—the productions of a continent are largely at the mercy of the corporations which the people have created. In order to perpetuate this system, railroad managers naturally seek political power. Both the chairmen of the Democratic and Republican National Committees at this time are railroad men, and railroad money is largely relied upon to run the political machines. Congress, and also many of our State Legislatures, are controlled by the railroads. First, through officers or directors, who become legislators for that purpose; second, and perhaps more largely, through members of the legal profession who are also legislators, and are retained as "counsel" by the railroads; third, through special favors shown all the members.

Is it not about time that the farmers, who constitute by far the largest single interest in this country, and whose productions are the basis of all our prosperity, should have something to say about the amount they are taxed for transportation? In England the Farmers' Alliance held the balance of power at the last general election. What is to prevent their organizing in every assembly and Congressional District here, and take an interest in politics which would not only protect their own interest, but be an efficient check upon the encroachments of corporations which have been so great of late that all patriotic citizens must view their increasing power with alarm?—Daily Graphic.

The Texas Cow.

Mr. Webster says that the cow is "a quadruped whose abundant milk furnishes food and profit to the farmer." Mr. Webster does not give the cow as much attention as she deserves, and when he talks of abundant milk he proves beyond all question that he is densely ignorant concerning the Texas cow.

There are several kinds of cows; for instance there is the town cow, a very enterprising animal, that breaks into the front garden at night and crowds her stomach with valuable shrubs and costly tropical plants, and sleeps on the sidewalk in conveniently dark places, where people can fall over her without getting out of their way. Then there is the country cow that you see in chromos, standing meditatively in shallow streams or pools of water with her tail furled in the shape of a letter S over her back, or being driven home in the twilight along shady lanes by bare-footed boys—that same cow that, out of the picture is always breaking into the corn fields and being chased by dogs and infuriated farmers. And there is the cow with the crumpled horn, and the ambitious cow whose lunar feat is recorded in the ancient nursery rhyme, but more important than any of these is what might be called the literary cow—the one that, ornamented with fragments of the English alphabet, roams over the Texas prairies; she has no pedigree and is seldom found at agricultural shows or stock exhibitions. She is built in the Tudor style of architecture, and is principally composed of lean rib roasts and soup bones attached to a witty spreading pair of horns. Her time is mostly taken up in eating grass and in trying to lose herself.

A Texas cow, when she is new, is worth from \$10 to \$15. She is called old after she has lived eight years, unless her enterprising owner files the wrinkles off her horns; then she can be driven to town and sold for a new cow, guaranteed to give three gallons of pure milk a day.

As the Texas cow, raised on the prairie, is seldom educated up to three gallons a day, and would starve rather than eat bran or slops, the city man finds that he, as well as the cow, has been well sold, and when his wife calls him an old fool and says that she will buy a new cow off his hands, he bribes the butcher to take the cow off his hands. The butcher kills her and advertises the remains as "choice corn-fed."

There are millions of cows in Texas; some men own more than 100,000 head of cattle. There are several cattle owners who each brand from 5,000 to 20,000 calves every year. The owner brands his calves with either the initials of his name or a combination of letters, figures and hieroglyphics, and when he sells he puts his brand on a fresh place on the animal; this is called counter-branding. Then the new owner puts his brand, consisting of three or four two-foot letters on a blank space. After a Texas cow has been sold five or six times she looks as if a sum in algebra had broken out all over her. There are two kinds of branding irons and two modes of branding; one iron is of

the shape of the letter or letters forming the brand and, being heated, is stamped on the animal's side or hip and held there until it burns through the hair and almost through the skin. The other, called a running brand, is a long piece of iron curved at the end. With this, the curved end being hot, the person branding writes the brand much after the free and fluent style in which shipping clerks mark boxes. In the most common mode of branding the animal is thrown down and the head held down to the ground until the owner's name is blown in the bottle, as it were. The less common way is to drive the animal into a narrow passage, called a chute, just wide enough for it to squeeze through, and while it is in this tight place it is cauterized.

After all this trouble taken by man, with a view to improve and ornament the cow, the ungrateful brute fails to show any appreciation of the kindness, and even groans and kicks when the artists apply the iron. So dissatisfied does she seem that one would almost be compelled to believe she does not care to receive and circulate the English alphabet. There is no enterprise about a cow anyhow, expect in chewing up the family underclothing and in the matter of lifting a garden gate off its hinges or a milk-maid off her stool.—Texas Siftings.

PAINT for PATRONS.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

Immense Reduction in Prices from April 15, 1881.

FREIGHT FREE.

Quartermaster's Ready-Mixed Paints.

Used by Patrons all Over the Land.

QUARTERMASTER'S GUIDE TO PAINTING

WITH SAMPLE COLORS SENT FREE TO ANY PATRON.

Send for our Prices before purchasing elsewhere. Address

E. A. QUARTERMAN,
may 16-6m 169 South Street, New York City.

CLOTHES WASHER.

WE are prepared to furnish our justly celebrated CLOTHES WASHERS in large numbers. We have been unable, until lately, to supply the increasing demand. The Washer is now in successful operation in more than a hundred families in this vicinity, and its merits are fully established.

SCHOOLCRAFT WASHER CO.
Schoolcraft, June 28th, 1881. July 1st

MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

TIME-TABLE—MAY 9, 1880.

WESTWARD.

	A. M. P. M.
Accommodation leaves.....	4 00
" arrives.....	9 30
Local Passenger.....	9 30
Evening Express.....	1 53
Pacific Express.....	2 42
Mail.....	1 15
Day Express.....	5 30

EASTWARD.

	A. M. P. M.
Night Express.....	6 50
Accommodation leaves.....	9 30
" arrives.....	12 35
Mail.....	7 41
Day Express.....	10 25

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses and Local Passenger daily. All other trains daily except Sunday.

E. B. LAYMAN, Gen. Manager, Detroit.
E. C. BROWN, Asst. Gen. Supt., Jackson.
HENRY C. WESTWORTH, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

L. S. & M. S. R. R.

KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

(Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo.)

GOING SOUTH.

	N. Y. & N. Y. B. Express, Ex. & M. Way Fr.
La. Grand Rapids.....	8 00 AM 4 50 PM 5 00 AM
Ar. Allegan.....	9 17 " 6 05 " 8 10 "
Ar. Kalamazoo.....	10 15 " 7 05 " 11 40 "
Ar. Schoolcraft.....	10 55 " 7 43 " 10 50 "
Ar. Three Rivers.....	11 18 " 8 12 " 2 45 "
Ar. White Pigeon.....	11 45 " 8 40 " 4 50 "
Ar. Toledo.....	5 35 PM 2 45 AM
Ar. Cleveland.....	10 10 " 7 05 " 11 40 "
Ar. Buffalo.....	3 55 AM 1 10 PM

GOING NORTH.

	N. Y. & N. Y. B. Express, Ex. & M. Way Fr.
La. Buffalo.....	12 45 PM 12 35 AM
Ar. Cleveland.....	7 35 " 7 00 "
Ar. Toledo.....	6 00 " 10 50 "
Ar. White Pigeon.....	6 00 " 3 35 PM 8 45 AM
Ar. Three Rivers.....	6 28 " 4 00 " 10 00 "
Ar. Schoolcraft.....	6 58 " 4 28 " 12 10 PM
Ar. Kalamazoo.....	7 30 " 5 00 " 1 40 "
Ar. Allegan.....	8 40 " 6 05 " 4 20 "
Ar. Grand Rapids.....	10 00 " 7 20 " 8 10 "

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line.

A. G. AMMAN,
Supt. Kalamazoo Division, Kalamazoo.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Corrected Time-Table—July 31, 1881.

WESTWARD.

STATIONS.	Day Express No. 2.	Night Express No. 4.	Flint Express No. 6.	Accom'd. No. 22.
La. Port Huron.....	7 00 AM 7 00 PM 4 15 AM			
" Grand Trunk Junction.....	7 10 " 7 10 " 4 30 "			
" Inlay City.....	8 10 " 8 05 " 5 40 "			
" Lapeer.....	8 35 " 8 35 " 6 12 "			
" Flint.....	9 30 " 9 15 " 6 55 "			
" Durand.....	10 15 " 9 55 " 7 05 "			
" Charlotte.....	12 15 PM 11 45 "			
" Battle Creek.....	1 30 " 12 45 AM			7 15 AM
" Vicksburg.....	2 30 " 1 42 "			10 45 "
" Schoolcraft.....	2 35 " 1 55 "			1 43 PM
" Cassopolis.....	3 30 " 2 46 "			1 48 PM
" South Bend.....	4 07 " 3 27 "			1 50 "
" G. T. Junction.....	5 30 " 4 35 "			2 00 "
Ar. Chicago.....	8 00 " 8 00 "			

EASTWARD.

STATIONS.	Day Express No. 1.	Night Express No. 3.	Flint Express No. 5.	Accom'd. No. 21.
Ar. Chicago.....	9 15 AM 9 15 PM			
La. Valparaiso.....	11 18 " 11 28 "			5 55 AM
" South Bend.....	12 55 PM 1 17 AM			10 45 "
" Cassopolis.....	1 45 " 2 05 "			1 43 PM
" Schoolcraft.....	2 35 " 3 05 "			3 46 "
" Vicksburg.....	2 47 " 3 15 "			4 40 "
" Battle Creek.....	4 35 " 4 50 "			5 00 "
" Charlotte.....	5 00 " 5 35 "			
" Lansing.....	5 40 " 6 18 "			
" Durand.....	6 37 " 7 35 "			
" Flint.....	7 40 " 8 35 " 46 00 AM			
" Lapeer.....	8 35 " 9 20 " 7 15 "			
" Inlay City.....	9 05 " 9 59 " 8 10 "			
" G. T. Junction.....	10 30 " 10 25 " 10 00 "			
Ar. Port Huron.....	10 30 " 10 35 " 10 35 "			

All trains run by Chicago time. All trains daily except Sunday.

CHAS. B. PRICE,
Traffic Manager.

S. R. CALLAWAY,
General Superintendent.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, . . . NOVEMBER 15.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

THE VISITOR FOR 1882—SPECIAL OFFER.

To ten new subscribers for three months we will send the VISITOR for—\$1 00
Five copies, six months—1 25
Eleven copies, one year—5 00
From Nov. 1, 1881 to Jan. 1, 1883, (14 months)—50

The success of the current volume of the VISITOR in its enlarged form has been quite satisfactory. Many of our friends have done good work in obtaining subscribers. The acquaintance it made with farmers outside the Order of P. of H. by our offer to send it three months to ten names for \$1.00 has been of some advantage to its subscription list, though not as great as it would have been had the work been done two months earlier. As it was we had over 2,500 three months subscribers, whose time did not expire until the busy season of the year with farmers so engrossed their attention that its non-appearance was not observed, and our friends who had obtained these subscribers were likewise so absorbed with the pressing duties of the spring and summer they could not canvass for a continuance.

Busy people must be reminded of the expiration of their subscription, or in the busy season of the year they will hardly find it out in a month, and this remark applies with more force to subscribers to a semi-monthly than to a weekly paper.

This is a particularly favorable time to interest those outside the Order in the VISITOR.

Mr. N. W. Green has not yet served notices upon farmers and others in all parts of the State to walk up to the Captain's office and settle, but as he has distributed several thousand of them in several counties, his purpose to bleed every owner of a driven well in the State is well established.

The determination of the Patrons of the State to resist the demand, and the prompt action of the Executive Committee of the State Grange to provide means and measures for resistance, have brought the Order to the favorable notice of all parties interested in the defense.

As the VISITOR is in a position to keep well posted in relation to every feature of this matter as it is developed, we hope those who desire to be correctly informed will be induced to subscribe for the paper for one year, and we can safely depend on their future support, if in its first year it is carefully read. It is conceded that the VISITOR is a valuable auxiliary in Grange work, and deserves the support of every Patron in the State. But, as we have often said, this matter is one that will not take care of itself. Is it not then the duty as well as the interest of every Grange to appoint a soliciting committee whose duty it shall be to try and have the paper a regular VISITOR to every family having members in the Grange and the additional duty should be imposed on the committee of canvassing the neighborhood, and obtaining subscribers from those outside the Order. No better plan can be adopted to strengthen the Grange, and add to its membership.

Specimen copies for distribution sent to any of our friends on application.

We renew our offer to send ten copies to any post-office three months to new trial subscribers for \$1.00. Five copies, six months for \$1.25. Eleven copies, one year, \$5.00. As a special inducement we offer to all new subscribers for 1882 the remaining numbers of 1881, or the VISITOR for fourteen months for 50 cents.

Will not our friends secure a thousand new subscribers on this offer before December 1st. They can if they will.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S CIRCULAR AND THE NEWSPAPERS.

By direction of the Executive Committee we sent a copy of their Circular to each of the 400 newspapers of Michigan, with a request for publication. We have of course seen but a comparatively small number of these papers since sending them the Circular. We were somewhat curious to know how this request would be treated, and what comments it would call out.

