

GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XIX, NO. 25.

Library Agri'l College

LANSING, MICHIGAN, DECEMBER 6, 1894.

WHOLE NO. 455.

TAXATION IN MICHIGAN.

E. J. WRIGHT, TAX DEPARTMENT, AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

VII.

Doubtless the Brandon bill, introduced in the last Missouri legislature, and quoted from in the letter from its author which was published in the last issue of the VISITOR, has attracted considerable attention from readers. Its two notable features appear to be the sworn list of taxable property and the provision relative to stamping notes and bonds. The first named feature differs but little from the provisions of the Michigan tax law of 1893 except in making it the duty of the assessor to require each person required to list property to make a statement of his taxable property, under oath. The Michigan law requires the assessor to procure sworn statements from bankers and brokers (except banks whose capital is represented by shares of stock), pawnbrokers, companies and corporations, and owners of vessel property. There is abundant reason for believing that this requirement of the law is largely ignored by assessors, but we have no means of determining definitely to what extent it is obeyed or how largely it is disregarded. As to others than those above enumerated, the language of the law is as follows: "He (the assessor) may require every person of full age and sound mind, who the supervisor or assessor believes has property which is not exempt from taxation, to make and subscribe to a true and correct written statement under oath (Sec. 18) of all the taxable property of such person, firm, or corporation, whether owned by him or it, or held for the use of another." It is expressly made the duty of every assessor "to ascertain the taxable property of his assessing district, and the persons to whom it is assessed, and their residences." While the Michigan law in this regard is not mandatory, its spirit and intent is unmistakable. In a note under the above quoted section of the law I have said in the "Assessor's Manual:" "While the demand for a sworn statement is left to the discretion of the assessor in all cases where a specific statement is not required (by the provisions of section 19), there are innumerable reasons why he should demand it in all cases where he cannot readily determine the character, extent and value of the possessions of any person within his jurisdiction." Blanks are prepared by the auditor general, and county treasurers are supplied therewith in sufficient quantity to furnish every assessor with a copy for each taxpayer. In most cases, if used at all, they serve only as a convenient form for the assessor to use in determining in a perfunctory manner the total of real and personal property upon which he makes his assessment.

This leads to a consideration (which must be brief at this time) of the disregard of the requirements of the law by assessors, which, in the fifth paper of this series, I proposed to treat of at an early day. Both the letter and the spirit of the law are clear. It is the duty of assessors to ascertain the taxable property within their jurisdiction, and to assess it at its true cash value. Every one knows that this duty is only partially performed. General reputation is not always to be treated as final in determining the character and value of the property of individuals or corporations; but it is sufficient to indicate to the assessor the propriety of making diligent enquiry, which it is clearly his duty to pursue by the means furnished him by the law, by requiring the taxpayer to furnish a sworn statement. There may be plausible reason for objection to this course if the statement be required only of a few taxpayers, but this objection would be most effectually destroyed by requiring it from all. Go to the probate records of any county and compare the inventory of the estates of deceased persons with the assessment roll of the year of their death. I challenge denial of the assertion that the aggregate of such inventories in any given year will be so much greater than that of the property assessed to the same persons as to furnish a sufficient proof of the assertion herein that the assessment rolls include but a small

part of the taxable property, and that the requirement of assessment at true cash value is almost universally ignored.

One hundred and thirty-two "good men and true" place upon the statute books a tax law which, if honestly and competently administered, should materially reduce the rate of taxation, and over 1,500 assessors deliberately ignore its most important provisions. Do you ask what excuse the latter have for their nullification policy? The universal excuse is, "It's the custom." That does not fully state all the reasons that assessors have for the course they pursue. I have in mind a township which has a normal republican majority of upwards of forty, but in which a democratic supervisor or has been elected for several years. A very considerable number of substantial men who are closely allied with the majority party can be depended upon in canvassing their party vote for any other office, but an inspection of the assessment roll tells the story—"has treated us very nicely on our assessments." The supervisor referred to is lacking in nearly every qualification for the proper performance of the duties of one of the most important offices in the gift of the people, but he knows how to secure a sufficient number of votes from his political opponents to be elected again and again; and one of the results is that more conscientious taxpayers than his influential personal supporters are paying a rate of taxation very largely in excess of that which would be necessary if a proper assessment of the property of the township was made.

Consideration of those provisions of the Brandon bill which are intended to insure the assessment of notes and bonds must be deferred until a later issue. If some of the suggestions herein lead tax-paying readers to reflect upon the fact that the remedy for inequitable taxation is in the hands of the people themselves, enough has been accomplished to suffice for one paper. The subject has other phases, which will be treated of later.

COST OF LEGISLATURE, 1893.

Report of Auditor General, 1893.

EXPENSES OF SENATE.

	Officers.	Members.	Total.
Per diem	\$16,024 50	\$14,918 00	\$30,942 50
Mileage	512 10	920 80	1,432 90
Stationery	5 00	155 00	160 00
Total	\$16,541 60	\$15,993 80	\$32,535 40

Incidentals			1,992 94
Total expense of Senate			\$34,528 34

EXPENSES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

	Officers.	Members.	Total.
Per diem	\$22,918 87	\$46,191 00	\$69,109 87
Mileage	1,155 80	2,785 70	3,941 50
Stationery		485 00	485 00
Total	\$24,073 97	\$49,391 70	\$73,505 67

Incidentals			3,883 95
Total expense of House			\$77,389 62
Total expense of Senate			\$4,528 34
Total expense of Legislature			\$112,167 96

PAY OF OFFICERS OF THE SENATE, 1893.

J. Wright Giddings, president	\$478 00
Dennis E. Alward, secretary	1,045 80
Albert V. Chilson, assistant secretary	780 00
James G. Clark, bill clerk	747 40
Wm. S. Carpenter, engrossing and enrolling clerk	229 00
Mrs. Florence C. Betts, assistant engrossing and enrolling clerk	455 40
Jennie H. Clark, extra engrossing and enrolling clerk	251 20
Geo. H. Bussey, sergeant-at-arms	747 40
Daniel G. Crotty, 1st assistant sergeant-at-arms	459 40
John Betts, 2d assistant sergeant-at-arms	450 60
John W. Snell, janitor	454 80
J. P. Murray, assistant janitor	208 60
Orville E. Barnum, assistant janitor	448 60
James R. Murray, assistant janitor	448 60
A. E. Ross, assistant janitor	161 00
G. W. Bowker, assistant janitor	300 00
Isaac Harris, assistant janitor	152 80
Adah F. Browne, janitress	451 00
Joseph C. Ford, keeper of cloak room	154 40
Geo. W. Bowker, keeper of document room	243 00
J. P. Murray, keeper of document room	451 00
Edward Robinson, keeper of committee room	444 60
S. D. Anderson, assistant keeper of committee room	
Thomas F. Farrell, committee clerk—cities and villages	465 40
G. S. Frenzel, committee clerk—appropriation and finance	457 40
Mark M. Powers, committee clerk—judiciary	451 40
Chas. S. Campan, committee clerk—liquor traffic, counties and townships, roads and bridges	245 40
Eli Bidleman, committee clerk—liquor traffic, counties and townships, roads and bridges	210 00

Herbert C. Read, committee clerk—state affairs, supplies and expenses	\$202 00
E. E. Rice, committee clerk—state affairs, supplies and expenses	244 00
J. B. Powell, committee clerk—railroads and fisheries	546 80
C. N. Deland, committee clerk—election and election laws, taxation and tax laws	446 40
Cora B. Weber, committee clerk—elections and insurance	455 40
Stewart Griswold, president's messenger	302 40
Geo. S. Frost, secretary's messenger	309 40
Herman Marks, sergeant-at-arms messenger	309 40
Morgan Parker, senate messenger	310 40
Roy H. Marsh, senate messenger	310 40
Mark C. Wixom, senate messenger	375 40
John W. Foster, senate messenger	305 00
Lewis Campan, senate messenger	309 40
Thos. A. Gulliver, senate messenger	311 40
E. C. Fox, attorney general's messenger	
Total	\$16,841 60

Mileage to officers did not average more than \$20 each. The remainder of their expenses was per diem. The average per diem of senators from the lower peninsula was \$438; from upper peninsula, \$730. This is also true of members of the house of representatives.

PAY OF OFFICERS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Lewis M. Miller, clerk	\$1,039 40
Samuel F. Cook, journal clerk	954 80
Daniel S. Crossman, corresponding clerk	732 80
Monter L. Munson, financial clerk	447 70
John W. Foster, engrossing and enrolling clerk	451 60
E. H. Rockwood, assistant engrossing and enrolling clerk	140 00
Isaac Foster, extra engrossing and enrolling clerk	318 80
V. S. Bennett, " " " "	33 62
E. C. Sisson, " " " "	205 00
Laura C. Hoely, " " " "	9 00
Carrie Holt, " " " "	24 00
Jessie Holt, " " " "	15 75
Fred Green, " " " "	4 50
Laura Guy, " " " "	40 00
Helen Carham, " " " "	3 00
S. Sanderson, " " " "	87 75
Mabel Gale, " " " "	6 00
G. L. Sumner, " " " "	6 00
B. B. Foster, " " " "	101 25
Edith Foster, " " " "	7 50
H. H. Green, " " " "	6 75
M. Bogardus, " " " "	3 75
Miss Stanton, " " " "	6 00
Anna Newton, " " " "	18 00
Ella Wilcox, " " " "	6 00
Lizzie Mahonan, " " " "	10 50
Max Picard, " " " "	12 00
Adela M. Hazlett, postmistress	456 80
Mrs. Adelaide G. Mosher, assistant postmistress	431 60
P. G. Stoner, sergeant-at-arms	354 20
Henry Spaulding, first assistant sergeant-at-arms	496 40
Samuel T. Eggleston, second assistant sergeant-at-arms	455 40
David Collins, janitor	275 00
Jas. A. Stoops, assistant janitor	456 00
Calvin H. Torrence, " " " "	439 20
Harlan Cole, " " " "	475 50
J. W. Buckley, " " " "	455 40
Levi J. Train, " " " "	452 00
W. T. Hamlin, " " " "	442 00
Edward Beckert, " " " "	467 60
R. B. Lazear, " " " "	6 00
Stanley Ackowski, " " " "	228 00
Wm. Mintern, " " " "	6 00
Julius Caesar, janitor committee rooms	451 00
Mrs. L. J. Boyce, janitress	438 20
Eggleston, assistant stationery room	292 20
Wm. Tomlinson, keeper of cloak room	455 40
Henry Harris, assistant keeper of cloak room	453 20
Wm. H. Spencer, keeper of document room	104 40
A. A. Whitman, assistant keeper of document room	383 40
F. H. Chamberlain, assistant keeper of document room	579 70
Chas. E. Dermont, committee clerk ways and means, fisheries, and public lands	467 00
Jos. E. Gressel, committee clerk municipal corporations, drainage and public health	455 40
A. W. O'Keefe, committee clerk judiciary, and elections	468 00
J. W. Fitzgerald, committee clerk state affairs, education, and agriculture	440 40
G. L. Sumner, committee clerk military affairs, liquor traffic, and printing	452 40
George W. Bunnell, committee clerk railroads, private corporations, and labor	451 00
George A. Dyer, committee clerk insurance, roads and bridges, towns and counties, local taxation	438 20
H. A. Hopkins, press clerk	450 00
Robert H. Arbury, governor's messenger	305 00
Bert Way, speaker's messenger	308 00
Lambert J. Eggleston, clerk's messenger	308 00
Norton J. Miller, journal clerk's messenger	309 40
Herman Wagner, sergeant-at-arms messenger	375 40
John H. Dubois, postoffice messenger	308 60
Geo. Hill, document room keeper's messenger	315 00
Will O'Hilly, committee room keeper's messenger	325 40
Elmer E. Orane, house messenger	302 00
Louis Warren, " " " "	307 00
Olga Norrington, " " " "	312 00
Clifton Briggs, " " " "	303 40
John Morse, " " " "	269 60
Frank Connelly, " " " "	329 40
William Moll, " " " "	309 40
Ralph C. Miller, " " " "	309 60
Wm. J. Covell, " " " "	309 40
Wm. Zimmerman, " " " "	193 00
Harry C. Cole, " " " "	
Total	\$24,073 97

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES OF COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF 1893.

