

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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The Grange Visitor

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Blackberry Cordial.

Blackberry cordial is a home-made medicine of much value during August as a remedy for diarrhoea: To one quart of blackberry juice add one pound of white sugar, one tablespoonful each, of cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice. Boil all together for fifteen or twenty minutes, take from the fire and add a wine glass full of brandy or Jamaica rum. While still hot put in bottles with stout corks, and seal if not intended for immediate use. A tablespoonful three or four times a day is the usual dose, though in severe cases it may be increased to a small wine-glass full.

JOSEPH HARRIS tells us that John J. Thomas was the first to advance the idea that a few inches of loose, fine soil about plants is one of the best mulches. This explains one of the benefits of frequent cultivation. Stones are a valuable mulch often overlooked. Mr. Harris tells of a man in England who at great expense removed all the stones from a field, but finding that it produced less crops carried back many of them with better results. We planted a row of standard pears by the side of an old stone wall, expecting the roots to be benefited by the wall ultimately. At one end was a large pile of stones directly where two trees should stand. We removed enough stone to plant the trees, then replaced them. The trees thus planted have made three times the growth of any of the others, yet all have done well. The soil beneath a stone heap is always loose, moist, free from weeds; the air has free admittance, but the frost is in part kept out in winter and retained in spring, just as we desire. There is no better mulch for a strawberry plant than slate laid flat, close to the plants, and it will keep the berries clean. Stones in the soil may furnish plant food and we think they do. They tend to keep the soil loose, warm and moist.

Agricultural Department.

GIVE THE BEST.

See the rivers flowing
Downward to the sea.
Pouring all their treasures
Bountiful and free;
Yet, to help their giving,
Hidden springs arise;
Or, if need be, showers
Feed them from the skies.

Watch the princely flowers
Their rich fragrance spread.
Load the air with perfumes,
From their beauty shed:
Yet their lavish spending
Leaves them not in dearth;
With fresh life replenished
By their mother earth.

Give thy heart's best treasures,
From fair nature learn;
Give thy love, and ask not,
Wait not, a return:
And the more thou spendest
From thy little store,
With a double bounty
God will give the more.

—A. A. Proctor.

The Apple Tree.

BY A. D. P. VAN BUREN

From the small bitter, wild side, the fruit of the black thorn, primarily came all the varieties of the modern plum. From the crab-apple originated nearly all the varieties of the common apple. The apple is of Asiatic origin, and the word originally signified all fruit of a round form.

In fruit culture the soil is of first importance. It is claimed that a soil of natural drainage, or one well drained by man, is the most favorable to fruit culture. The healthy growth of the tree requires ground loose enough to admit of the free and natural extension of the roots. An intelligent cultivation of the tree will secure this. Remember that too much cultivation will produce an over-growth of wood at the expense of the quality and flavor of the fruit. The fruit will be larger but coarser and poorer, while on the other hand, a lack of tree growth is a lack of fruit including flavor. The medium course, that which produces the proper wood and fruit growth, is the true one. Where the wood growth is sound the fruit will be sound, and of good flavor.

You often hear the question, "why do apple trees produce fruit so much poorer some years than others?" Watch your trees and you will find that after an exceedingly large yield of apples, the tree, the next year, suffering from a lack of wood growth, will bear much less and poorer fruit. Too much substance had been appropriated to fruit, the previous year, and an unhealthy condition of the tree brought on by it; hence the fruit is smaller and inferior every way.

We quote from an able writer on this head, who referring to this over production of fruit, says, "This is a common evil, and it is a great one, as it defeats what otherwise might have been a fine crop; and has also its hold, through the imperfect wood, upon the next year's crop, lessening both the yield and quality, and not unfrequently inducing barrenness. He says if you wish to save your apple trees, thin out the fruit, which is a much less task than is supposed by the inexperienced." Look at our orchards in summer time, and see the noble trees so overloaded with fruit that their tops bend down to the ground, and their large limbs often breaking off and falling victims to overproduction. A piteous sight, to witness this noblest of all fruit trees bearing itself to death. Thus year after year multitudes of the best apple trees are spoiled, solely by allowing them to appropriate so much of their life giving vigor to fruit, that it exhausts their vitality leaving them victims to disease and blight, for much of what is called "blight" in fruit trees is caused by over-production of fruit. There is no doubt of this. By a little extra labor in thinning out the fruit in the early part of the season, you can save your trees and have better fruit, and we say again, the object of the orchardist should be to maintain the balance between the growth of wood and fruit in his trees. This is the normal condition of the tree, when it is at its best in bearing. For, as said, the sound tree yields sound fruit, and sound fruit is the best evidence of a

sound tree. Do this and you will have good fruit continually.

The soil, we say, should be loose enough to give the roots perfect freedom to grow, branch out and luxuriate in the moist earth, "at their own sweet will." Such a soil would seem fertile enough to produce the best of fruit without enriching; for where the roots are in deep they will "pick up the scant vegetable material distributed through the ground, losing none of it, as the great net-work of roots intercept it." Some of the best orchards I have seen in Michigan are in soil of old alluvial loam, loose enough for the roots to penetrate to their full extent. This soil or these trees do not need mulching or fertilizing. In fact the roots are down too deep to be affected by it. The ground is porous and rains reach to the lowest roots. But where the roots lie nearer the surface, the strength of the soil is soon exhausted and must be restored. Here fertilizers should be added; not to increase the growth of trees too much, as "a comparatively moderate growth of wood is favorable to the production of fruit."

Where you can plow close to the tree without interfering with the roots you need have no care of adding strength to the soil, but trim your trees thin out the fruit where it is too heavy or too thick, and your crop will come in abundance, and of the best quality. And this too, whether you have a wet or a dry season, for the feeders are down deep in the moist earth out of reach of the drouth, and through their little arteries send up proper nutriment for the tree. Here, in such a soil, you have the right spot for an orchard. A soil enabling the tree to stand the drouth, and "porous enough to carry off the water in a wet time, leaving the earth pure and sweet, as there is no water left to stand in it to sour it and rot the roots." This is what we call a healthy soil, one containing everything to support a fruit bearing tree.

Now it is this condition of soil, and what we have said about maintaining the value between wood and fruit growth, avoiding an excess of either, that we consider necessary to secure the best quality in fruit, and the largest continuous yield. This kind of cultivation should extend through the whole life of the tree. The apple is the most valuable and useful fruit in the temperate zone, and richly repays us for all the care and attention we can give to its production.

Silk Culture.

IV

The silk-worm, although hatched from eggs so small that 40,000 make one ounce, when full grown are nearly the size of the "ugly" tomato worm, but of a beautiful gray or cream color. In their own habitat in a warm climate the moth can lay its eggs on the tree which the worm feeds on, and the whole life from the egg to the cocoon may be spent in the open air, but in this climate and among other destroying agencies a crop so left to develop is as uncertain as any other crop would be if not cultivated by the hand of man to protect it from the powers that be—the bird that flies in the air, and the animal creeping on the ground. So wherever silk is raised the silk-worm and the rest of the process is kept in the shelter of a cocoonery.

Any room that can be well ventilated and at a regular temperature of from 70° to 80°, never below that, will make a cocoonery. Accurate thermometers are very useful in silk culture, and every room in which the work is carried on, should have several. In France and Italy where this industry is to them in importance what cotton is to us, they devote over half of their homes to cocooneries during the feeding season. The cost of the entire apparatus and labor, the first season is as follows:

Twenty frames, or hurdles, with twine, tacks, and time will cost about.....	\$13 00
Racks for the frames.....	5 00
Ounce of eggs (40,000).....	5 00
One boy for four weeks.....	10 00
Man for two weeks.....	20 00
	\$53 00

The temperature of the room set apart for this purpose being between

70° and 80° the eggs can be hatched any time by exposing them to this temperature, or can be kept as long as desired or until the leaves of the mulberry are sufficiently developed by keeping them on ice, or in a place at that temperature.

The life from the time the egg begins to hatch to the final sleep in the cocoon, is from 30 to 35 days. During this time the worm grows from an egg the size of a pin-head to a caterpillar, three and three-quarter inches in length, and passes through five ages, four moltings or changes of skin. The worms are great eaters, veritable little pigs in their way. When a fresh meal of leaves is given them, and three or four hundred are feeding the sound arising has some resemblance to a number of hogs feeding. They are said to eat their own weight daily, and must be fed from four to ten meals each 24 hours. After passing this stage they spin their cocoons.

These are formed of double threads, because of the double orifice of the nose, from which they are emitted, and are glued together and enveloped by a gum which constitutes about 25 per cent of the weight of the silk. It is from 600 to 1,000 feet in length, forming one continuous thread. Of course the cocoon is enveloped with a loose web or floss, known as "waste silk." The silk fiber is stronger than any other of the same size, being one thousandth of an inch in diameter, "a thread of a certain diameter being three times as strong as the thread of flax, and twice as strong as a thread of hemp."

The worm is cocooned three or four days in spinning, and remains from ten to twelve days immured in its prison which has contracted the prisoner from 2½ inches in length to an oval shaped ball, one inch long, and one half inch in diameter, and then he emerges "a new creature" which is accomplished by discharging a fluid that dissolves the gum on one end, allowing the thread to be easily broken; and the cocoon is injured, although pierced cocoons are known on the market and bring about 75 cents per ounce. The moth soon lays its eggs on the cocoon or surrounding objects and then dies.

Before the moth comes forth or about five days after the cocoon is spun, it should be stifled by exposing to steam, or better still, to the hot sun three or four days in an open box with a glass top to prevent cooling by stirring air. Then they should be dried by being spread on shelves in an airy room or attic, where being frequently stirred the first two or three days. After being allowed to remain two months they are ready for the market or for reeling.

Reeling is the most scientific and difficult part of silk production, and for the greatest success requires instruction. The cocoons are placed in hot water and stirred with a small brush broom or wisp of straw, until the ends of the threads are disengaged, when they are taken up and placed on the reel, which winds them off and twists the proper number of fibers supplied to it, and as one fiber is exhausted or broken it is supplied and the break repaired.

The reeling process much resembles woolen yarn spinning—almost, a lost art with the rising generation—but is readily acquired and a great many ladies have learned the art from the Women's Silk Culture Association, and from teachers sent into many parts of the country by that society.

The producer may dispose of his crop by either selling it in the cocoon, or reeled silk. As manufacturers buy only in large quantities, the Women's Silk Culture Association as a medium between the manufacturer and producer will act as a market for small quantities of cocoon or reeled silk. Dry cocoons bring, when sent to the association what they make when reeled, or about \$1.00 per pound. An ounce of eggs will produce about 40,000 worms or cocoons, which weigh from 100 to 150 pounds, or dry, from 35 to 40 pounds. An ounce of eggs will ensure in cocoons about \$40.00 or ten pounds of reeled silk at \$6.00 per pound, \$60.00. A reel that will last for years costs about \$18.00, on which can be reeled by a skillful reeler about one pound per day.

These figures show that expenses will hardly be met the first year, but the trees that have been planted will supply an increasing number of silkworms from year to year, till the labor expended well be as well paid as that on any other crop, besides benefiting the nation.

D. H.

An Enquiry.

Has any one ever tried sand in place of tile or other material for filling ditches for draining land? Thousands of acres of the best clay soil all needing drainage, and convenient to sand of about the texture for mortar are here. It seems to me a depth and width of about one foot of sand in the bottom of the ditch for laterals of not too great length might prove effectual. At the outlet it would perhaps be necessary to fill a space with gravel to keep the sand from flowing out.

C. S. KILLMER.

Arenac, Bay Co., Mich.

The Friendly Toad.

Along with the bird, the mole and the snake, the toad is now ranked as a friend of the horticulturist. Indeed, in some respects he stands foremost in the rank, for unlike the mole he never digs up the grassplot into unsightly ridges, and, for fortunate fellow, he is not burdened with the hereditary odium attached to the most kindly disposed of the snake tribe. In some parts of Europe toads are carried to the city markets where they are bought by the gardeners, who use them to keep in check the insects. It is not true that to handle toads causes warts. As a means of defense they are provided with an acid fluid of a disagreeable odor which they can expel from the little excrescences on their skin, when roughly treated. Besides this acid secretion toads possess one other means of defense, when attacked they inflate their bodies, probably to protect them from bruises. Toads, like snakes, moult once a year, but if not prevented they invariably swallow their skin as soon as cast. The gullet and stomach of a toad are so constructed that he can turn them inside out, protruding them from his mouth like the finger of a glove when he swallows anything disagreeable to him, thus easily getting rid of the contents. Toads have been known to remain in a family several years and to become quite tame when kindly treated. They will do good service in the dwelling as in the garden by clearing the premises of cockroaches and other vermin. It is said that they catch mice also, though it is hardly to be expected that creatures of their size could be very efficient mousers. To keep these little servants cheerful and in good working order, it is only necessary to supply them with water to drink and a safe, cool hiding-place by day, their working hours being at night.—Weekly Tribune.

Cranberries.

The value of the cranberry crop of the whole country is about \$1,500,000 annually, or a little more than the value of the apples exported in 1880. About one-third of the crop grows in New Jersey, on land which is worthless for other crops. There is much land in the United States which might be devoted to this crop, and although capital and skill are required in preparing the bogs and a considerable time before the investment brings return, cranberry growing is ultimately very profitable. The demand for this choice fruit is much in excess of the supply, and the market at home and abroad will warrant a vast increase in its culture. Fruit raising demands a more important place in the agriculture of the United States.—Orange County Farmer.

The Age of Our Planet.

Sir William Logan and his scientific brothers declare that the age of our planet may be placed at about 100,000,000 of years, geologically speaking. The conclusion is founded on primeval formations after the earth had cooled and began its sedimentary deposits. The geological calculations touching the sedimentary rocks, their thickness and the length of time necessary to bring such a result are as follows:

	Feet.	Years.
Laurentian.....	30,000	30,000,000
Cambrian.....	25,000	25,000,000
Silurian.....	6,000	6,000,000
Old red sandstone.....	10,000	10,000,000
Devonian.....	12,000	12,000,000
Carboniferous.....	10,000	10,000,000
Tertiary and Post Tertiary.....	1,000	1,000,000
Gaps and unrepresented strata.....	6,000	6,000,000
Totals.....	100,000	100,000,000

Thus it will be seen that the age of the earth is determined only from the beginning of the aqueous deposits. How long the new planet was a red-hot ball, or how long was the process of water forming, is not taken into the calculation of geologists. Fifty or a hundred years of human life is but a butterfly existence after all.

Poultry Talks, No. 1.

Not long ago among a company of friends the subject of poultry arose. Mr. E. was wondering why we were not getting as many eggs as other winterers. Mr. U. advanced an idea, and stated where poultry keepers made a mistake. When we want fowls for eating we kill those which want to set, or as we term it—have laid out their litters. Those are just the hens which, after a couple of weeks will begin laying again. In this way, year after year, we kill off our laying hens, while perhaps we have scores of idle fowls which do not set because they do not lay, and which will not lay enough eggs per year to pay for their keeping. He made it a practice to kill off his scabbiest looking fowls—those with dull colored combs and tired looks. A laying fowl is an active fowl. All agreed there was something in that idea. Mr. B. had just killed off his old fowls, the ring, streaked and speckled, and built a new hen-house after the latest approved style and stocked with Plymouth Rocks. The walls were double and the light was from a four by six feet window on the south roof, which roof was longer than the north roof. The floor was tight and sanded. The nests were a row of boxes with a board nailed against the wall slanting considerably, forming a roof over the nests. One idea which commended itself to all was that the entrance to the nests was shaped like the letter "Y" so hens could not roost on the sides of the nests. Still, something was lacking; fowls did not reach his expectations.

Mr. C., a townsman from Kalamazoo, said he got four eggs per day from four hens, and he thought he should go into the business of furnishing eggs to farmers for family use. The farmers present all took the joke in good part. Mr. S. said his hens would lay in winter, or otherwise, as they wished. His wife put down their eggs every fall, and was independent of them in winter. He didn't fuss with them, for winter laying was contrary to nature. Mr. E. said he had averaged about two dozen eggs per day for 80 fowls some winters, and thought it better than feeding them in idleness. If we had hens for spring and fall, we must have them in winter, and they might better earn their living. Figures, however, showed that there was most money made from eggs in spring.

OLD POULTRY.

Grand View Place, Kalamazoo.

A Fruit House.

An Illinois horticulturist has constructed a fruit house which is to be a protection alike from summer's heat and winter's cold. Two rows of posts are set in the ground, two and one-half feet apart, boarded up inside and out, and the intervening space filled up with straw, packed in as closely as possible. Two sets of rafters are then put on, the upper set three feet above the lower, which are boarded on upper side and the space closely packed with straw, after which a cheap board roof is put on. On the 11th of last August with the temperature 98° in the shade, in it was as cold as an ice-house, and contained a quantity of apples as sound as when taken from the trees 10 months before.

VARIOUS methods for hastening the conversion of cider into vinegar have been recommended. A recent French method which seems practicable is the following: Scald three barrels or casks with hot water, rinse thoroughly and empty. Then scald with vinegar, rolling the barrels and allowing them to stand on their sides two or three days, until they become thoroughly saturated with the vinegar. The barrels are then filled about one-third full of strong, pure cider vinegar, and two gallons of cider are added. Every seventh day thereafter two gallons of cider are added, until the barrels are two-thirds full. The whole is allowed to stand 14 days longer, when it will be found to be good vinegar, and one-half of it may be drawn and the process of filling with cider be begun again. In summer the barrels are allowed to stand exposed to the sun, and in cold weather kept where the temperature is 80 degrees.

The principal German chambers of commerce have protested against the embargo on American pork, but it is stated that the Government is resolved to prohibit its importation.

To make lemon cake, one cup of sugar, four eggs, three tablespoonfuls of sweet milk, three tablespoonfuls of baking powder and one cup of flour.

The Grange Visitor

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Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, SCHOOLCRAFT.

THE STATE CAPITOL ENGRAVING.

We have sent several dozen lithographs of the State Capitol to those entitled to them by virtue of having sent us five or more names of subscribers and \$2.50, since our office in the Visitor of March 15th. If we have neglected to send to any person entitled to this fine engraving we shall promptly forward it on receipt of notice.

UNTIL WITHDRAWN THIS IS MADE A STANDING OFFER—FIVE NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR ONE YEAR WILL ENTITLE THE PERSON SENDING US THE NAMES AND \$2.50 TO A SPLENDID LITHOGRAPH OF THE STATE CAPITOL OF MICHIGAN, SIZE OF SHEET 22x28 INCHES.

JUDICIAL COURTING.