Of the papers that we have since chanced to see, several have acknowledged the receipt of the circular and made brief reference to the subject matter merely as an item of news, sometimes adding that, on account of its length, they were unable to publish the circular in full. Now, we venture to assert that not one of these valuable periodicals had a single article in its issue of as much real interest to its readers as this circular, and we might safely go farther, and say with regard to the most of them that if the matter of its issue (when so short of room) had all been boiled down to a half column article, that article would have been less important to its readers than this same circular.

Other papers have printed the circular of the committee in full, yet we have so far failed to see one word of editorial comment upon this odious patent law which for all these years has permitted a class of sharpers to extort money from innocent victims.

The purpose of a Michigan newspaper seems to be to report facts and falsehoods indiscriminately with little or no regard to remedies for obvious wrongs. It is enough for a newspaper to say that Mr. Snooks has been defrauded out of any given sum of money. It is careful to go no farther, and say that it was done legally, and point out the vicious features of a law that has permitted the fraud to be perpetrated, and direct attention to the parties responsible for its existence and continuance, or suggest to its readers any remedy.

The press long ago claimed for itself not only a distinguished place as an educator, but as the great engine or motive power of progress in our civilization its claim to surpass in efficiency all other means known to man has not been disputed.

But there is manifestly a want of independence in the country press. Its management dare not strike any blows lest some advertiser or some politician, or somebody gets hit. There are exceptions, but as a rule the country newspaper has little or no independence, and largely fails in its opportunities for doing good.

THE WORLD MOVES, AND SO DOES THE MICHIGAN FARMER.

Some of our readers will remember that in the VISITOR of April 1st, current volume, we called their attention to "The Only Agricultural Paper Published in Michigan," and criticised the *Michigan Farmer* for keeping a statement standing year after year at the head of its editorial page, which neither its editors, publishers or the general public believed.

As this foolish whopper, that deceived no one, remained standing for some months after we had called the attention of the editor of the *Farmer* in our mild way to it, we had supposed that the management of the *Farmer* were hiding behind the old saying that "a lie well stuck to is as good as the truth." Last week we chanced to pick up a copy of the *Farmer* in a neighboring office, and turning to its editorial page, we found that whopper, so conspicuously displayed for so long many years, had been expunged. Well, Bro. *Farmer*, we don't belong to any church, but we are Christian enough to forgive and forget (as soon as we can) that little idiosyncrasy of yours which caused you to believe that harmless whopper—"The Only Agricultural Paper Published in Michigan"—standing prominently at the head of your editorial page, was worth something to you.

As the *Farmer* has outgrown this delusion it will please accept our congratulations at this evidence of increasing courage and returning honesty, and without malice or memory of the past, we invite it to EXCHANGE.

THE DEATH OF L. E. TAYLOR.

On the evening of November 1st, we received a letter from Mr. Loren Day, of the firm of Day & Taylor, of Grandville, containing the sad intelligence of the death at 8:45 A. M., that day, of his partner, Bro. Lafayette E. Taylor. He came to his death by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of a hunter, near Manton, Wexford county. We have not been informed of the particulars of the accident.

Bro. Taylor leaves a wife but no children. Our acquaintance with him, covering a period of seven years, enables us to say that he possessed in a pre-eminent degree those qualities which make up the most valuable citizen. He was honest, industrious, and enterprising, as well as genial, kind, and considerate. Possessed of rare business qualifications, he was one of those men who would have been esteemed in any community fortunate enough to claim him as one of its citizens. But we will not anticipate the sad duty that devolves on his nearer Patron friends by farther reference to our esteemed Brother.

We learn from authority that the manufacturing business of the late firm will continue without interruption. Its contract with the Executive Committee of the State Grange will be made good by the surviving member, Bro. Loren Day.

A large amount of plaster rock has been got out and is in good order for winter grinding, and nearly 3,000 tons have been already ground in advance, that orders may be filled as promptly as the supply of cars on the several railroads will warrant.

WE CAN'T DO IT.

VISTULA, Oct. 9, 1881.

Brother J. T. Cobb—Please send my paper, the VISITOR, to Vistula, Elkhart Co., Ind.

If Bro. Valentine will tell us where we have been sending his paper we will comply with his request, but we have no time to look over a few thousand names to find his former postoffice address. We can't afford to send a paper to each place.

The Worthy Lecturer of Elk Lake Grange, No. 409, writes encouragingly of that Grange. Its membership is increasing and its future promising.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE—NINTH SESSION.

The ninth session of the State Grange will be called to order by Worthy Master Luce, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, in the new Capitol Building in the city of Lansing, at 10 o'clock A. M., four weeks from to-day. With this statement we might stop, satisfied that we had done our duty to the thousands of Patrons of Michigan by giving this general notice. But there are several other things we are thinking about in connection with the facts stated. We have not time to moralize on the work done by the Order in this State, during these nine years, and pass it all by to say that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has obtained such a standing in the State as to make them welcome annual visitors at the State Capitol; and we credit the officers of the State Government not only with an annual, cordial welcome, but with a disposition to afford every facility for the convenience and enjoyment not only of the officers and members of the State Grange, but also of all visiting members of the Order. The Order has increased in membership the last year, and also in faith and work. This appears by our books and by our correspondence, and we shall be disappointed if additional evidence is not furnished by the large number of Patrons that will give the signal at the door of the ante-room in the State House, the third week in December. From different parts of the State we hear that more than the usual number are coming and we are glad to hear it, for there is no better time or place to strengthen the Order than its annual session of legislative members. What is there seen and heard by the visiting members, enlarges their views and gives them a clearer conception of the importance and value of the Order.

The universal testimony of those who attend these annual meetings, confirms this statement, and more—those who come never return home complaining that they have not been compensated in positive enjoyment for the time and expense incurred.

Railroad arrangements for reduced rates, have not yet been completed, but as the railroads of this State have a standing rule, as well as usage, to charge those attending conventions, societies and other important meetings, two cents a mile each way, for round trip tickets, we think it safe to calculate on this usual reduction to all who desire to attend the State Grange at Lansing, this year.

We think the hotel accommodations will be ample when supplemented as they always have been by boarding houses and private residences at reasonable rates.

Fellow Patrons, all of you who can, should make your calculations to attend this session of the State Grange. Your attendance will do you good, benefit the Order and leave impressed on your memory a bright page to which you will look back with satisfaction in future years.

THE DRIVEN WELL.

This matter, like everything that goes to court, has not made any very great progress toward a final solution of the case since our last issue. That our readers may the better understand the status of this driven well business, we will briefly recite what has come to our knowledge.

Mr. N. W. Green made his late drop first upon the people of Ottawa county, freely scattering his notices to come and settle. In due time through an agent he brought suit to collect royalty, against 30 farmers of the county.

In the meantime he applied to Judge Withey, of the United States District Court for the Western District, for an injunction to restrain users of driven wells in this judicial district from using such wells until the question of the validity of Mr. Green's patent shall be determined.

These parties employed an attorney of Grand Haven to defend, and at the first hearing Mr. Green made such a showing that Mr. Stuart for the defense, asked for more time to obtain testimony, and was granted thirty days. As Mr. Green was extending his business into other counties, and evidently intended to cover the State with claims, if he could make them hold water, the Executive Committee of the State Grange determined, in behalf of the Patrons of the State who were exposed to an attack from Mr. Green, to prepare for defense.

By issuing a circular advising Patrons not to pay, until the claim had been judicially passed upon, and by providing a plan to raise a Defense Fund, the preliminary steps were taken.

H. D. Platt, of Ypsilanti, to whom the Executive Committee determined to commit the matter of defense, engaged Messrs. Beakes & Cutcheon, of Detroit, as counsel, and by an arrangement made with the attorneys employed by the defense in the Ottawa County cases, these gentlemen were to assist in the injunction suit which was to have a second hearing by the court on Saturday the 5th inst. On the following Monday, Bro. Platt wrote us that points of the defense were so well taken that Mr. Green asked for ten days more time. This request was granted, and the judge also granted as much more time to the defense to make answer, and set the 15th of December as the time for hearing the argument of counsel.

This is briefly the present status of the case as it stands in court. On our part, we

have been making some effort to provide the "sinews of war," in order to make such defense as the importance of the case demands. Now while there are plenty of people that have a direct pecuniary interest in this matter and are quite willing to pay their dollar to this Defense Fund, yet without some definite arrangements and some systematic work, those dollars will never find their way into that fund. The State Grange of Michigan, through its Executive Committee, have undertaken to furnish the machinery by which a defense shall be maintained, if the evidence can be anywhere unearthed, that shall effectually overthrow Mr. Green's venerable claim.

In undertaking this work it must be distinctly understood that the State Grange does not propose to furnish any money from its treasury. Whatever funds it may have were not raised for such a purpose, and will not be so applied. To maintain this defense will cost a considerable sum of money, which must be provided by the Subordinate Granges of the State, and by those outside who are disposed to resist this effort of Mr. Green to get something for nothing. As the matter stands, we must look to the Granges of the State to take the preliminary steps to raise this fund.

While we are not disposed to direct, we take the liberty to suggest that this matter be first discussed at your Grange meeting. Next issue a call for a public meeting of all interested. At such meeting have a President and Treasurer elected, and appoint a committeeman in each school district of the township, to solicit contributions to this fund. Interest, as much as possible, those outside the Order, and devote work upon them. With a permanent President and Treasurer, correspondence can be had with this office, and printed matter furnished on call. Whatever the outcome may be, this labor will by no means be lost.

The people, through this agitation, will learn the odious features of our patent laws and hold their representatives in Congress responsible for their continuance.

EACH fortnight brings to light more Grange halls in Michigan. We add ten to our list since last issue. You see we don't intend to stop until we know just how many Granges own halls in Michigan and their value. Who next?

NAME OF GRANGE.	NO.	SIZE OF HALL.	VALUE.
Waverly	36	24x52	\$—
Cascade	63	22x48	600
Home	129	20x40	300
Pittsford	133	18x36	300
Pipestone	194	24x40	600
Albion	221	24x48	1,000
Lapeer	246	16x24	—
Ganges	339	24x60	—
Ellena	350	20x42	800
Chicago	364	25x60	1,200
Ravenna	373	24x50	1,500
Michigan Lake Shore	407	25x50	1,200
Albion	411	22x40	600
Windsor	619	20x36	—
Silver Lake	624	18x40	400
Alton	634	20x40	500
Bainbridge	639	—	1,000
Leoni	81	32x60	800
Danby	185	20x40	400
Home	188	22x36	400
Moline	248	24x50	1,000
Berlin Center	272	28x40	1,500
Independence	275	26x56	550
Trowbridge	286	26x50	1,400
Mt. Hope	87	18x40	600
Cheshire Banner	520	22x40	600
Trent	372	30x60	1,800
Madison	384	22x40	700
Epsley Center	544	20x40	300
Griswold Center	564	21x40	300
Ferris	249	22x40	550
Groveland	443	44x30	1,500
Conway	114	20x50	600
Fruit	144	20x30	800
Keene	270	—	700
Fraternity	52	—	700
Willow	618	22x50	900
Liberty	382	24x50	800
Mt. Taber	43	24x50	1,200
Capit	348	30x50	1,500
Whitneyville	225	—	1,000
Weston	22	25x60	2,000
Paw Paw	10	25x60	—
McDonald	26	20x40	300
Allen	78	24x44	500
Bee Hive	158	22x50	750
Chippewa	517	20x31½	500
Bunker Hill	249	24x48	1,100
Woodhull	227	22x40	365
Fells	349	18x30	—
Albion	421	22x40	700
Weston	276	26x60	3,000
Berlin Center	14	26x60	400
Keene	270	—	1,200
Monguagon	622	20x40	—
Irving	55	18x40	600
Brighton	336	—	500
Wheatland	273	24x50	800
Grattan	170	28x60	1,000
Centerville	76	18x42	1,000
Capitol	540	29x40	1,000
Union	295	24x30	300
Charity	417	26x40	—
Bowen Center	219	28x44	800
Macon	167	26x50	800
Hamilton	355	24x48	1,000
Gaines	478	16x40	300
Bedford	65	20x45	1,000
Orleans	325	24x44	750
Wheatland	273	24x50	600
Harmony	357	26x46	700

THE RAILROAD COMMISSIONER.

Just before going to press we received the communication found on our fifth page from W. B. Williams, the present Commissioner of Railroads of this State. By the same mail we received copies of the report of the Commissioner for the years of 1877, '78, '79, and '80, together with a copy of Michigan Railroad Laws as compiled under the direction of the Commissioner.

Quoting from its prefatory introduction we find: "This compilation is intended to embrace all laws now in force which have a general application to railroads as well as to special Acts of the last few years, whose provisions seem to be of general importance." A brief digest of the decisions of the Supreme Court on railroad questions is also attached, with a list of cases reported to and including the June term of 1881.

Commissioner Williams will please accept our thanks for these documents. We hope to get time soon to look them over and shall make reference to them in future.