SENATE:	
Committees—	
Supplies and expenditures	\$451 83
Soldiers' Home	212 74
Contested elections	301 83
Mining School	156 00
Normal School	45 00
State Public School	41 78
Industrial Home for Girls	20 20
State House of Correction and Prison, U. P.	140 80
Detroit House of Correction	76 10
State Prison	26 00
Agricultural College	20 00
University	37 23
Asylum for Insane	322 50
Asylum for Insane Criminals	24 90
State House of Correction	7 95
School for Blind	5 00
School for Deaf	31 00
Total	\$1,992 94
HOUSE:	
Committees—	
Supplies and expenditures	\$384 26
Contested elections	827 34
Soldiers' Home	54 15
Special—investigating charges of bribery	10 00
University	50 96
Mining School	375 00
State House of Correction	34 00
State House of Correction and Prison, U. P.	347 00
Funeral of Representative Kirkwood	99 93
Funeral of Representative Leavitt	369 61
State Prison	116 52
Agricultural College	31 00
State Public School	55 44
Industrial Home for Girls	83 10
School for the Deaf	56 00

School for the Blind	\$75 20
State Normal School	75 00
Fisheries	402 44
Asylum for Insane Criminals	58 50
Eastern Asylum	87 25
Michigan Asylum	60 00
Northern Asylum	181 25
Total	\$3,829 95
	1,992 94
	\$5,826 89

SALARIES OF EDUCATORS.

We have been requested to publish the salaries paid at our state educational institutions in 1875 and 1885:

State Agricultural College.

In 1875.	
President	\$3,000
Five professors at \$2,000	10,000
Secretary	1,250
One professor	1,500
One instructor	1,800
Three instructors at \$600	1,800
Steward	700
Foreman	600
Assistant foreman	500
Total	\$18,850

In 1885.	
President	\$3,200
Two professors at \$2,000	4,000
Six professors at \$1,800	10,800
One professor	1,500
Two professors at \$1,000	2,000
Secretary	1,500
Three assistants at \$600	1,800
Five assistants at \$750	3,750
Engineer	200
Total	\$28,400

State Normal School.

In 1875.	
Principal	\$2,500
One professor	2,250
Five professors at \$2,000	10,000
One professor	1,000
One instructor	500
One instructor	500
One " "	600
One " "	540
Total	\$19,090

In 1885.	
Principal	\$2,450
One professor	2,100
Five professors at \$2,000	10,000
23 professors at from \$70 to \$1,000 a year each, instructors and assistants	13,470
Total	\$28,720

State University.

In 1884.	
President	\$3,750
One professor	4,000
One " "	1,300
Two professors at \$2,500	5,000
Twenty professors at \$1,800	36,000
Four assistant professors at \$1,800	7,200
Fourteen professors at \$1,600	22,400
Three assistant professors at \$1,500	4,500
One professor	1,400
Two assistant professors at \$1,000	2,000
Six instructors at \$300	1,800
2 " " \$750	1,500
2 " " \$400	800
3 " " \$300	900
3 " " \$200	600
4 " " \$500	2,000
1 " " \$100	100
6 " " \$100	600
Dental and homeopathic colleges	3,857
Janitors, etc.	8,935
Total	\$120,242

Summary.

	Salaries.	Students.
Agricultural College 1875	\$18,850	150
" " 1885	28,400	173
Normal School 1875	19,090	355
" " 1885	28,720	475
University 1884	40,940	937
" " 1893	120,242	1,377
Total	236,662	2,059

We could not get access to the University salaries for 1875. We were unable to find them published in any report, and the state accountant's vouchers for that time are stored away in the dark recesses of the capitol.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION.

1. What salaries should be paid to our state officers, and under what limitations?
2. Can the farmers aid in solving the liquor question? If so, how? Have they any interest or duty in the matter?
3. Will it be beneficial and wise to prohibit members of the legislature from accepting free passes from railroad companies? If so, should the prohibition extend to all state officers?
4. What restrictions shall be placed on immigration? When shall we begin to restrict?
5. Are farmers' institutes valuable as a means of education? Should the farmers demand a larger appropriation for them in Michigan?
6. What does the Grange ask of the incoming legislature?
7. What work shall our delegates carry to the State Grange?

Not long since we urged upon our readers the advantages of always being prepared to fight a fire in its beginning, and advised the necessity of having constantly at hand long light ladders for the purpose of reaching the roofs of buildings. In this same line we also wish to recommend the small chemical engines, some of which we know to be very effective.—National Stockman and Farmer.

Field and Stock.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

How they are Regarded by Leading Farmers.

In response to questions we have the following letters regarding the importance of institute work among Michigan farmers. We included in our questions one asking if the writer thinks \$10,000 a year is too much to ask for this purpose.

In reply to your question will say, that while I have always favored liberal appropriations for farmers' institutes, as well as all educational interests, yet I fully realize the necessity of close economy in all public matters for the ensuing two years. Jackson county taxpayers have contributed over \$20,000 during the last two years to support state educational enterprises and institutions; only \$164.60 has been of direct benefit to farmers. It occurs to me that the state legislature might well devise some more equitable division of this taxation by cutting off something now devoted to university, mining, and other schools, and being more liberal in the direction you suggest.

CHARLES V. DE LAND.

Jackson.

I think the value of institutes to the people in general and to the farmer in particular, can hardly be overestimated. The good results of a lively institute can be readily seen for a long time. The hard working farmer has a good opportunity to meet with those of advanced ideas,—men who have given their life work to scientific investigation. And many a practical farmer goes from an institute with his mind and heart enlarged, with a better idea of what his work should be, with a spirit of inquiry and a determination to increase his store of knowledge. These gatherings often awaken in the hearts of the young a thirst for knowledge and a desire to enlarge their sphere in life. The general farmer has a good opportunity to meet and become acquainted with those whose writings they often see, and is in a much better frame of mind to appreciate the writings of these same men in the future. I have often heard it expressed that "I was surprised to find the professor so familiar," and in this way we bring our professional men much nearer the hearts of the people.

Suggestions for improvement would be in the way of better preparation by the citizens where the institutes are held. A good strong local committee should be appointed to advertise the meeting, sending out personal notices to their friends in every direction, and not leave too much on the hands of one or two, as they will be apt to find they have more to do than they imagined.

I think the sum of \$10,000 could not be better used by the state of Michigan than in the advancement of education in this way.

L. J. POST.

Lowell.

Please let the farmers know as soon as you can when and where the farmers' institutes are to be held the coming winter. The good done by the institutes in the past has awakened such an interest that the farmers all over the state are anxious for institutes to be held within their reach. On account of changed conditions the serious question with the farmers now is, What shall be the money crop to meet interest, taxes, and incidental expenses, and pay hired help, and still have left to them a fair compensation for their labor? The dairy interests of the state are suffering for want of more general and specific information, and uniform high grade products that will give Michigan butter and cheese a high standing in the markets.

The fruit interests of the state have been very well promoted by the various horticultural societies, but there is yet much work to be done. The dairy and fruit interests must be made more prominent for the good of the state as well as the individual farmers. These two interests need special attention, perhaps not more so than many others, but these give "fat farms."

Another important interest is good roads. These we must have to ensure permanent benefits. Improved highways are as much of a necessity as improved farms and progressive farming. We have abundant evidence that these varied interests cannot be so surely and so rapidly advanced in any other way as they can by farmers' institutes.

I therefore favor the very largest appropriation for farmers' institutes that can be utilized by the state board of agriculture.

The farming interests of the state should not suffer for the want of such information as can be gained through the institutes. The state board of agriculture should make it their business, as it is their duty, to give to the farmers all the advanced ideas and helps that can be had from the most progressive farmers and educators. The farmers want information, and they want it now, that they may keep step with the farmers in other states who have been benefited by

institutes on a more extended scale than have the farmers in this state. An appropriation of \$5,000 for each year would be none too much if the state board of agriculture will do their full duty. The state appropriates thousands of dollars to give the professions a higher and finished education, and but very little in comparison to educate the farmer in his occupation; and yet the farmers pay most of the taxes, either directly or indirectly, and have to support all the professions. Let the institutes be increased so that every county will be benefited. Let the appropriations be large enough to keep Michigan and its products, by the efforts of educated and progressive farmers, in the front ranks of the states.

East Paris.

S. S. BAILEY.

In reply to your request for my opinion regarding farmers' institutes, I would say it is in favor of encouraging and aiding them in all reasonable ways. Those held in this vicinity have without exception proved valuable in awakening interest, stimulating discussion, and thus cultivating a laudable emulation, that is shown by better stock and better crops in the communities where the institutes are held. And I have heard many expressions of encouragement and interest in such meetings, with no adverse criticism.

From my experience I am convinced that the long institutes accomplish the most good, as the last sessions are generally better attended than the first, and with more interest and enthusiasm. Dr. Beal's class in botany (I think), as practiced at one institute I attended, seemed to engage the attention and interest of the young, and I believe would do great good if practiced generally. The subject of dairying as presented by Prof. Smith is of great interest. But of course I urge the discussion of all subjects pertaining to farming.

I am not in favor of large appropriations for institutes, as the work accomplished does not depend so much upon the amount of money expended for expensive speakers as upon the interest taken by workers in the community where the institutes are held. As with the Grange, no amount of money will sustain it in communities where the proper spirit is lacking; some may be induced to come by extensive advertising of noted speakers, but as a rule will come from idle curiosity and without receiving any adequate amount of good.

I would think ten thousand dollars an extravagant sum to expend in a season when times are so hard as at present. I am opposed to trusts to raise the price of teachers as well as for other purposes, and believe that this work may be done at such reasonable price as the times will permit.

EDWIN PHELPS.

Pontiac.

Your question was, if I thought much good had resulted from farmers' institutes here? Certainly, nothing but good has come from them, and each year adds to their popularity. I never saw such deep interest in such matters as I saw here last winter. The only state institute held in this county last winter was at Niles. The largest hall in the city was used, and it was full of earnest people—no loafers and few sleepy heads present. Every topic, was ably handled. The college corps opened the eyes of many present on certain topics and good local talent showed up all over the hall, and several of the most enterprising planned there to go over into Indiana the following week and hear what T. B. Terry and others had to say. And they came back feeling well paid.

Our county institute at Berrien Springs was a great big success. Three days—a big hall—and not room enough for the people at any session. The chairman had to call time on every topic in order to complete the program.