Mr. Thomas J. Hiller, of Hudson, has set up a defense of the rules and usages which obtain in our judicial system. We give his article place on our fourth page.

Mr. Hiller takes exception to the views we have expressed in relation to such restrictive legislation as will prevent suits where small sums are involved from being appealed from a justice court to the circuit and from the circuit to the supreme court for final determination. Our correspondent starts out with a very fair statement of the liability of disagreement likely to arise in a community composed of restless, energetic, wide-awake men and women, and adds in a very sensible sort of a way that "civilization demands that those conflicting interests should be adjusted by settled and established rules, which rules are intended to mete out exact justice between the contending parties." Our legal philosopher having thus fairly stated his case he proceeds to reason by affirmation that our civilization not only demands, but is actually liable to overthrow and we be remanded back to barbarism, if when these wide-awake men and women have a difference or disagreement in a matter of five dollars or less, and to settle the matter they have recourse to law; the defeated party in the first suit is not allowed to appeal to a higher court, and from that to one of higher grade until the highest judicial tribunal known to the government is reached.

This proposition is proven by stating that there are certain settled and established rules created by the law-making power which if implicitly followed, establish somewhere in the chain of courts the desideratum sought—justice; and protect our civilization from that disintegration that would surely follow if these rules were amended or altered in such a manner as to in any way interfere with the revenue by which under these necessary and sacred rules, the profession are able to subsist on the people by taking advantage of the bad temper or weakness of a comparatively few members of the community who will go to law.

This is not just the way our legal friend states the case, but this is just what he means, for he certainly cannot be so simple as not to know that civilization itself as embodied in all law is a

matter of restraint; of curtailment of the freedom of the individual members of society.

Mr. Hiller treats this matter as though justice was sure to be obtained in court somewhere, if the parties could only hang on long enough. We confess to be unable to comprehend and appreciate the logic that teaches the absurd theory that people respect and are obedient to law when under the rules of judicial determination, the people of a county may be taxed a \$1,000, and the litigants themselves impoverished in determining a matter of difference of five dollars between two individuals. The decision of a justice is as likely to be affirmed by the court of last resort after hundreds of dollars have been expended and years of time consumed as to be reversed. The equities of the matter have little to do with the decision. A technicality or precedent two hundred years old will set aside equity half the time.

The line of argument of Mr. Hiller is directly in the face of facts. Talk about curtailing the right of appeal encouraging anarchy and a want of respect for law. No fact is more obviously true than this; that the great mass of the people have already lost their respect for the judicial machinery of our government, for the reason that it demands so much and returns so little. The rules and regulations which Mr. Hiller affects to believe are the bulwarks of our civilization, the people today look upon as a part of a stupendous machine arranged and intended to provide for Mr. Hiller and his professional friends. And they will continue to do so believe until the common sense proposition that a thing must not cost very much more than it is worth shall be accepted and acted on as a practical principle in the administration of justice. Both the legal gentlemen who have favored us with articles this month, evince a contempt for justices of the peace and would fain have us believe that when a case goes to a higher court then we should uncover our heads in respectful deference to the wisdom and justice of its decisions.

A striking instance of the utter folly of confiding so implicitly and reverently in the decisions of a higher court is fresh in the minds of the people of the State in the case appealed from a U. S. District Court in Indiana three years ago.

From the U. S. District Court the case of Green against certain parties for infringement of patent was taken by appeal to that august tribunal, the Supreme Court of the United States. The case was decided in the District Court by precedent without evidence or argument.

In the supreme court of the United States four of these learned gentlemen declared in favor of the appellant and four against him. After all these years of delay and at great expense a conclusion is reached that might have been had by tossing a copper five years before. But then according to Mr. Hiller this thing keeps our civilization on its feet and saves us from lapsing into barbarism. For this we ought, perhaps to be thankful. But as the means for the equitable adjustment of differences between individuals in a reasonable time and at reasonable cost we have in common with the great mass of the people only contempt for it.

This idea that any cross grained citizen whose yaller dog has been kicked, shall be allowed to prosecute the kicker through every court in the State at great expense to the tax-payers who have no interest in the litigants or the dog, is a relic of barbarism confined entirely to the legal profession and held by them simply because there is bread and butter in it for them.

We have never asked for legislation that shall deny all appeal from a first decision in a justice court. We favor the right of appeal to another justice or a court of arbitration that might be constituted with little cost. Here all cases where small amounts are in controversy should be tried and disposed of while the facts are fresh and within reach, and take no chances of the uncertainties that must come months and years after. Simple justice is far more likely to be included in the verdict before this first or second court, than after the cunning or wisdom of a brace of lawyers have managed to fleece the litigants and taxed the people by successive trials, and by injecting technicalities and precedents into the case, and suppressing facts under the wise rules that take such good care of our civilization. Some things are true, and Mr. Hiller knows it, or ought to. The people have rights as well as individuals, and those rights are outraged and trampled upon in a most shameless manner when a suit for a paltry sum is appealed from a justice court to the circuit court—again, taken on appeal to the supreme court, returned for retrial to the circuit, and again appealed to the supreme court. Such cases I have known, and those are no worse in kind, only in extent, than a case that comes to the circuit from a justice court where a dollar is in dispute, and the court devotes a day or two to its consideration. Business principles are ignored in the judicial department of the government, and it is high time that the people asserted their right to protection from the ravages of a practice that recognizes no limit to the burdens imposed upon them by trials of civil cases in which they have no shadow of interest.

THE MARSHALL STATESMAN AND CORPORATIONS.

We commend the article from the *Marshall Statesman* found on another page to the consideration of our readers. The sentiments expressed we endorse. But what pleases us most is to find such independent, plain talk in a country journal. It is unusual and therefore noticeable. The country press as a rule are wanting in independence, free only to condemn the other political party.

We thank the *Statesman* for its statesmanlike treatment of the most important question before the American people. If its cotemporaries in Michigan and all over the country would aid in educating the people to the dangers to our free institutions and to the permanency of our present form of government which lurk in the capricious and almost unrestricted control of these vast accumulations of capital which in the hands of a few men to day determine values and make us poorer or richer by hundreds of millions of dollars by the stroke of a pen; if we say the country press would enlighten the people and invite their co operation in bringing under government control these vast corporations, we might hope for such development of our vast material resources and such an equilibrium of interests between the different classes of society as would, furnish a reasonable assurance of the perpetuity of the institutions of this country, of which we have heretofore been so proud.

But if the chartered creature is to dominate and over-ride the Legislative department of the government; if in their blind greed and lust of power the people are crowded too near the ragged edge by these vast corporations, the future historian may well charge the evils that will follow upon the cowardice and faithlessness of the press of the country. Until the press demands of legislators the legal protection of the rights of the people, which corporations have seized and now hold by sufferance, we may not hope for such adjustment of the rights of corporations on the one hand, and of the people on the other, as will preserve to all such respect for law as will securely guard our institutions and our property from the consequences that come of disaffection and a sense of wrong that knows no remedy but brute force.

The county press seldom champions the cause of the people upon questions that are above party and pertain to the well being of the fifty millions of people who are so soon to duplicate this number as subjects of this government. And this delinquency we most sincerely deplore.

APPEALS.

Under the head of "Increased Salaries Proper," in the *Visitor* of January 1st is an article from some friend of the legal profession, taking exception to the opinions of Judge Pratt in the matter of appeals, and, in a sort of short-hand way, defending by offsets all faults charged to our present judicial system.

We have been complaining for several years that the judicial business of the County was costing more than it ought to; that it was encumbered with delays, technicalities and precedents, until the prime object for which a judicial system was established and is maintained by the state and national governments; to wit, to secure justice in matters of difference between individuals, singly or collectively, has been made the secondary or last object sought. And if the article referred to amounts to anything more than an attempt to justify this state of things, we have failed to find it, except in its reference or opinion of what the jury system ought to be.

We are quite unable to comprehend how an increase of the salaries or fees of justices of the peace is to elevate the standard of honesty and excellence among them, as "W." would have us believe.

We are informed that lawyers are as honest as their employers "want them to be," and all the evils of our judicial system are offset and justified by some of the mean tricks that are practiced by farmers. It will hardly pay to spend much ammunition on game that uses that sort of logic. And we refer W. to our answer to a fellow member of the profession in another column.

A BROTHER has suggested that we publish as a "stimulator" a list of the Granges that have paid up their dues in full to Jan. 1st. We herewith give the list and hope it may prove a reminder at least to all delinquents:

2, 7, 16, 19, 21, 22, 28, 38, 39, 45, 46, 52, 53, 56, 59, 74, 78, 85, 90, 91, 92, 97, 106, 108, 110, 113, 114, 127, 130, 133, 134, 141, 145, 152, 154, 157, 159, 160, 167, 172, 174, 176, 178, 183, 190, 192, 212, 215, 219, 221, 225, 226, 230, 235, 245, 247, 259, 266, 267, 270, 271, 273, 274, 276, 279, 280, 287, 289, 291, 292, 295, 303, 313, 316, 318, 321, 322, 323, 331, 333, 343, 347, 350, 353, 355, 367, 373, 376, 384, 393, 395, 399, 415, 427, 437, 443, 459, 464, 479, 491, 494, 505, 513, 517, 526, 544, 549, 563, 564, 610, 618, 625, 636, 640, 641, 643, 651.

"SOME Farmers in Council" is an article very complimentary to the representative men of the agricultural class, and we accept it as another evidence that this class is coming up to that level where it belongs.

THE COMING SENATOR.

The struggle for place and power now going on at Lansing is of a bitter and determined character. The movement in opposition to the re-election of Senator Ferry has, for months, been gathering force and momentum among the people at large, stimulated by designing politicians who had a sinister purpose. The popular opinion is so unmistakable in this matter that Mr. Ferry's chances would be small indeed were it not for the skill and discipline of his political adherents. It has already become evident that if he succeeds in securing a majority in the joint assembly of the legislature, he will in no true sense represent the state of Michigan. It will be one of the many illustrations of the ease with which the will of the people can be set aside and held for nought by scheming politicians.

The opposition to Mr. Ferry is not wholly a movement of the people. Its leadership has been assumed by Mr. Hubbell who is, unfortunately, identified in the minds of the people with all the most objectionable and corrupt methods employed by partisan leaders. If Mr. Ferry should be defeated, it ought not to be construed as an approval of Hubbell's political policy, but rather as an emphatic protest against the political "bossism" which has of late become a characteristic of Mr. Ferry's public career. This has been shown in every stage of the contest. Whatever charges have been made against Mr. Ferry's personal character have only reacted in his favor. The people have branded as "too thin" the vicious scandals and slanders of a political campaign. The rank and file of voters have been slowly mastering the idea that they have for years practically given up their right of suffrage and have marched in obedience to the command of petty caucus leaders who are themselves the servants of servants, the mere cogs in a wheel performing a part in a vast political machine. A goodly number of them have set the seal of their disapproval upon "bossism" and machine methods in politics.

The political press now opposed to Mr. Ferry urge very strongly that he is incompetent, that he possesses none of the elements of statesmanship, that he has more beard than brains, and that intellectually he is a pigmy among the giants of the United States Senate; and the gravest charge of all, that he has sacrificed the interests of certain other politicians for his own benefit. But it has taken these papers twelve years to ascertain his incompetency, and as to his political treachery, the parties claiming to be injured were all the time working the political machine as selfishly as Mr. Ferry. It is true that Mr. Ferry has not distinguished himself as a statesman. Very few men do. But the most shining virtues and marked ability will not always save a man in the present state of politics. The functions of a senator or representative have, come to be largely to attend to the distribution of offices among his followers and supporters. Profound statesmanship figures but little in legislative bodies. While we most heartily protest against the methods adopted by Mr. Ferry and his adherents to retain his place, we have no endorsement for the personal attack made upon him by his old political friends. If Mr. Ferry is defeated it should be because of the offensive officiousness in the use of means to make him his own successor. He has a public record. He has official duties in the senate of the United States. If he had relied upon the one and attended to the other, instead of coming to Lansing to make use of all the means known to machine politics to secure his own re-election, we should, barring the right which the agricultural class really have to a representative from their numbers, have no strong objection to Mr. Ferry. That is, we think he may be relied on to take care of the interest of the country for the next six years in the senate as well as some dark horse that in the event of his defeat may be elected. But we cannot forgive him for his "machine" connections, and are willing to take the chances of the tussle with all its unknown conditions.

If the crafty politicians who are anxious for Ferry, but more anxious for Tom Palmer, should win, we should have no less "machine," with the addition of a confessed plunderer of the property of the state for personal profit and advantage. But we cannot think such degradation is in store for us.

There are, we presume, quite a number of farmers in the legislature. And yet take them as a lot, and we cannot expect very much more from them, of care for the agricultural class of the Country than from members of any other profession. The most of them probably don't know that since Michigan became a State we have had about 100 different men in congress and in the executive office of the State, and but four of all that number have been farmers. To state this fact to some intelligent sort of people, and say that we think a man from the agricultural class should be elected Senator and they will insist that such a proposition is clannish. It is not clannish to have nine-tenths of our Congressional lawyers. This class have a claim sanctioned by usage and I am sorry to know that half the farmers of the country seem ready to recognize it. But this state of things won't last always. More and more each year the independent

voter, votes as he pleases and we think machine politicians will not occupy all the front seats much longer.

EMIGRATION TO MICHIGAN, NORTH AMERICA.

To the Editor, SIR:—Will you kindly oblige by allowing me to inform the intending emigrants to this colony, through the columns of the *Eastern Weekly Press*, that Mr. Zudense, the agent, has not yet arrived in England. I am expecting him every day, and will, on his arrival, give every necessary information as to time of starting, terms, &c. Meantime, we strongly advise all the young men, who have already applied to us, to keep at their work, and earn and save all the money they can, as they will find it very useful both on their voyage and when they land. I have already a large number of applications from both males and females. I cannot possibly answer all letters, but will do my best in giving information through the *Weekly Press*, from time to time.

Obediently yours, GEORGE RIX.

We clip the above from the *Eastern Weekly Press*, an English paper sent us by the emigration agent, Mr. Zudense, of Cedar Springs, Mich., whose advertisement appeared in the *Visitor* for some time last fall.

PLASTER.

We are very glad to announce to the Patrons of Michigan that we have received notice from M. B. Church, manager of the Alabastine company at Grand Rapids, that he is now prepared to fill orders for plaster. The new mill was started January 1st, and as all the machinery is of the latest and most approved make, and the work done by competent workmen under careful supervision, the mill has been doing good work from the first.

It only remains for us to promptly forward our orders for plaster under seal of the Grange and they will be honored. You know when March comes, and everybody wants their plaster right off, that cars are short, the traveling gets bad, and everything goes wrong.

Send in your order at once, and if you live any distance from your railroad station get your plaster home and in the barn while you have good roads and more time to attend to it than you will have next spring.

In behalf of the *Visitor* we venture to raise the inquiry, "Has every Grange in the State elected or appointed the committee as recommended by the State Grange, to canvass for the *Visitor* in and out of the Order?" If not, why not, or if not, will the Master see to it that this recommendation of the State Grange is attended to at the next meeting? This has now become a part of your duty, and for the good of the Order we hope a judicious selection will be made, and that a growing demand for the paper will soon prove that good work is being done. Let us hear from these special committees.

A CORRESPONDENT, after referring to the objectionable qualities of marble for monumental purposes and the expensiveness of granite, makes reference to white bronze, manufactured in Detroit for this purpose, that is cheaper and more durable than marble, at least he has so understood. He suggests that as this is a question that interests so many that it be discussed. As we know nothing of the material referred to, with the remark that the name is anomalous we are ready to be informed.

An article from a Richland correspondent, after complimenting the *Visitor* for its "independent journalism" raises questions, the discussion of which could not in any way promote "the good of the Order," but on the contrary would lead to controversy and discord. We must decline to enter those fields of controversy that, in the nature of the case, must be barren of any good results.

We have received the first, or January number of a new quarto published at Holyoke, Mass. Its title *The Builder*, indicates its mission. The county is full of newspapers. The supply is in excess of the demand, but there is room and need for *The Builder*. People need houses, and must have them in the country. But how to build and what to build to meet the needs, and match the pecuniary ability of people is poorly understood. *The Builder* is printed on good paper, in good style, well illustrated, and this first number impresses us favorably. Published monthly at \$2.00 a year.

On our sixth page will be found the latest market reports up to the hour of going to press as obtained by telegraph for our neighbor the Kalamazoo TELEGRAPH.

More Infringement Claims.

We clip from the *Chagrin Falls Exponent* the following editorial and correspondence. From this it seems the cheese manufacturers have neglected to send their twenty-five cents to Washington for copies of patents so as to "keep posted," and now they are in trouble. If Mr. Garver had only mentioned this matter of "getting posted" a few years sooner no one would have been swindled. Farmers and manufacturers would have been posted and discriminated between the "Simon pure," genuine patent, and the bogus goods that are on the market.—ED.]

"There is a growing feeling of alarm over what threatens to be, and what already is to many, a system of legalized robbery, backed by the United States Patent Office. That the wonderful improvements of the age in which America to day stands at the head is directly attributed to our patent system, there can be no doubt. It is equally apparent that no barrier should be thrown into the way of legitimate invention, but it is equally evident that there should be a reform in the matter of what is known as reissues, whereby old and useless patents, that have been abandoned by their owners, are purchased by rich combinations and a re-issue worked through the patent office, covering, perhaps, improvements not contemplated by the inventor, but used for years by the public, when the combination swoops down on those who are using the article, demanding a royalty or bonus, which in the aggregate amounts to millions of dollars.

The Hubbell & Co. patents on cheese hoops and molding cheese in the hoop, heating cheese vats by steam, etc., come under this head. That the patents are invalid there can be no room for doubt, but people, rather than go through an expensive suit in the U. S. courts, will submit to the robbery, and pay over their share towards making the company millionaires. The system is in this respect defective, and Congress should so amend the patent laws that the public will be protected against this means of robbery.

From letters on the subject by those well qualified to judge, published elsewhere in this issue, it will be seen that it is necessary to beat Hubbell & Co. to unite and give their claims a test in the higher courts. If this is not done it will not be long before our factorymen will be called upon to pay heavy royalties for heating cheese vats by steam, and it will be a wonder if they are not asked to pay for the privilege of making cheese by the use of reneil. We advise our factorymen to go into the combinations being formed to fight the company's claim, both on hoops and vats, believing that to be the cheapest way out of a predicament forced upon them by these legalized robbers.

The following letters relative to Hubbell & Co.'s claim explain themselves fully and offer suggestions on which the factorymen should act promptly.

Mr. Benjamin B. Gilbert, daily editor of the well known *Utica Herald*, writes:

UTICA, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1882.