As the Commissioner has well said, "He is dealing with the most difficult problem, State and national, of the day," and we do not forget that he is not responsible for the

many impositions practiced upon the people by railroad corporations.

We shall be glad to contribute as opportunity is afforded to a better understanding of this whole subject by the people, who are so interested in this matter.

THE LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

We had become a little alarmed when the inside of this number went to press with only one article in the Ladies' Department, and that, though from one of our contributors, was taken from an exchange. But it turned out a matter of tardiness rather than of desertion, which brings this department on to our fifth page this time. We had missed Aunt Kate's practical letters, and are glad to know that she is able and willing to contribute to this department. As we remember, the article to which she refers was not rejected, but being of a sort that had good keeping qualities, and not then needed, we laid it aside for future use, and it had been nearly forgotten. This "Visit to the Editor" has given us a reminder, and we shall look it up.

We do not like to assume that the VISITOR is paid for, taken from the postoffice, and not read; but occasionally in conversation with a subscriber that we chance to meet, it crops out by the questions he asks that he has not read the VISITOR but in part, if at all. It is for this reason that we sometimes call attention to what is on the inside of the paper. We find short articles are much more likely to be noticed than long ones. On our second page will be found the address of Worthy Master Woodman delivered before the National Grange in the city of Washington at its fourteenth session. We think this mention is sufficient to cause every true Patron to give this STATE PAPER a careful perusal.

RAILROAD MANAGEMENT.

From an exchange we clip an extract from a speech of Sir Henry Tyler, M. P., and now President of the Grand Trunk railway. There are two important points made in this speech, to which we invite attention: First—the unreliability of these men occupying positions that give them power more potent to affect the interests of the people of this country than is possessed by the President of the United States. The highest ambition of some of these big fellows seems to be to circumvent the other big fellows, and an agreement between them goes for nothing if its violation will give them an advantage.

Secondly—the testimony of this witness as to the value of public opinion in correcting acknowledged abuses. The railroads, for the last score of years, have had possession of the legislative bodies of the country, and they will have until the people give their representatives to understand that their official existence depends on their efforts to protect by honest legislation the rights of the people.

All this goes to confirm what has been so often proved, that railway management has largely fallen into the hands of unscrupulous men. The law unto themselves which so often sets aside the rights of the people, and which is so often found convenient by shrewd managing railroad officials, is often equivalent to the highwayman's rule, that the end justifies the means.

"On one occasion when I was in America some years since, I had the honor to meet the Presidents of the other four trunk lines, and we all agreed that it was very stupid and very silly to cut each other's throats; we promised to be good boys, and that we would not have any cutting in future. We agreed that we would buy up certain contracts which had been made by the Wabash company to carry below the authorized rates. Mr. Vanderbilt promised to supply one-third of the money requisite to buy up those contracts, and the other companies were to find the rest between them. We thought we were going to have a real reform and a better state of things as regards rates. From that time forward for several months rates went from bad to worse, and I could not understand it at all. I believed that they were acting in good faith, and I still believe they were, almost all of them. But what happened? We found at the end of a few months that a certain millionaire bought up the majority of the shares in the Michigan Central railway, and Mr. Garrett told me when he came over in the following spring that he could not previously understand it, but he had come to the conclusion that Mr. Vanderbilt wanted to buy the shares of the Michigan Central road at a cheap rate. That appeared to be the main reason why the rates had been kept down."

President Tyler then gave a history of the first cutting of passenger fares, and the part played by the Grand Trunk. "When," he said, "we found the passenger fares going down, and down, and down, at last we thought we would go to the bottom, and we put the passenger fares down to \$5 between New England and Chicago. As regards freight rates, we have had no part in it; but as regards the passenger rates, when they were found to be going down and down, at last we went to the bottom, and there we are." He spoke well of Commissioner Fink's honesty, "and we are always ready to go before Mr. Fink and let him settle all these disputes, and are ready to abide by his decisions, and Mr. Fink knows it." Speaking of the remedies for these trunk line troubles, President Tyler said:

"The only remedy I have to suggest is one of which I have had some experience. When I was a government inspector of railways, I set to work some 15 years ago to see how I could best—what is not so directly in accordance with my present position—bring about a reform in enforcing improvements in the interest of safety on directors of railways in this country. We had a great

deal of discussion at different times as to how we could get improvements made upon railways. Many people advocated legislation; some advocated one thing and some another. I always said there is only one way in which we can act upon railway companies, and that is by public opinion. All you have to do is to find out the truth of everything that happens and clearly state it, and the public will do the rest. The remedy I shall now propose for the state of things in America is just the same. I have seen it succeed admirably for one good object in England, and I believe it will succeed equally well with our present object in America. If American gentlemen would themselves set to work to discover what these people who lower the rates and what they do it for, and would publish without fear, favor or affection the results of their discoveries, I believe the cure would not be far distant. I have given you the various theories which have been started to account for it, and if they would set to work to find out what are the causes operating—whether they are speculators bearing stock, or buying up stocks—if they would discover the true "inwardness," as they term it, of all these recent operations, and set it clearly before the American public, I am sure it would do more to stop this abominable state of things than anything else that we can devise."

Commenting on this speech, the London (Eng.) Globe says:

"The pregnant remarks made by Henry Tyler, M. P., in his capacity as President of the Grand Trunk railway, at the shareholders' meeting on Thursday last, when he alluded to the present 'war of rates' so fiercely raging on the American continent, are worthy of the most serious consideration by all European investors in American railway stocks. It seems almost incredible, but it is nevertheless the actual fact, that the interest-yielding power of the share and loan capital of the Trunk lines in the United States, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, is absolutely at the mercy of a few unscrupulous speculators, more favorably known by the complimentary title of railway kings. The existing depression of rates, far below anything that can be conceived in this country, is not caused by keen competition among long lines of railroad for an attenuated traffic. It is due solely to the arbitrary determination of a single individual to do as much harm as he can to the property of his neighbors for the purpose of sustaining what he conceives to be his legal monopoly; and by diminishing the earning power of other railroads, to depreciate their stocks, and so bring the bulk of the voting power into his insatiable grasp. This end achieved, the same powerful authority puts up the rates, and up go the stocks and he can either 'unload' at an immense profit to himself, or hold his purchases for the purpose of universal control. Sir Henry Tyler is perfectly right in saying that nothing short of the strong pressure of outraged public opinion can put a stop to such high-handed and practically dishonest proceedings. In the meantime English speculators would do well to be cautious how they trust their golden sovereigns to the tender mercies of a management over which they can exercise no sort of control."

Communications.

Reply from the Railroad Commissioner.

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF RAILROADS,
LANSING, Nov. 9, 1881.

Editor of the Grange Visitor, Schoolcraft, Mich.:

DEAR SIR:—In your issue of November 1, I noticed a communication entitled, "For what purpose is our Railroad Commissioner appointed?—a mystery cleared up," signed "C."; also your editorial upon the subject. The last is clearly in the right vein, and indicates an intention not to judge without knowing the "law and the facts;" and your statement that "we want to hear more on this subject" is a very proper one. Had your correspondent "C." adopted the same caution he would probably not so readily have cleared up the mystery as he appears to have done. I desire to state that the subject of "large damages awarded against railroad companies" was not considered, nor brought before the convention at Atlanta in any manner or form; and in order that you may be more fully informed on that subject, I send you, by this mail, an official copy of the proceedings of the convention at Atlanta.

To attempt to answer your suggestion in regard to the duties of this office, would involve too much matter to burden your paper with. I send you, however, a copy of the Compiled Railroad Laws for 1881, embracing also a digest of decisions of the Supreme Court and the Act defining the powers and duties of the Commissioner of Railroads, from which you can derive such information for publication as you may from time to time desire. I may further say that in my report, to be out in a few days, I will give a full synopsis of the powers and duties of this office.

I regret that these reports are not more fully examined by correspondents like "C." If he had thoroughly examined them, particularly the text, he would perhaps not have pronounced so hasty a judgment upon them.

I have always considered the office a public one, and that the duty of the Commissioner was to protect the interest of the public. But he also stands as an adjuster of all matters between the railroads and the people. His duties are very extensive, embracing official supervision of over 4,000 miles of railroad in the State of Michigan to-day, and occupy practically his whole time and attention. He is well aware that he is dealing with the most difficult problem, both State and National, of the day, and that it is his duty to act honestly and impartially towards all interests with which he is connected, both so far as the public is con-

cerned and the railroads also; to see that neither is wronged and all rights fully protected. It is a position of fearful responsibility, not only as to property, but as to lives. He is not to forget that, while he is paid by the State for his services, the railroad companies also pay a very heavy amount into the treasury of the State, amounting in 1880 to \$525,000.00, and for the last fiscal year to the sum of \$618,934.89, which amount under our present system of taxation will be increased year by year, and now all goes into the school fund. It is the duty of the Commissioner to see that these taxes are properly assessed on all general law roads; and while he is paid out of the State treasury, I can truly say that the State is not one "whit" the poorer in consequence.

I should be very glad indeed to furnish you the text of my reports since I have held the office, in order that you may more fully see, and present to the many readers of your very valuable paper, the manner in which its duties have been performed. Thanking you for your kind expressions in your editorial, I am

Very truly yours,
W. B. WILLIAMS.

Work for State Masters.

Now is the time to prepare petitions to the National Grange, which meets the third Wednesday of November. There are many changes that should be made in the Constitution of our Order. I shall at this time discuss but one, which to me seems most unjust, and that is the basis on which eligibility to membership to the State and National Grange rests, viz., Masters and Past Masters of Subordinate Granges and their wives only are eligible to membership, etc. This clause discriminating between office-holders and the body from which they emanated is unjust, un-American, non-republican, and detrimental to the best form of government and society.

Without censuring the founders of the Order for unwise legislation, which time has proven to be antagonistic to American ideas, yet I believe the law to have been conceived in a bad spirit. The decline of Grange interest, at least in Clinton county, may in part be attributed to this unjust law. My first objection is, the office is in many instances sought for on account of the favors the office receives and not because the office seeks the man for the real worth an individual may be to the society which has chosen him to preside over its deliberations. Secondly, every individual may have and should have high aspirations. A person of purity, integrity, and intelligence may be a leading representative man in every sense of the word, but the law says his qualifications are not sufficient to entitle him to represent the cause to which he is allied. But the man or woman who has once been Master is acceptable and is greeted with the words, "Come up higher."

When eligibility is based on the catch-game of office-holding the nobler aspirations of man are quenched and the cause to which he is wedded languishes or dies. I assert that the leading representatives of this nation have not and it seems they cannot hold the highest positions in the nation, (and that too, unfettered). Since John Q. Adams' time down to the present time, I recall with humiliation the names of Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Seward, Douglass, Greeley, Chandler, and James G. Blaine.

Thirdly, one fallacious idea, expressed to me by a delegate to the County Convention, is, "Suppose the Master can't talk in public, and ain't very well posted, send him to the State Grange to teach him something." Now I suppose it may be pleasant to be educated at the expense of ineligible fourth degree members, but my voice and vote will be to educate in our free schools for which our State has made ample provision.

Fourthly, this law leads to an unequal distribution of representation. It is no justice to a Subordinate Grange that some other Grange shall be thrice represented in the State Grange because a certain Grange Master is objectionable. Patrons, I appeal to you who believe in the true principles of the Grange equality and justice to all, to petition the State Master for such a change in our organic law as will give to every member of our household equal prospects in the future. B. Q. J.
Wacousta, Clinton Co. Mich.

Go to the State Grange.

That is what I want to say to every Patron in Michigan. Even if you are not a representative, your presence will give strength and influence to your representation; and then you are sure to go home with more confidence in the ability of farmers and their wives for business than you ever had before. The earnest, methodical way of doing business by the State Grange is a model for legislative bodies.

Then the week's association with representative men and women from all parts of the State, is well worth the hotel bills. Be sure and try it. I know one gray-headed Granger in Oakland county who attends the session every year. He has never been a representative, but says it is the most enjoyable time he gets in the whole year, and that the acquaintances formed and renewed at these annual gatherings are worth many times the cost. Bro. Grangers, try his plan once and see if he is not correct. C.

Grange Relief Fund.

PAW PAW, Nov. 10, 1881.

Bro. Cobb:—I have received the following donations for the relief of our brothers and sisters who suffered loss by the recent terrible fires in the newly settled portions of our State. It is my intention to place this sum, and all future receipts, if any, at the disposal of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, who are entrusted with this relief work.

Oct. 4, received of Magnolia Grange, No. 179, Illinois, \$5 00; Oct. 6, from Blooming Grove Grange, No. 820, Ill., \$5 25; Oct. 11, from Peoria County Pomona Grange, No. 33, Ill., \$12 00; Oct. 17, from Clear Creek Valley Grange, No. 33, Col., \$2 00; Oct. 20, from Eden Grange, No. 97, Ohio, \$3 50; Oct. 26, from Fair View Grange, West Va., \$2 02; Nov. 9, from the brothers and sisters of Clear Creek, Putnam County, Ill., collected by the sisters, \$26.30; total, \$56 07.