Yes sir, our people want institutes. We also want the best advisers there are, and it takes money to hire the best to leave home, travel all over the country, and tell everybody what they have spent the best years of their life to learn. Ohio and Wisconsin people early saw the value of high grade institutes and their legislatures made liberal appropriations for that purpose; and the rapid agricultural advancement in those states is enough to put Michigan and some other states to shame. Ten thousand dollars per annum, wisely expended in securing the best talent and paying the expenses of a series of first class institutes, would certainly be one of the best financial investments that the state of Michigan could make.

R. MORRILL.

Benton Harbor.

I have delayed answering your letter with the hope that I might find time to investigate the matter, and give you my opinion as to an appropriation at the hands of the legislature, for the purpose of aiding farmers' institutes.

While no intelligent farmer can dispute the fact that farmers' institutes are of great benefit to the community in which they are held, yet there are in my opinion reasons why we should doubt the propriety

of making special appropriations from the state treasury for this or kindred purposes.

While I would not like to be quoted as opposing an appropriation outright, yet I am free to say that without further investigation or consideration, I would not like to be regarded in favor of it.

I believe that in many localities a sufficient fund can be raised for holding successful institutes, and in that case those parties who are benefited by the institutes are the ones to bear the burden, but as far as taxation is concerned for this purpose it would I fear be an incentive to ask for special appropriations for many other purposes and would be a precedent which would lead to excessive taxation.

We are all aware that taxes in our state are on the increase, not only in total amount, but in proportion to population and capital, and we should all hesitate and consider well before advocating in favor of an appropriation which could be taken as a precedent by those seeking special favors at the hands of the legislature.

J. F. FITZSIMMONS.

Hillsdale.

I think farmers' institutes are not appreciated as they should be, for the reason that so little is known of them. In the past the average farmer has only about one chance in a lifetime to attend one. I am in favor of an appropriation large enough to hold one institute in every agricultural county in Michigan yearly, and believe \$10,000 yearly could be used profitably for such a purpose.

GEORGE H. LESTER.

Carson City.

The farmer needs a thorough education in agriculture and can only obtain it by experience, or by the experience of others. I would favor an appropriation sufficient to pay competent teachers or speakers, but no others. The farmers would furnish the rest, suitable rooms, etc. I would think \$5,000 would be enough to make a commencement, and if it works satisfactorily increase in two years.

M. E. RUMSEY.

Leslie.

I am convinced from observation that it is a good investment for the state to appropriate the sum of \$10,000, as an educational fund, to be placed in the hands of the state board of agriculture, and they to expend the same in holding farmers' institutes, if possible, in every agricultural county in the state. I know that the effort already made in that direction has done a world of good. It has led to the organization of many permanent county institutes, and it should be continued until every agricultural county is thoroughly organized. This can be done by the board of agriculture if a proper amount is appropriated to pay the expenses. The state of Wisconsin appropriates the sum of \$12,000 per year. We certainly are not behind that state in resources.

I trust that the incoming legislature will exhibit wisdom enough to see the great benefit this small appropriation will be to the whole people, as well as to the agriculturists. Our state is one that excels in the diversity of products. And when all are made as intelligent as possible, then prosperity will be increased, and as the farmer prospers, all other interests prosper in proportion. Therefore all are mutually benefited. Where the broadest intelligence exists the farmer is doing best, where ignorance predominates the calamity wail is the loudest. The amount of money suggested we as a class are entitled to, and more. We shall, however, feel thankful to receive this amount, and I am satisfied that the money will be intelligently expended, and that there will be value received by all the citizens of our state.

THOMAS MARS.

Berrien Center.

BEGINNING TO RAISE BROILERS.

H. S. DUNNING.

II.

We are not going to say anything about which kind of brooder we prefer, only that we think one with top heat the best. It seems more natural that way, and the closer we can follow nature in our artificial work the better will be the results. And here, I think is a great field for improvement. There is now no sure way of raising chicks as there is for all kinds of stock, but our young Americans are working at this and in a few years we are going to be able to raise a much larger per cent of chicks hatched than now.

WATCH THE HEAT.

The most essential point to be had in mind for the first few days is the heat in the brooder. In fact, that is all that the chick requires for from twenty four to thirty six hours, as the nourishment that it received from absorbing the yolk of the egg just before hatching is all that is needed for some time. And here is the greatest difference among breeders, some want the heat up to 95° or 100°, while others not more than 90° to 95°. Our best results have been when we maintained a 90° heat

the first week, gradually lowering it to 85° the second, and to 80° the third. But a good deal depends upon the kind of brooder used. If it is one provided with a cover and room around it so that they can get out to cooler air if wanted, then they can in a measure get the temperature most suited to each one. More losses come from too much or too little heat than from any thing else that is liable to happen in the first two weeks. You must watch this very closely, and if the chicks crowd, a little more heat, and vice versa.

BE CLEAN.

Now you must be clean, for a departure from this rule means sickness, death, or a stunted lot. Clean up every day. It is but a few moments work, but it pays big. When bright days come open doors and windows, and thoroughly ventilate the house. Have sand on the brooder floor and runs at all times, it will give them a dust bath, furnish small grit, and be very helpful in many ways. Avoid dampness and draughts, for when the chick once gets cold it is of no value as a broiler, or anything else for that matter.

FEEDING.

It is ridiculous to suppose that there is but one way to feed chicks and all others are wrong. The system of feeding that secures the maximum of healthy growth at the minimum of cost is the system for each one of us to pursue. And with this object in view, not only will poultrymen in different localities get satisfactory results from entirely different systems of feeding, but my next door neighbor may find it to his interest to feed his chicks a ration not at all like the one mine receive; and I may find it inexpedient to feed this season the ration I used last year. Whatever system of feeding is employed the breeder must observe closely the effect on the digestive organs of the chicks, and learn by experiment to what cause any unfavorable symptom should be attributed. Remedies will be of no effect unless the cause of the trouble is first removed. Yet there are plans that are more generally used than others, and that are very successful when used by any one.

A POPULAR SYSTEM.

One that is popular and that has carried us through very nicely is as follows: Feed as early as possible the second day, the third is not so urgent, but not later than six o'clock any morning. For the first two or three days feed those eggs, boiled hard that you tested out of the incubator. Crumble them very fine, shell and all, add a little oat meal or cracker crumbs. Give this as often and as much as they will eat up clean. If any should be left, clean it all out each time before feeding. Sour food is not relished. Now, give variety, being careful never to give anything sloppy. Let some kind of green food be one of the principal features, such as grass, onions, cabbage, or in fact any wholesome green vegetable. Fine gravel and ground bone should be kept before them constantly. It is the variety that keeps them growing. Cracked corn, whole wheat, and buckwheat may be fed as soon as they can eat it, and may be kept before them all the time. Take good care to see that they have at all times a supply of fresh and clean water.

MILK AS FOOD.

After two weeks old, milk is one of the best foods found. Make a mash of one part corn meal, two parts bran, and a good handful of fine meat scraps, to a pailful of the mixture; scald but never feed hot nor sloppy. About twice a week add a little bone meal. Keep them growing by feeding every three or four hours for the first two weeks, then three times a day will do, with the cracked corn before them all the time. On such a feed and with the best of care in all points, they will be fine and plump at ten weeks old.

The market opens about January, at from 15 cents to 20 cents per pound, and keeps getting better up to April and May, when it is at its best and they then bring from 30 cents to perhaps 60 cents per pound. From one and one half to two pound chicks sell the best.

Agricultural College.

GUERNSEY CATTLE CLUB.

The annual meeting of the American Guernsey cattle club will be held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York City on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 1894, at 10:30 a. m. At 1 p. m. the meeting will be open to all Guernsey breeders, whether members of the club or not. At this time the presidents' address will be read, to be followed by a discussion of questions regarding the breeding and handling of Guernseys, and any other matter brought before the meeting. A good attendance is hoped for.

Mr. Morton is a millionaire many times and the necessity of his peddling milk on the highways and byways, even when done by proxy, is not discernible. In entering this trade he competes with men whose only means of livelihood it is, and who sell as good an article of milk for general household purposes as is produced at Rhinecliff.—American Dairyman.

Woman's Work.

AFTERTHOUGHT.

Man dwells apart, though not alone,
He walks among his peers unread;
The best of thoughts which he hath known,
For lack of listeners are not said.

Yet dreaming on earth's clustered isles,
He saith, "They dwell not lone like men,
Forgetful that their unfecked smiles
Flash far beyond each other's ken.

He looks on God's eternal suns
That sprinkle the celestial blue,
And saith, "Ah! happy shining ones,
I would that men were grouped like you!"

Yet this is sure: the loveliest star
That clustered with its peers we see,
Only because from us so far
Doth near its fellows seem to be.

—Jean Ingelow.

WHEN OUR GRANGE SHIP COMES IN.

[Continued from last issue.]

This faraway land is determined to advance, determined to be educated and when she is, she will be a power.

Our Grange ship will sail into port when she has fulfilled her mission. She is riding at anchor in the offing waiting for the tide. But the tide will never turn, the anchor will never be weighed, nor the sails ever hoisted, till her crew pulls and pulls together.

As every man walks slowly round and round the capstan, all pushing and stepping together, keeping time to the music as they all sing, "Heave away, my jolly boys," the great anchor is lifted to its place. As they hoist the sail it is the same rhythm, the same motion to their "Ye ho, lads, ho ye ho."

Patrons, farmers, are you working together, pulling together to help bring your vessel in? Are you exercising your mind as well as your muscle, and cultivating your brain as well as your soil?

Are you discussing the important problems of the day in your Grange halls? Are you reading together, thinking together?

This is the time to think, the time to do, when the stability of our nation is threatened. Anarchy is abroad in our land and the death dealing missile is hurled at the head of the innocent and unprotected. Selfishness and arrogance are fast getting hold of this country and where will it end? Can nothing be done to drain this land of the political pools of corruption, whose waters are nauseous to the taste? Never as long as you fail to pull together.

You will never get a chance to walk on the grass down at Washington if you keep on. You will always have to walk on your own grass. And if you have a mortgage on your farm and the times do not change, it won't be your grass any longer, but the man's that is collecting your ten per cent interest.

You must educate yourselves to meet these issues. Educate your sons and your daughters, for the life of the nation will be in their hands ere long and what it will be depends upon your teachings.

Your ship is out in the offing. Her colors have been flying from the old tower for a long time. She has braved many a blast, shipped many a sea for you. The wives and children are waiting on the pier and the anxious sailor as he paces the deck is looking wistfully shoreward at the gleaming lights of home. Patrons, will you help to tow her in?

Our Grange ship has turned her guns on the enemies of woman and brought her out of thralldom. Within the precincts of the Grange hall woman stands on an equal footing with that wonderful being called man. She can "handle the gavel" or "guard the gate" and even vote without stuffing the ballot box.

And when the vessel is about to sail into port and of course she wants to make a fine appearance, the women are always ready to turn to. A woman stands on the bridge and her commands ring from stem to stern. Some polish the brass works, some paint the funnels and sides, some dip up the sea water, while others scrub off the quarter deck to glistening whiteness. The galley is overhauled and the copper boilers are cleaned and put in place for they expect to make a great feast when they get in port and many illustrious guests are invited.