J. J. STRANAHAN—Dear Sir: Yours of the 9th inst. has just reached me. You ask: "What have your dairymen done about paying Hubbell & Co.'s royalty on cheese hoops?" I answer: "That the association formed to contest that patent was influenced to make a compromise by which they paid with Hubbell & Co. for less money than it would have cost them to go on with the suit, even if they had been successful in it. Hubbell thereby got a decree in his favor, and has since then collected tens of thousands of dollars from factorymen who were not in the combination. His lawyers were Duell & Hay, of Syracuse, and the same parties have recently had two old patents reissued for heating cheese vats with steam. One patent covers the use of perforated pipes for the distribution of steam; the other covers any introduction of steam between the inner and outer vats for the heating of milk. The original patents date back to 1869 to it will be seen that they cannot stand if determined opposition is made. Plenty of people used this method long previous to the issue of the patents, and that fact can easily be proven. We have formed an association here to contest the case, and invite dairymen all over the country to join us. The conditions are that such members shall be liable to an assessment of no more than \$5 per vat in his factory, or as much less as the circumstances require. Of course, the larger the combination is made, the less will be the assessment; and there is hardly a factory in the land which will not be liable to pay a royalty. The price demanded by the patentees is \$15 for the first vat, and \$10 for every other used. If they succeed in collecting this they will soon trump up something else, and the dairymen will be a source of unending fleeing. It is the intention of the association to defend the suit if possible, and it is believed to be almost a sure case in our favor. If any of the factorymen in your vicinity are willing to join they may write to me as secretary, and send with their names and consent, the number of vats which they use.

Yours truly,

BENJ. D. GILBERT.

In answer to an inquiry which we sent to Mr. R. P. McGilincy, dairy editor of the *Elgin* (Ill.) *Advocate*, we received the following relative to the matter, which will be read with much interest:

ELGIN, Ill., Dec. 12, 1882.

J. J. STRANAHAN, Esq.—Dear Sir: Your favor of the 9th is at hand. In reply, let me say, that so far as Hubbell & Co. are concerned they have not troubled many Illinois factorymen, but have given our friends in Wisconsin a good deal of trouble. There is an organization in Wisconsin for the purpose of resisting payment of royalty on the cheese hoops, etc., and we have a case in the U. S. district court at Milwaukee, and so far have beaten the claimants. I understand that the claimants were to have filed their replication to counsel on our side on the 1st inst., but failed, and plead for an extension, but the judge overruled their plea, and my impression is that they seek delay. I should have added that this claim, I believe, embraces the Tyler Stenberg patent, and the gang press, too.

Should you address a letter to W. D. Hoard, editor of the *Union*, of Fort Atkinson, Wis. I think he can give you more information.

My advice to our people is not to pay a cent except at the end of an execution from the U. S. courts, for it is evident to me that there is no legality in the claim, and if factorymen everywhere would form one general organization, and stand by it, I believe that this and all other claimants would be knocked out of time. It is high time for factorymen and dairymen to protect themselves in this matter, as well as some others. If you have anything new, write me. Some of our people belong to the Wisconsin association. Hoping I have answered you, I am, yours, &c., R. P. MCGILINCY.

Communications.

Our Order—Its Origin and Mission.

[Essay by N. G. Watkins, member of Burr Oak Grange, and read before the Grange Saturday, December 9th, 1882.]

An old adage says, "Two of a trade never agree." Though individual cases may seem to deny the truth of this saying, no doubt there is enough truth in it to exhibit a trait of humanity that is universal. But no matter how much strife and opposition there may be between several members of a society party, class or profession; no matter how bitter the animosity may be that exists, when the band is attacked from the outside, those members will quickly unite to oppose the common enemy and defend the name and interests of their cherished Order.

In this respect, no doubt, Grangers are like other people; and I think the union and sympathy thus created are among the direct benefits of membership. It is not my purpose to give a detailed account of any direct or immediate cause that led to the formation of this Order, nor to give a history of the work of organizing the first Granges, but simply to show, briefly, that the organization is, like all other societies, the outgrowth of a natural law that has existed since man was first known upon the earth.

According to the theory of evolution which is almost universally accepted in the scientific world, in the battle of life, the animals that were most successful survived and propagated their kind; and man, as he advanced in the intellectual scale and his requirements and responsibilities increased, naturally acquired and transmitted to his offspring a greater degree of that most potent of all incentives of human action—self-interest.

As business increased and pursuits multiplied, it became evident that the natural tendency of man, despite his moral restraints, was to overstep the bounds of strict justice, and hence the idea of organized bands to resist the encroachments of man upon the rights of his fellow man. It is a sad reflection on humanity that unusual and extraordinary measures should be necessary to secure that which all men know to be for the best interests of the community. But it seems that the very force of that combination and concentration of self-interest necessary to conduct a large business, without premeditated wrong, if allowed to go unchecked, inevitably leads to oppression; and when an enterprise has grown almost practically beyond restraint, it becomes what we term monopoly.

Some societies were founded for benevolent and charitable purposes, and also seek to promote harmony among mankind by inculcating all those virtues that elevate and ennoble the race. When the first league or union to secure some rights or benefits to its members existed, is, no doubt, beyond the reach of history, but among the oldest of known organizations is Ancient Free Masonry, which has been followed by several other societies, founded for different objects.

During the last half century many societies, unions, leagues, etc., have come into existence in this country, from the very necessity of protecting the interests of certain occupations to which membership is confined. The employees of manufacturing establishments and other large corporations which are, of course, chiefly confined to cities and towns, were the first to see the need of organization to protect their interests and provide for contingencies which were plainly foreshadowed by the encroachments of their employers.

The last class of people to combine for self-protection was the farmers; and it was not till they had suffered from monopoly and extortion, and almost every species of fraud and imposition, till forbearance ceased to be a virtue, that they organized to maintain their natural rights. It is not difficult to see why this action was so long delayed. For a long time many impositions were practiced upon farmers that were wholly or partially concealed from them. It was not easy to know to just what extent they had been swindled. The case was not like that of a man in a city, who works one day for \$2, and is cut down to \$1.50 the next.

Another reason why the formation of a farmers' society was difficult, was on account of their scattered position. It was not easy to get enough together to support a society; and, I will here say, that from the first, this fact has been, is now, and probably always will be an element of weakness in our Order that we should try to counterbalance by all possible means.

Self-interest leads powerful corporations and rings to extreme measures, and sometimes cruel oppression; and self-interest incites men to resist that oppression; and thus we have the seeming paradox, of the same cause producing opinions and actions directly opposite. The mention of self-interest is apt to produce in our minds thoughts of avaricious greed and tyrannical sway; but when possessed in

a moderate degree, and kept under proper control, it is a most excellent thing. It inspires young people with the energy and resolution which constitutes the foundation of success. The old it makes hopeful and contented, and anxious to make their last years useful. It promotes industry and economy which provide an abundance of the necessities of life. It is a check upon waste and extravagance which lead to want and suffering. It is a spur to the indolent and a support to the unfortunate. The pride of fame and station; the desire to please; to win the approbation of friends; to fill the home with comforts, and love, and joy; these spring from this source, and man's highest hopes of heaven are but the natural ultimate promptings of this universal passion—self-interest.

Our work is but begun. We are now but entering that era of progress and reform, which, with fidelity and proper discipline and management of our forces, will be marked with brilliant triumphs. Our broad, liberal platform is worthy of the wide domain of agriculture. It does not seek to enslave us by imposing restrictions upon our minds in matters that do not relate to our purpose. This, it seems to me, is almost a guarantee of success.

We should educate ourselves. I do not mean simply to learn the usual branches taught in the schools, but we should strive to become better acquainted with everything that, in any way has a bearing upon the work which we hope to accomplish. We should commence negatively, by divesting our minds of all bigoted notions, bias and prejudice, that we may see things as they are, and act understandingly.

We should acquaint ourselves with the just relation that should exist between different manufacturers and other business industries; between all classes of shippers and transportation companies; between capital and labor; and regard carefully that vexed question, the tariff, which, more than once, has brought this country to the verge of anarchy and dismemberment. We should note the financial system and condition of the country. We should learn what we can of international law, and also know something of the systems, requirements, business, and general condition of other countries.

The rural homes of our country should receive more of what we denominate culture. Civility and politeness should be the rule, and these are based upon nothing more nor less than good nature. Of late years much discussion has been given to the question, "How to keep young people on the farm," and the usual solution is, furnish plenty of amusements and make home pleasant. This is good as far as it goes, but something more is required. We must inculcate and develop, by all possible means, a love for the pursuit of agriculture. Very few persons are successful in any business that is irksome and disagreeable to them. Young people who are members of this Order should be educated in all branches of science that have any connection with their vocation, and they will thus receive the twofold satisfaction of being honored and respected for the useful knowledge they possess, and of being able to apply that knowledge to practical and remunerative uses.

Whatever may be our individual opinion in regard to man's origin and destiny, we all know that the most perfectly organized and best developed brain produces the best thought upon any subject, and this should prompt people to greater care for the physical improvement of the human family. Improvement in stock should not be entirely confined to the lower animals. There is one practice that is followed to a great extent in this country, that is fatal to the elevation, advancement and respectability of the farmer's calling. It is this: When a boy reaches the age at which some dawning of his future manhood have been seen, and these are more than usually promising, he is sent off to be fitted for some profession, art, or other business. The boy that can only work is taught to do that, and is required to do plenty of it. His instruction in anything else is very limited.

The same course is pursued with the girls. This practice should be reversed. We want men and women of the best natural abilities, the most liberal education, and the widest culture and experience on the farm. When we get them, the business of farming will be more desirable, and the city swell will cease to look down upon those who till the soil. Much has been said about the unfortunate fact that so few farmers have secured seats in Congress, Legislatures, and other positions of honor and public trust. One chief reason for this is found in the practice of which I have already spoken. I do not mean that the farming community, as a class, are deficient in mental endowments, for there is a great amount of general intelligence among the farmers of the United States, but it is an undeniable fact that it is not considered necessary to secure the best talent, and have that talent applied by scientific and special study to the pursuit of agriculture, as is required in the professions.

Furthermore, a large percentage of those engaged in farming follow it simply because they were born to it, and have had no opportunity that was satisfactory of becoming established in something they think would suit them better.

The ideal farmer of the future is a man who follows the business of producing from the soil because he loves it and makes it both pleasant and profitable; a man who considers that he is pursuing as high and honorable a calling as any in the land, and hence, is not fretted by thoughts and hopes of something better; a man of good natural talent, of sound judgement and broad liberal principles; a man of varied education and thorough social culture; a man who is a fair statesman, philosopher, politician, jurist, and well versed in literature, who is fitted at any time to accept and perform the duties of any position to which his fellow-countrymen may call him.

It seems to me that it is the peculiar province of this Order to elevate and ennoble labor. Science, in her varied and charming forms, has elicited the homage and admiration of the philosopher, and furnished a grand theme for the genius of the poet. Patriotism has been honored and applauded since governments had an existence.

Art, with her glorious record of triumphs and magic powers of fascination that have absorbed and enslaved the faculties of man, has been petted and worshiped for centuries. Fame, that glittering dome at the summit of man's ambition, has received the smile of nations, the eulogies of orators and the recognition of honor. Capital has erected its gorgeous altar, and millions have willingly bowed down at the golden shrine. But Labor has been down-trodden and despised. Let us raise her from this degraded position, place her upon the pedestal of Justice, and wreath immortal garlands of honor, to place upon her brow.

Forest Grange, No. 362.

BIG RAPIDS, Jan. 8, 1883.

Bro. Cobb:—As it is a year since anything has appeared in the VISITOR from this part of the field, and as a request that I write an item of news to the VISITOR comes from some of the friends of Forest Grange living in the south part of the State, I will, (believing that fraternal news will be for the good of the VISITOR and therefore good of the Order) endeavor to comply with the wishes of our friends and Forest Grange has many scattered all over this State and also many other States, that took their first degrees in this Grange, and therefore they naturally inquire if the old folks are yet alive.

To such I would say, the old folks are very much alive and growing greener and better with the advance of old age. We have had one or more candidates in tow since I wrote the VISITOR over a year ago, and we have an application now under consideration and many more are hinting that they believe that our Grange is a power for good, and of course that means Granges all over this broad, fair land. For does not our past history show that we stand as one man for truth, for justice and for equal rights. Of course you will very naturally think of the amount of feasting that has attended our increase of numbers, extending over about three years, and it has been almost constant. So much so that for years we did not see any room for a harvest feast and you know that the lords of creation set down and eat like the Indian what his squaw had prepared for him without any trouble on his part except killing the fatted calf. So did the sisters when we asked for a harvest feast once.

Therefore in thoughtful remembrance of these things, the brothers passed a resolution something like this: Resolved, That the brothers of this Grange prepare a banquet at this hall for the sisters of the Grange without any assistance from them and that the same be had after the election of officers on the 22d of December.

You say, did they get it? Well, if you only knew the husbandman's grit you would know they got it! What? An oyster supper and all those other things you find on the good Patrons table, and the sisters voted it big success and hoped it might often return. But I did not hear a brother say he wanted it to return. I think it was hard work for most of them; it was for me, and I thank God, first, that I was not born a woman, and lastly, that I don't have a woman's work to do. Well, at two o'clock in the morning the ghost of the feast appeared and we wended our way homeward—up, ready for work, early for once.

Our Worthy Master C. W. Clifton, who was our representative to the State Grange, came back saying that it was thought best to place young members in official positions, thinking thereby to get out of the chair, but we did not think so and placed him back to punish him for entertaining such a thought.

Brother Cobb, I see in the VISITOR of January 1st that the Patrons' Aid Society amended the by-law making a suspended member of a Subordinate Grange to stand on equal footing with a brother in good standing. It ap-

pears to me a bad move, as I know of several members who stated to me that if they could only sustain their membership in the Aid Society they would withdraw from the Grange. Simply a matter of pique, and others will make or have made the Grange a stepping stone to insurance. Soon there will be more of us paying assessments on aliens than Patrons; but enough for this time, and I suppose you say, too much.

Fraternally thine,
JOSEPH SMITH, Lecturer.

Expense of Courts.

A suit involving \$2 was tried in the circuit court last week at an expense of about \$200 to the tax-payers of the county, and \$400 to the litigants. This last item is not of interest to the people; but it is such items of expense as the first, that cause people to say cuss words.—Hillsdale Democrat.

Worthy Editor and Brother:—Enclosed find slip out from the Hillsdale Democrat which shows how our courts of justice are carried on in order to fill the pockets of the legal fraternity and make the tax payers foot the bills. When will the voters of this, our noble State, forsake party and vote for men, men who will make common-sense laws that will give us more justice and less law.

Yours,
R. E. PERRY,
Cambria Grange No. 74.

Bushnell Grange—Plaster Resolutions.

J. T. Cobb:—At a meeting held at the Bushnell Grange Hall, No. 437, on the evening of December 9th, 1882, Bro. J. V. Minier, offered the following preamble, and resolution, which was unanimously adopted by this Grange.

Whereas the Executive Committee of the State Grange, have recently perfected arrangements with M. B. Church, Manager of the Alabastine Company of Grand Rapids Michigan, at a price to furnish Plaster to Patrons, at a price not to exceed \$2.50 per ton.—Therefore,

Resolved:—That the Bushnell Grange, No. 437, recommend that all Patrons and farmers purchase their plaster of said company for the next year, at a price not to exceed two dollars and fifty cents per ton, and to patronize Mr. Church, first, or so long as he is able to fill their orders. And we hereby pledge ourselves to secure the corporation of all Granges in our vicinity to do likewise.

R. W. Hoy, Sec'y.

Report of Executive Committee at Tenth Session of State Grange.

To the Master and Members of the Michigan State Grange:—At the close of the last session of the State Grange, December 16, 1881, your Executive Committee met at the Lansing House, and organized by electing J. Q. A. Burrington chairman.

The expenses and accounts arising from the meeting of the State Grange were credited and allowed.

The questions referred to us by the State Grange were carefully examined and such action taken as in the opinion of your committee will be for the best interests of the Order. Amongst these your committee was instructed to draft, or cause to be drafted, a bill to amend the patent laws, that all persons who have purchased and used, or may hereafter purchase and use patented articles, without actual personal notice of the claims of the patentee or his assigns, shall be exempt from prosecution. Brothers C. G. Luce and J. G. Ramsdell were appointed to draft a bill in accordance with the resolution, and to present the same to our Senators and Representatives of Congress. That this work was well done is evident from the fact that the bill which passed the House of Representatives and is now pending in the United States Senate is substantially the same as drafted by the committee.

The lecture field was placed in the hands of the Worthy Master of the State Grange, and he was authorized to draw from the funds in the treasury a sum not to exceed \$750 to meet the wants in this field.

The question of issuing the GRANGE VISITOR weekly, so earnestly demanded by many members of the State Grange, was most earnestly and candidly considered, and while your committee were in full sympathy with the large number of Patrons in the State who desired this, we could devise no means to meet the increased expenditure that would be required for this purpose without seriously crippling the resources of this body. We deem it absolutely necessary that there should always be a balance in the treasury to meet emergencies that may arise. We therefore were unanimous in the conclusion that we could not safely comply with the demands.

OUR PLASTER INTERESTS.

An annual report from this committee would seem incomplete unless some allusion was made to the plaster question. This year there seems to be a necessity that this subject should occupy, at least the usual space in this report. On looking over the report of this committee for the last year, we find the following language: "We hoped that this question had become permanently settled, so that it might pass without further discussion in our reports. That for all future time, agriculturists would be privileged to make use of this fertilizer, by paying a fair value on the cost of manufacture, basing that value on the benefits derived from its use. In this we may have been mistaken. Although we hold a contract which has yet three years to run, by which all using the article may have it for a fair and honest value, a stipulated price of \$2.50 per ton aboard the cars at Grand Rapids, yet we discover elements at work which may, in the near future, so undermine our contract as to make it worthless to us as a means of supply. Your committee have faith in the Order, and believe it is in their power when once made acquainted with the facts, to keep it from harm, and by so doing protect themselves from the impositions undertaken to be placed upon them seven years ago by the plaster ring of Michigan."