J. J. WOODMAN.

Postoffice Life Insurance in England.

The British Government regards the principle of mutual life insurance of so much value to the people that it has established a system in connection with its postoffice department, making the postmasters the life insurance agents, and the postoffice department the keeper and distributor of the funds. According to the *London Times*, no less than six thousand applications have already been received for membership. The membership fee is much larger than in our Michigan Aid Society. The assessments are paid in weekly installments.

Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan.

Mr. M. B. Hine, of Kent county, whose death was recently noticed in the *VISITOR*, had his life insured in the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan. His insurance was promptly paid to his wife.

Shoulders to the Wheel.

Bro. Cobb:—Please insert in the *GRANGE VISITOR* the following resolution which was adopted by the Springville Grange, at a meeting on the 29th of October, and ordered spread on the records of the Grange and sent to the *GRANGE VISITOR* for publication:

Resolved, That we are in accord with the sentiments expressed in an article by J. H. Sanford, read before Ottawa Grange, No. 30, and printed in the *VISITOR* of Sept. 1. It was also resolved that Springville Grange, No. 279, will bear its proportionate assessment to a "Defense Fund" in common with the Granges of the State to test the validity of the claim for royalty on driven wells, and that we will solicit aid from those outside the Order who are interested in this matter.

Yours truly,
S. J. KINNEY, Sec'y.
Springville, Nov. 7, 1881.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of Hillsdale Pomona Grange will be held at the Joncsville Grange Hall, on the first Wednesday in December, at which time the election of officers will take place. All members of the Fifth Degree are urgently requested to attend said meeting.
N. T. BROCKWAY, Sec'y.

The annual meeting of the Barry County Pomona Grange will be held at the hall of the Rutland Grange, on Thursday, the 24th day of November, at 10 o'clock A. M. It is expected that the standing committees will be ready with reports. We hope also to have reports from all special committees on questions referred to them. We hope also that each Grange will send at least one representative who will report in writing—first, the number of its members, the amount of cash on hand, the dimensions and value of their Grange Hall, the number of meetings held during the year, and the number of members initiated during the year. The election of officers for the ensuing year will take place in the afternoon. All Fourth Degree members in good standing are invited to attend.
Yours fraternally,
A. PARKER, Sec'y.

The December meeting of the Clinton Co. Pomona Grange will be held at Bengal Grange Hall, on Dec. 7th, commencing at 11 o'clock A. M. A cordial invitation is extended to all Patrons.
FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

The annual meeting of Kalamazoo County Grange will be held on the first Thursday in December next, at the hall of Arcadia Grange in the village of Kalamazoo. The election of officers and other important business will be transacted. Fourth Degree members are cordially invited to attend.
Z. C. DUKKEE, Sec'y.

At the last meeting of Shiawassee Pomona Grange, No. 31, held Oct. 4th, Bro. E. S. Burnette, of Burns, was elected representative to the State Grange.

The next meeting will be held at Burns, on Tuesday, Dec. 6th, 1881. There was a good attendance and much interest manifested at the last meeting, and the Order throughout the county was reported to be in a healthy condition.
Yours resp'y,
J. C. STONE, Sec'y.

The annual meeting of the Detroit and Bay City Council, P. of H., will be held at Orion, on Tuesday, December 6th.
C. K. CARPENTER, Master.
J. G. NOBLE, Sec'y.

A meeting of St. Joseph County Grange, No. 4, will be held at Centreville Grange Hall, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M., Thursday, December 1st. The meeting will continue two days and subjects of great interest to the Order and to farmers generally will be discussed. A good time is assured and a general invitation is extended to the Order to meet with us.
SECRETARY.

Ladies' Department.

An Imaginary Visit to the Editor.

As it is impossible for me to visit the editor in any way but in imagination, on account of illness, I hope my friends will forgive me for it is the easiest way I can go. I shall not describe my journey, and perhaps not much that the editor had to say for fear I may make some mistake.

Now, quick as thought I find myself away down in Schoolcraft. Quite a pleasant town, we think. Soon we find ourselves at the office door. We give the signal, the door is opened by an assistant, a type setter, I believe. We told him we wished to see the Editor if he was not too busy. In a few moments our worthy Editor was before me. I knew it was he, for I have his picture in my scrap book, he seemed to look puzzled, perhaps thought it strange that such a poor looking old lady was there. Well, I gave him the Patron's sign of recognition which he answered promptly. We then shook hands. He then asked me into his reception room. I had already told him who I was and I thought I saw a twinkle in his eye and a smile about the mouth as he turned to go and left me to follow. I thought to myself, He thinks I have come to see about that article I sent him some time ago that was never printed. Now that is not my errand, but I will say that article had an important subject, but we presume it was not tastefully enough gotten up. He gave me a chair and we sat down for a chat. I felt a little diffident at first, but our Brother was so genial we soon found ourselves conversing at a lively rate. Our talk was about the Grange and how it was prospering where we lived, etc.; then our conversation turned on the *GRANGE VISITOR*. Then I told him that was what I had come to see him about. We all think the *VISITOR* the best paper that we have to vindicate the people's rights and expose the frauds that are so common among us, and we believe that no true, wide-awake Patron will do without it. We have watched it with growing interest each year until now, and can truly say it is growing better all the time. Do you think, Brother Cobb, they will make any changes in the size of the *VISITOR* this year? I have been thinking what a good thing it would be if it could be made a weekly. It seems as if the Patrons of Michigan, with help we should receive from other States, might support it and make it pay, but I suppose when the State Grange meets they will determine what is best, but if they don't make it a weekly they will enlarge it, I hope, not so much in length or breadth but in thickness.

Now I would like a literary department. Some say we have one, but it is all on one side. I want one for the gentlemen as well, where they can make their own defense all in the same department. The present year we have had many long and ably written articles that showed talent and forethought and were prized highly by many of its readers. Now I should think such articles or essays should go in a literary department. It is true we have a class among our readers that do not get much time to read. You know who they are. They are the poor, hard working women. They will read short articles when they will only glance at a long one. They want something encouraging and instructive, and that which will buoy them up after a hard day's work. Then there are those who can write short articles, even if not so literary as some others, they may have just as good ideas and when written out will do just as much good as if they were expressed in brilliant and superfluous words.

Now I think our Ladies' Department should be filled with short essays on all kinds of work pertaining to the house, care and management of children, and gardening, in short, be real chaty, it will give us more courage to work, tell our failures and mistakes, as well as successes. I think we will derive much benefit in this way. What say you?

Mr. Editor, now I have given you my humble opinion, and know I am only an obscure Patron, but I read and love the *GRANGE VISITOR* and for this cause I came to Schoolcraft. Good afternoon, Brother Cobb, from
AUNT KATE.

A Reply.

Bro. Cobb: As "Ex-Granger" has given his opinion of Fashion, etc., I thought perhaps he expected replies from some of the ladies as he has tried to hit us all in some respects. We are not surprised that Ex-Granger finds the *GRANGE VISITOR* the right kind of a paper for the people of to-day, and agree with him that it should be in the hands of every family in the State, yes, in the United States.

If Ex-Granger will go through the streets to-day, I do not think his sight will be attracted by any unnatural noise on the pavement caused by the trailing of beautiful dresses, for the American ladies have shortened their dresses a great deal during the past year—from trails of half a yard in length to dresses that clear the floor or pavement.

You ask, "Why it would not add equally to our dignity, our beauty, our gracefulness,

our benefit, and to our real charms to have our clothing made long enough to trail a half a yard in the mud behind us, as it does the ladies to have theirs so?" We will reply to that question when you answer this, "Why would it not add to our dignity, our beauty, our gracefulness, our benefit, and our real charms to have, when we go up toward the saloon, a cigar, a pipe, or half a pound of tobacco in our mouths, a stove pipe hat on, and a bottle sticking out of our dress pockets?"

If fashion had decreed, I haven't a doubt but that you gentlemen would add more to your clothing; if not, why not cut off the tails of your coats?

The great Creator has covered the earth with beautiful flowers, and everything that is pleasing to the eye, and it is in human nature to make themselves as pleasing and agreeable as possible; indeed, they often overdo the matter, but that is not their fault, it is their mistake.

The bangs! well, we will admit that they are not inclined to add to beauty, but to every lady you will show us with banged hair we will show you a young man with his hair parted in the middle, or one who hasn't any hair to part, making him look like one of the apespeaces.

The Worthy Master of the State Grange delivered a lecture not long since which we attended, and although having heard a good many able speakers, think we can truly say it was the best short address we have ever heard; it was not the old plaster and sewing machine story, but was mainly on the moral and social culture of the Grange. He said, "Let the ladies wear what they please, let them wear their hair down on their forehead if they want to, or just as it pleases their fancy, but let them add to their minds." If we seek to cultivate and elevate our intellectual faculties and add more to our minds, perhaps we would not notice dress so much, perhaps we would add more to our minds than to our dresses.

If it is maddening to the poor man to have to pay more for hats, bonnets, or dresses than he thinks circumstances will permit, then is it more maddening for the poor wife to sit down to a table with hardly the bare necessities of life, and a house devoid of everything which makes life pleasant? and notwithstanding all this, the poor man must and will have his tobacco, will pay his last cent for it, for his is a state bordering on insanity if he does not have it. In nine cases out of ten, yea 999 out of 1,000, the wife is not acquainted with her husband's circumstances. In many cases we think sad errors could have been averted if the husband had explained his difficulties in money affairs. Let the husband and wife each have his and her own pocket-book, and let each go to the depth of his or her pocket-book, but no farther. The wife shares the toils, let her share the profits. But no, you say, that would be woman's rights, and when we say anything about woman's rights you have a picture before you of women with guns on their shoulders mustering their troops.

While we are talking about unnecessary expenses, let us note a few of the gentleman's expenses—the gold headed canes, and all the brass, gold, and gilt that the military men wear. What do they put those on for? Is it not because it is the style or custom? The gold shirt studs and sleeve buttons are unnecessary. Then why not wear large coat or dress buttons, instead of gold cuff buttons as large as a quarter? Just because everyone else does not.

Then there is a great deal of unnecessary expense put on gentlemen's boot-tops, nearly enough leather wasted in the tops to make a pair of shoes. Then cigars, pipes, tobacco, and liquor,—these last you say are an old story; yes, and more the shame, a new one too.

If you please, Mr. Ex-Granger, take your pencil and paper, and find out the number of dollars difference between the amount of money expended for steel hoop-skirts, and the amount expended for unnecessary revolvers. I do not wish you to understand me that they are always unnecessary, but in nine cases out of ten they are.

As for the unnecessary stitching, do you think it would be more profitable for us to spend our leisure hours at the billiard table? If the men spent some of their not-very-well-employed leisure hours in stitching, perhaps the gallows and prisons would be cheated out of some of their victims, and the cities out of some of their street loafers. What shall we do with our boys should be as important a question as the one Ex-Granger spoke of: What shall we do with our girls?

Now, please take your pencil and make a summary of all the items—the ladies' ribbons, stitching, flowers, etc., and the gentlemen's tobacco, wines, billiards, etc., and let us know the result. Sweep your own door yard, then bring your broom to help us.
MOLLIE.

Orleans, Oct. 31, 1881.

THE immense shipment of barrels of apples from America to our cousins across the water, and the ready sale with which our good fruit has met, have wonderfully influenced the English grower, and in Kent, especially, rapid progress in fruit culture has been made, and great attention is being paid to the new modes of culture of the apple. But until the relations of the English landlord and tenant are placed upon a firmer basis than they have been of late, tenants will not incur the necessary outlay to establish orchards for their successors to reap the harvest, and successful competition with America is out of the question.

SAXON GRIT.

REV. ROBERT COLLYER'S POEM AT THE NEW ENGLAND DINNER IN NEW YORK.

Worn with the battle by Stamford town,
Fighting the Saxon by Hastings bay,
Harold, the Saxon's son, went down,
While the acorns were falling one autumn day.
Then the Norman said, "I am lord of the land;
By tenure of conquest here I sit:
I will rule you now with an iron hand."
But he had not thought of the Saxon grit.

He took the land, and he took the men,
And burnt the homesteads from Trent to Tyne;
Made the freemen serfs by a stroke of the pen;
Ate up the corn and drank the wine;
Said to the maiden pure and fair,
"You shall be my leman, as is most fit—
Your Saxon churl may rot in his liar."
But he had not measured the Saxon grit.

To the merry Greenwood went bold Robin Gray
With his stout-hearted yeomen, ripe for the fray,
Driving the arrow into the marrow
Of all the proud Normans who came in his way,
Scurrying the fether, fearless and free;
Winning by valor, or foiling by wit—
Dear to our Saxon folk as the life,
This merry old rogue with the Saxon grit.

And Kett, the tanner, whipt out his knife,
And Watt, the smith, his hammer brought down
For ruth of the maid he loved better than life,
And by breaking a head made a hole in the crown.
From the Saxon heart rose a mighty roar:
"Our life shall not be by the king's permit—
We will fight for the right: we want no more."
Then, the Norman found out the Saxon grit.