Everything is in ship shape at last. The ship is like a thing of beauty with flags fluttering at every masthead. Steam is up, the anchor is weighed, the gallant ship moves on her course with the firm hand of woman at the helm. Dressed in regalia, united they stand, with a long pull, a strong pull, they pull all together, the ship is in and what is the result?

It has visited every clime that has sought civilization and education. Wherever you find a church and a school you find a Grange hall. The church, the school and the Grange mean happy homes and they have all come to stay.

The farmer has given up riding hobbies. He is not so selfish and narrow minded as he used to be. He has learned to look beyond the horizon of his own home and finds that some one else occupies a place in

the world besides himself, and he dispenseeth charity freely.

His wife forgets the work and cares of the week as she looks forward to the Saturday afternoon meeting in the Grange, where friend meets friend. The thoughts that have been collecting in the halls of memory since the last meeting are exchanged.

Their children are among the first in the land ready to hold in hand the spokes of the wheel of our Grange ship and our ship of state and guide it safely on. What has brought all this about?

The church, the school, the Grange and the ballot for woman. Woman must come to the rescue with her firm hand and clear brain or our Grange ship will be dashed to pieces on the rocks. When our Grange ship comes in the rum seller will be no more and peace and plenty will reign over our land, party strife will cease, anarchy will be driven from our shores, and the chief of the nation may then be able to walk abroad without a body guard, for fear of the assassin's steel.

The millionaires will all be over in England seeking titles, and equality to all will be our motto. As every true Patron has faith God, so has he faith that the coming in of his ship will bring good, not evil; joy, not woe. For her influence is great, her power is mighty and will prevail. When our Grange ship comes in.

BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS.

"Those who teach men, learn much;
Those who teach women learn more;
Those who teach children learn most."

Two copies of way-back numbers of "The Nursery" were recently put into my hands, and on turning the leaves, I was startled at the familiarity of the pictures. The dates of the magazines proved them to be of the years when I was a child, and they were a welcome visitor to our home. Each picture recalled a story as it had been read and re-read, told and re-told.

An element of child nature is to desire frequent repetition of a story, and seldom to tire of favorite pictures. The characters become companions for him, and who can say they have no influence? What books shall we buy for the children at Christmas time is a question of no small importance. Not in the spirit of an agent, but in the interest of the little people I venture to suggest a few which by careful study have been selected from the many.

The time honored "Nursery", with its clear pictures and natural stories of child life, yet stands at the head of the magazines that bring joy each month to eager readers. The "Child's Garden" furnishes more of the life of nature, and is a very pretty magazine, edited with the single purpose of giving what is best.

Have you read the touching little book by Kate Douglas Wiggin, "The Birds' Christmas Carol?" Extremes in life are presented, and the blending of the two families into happiness and good will by means of true charity, is tenderly done by this magic author.

The older girls will grasp courage and determination from "Polly Oliver's Problem," by the same author. The character, Mrs. Bird, appears again as counselor and sustainer of Polly in her work of singing and telling stories an hour each evening, to the inmates of children's hospitals.

Jane Andrews has written of the races of the world in her "Seven Little Sisters who lived on the great round ball that floated in the Air." The customs of people and the climate are introduced in a simple and pleasing way. Little "Agonack," of the frigid zone, once known, cannot be forgotten. "Ten Boys from Long Ago till Now" is not less instructive, as it marches through the epochs of history carrying the interest of the reader by its entertaining pages.

For our own country, M. L. Pratt gives us four small volumes, "American History Stories," which make vivid to the coming citizen the incidents and policy of his forefathers. Why does your boy pile up his blocks? To build a house "as papa does." The child is ever fancying he is the man. The information given in two volumes of "Stories of Industry", is well illustrated and shows a careful study of the occupations of man and animal; they are very suggestive books.

Gibson's "Sharp Eyes" is revealed in its name. It is a handsome volume, heavy paper, beautiful pictures, and treats of every day in the year. There before us, in their appropriate season, are the most common plants, birds, bugs, and bees, that we pass by without a glance. The careful attention there given to the habits of the smallest plant, plainly proves that all of our eyes are not sharp.

A word for the parents, as they must have abundant resource in order to supply the demands upon their memory and ingenuity. Emilie Poulsson has prepared a book of "Finger Plays" for you to teach that little one in your arms. The verses of arts and animals are accompanied by music and illustrations of the varied positions of the hand used to represent the thought.

Another priceless boon for the bed-time hour is "In the Child's World." There

the fond mother will ever find topics to suit the taste; whether the dear nature stories that draw us all into closer communion with the Creator, or of man in his various trades, of birds, of bees, or of childhood's pets. This book simply cannot wear out.

The mothers' department of the "Kindergarten Magazine" is rich in practical suggestions, and meets perplexities with wise balm. Last but not chief, is the "Study of Child Nature," a series of lectures touching vital points, given before Chicago mothers, by that "queen of story tellers," Elizabeth Harrison.

Below is a list of books named with publisher and probable cost.

Finger Plays, Poulsson, D. Lathrop, Boston.....	\$1 25
In Child's World, Poulsson, William Bradley Company, Springfield, Mass.....	2 25
The Nursery (magazine), Boston.....	1 50
Seven Little Sisters, Jane Andrews, Lee & Shepard, Boston.....	1 00
Ten Boys from Long Ago till Now, Jane Andrews, Lee & Shepard, Boston.....	1 00
Stories of Animals, Linney, Lee & Shepard, Boston.....	2 00
Stories of Industry, Ed. Pub. Co., Boston.....	1 20
Am. History Stories, M. L. Pratt, Ed. Pub. Co., Boston.....	2 00
Birds' Christmas Carol, K. D. Wiggin, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.....	50
Polly Oliver's Problem, K. D. Wiggin, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.....	1 00
Sharp Eyes, Gibson, Harper, New York.....	5 00
Study of Child Nature, E. Harrison, Kg. Lit. Co., Chicago.....	1 00
Kindergarten Magazine, Kg. Lit. Co., Chicago.....	1 50
Child Garden, Kg. Lit. Co., Chicago.....	1 00

F. C. B.

SOCIAL CULTURE.

[Read at a meeting of Kent county Grange by Miss Mertie L. Preston.]

Webster defines culture as being "improvement resulting from cultivation," so that social culture would mean a social improvement. The phrenologist tells us that fully one-fifth of the brain is devoted to sociability and friendship; then why should we not cultivate it? Using the words of O. S. Fowler, "Without this or a kindred faculty to bring mankind together into villages, companies, and families, every human being would have wandered up and down in the earth alone, alienated from all others, without society, without even a written or a verbal language, and consequently destitute of all the pleasures and advantages now derived from conversation, newspapers, sermons, lectures, etc., and without one friendly feeling to soften down his austerity and wrath, or draw him toward his fellow man.

"The cultivation of an element thus beneficial in its influence is, therefore, most important. We were not created to live alone, nor can we close the door of warm-hearted friendship without shutting out the light and warmth of life, and locking ourselves up in the dark dungeon of exclusiveness.

"And this idea of 'business before friends' is worse than nonsense. It tramples under foot one of virtue's fundamental laws, as well as means of improvement. Rather friends before business! Or still better, friends and business, and friends in business. "Friends and business!" And is not this what the Grange is for the farmer?

Another author tells us that, "The almost constant, exhausting, and (as generally conducted) unattractive toil which fills up the greater part of the farmer's existence, and leaves no time for mental culture or social enjoyment, is no less friendly to physical than to spiritual symmetry. It robs the heart and brain to feed bone and muscle, destroying the harmony which should exist between body and mind, and assimilating the man to the oxen he drives. It is the excess of labor, and the consequent deficiency in the other essential elements of a true life which constitute the evil. If labor is essential so is leisure. If unremitting labor was necessary before the wilderness had been subdued and the forces of nature enlisted in the service of man, it is not so now.

"The face and figure of each man indicate more or less clearly the place which he occupies in the social scale. The city comes from the country; the street is replenished by the farm; but the city children going back to the farm show that a new element has been introduced into their blood. The angles are rounded, the face is brighter, the movements are more graceful, there is in every way a finer development."

Thousands of dollars are expended annually in the cities among the more worthy for social enjoyments, and yet the poorer class have their social circles as well, even though with less grandeur; then is there any reason why the farmer should not enjoy the pleasure of society? True, "money is a power even as a social factor, not to be ignored." But because we have not so much money as some to expend socially shall we become hermits, and so lose a goodly portion of the better part of life? No, let us cultivate sociability, for in the best of society "a careful selection of guests is considered to give greater brilliancy than can the glare of any amount of expended riches, and in what better place can the farmer do it than in the Grange? The social feature of the Grange is ever recognized as one, if not the greatest, of its features. In the subordinate Grange local friendships are formed and social pleasures increased, while in the Pomona, State, and National Granges there is a still greater range for these pleasures.

It is said that by nature the young are more social than the older; is not this

the reason why those Granges which are made up of many young people who are given long recesses at the meetings and many meetings of their own are more prosperous in every way?

The friendships formed at these social feasts can not be over-estimated, for "there comes a time when a circle of old friends outweighs every other social enjoyment."

IN MEMORIAM.

(Adopted by Paw Paw Grange, Friday evening, Nov. 30.)

One by one the pioneer workers of our Order are passing behind the folds of twilight into the brighter land of sunlight.

In an unlooked for hour, the germ was planted that led to the transition of Sister Harty H. Woodman from these fields of labor to the untrodden ones in the future.

She was a charter member of this Grange, and has been, for a score and nearly two years, in active subordinate, State and National Grange work, placing her in contact with the world, which served to bring out and perfect the true woman in promise of full growth and fruition.

While we bow to the inevitable, we feel a degree of joy, mingled with sorrow, that Sister Harty's vision will be no longer clouded, and that her sweet and loving spirit has gone to join the friends of other days, where the rainbow of hope, which to her was always bright, will stand forth in brighter colors as pain and suffering endure not.

Let us in the magic light of modern lore look beyond our tears, and see that "Death is but the gate to endless day."

All hail, Sister, we soon shall meet you. We too are coming, with the tread of weary feet, our temples throbbing with anxious care, battle-scarred and wet with tears. Sister, doubly blest by death's sweet kiss, swing wide the gates, and let our weeping eyes behold the garden of the soul's bloom, where we shall live and love forever.

While we are fully conscious that words are idle things and may fall meaningless on hearts that suffer, yet feebly as this token may give voice to our emotions, we tender it to Brother Woodman and family as a tribute to the memory of our arisen sister and friend.

MRS. LOTTIE M. WARNER,
EMMA R. SMITH,
A. W. STEVENS,
Committee.

Hope deals with the future; now and the past are but servants that wait upon her with impulse and suggestive circumstances.

With him living was duty, if not honor. The dead come not back to redeem the pledges of the living.

Power is a fretful thing and has its wings always spread for flight.

Every man is two in one—a deathless soul and a mortal body.

A man's task is always light if his heart is light.—Ben Hur.

The Juveniles.

THE SUGAR MAPLE.

KEYSTONE.

The oak may be king of the forest,
Time-honored and storied of old;
But to me there's a tree of the woodland,
That's dearer a hundred fold.

We may bow to the oak as a monarch,
Praise him in poetic delight,
But our own friendly old sugar maple
In our heart's love maintains the best right.

A picture that's truly artistic
Makes the weird, old murmuring pine,
But one that is dearer, domestic,
Is that old sugar maple of mine.