The doubts of the permanency of our arrangements, shadowed forth in this language, seem to have been almost prophetic. Early last summer rumors were afloat that our arrangements with Brother Day were about to fall through, and that we were about to lose the fruits of our years of labor to secure plaster at reasonable rates. These rumors proved upon investigation to be well founded. Owing to circumstances beyond his control, as we are constrained to believe, Brother Day was unable to fulfill the balance of his contract, and as we understand, became a member of the plaster association. This association then seemed to be master of the situation, having under their control all the plaster mills of Ohio and Michigan and so far as any one could see, the farmers were again at their mercy and would be compelled to pay whatever price the association might demand. Your committee, however, were not disposed to give up the contest until we were satisfied that no other resource was left us. A meeting of the committee was called at the Hudson House in Lansing, August 16, to consider the matter. At this meeting Brother S. L. Hamilton, of Grand Rapids, was present by invitation and suggested to the committee that satisfactory arrangements might be made with the Alabastine company, by which they would enter into the business of manufacturing land plaster and furnish it to farmers for a term of years at a fair price. A sub-committee consisting of J. T. Cobb and F. M. Holloway, both veterans in the contest so long waged with the plaster ring, was appointed to at once investigate the matter, and they were given full power to make a contract if favorable terms could be made.

As the result of their labors, a contract was made between M. B. Church, the manager of the Alabastine company, and the State Grange of Michigan, by the terms of which this company were at once to open a plaster bed, erect mills and manufacture plaster for Patrons of Michigan at a maximum price of \$2.50 per ton on board the cars at Grand Rapids; and the State Grange are to use their best endeavors to induce all members of the Order to give the enterprise their patronage and support.

We cannot leave this subject without acknowledging our great obligation to Brother Hamilton for his zeal and labor in working up this matter, and to Brothers Cobb and Holloway for their promptness in bringing it to a successful issue. The machinations of the plaster ring have once more been defeated, and right made triumphant with trifling expense to the State Grange. We need not remind Patrons of their duty to be loyal to their principles and give their hearty support to this enterprise, which is now our only bulwark against the rapacity of that soulless monopoly, known as the Michigan Plaster Association.

Committees were appointed at this meeting to make all necessary arrangements for the session of the State Grange. J. Q. A. Burrington made a full report to the Committee of the distribution of the funds placed in his hands for the relief of Patrons who suffered by the severe conflagration in the counties of Sanilac and Tuscola in August, 1881, which together with the vouchers for the same, was placed in the hands of the secretary.

The duty of examining the books and accounts of the secretary and treasurer and of preparing our annual report for your consideration was imposed upon the chairman.

On the 25th of November we met at the office of the Secretary in Schoolcraft and were furnished every aid and facility for a thorough investigation of the work of the year. We found the same order and system prevailing in the Secretary's manner of keeping the accounts that has been commended in former years. The following is a summary of the accounts for the year ending Nov. 30, 1882.

RESOURCES.	
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1881.....	\$4,846 17
Fees year dues collected.....	5,641 01
Supplies sold for fiscal year.....	676 38
Subscription to Grange Visitor.....	3,166 86
Collection for advertising interest on two notes of \$1,000 each.....	504 75
	120 00
Total.....	\$14,955 17

CONTRA.	
Expenses of session of State Grange, 1881.....	1,373 02
Expenses of Executive Committee for year.....	258 57
Master's salary and expenses.....	426 50
Secretary's salary including clerk hire and editing and mailing Visitor.....	1,600 00
Treasurer's salary.....	50 00
Postage of secretary's office.....	126 44
Postage on Visitor.....	299 35
Telegraphing.....	1 12
Mailing and printing.....	184 75
Mailing type.....	17 28
Office rent and repairs.....	34 20
Office stationery.....	19 20
Paid for lecture service rendered in 1881.....	94 40
Worthy expenses including freight and drayage.....	62 15
Supplies purchased.....	413 39
Dues paid Nat'l Grange.....	818 76
Printing Visitor for fiscal year.....	2,653 10
Paid orders on lecture fund.....	425 00
	8,847 21
Bal. on hand Dec. 1, 1882.....	6,107 96
	\$14,955 17

The Treasurer's books, vouchers and bank account were examined and found to correspond with the Secretary's books. A sufficient amount to balance his account with the State Grange was found placed to his credit on his bank book. Our report shows an increase in the amount on hand over that of last year of \$1,361.79. In fees and dues there is an increase of \$243.95, which indicates that our number is on the increase. This is of course encouraging—the more so, as this has been in some respects an unfortunate year. Less work has been done in the lecture field than in former years. The disability of Brother McKelvey, our State Lecturer, and the severe affliction which has visited our Worthy Master has kept them from active work in this field. None of the old and tried veterans in the work, except Brother Moore, have been able to respond to calls in this direction. The new Deputy Brother Holbrook has done good service. Where shall we look in the future for laborers to go forth and till the soil and sow the seed that we may gather in a rich harvest of many noble men and women yet outside the gates? Those who have borne the burden and heat of the day are falling one by one, and it behooves us to look about and see who can be found to fill their places in the active aggressive work of our Order.

We would recommend that a larger amount of our surplus funds be used for extending and building up our Order than has been done in the past. A struggle of mighty proportions is upon us, and if we expect to maintain ourselves against those who would trample upon our rights, we must gather to our aid all the elements within our reach. We must put forth every effort in our power to strengthen our Order and increase its membership.

Our report shows that the subscriptions for the VISITOR have increased but a trifle over last year. This is not as it should be. We would earnestly impress upon every member of the Order to do all in his or her power to extend its circulation. We believe it to be one of the strongest agencies for advancing the higher and nobler purposes of our organization; an active and efficient aid in carrying on the work of "developing a higher and better manhood and womanhood amongst ourselves."

Our business arrangements remain the same as last year. The facilities for the sale of produce and the purchase of goods through the agencies of Geo. W. Hill & Co., in Detroit, and Thomas Mason in Chicago, seem to be all that can be desired in this direction.

At the last session of the State Grange we were instructed by resolution to purchase two hundred badges for the use of the voting members of the State Grange. The badges have been ordered according to the terms of the resolution.

No cases of appeal have come before the committee during the year, which indicates that a reasonable degree of harmony prevails in our ranks.

In regard to the present status of the drive-well matter, I refer you to the following report of Brother H. D. Platt: To Executive Committee State Grange.

GENTLEMEN:—I received the appointment as agent by your honorable body early in the fall of 1881 to look after the interests of the Patrons of the State in the controversy going on between one Green and sundry citizens over the use of a certain well, i. e.: The drive-well said Green claiming a patent on the method of constructing said well.

Soon after my appointment I found that suits had been commenced against several parties in the United States Court for the western district of Michigan for infringement. I also found that the parties interested had decided on a test case and an injunction applied for, which was denied by the court after argument.

Messrs. Beaks & Cutcheon, of Detroit, were retained by the State Grange and by arrangement with Mr. Geo. W. Stewart solicitation in the case that firm took the management, Mr. Stewart to be paid for actual time put in.

The case occupies the same position in court that it did one year ago, waiting, no doubt, the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Indiana case, which has been submitted. I have received from J. T. Cobb \$700, \$450 has been expended in attorney's fees, costs and looking up testimony.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
H. D. PLATT, Agent.

Since the last meeting of the State Grange, an honored and useful member of your Executive Committee has been called from the field of earthly labor, Brother J. Webster Childs was elected a member of this committee at the first annual session of the Michigan State Grange, and until the time of his death, November 3, was continually a member, and one of its most zealous and active workers, always ready to give his time and energy to further the interests and disseminate the principles of our Order. But this is not the fitting place to pronounce the eulogy of our departed brother. The Grange will doubtless take suitable action upon the death of one whose loss causes all who knew him, to mourn with sorrow deep and sincere.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
J. Q. A. BURRINGTON, Chairman.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

A special session of Van Buren County Grange will be held at Lawrence, January 18th, at which the following programme is to be presented:

Address—"The Young Farmer,"—Worthy Master C. B. Charles.
Essay—"Mrs. A. M. Parker."
"The State Grange"—David Woodman.

A Paper from Warren Goss.
"Sorghum Culture"—Lorenzo Sherrod.

All Fourth Degree members are invited to be present.
JASON WOODMAN, Lecturer.

Gilead Grange will entertain the Pomona Grange of Branch county at their hall in Gilead township on Wednesday, the 17th day of January, 1883, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. Installation of officers and other literary exercises will take up the afternoon session, which will be an open one. All members of the Order are cordially invited.
H. D. PESSELL, Lect.

Kalamazoo County Pomona Grange will hold its next meeting at Vicksburg on January 25th, for the installation of officers and such other business as may come before the Grange.
J. Q. ADAMS, Secretary.
Galesburg, Jan. 5, 1883.

The annual meeting of Western Pomona Grange, No. 19 will be held with Ottawa Grange, No. 30, the first Thursday and Friday of February, 1883, for the election of officers and such other business as may come before the meeting.
J. G. VAN SKIVER, Secretary.
Lisbon, Jan. 4, 1883.

There will be a special session of Van Buren County Grange, No. 13, held at Lawrence on Thursday, the 18th of January 1883. A programme is being prepared and a good time expected. All Patrons are cordially invited. The meeting will be open promptly at 10 A. M.
J. E. PACKER, Sec'y., No. 13.

The January meeting of the Clinton County Pomona Grange will be held the 24th inst., at the Grange hall in St. Johns, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. The installation of officers will take place at this meeting, and an evening session will be held. All members of the Order are most cordially invited to attend.
FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

The annual meeting of the Livingston County Council will be held Tuesday, February 6th, 1883, at Howell Grange Hall.
MRS. R. K. SEXTON, Secretary.

Communications.

ONLY A BOX.

BY WILL CARLETON.

Only a box, secure and strong,
Bought and wooden, and six feet long;
Lying here in the drizzling rain,
Waiting to take the up-bound train.

Only its owner, just inside,
Cold and livid and glassy eye;
Little to him if the train be late!
Nothing has he to do but wait.

Only an open grave somewhere,
Ready to close when he gets there;
Turf and grasses and flowers sweet,
Ready to crush him 'neath their feet.

Only a band of friends at home,
Waiting to see the traveler come;
Naught he will tell of distant lands;
He can not even press their hands.

He has no stories weird and bright,
He has no gifts for child's delight;
He did not come with anything;
He had not even himself to bring.

Yet they will softly him await,
And he will move about in state;
They will give him, when he appears,
Love and pity, and tender tears.

Only a box, secure and strong,
Rough and wooden, and six feet long;
Angels guide that soulless breast,
Into a long and peaceful rest!

Court Reform Not Needed.

Mr. Editor:—In the issue of the Visitor for December 15th, I find an editorial entitled "Legal Reform," in which you state that "The Legislature of 1883 can perform no duty so acceptable to the people of this State as to enact that no suit shall go on appeal to the circuit court when the judgment in the lower court was less than \$100."

As this is a matter in which the people of the State are largely interested I desire with your permission to discuss the question of such a law through the columns of the Visitor. In a society like that in which we live, composed of restless, energetic and wide awake men and women, all of whom are more or less actively engaged in business pursuits, there must of necessity be a multiplicity of collisions of business interests, and the energy of our people is such that a conflict of interest is sure to occur, that, for the peace, harmony and good order of society must be adjusted and the conflicting interests of parties settled, and civilization demands that those conflicting interests should be adjusted by settled and established rules, which rules are intended in each case to mete out exact justice between the contending parties. That they sometimes fail is no argument against the rule itself. Such a failure simply proves that human judgment is not infallible, and that in the application of a rule to a given state of facts humanity is liable to err. Humanity has never as yet devised but two methods to settle the differences between members of the same tribe, State or nation. The one is the method adopted by all civilized nations of peaceful suits in courts which are established by the law-making power that defines and fixes their power and authority and establishes the rules by which they administer the law. The other is the method followed by all barbarous nations and savage tribes that "might makes right," and when he who gets "the drop" on his adversary wins his case. Lawsuits are an institution of civilization, and are unknown in barbarous nations, and though they are often costly and expensive luxuries, yet it is a fact that the number of lawsuits that are tried in a State are evidence of its business energy and prosperity, and of the civilization and refinement of the people, and that their brute force and savage hate yield obedience to the power of intellect and reason. If we look over the history of our own State, or of any other civilized society, we shall find that a large majority of the disputes that are settled by litigation are small matters and do not reach the sum of one hundred dollars, and yet the principle involved in the controversy may be the same as that of a suit which involves a million of dollars. A man whose worldly possessions are all in a suit for fifty dollars in which justice is denied him will feel the wrong as keenly as one would whose all was involved in a suit for many millions.

Justice is not measured as much by the quantity or amount involved as by the nature and quality of the act complained of, and to deny to any remedy for wrongs done him simply because the amount of the injury is small is to relegate all such matters back to the primitive law of nations that adjusts matters by brute force or sly dexterity or revengeful cunning. There are at least a hundred cases where the amount in controversy is less than a hundred dollars, for every case where the amount in controversy exceeds that sum, and hence the large majority of all suits tried must be tried in the lower courts, and if parties can not obtain justice there, they must either submit to a wrong or else appeal. But should the right of appeal be denied them, the whole people would soon lose all regard for the law, and would no longer quietly submit to its judgment and orders, but each man would make his own law and redress his wrongs in his own way, which, as I have shown, would be the law of

barbarism, a state of affairs that would be truly deplorable. Your readers can no doubt call to mind many instances where nearly whole communities have lost all regard for law and order, and have tried to settle their disputes by the law of the shot gun and knife, by means whereof every man's life became endangered and property worthless. If the Legislature wish to bring about such a state of affairs they can speedily do so by enacting such a law as you advise, for men will tamely submit to wrongs rather than incur the expense of having them righted, provided that the law furnishes the necessary machinery for redressing their wrongs, when their hate and vengeance would be raised to fever heat if they had no legal remedy. It is one thing for men to submit to wrong of their own volition rather than to incur the expense of an attempt legally to redress those wrongs, but it is quite another thing to be compelled to submit. Such a law would confer on justices of the peace a dangerous power over all persons living within the territory over which they had jurisdiction; a power and authority only equaled by some oriental satrap, and against their wicked and perverse judgments the people would be remediless. The restraint placed upon them by the right of appeal does not serve in all cases to prevent them from rendering judgments to reward their friends and punish their enemies; and to remove what little restraint they now have would only aggravate the evil and make them more outrageous and insolent than they now are. That our higher courts are and have been burdened with appeal cases is undoubtedly true, but the remedy therefore, does not lie in the direction indicated by the above quotations. It lies with the people and its application is very easy. But so long as the people continue to elect men to the office of justice as a reward for some dirty political work which they have done for the dominant party or some of its leaders, without reference to any other qualifications for the duties of the office, they must expect that their higher courts will be burdened with appeal cases. When they elect men to the office on account of their integrity, ability and peculiar qualifications to perform the duties of the office, then litigants will obtain justice in the lower courts, and appeals will, to a large extent, cease. The remedy is with the people. When will they learn to use it?

Respectfully,
THOMAS J. HILLER.
Hudson, Jan. 1st, 1883.

Eulogy on J. Webster Childs.

(Delivered before the State Grange at its last session by Hon. S. F. Brown.)

Worthy Master:—As I did not expect to speak on this impressive occasion until a few moments ago, I feel inadequate to the task before me, and am oppressed with a sense of my inability to command language that will fitly portray the character, the varied public services and the many noble qualities of our lamented brother. This is indeed no ordinary occasion. One of the great pillars of our Order has fallen. An eloquent, fearless and unwavering champion of our cause has gone to his reward, and it is well that we pause in our work that we may pay a just tribute to his spotless memory.

My acquaintance with our deceased Brother Childs commenced in the year 1859, when he was one of the representatives from Washtenaw County in the House of Representatives at Lansing. I there soon learned to admire the zeal and earnestness with which he ever defended the right, the conscientiousness and purity of his conduct and the marked ability which he brought to the consideration of every question which came before the House. I subsequently met him in the State Senate, in the year 1865, where his previous character for ability was more than sustained, and where he won new laurels by his readiness and commanding power in debate, and the versatility of his mental resources.

From that time onward he has been almost continuously in the service of the State as a member of the Legislature and being connected with the management of various State institutions. I am somewhat familiar with the character of many of the distinguished men of our State, who have illustrated and adorned its history by lives of eminent usefulness. And I can safely say that our lamented brother was the peer of any in his love of the pure and the good in his inflexible adherence to principle, and in "unselfish devotion to the public welfare. But it was his relations to the Grange, and as an ardent and faithful member of our Order, that his memory will ever be cherished by us with affectionate veneration.

It was early in the year 1873 when this State Grange was organized, and I soon thereafter met Brother Childs in Kalamazoo, and urged him to become a member of the Order. He then expressed great confidence in the success of the movement, and was very favorably impressed with the idea of the farmers associating together to

promote their social, mental, and material advancement and thereby give dignity and consideration to their calling, and I shall ever remember the satisfaction and joy that I felt when I learned that our deceased brother had assumed the obligations and responsibilities of a Patron of Husbandry, and that henceforth the Grange would enjoy the prestige which his accession to our ranks would give to it. It is sufficient for me to say that he was untiring in its behalf, and that he supported it with all the faculties of his nature, and I gladly bear testimony to the magnitude and importance of his labor and to his immense services in building up and dignifying this beneficent movement in which we are engaged.

But great as he was in intellectual vigor and mental grasp—qualities which challenge the admiration of his contemporaries—it was his benevolent impulses, his warm, sympathetic nature, which so endeared him to our hearts. His great, generous heart responded to every call of humanity, and his sympathies were so tender and yet so exuberant. His death has cast a dark pall upon the Grange, a void has been created which must ever remain a testimony of our irreparable loss. Our sessions, which have so often been enlivened by his presence, will know him no more.

Never again shall we see his manly form in our midst to cheer and animate us in our work. Never more will his clarion voice be heard in our councils. Yet amid the darkness and sadness which oppress us all, we will fondly cherish in our hearts his precious memory, while we emulate his virtues as best we may.

Societies, and the Necessity for Organization.

(An address delivered by Freeman Franklin at an open meeting held at Bainbridge Grange Hall, under the auspices of Berrien County Pomona Grange No. 1.)

Worthy Master, Ladies and Gentlemen:—There seems to be a growing sentiment in the community to know more about the Grange, its principles and aims, what benefits, if any, are to be derived by a connection with the Order. I also realize, Worthy Master, that there exists in the minds of some a prejudice against the Grange, and desiring to contribute my part towards removing this prejudice and imparting the desired information, as best I can, so that the Grange may stand in its true light before this community, must be my only excuse for introducing these thoughts to your notice at this time.

"Societies and the Necessity for Organization" is our text. Worthy Master, a proper analysis of this subject demands a definition of the phrases origin of, necessity for, legality and morality of, objects and aims, benefits, etc., and you will readily perceive, Worthy Master, ladies and gentlemen, that to thoroughly and properly discuss either of these headings would require a lengthy essay, therefore I am forced to touch but briefly upon the leading thoughts, and if I fail to fully analyze any point, you will please excuse me, as I do not desire to unnecessarily detain you, or weary your patience.