For slow and sure as the oaks had grown
From the acorns falling that autumn day,
So the Saxon manhood in thorp and town
To a nobler nature grew away.
Winning by inches, holding by clinches,
Standing by law and the human right;
Many times falling, never once quailing—
So the new day came out of the night.

Then rising afar in the Western sea
A new world stood in the morn of the day.
Ready to welcome the brave and the free,
Who would wrench out the heart, and march away
From the narrow, contracted, dear old land,
Where the poor are held by a cruel bit,
To ample spaces for heart and hand,—
And here was a chance for Saxon grit.

Steadily steering, eagerly peering,
Trusting in God, your fathers came,
Pilgrims and strangers, fronting all dangers,
Cool-headed Saxons, with hearts aflame,
Bound by the letter but free from the fetter,
And hiding their freedom in Holy Writ;
They gave Deuteronomy hints in economy,
And made a new Moses of Saxon grit;

They whittled and waded through forest and fen,
Fearless as ever of what might befall;
Pouring out life for the nurture of men,
In the faith that by manhood the world views all:
Inventing baked beams and no end of machines,
Great with the rifle and great with the ax,
Sending their notions over the oceans
To fill empty stomachs and straighten bent backs;
Swift to take chances that end in the dollar,
But open of hand when the dollar is made;
Maintaining the meet'n, exalting the scholar,
But a little too anxious about a good trade.

This is young Jonathan, son of old John,
Positive, peaceable, firm in the right,
Saxon men all of us, may we be one,
Steady for freedom and strong in her might.
Then slow and sure, as the oaks have grown
From the acorns that fell on the old dim day,
So this new manhood, in city and town,
To a nobler stature will grow away.
Winning by inches, holding by clinches,
Slow to contention and slower to quit,
Now and then failing, yet never once quailing,
Let us thank God for the Saxon grit.

Communications.

Letter From London.

I arrived in London at Paddington, the terminus of G. W. R. R. The Great Western railroad is connected by branch to the Metropolitan Underground railroad, which forms an inner belt round the central part of London. From it are branches diverging to other railroads to the suburban trains. Over one million people pass over it weekly. Between Farringdon St. and Moorgate St. 568 trains pass every day. I took a train to the Mansion House, thence on the Northern London railroad to the extremity of London. The N. L. R. R. and its connections are about twelve miles. Last year thirty million of people passed over its road at an average of 2 pence per head. There were 16,000 prosecutions last year of persons trying to pass without paying. Five hundred trains pass the signal box at this station every day except Sundays. The system of signals I should judge on these lines is complete. Five hundred different trains coming in and going out at one station every day and no collision: it seems surprising. The Superintendent of the signal service of the road took me up into the place, or box where the person was opening the switches for one train to come in and another to go out at the same time. Sometimes two or three or more trains are going and coming. It is surprising to see the man answering one bell, at the same time pulling the lever to admit this train and another, faster than I could repeat it, and rarely any collision. London is great if only her traveling facilities are considered, but greater still to see her pressure of business. Just think, in the business of fish on Billingsgate St., 8,000 horses and carts (or wagons) come and go every morning. What confusion in that narrow dirty street (Fish Mongers' Row)! Then the meat market on Newgate street, 40 rods by 16; in connection is a poultry market, 16 rods by 16, all covered with glass. On the site on which the market stands is historic ground. Here in the reign of Bloody Queen Mary many Protestants suffered death at the stake, such as Rodgers, Bradford, and Philpot; here Sir Wm. Wallace was beheaded; here the great Bartholomew fair, with its revelry, was held. But to-day is Saturday. What a crowd of human beings! And the mass of all kinds of meats—it is astonishing to see the vast amount of American meats, cheese, butter, etc. What a calamity would it be to the

poor of England were the supplies of American produce cut off!

The past few weeks of my sojourn here heavy rains prevailed. The question was often asked, were our harvests in the States good? That concern has subsided now. Bread has fallen back a little, and meats are high. I saw a person refuse 2£ per head for lambs for market; he asked 2£ and 4 pence per head; 15£ for a steer weighing about 900 pounds. Other produce is about the same proportion. The difference in clothing is not so great as I expected. It would not pay to run any risk. I am certain it would not pay to pay the duty on the first cost, and compete with our American production. It is very pleasing to see in the English markets so many American articles offered for sale. It is certainly becoming a matter of concern to the English producer, not only in the agricultural but the manufacturing districts also. The question of free and fair trade is largely discussed in the papers here.

On September 15, I visited the great dairy show, held at the Agricultural hall, London. Of course, my first steps were directed to the exhibition of cattle. I was not favorably impressed with the show of cows. It might be said the breeding has not been confined to symmetry and form, but has been directed to increasing their milking qualities. The first prize Short Horn cow did not compare with my Prairie Rose in size and form. "Matchless," recorded H. B., vol. 22, p. 455, took the second prize. I find I marked her good for grade.

The Jerseys were well represented, and there were some fine specimens for this class. Also Guernseys. The finest cow, five years old, for dairy use, in my opinion, is Lily of the Valley, sire Robin Adair, dam Polled Aberdeen. There were three entries of Zulus cattle, one cow, one bull, one ox, from Her Majesty, the Queen, Prince Consort's farm, Windsor. They were very compact in form, in size similar to Jerseys, with very long horns. The cattle were taken at the battle of Uhindi, and forwarded to Her Majesty by Sir Garnet Wolsey, at the conclusion of the war. The next that attracted my attention were the Kerrys. They are black in color, good milkers, and for beef make the finest qualities, at three years old weighing from 700 to 800 pounds. I should think when well fed would make round, pretty looking animals. There were quite a number exhibited by K. Good, of Aherlow, County Cork, Ireland. The exhibit in goats was very large. Butter, cheese, and every imaginable article necessary for the production of the above were exhibited in great abundance. Allowing me to be the judge, I should say, in general, it was a fine show.

I must notice before I close this, the exhibition of W. Thomas Nottall, embracing every article of farm produce imaginable. It was the finest I ever saw. This same gentleman took first prize at the International Dairy Fair at N. Y., in the American Institute, 1879. JAMES BAILE.

How are We and the Community at Large Benefited by the Grange Movement?

In what manner is a man or woman benefited by being a Granger, and how is the community at large benefited by the institution of the Grange? These are questions of importance to us all—questions which every Granger should understand, and be able to answer at all times in a satisfactory manner when interrogated by outsiders, for it is presumed that we in the Grange understand something of its merits. Even if we cannot answer in a satisfactory manner, still every member of our Order should be well skilled in its work, and able and ready at all times to answer all questions in a satisfactory manner. If neither the individual, nor the world at large is benefited by our institution then our words are vain, are worse than vain, for we are wasting both our time and money in the vain pursuit of a shadow.

It is my purpose this evening to devote a little time in attempting to give a few of the many satisfactory reasons for being a Granger. Like most or all of my brothers and sisters, I firmly believe that the Grange is not only an individual blessing to its members, but also an incalculable blessing to society in general.

We should not look at matters from a purely selfish point of view and be Grangers simply for the benefits to be derived by a little saving of ten, fifteen or twenty per cent. to themselves by trading at a Grange store, but a broad philanthropy and love to the Order should possess us when we see and know of the benefits it confers to the world at large. Of course it is right to love an Order for personal advantages derived from it, not only in a financial point of view, but in the friendly intercourse and exchange of thought and ideas at stated meetings and general assemblies. The Grange is a benefit to every member of the Order by reason of the ample opportunity afforded us in our meetings of cultivating our social natures by free and unrestrained intercourse between brethren and sisters, enabling us, as it does, to lay aside the tribulations and cares that may beset and harass us during our life outside the Grange hall, and to spend an evening in the society of those we know to be our friends.

Man is essentially a social being, and such an opportunity for the enjoyment of the pleasures and benefits to be derived from the cultivation and training of his social faculties in an upright and moral direction is not to be passed lightly by. How many there have been, how many there are now who seem impelled by this very desire of social intercourse with their kind to frequent saloons, bar rooms, gambling halls, and other places of like character, and who, had they been members of our fraternity, might have found at our Grange meetings ample means for the gratification of their social instinct, and have been preserved to live useful and upright lives, and have been honored and respected members of society. Let us see to it, brother Grangers that the young be invited to join us as soon as they arrive at a suitable age, that we may have a sort of watch-care over them, and we may do incalculable good to some that might otherwise go astray.

The Grange is comparatively a young institution, and though she is making herself honored and felt all over the land, still we cannot expect to see at this early day of her life and history a tithe of the blessings she is destined to confer. Let us press onward then, and strive to build up and extend our noble institution, till its blessings shall be felt and recognized all over our land. Then I have no doubt that when the time shall come, when all secrets shall be made known, thousands upon thousands of good men and women will look with delight to the time they put themselves under the watch-care of the Grange, and say: Its influence saved me from degradation and perhaps crime; by its teachings I was made a better man, or a better woman. How many such cases there may be, of course we know not, nor can we know, but our organization is capable of moulding such results. Then let us love and cherish it. The great foundation principles of our Order are the universal brotherhood of man, coupled with the fatherhood of the Great Author of all things. This being true, it is utterly impossible for us to realize the blessings and benefits that flow from the many thousand Granges in our land. Like so many little rills, they will unite at last in one broad and mighty river, which carries on its bosom honor and blessings to the world.

When we remember, as all should remember, that it is our duty as Patrons of Husbandry to combat vice and immorality in all its forms, and carry out in our daily lives the principles of our Order, does it not seem like folly to ask what good the Grange can do in the world?

To be sure, those outside the Grange do not feel or know the amount of the benefits that are derived from our organization. Theirs are secondary, while ours are direct. Still all are benefited; and how are all benefited, asks the uninitiated. Why, sir, you no longer have to pay 33½ per cent profits to your merchant or grocer, which he will turn ten times in a year perhaps, with the same percentage every time. The merchant is not eligible; he cannot join the Grange. He must live, and in no way can he do so, except, like the farmer, he is content with small profits. The same principles underlie all our dealings.

But these things are not all. We should consider and remember that we are benefited individually by being Grangers, not only by being better men and women, as I believe we are, but we are also benefited by our social gatherings. By means of our membership in the Order, we enlarge our social circle, make intimate friends of many with whom we should not otherwise become acquainted.

Nor is this all, for if we are among strangers, we have a friend in the true Patron on whom we can rely. What brother or sister is there here to-night who has visited any other Grange, and who will say they were not welcome, and did not feel at home? I tell you, Master, it makes us think of home, and for the time being forget that we are not actually there.

The time we spend together at the Grange fits us the better to carry on our daily avocation, by familiarizing us with systematic business forms. It teaches us reliance upon our own powers and abilities, gives us confidence to express ourselves on public occasions; it renders us more conversant with parliamentary usages and the customs of deliberative bodies, and in many other ways it benefits us.

Then, brothers and sisters, let us all be united in the great work, and with one accord, labor for the advancement of our cause, that the beneficial influence it sheds may grow and expand as years roll on, until we who are working together shall all have joined the Supreme Grange in the future world, over which the Grand Master of the universe shall preside.

ROWELL THOMAS.

A YOUNG Biddeford man proposed for the hand of a beautiful girl lately. As she hesitated about replying, he said: "I await your answer with bated breath." The girl, who is a good deal of a humorist, said: "Well, Mr. Man, you will have to wait your breath with something besides high wines and Limburger cheese to catch your humble servant. Good evening."

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Correspondence.

From a New Correspondent.

Friend Cobb:—In the VISITOR of October 1st, two subjects were discussed, both of which are of vast importance to the whole country, viz: First, on the abandonment of the office of Vice President, and the other on taxing securities secured on real estate.

I cannot agree with the author of that article that the life of the President would be safer to have his successor elected by the people immediately on the office becoming vacant by death or otherwise, as every change of party to power would be a greater reason for getting rid of a President elected by their opponents, than it would, as now, when his successor is always of the same political party with himself. Perhaps it would be as well to designate some other officer to take his place, when it shall become vacant by death or inability to perform the duties of the office,—say the Secretary of State, who is pretty sure to be in accord with the President who appoints him. My opinion, however, is that it would be better to elect a President and Vice President by a direct vote of the people, and to elect them for a longer time than now—say six years—and for only one term, and to have men selected for their moral worth and fitness for the offices, and then try and elect them without having the country so degraded and disgraced as it has been in the past, both by the party press and by office-seeking political speakers. It is only a short time since men on the stump so traduced the character of the late President that one who knew no better of him would have been unwilling to have made him president of a penny savings bank; and this said of a man who in a few short months thereafter dies, more universally respected for his sterling worth as a man, and whose death was more world-wide deplored than that of any other man that ever lived.