The tall, graceful elms whisper sweetly,
As under them fond lovers rove;
But, I ask you, what tree can be sweeter
Than the old sugar maple I love?

So, dears, you may all have your favorites,
From the oak to the murmuring pine,
But of all the trees of forest or farm
The old sugar maple is mine.

PUZZLES.

[All readers of THE GRANGE VISITOR are invited to contribute and send solutions to this department. Address all communications relating to puzzles to Thomas A. Millar, 500 12th St., Detroit, Michigan.]
Solutions to November 1. 13. London, 14. Over, vale, Ella, real, 15. Ocean.

10.—*Reheadments.*
Behad a bird and leave a line. Behad a thin piece and leave an organ of the body. Behad a rock and leave part of man. Behad a mistake and leave part of the face. Behad courage and leave chance. Behad a stone and get small pieces of cloth.
Sand Beach, Mich. GRANGER.

20.—*Numerical.*
8, 11, 10, 3, is to bestow; 4, 5, 6, 11, 7, is to draw along; 2, 13, 7, 4, 3, is to bend; 12, 14, 15, 16, 9, is a warehouse. Total is a periodical sent out twice a month.
Pontiac, Mich. MRS. S. H. TYLER.

21.—*Transposition.*
A TIN COP.
Send in the answer, pray be brief.
For he was a famous Indian Chief.
Detroit, Mich. LILY MAY.

PRIZES.
For the best list of solutions received by December 15, we will send a 5 cent novel. Open to all.

THE MAIL BAG.
Mrs. Cheney, G. Brooks, Mrs. Thompson, Granger, Mrs. Fudge, Dadd, Lucinda Guyer, Mrs. Tyler, Dexter, and all the rest of our readers, please send us some puzzles at once. Mrs. S. H. Tyler, Granger, thanks for favors, hope you will visit us often.
N. L.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

Published on the first and third Thursdays of every month.

Kenyon L. Butterfield, Editor and Manager.
LANSING, MICH.

To whom all exchanges, communications, advertising business and subscriptions should be sent.

Office, Room 19, Old State Building.

TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months. In Clubs of 20 more 40 Cents per Year each. Subscriptions payable in advance, and discontinued at expiration, unless renewed.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft. Do not send stamps.

To insure insertion all notices should be mailed no later than the Saturday preceding issue.

Entered at the Postoffice at Lansing, Mich., as Second Class Matter.

NEXT ISSUE DECEMBER 20.

OUR WORK.

The following has been approved by the State Grange as a fair statement of the objects the Grange of Michigan has in view, and the special lines along which it proposes to work. We hope every Grange in the state will work earnestly in all these departments, so that by a more united effort we shall rapidly increase our numbers, extend our influence, and attain more and more completely those ends which we seek.

OUR OBJECT

is the Organization of the Farmers for their own Improvement Financially, Socially, Mentally, Morally.

We believe that this improvement can in large measure be brought about:

1. (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.
- (b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.
2. (a.) By frequent social gatherings, and the mingling together of farmers with farmers, and of farmers with people of other occupations.
- (b.) By striving for a purer manhood, a nobler womanhood, and a universal brotherhood.
3. (a.) By studying and promoting the improvement of our district schools.
- (b.) By patronizing and aiding the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations in their legitimate work of scientific investigation, practical experiment, and education for rural pursuits.
- (c.) By maintaining and attending farmers' institutes; reading in the Reading Circle; establishing and using circulating libraries; buying more and better magazines and papers for the home.
4. (a.) By diffusing a knowledge of our civil institutions and teaching the high duties of citizenship.
- (b.) By demanding the enforcement of existing statutes, and by discussing, advocating, and trying to secure such other state and national laws as shall tend to the general justice, progress, and morality.

The VISITOR, three months for 10 cents.

The Pennsylvania state college will add a short dairy school this winter. The short course has come to stay.

Our offer of "three months for 10 cents" is still good. Have you sent in your one name in aid of the VISITOR? Don't fear that we won't be glad of your aid.

The daily papers relate that each election return of the last state election is being cautiously examined by three different teams of two clerks each, under direction of the board of state canvassers. The lesson of the amendment frauds has evidently been well learned.

Postmaster General Bissell states in his last report that he does not favor rural mail delivery. He thinks that "free delivery in rural districts is not needed or desired by the people." Why not send him a huge petition from every Grange in the United States, stating that the farmers need and demand free rural mail delivery? Such a course might open his eyes.

We have been asked to give the places of holding farmers' institutes in this state this winter. The following are the names of places, with dates on which institute begins:

Monroe, January 8.
Bancroft, January 8.
Grass Lake, January 15.
Washington, January 15.
Vermontville, January 22.
Mt Pleasant, January 22.
Ravenna, January 29.
Centreville, January 29.
Manistee, February 5.

Each of these institutes is a "long" institute,—of four days. There will be five or six workers present at every session. Ex-Gov. Hoard, of Wisconsin, will attend the institutes at Monroe, Grass Lake, and Mt. Pleasant.

THE CAUCUS.

A number of Detroit politicians, disgusted and alarmed by recent exhibitions of caucus misrule in that city, have inaugurated a movement for caucus reform. It is pleasant to hear that party leaders themselves have at last reached the conclusion that the caucus must no longer be run in the interests of the few, but hereafter be a medium of expression for every voter. For many years primaries have been dominated by coteries of politicians, in some cases respectable, and in others far from that. So prominent has been this autocracy of the caucus politician, that the people have come to feel that they have no voice in nominations, and many citizens undoubtedly have remained away from the caucus for this reason.

The Breckenridge campaign was a useful object lesson in caucus reform. Had the convention method been in vogue in

Kentucky, it is scarcely probable that Col. Breckenridge could have been defeated for nomination. But as it was, the manhood of every voter was appealed to, and the great majority of voters had an opportunity to assert their manhood.

Various plans have been suggested for caucus reform, but they all agree in a primary conducted by secret ballot, giving an opportunity for every voter to register his choice of candidates. We trust that the righteous indignation of the Detroit politicians will not effervesce before a substantial and fair bill is framed for presentation to the legislature.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.

We have previously stated our opinion that the last State Grange was one of especial importance. The fact that several distinct steps were taken in perfecting the organization of our forces we regarded as weighty with meaning. The spirit of progress was plainly present and at work, and it was this that was so encouraging, rather than any special resolution that was passed.

It is the hope of every good Patron that the coming State Grange will mark an even more distinct advance in Grange work. We must not lose the ground gained one year ago. At that time it seemed as though a critical period had been reached in the history of the Grange in Michigan. Fortunately the tide turned at that time. The past year's work has also apparently been encouraging. New Granges have been formed, old ones revived. The committees on woman's work, coöperation, legislation, and education have all been at work in distinct lines, and all will have something definite and practical to report upon in state Grange. The picnics held in the summer were large and enthusiastic. So all along the line there is encouragement and advancement.

These facts fill us with hope that the coming State Grange will be another milestone in Grange work. Many people think the Grange is dead; we must prove that it is not. Many farmers do not know what we are trying to accomplish; we must make our purposes so clear that none can misunderstand. Even some Patrons, we fear, have no clean cut ideas of Grange work; we must set our stakes so straight that every Patron shall see the intended path.

We have several times asserted our belief that the greatest weakness of the Grange is lack of organization, and we have in former issues set forth our ideas as to better organization. Without assuming to dictate what action the Grange shall take, we do wish to briefly summarize, once more, our ideas of a more thorough organization. We believe that "Our Work," which has stood at the head of these columns for nearly a year, fairly represents in outline the ends we are striving for. The first thing to do is to study the meaning of this outline until we all understand it. Then we must delegate to some members of each Grange, from subordinate to State, the task of organizing and pushing the work under each head. These members must work in harmony. We believe the State Grange should continue the four standing committees, on coöperation, woman's work, education, legislation. These committees should respectively have general direction of the work designated under the numbered heads of "Our Work,"—as the committee on coöperation should lay out a systematic campaign on the lines laid down in 1 (a) and (b) of "Our Work," and so on. It is not necessary that separate committees be formed in every subordinate Grange. The master and secretary can act as a committee on coöperation as they do under the present system; there should be a woman's work committee; and the lecturer can, perhaps, do the required work under the topics of education and legislation. But the point to be emphasized is that some one in each Grange should be in touch with the state committees.

We do not expect that such a system can be inaugurated in a single season. But we are firm in the conviction that the Grange will prosper in just about direct proportion to the thoroughness with which some such plans are put into operation.

The state committees suggested above are all organized. The next step would seem to be the getting of them in touch

with the subordinate Granges. Can any delegate devise a plan for accomplishing this?

EXPENSES OF THE LEGISLATURE.

On another page we give figures from the report of the auditor general, showing the cost of the legislature for the regular session of 1893. The expenses foot up to \$112,167.96. We give the names and positions of the employees of the legislature, as they appear in the report, in order that our readers may gain an idea of how the houses are organized.

It will be noticed that the expenses of officers of the senate are greater than the expenses of members; and expenses of officers of the house nearly one-half as great as expenses of members. We speak of this because there are members and ex-members of the legislature who believe that the expenses can be materially diminished by lessening—not only the length of sessions, but the expenses of members and officers may be less, but also decreasing the number of officers. We have heard it stated by such men that both houses can get along with fewer clerks of committees, and with fewer messengers. Of course the legislature is expected to employ sufficient help that the public business may be done most expeditiously, and "we farmers" may not always understand why so much help is needed as is employed. But when intelligent legislators themselves affirm that expenses can be reduced, we have reason to demand that the expenses be reduced. We have a right to expect that the business of the state shall be done on business principles. And business principles demand that expenses be reduced to the lowest limit consistent with effective service.

We hope the incoming legislature will reflect the sentiment of the people on this subject, and will take especial care that the cost of the legislature of 1895 is reduced materially. If they can get along with half the messengers now used, do it. If the committees can do business with half the clerks at present, do it. If the cuspidors and waste baskets can be properly purified by half the janitors formerly given jobs, do it. The people will appreciate any movement in this line, even if the aggregate saving is not stupendous.

From our own observation we believe there is one reform the next legislature should inaugurate. Certain officers were chosen, two years ago, at the opening of the session, at certain pay. On the closing night of the session resolutions were rushed through giving extra pay to these officers. Now that is not business. If the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house are worth seven dollars a day to the state, pay it; but have the matter so understood at the beginning of the session. It is absurd to have these resolutions for extra pay come up at the last moment, appealing as they do to the personal feelings of members. We have an impression that we even saw one of the inferior officers of the house, on this occasion, buttonholing members to vote favorably on the resolution giving him extra pay. We hope this absurd practice of giving "extra" pay will be abolished by the coming legislature.

"Junketing" trips are not so expensive as is often charged, as will be discovered by reference to the table of "incidental expenses of committees."

The people are partly to blame for the large expense for officers. Every member is besieged with applications for "a place at Lansing." And the average man, from sentiments of policy or of friendship, will take pains to secure for his friends a place at Lansing, if he can. The spoils system is not wholly chargeable to politicians.

We trust the tables presented will arouse thought and discussion.

THE COMING STATE GRANGE.