First definition—Societies are associations of individuals for the promotion or accomplishment of some particular object, or objects; such objects are usually numerous, including the promotion and investigation of almost every well known branch of science, of art and literature, the diffusion of knowledge, religion and morality, intercourse between those of the same professions or trade, the removal of legal grievances, mutual aid in case of distress, and abundance of other aims which are either beneficial to the general public or to the members of the society alone. Any number of persons may agree to constitute themselves a society, if the object of their union is legal. The early origin of societies is well authenticated. In fact they date back to the very formation of society and civilization itself. God himself set us an example when He formed His chosen people into tribes, clans, etc., and our Savior when He chose His twelve disciples and organized a religious society whose doctrines have been disseminated throughout the globe, and permeated every effort of civilization and reform.

Our Christian churches furnish us noted examples of the benefits and necessity of organization. To illustrate, a society formed in 1869 by the English church, having for its object Christian education in England and Wales, and to spread a knowledge of the bible in the colonies, were able by the benefits of co operation, which the organization of this society furnished them, to disseminate the Christian religion over the entire continent of Europe and into many of the heathen countries, and I wish to call the attention of those present who do not believe in societies (if any such there be) to these facts, which are not mere conjecture, but historical truths.

Civil Societies: I will now call your attention to a very noted society, called the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, organized under the auspices of Lord Broghum, July, 1857, to consider the

best means of uniting all those interested in social improvement. Their meetings have since been held annually at different places. The objects of the association are first, jurisprudence and amendments of the laws and the suppression of crime; second, education, third, health; fourth, economy and trade; fifth, art. They aim to bring all this about by means of bringing together for free discussion societies and individuals interested in social problems, and, Worthy Master, ladies and gentlemen, if you will take the trouble to investigate the history of England and the sentiment of the people, you will discover the close analogy that exists between the Declaration of Principles of the Grange, and those of this distinguished society. Is there one within the sound of my voice that supposes that this could have been accomplished by individual exertion? Does it not clearly point out the necessity for organized effort?

Organization enabled Solomon to erect that superb model of excellence which immortalized his name, for we read in the sacred volume that he so organized and arranged by his wisdom the workmen on the temple, that neither envy nor discord interrupted the universal peace and tranquility which pervaded the world at that important period.

Necessity for organization: I don't know but I have said enough already to convince the most skeptical of the necessity for organization. But as the Grange owes its origin largely to the encroachments of other organizations, perhaps I might profitably enumerate a few more facts, and here let me remark that organized effort not only enables those organized to work great good, but when the power is abused, to work great harm, and endangers not only the welfare and happiness of individuals, but also the liberties of a nation. With the other industrial pursuits, and the professions, saw and began early to avail themselves of the benefits of organization. The doctor not being satisfied with his experience with different maladies which he had to contend with, desired the experience of others, and last, but not least, an increase and uniformity of fees, organized medical associations, and the members obtained all they desired, especially the increased fees. The legal fraternity actuated by the same motives, formed associations of the bar and accomplished their purposes. The bankers formed the bankers' association, and thereby secured valuable franchises and emoluments. The railroad magnates by concert of action pool their earnings, raise or lower the freight tariffs at will, and thus become the possessors of millions in a few short years. Levying a tribute limited only by their own greed upon every industry. The shoemaker the mason, and nearly all the industrial pursuits, have their trades unions, and now remember I am not finding fault with them for doing this, for it became necessary for them to do so in order to protect themselves and to secure even a fair remuneration for their toil. The iron monger, the manufacturer, all have their organizations, thereby securing the passage of laws protecting, and favorable to their interests, and now I want to call your attention to the fact that the fees of the physician and the lawyer are enlarged, the rate of interest of the banker increased and the control of our currency secured, railroad magnates becoming millionaires, and manufacturers enabled to reap enormous profits, all these benefits and many more, could not have been secured without some one suffering, and Worthy Master, ladies and gentlemen, that somebody was the producer and consumer, and as farmers are both, they necessarily become largely the victims. Is it any wonder then, that they began to cast about them for a solution of this problem? Is it any wonder that the more intelligent and thinking farmers should have their attention called to the subject of organization and concentration of effort? Is it any wonder that they seized upon the same weapon for defense by which all other professions had materially benefitted themselves? In fact, Worthy Master, were they not forced to organize for self-protection? Worthy Master, I might go on enumerating causes, but as I said at the beginning I have time for only a brief allusion to some of the most prominent. It does seem to me that I have proven the necessity for the existence of such an organization as the Grange. But unfortunately for themselves, as well as the Grange, a large proportion of our farmers hold themselves aloof from the only society organized particularly for their benefit, and I can only account for this by the assumption that it is want of knowledge of our principles and aims, or from prejudice against societies who hold their meetings with closed doors. First let me explain away the oft-repeated assertion that we are a secret society. I deny the truth of this assertion. We are a society with secrets, but not a secret society. Secret societies are those who meet in a place kept secret from all but the initiated; who keep their membership a profound secret, and who dare not publish their principles or objects. For example the nihilists of Russia

and other kindred societies. The Grange, on the contrary, proclaims to the world its principles and aims, their members and places of meeting are known to all. It simply has means of recognition which are secret and intended to protect the organization from impostors and intruders. If this be wrong, then all other societies are to blame for it, as they all have some rule which limits their membership and enables them to choose their associates. What institution, not even excepting religious denominations, but that when they have some subject to consider, which interests them and they only, but what closes its doors against the general public.

I will now call your attention to the objects of the Grange as expressed in their Declaration of Principles: "We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects: To develop a higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves; to enhance the attractions of our homes and strengthen our attachment for our pursuits. We propose meeting together, talking together, buying together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will and vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our Order perpetual. We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes. We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest and exorbitant profits in trade. We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves and for our children by all just means within our power, and last but not least, we proclaim among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the ability and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership in our Order."

Worthy Master, what a grand and philanthropic Declaration of Principles, and is it possible there are any here to-day who can find any objection to them? I think not; and were our principles more thoroughly proclaimed and better understood, we would not be complaining because so many are still outside of the Order, and do you notice, Worthy Master, ladies and gentlemen, the similarity of thought and purpose of the distinguished society above mentioned, and the Declaration of Principles and objects sought to be obtained by the Grange? And if they were able to infuse new thoughts and energies throughout Great Britain and many parts of the continent and to work many great reforms, certainly we ought not to be discouraged. For surely our principles will commend themselves to the superior intelligence and culture of the American mind, and I confidently believe that our noble Order will eventually embrace all that is desirable of our agricultural population.

I will now enumerate a few of the benefits to be derived by joining the Grange: First, its social feature. The farmer, as a class, has been too isolated and exclusive, not mingling in society enough, and therefore did not receive the benefit of the refining influences of cultured society, and for want of this often appears boorish. The Grange furnishes just the opportunities needed. There you will meet your superiors, your equals, and perhaps your inferiors, a combination of elements calculated to give you pleasure and profit, and best of all, the gentle and refining influence of women is there felt. There, dull care is cast away, and a few hours each week are given to social enjoyment and culture. As an educator the Grange has no equal. In it we learn how to conduct our deliberations correctly and with propriety. There the latent powers of the mind are developed by discussions and essays, until there are hundreds within its folds who can express themselves upon most any subject with ability and credit. It has given us correct ideas of business and a knowledge of business principles, quality of goods and cost of production of the same, which is of incalculable benefit to us. The application of this knowledge enables us to buy cheaper and more intelligently. It has created higher aspirations in our hearts and inspired our minds with loftier thoughts. It has created an independence of thought and action essentially necessary. It has increased our love for our noble occupation, and made us more contented. It has commanded us respect and fitted us to fill a higher plane in society. It has created a love for the beautiful and increased our veneration for the Giver of all good. It has made us more practical farmers and enabled us to profit by the failures and experience of others, as it is only in the Grange that those things are freely discussed. It has enabled us to secure ourselves from the extortions and illegal demands of mo-

nopolies and patent-right swindlers and while these are some of the benefits derived, it is not a tithe of what we could accomplish and enjoy if all or even a majority of the agricultural community belonged to the Grange, and united with us in efforts of reform and progress. And now, Worthy Master, ladies and gentlemen, I sincerely hope that you will ponder well, the thoughts I have advanced to-day, and if there is one here who still doubts that the Grange is his best friend, and of all other societies best calculated to increase his happiness and promote his welfare, let him join us at once, and be disabused of the error, for it is a noble Order with exalted aims and glorious principles. In conclusion, Worthy Master, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to thank you for your kind attention and the patience you have exhibited in listening so quietly to my quite lengthy essay.

An Arraignment of Lawyers.

Editor Grange Visitor:—Lawyer W., in his plea for high salaries for judges and justices, seems to hold farmers responsible for the absurd and unjust acts of our Legislature because that body had 38 members, out of 132, who were farmers.

Let any man of common sense examine the tax, highway, school and drain laws, which were remodeled in 1881, and see the vast amount of legal verbiage and useless, unjust and unconstitutional provisions which they contain, and he will be convinced that it was the work of legal gentlemen and that many of the provisions were inserted for the purpose of inviting litigation and making business for the profession, and we hope the present Legislature will repeal the obnoxious sections and amend the important laws in the interest of the people.

In his plea for the honesty of the profession, he says they don't put tag-larks in their wool, but he fails to tell us how they pull the wool over the eyes of the people and manage to monopolize the most important and best-paying offices in the State and nation, and how they fleece their clients out of their hard earnings, and rob widows and orphans of their patrimony whenever they can induce them to contest wills, and how they appropriate the lion's share of the munificent bounties and pensions awarded to widows and orphans of our heroic soldiers.

We know there are many high-minded, honorable men in the profession, but it is over crowded, and our university is annually turning out a fresh batch at the expense of the taxpayers to prey upon the people. To beg they are ashamed, except for offices, and to labor with their hands they will not, so they turn their attention to politics and resort to all manner of legal tricks, chicanery and duplicity in order to obtain a living.

Lawyers engineered the salary grab through Congress and are justly chargeable with all the corrupt jobs which are concocted at Washington for the purpose of plundering the treasury, the star route and nearly all other big steals are engineered by unscrupulous lawyers. W. seems to forget that Judge Christiancy stepped from the bench up into that august body, the United States Senate. True he fell into the arms of the charming syren Lugenbel, but he gained the distinguished honor of representing this mighty nation at the Peruvian court. Can any good lawyer give any just reason why those who never occupy the time of our courts should be compelled to pay any part of the expenses of judges, sheriffs, clerks and jurors in the trial of any civil suit, unless it be to encourage litigation for the benefit of the legal fraternity. The great majority of our people manage to get along without resort to the courts, while a few seem to enjoy a law suit and resort to litigation on the most frivolous and flimsy pretexts, causing a vast amount of trouble and useless expense. If the law was changed so as to compel these people to pay the entire expense, it would stop a vast amount of foolish and reckless litigation.

The great mass of lawyers and politicians are constantly clamoring for higher salaries under the plea that big pay will secure better service, which experience proves to be utterly false. The pay of judges and all officials from the president down to constables has been largely increased, and in many cases doubled in the past 20 years, and no honest observer will pretend that the people are any better served than before the increase. On the contrary, corruption and venality has increased to a fearful extent, seemingly in proportion to the increase of salaries, and those States which pay the lowest salaries have the best and most honest officials. Will W., or any other lawyer, please give us any good reason why first-class farmers, mechanics, clerks, and school teachers should be compelled to work at from \$300 to \$1,000 per year while judges and lawyers are paid from \$2,500 to \$10,000 for one half the number of hours labor?

REFORMER.

Dowagiac, Jan. 5, 1882.

For burns, bind on moistened baking soda. It will give prompt and permanent relief.

Correspondence.

Patrons in Council.

The 10th annual session of the Mich. State Grange was held at Lansing in the Hall of Representatives, from Dec. 12 to the 15th inclusive. About every seat in the hall was occupied and no abatement of interest felt by the delegates who came from every county in the State, with words of cheer. The Master, Overseer, and Secretary, with about one third of the remaining officers were re-elected. A great many bills and resolutions were offered and discussed, and not a single one laid over without action. The members of the State Grange are no showmen, or eight hour men, they work 16 hours in a day, and only yet 12 shillings at that. If our Legislature would only dispose of business as rapidly as the State Grange does, the session would not be four months long, and then but little done but what needs to be undone.

On Tuesday at 2 p. m. the doors were thrown open for an hour to allow Mrs. Lathrop of Jackson, to bring in her band of workers in the W. C. T. U., and for an hour she appealed with eloquence and pathos, to farmers and Grangers, to assist them in rescuing the masses from the pit of ruin. She said that she had but little to expect from villages and cities, but as temperance was one of the pillars on which our Order stood, she confidently appealed to us for aid in this work. Memorial services were held on the death of J. Webster Childs, one of the staunch pillars of the State Grange, and sister Luce, consort of the worthy Master. F. M. Holloway, Chaplain Steel, J. G. Ramsdell and others paid a well deserved tribute, to the character and services of the honored dead. The services on the death of Sister Luce were conducted by the ladies, and were pathetic, touchingly eloquent and very impressive. How little we know the worth of those we love, till they depart. "How blessings brighten as they take their flight." On Thursday evening a public meeting was held, and the hall was filled above and below. When all were seated Rev. E. R. Willard of White Pigeon, who has been chosen Chaplain, was introduced for his maiden speech. He began by saying that a noted English humorist, has said that there were in the human family three sexes, men, women, and preachers. Preachers, he said were always in sympathy with farmers, because farmers raised chickens, and preachers were fond of chickens. Said he, "When I joined the Grange, I was told that the Grange would soon die out, that after election, Patrons of Husbandry would be few and scattering; but that Grant had served his second term, and gone around the world, Hayes has come and gone "like the door upon its hinges," Garfield is dead, and still the Grange lives. He said that what gave the Grange national significance was the fact that it was organized at the capitol, and the first four charters granted, were issued to the four greatest in the union, to wit: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois." His address was sensible, intelligent and full of humor, and he showed that he understood the rules and need of our Order. At the close of this speech Gov. Jerome was called for and with some reluctance he came forward and said that his sympathies had always been with the farmers' but he thought they did not know the luxuries of farming now as they did when he was a boy, for then, he said, a farmer had the pleasure of walking at the handle of his plow, or behind his drag with the full rays of the sun upon his head, but now he was obliged to ride his plow or cultivator to hold it down, and to carry an umbrella to keep off the rays of the sun. I think he felt a little sore and perhaps intended to be a little sarcastic when he said, that in all human probability he should retire from office soon, and he did not know but he should want to join the Grange, but if it did not pay any better than it did to be Governor of Michigan, he did not know as he cared about it, but still he ever wished to show the same courtesy to the Grange that they extended to him. In retiring to his seat, he paid a glowing tribute to the Grange when he said that he had seen no assemblage of men and women, where intelligence, good sense and refinement was more marked than in the audience before him. That accomplished, jolly choir from Adrian, was with us again this year to drive away dull care and make everybody laugh and grow fat. To hear them sing about the "Jolly old Farmer," "The Silver Wedding," "The Pigs are in the Clover," "The Gospel car is coming," and "Oh, think of my head in the morning," will drive away dyspepsia from any one and pay for going forty miles to attend the State Grange.

On Thursday evening 12 pupils from the blind asylum, came into the hall and played and sang two very excellent pieces of music. It was sad to see 12 young ladies and gentlemen, just in the prime of life stand in a row before the piano, and all the beauties of nature forever hidden from their sight. And when the audience cheered them for their excellent performance, it seemed to do them good to know, that they had contributed to the pleasure of those whom they can never see.

CORTLAND HILL.

The Allegan Store.

[The following from Bro. Stegeman tells what can be done by the right man in the right place.—Ed.]
 Brother Cobb:—I send you our annual report of the amount of business done during the year:
 Our gross sales of merchandise \$185,249.57
 Produce 11,000.00
 Total \$196,249.57
 Our income \$8,713.94
 Expenses (including interest on stock) 7,505.90
 Leaving a balance to add to sinking fund of \$1,208.04
 Yours, etc. A. STEGEMAN.
 Allegan, Dec. 31, 1882.

The Department of Agriculture.

[Extract from the speech of Hon. E. S. Lacy in Congress when the Bill to make the Commissioner of Agriculture a member of the Cabinet was before the House.]

I have already occupied too much time; I cannot go further into details. I can only suggest that the protection of our vast animal industry from the contagious diseases which threaten its very existence, the inauguration of some plan by which the farmers of the country may be able to save their crops from the locust, the grasshopper, the Colorado beetle, the canker-worm, the midge, the Hessian fly, the weevil, and a thousand other such foes are matters properly coming before this Department for consideration. And, since these are not all the ills that the farmer is heir to.

The cruel despotism established in some cases by vast corporations; the frequent unjust exactions and discriminations made by transportation lines; the outrageous black-mailing operations engaged in by the unprincipled owners of patents; the unwholesome conditions of the markets produced by gambling in options; and many other evils of lesser but still grave importance, are now proper subjects of governmental inquiry and of legislative action, and I sincerely hope that the department which is bringing these matters to the notice of the proper authorities, with suggestions as to the proper remedies to be applied as shall at last bring all interest into harmony, and insure a just and equitable division of the fruits of labor between all the different branches of industrial and commercial pursuits.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is a propitious time for the movement we contemplate. The present administration of the Department is peculiarly acceptable to the people, and all are convinced that any new powers granted to it by the present Congress will fall into capable and experienced hands. And, sir, I repeat, let us limit our action to the enlargement of the powers of the present independent Department. If in the future it shall be found practicable to add certain divisions or bureaus having control of subjects in greater or less degree affecting the pursuit of agriculture, our successors in the light of experience, after the department has been organized, can do so much more wisely than we. But for the present let us be content with the action recommended by those who have made the pursuit their life-work and study.

In conclusion, sir, let me say, that as for myself duty seems to me clear. I shall vote for this bill. It is in the interests of those who are conspicuously the conservators of the public wealth, and again when some tide of dangerous errors has swept over the land, bearing upon its seething bosom the discontented, the thriftless, the ignorant, and the vicious, threatening to engulf all that makes this land the hope of the world, we have looked always, and never in vain, to the farmers of the land as to the rock whose firm unyielding strength should break the flood and safely shelter us until the waters had receded and the danger passed away.

It is in the interest of that class among whom life and property are safest, and ignorance, indolence, intemperance, and vice most rarely found. It is asked for by those whose hearts always beat in sympathy with the oppressed, and to whom the down-trodden have never appealed in vain. It is desired by those whose success is necessary to the prosperity of every other vocation; by those who best understand and will longest defend those personal, civil, and political rights the enjoyment of which is guaranteed to every American citizen.