With regard to the taxing of mortgages, I am of the opinion that the mortgagee would be much easier reached and more universally included in being made to pay his share of the tax, if the mortgagor in all cases gave in to the supervisor the amount of incumbrance on his real estate,—then have the collector give him two receipts for his tax, one to embrace the amount of tax for the amount of the mortgage; then pass a law, if it can be done, compelling the mortgagee to receive such tax receipt from the mortgagor in liquidation of so much of his interest money. As the law now stands, a very large portion of the mortgages given by our citizens are owned and held by parties residing out of the State, who do not pay any tax anywhere. Some men are moving about from place to place to avoid gaining a residence, so as to avoid taxation, while if some way could be devised to reach them, they would most likely settle down and spend their money where their greatest interest lay. As the law now stands all the tax that is paid on mortgages is paid by residents who have accumulated a few spare hundreds or thousands; by old men past labor who have a little laid by to support them in old age; by widows and orphans; while the rich non-resident escapes taxation anywhere. There are farms and village property in this county, mortgaged to eastern parties for all it would sell for, and the owners have all they can do to pay the interest, and yet have to pay the full amount of the tax the same as if they owned the property unincumbered.

Justice calls for a remedy, if one can be had, to make the burden of taxation more equal. KALAMAZOO.

Is the Grange Dead?

Bro. Cobb:—As I take up the VISITOR of Oct. 15, and look at the long list of Grange halls, the size and value, etc., I cannot but think what a nice little village they would make were they all gathered together. If good buildings add anything to the value of real estate, have not the Grangers added to the value of their own lands and also to the value of those owned by outsiders too?

There are quite a number of farmers near here who think the Grange don't amount to much. But when we send for plaster or ship our wool, they seem to think it would help us, if we would take theirs too. One big farmer lost enough on his wool alone, two years ago, to have paid his Grange dues five years, and have enough left to take the VISITOR the same length of time.

According to the VISITOR, there are 42 Grange halls in this State; yet there are people who will say that the Grange is dead. It is hard to realize that things walking on two legs, and in other respects resembling men, can be so stupid. But that class don't read. Nor will they have anything to read. You ask one to take the VISITOR, and he will say, "Oh, I haven't the change just now," or "I haven't the time to read any papers," but they manage to get the change to pay for cigars and tobacco. "Oh, yes," they say, "a man that uses tobacco will get rich just as fast as one that doesn't."

But what is most singular to me is, how a good Patron can get along without the VISITOR. I should hate to own that I was a Granger, and didn't take the GRANGE VIS-

ITOR. I think I should pay up my dues, and call for a dimitt and say that I wasn't fit to be classed with the people of to-day. But they ought to be made to know that that is just the reason they go plodding along over their farms, struggling against unjust taxation, patent-right swindles and many other difficulties. But the moment anything assumes the shape of duty, some persons feel themselves incapable of discharging it. J. H. MACUMBER. Greenwood, Oceana Co. Oct. 26.

Training Shepherd Dogs.

Darwin thus describes the training of dogs: When riding it is common thing to meet a large flock of sheep guarded by one or two dogs at a distance of some miles from any house or man. I often wondered how so firm a friendship had been established. The method of education consists in separating the puppy while very young from its mother, and accustoming it to its future companions. A ewe is held three or four times a day for the little thing to suck, and a nest of wool is made for it in the sheep pen. At no time is it allowed to associate with other dogs, or with the children of the family. From this education it has no wish to leave the flock, and just as another dog will defend its master, man, so will these dogs defend their flock, and it is amusing to observe, when approaching a flock, how the dog immediately advances barking, and the sheep all close in his rear, as if around the oldest ram. These dogs are also easily taught to bring home the sheep at a certain hour in the evening. Their most troublesome fault when young is their desire to play with the sheep, for in their sport they sometimes gallop the poor things unmercifully. The shepherd dog comes to the house every day for his meat, and as soon as it is given him skulks away as if ashamed of himself. On these occasions the house dogs are very tyrannical, and the least of them will attack and pursue the stranger. The minute, however, the latter has reached the flock he turns around and begins to bark, and then all the house dogs take quickly to their heels. In a similar manner a whole pack of hungry wild dogs will scarcely ever venture to attack a flock guarded by one of these faithful shepherd dogs. In this case, the shepherd dog seems to regard the sheep as his fellow brethren, and thus gains confidence; and the wild dogs, though knowing that the sheep are not dogs, but are good to eat, yet when seeing them in a flock with a shepherd dog as their head hastily consent to regard them as he does.—Husbandman.

A Meeting that may Interest Wool Growers.

What may be termed a tariff meeting is to be held at the Cooper Institute, New York City, on November 28th and 30th. Among other objects the call for the meeting says that Congressional action will be asked for the appointment of a competent commission to thoroughly investigate and report upon the progress, condition, and needs of American industries, and to recommend such tariff legislation as will be protective in character, consistent in all its parts, and adapted to the present condition of the business of the country.

The consideration of the policy of an early and progressive reduction of internal taxes by the general government.

The maintenance of a favorable balance of trade, and the enlargement of our markets for American products, by the promotion of our ship-building interests and foreign commerce.

Nearly every industry is to be represented, and whether wool growers, individually or politically, are in favor of a tariff, they should look after their interests, and if protective plums are thrown around, they should see that their lap is not empty.

In the representation to the convention, N. Y. city industries got 100 delegates out of 500. The National Association of Wool Manufacturers, 25; the silk manufacturers, 25; cotton, 25; jute, flax, hemp, etc., 25; National Wool Growers' Association, 25; hosiery, 10; New York wool growers and sheep breeders, 10; Wisconsin, 10; Illinois, 10; Vermont, 10; Michigan, 10; other farmers and planters, 25. Besides this, iron, glass, corsets, etc., are to be represented. The signers to the call for the convention give themselves 100 delegates, making 600 in all.—Wool Growers' Bulletin.

Our Plan with Poultry.

First, hens, to do well, must have a warm, dry place, with plenty of sunshine. We always keep a box of ashes for them to wallow in, and it should be kept perfectly dry. Every few weeks, and sometimes oftener, the henry is thoroughly dusted with dry ashes, occasionally adding a little sulphur. Once in a while we wet the roosts with kerosene; a spring-bottom oil-can is just the thing for the purpose. Attending to these rules carefully, you need not have lice, which is an important item in keeping poultry. Our chief object is eggs, for which there is generally a ready market and good price. And to lay well, hens must have plenty to eat and of the right kind. We generally feed corn, and in the winter let them shell it for themselves, after giving each ear a blow or two with the hammer or something of that kind to start the kernels. This gives them exercise and keeps them from eating too much. One would think they would not get enough to eat in this way, but if kept before them in a clean, dry place, they will keep fat. Give them each morning what they will pick off during the day.—New York Tribune.

Of all farm stocks hens are the most easily taught. The education of hens can be commenced at any age; but best while young. They should be housed and shut in every night, and not allowed ever to roost on sheds, well sweeps, or trees; even a neglect to shut the doors on them one night will cause the timid ones to seek a higher roost the next night, and they can be found only out of doors.

J. G. HOLLAND is reported to have said. "I have never seen a man who was remarkable for acquiring muscular power, and at the same time remarkable for mental power."

THEY are to be pitied the most who have nothing to do. They are happy who must needs keep moving in the groove of duty.

LOVE AND VEGETABLES.

In Caraway county lived a maid,
Rosemary was her name,
Her father was a good old sage,
Who had been known to fame—
Whose summer days were savory,
Whose time was given to pleasure,
Until a big financial leak
Had carot off his treasure.

"Lettuce not mourn," his daughter said,
"We'll bravely breast the kale:
I'm cunning to my senses;
My parsnip shall not fail.
I've all my pepper-rations made
To beat the cruel frost
That caraway my father's gold
And cabbage all my beaux."

"Onionder hill's a saffron youth
Whose flame I will appease;
I'll faint endure his warmest press:
I'll plant him on his knees;
His radish hair I'll tolerate,
His garlic breath forget:
When he asks me to marry him,
I'll marry him, you bet!"

The maiden wins the country squash,
And mustard nerve for the hox,
While her dear old dad, on a celery big,
Again cracks his artichokes.
So the wedding night comes on at last,
And (th' salad was surely mixed)
Both parsley under the table tight,
In a corn-fed state called "fixed."

Rosemary made a dutiful wife,
While her sorrel-headed master
Lost all his country pumpkin wif,
And th' ir love, like weeds, grew faster;
Till now good Fate, with a golden gourd,
O'er the happy couple hovers,
And both will meet the scythe of Time
As—asparagushing lovers.

Ladies' Department.

Hired Help.

From the Agricultural World.

I have had many thoughts upon this subject, but have never placed them upon paper because I felt I could not do justice to the subject, neither could I satisfy myself, much less others. The article in the "Home" department of the *World* coincides with my views exactly, and the ideas are expressed in so much better language than I could probably express them, that perhaps it is presumptuous in me to attempt to add to so elaborate an article upon a matter of such vital importance. But as Myra is called upon, I will respond. One sentiment expressed in that article gives me a starting point, and with which I fully agree: "I do not consider it a favorable symptom to hear a man or woman complain about never having good help." With many persons this has become a chronic disease. I have heard people talk about, exaggerate, and magnify the "hired girl's" faults until they were almost beside themselves, with nerves all unstrung, and seemed in a sort of frenzy, telling of their mistakes, and stubbornness, and slipshod ways, until they could not see one good quality towering above all those they term bad ones. There are very many incompetent mistresses, as well as incompetent girls. I once heard this idea advanced: that some women didn't know how to manage their hired help in order to get the proper amount of work done, and in the easiest and best way, without too much wear and tear of soul and body. Very many women are so "rasping" in their method of telling a girl how and what to do, or asking a favor, leaving courtesy out of count, that it stirs up the worst side of their nature, and they then and there resolve to do as they have a mind to, or not at all perhaps.

A friend living in a distant city was visiting me not long ago. She is a dress-maker. I asked her if the ladies who came to her shop to get their sewing done complained of a scarcity of hired help. She said, "No, not that; but they make fearful complaints to each other about what awful girls they employed in their kitchens." "Why," said she, "I had rather be their dog than their hired girl. They never allowed them to sit with the family, or treat them as though they were human beings; shoved them off into the kitchen or woodhouse; allowed them no conveniences to do work; gave them the meanest, dingiest room in the house for a sleeping-room; do not know or care where they spend their evenings, after their work is done; or what sort of company they entertain,—and then if the girls are not all they should be, they tell their faults to the world, or complain what a poor stick of a girl they have in their kitchens."

There are other housekeepers who are fault-finding and fretting, expecting a perfection in the manner of doing work, which is only attainable after years of hard, earnest toil and practice; and if the work is not done their way, they fly into a passion, and scold until it is enough to make a person's hair stand erect, or the shingles fly off the roof of the house (so to speak).

Others never take pains to show a girl how work ought to be done, taking it for granted that she knows how, although she is in her teens, when if the housekeeper would, by patience, perseverance, and a little showing, teach the right method of doing work, much time, strength, and material might be economized, and harsh, angry words, and trials of temper might be obviated.

On the other hand, there is great inefficiency on the part of help now-a-days.

Housework is looked upon as a sort of drudgery, and girls fail to see and know that they are fulfilling their ideas in regard to the duties of life in the kitchen as much as they would in the parlor. They fail to see any beauty or sublimity in nicely washed dishes, immaculate dish-towels or shining tinware, and to sweep, and dust, and tidy up the sitting room in a workmanlike manner is to them a herculean task, and sometimes it is performed in such a manner that it might better have been left undone.

Food is placed upon the table in a mass of gigantic proportions so disgusting that one's appetite suddenly takes its flight. I think one great fault of the girls is that they do not read and make use of the hints and helps given in the columns of the household departments of the papers, and which have afforded so much useful information to housekeepers. Others do not heed the maxim that, "What is worth doing at all is worth doing well."

There is a wrong on both sides to be righted. There are stubborn and slatternly

girls, and there are wicked, important, and fussy housekeepers. When employers treat their hired help as they would wish their own darling daughter treated under like circumstances, and as though they had souls and a body made of flesh and blood, and girls try to do their duty and see some glory and beauty in housework, and each party adds dignity to labor—then a reformation will be brought about, and not till then. Each must learn to endure hardships, trials, and crosses, and must learn to suffer and be strong and let "Patience have her perfect work."

My idea of a good girl is one who is neat and cleanly, and plain in her personal appearance when about her work, and who takes pride in doing her work well, and is willing to assimilate with all the good, honest ways of the household; one who wishes to improve her spare moments in reading good books, and keeping her apparel in order.

My idea of a good mistress is one who tries to "possess her soul in patience," remembering her help is human, liable to faults and mistakes, and perhaps has not attended the school where stern experience is the rigorous teacher; one who is ever on the alert to advise or kindly reprove, ready to make her household comfortable.

There is another phase to this subject which I would like to bring out, but this article is already too lengthy. MYRA.

Ponths' Department.

NOBODY.

"Nobody b'oke it! It cracked itself.
It was clear 'way up on the top of the shelf.
I 'rhaps the kitty-cat knows!"
Says poor little Ned,
With his ears as red
As the heart of a damask rose.