The time is drawing near for the annual meeting of the State Grange. More than usual interest and importance is centered in and attached to the actions of the session to convene in Lansing, December 11. Never before during the existence of the Grange in Michigan and the nation, have greater opportunities been offered for the Order to prove its claims, and what others are pleased to call it, "The only organized representative of the agricultural interests of our country that is equipped with power of concentration sufficient to influence legislation and to act in many ways

for the benefit of agriculture with greatest chances of success." It is promising to note that the voting delegation to the meeting are intelligent, representative men and women, and their deliberations, if well applied, and I have no doubt they will be, will reflect credit on the Order.

We urge and entreat those who have held high positions in the confidence and councils of the Grange to be with us. We need your assistance just now. Committees will seek your advice, and your presence will assist in turning into wise conclusions the questions that will be presented. Several members of our Order are among those elected to take seats in the next legislature. I urge it upon these brothers as a duty that they be with us all through the session. The depressed condition of agriculture and the incident meagre returns from farming operations, greatly increases the burden of disproportionate expenses in public affairs, unequal taxation, and rates of interest. These questions, and others of importance, will be discussed, and that you may know the true wishes of the Grange we urge these honored brothers to be with us. The aggressive and earnest workers from all parts of the state are also hereby urged to attend this meeting. Your presence will inspire the voting members and you will all get sufficient inspiration to pay you for going.

FIFTH AND SIXTH DEGREES.

This year arrangements will be made to confer the fifth degree in full form if time will permit, and if the State Grange upon assembling perfects the necessary arrangements which it seems probable it will. This will give opportunity to educate all fourth degree members who apply, up to the point of making them eligible for the impressive and instructive lessons of the sixth degree, which will be conferred by the State Grange one evening during the session. This will give a rare opportunity for the Patrons of Michigan to receive instructions in the higher mysteries of our Order.

It was my intention and desire to give to the Visitor readers a short history of the National Grange and its work, but pressing duties relative to our State Grange session make it impossible for me to do so. Suffice it to say that the national meeting at Springfield, Ill., Nov. 14 to 22, inclusive, was earnest and aggressive. Representatives of twenty-nine states were in attendance, coming from territory including Maine to Texas, and Maryland to California. Questions discussed were of such a nature that the eloquent and strong men of the Order were brought out and all were proud of the ability contained in the membership of this national body. The full proceedings will soon be published and a copy sent to every subordinate Grange in the state. Truly the Order of Patrons of Husbandry is doing a good work for the farmers of the nation. Let us all work for greater successes in the future.

Fraternally,

GEO. B. HORTON.

WOOL AND MUTTON.

C. M. FELLOWS.

Since election sheep men feel more encouraged. Even the sheep themselves seem to look less discouraged, having a better prospect of life, for if things "had continued as they were" many more sheep would have been consigned to the slaughter house. A wonderful change has come over the country in the past two years. Last spring as an Irishman marketed his clip of wool he said that "Two years ago I voted for free wool, and begorra, I got within eight cents of it." That same Irishman voted this year for protection, but during this period of "free wool" the flock master must raise more wool and more mutton from the same carcass to compensate for the loss of protection on "raw material."

For myself I am breeding my Merinos with more care than usual, using a ram that shears 31½ pounds and believe it will not be long before good sheep will be wanted.

And while I am careful about my sheep the female portion of the house are looking after the poultry. Mrs. F. thinks her white bronze turkeys look better and pay better than the sheep, and I let her have her way about it; she sells more at least by the "ad" in the VISITOR.

I read with interest the articles in the last VISITOR about needed legislation relative to taxes and pure food laws. Both of these articles are worthy of consideration, and their principles put into legal enactments. We trust that the Grange will appoint some one to draft such and present their claims to the next legislature. And while they do this, I will again suggest that those who produce the "raw material" and those who wear "manufactured goods" need laws requiring pure clothing laws as well as "pure food laws." The use of "shoddy" in woolen goods is a gross fraud and works an injustice to the wool grower and the wool wearer and each should be protected by proper legislation. Each article manufactured or sold within the state should bear a stamp and certificate of the material entering into its composition. We hope

at the next meeting of the State Grange a committee will be chosen to prepare bills relative to the above and to present them to the next legislature.

Saline.

NOTICE.

All persons desiring to attend the State Grange may take advantage of the special rate of one and one-third railroad fare. The purchaser of a full fare ticket to Lansing, for that occasion, will ask the ticket agent for a railroad certificate, which, when properly signed at State Grange, will entitle him to a rebate of two-thirds fare on his return ticket.

Please notice that FAILURE TO OBTAIN THIS CERTIFICATE FORFEITS THE REBATE ON THE RETURN TICKET.

It is earnestly hoped that no officer, member of executive committee, or representative, will neglect to demand and receive a certificate.

JENNIE BUELL, Secretary.

FOR STATE GRANGE.

The following representatives have been elected members of the coming State Grange, to be held in Lansing, Dec. 11 to 16, inclusive.

JENNIE BUELL, Secretary, Ann Arbor.

SUBORDINATE GRANGE REPRESENTATIVES.

- Allegan—Mr. and Mrs. James H. Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Denny. Antrim—Mr. D. H. Stebbins. Barry—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hammond. Benzie—Mr. A. L. Kimble. Branch—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Olmstead, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. S. Mowry. Calhoun—Wm. E. Ansterburg. Cass—Mr. and Mrs. Isaac S. Pound. Charlevoix—Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Ward. Clinton—Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Bixby. Eaton—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. D. Pray. Genesee—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Bloss. Grand Traverse—Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Ladd. Gratiot—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bovee. Hillsdale—Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Travis. Huron—Mr. and Mrs. Orin H. Savage. Ingham—Mr. Wm. A. Olds. Ionia—Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Waldron. Jackson—Mr. C. H. Goldsmith, Mrs. Marietta Goldsmith. Kalamazoo—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Hall. Kalkaska—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Bockes. Kent—A. R. Denise, Fred Davis, Thos. Whittall. Lapeer—Mr. and Mrs. H. Parmerlee. Lenawee—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bowerman, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Chandler. Livingston—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Goucher. Macomb—Mr. and Mrs. James S. Lawson. Manistee—Mr. Fuller. Mecosta—Mr. and Mrs. Jno. C. Martin. Montcalm—Mr. and Mrs. B. Crawford. Muskegon—Mr. Jas. McMillan. Newaygo—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. King. Oceana—Mr. and Mrs. D. E. McClure. Oakland—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Green. Ottawa—Mr. and Mrs. Mansor Smith. St. Clair—Mr. and Mrs. Terrance Martin. St. Joseph—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Covey. Sanilac—Mr. and Mrs. David Wooley. Shiawassee—Mr. and Mrs. N. K. Potter. Van Buren—Geo. O. Merriam, M. W. Bass. Washtenaw—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McDougal. Wayne—Mr. and Mrs. Jas. A. Hicks.

POMONA GRANGE REPRESENTATIVES.

- Allegan—Mr. L. C. Root. Berrien—Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Kane. Branch—Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Buell. Calhoun—Mr. Geo. C. Hicks. Clinton—Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills. Eaton—Miss O. J. Carpenter. Huron—Mr. Jno. Pierce. Ingham—Mr. F. B. Mumford. Kalkaska—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Palmer. Kent—Mr. Jno. Preston. Lapeer—Mr. Wm. A. Montgomery. Lenawee—Mr. Geo. D. Moore, Mrs. Effie Moore. Montcalm—Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Taylor. Newaygo—Mr. and Mrs. Will Robertson. Oakland—Mr. R. K. Divine. Sanilac—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Edwards. Van Buren—Mr. A. W. Hayden. Wayne—Mr. Jacob Shetrum. Western—Mr. and Mrs. Levi Fellows.

MEETING OF STOCK BREEDERS.

The Michigan association of breeders of improved live stock will hold its fourth annual meeting in representative hall, Lansing, Wednesday, Dec. 19, 1894. Papers will be read by Prof. Smith, John I. Breck, W. E. Boyden, Prof. Mumford, Dr. Beal, E. C. Rouse, H. S. Dunning, Eugene Davenport, G. W. Stewart, A. H. Foster. Reduced rates at hotels. Most of the breed association meetings will be held the evening previous.

HOTEL RATES—STATE GRANGE.

The headquarters of the State Grange will this year be at the Hudson House. The following rates have been offered by the various hotels in Lansing: The Hudson House: \$1.50 per day; Hotel Downey, \$1.50 per day, double; \$2.00, single; Kirkwood, \$1.00 per day; Van Dyne, \$1.00 per day; Chapman, \$1.00 per day, double; \$1.25 single; Livingston, \$1.00 per day.

THOS. MARS, Committee.

See hotel advertisements on page 8.—Ed.

AN IMPORTANT TOPIC.

WORTHY EDITOR—Please allow me to give a few thoughts on Grange life insurance.

Farmers are desirable risks, as their occupation is less hazardous than others. Forty-two years ago British returns gave the following as the order of comparative freedom from mortality in several different branches of manual labor: 1, Farmers; 2, shoemakers; 3, weavers; 4, blacksmiths; 5, carpenters; 6, sailors; 7, laborers; 8, miners; 9, bakers; 10, butchers. From Home and Health, published as a premium by the London Advertiser and Publishing

company, I take the following: "Rural laborers may expect to live on an average of 45.32 years, and the average population 39.87 years." The average in the Macca-bees last year was a trifle over 38 years; this shows that when farmers join other benefit societies than their own they can expect more assessments during the same period than if they belonged to a strictly farmers' benefit. A table prepared by Millman for the Foresters, while intending to show hazardous risks of some occupations as compared with others, shows that farming is the most healthful. Beach's American Practice, page 15, says: "The profession of the gardener is the most healthy; next to it husbandman." We need it in the Grange. It will add many new Granges to our number. The young people will have another inducement to unite with us. Children of the veterans have grown up without joining because it was too slow and old fashioned to suit them. We must have young blood to take the place of departing workers, and at the present time this is the most promising field of co-operation. I believe a farmer should join a farmers' society first and then others if he can afford it. The social features of the Grange are unexcelled; so many say who belong to other leading fraternal orders. I thought of writing you in regard to this last year, but delayed till those "hustling Grangers" of Van Buren county took it up. As a backwoodsman's letter would be of no use after that I refrained from punishing you. I was sure the suggestion sown would spread rapidly, and its growth be regularly recorded in the VISITOR from subordinate Granges. In vain is the paper scanned. The most spreading thing this year seems to be the Russian thistle. It is the same with everything the farmer wants at home on the farm. He works earnestly and thoroughly, but get off of the farm and we leave it for the others to do. The majority of Patrons probably belong to a benefit society of some kind, and all know the good features, but why have the added expense of supporting another society when we can have it in the Grange? A benefit will work as safely and economically with the Grange as with any order. We have a purely American fraternal class organization and not a czar for a ruler, as newspapers report of some orders. Shall we harvest home the ripened Grange fields, or let others have the better part? A nail will not drive itself. Shall we drive it? A mutual benefit helps the Grange in many states, why not have it in Michigan. Believing in the "survival of the fittest," let us wear the true Grange armor with fidelity.

W. D. BURHANS.

Sand Beach.

THE GREATEST QUESTION.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—One year ago I was elected quite unexpectedly a delegate to the State Grange. I never had been to the State Grange and was entirely ignorant of the way of doing business there. My first move was to secure copies of reports of as many preceding meetings of the State Grange as possible.