Glass Clothing.

A glass-making firm in Pittsburg, Pa., have been manufacturing glass textile fabrics during the past twelve or eighteen months. A rod of glass several feet long and half an inch in diameter, and heated to the proper degree, is attached at one end to a large, rapidly-revolving wooden drum, and thereby drawn out to fine thread. This process is repeated till enough glass has been spun, when it is wound on bobbins and woven like cotton, flax, or silk. The fabrics thus produced are very beautiful and pliable. The glass they are made of is made very soft by the addition of lead.

"THERE is no place like home," sing the sparrows. Flocks of them formerly occupied the depot at Rochester. This is now being torn down. As fast as the completion of the new depot (a quarter of a mile away) will permit, they take possession therein, in preference of other more secluded and quiet retreats. Born and bred among clanging bells and screeching whistles they have become attached to such music. It is not remarkable that they should follow the new depot site, when there are many other places we should think they would prefer. Several hundred trains pass the depot daily. It is about the noisiest place on earth.

"Miss Nette."

Harper's Monthly.

"It was on one of those trying days when we advertise for hands that I first saw Marie Antoinette Moore. When she told me her name I wondered inwardly why any mother ever consecrated her child to the misfortunes that seem to cling to the very memory of that unhappy queen. I never knew a prospectus Marie Antoinette. I sat at my desk on the third floor of that old warehouse, where everything is covered so richly with 'the bloom of time,' as Oscar Wilde calls dust. I had interviewed a small army of poor women and girls; for while we wanted two dozen, hundreds applied. Every one brought a different manner, a different costume, and a different odor within the narrow limits of my shabby throne, and their histories were as distinct as their faces. Not beggars, you remember; though beggary might have been in the same relation to most of them as Mirabeau said the sun did to God: 'Si ce n'est pas la Dieu, c'est du moins son cousin germain.'"

"Work they asked for, and my business was to select the most likely to become useful, and give them a trial. Simple as that task seemed you can never dream of its difficulty. The work must be done in the building, and so many asked the impossible favor of taking it home, so many knew nothing about it, so few knew anything about it! All were willing to try it, and all were driven by hard necessity. At last, toward night, the girl whose story I shall tell you approached my desk. If, as the French say, a woman is only as old as she looks, she may have been 22 or 23 not strikingly pretty, but tall, decidedly graceful, and what women call 'nice-looking.' As she came toward me she did not walk with that awkward gait born of moving in cramped spaces; she bore herself like one used to a long room and a trained skirt; she impressed me as well-dressed, yet on closer inspection her mourning was old and her shoes visibly bad. Her manner was certainly the manner of a lady; indeed when she spoke she reminded me vaguely of a Sister of Charity whom I had met at the death-bed of another woman. You do not hear the tone they use in the voices of many working girls. I have not looked into so many faces without having learned to read something of the souls behind the masks. So I knew this one was in trouble. In our business, too, so much depends upon the hands and fingers! They need not be handsome, but they must be clean and long and slender. Hers were all three, as I saw by the one she had ungloved, and I noticed that she wore a ring, so heavy that it must have been a man's. The seal was turned inward toward the palm.

"I have never done the kind of work you want done," she said, "and shall detain you but a few minutes; you look so tired, and there are still so many for you to talk to. I am willing to come and try, and will be very patient. I hope you can give me a trial; I am quick to learn, and would be as little trouble as possible. In almost any corner, glancing anxiously around, 'I would do my best.'"

"Of all I had seen since morning, she was the only one whom I asked: 'Are you not capable of doing something better than running a sewing machine? What have you been doing?' She had been teaching school, she said, but had lost her place through ill health. All the fall she had been ill, but was now better, though a little behindhand. Ah, owes her boards probably. I thought: no wonder she looks anxious. 'I want work so badly, even if it pays but little, for then I shall know just what I have to depend on. Indeed, I must do something.' I recognized the quiet desperation in her voice; I had heard it so often.

"Well, you may come to-morrow, and I will give you a corner and work. You must do your best, and I will help you all I can."

"She thanked me and departed, and as she vanished down the dingy staircase she left behind a curious feeling that was out of place. She was fresh, young, and so mysterious, she looked like the black velvet work. That night I dreamed of her in my uneasy sleep. Her image rose before me clothed like a Sister of Charity, and whispering, 'You must be kind to me, I have been so long without work, and I am so tired, and I am so alone, and I am so afraid of the dark, and I am so afraid of the cold, and I am so afraid of the pain, and I am so afraid of the loss of my work, and I am so afraid of the loss of my home, and I am so afraid of the loss of my life, and I am so afraid of the loss of my soul, and I am so afraid of the loss of my God, and I am so afraid of the loss of my heaven, and I am so afraid of the loss of my hell, and I am so afraid of the loss of my eternity, and I am so afraid of the loss of my life, and I am so afraid of the loss of my soul, and I am so afraid of the loss of my God, and I am so afraid of the loss of my heaven, and I am so afraid of the loss of my hell, and I am so afraid of the loss of my eternity, and I am so afraid of the loss of my life, and I am so afraid of the loss of my soul, and I am so afraid of the loss of 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Ladies' Department.

WE CAN MAKE HOME HAPPY.

Though we may not change the cottage
For a mansion tall and grand,
Or exchange the little grass plot
For a boundless stretch of land—
Yet there's something brighter, dearer,
Than the wealth we'd thus command.

Though we have not means to purchase
Costly pictures, rich and rare—
Though we have no silken hangings
For the walls, so cold and bare—
We can hang them o'er with garlands;
For flowers bloom everywhere.

We can always make home cheerful,
If the right course we begin;
We can make its inmates happy,
And their truest blessings win.
It will make the small room brighter
If we let the sunshine in.

We can gather round the fireside
When the evening hours are long;
We can blend our hearts and voices
In a happy, social song;
We can guide some erring brother
Lead him from the path of wrong.

We may fill our home with music,
And with sunshine brimming o'er,
If against all dark intruders
We will firmly close the door—
Yet, should evil shadows enter,
We must love each other more.

There are treasures for the lowly,
Which the grandest fail to find;
There's a chain of sweet affection
Binding friends of kindred mind.
We may reap the choicest blessings
From the poorest lot assigned.

New Year's Greeting—Grange Visitor.

Happy New Year's greetings came to my ear in a merry sound from the first minute after the old clock had warned us the old year was among the things of the past, to the present time.

Jan. 1, 6 A.M.: "What!" do I hear a sister say? "did you set the alarm so as to witness the exit of the old year?" No, a near neighbor invited me to a watch meeting, and while watching I had plenty of time to reflect and ponder on the good and bad deeds I have wrought, and to make resolutions if I live to have the calendar of the present year at its last hour spread before me, (and that shall serve as a memorandum of my deeds and actions) to find more of my time devoted to the best interests, comfort and happiness of those around me than I have the past year. I feel ashamed of my last year's record, but it is natural for all, I believe, to think more of big I than little you. But let us go back to my watch meeting.

The fair hostess as the old year was drawing near to a close asked to be excused, she repairing to the kitchen, but not until she had seated me on the music stool giving me to understand I was to entertain her company during her absence to the best of my ability. After singing a number of sacred pieces, amongst them "Sweet Bye and Bye" while the notes in the prelude to the last verse were drawn from the organ, the clock tolled the death knell of 1882 and as the last stroke died away I thought, ah! poor dying year, there is no "Sweet Bye and Bye" for you. You will never live again.

After the New Year's greeting was over, in spite of every protest from us against having a New Year's breakfast at 30 minutes past 12, we were conducted and seated at a neatly spread table where the good things that will find their way to every thriving farmer's board were served, and as the contents of each dish which was so kindly set before us, was so promptly and willingly disposed of, I think it would have puzzled a learned judge to decide accurately at that table which was best, to give or to receive.

Now a few words to Myra. The blame be to you if I crowd better producers out. Yes, that article you contributed, "Producers and Consumers," is what brought me to make this first attempt to fill a little space in this department. Indeed I feel more competent to furnish food for the body than the mind.

Dear sister, there is something besides to-morrow toward which I am looking but have never witnessed as yet. It was the privilege of meeting with you at the State Grange this year. I thought nothing could prevent me from so doing but was disappointed. But Brother Hill, who, by the way, was first Master of Bengal Grange, gave a sketch of the State Grange through the county papers, I made the best of my disappointment by reading and drawing imaginary pictures of the meeting. Mr. Hill is one of the best producers of our Grange. Products of the brain are needed as well as of the soil, and for his willing production of both he gets much praise and many thanks.

And now, sisters of mine, a happy New Year to all.

Mrs. JOSHUA BROWN.
Bengal Grange, Jan. 1, 1883.

The Youth's Department—Grange Work.

Editor of the Visitor:—I cannot withhold my praise of our paper, both during the past year, and the enlargement at the beginning of the present. Should it continue to grow in the future, as in the past, both in size and wisdom, it will soon become simply immense.

Although the paper is enlarged and full of good things, something is missing. Now, Brother Cobb, what have you done with the Youth's Department, called in an auctioneer and sold it to the highest bidder? No. I cannot think you would do so cruel a thing. It cannot be that among so many contributors all have failed at

once. No. I can only think in the hurry after the labors of the State Grange you overlooked Aunt Nina and her charge, and she being a modest person, did not push her claim, but sank silently a little farther in the twilight, and let the paper go to press maimed, having one limb lopped off, and so unskillfully done that the artery was not properly taken up, and there is danger that the body will become greatly weakened. A skillful surgeon never severs any part of a body without a cause, and the friends must know the reason. Now, the Visitor is a part of our semi-monthly food, and we cannot consent to be put on short rations unless there are good, substantial reasons for the same. We did not know how much we were interested in the youth till by one fell swoop of some ruthless hand we are deprived of their department.

We very much fear there is a conspiracy somewhere; Mr. Editor, rise and explain. Aunt Nina I beg of you to push your claim and not allow any one to crowd you out. Young people, send in your best efforts until the face of Aunt Nina will shine with very joy; come forward every one of you and plead your own cause and I know you will win; if you do not, some of us will take a trip up to Schoolcraft and look into the matter.

I wish to thank Myra for her "Jottings" and some one for the account of the National Grange.

I heard Mrs. Bristol speak at Bainbridge and liked her very much. She recited one of her own poems also one from Thomas Carlyle. Her voice is clear without being rasping. She spoke about one hour without manuscript. Her faith in the Grange is unbounded. I would that men had the same faith and would when they cast a ballot answer their own prayers. To the men who cast the ballot must we look for political salvation. She dwelt upon the corruption of the government, and believes the fraternal tie of the Grange will develop the bribe-covered manhood of the politician, and lead him back to the basis of principle instead of money. Her theory and faith is very beautiful, and if consummated would indeed bring about the millennium; and if each one were true to their obligation, such a revolution would be brought about as few, even of the most hopeful, dream of, and fewer still would give the credit to the proper source. Women may not vote, but we may wield an influence over those who do that must be felt and acknowledged even in political circles. MRS. O. M. SIKES.

Explanation.

Since my last article has been published and read by the numerous friends of the Visitor my attention has been drawn to the fact that I did not mention the efficient work performed by Brother and Sister Green, who retired from the office of Assistant and Lady Assistant Steward, after occupying that position two terms. They have performed the duties assigned them with cheerfulness and alacrity, and more particularly in the initiatory ceremony of the fifth degree have they attained a great degree of perfection. They have conducted those services so well that it has added beauty and impressiveness to them. If each member of the Subordinate Grange would strive to attain such a degree of perfection in their work there would be fewer dormant Granges.

I hasten to explain the cause of this slight, as the query has arisen, was it intentional or an oversight? That I may disclose the merits of any who may have read the article, whether strangers or acquaintances of Brother and Sister Green, I say it was sheer thoughtlessness, not wilfulness, that in my hurry to get the article off for publication I neglected to mention them. I certainly think I should be wholly unworthy of a place in the columns of the Visitor had I intentionally caused such a public slight of Worthy Patrons. MYRA.

Memorial Services at the State Grange.

Memorial services were held at a special session of the State Grange, Wednesday afternoon Dec. 13, in commemoration of Brother Webster Childs, Lafayette E. Taylor and Sister Julia A. Luce.

The following papers were read by Sisters Saterlee and Woodruff:

Worthy Master:—It were fitting that we pause in our deliberations and pay a tribute of respect to some of our numbers who have been summoned to "Come up higher." Sister Julia A. Luce died Aug. 13th, after a long and painful illness, borne with patience and christian fortitude. Could love, esteem and tender ministrations have expelled the grim monster, her place in the family circle and the Grange had not now been left vacant; but Thou, Oh! Death heedest not the torn heart strings. To our Worthy Master and his family, in this severe affliction we would tender our heartfelt sympathy.

MRS. SATERLEE.

Brothers and Sisters: Year follows year in quick succession and we as members of the highest type of all animated existence are born to live and die. We come upon this stage of action, occupy the

place in the great drama of life prepared for us and leave behind us records of honor and dishonor, and as we gather here from year to year in annual session, we miss from among our members some dear ones, some who have blessed us with their presence, their purity of character and loveliness of spirit.

The past year has been no exception, and sister Luce, one of our purest, best and most worthy associates has laid down her implements on earth, cast off her earthly garments and been clothed in robes of white in the great life beyond. She bath done her work, and rich may be her reward. Having filled the place of wife and mother, having reared around her that most sacred and valuable production of earth—an affectionate and worthy family—having shown by her daily walks and teachings that her aim was to do good, to make home—that most sacred spot on earth—happy, pure and true; to encourage her children by wise counsel and mild reproof to become noble men and women. And to give her husband that fond affection and earnest support which enables one to triumph over the trials and difficulties of this life. And after having endured months of weary suffering borne with christian meekness and christian fortitude, she exclaimed, "Thy will be done," bowed in humble submission to Him who doeth all things well, and henceforth she shall wear a crown in glory.

ELLEN WOODRUFF.

An Appeal to Women.

[The following Appeal was sent us by the chairman of the Franchise Committee of the W. C. T. U. with a request that we give it a place in the Visitor. We cheerfully comply with the request. The women of the State, and we may include the men, too, in the statement, are not likely to become too well acquainted with their legal rights nor are they likely to exercise their rights as freely and fully as they should. Too many of the laws on our statute books are practically dead for want of spirit and determination to enforce them. A woman really in earnest will often accomplish more than a man. Here is section, act, page and year of session laws given, conferring additional rights upon the women of the State. We hope they will look this matter up and if there is any good thing in it, make haste to appropriate it for the benefit of all.—Ed.]

During the special session of the Michigan Legislature in the winter of 1880-81, the Committee on Education and Public Schools—Messrs. Patterson, Kilpatrick and Morrison, after consultation with Mr. Gower, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, presented a bill which being adopted without any opposition, gave us section 17 of act No. 164, found on page 168, Session Laws of 1881.

This law gives to every woman who is 21 years of age, and also parent or legal guardian of any child included in the school census of the district, the privilege of expressing by vote her choice concerning the management of the school, providing she has been for three months a resident of the school district or upon any territory belonging thereto. This law also confers upon every woman who pays tax upon property the privilege, already granted, of voting upon the raising and expenditure of school moneys as well as all other questions, providing she has been a resident for three months.

This opens the way for every such woman, (mother or taxpayer) to bring to bear upon the school the influence of her own convictions, and the influence, as much as any other resident of the district, responsible for the choice of school officers, and through that election for the selection of proper teachers, the intellectual and moral training of the children, and everything pertaining to school management.

The law also says, "That any female person, of or above the age of 21 years, who has resided in this State three months, and in the township 10 days next preceding any election shall be eligible to the office of school inspector," and "Any qualified vote, in a school district who has property liable to assessment for school taxes shall be eligible to election or appointment to office in such school district, unless such person be an alien."

Our free schools are the pride of this republic. Do results show them to be all they should be as conservators of the highest interests of our children? We desire to call attention to the number of youths of 17 years and under who are confirmed in the use of bad language, tobacco, and intoxicating liquors. We need to make our schools a more direct and certain instrumentality for prevention of these vices. Schools should be not only gardens of intellectual culture, but should second the physical and moral training of the best homes.

Physical and moral training, though an accepted feature of our schools, is not, of course, the prominent part of our curriculum, and the school receiving representatives from all classes of homes, if not aided by the best moral elements of society, fails to sufficiently instruct and restrain the vicious and untalented. Our free school system makes it the birthright of every child to receive instructions in the rudiments of science. Do not the signs of the times indicate that it is equally important to instruct every child concerning the baneful effects of alcohol and tobacco? There are many school districts where it is desirable that more time and attention be given to school matters by the proper officers. In some of these districts it is possible to place in office a woman eminent for sound judgment, experience and moral sense. She would give such attention to the appointments of the school room as to promote the comfort and welfare of the pupils. Her efforts would aid the teachers in such educational and reformatory work as would counteract evil influences. The State having recognized you as

responsible guardians for the children whom God has given you, and your participation in the management of school affairs being absolutely necessary for the greatest good of all, we earnestly appeal to every mother, every female guardian or taxpayer to awaken to the importance of these privileges and powers. Remember that neglect of these duties will make you personally accountable for any loss, physical or moral, resulting thereby to your own or other children. We urge all W. C. T. U. members to make plans for utilizing the educational ballot, and to arouse the women of their several communities to make this a part of their regular work.

W. C. T. U. COM ON FRANCHISE

Shipping of Wool.

As agent of Springville Grange No. 279, I have shipped to Boston to Fenno & Manning, 19,099 pounds of wool this season, against 5,782 of last, which shows a fair increase over last year's shipments. The parties have been generally satisfied with the returns. I might expect two or three lots, and that would cover the whole sum. Our wools have sold as high as 48 cents per pound. The prospects are now that the bulk of the wool from this township will be disposed of in this way if satisfactory arrangements are made for the coming season. Hoping this may be a word of encouragement to localities who have not tried this plan of selling their wool. I am fraternally yours

J. E. GIBBS, Agt.

To Victims of Tobacco.

Mr. Arthur Reade, in England, has lately been collecting information as to the habits of literary men with regard to stimulents. Among other instances adduced is that of the Abbe Moigno, now over 80 years old. He has published over 150 volumes, most of them requiring profound research; his works on philology show command of twelve living languages. He never takes exercise, scarcely leaves his study, yet he has not a pain nor an ache, nor any of the diseases common to old age.

This exceptional health he ascribes to his total abstinence since youth from tobacco in every shape and form. On one occasion, he was induced to smoke and take snuff for several months, and suddenly suffered from loss of memory, being unable to recall dates, etc., necessary in his work. He at once gave up cigars and snuff, and soon became clear-minded again.