"Nobody lost it! I carefully
Put my cap just where it ought to be.
(No, 'tish'nd the door),
And it went and hid.
Why, of course it did,
For I've hunted an hour or more.

"Nobody wore it! You know things will
Tear if you're sitting just stock-still!
I was just jumping over the fence—
There's some spikes on top,
And you have to drop
Before you half commence."

Nobody! wicked Sir Nobody!
Playing such tricks on my children three!
If I but set eyes on you,
You should find what you've lost,
But that to my cost,
I never am like to do!

—Anna F. Burnham in *October Wide Awake*.

Dear Uncle Nine:—I have waited long and earnestly for that long talked of discussion, but have not seen or heard it yet. I quite agree with "Granger Girl" about slang, for there is not, I will venture to say, not one in twenty among us who does not use more or less slang each day. I do not know of any one boy or girl who does not use slang. I think I have seen Granger Girl, but it was some time since and I do not think that she would recognize me.

Why do not some of my cousins or brothers and sisters write something for this column? I think we might make this column real interesting if we would only try. I am willing to do my share towards making something of it. I should like to hear something from the boys as well as the girls. Granger Girl, haven't you got some Granger boys down at Coloma? If you have, why don't some of them write to Uncle Nine? What has become of "Sweet Briar" or Nettie Gifford? I am sorry you have all abandoned this column to its chances.

I have not seen anything from our Grange for some time, but we are flourishing nevertheless. But I see in my mind the waste basket yawning dimly, so I will close. Good by Uncle.

PRETTY BY NIGHT.

Hartford, Oct. 25, 1881.

On Laughing.

It is said that clear, ringing laughter is the index to a noble nature, and that one cannot be wholly bad who is capable of such. He that, as it may, I have seen some who could "smile and smile, and be a villain still."

True, merry laughing friends are very pleasant companions, so long as they laugh with, and not at one, for, though we all like to have our jokes appreciated, who among us like to have our foibles laughed at, even though it be our friends that do it? And yet we cannot blame them, for are not the best of us guilty of the same treason? I, for one, should hate to be judged by the manner and occasion of my laughing, for my risibles are of the irrepressible sort which are always impelling me to laugh when decorum assures me I ought not to, though I sometimes find it impossible to get up a respectable smile when occasion seems to demand that I should laugh.

I remember on one occasion, when hearing a gentleman tell, with considerable merriment, what he seemed to think a very amusing anecdote, of how a neighbor got the better of a poor little "ginny" that infested his fields, I found myself swelling with indignation and actually ready to cry because of the cruelties imposed upon the poor little beast, one of which was to tie a wisp of straw to its tail and then set fire to it. I always pitied the foxes when reading of how Sampson destroyed the fields of the Philistines—but I'm not writing an essay on Scripture.

I remember another occasion, when attending Sunday school, where a very zealous but highly irascible old Englishman presided as superintendent, who, in addition to making the opening and closing prayers and conducting the singing, made it his duty to oversee the different classes, propounding difficult questions and giving his explanation of such as did not seem clear to the understanding of his pupils. On the occasion of which I am thinking the day was fine, and our superintendent had been unusually benign. I remember I had been much amused, if not instructed, while he talked to some of the lesser ones, in an impressive manner about the "cut of an 'ouse" and

the "oot of a howl" of which they had been reading in their little books.

Finally he came to the class of which I was a member, and I managed to get along very well till he had occasion to speak of the "hangels of 'igh 'eaven," and his son, sitting near me, a mischievous lad of some fifteen summers, and most averse to creating a bit of fun at his father's expense, in a tone just loud enough to be heard by those near him, rhymed it with "heat no bread but heaven," but this was too much and I burst into a very paroxysm of laughter, while my example was followed by the undutiful son, and one or two more of my classmates.

When I regained my composure sufficiently to understand what was going on around me, I realized that our superintendent was preaching a sermon on the exceeding sinfulness of levity on solemn occasions, which wound up with a benediction that sounded more like an anathema than a blessing, and to this day I pity the miserable, blushing little culprit that crept out from the holy man's presence when the exercises came to a close.

Another time, when visiting my grandparents, just as we were sitting down to dinner, grandma dropped her spectacles from her nose into a dish of soup in front of her, which was enough for me, and all the while that grandpa was saying his lengthy and orthodox "grace" I shook as if an ague fit had seized me, but when I did regain my composure no mortal power could have forced a smile to my rigid lips, and as my grandparents' family consisted only of themselves and a maiden aunt, all sticklers for little sympathy. My appetite was gone entirely, even biscuit and honey had lost their charm, so after an exceedingly slender repast I wended my way homeward, feeling that I had forever disgraced myself in the eyes of my respected relatives—but why go on enumerating my misfortunes? I trust my friends know me well enough by this time that if they find me crying at their jokes and reserving my laughter for more solemn occasions, they will not judge too harshly of my disagreeable failing.

HASSAH.

Lamine, Cooper County, Mo.

Advice to Boys.

Do not smoke, chew, or drink, but buy a pair of some kind of pet stock, and take good care of them, and keep an account of cost of feed, and what you sell for one year, and if you do not make enough to buy a good overcoat, it is because you do not know how to make money out of them. I commenced to keep pet stock when I was ten years old, and made ten dollars clear the first year, and since that time I have averaged from \$55 to \$75 per year profit on my stock. Next year I want to make \$100 clear gain. Any boy can do likewise, if he will try. JOHN P. WOLFE.

Plainfield, New Jersey,
Nov. 6, 1881.

THE COW IS WRONG: it is not her mission in life to butt railroad trains off bridges. Her first duty is to furnish the basis of city milk.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

FRASER.—ELIZA M. FRASER, Worthy Lecturer of Brady Grange, No. 61, died at her home near Vicksburg, Oct. 10, 1881.

Sister Fraser, with her husband, John C. Fraser, were charter members of No. 61, and among the first to occupy its official chairs, he filling the position of Lecturer at the time of his death in April, 1876. Left thus early to tread life's pathway alone—darkened by this great sorrow—she has done her part bravely and well. Being ambitious and possessing more than ordinary intellectual ability, she was the life of every circle. But in the Grange, where her real worth was best appreciated, will her loss be most keenly felt. Her bright smile, her warm greetings, and the talent displayed in promoting its intellectual and social features, together with her implicit faith in the Order and zeal in advancing its interest, have won the admiration of all.

While we deeply mourn her sudden and untimely death and the great loss thereby sustained, we would extend the fraternal hand of sympathy to the sorely tried family, over whose beautiful, love-lit home rests the shadow of the angel of death. To the grief-stricken mother, who made the long journey from Kansas that she might once more look on the calm, white face of her child, and lay her own hand just a moment upon the one so cold and still, to her we send our warmest love. The only brother, who was denied even this sad comfort, we remember with pity; and the two little girls, left so young without their natural guardians, we will ever fondly cherish: while to the more distant relatives, and to the faithful one who nursed with more than a sister's love and watched till the dear form was hid from view, we express our tenderest sympathy.

Resolved, That a copy of this tribute to her memory be presented to the family of the deceased, and also to the *GRANGE VISITOR* and local papers for publication.

MRS. W. M. BAIR,
MRS. S. RICHARDSON,
Committee.

WATERS.—MARY A. WATERS passed from earth to spirit life Sept. 24, 1881, aged 47 years, 8 months, and 11 days.

WHEREAS, The all-devouring scythe of Time has taken from our Grange Sister Mary Waters, wife of Brother Cornelius Waters; therefore

Resolved, That in the sad event the brother has lost a loving wife, the children an affectionate mother, society an ornament, and Dallas Grange a worthy member.

Resolved, That as a Grange we tender the afflicted brother our heartfelt sympathies, ever hoping the healer will be present to bind up the broken hearts and heal the wound that now seems incurable.

Resolved, That our hall be draped in mourning for the period of 60 days, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the afflicted brother, a copy entered upon the records of the Grange, and one sent to the *GRANGE VISITOR* for publication.

Oh! I weep not for her; she is crowned

With the garland to truthfulness given.

Then weep not for her: she has found

Her reward and her refuge in heaven.

J. H. BUSH,
EMILY J. PARKS,
EMILY SHACKLETON,
Committee.

WOOD.—WHEREAS, An over-ruling Providence hath, for the first time, on the 23d day of September, 1881, reminded us as a Grange, by the death of a member, that "dust we are, and unto dust we shall return"; therefore

We bow in submission to his will, and weep with those that weep, and unite in heartfelt sympathy with our brother, Richard Wood, and his offspring, and also with the aged parents of our deceased sister, to share in their bereavement, while there lies in the silent tomb a wife, a mother, a daughter, and to the Grange a sister. As our brother and the de-

ceased were loyal members of the M. E. church, there remains no doubt but that our brother can say, with one of old, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord."

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered in the records of the Grange, a copy, with the seal of the Grange attached, be presented to the family of the deceased, and a copy to the *GRANGE VISITOR* for publication. H. A. S.

Grange No. 469.

BUGBEE.—Died Oct. 24, of softening of the brain, Brother ENASTUS E. BUGBEE, a charter member of Shawansee Grange, No. 151.

WHEREAS, Death has entered our Order and removed our young and worthy brother from his earthly home and respected family; therefore

Resolved, That as a Grange feel that we have lost a good and true member, and that while we feel our Heavenly Father has laid his hand heavily upon our Worthy Sister Bugbee, in removing her companion and protector from his earthly home, yet we would bow with humble submission to an all-wise and ever-loving Father's divine will.

Resolved, That as an expression of our respect for our departed brother, we drape our charter in mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be placed upon the records of this Grange, a copy be presented to Sister Bugbee, and also one sent to the *GRANGE VISITOR* for publication.

B. F. KANN,
MRS. S. E. WATKINS,
E. M. MORRICE,
Committee.

Morrice, Oct. 26, 1881.

SHUMWAY.—Died Oct 6, 1881, at the residence of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Shumway, of the village of Jasper, Lenawee Co., IRVING P. SHUMWAY, a worthy member of Fairfield Grange, No. 278, in the 26th year of his age.

WHEREAS, The Great Master of the Universe has seen fit, in his all-wise Providence, to remove by death from the family circle of our highly esteemed and Worthy Brother and Sister Nathan and Marietta Shumway, a tenderly beloved and only son, whose death they so deeply mourn; and as Brother Irving P. Shumway was a young man who was looked up to as one who had fair to become a man of future usefulness, both in the Grange and in the community; therefore

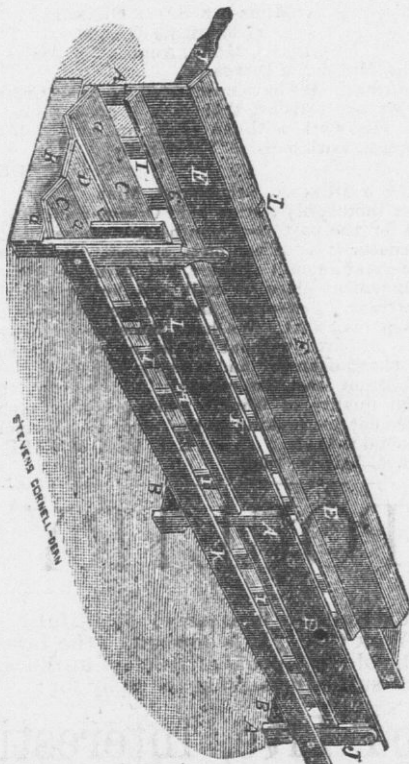
Resolved, That this Grange extend to our afflicted and sorrowing brother and sister that sympathy that flows from hearts that feel for others' woes.

Resolved, That our charter and hall be draped in mourning for ninety days, and that within that time a memorial service be held at the hall in memory of our departed brother, and that the Worthy Master appoint a committee to prepare such service.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered on our records, and that the Worthy Secretary send a copy of the same to our afflicted brother and sister, and a copy to the *GRANGE VISITOR* for publication.

J. C. ODELL,
MARY F. ODELL,
LYMAN OSGOOD,
Committee.

F. A. NORTH'S FEED RACKS.



My invention, patented May 10, 1881, relates to a rack of peculiar construction designed for the purpose of feeding sheep and other animals, the structure being designed with special reference to an equal distribution of the feed, to the protection of the attendant from the animals, and to the points of cheapness, durability, and facility of operation. It will be noticed that the rack constructed affords feed openings on both sides, that the two independent troughs prevent the animals on one side from obtaining the food from those on the other, and that by means of the central internal board the attendant can pass freely back and forth through the interior without stepping in the trough or having any interference with the animals outside, also the strips or slats serve as a means of separating the animals so that each may obtain proper proportion of the food. On each side of the Rack I suspend by swinging links a board in such a manner that the board may be raised or lowered across the outside of the feed openings to prevent the animals from having access thereto, or elevated above the openings so as to leave them exposed. And standing at one end you can elevate this board by one move of as many racks in a line, and divide your flocks as you wish and do away with the old practice of shifting from one yard to another. There are guards to throw the feed inward to prevent the hayseed and other impurities from entering the fleece of the animals. It is used with equal advantage for mush feeds, grains of all kinds, and for hay. If there is hay in the rack it does not prevent your feeding grain in them. You can use the lumber in your old racks. They can be made of any length of lumber.