I studied them carefully and tried to make myself familiar with their manner of doing business. I found this knowledge to be of great benefit to me. I offered several resolutions there, all of which received favorable action except one. The one which I felt the most interest in was defeated. It was with regard to better enforcement of temperance laws. I did not understand by its defeat that the delegates were opposed to temperance, but that they were opposed to enforcing the laws in that particular way. I felt a great interest in the resolution. It was passed by Branch county Pomona Grange, without any expressed opposition. There were present during the discussion several persons who have represented our county in the legislature.

I am quite anxious to have the State Grange put itself on record on the temperance question. I consider it the great question of the day. What shall we do with intemperance? It is plain enough for everybody to see that the money squandered in saloons would provide the necessities of life to every person who has them not. Who will devise some plan which will cripple the saloon power for all time to come? Such a person's name ought to be carried down in history by the side of John Brown, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Abraham Lincoln.

It seems to me that the Grange is making a mistake on the finance question. In my opinion the currency is all right as it is. The repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act put the finishing touch to it. We now have a currency which has the confidence of every man in the United States. No man is afraid to take it through fear that it will become worthless while in his possession. Why not let it alone as it is? We need every kind of money which is now issued. We need the national bank bill just as much as we do the greenback. And as for the amount of currency which should be in circulation I believe in leaving that question to be determined by the inhabitants of each neighborhood throughout the United States, just as

it is at present by allowing the people to establish national banks whenever their judgment tells them that more currency is needed in their locality.

O. A. VANDERBILT.

Coldwater.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

R. V. CLARK.

Agriculture is recognized as the foundation on which rests the success of all other business interests. Neglect, cripple, or crush it, and the great busy scenes of commerce and manufacture are correspondingly disturbed, shocked, and enfeebled. Foster, guide, and protect it, and manufacture and commerce will go hand in hand with it to secure prosperity, peace, and happiness for the people, and to magnify the grandeur of the state.

It is needless to discuss the depressed condition of agriculture at the present time. It is known of all observers. Manufacture and commerce have flooded every market with the product of genius and mechanical skill to expedite the cultivation and care of farm products. But a condition confronts the interests of agriculture. It is not prosperous. Markets are over supplied. Demand is poor. Prices are low. What is to be done? Tradition will not relieve the situation. Conditions are changing. New features are presented. The wide-awake farmer desires to change the products of his farm, in order to relieve the present surfeit and simplify and eradicate the difficulties surrounding him. These projected changes, to be made successful, must be guided by intelligence. A higher plane in pursuit of the art and science of agriculture is most desirable on the part of American farmers.

THE GRANGE.

The Grange has come as an educator and promotor of an advanced civilization in the realm of farm life. It has fostered and promoted the purposes and accomplishments of agricultural schools and experiment stations. It is ever ready to offer a strong helping hand in the progressive interests of agriculture everywhere. It is magnanimous and open handed, because its purposes are right. It would have all persons systematically educated for the practical pursuit of their chosen business. Too many have been educated without regard to future life pursuits.

But something may yet be done. The farmers' institute may be brought practically to our homes to lay before us many of the advantages derived from the agricultural college, together with the results of the experiment stations and their practical application demonstrated by living witnesses. The Grange will not, cannot do less than to urge on its membership and on all others the necessity of applying a definite means for securing a broader and more scientific education to be applied on the farm. We urge the farmers' institute as the most practical means for accomplishing this purpose. The interest taken by farmers and their families in its work, clearly illustrates that they are moving away from old traditions to the light of modern intelligence. Long distances traveled, well filled halls, steady attendance, a multitude of questions, a diligent use of note books, subsequent discussion and application on the farm and in the home, all attest the value of the institute as an educator. It is established in all the leading agricultural states, and maintained by state and local appropriations.

MICHIGAN BEHIND.

But we are sorry to know that Michigan is not the foremost in promoting the interests of her people, else she would not deny her state board of agriculture the small amount of means necessary to develop and maintain as thorough a system of institute work as any of our neighboring states. It is difficult to account for this seeming neglect of the interest that so strongly concerns so large a per cent of our people, on the part of our legislatures. The fault may rest with the farmers themselves, by not sufficiently urging this matter on the attention of the legislature. Our last legislature certainly demonstrated its willingness to tax us for the education of the professional classes through the university, and the reputation of the average legislator for consistency certainly would warrant the belief that the interest of the agricultural class would not have been neglected, if it just had been mentioned while the legislature was in the proper mood; especially as a large per cent of the necessary appropriation would have come out of the farmers' pockets.

As to the manner of determining the amount of the appropriation, we suggest that the state board of agriculture, through its committee on institutes, shall ascertain the whole number of counties in which it would be advisable to hold institutes (some counties would not be sufficiently engaged in agricultural pursuits to warrant the uses of or appreciate a farmers' institute), and the probable aggregate expense of holding an institute in each county under a well directed system, and on its estimate let the amount of the appropriation be determined. Let a well ordered

system govern in this matter, that neither extravagance or parsimony may be chargeable.

AMOUNT NEEDED.

By reference to the report of the Ohio institutes in 1892-93, the total expenses for 150 institutes were \$10,171.46, averaging \$67.80 each. Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana each furnish examples of what work is being done in this line.

To the people of this state this is a business proposition, and as such the farmers and taxpayers demand that it shall be conducted strictly on business principles for the greatest good to the greatest number.

If the board of agriculture determine that it will require \$10,000 to defray the expense of this work, who can say that the interests at stake are not worthy of it?

VALUE.

Who can measure the value of the results? It cannot be measured in dollars and cents. The result will be continuous, yielding each year a rich harvest for the seed sown. As a means to expedite and perfect a system for thorough institute work I would urge the formation of county institute associations. Let the farmers organize in each county and engage in the work for their own benefit, and the state will have a strong incentive for coming to their aid. The state board will be glad to invite local talent to assist in the makeup of programs for institute work. The bulletins from the experiment stations contain information valuable for the farmers, but all do not receive them (not the fault of the managers of the stations however). Much of this can be presented to the people by the institute and be gladly received by thousands.

TO THE STATE GRANGE.

To the coming session of the State Grange we wish to say a word. Your opportunity is at hand to demonstrate the faith which you profess and announce to the world in our Declaration of Purposes. You know that all farmers will not come into the Grange to partake of its educational influences, but the farmers' institute is not shrouded with the mystical apparitions of the Grange, hence none may fear to come to it freely and be made better and more practical farmers. Let the adoption of measures looking to a thorough system of institute work for the peninsular state be a leading feature of your coming session. If the Grange and the farmer's clubs of the state take hold of this matter properly, there need be no fears of the result. It is our right in equity as taxpayers and wealth producers, and no submissive fears should deter us from demanding our rights from the powers that be.

Let agriculture in our state be dealt with as it is in Ohio, with 154 institutes, or in Indiana and Wisconsin, with about 90 each, with due regard to the greater variety of farm products than in either of them, and ours will stand in the front rank of agricultural accomplishments. Think of the opportunities of the people of the states above named during the coming winter for acquiring information so much needed and appreciated, and compare it with the outlook for Michigan. Will you longer hesitate as an organization to assert your sense of the neglected situation? Firmly impressed with the benefits to be derived from a well conducted system of institutes I submit the following declarations for consideration, not all original, but some adopted for the truth they contain.

THE BENEFIT OF INSTITUTES.

1. "They are a source of knowledge to the inquiring farmer."
2. "They stimulate a pride and respect for farming."
3. "They make public the latest discoveries in agriculture."
4. "They give the farmers of the state an opportunity to meet men who have made their business a science as well as an art."
5. "They are banks for the deposit of experience which may become the common property of all."
6. "They are the organized friends of good crops and successful farming."
7. "They tend to keep a fair portion of the brightest boys on the farm."
8. "They create a desire on the part of those boys to secure an advanced education for agricultural pursuits; and thus lay the foundation for the elevation of the American farmer."
9. "They emphasize the purpose of the Grange in developing a nobler and better manhood and womanhood on and for the farm."

Buchanan.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS have sold Ingersoll Paint to the Order P. of H. since its organization. House Paints and Cheap Paints for Barns and Out-buildings, 10,000 Farmers testify to their merits. Grange Halls, Churches, School Houses, Dwellings, all over the land, some of them painted 15 years ago, still looking well, prove them the most durable.

MICHIGAN PATRONS "Buy direct from Factory" at full Wholesale Prices and save all Middlemen's Profits.
O. W. INCERSOLL, Prop.
 Oldest Paint House in America
 241-243 Plymouth-st., Brooklyn

Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints. Indestructible Cottage and Barn Paints. Sample Color Cards, "Confidential" Grange Discounts, Estimates and full particulars MAILED FREE. Write at once.

MICHIGAN STOCK BREEDERS.

All those who wish to purchase pure-bred stock of any description, will find it to their advantage to correspond with some of the following well-known breeders.

H. H. HINDS

Stanton, Montcalm Co.

Breeder of
Shorthorn Cattle
American Merino
and Shropshire Sheep

A. H. WARREN

Ovid, Mich.
 Breeder of IMPROVED
CHESTER WHITE SWINE
And Lincoln Sheep. A choice lot of stock for sale at farmers' prices. Breeding stock all recorded. Reduced prices on fall Pigs. Write, or come and look me over.

Merino Sheep

If you want First-Class
MERINO SHEEP
 or
WHITE BRONZE TURKEYS
 bred from prize winners, of the Dark Bronze, at the Indiana and Michigan State Fairs, also at the Tri-State Fair at Toledo, you can get them of
C. M. FELLOWS, Saline, Mich.

Hillsdale County Herd

Poland China Swine
 Choice stock for sale at reasonable prices, and Guaranteed as Represented.
JNO. BOWDITCH,
 Hillsdale, Mich.

SHIP
 Your Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Veal, Beans, Potatoes, Hides, Pelts, Wool, Hay, Grain, Green and Dried Peas, or ANYTHING YOU MAY HAVE to us. Quick sales at the highest market price and prompt returns made. Write for prices or any information you may want.
SUMMERS, MORRISON & CO., Merchants,
 174 South Water St., Chicago, Ill.
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BUY YOUR OILS

From anti-trust manufacturers direct. AT WHOLESALE PRICES. Machine Oils 20 to 25c per gallon; Cylinder Oils 25 to 35c per gallon; delivered. STRICTLY HIGH GRADE. Satisfaction guaranteed. We are the only MANUFACTURERS of Oils in Michigan.
DETROIT OIL CO., Detroit, Mich.

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can be made working for us. Of special interest and value to all farmers. Spare hours can be used to good advantage. S. I. BELL & Co., Phila., Pa.

An All-Round "Deal."

"IDEAL" DEALERS all deal in "IDEAL" DEAL Buggies, because a good deal of their trade prefer a good deal to a miss-deal. Consequently they buy "Deal" vehicles. Ask for catalogue showing the "Ideal" and other popular buggies and carriages in various poses. The prices are such as to make riding cheaper than walking.
J. J. DEAL & SON,
 Jonesville, Mich.

NO HORNS NOW.

I'm told by father and mother both Horns had I till they stopped their growth. Hornless and harmless through life I go; Dean's Dehorning Pencil made me so.



Dean's Dehorning Pencil
 Effectually prevents the growth of horns on calves. Leaves no scar and does not injure the calf. Satisfaction guaranteed. A good county agent wanted in each county. WILL SEND PENCIL FREE ON TRIAL. Address

A. L. DUNLAP,
 Manager Michigan Sales Department,
 LUPTON, Ogemaw Co., Mich.

ONCE USED, USE ALWAYS.