The second in age of our naval officers, now 85, boasts that he has never touched tobacco in any shape. His erect figure, light step, clear complexion and keen blue eye might be envied by many a blase youth of nineteen, whose foul breath, yellow teeth and heavy glance and walk show the slavery to which he has yielded.

It requires a tremendous effort of will-power to throw off this yoke when once it is worn. But it needs no effort whatever not to put it on. Remember that boys.—Youths Companion.

The Grangers had a very pleasant party at their hall, in North Lansing, last Wednesday evening. About 200 persons were present, and surprised Mr. Goodnoe, the manager of the Grange store, by presenting him with a handsome parlor set, and a Brussels carpet.—Lansing Daily News.

A special meeting of St. Joseph county Grange will be held at Constantine on Thursday, Feb. 1, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. Fourth degree members are invited to the afternoon session.

SAM H. ANGEVINE, Sec'y.
Allegan County Council, P. of H., will meet in Watson Grange hall, on the second Tuesday in February, at 10 o'clock A. M. All Patrons are invited.

G. J. STEGEMAN, Sec'y.

VISITOR SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

JANUARY.

1. A. P. Talmadge, \$3 00; Robert Bolton, 1 00; W. H. Mather, 75 00; M. F. Fredenburg, 2 50; J. H. Coleman, 1 50; B. S. Bigely, 2 50; E. Howe, 6 50; Geo. Farnsworth, 2 50; J. A. Courtright, 1 50; Richard Keeler, 1 50; N. E. Sutton, 10 00.

2. Frank Conn, 2 50; S. A. Nichols, 5 25; G. O. Merriam, 8 25; L. B. Agard, 8 00; S. A. Hearn, 1 00; E. Heinbrugg, 5 50; D. M. Howard, 2 00; S. A. Perrin, 7 00; Era Wilcox, 3 00; J. A. Marsh, 2 50; H. S. Fisk, 2 50; S. D. Brown, 2 50.

3. E. W. Allen, \$7 00; C. M. Slayton, 10 00; Able Angel, A. W. Miller, 1 00; H. N. Addison, 13 00; D. H. English, 15 50.

4. D. H. Fuller, \$8 00; Warren Havens, 3 00; M. B. Williams, 7 00; D. Fitzgerald, 9 00; Sam'l Morrey, 5 00; G. Snyder, 10 00; Wm. Lamb, 1 00; Sam'l Mace, 5 00; A. Luther, 1 00; W. M. Andrews, 2 00; Richard Keeler, 1 00; W. E. West 5 25.

5. C. L. Mumford, 1 50; G. S. O'Brien, 1 00; G. W. Leland, 1 00; Henry Barnes, 1 50; Mrs. Woodworth, 1 50; M. M. Hall, 2 10.

6. N. L. Webb, \$1 50; Andy McKelvey, 2 50; O. M. Sikes, 3 50; Mrs. G. W. Crosby, 2 00; F. A. Bellamy, 4 40; Roll and Hill, 1 00; C. W. Button, 4 50; M. E. Daw, 2 50; E. M. Cole, 2 00; J. L. Kilbourne, 1 40; Caleb Thompson, 1 00; G. M. Harterell, 1 50; H. A. Peabody, 1 00; G. H. Cahoon, 1 00; J. F. Miller, 1 00.

9. C. G. Runyan, 4 50; S. J. Way, 2 50; D. H. Ranney, 2 50; C. W. Briggs, 2 50; Mrs. E. Wells, 3 50; Geo. Fuller, 2 00; H. A. Simmons, 6 00; W. A. Sturges, 5 00.

10. Ralph Rice, 2 00; E. E. Renwick, 5 90; A. M. Kooher, 1 50; A. M. Sleeper, 5 00; U. Carpenter, 1 00.

11. E. C. Thayer, 1 00; E. L. Olmsted, 8 50; A. J. Warner, 3 00; Allen Curtis, 1 50; C. P. Chichester, 3 50; Bryant Stewart, 3 00; R. M. Shaper, 1 00; W. T. Tilliston, 1 00.

The members of Kalamazoo County Pomona Grange, will be interested in knowing that arrangements have been made with Worthy Master Luce, to present at their meeting at Vicksburg, on the 25th inst. This should insure a full house.

The Self-Helping Baby.

An English gentleman, who passed many months hunting among the Rocky mountains, says his first genuine impression of the west came while he was riding over an arid plain and from a squealing baby. It revealed to him the ingenuity with which a western woman adapts herself to circumstances, and makes the most of her limited resources. "There was nothing," he says, "very peculiar about the appearance of this baby that I saw just ahead of me. It was not overburdened with garments, and was strapped, in Indian fashion, to a board about two feet long and one foot broad.

"The board and the baby were leaning against the log wall of a frontier shanty on its shady side. There was nobody near. The baby seemed very happy. Its little arms were free and kept up a constant movement. "As my horse came nearer, I saw that some strings were dangling about the baby's neck, and that one was tied to the big toe of one of its tiny little feet.

"I was puzzled. Dismounting, I had the curiosity to examine the tape arrangement. The child was sucking a piece of raw pork, about the size of a large walnut. This was tied to one end of the string, while the other end was fastened to the child's feet. A second piece of twine, knotted to the board over its head, prevented the pork from falling to the ground, should the child drop it.

"Suddenly the baby grew very red in the face. Then its eyes filled with tears, and its little arms beat the air with frantic energy. At that moment the mother made her appearance.

"That baby is choking, madam," I cried.

"No, he ain't, and he can't," she replied, tersely.

"At this instant the infantile legs began to work. One kick, two kicks, and there on the bib lay the piece of pork, jerked from the baby's throat by the string tied to the big toe. "Ain't you ever seen this afore, mister?" asked the mother, observing the Englishman's surprised looks.

"No—o—o," he answered, slowly.

"Then kind o' remembrance it. Mayhays yer wife won't go back on it."

"Several years have passed since that day. I have seen that baby in a hundred different guises. From sheer habit it has become with me a sort of standard wherewith to gauge the mental and moral qualities of western men and women—self-help, self-confidence and adaptability."

James Parton's Ideal University.
Boston Transcript.

Let us not forget that the men who have made America have all been educated by head and by hand, and the men who have misled America have been educated otherwise. Washington used four trades, three of which he knew thoroughly. Jefferson knew three or four trades. Franklin, besides being an excellent printer, was a jack-of-all-trades, and, contrary to the proverb, very good at several of them. Look through the history of one hundred men who have become illustrious, and you will find that the majority of them had manual training, and against something hard to do in their early days. Dickens working in the blacking shop is an example. I have in my mind's eye a glorious university, completely organized and equipped to afford an education such as is now. This university of mine shall have a chime of bells, which at 6 A. M. summons 2,000 men to rise and cast off sloth, and put on workmen's clothes, and prepare for labor. At 7 they are in their different shops, workers in wood, in metal, in leather, in stone, in hemp, in cotton, in flax, in wool. For three hours they labor, being held to a strict account for the use or abuse of tools, material and time. In summer a portion of each day is spent by all upon the land, so that all may have insight, some practical knowledge, of farming of horses, of cattle, of sheep, of the garden, the orchard. At 10 all this is over, except in harvest time or other periods of pressure. The chimneys now send these workmen to their rooms, where they remove the dress and the garments of manual labor, and count out to class, and remain all day university students.

Mr. Conkling's Vocabulary.

New York Cor. Philadelphia Press.

There is a report that in recent conversations with one person and another Mr. Conkling has not seen fit to speak of Secretary Folger in terms of unqualified admiration. Something has happened; what is the trouble? What slight has Judge Folger put on the ex-senator's somewhat exacting sense of personal dignity? Nobody seems to know; but rumor goes so far as to assert that, within the past three or four days, and in the freedom of confidential intercourse in his own law office, Mr. Conkling has more than once designated the Republican candidate for governor of New York by the extraordinary term, "That Ancient Mutton Chop!" It will soon be necessary for somebody to prepare and publish a Conkling dictionary in order that people may be able to understand the ex-senator's allusions to distinguished gentlemen. Material for a work of this sort is rapidly accumulating. While the subjoined does not profess to be a complete key or phrase-book, it will afford both a plan and a starting point for the lexicographers who may undertake the compilation.

The Man-Milliner—George William Curtis. That Man from Mentor—President Hayes. That Man from Mentor—President Garfield. That Lizard on the Hill—Governor Cornell. That Prize Ox in the White House—President Arthur.

That Ancient Mutton Chop—Secretary Folger.

She Sward.

Arkansas Traveler.

"Do you know the nature of an oath?" asked a judge of a colored woman.

"Yes, yes; I reckon I do."

"You know, then, what it is to swear?"

"Yes, yes; I reckon I do."

"Hold up your hand and swear." She held up her hand and ripped out an oath which almost took the judge's breath.

"I'll send you to jail for this, you miserable creature."

"For what, Judge?"

"For using profane language in this court-room."

"I doesn't know what yer mean by 'fane language. Yer tole me ter swar, and I swar'd. White folks gittin' so high up it gits a nigger a crack in the nalk ter swear at 'em. I 'as gwine ter leave dis court, case I wa'n't borned in Arkansas, nohow."

Silkworms and Tapeworms.

An Irishwoman, needing some silk and some tape, sent her husband for them. The silk was shown, but the buyer thought the price too great. The clerk explained that all silk goods were dear, owing to some disease at this time prevalent among the silkworms. The Irishman was next examined, and the Irishman thought that a little stiff as to price. "And in case, sir," says he, "is there likewise a disease prevalent among the tapeworms?"

An ancient and moldy story, rehearsed as follows is again in print: "Henry Ward Beecher's cow broke into the grounds of a neighbor at Peekskill and made havoc which brought the neighbor to Mr. Beecher. I wish you would keep your cow out of my shrubbery," exclaimed the irate neighbor. To which Mr. Beecher replied: "And I wish you would keep your shrubbery out of my cow; it spoils the milk."

Schiller: Be courageous and noble-minded; our own heart, and not other men's opinions of us, forms our true honor.

VANDERBILT'S SCHEME.

Will Buy the Illinois Central for the Sake of Its Entrance into Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 12.—The Tribune says that Vanderbilt, tired of paying the Illinois Central heavy rent for the use of its tracks into the city by the Michigan Central, and desiring a free entrance for his new acquisition, the Nickle Plate, is contemplating the purchase of the Illinois Central and in fact has been quietly buying its stock, evidently expecting to get the aid of the Holland stockholders of that road.

LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP CITY OF BRUSSELS.—Early Saturday morning, the 6th inst., the Ilman steamer City of Brussels was run down by another steamer in the estuary of the Mersey, during a fog, and sunk in 14 fathoms of water. The colliding vessel was the Kirby Hall, a Glasgow steamer, en route from Glasgow to Liverpool to complete loading and embarking passengers for the east. Ten lives were reported lost, two of which were steerage passengers.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The note of Lord Granville to the British representatives abroad proposes that the Suez canal be treated virtually as an arm of the sea, freely open to navigation, but subject to a rule forbidding belligerent operations, both in its channel and within a certain distance of its extremities.

CHARLES DICKENS had a very good story about the early days of a renowned mourning establishment. He went there one day about some mourning, and was ushered into a room where sat a shopman with an attendant in wo-eccentric habiliments, who groaned out, "A father, a mother, perhaps a wife." "Oh, no," said Dickens, "only a distant relative." "Oh, sir," said the funeral one, "you have made a mistake; this is the chamber of agonizing woe John, toll the bell and show the gentleman into the light affliction department."—Temple Bar.

We have been compelled to break off here and put up a stove-pipe in our new office. Why is it that no two pipes are built of the same size? Like people's faces they are all similar but no two alike. The fact that iron pipes offer considerable resistance to being squeezed into a smaller hole than they were made for, accounts for the original antics of the man who puts up a new stove in a hurry, and imagines himself handy at the job. The man who invented stove pipes has much to answer for. We look back regretfully to the age of log burning hearths, built in massive chimneys, around which our forefathers smoked, and fought over again skirmishes with ye gentle savages.—Exchange.

A Ministry of agriculture is proposed in England, with Mr. Chamberlain, president of the Board of Trade, at its head.

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

	Regular Price.	With Visitor.
American Agriculturist.....	\$1 50	\$1 80
Atlantic Monthly.....	1 00	1 00
American Grange Bulletin (Litt- le Grange included).....	1 60	2 00
Christian Herald.....	2 00	2 25
Democrat's Monthly.....	2 00	2 00
Century (Scraper).....	1 50	1 75
Country Gentleman.....	2 50	4 10
Cincinnati Commercial (weekly).....	1 00	1 40
Detroit Free Press (without Household) weekly.....	1 00	1 40
Detroit Free Press (with House- hold) w.....	1 25	1 65
Farmers' Review.....	1 50	1 60
Harper's Monthly Magazine.....	4 00	4 00
Harper's Weekly.....	4 00	4 00
Harper's Bazar.....	4 00	4 00
Harper's Young People.....	1 50	1 75
Kalamazoo Telegraph (weekly).....	1 50	2 50
Inter-Ocean, Chicago (w).....	1 15	1 55
" " (semi-w).....	2 50	2 75
Lansing Journal (weekly).....	1 00	1 40
New York Tribune (w).....	2 00	2 00
" " (semi-w).....	3 00	3 00
North American Review.....	6 00	4 50
N'western Lumberman (strictly new subscribers).....	4 00	4 00

Youths' Department.

THE QUEEN'S GIFT.

Where English daisies blossom,
And English robins sing,
When all the land was fragrant
Beneath the feet of spring.

Two little sisters wandered,
Together, hand in hand,
Along the dusty highway,
Their bare feet soiled and tanned.

'Twas not a childish sorrow
That filled their eyes with tears;
Their little hearts were burdened
With grief beyond their years.

The bright eyed daisies blossomed
In valley and in glen,
The robins sang their sweetest,
Spring smiled—but not for them.

Beneath the trees of Whitehall,
Within their shadows brown,
From out the royal palace
The Queen came walking down.

She saw the children standing,
Together, side by side,
And, gazing down with pity,
She asked them why they cried.

"Dear lady," said the eldest,
"My little sister Bess
And I have come together
A hundred miles, I guess."

"Sometimes the roads were dusty,
And sometimes they were green;
We're very tired and hungry—
We want to see the Queen."

"For mother's sick, dear lady,
She cries 'most all the day;
We hear her telling Jesus,
When she thinks we're at play."

"She tells Him all about it,
How when King James was King
We were so rich and happy
And had most everything."

"We had our own dear father,
At home beside the Thames,
But father would not battle
Because he loved King James."

"And then things were so different—
I cannot tell you how,
We haven't any father,
Nor any nice things now."

"Last night our mother told us
They'd take our home away,
And leave us without any,
Because she couldn't pay."

"So then we came together,
Right through the meadow green,
And prayed for God to help us,
And take us to the Queen."

"Because mamma once told us
That, many years ago,
The Queen was James's little girl,
And lady, if 'twas so."

"I know she'll let us keep it,
For we have come to ask her,
And father loved King James."

Her simple story finished,
She gazed up in surprise,
To see the lovely lady
With tear-drops in her eyes.

And when the English robes
Had caught each downy nest,
And when the bright-eyed daisies,
Dew-damp, had gone to rest:

A carriage, such as never
Had passed that way before,
Sat down two little children
Beside the widow's door.

They brought the weeping mother
A package from the Queen,
Her royal seal was on it,
And, folded in between.

A slip of paper, saying:
"The daughter of King James
Gives to these little children
Their home beside the Thames."

—Rose Hartwick Thorpe, in St. Nicholas.

The Youth Reminded.

The Editor said, "Aunt Nina, what has become of all your young people? Have they grown too old to be called youths, or have they all gone west?"

What answer could I make? I suggested that the preparations for the holidays filled every hand and heart, and that that pleasant, joyful time, gives no one a chance to think of duties. But all the time I felt sure that as soon as the New Year had been ushered in the letters from you would pour down upon me. For do we not make good resolutions upon the first day of the year? and would not one of your first resolutions made and acted upon be to send a long letter here to interest and benefit the many youths whom we hope read these columns?

But two weeks of this new year have passed away and yet no letters. Can it be that so soon the good intentions have been forgotten? Is habit so strong with you that you cannot pull yourself out of the old path? Or is it so very hard to settle down to steady pulling after the fun and frolic of the merry vacation time?

I cannot believe that you have grown too old to write under the heading "Youth's Column." If you have there certainly must be others grown from childhood to take your places, and where are they? But no, you must be there; a year does not change one so much.

Now I hear you say, "She is trying to make herself believe she doesn't grow old," (and up go your noses.) "She must be getting well along in years to try to deceive herself in that way." Yes, I do feel just as young as you do in this, that I do want to hear from you, want to know your opinions of things.

Didn't the paper look strange to you last week? and that was the first paper of the year, "enlarged and improved." Mr. Editor didn't have us in mind, I guess. Must I, like your Uncle Nine bid you adieu and then sitting in the chimney corner say Alackaday! Of what use am I, no one will heed my voice! But little have I tried to do, and failed in that little.

Mother Goose could make jingles that delighted the children, but I wonder if she could have succeeded in interesting the youth. But since her day and mine the children as well as the youths have made such progress

onward that I don't believe but that the six months baby of to-day would listen with disdain to Bobby Shafto. My thoughts carry me away. I must bid you good day, or shall it be good bye?
AUNT NINA.

Extracts from Report of the Railroad Commissioners of Georgia.

The right of regulating turnpikes, bridges and ferries has always been conceded and exercised. In general, and as covering the whole principle, when two parties deal upon wholly unequal terms the law protects the weak, as in the case of minors, female convicts, and of the insane or imbecile. It protects the weak, making them the wards of the State, and providing ordinances, etc., to see to their rights and guard them against imposition.

Not to be tedious, upon any one of the foregoing grounds, the right of regulating can safely rest. Each has supplied the actual, practical ground of legislation for ages. Any student will find, perhaps, somewhat to his surprise, that in the case of railroads the right rests not on any one of them singly, but upon them all combined. In a word, that the regulation of railroads by law is better fortified by principle, as well as by authority, than that of any other single subject of legal control.

Corporations, as much, being a legal entity, dependent on legislation for their very existence; franchises, special privileges, monopolies, turnpikes, bridges, ferries, common carriers—these are each and all of them subject to large control. The railroad is all of these in one. It is a corporation, endowed with franchises and with special privileges; a monopoly, a common carrier, and it takes the place of ordinary roads—for all considerable distances superseding them entirely. Nor is this, by any means, all. In each case the need of regulation of railroads, as compared with the old methods, is intensified, both on public and economical grounds. The argument is highly cumulative, combining all the grounds in one, in a way seldom paralleled, and each ground far stronger than in the original analogous case. The old analogies have grown some of them to be false and all of them feeble.