For further information, address:
F. A. NORTH, Inventor,
Ionia, Ionia Co., Mich.
P. O. Box 555. 1j16m

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Are prepared to furnish LAND PLASTER, fresh ground, at contract prices, made with the Executive Committee of the State Grange.

A large stock on hand of pure, finely-ground LAND PLASTER.
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I take pleasure in presenting to your favorable consideration my CASH PRICE LIST of Harness Work—HAND MADE—all of my own manufacture, and also to return thanks for the liberal patronage I have received from the different Granges throughout Michigan. I shall do in the future as in the past—furnish the best goods for the least money.

Farm Harness, White Trimmed Breeding, Round Lines, Snaps, Rum Straps, and spread rings, complete, \$29 00
The same without Breeding, 25 00
" " with flat lines, 25 00
" " without Breeding, 25 00
Double Light Buggy Harness, white trimmed, from \$25 to 30 00
The same, Nickel Trimmed, from \$35 to 50 00
Single Buggy Harness, with round lines, white trimmed, 13 00
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Nickel Trimmed, \$15, \$16, \$18, \$20 and 25 00

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will be shipped at once, and may be returned at my expense if not entirely satisfactory.

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It has received strong testimonials from Samuel E. Adams, Past Master of the National Grange; Senator Ferry, ex-Vice-President of the U. S., and from the chief executive officer of the following and other fraternal organizations, viz: Knights of Honor, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum, Foresters, Grand Army of the Republic, Knights Templar, A. O. W., R. T. of T., I. O. G. T., A. J. O. K. S. B., I. O. B., etc. Circular of Testimonials sent on application. Prices (by mail, prepaid), cloth, 50 cents; plain leather, 75 cents; leather tucks, \$1.

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CHEAPEST PAPER PUBLISHED!

Many of the ablest farmers and writers of Western Michigan are regular contributors to the *World and Homestead*. The series of articles now running, entitled "Farmers' Relation to Law," being an exhaustive treatise of the law of highways, fences, drainage, estrays, patent-rights, etc., are well worth five times the subscription price of the paper. The Grange interests and Grange news form a special feature, and are at all times fully represented. The *Home Department* is in the hands of a practical housekeeper, and is carefully and ably conducted.

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N. B.—The *Agricultural World* and *GRANGE VISITOR* both one year for \$1.50.

German Horse and Cow Powders.

This powder has been in use for many years. It is largely used by the farmers of Pennsylvania, and the Patrons of that State have bought over 100,000 pounds through their purchasing agents. Its composition is no secret. The receipt is on every box and 5-pound package. It is made by Dr. L. Oberholzer's Sons & Co., Phoenixville, Pa. It keeps stock healthy and in good condition. It helps to digest and assimilate the food. Horses will do more work, with less food while using it. Cows will give more milk and be in better condition. It keeps poultry healthy, and increases the production of eggs. It is also of great value to them when molting. It is sold at the lowest wholesale price by R. E. JAMES, KALAMAZOO, GEO. W. HILL & CO., 80 WOODBRIDGE ST., DETROIT, and J. M. CHAMBERS, 163 SO. WATER ST., CHICAGO. Put up in 50-lb. boxes (loose), price Extra CENTS per lb., 30-lb. boxes (of 5-lb. packages, TEN CENTS per lb.

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J. T. COBB,

Sec'y MICH. STATE GRANGE,

SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

It has a Name!

Mr. Editor:—D. S. Carvin, of Colfax, informs the readers of the VISITOR, through its last number that, being in the township of Sherman a few days previous to the date (Oct. 12) of his communication, he found a man selling a clothes-washer, invented by a man at Schoolcraft, which, though doing good work, was nevertheless without a name. As the patentee of said washer, I will simply say that it is and has been, from its first introduction to the public, called the "Economist." It is manufactured in two different styles, one designed for use by hand only, the other to be used in connection with a lever and tub attachment; the two styles being respectively designated as No. 1 and No. 2. That it has been appropriately named; both in view of its working capacity and the fact that the wear and tear of clothing caused by hand rubbing, in connection with the common wash-board or by the use of most other washing machines, is entirely avoided by the use of the Economist, thus saving twice its cost in doing the washing for a family of half a dozen persons during a single year, is fully attested not only by the unqualified approval and unsolicited testimonials of the hundreds of families now using it, but also by the constantly increasing demand for it—every agent now at work with it, expressing himself abundantly satisfied with the sales he is making. Mr. Carvin says further that the gentleman above referred to informed him that I was charging him a royalty of 75 cents upon each and every machine made and sold him: which, in the opinion of Mr. Carvin, is rather high, causing him to wonder whether the patent laws will sustain the patentee in such exorbitant royalty. My answer to which is, that I am less concerned either about what can be avoided or enforced in the premises, by the patent laws, or about the private or public opinion of Mr. Carvin concerning the matter of royalty, than the pecuniary responsibility of the salesman in question.

W. T. SMITH.

Schoolcraft, Mich., Nov. 14, 1881.

ACCORDING to the English authorities, 1881 will be remembered as the worst onion year on record, the onion grub having totally destroyed the crop, except in a few instances where special precautions were taken against this insect.

PENSIONS FOR SOLDIERS, widows, parents or children. Thousands yet entitled. Pensioners now entitled to an increase. Bounty yet due thousands. Soldiers and heirs of 1812 and Mexican wars entitled Pensions and Land Warrants. I have unexcelled facilities for securing patents. This is one of the oldest and most responsible claim agencies in the U. S. Can refer to thousands of pensioners and clients. Send two stamps for laws, blanks and instructions. W. T. FITZGERALD, Pension and Patent Attorney, Lock Box 422, Washington, D. C. nov. 1-3m.

—OFFICE OF—

GEORGE W. HILL,

80 Woodbridge St., West,

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 7, 1881.

DEAR SIR:—I have decided to make every Grange the following offer, which will give each family represented an opportunity of saving a considerable amount on their groceries, and at the same time will be little or no trouble to the Secretary to transact the business.

I will send to any Grange, upon receipt of order with SEAL, the articles named in subjoined list, and if goods are not lower in price than at home stores, and not in EVERY RESPECT perfectly satisfactory they may be returned at my expense of freight BOTH WAYS.

My cases are made and arranged expressly for the purpose; goods cannot get damaged, or mixed; lids have hinges, and are sewed down, the whole is a complete little GROCERY STORE; prices guaranteed two weeks. Don't be confined to the list if anything else is wanted, but I do want the case to go out complete. I am trying to solve the problem of how I can supply each Grange with their goods—especially Groceries—at the lowest prices, with the least expense to myself and least trouble to the Secretary, so that it will be to our mutual advantage. I think I have hit on the right plan, but may have to make some changes. If you ever expect to be benefited pecuniarily, accept my offer and try my plan long enough for me to get it into practical order.

ORDER NO. ONE.

12lbs. Best Jap. Tea in 2lb Pkgs.	45c	\$5 40
24 " Best Rio Coffee in 4 " "	16c	3 84
6 " Gloss Starch	1 " "	7 40
6 " Corn Starch	1 " "	8 40
12 " Good Soap	2 " "	6 40
12 " Baking Powder	2 " "	2 40
12 " Cream Tartar	2 " "	3 00
6 " Ground Pepper	1 " "	20c
6 " Ground Ginger	1 " "	25c
3 " Nutmeg	1 " "	\$1.00

Total,.....\$22 08
Empty cases to be returned very soon.

LAMP CHIMNEYS ARE PACKED SIX DOZEN IN A CASE.

Size "0"—smallest—40c per doz., or \$2 40 per case.
" "1"—medium—45c " " " \$2 70 " "
" "2"—large—50c " " " \$3 00 " "

Sold by the case only.

1 Bushel Baskets,.....\$2 00 per doz.

OYSTERS IN CANS AND BULK.
ROGER'S PLATED WARE.
SCALES OF ALL SIZES AND KINDS.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

SALT.
I will furnish Salt for stock and fertilizing purposes, in bulk, on board cars at Bay City, at \$4 50 per ton, in car lots of 12 to 15 tons, which is equivalent to 63 cents per barrel.
Freight rates to your station on application.

Everything in the Line of Merchandise Purchased for Patrons.

Observe the following changes in Prices from my

Syrup and Molasses, about 5 to 10c per gal. advance	
Raisins,.....	45 to 60c per box
Peanuts,.....	2c per pound
Matches,.....	30c per gross
Brooms,.....	25c per doz.
Fine-cut Tobacco,...	5 to 10c per pound
Smoking " " " " " "	2 to 5c " "
Soap of all kinds,.....	1c " "
Best Family Crackers 7c per lb. and 25c for barrel.	

Oct 15th

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS,

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MASTERS and SECRETARIES
Please write under Seal,
For CONFIDENTIAL Circulars.

COOLING MILK and BUTTER.

We present here with an illustration of the Acme Creamer and Butter Cooler, manufactured by us at Schoolcraft, Michigan.

The advantage claimed for this Creamer over its competitors, is its combination of Creamer and Butter Cooler at prices within reach of all.

The water tank is lined with zinc, with an air space between it and the wood tank, which is lined with heavy inodorous waterproof paper. It has double doors, with an air space between, making it the most perfect non-conductor of heat or cold.

The Butter Cooler or Safe is made of galvanized iron, and is so placed in the water tank that it is wholly surrounded by water, which keeps it at a low temperature.

It is not only used as a Butter Cooler, but as a receptacle for fresh meats and all articles for family use usually kept in an ice refrigerator, and at no extra expense or labor, as the water that is used to cool the milk is sufficient to keep the cooler at desired temperature.

The milk cans are twenty inches high, holding eighteen quarts. They have a ventilator in the cover that allows all the gases to pass off while the milk is cooling, making a better quality of butter than can be produced with cans that are sealed tight before the gases or animal heat is allowed to pass off. These cans, when filled with milk, are placed in the water tank beside the Cooler, and are surrounded and rapidly cooled by the water flowing among them.

The skimming is done perfectly by an arrangement upon the side of the milk can, and so simple that a child ten years old can skim a can in less than a minute.

By this process the cream is first drawn off, leaving all sediments in the milk instead of drawing off the milk and gathering all the impurities in the cream, such as thick substance, often streaked with blood, which many times escape the observation of the most careful butter makers. This gives the butter made by the Acme system, a reputation for purity, which insures a better price and more ready sale.

The Acme Creamer and Butter Cooler saves two-thirds the labor in butter making, it is easily handled, and produces an even grade of butter, both Winter and Summer, which sells at a remunerative price to the producer. It is so arranged that all the water pumped for the stock, either by wind power or by hand, passes through the tank, that being sufficient, no extra labor is required. Farmers should investigate this system, and not stick so tenaciously to the old way, and be obliged, as they often are, to sell their butter at ruinously low prices.

Schoolcraft, Mich., August, 1881.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE,
MASTER'S OFFICE,
GILEAD, MICH., August 23d, 1881.

MESSRS. McCALL & DUNCAN:
Gentlemen,—We have now tested the Acme Creamer until we are satisfied that it is a good thing. It makes less work with an equal amount of better butter than with pans. Yours truly,

C. G. LUCE.

McCALL & DUNCAN, Schoolcraft, Mich.

After thoroughly testing your Creamer and Butter Cooler for the past two months, we can say that in all respects it is a complete success. It not only saves a great amount of labor, but furnishes a cheap and convenient place for milk and butter. During the extreme hot weather and thunder showers, our milk remains sweet. We have the same grade and quantity of butter without the use of ice. It is simple in its arrangement, and is easily kept clean; and lastly but not least, we regard it as possessing that essential quality of being a time and labor saving arrangement for making butter, and can cheerfully recommend it to all.

L. F. COX & WIFE.

Portage, July 30, 1881.

MESSRS. McCALL & DUNCAN, Schoolcraft, Mich.

I have given the Acme Creamer a thorough trial, by setting equal amounts of milk in the Creamer and in shallow pans in the cellar: From the shallow pans I made 24 lbs. of butter; from the Creamer 4 lbs., and better quality. I can make more butter and a great deal better quality in the Creamer with one-third the labor. The Cooler will keep butter in a splendid condition for any length of time. It certainly is as necessary to have a place for the preserving of butter until ready for market, as for the raising of cream. After using it through the heat of the summer, I find the Cooler an indispensable addition to the Creamer. You will always find me a true friend and warm advocate of the Acme Creamer and Butter Cooler.

MRS. O. H. FELLOWS.

Prairie Ronde, Mich., July, 1881.

Send for Circular and Price List.

McCALL & DUNCAN,

June 15-16th. SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

POULTRY BULLETIN.

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sept. 15th

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