To illustrate by the functions of a common carrier: It has in great measure displaced the highway; it has displaced the equipment of the same; it has displaced the old common carrier. Thus the road, the equipment and the carrier are all special. The owner, too, is special, no longer the general public. The conditions of competition are, in a large measure, displaced. The private methods scarcely amount to competition at all. It is a stupendous and absolute revolution, still difficult to appreciate; but at length the facts are forcing them selves on our attention.

On the public highways, before the days of railroads, between important places there were always several common carriers, between whom you should choose, or else use the highway yourself on equal terms with the public carrier. There was real competition and protection here, and yet for the public convenience the government regulated even the old common carrier, so subject to competition.

But the railroad is not thus free for competing carriers, or for the customer's own use. When first introduced, it was indeed regarded as simply a new kind of road bed, which customers could hire by paying toll. But soon it was evident that the railroad was a monopoly of necessity itself run the road. Other carriers, or the customers themselves could not provide the new and expensive rolling stock, engines and cars. In like manner experienced engine-men were necessary. Almost any one could drive a wagon; not so an engine. In a word, the monopoly was greatly intensified by the useful specialization of machinery and workmen. Rapidly the railway became for large sections the only road available. The monopoly of this special way is now usually the monopoly of all available transportation. As already seen, the river road, if built, would ensure the ruin of both roads, and be a waste of capital, since either could do all the business which others, and much more, nor could either withdraw from the competition.

The roads so shut up are condemned (unless they combine and exact double rates to pay interest on a double capital) to a duel. It is a war to the knife, as though both were shut up in a dark room with doors locked and no escape for either; for a railroad, if once built in the wrong place, cannot be moved. It must fight it out on that line.

The railroad being thus a monopoly of a peculiar character, entirely too powerful for private competition, who shall fix the rates? Not the monopolist, the railroad, on the one hand; not the shipper, also a party interested, on the other hand; but THE LAW by some method capable of properly and impartially fixing them, and from time to time adapting them to varying circumstances. The object on the one hand is to save the public from force, fraud, secrecy, extortion and unjust discrimination. Any failure to do this is a deprivation to a large extent of one of the most important privileges of the citizen. On the other hand, however, in the protection of the citizen, every just right of the monopolist is to be protected with like impartiality.

If the old methods of common carriage needed regulation by law, how incomparably more important is such regulation now, with the immensely increased volume of business, with the absolute impossibility of private competition or self-help, and with the complexity of the management such that not even the owners and shareholders can at all understand the business, except as reported to them by the managers. How much more is the public at the mercy of the railroad management, with our present huge commerce, than it was in the power of the old common carrier, with his small and comparatively insignificant little barter? Slowly mankind has been adjusting itself to the problem—revolutionary, in fact—estimated to be very great, but not estimated at a tithe of its real greatness.

He who controls it, controls everything else. He can set up one business man and put down another. He can set up one whole community and put down another. Government, itself,

has no greater powers; indeed, governments are among the things controlled. We have seen the foundation of the right of regulation in the common law as well as the civil, and also in the deeper seated law of nature. Not less necessary than in its legal and economical aspects.

We begin to see the answer to the question: "How is the railroad distinguished from the plantation, or the store, or, from its yet closer analogies, the factory, the mine, or the rolling mill, and the like properties?" Because it is a monopoly, and cannot well be otherwise; because its powers are immense, and of a public character; because it is so held by law and legal decisions; because it is important and in structure to study these distinctions, which are real and practical; and such study makes the right not only apparent, but imperative. Suppose, in former days, a monopoly of navigable river conceded to a company, wholly unrestricted by law; how stupendous the consequences, and how the grant would need to be hedged about with proper regulations and restrictions! Suppose the yet more unlimited monopoly of the great ocean itself, or of the right of ship-building; yet even such grants would fall short in importance of the monopoly of internal transportation.

Imagine a proposition of this sort seriously made in the Legislature of the State. To give to a particular company, or sets of companies, the exclusive right to all the highways and public roads of the State; to make such terms as they shall think proper with travelers and carriers of freight; what a shout of universal indignation would this raise! Yet this power over the real transportation of the country has ignorantly and gradually been actually transferred to the railroad companies of the States. Virtually, the highways actually used, and the only highways which, in the present state of commerce, man can afford to use for any considerable distance, to compete to advantage in the struggle of life, are the railroads.

Such is the general scope and character of the fundamental law of the State, unusually and remarkably clear in its provisions for the protection of all rights. It contains no better considered or more argued feature than that which provides, on the one hand, for the protection of the public against the unjust and unreasonable exercise of corporate powers; and on the other hand against any interference with their just and reasonable exercise.

The Transportation Question.

[Extract from an address of Hon. E. K. Valentine to the farmers of Nebraska.]

One of the questions now agitating the people of this country, and in which you, as a class, are largely interested, is the problem of transportation. The right to control railroads by national and State legislation is conceded by all, but how far that control may be carried is yet an open question. The owners and operators of railroads claim that we have no more right to control or undertake to regulate the fares and rates of freight over their various lines than we have to fix the price of a reaper or a mower that is manufactured by a corporation chartered by a State. They claim the money is their own, that they have invested to build these roads and that they should be permitted to regulate fares and freight, the same as a merchant does the price of his wares. But with these gentlemen, I have no doubt, many of you disagree. The owners and operators have been most liberal and generous toward these corporations, and have given them large tracts of land to them, and there is scarcely a county in this State that has a railroad, but what has aided it most liberally, and to-day is being taxed to meet these liabilities. It costs large sums of money to build railroads, and in our own State they have been built in sparsely settled sections, where I presume it does not now pay to operate them. But why is this? Why were they built? Was it not because these gentlemen who owned lines running from the east and south plainly saw that in the near future there would be a good paying business for them? Did they not enter into the building of these lines so as to occupy the ground—to prevent others from doing what they themselves did as a matter of speculation, looking for good returns in the future? But railroads are necessary to you, individually and as a class. Your interests and theirs are most intricately interwoven; without them you can not produce or market your products and your stock; on the other hand they cannot prosper without your products and stock to transport. It is, therefore, plain that you should be on most friendly terms. There should be no antagonism between you, and it is my opinion that it would be far better for all concerned, if in fixing the rates of fare and freight

THE RAILROAD MANAGERS WOULD CONSULT

with the merchant and the farmer, the producer and the shipper, and fix rates so that each should be fairly treated, that they should observe the motto, "Live and let live." But each railroad is under the management of men selected by the stockholders, under instructions to so handle and control it as to best enhance the value of its use to their benefit. There are as many different methods adopted as there are boards of management. If they would all be honest with their patrons and with themselves, operating their various roads as pure business transactions, I apprehend there would be no cause for interference by national or State legislatures, but the mode adopted by many of them is, as soon as they find that they are earning good dividend upon their capital invested, they proceed to "water their stock." They do not water it as you farmers water yours, but they simply issue a few millions of dollars worth of "new stock," divide it among themselves and then immediately set to work to try and make their roads earn enough to pay a reasonable interest on all the stock, old and new. Now, this is what we are told they do, and it is this practice that compels, or will compel, unless it ceases, the passage of laws, national and state, to regulate these corporations.

RUB sprains, bruises, and lameness with the paste made from salt and the white of an egg.

NEWS ITEMS.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.—The House redeemed itself to-day. The time was wasted in beginning work on the Army bill, which was pursued steadily to completion. Then, to the surprise of most members of the House, Chairman Kasson, of the Committee on Civil Service Reform, appeared and claimed the attention of the Speaker. To the still greater surprise of all, the bill was suddenly taken up and passed "with all its imperfections on its head." The bill as passed is full of sounding words of reform and at first glance would seem to indicate a political revolution of magnitude never before known in the history of this country. The following in brief are some of the leading features of the bill as passed: The president, with the consent of the Senate, is to appoint a Board of Civil Service Commissioners, consisting of three persons, not more than two of whom shall belong to the same political party. This commission is to aid the president in preparing a code of rules to carry the law into effect. An important part of the bill is the provision for securing open competitive examinations for positions in the public service, now classified or to be classified under the law. Except where appointments are made by the president by and with the consent of the Senate, all the civil employees in the departments at Washington are to be thus classified, and will have to undergo the same examinations as new applicants for positions. Such examinations are to be open to all persons, and are to be held at least twice in each State or territory in which there are persons to be proportioned among the States and territories according to population. All appointments, in future, are to be based upon the report of the commission, and are to be on probation. Each appointee must show his fitness by actual work before his appointment can be made absolute. All new appointments are to be made in the lowest grade of the class to which the applicant is assigned, and promotion is to be based on merit and competition. Whenever as many as fifty persons are employed in any of the postoffices, custom houses, or other public offices throughout the country, they are to be classified in like manner, and become subject in every way to the provisions of this law. It is evidently the intention of the framers of the law that no removals should be made except for cause. It is provided that no recommendation of any senator or member of the House in regard to any applicant is to be received or considered by any person concerned in making any examination or appointment under this act. If this can be carried out our representatives will be absolutely without patronage except in the appointment of our local postmasters. Lastly, there is a prohibition against the levying of political assessments.

The State Horticultural Society recently appointed a committee whose business it should be to take steps towards securing legislation for reorganizing the State Board of Agriculture and enlarging its duties and powers. A sub-committee has been appointed and is now at work drawing up a bill for that purpose. This sub-committee consists of ex Representative A. S. Partridge, of Flushing; Prof. Beals, of the Agricultural College; Judge Ramsdell, of Traverse City; ex Representative Charles A. Garfield, of Grand Rapids, and Senator Monroe. The bill will provide for locating an experimental station, where experiments in improving cereals, propagating new species, hybridization, etc., shall be made for the public benefit. It will also provide for the establishment of an efficient meteorological station, where more practical work for the benefit of the farmers than that now done by the United States meteorologists shall be conducted. In order to carry out the provisions of the bill it is proposed to place the control of the station in charge of a board entirely free from political influences and drawn from the leading horticultural and agricultural societies and the State Grange.—*Detroit News Correspondence.*

THE HOTEL CALAMITY IN MILWAUKEE.—At about four o'clock on the morning of the 10th inst., fire was discovered in the basement of the Newhall House in Milwaukee, and in about half an hour the whole building was substantially destroyed. That half hour was crowded with horrors which can never be understood or described. Of the many who were forced to jump from the windows twenty-four were killed outright upon the pavement below. Twenty-one other persons are known to have been burned to death in the building. At this writing the dreadful death roll is increasing and the extent of the calamity is not fully known. Seventy are known to be lost, and it is feared a considerable number may be added to this figure. The building was six stories high, and in appearance was one of the finest in the city. The dispatches say, however, that it was a mere shell and local underwriters had refused to place any insurance upon it. It was insured by Cincinnati companies to the amount of \$125,000.

THE SENATORIAL CONTEST AT LANSING.—The supporters of Senator Ferry for a third term have insisted upon the usual caucus for the nomination of their candidate. Twenty-seven republicans have declined to be bound by the behests of any caucus in this matter and have refused to sign the call. Of these, nineteen committed themselves still more definitely by signing a resolution not to go into caucus. The election of senator must take place in joint assembly of both houses and 67 votes will be necessary to carry choice. A call for a republican caucus was made for the 5th inst., and was signed by 54 republicans. This number was reinforced by two in the attendance at the caucus which was held on the fifth as called. Mr. Ferry was nominated on the first formal ballot. This is not by any means equivalent to an election, as eleven more votes above the caucus ballot are necessary to make up the required majority.

And now comes an exciting report from England of a cheap method of separating the metal aluminum from its combinations. This report is exciting because the metal is both strong-

er and lighter than iron, is non-corrosive and is one of the most abundant in the world. In its oxide, it is one of the chief constituents of common clay, pyrolite and many other substances. It has long been known to exceed all other metals in useful qualities, but no cheap method has been known for separating it from its compounds and it has been too dear for general use. The rumor of the discovery was considered sufficiently authentic to send across the ocean by cable.

It is reported from New York that Vanderbilt has taken a hand in the Canadian Pacific railroad syndicate. The Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific have now become the two great railway corporations of Canada, and it is a race to see which will come out best. It is thought that the Canadian is reaching out for the Northern Pacific.

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 4.—Mr. Bixby, of Lenawee, introduced a resolution prohibiting the use of railway passes or acceptance of reduced rates of fare on railways. This provoked an audible smile, which broadened into a roar of laughter when Mr. Coots' motion to refer it to the committee on railways was carried with a rush.

FOREIGN.
The great French statesman and political leader, M. Gambetta, died in Paris on the morning of the 1st inst. He has, for many years, been an important power in European politics—second only to Bismarck in influence. Gambetta's characteristics are best set in the following extract from an ex-Casarian during the session of September 4, 1870, which put a period to the second empire; his indefatigable labors as a member of the Government of National Defense, his patriotic efforts in the provinces during the war of 1870-71, his despair after the capitulation of Paris, his attempt to prolong the struggle, which, through the feebleness of the Bordeaux assembly, proved abortive; his agency in bringing this over to the republic, and the earnest support he gave him during the latter's presidency; his unpeppable opposition to the reactionary ministries of Marshal MacMahon; the able and daring campaign that he conducted against the conspirators of May 16, 1877, and the great moral and political elevation that the electoral victory of the autumn of 1877 secured him—all this is well known and still fresh in the public mind.

GEN. CHANZY DEAD.—PARIS, Jan. 5.—Gen. Chanzy, the well-known French general and life senator, died suddenly last night. Gen. Chanzy died of apoplexy at Chalons. He will be buried there. The papers deplore his death, uniting his memory with that of Gambetta, the latter being described as the soul, and Chanzy as the sword of the resistance to German invasion. The *Times* says: The death of Gen. Chanzy, following so quickly that of Gambetta, must disturb many political calculations, and will increase the uncertainty prevailing as to the immediate prospects of French political parties.

The floods in Europe are unprecedented in extent, spreading misery and devastation on every side. Many lives have been lost and thousands are left homeless and destitute. A house to house collection will shortly be started throughout the German empire in aid of the sufferers in the flooded districts. The Prussian government has already granted \$125,000 for their relief and the government of Hesse has given the same amount. The subscriptions in Prussia reached \$875,000. Large sums are arriving from England and America.

Some Farmers in Council.

"The National Agricultural convention" met in this city, last week. We confess to some antecedent skepticism in regard to the body. Almost every profession and calling in this country is represented by some sort of an association which operates, in some cases somewhat speculatively, in its name. The most active or obtrusive of these officers and committees are sometimes very little known in their professions and trades save as they succeed in procuring advertisement through the associations to which they attach themselves. Many an almost briefless lawyer figures as secretary of some law organization. We suspect that some physicians are for better known as ornamental officers in medical societies than to their patients. Nearly every calling has its financially illegitimate speculative side, as well as its material and quite legitimate inventory. The latter feature implies invention, patents, markets and measurably monopoly, with respect to which there are men who buy, sell and get again.

When, therefore, we heard of this national agricultural convention we supposed we should find a body of men concerned chiefly in patenting, buying and selling the implements so necessary to farmers, but whose hands never touch a plow in its actual furrow. It was, therefore, a pleasure to find actual farmers whose personal presence was worthy the senate of the United States. In the nature of the case, the leisure and the money implied in a trip to some central city, presuppose somewhat of past success, and accumulated capital. The convention is as a consequence made up of the most successful of American farmers. The members as a class had fine heads, expansive foreheads, and steady, large, pure eyes. As a rule their hands were large and strong enough to prompt somewhat of caution against over-friendly grasp, or against a conceivably defensive blow. The discussions had a wide range and concerned the more comprehensive aspects of American agriculture. Artificially produced forests, irrigation, rotation of crops, physical geography, re-enrichment of soils, and the inevitable "tariff," were among the topics. The debates were in excellent spirit, the speakers were informed, they used excellent language and all were enough to prompt honest desire to attain the best results for and in their calling. It was manifest that the convention was unselfishly devoted to the best temporal interest of men. The chief postulate was, "the chief aim of man, as regards this life, is food." What, therefore, is the best crop for given parts of the world? What will best repay and preserve the soil that produces? What

are the most economical and best apparatuses? To what uses shall surplus timber be applied? How shall forestry supply timber growth for the plains so as to shade the river courses, preserve the fountain heads of streams and so guard continents against fires, tempests, drought, and locusts? How shall young men be retained in the rural regions and trained by Adam Smith in his "Wealth of Nations?" What of the transportation problem as related to cheap food for consumers and just gains to the farmer? Is protection, or free trade best? How shall the nation be best served in administering government lands? Shall there be a system of inland canals? Shall the government control railways?—and so on to the end of the practical application of principles whose consideration implies as good brains as did theoretical speculations like those by Adam Smith in his "Wealth of Nations."

We say very clearly that, as one man said to us in private conversation, "brains and reading rule, even in farming." Mother Earth is very indulgent to her children. In kindest climates she gives sustenance on very easy terms. Simplest fruits and game supply the savage, but man's moral grade is determined by the terms upon which he is content to settle with Nature. He must be a savage who is satisfied to simply exist without labor. Therefore it is true that the spontaneous banana is an enemy to civilization. When men at the other extreme of the scale enter into exalted and dignified terms with Mother Earth, and till the soil scientifically and industriously, as do those who composed this convention, they are straightway exalted to genuine nobility, scholarship and success. In this raw, new-paper, and telegraph age, he does largest things with a thousand acres, or his thoroughest things with one hundred acres, may enter the noblest of brotherhoods. We were impressed by the clean countenances of these splendid men. One would judge that they can look God and man squarely in the face. The English nobleman has a peculiar charm in his quiet repose of personal presence. Stagnation, wealth and habitual homage by men gave the English gentleman an air of quiet, unassuming, impressive gentility which is far above ridicule, gaudiness, or counterfeits. So also, have these American representative farmers an air of personal purity and guided simplicity which quite charmed him who understands its genesis and philosophy. The correct doctrine which can exalt about it the charm which will more effectively retain the children in that calling is beyond estimate. We believe this happy secret will yet enter in as a factor to solve and bless our future American social economy.—*Northwestern Christian Advocate, Chicago.*

The treasury cattle commission asks for \$200,000 to stamp out the lung plague and re-open the British markets to American beefs.

THE REAPER DEATH.

TIMES.—At a regular meeting of Moscow Grange, No. 103, held December 22, 1882, Resolutions of respect for a Brother dead, and of sympathy and condolence for sorrowing friends were adopted and ordered spread upon the records of the Grange.

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