New London Co., Conn., July 24, 1894.

MR. O. W. INCERSOLL:
 DEAR SIR—Please send me a Sample Color Card of your Indestructible Cottage and Barn Paints. My house painted three years ago with your Liquid Rubber Paint looks so well I want to try it on my barn, and I can say that those who have used your paint cannot find its equal and will use no other.

Very truly yours,
 M. W. ROBINSON, M. D.
 [See Adv. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints.—Ed.]

10 cents
THE VISITOR
 Three months.

WISCONSIN FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

B. S. HOXIE.

Whether we claim to be the first state to hold institutes, or traveling schools of agriculture among the farmers, or not, we can claim that no state in the Union has made this means of education more popular than we.

Perhaps the annual convention of farmers and horticulturists at Madison the first week in February of each year, with the papers and discussions there introduced, and the annual meetings of the state dairyman's association had something to do with our present methods.

Prominent agriculturists and horticulturists thought the people of the state were clamorous for an appropriation by the legislature for an agricultural college, and a committee was appointed to draw a bill and by a union of forces to insist on its passage. But just before the convening of the legislature in 1884.

THE START.

Science hall of the university was destroyed by fire, which necessitated a large appropriation at that session for its rebuilding. The friends of the agricultural college saw at once that there was no opportunity to press their scheme or their claims, but a bill was introduced by a prominent member of the assembly asking for an appropriation of \$5,000, with provisions for holding meetings among the farmers of the state, for popular lectures by prominent men in agriculture, and the reading of papers and discussion of farm topics. The whole matter of selecting a superintendent and other details, was by the law entrusted to the farm regents of the state university, which later experience proved to be a wise course, for by so doing the entire work was outside of clique or political favor.

W. H. Morrison, a practical farmer and a man of marked ability as an organizer, was selected as superintendent of the work, and held that position until last winter, when he was injured by a fall which resulted in his death two weeks later.

COST.

In 1886 the appropriation was increased to \$12,000, and made an annual appropriation.

The first winter, or in 1885, thirty-two institutes were held in different counties of the state, Mr. Morrison being present at the most of them. By the next year, and from that to the present, the importance of the work had so increased that his time had to be taken up mostly with office work, with an assistant or clerk. Institutes since then have been under the charge of conductors, each with two or three workers in his company, besides the local help where institutes were held. Four of these conductors, with their corps of workers, held institutes in different parts of the state at the same time.

NUMBER.

The number of institutes each year has varied from 32 to 97, and the present winter, commencing with December 4, 100 will be held. In all up to the present writing 576 institutes have been held in the state.

Since the first winter there has been held, at the close of the work, a general institute or round up, where the several conductors with their corps of workers have introduced the most popular and vital topics of the full course are brought out in all important points, and these constitute the matter with the discussions at the time—for the annual bulletin, a volume of 300 pages, of which 30,000 copies are published for gratuitous distribution among the farmers of the state.

The conductors and their assistants are selected from men who have made a success at their calling and chosen profession, and are qualified to impart that knowledge

briefly and concisely, and in a manner to provoke enquiry and discussion from those in the audience.

The conductors are paid for their time and expenses, and to a certain extent is this true of their assistants, but quite the larger part of the time of each institute is taken up by local help where the meetings are held. The only expense to the community where institutes are held for the two days' meeting is to furnish hall and the local advertising; the general advertising being attended to by the superintendent.

Experts in dairying and other important branches of agriculture are present at each meeting, and the Babcock milk test is demonstrated and explained at each place where meetings are held; so that now it is rare to find a farmer or dairyman in the state who does not know of its practical working, and its importance in the creamery, or on the farm.

APPLICATIONS.

Applications for institutes are sent in the form of a petition to the office of the superintendent at Madison early in the season of each year, but the several locations, and time of holding the institutes, is determined by the farm committee of the state regents.

It has been the pleasure of the writer to be connected with the work from its first commencement in our state, as a writer or worker, and in attendance at nearly all of the closing institutes, and it is safe to say that no branch of popular education has been so well received or productive of more good than has the farmers' institutes of Wisconsin.

SUPERINTENDENT.

The salary of superintendent at first was \$1,500, which has been increased to \$2,200, and this office is now held by George McKerrow, a prominent farmer of Waukesha Co., a man of advanced ideas, but not radical to the extent of riding a hobby, and who always says *we*, meaning himself and wife, when he speaks of the farm and home.
Evansville, Wis.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN MICHIGAN.

HON. CHAS. W. GARFIELD.

The farmers' institute system of Michigan originated with the Agricultural College, and grew out of a desire to educate more widely than could be done through tuition given in the college class room. Dr. Kedzie and Dr. Miles, with Professors Cook and Beal, had attended an occasional farmers' gathering or fruit-growers' meeting, and notwithstanding the widespread opposition to the College and a distrust of its method of education, these men were well received when they went visiting among the people. They were wanted at rural gatherings, and this was especially true at the meetings of the State horticultural society. For several years there was never a meeting of this society but at least one of these gentlemen was present, and three of them became officers of the society. The College found a warm ally in this society. Dr. Kedzie, perhaps more than any other one, advocated the inauguration of a series of farmers' institutes to be held under the auspices of the College, and the first series was held in January and February, 1876, opening with a very successful one at Armada, Macomb county. Geo. W. Phillips of Romeo, was a member of the board of agriculture and an officer of the state agricultural society, and was largely responsible for the large attendance and successful outcome at this convention.

INSTITUTES A SUCCESS.

The success of the institutes for years established the fact that it was wise for the Agricultural College men to get out among the people. It resulted in a better understanding of each other's work and needs, and it was found that there were a large number of men

and women ready to take the short course in agriculture outlined in the programs of these institutes.

The College aimed to reach farther than the immediate influence that should go out from one institute in a given locality. It urged the importance of establishing permanent institute organizations, that should continue the same kind of work for years, utilizing such assistance as could be developed in their own vicinage. Many valuable organizations exist in our state which owe their inception to the initial institute held under the auspices of the state board of agriculture.

WORK SOME PROFESSORS TOO HARD.

The growth of farm institute work in our state has been gradual and thrifty. There has been no boom in it, no special excitement, no spasmodic and consequent reaction. Michigan institutes have not been heralded in the press as this kind of endeavor has in some other states. We have asked very little of the legislature, but we have asked a good deal of some of our Agricultural College men. Those who were attractive institute workers have practically had no vacation, no rest for years, because of the calls to preach the gospel of agricultural progress, while others were resting. We have been asking too much of some of these professors. We have no right to demand so much of their time and energy as to give them no opportunity to continue their own progressive studies. A jug that is constantly drawn from must be replenished or it will be emptied, and these men feel that the opportunity must be given them to perfect their own equipment for the best work. The Michigan institute system is planning for this end. We must not overwork our best men.

OUR WORKERS.

We have at the Agricultural College been developing some of the very best institute workers. This has been done in two ways: First, by sending out well educated young men from the college who have attained success in rural pursuits, and who are able to instruct others. Second, by bringing out at farmers' institutes men who have been well educated in farm practice through the school of experience, and whose counsel to others is of the very highest value.

THE MICHIGAN SYSTEM.

The institute system, as we have developed it, contemplates the establishment, each winter, of short schools, say a week in length, for agricultural training in a dozen or more places in the state. The importance of work of this kind can hardly be overestimated. In fruit growing and dairying, which must certainly be the most profitable industries in our state, we need to disseminate knowledge of the underlying principles of success, and educate in the direction of the very best practice. We need to make as large a part as possible of the rural community understand the unparalleled advantages we possess in the building of homes. We must so educate as to enable the mass of our farmers to reap the richest possible harvest from our advantages. We must inculcate ideas of home embellishment, and it is certainly within our province to disseminate the best of information concerning cooking and household science, so that the growth of the inner home shall comport with the adoption of the most progressive methods in farm management. All this is the legitimate field of work in farmers' institutes. This is work that touches every part of our state, and every class in our state. We have, as I have said, thus far asked very little assistance from the state, because we have been establishing, correcting, and crystallizing a system, so as to avoid errors and consequent waste.

MORE FUNDS NEEDED.

I think the results of this winter's institute work will demonstrate to

Continued on page 7.

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Schedule in effect Oct. 20, 1894.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.			
Stations.	No. 3.	No. 5.	No. 7.
Chicago	3:35 p.m.	11:30 p.m.	7:20 a.m.
Detroit	4:35 p.m.	8:45 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Cincinnati	8:05 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	
Richmond	11:00 a.m.	11:25 p.m.	
Fort Wayne	2:55 p.m.	2:30 a.m.	7:40 a.m.
Kalamazoo	7:20 p.m.	5:50 a.m.	11:25 a.m.
Big Rapids	9:15 p.m.	7:20 a.m.	1:00 p.m.
Gd. Rapids	10:25 p.m.	7:40 a.m.	5:25 p.m.
Howard City	11:45 p.m.	9:00 a.m.	6:45 p.m.
Big Rapids	12:35 p.m.	10:00 a.m.	7:30 p.m.
Reed City	1:05 a.m.	10:20 a.m.	4:10 p.m.
Ashtabula	2:30 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	9:20 p.m.
Walton	3:10 a.m.	12:40 p.m.	6:10 p.m.
Traverse City		1:20 p.m.	11:00 p.m.
Mancelona	4:18 a.m.	2:20 p.m.	
Potoskey	5:40 a.m.	3:15 p.m.	
Mackinaw City	7:10 a.m.	4:40 p.m.	

No. 3 has sleeping car, Grand Rapids to Mackinaw City.
 No. 5 has sleeping car Cincinnati to Grand Rapids. Parlor car Grand Rapids to Mackinaw City.
 No. 7 has parlor car Grand Rapids to Traverse City.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.			
Stations.	No. 8.	No. 6.	No. 2.
Mackinaw City		7:40 a.m.	9:00 p.m.
Potoskey		9:15 a.m.	10:20 p.m.
Mancelona		10:45 a.m.	11:55 a.m.
Traverse City	6:00 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	
Walton	8:00 a.m.	12:15 p.m.	1:10 a.m.
Ashtabula	7:40 a.m.	1:25 a.m.	2:10 a.m.
Reed City	8:50 a.m.	2:35 a.m.	3:20 a.m.
Big Rapids	9:20 a.m.	3:05 a.m.	3:50 a.m.
Howard City	10:10 a.m.	3:55 a.m.	4:45 a.m.
Gd. Rapids	11:35 a.m.	5:15 a.m.	6:10 a.m.
Howard City	2:15 p.m.	5:40 a.m.	6:50 a.m.
Kalamazoo	4:05 p.m.	7:45 a.m.	8:45 a.m.
Fort Wayne	7:30 p.m.	11:15 a.m.	12:15 p.m.
Richmond	7:55 p.m.	3:30 a.m.	3:45 p.m.
Cincinnati		6:55 a.m.	6:30 p.m.
Chicago	9:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.
Detroit		10:40 p.m.	

No. 2 has sleeping car from Mackinaw City and Potoskey to Grand Rapids.
 No. 6 has parlor car Mackinaw City to Grand Rapids. Sleeping car Grand Rapids to Cincinnati.
 No. 8 has buffet parlor car Grand Rapids to Chicago via Kalamazoo, arriving in Chicago at 9 p.m., and chair car from Traverse City to Grand Rapids.
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LECTURER—ALPHA MESSER, Rochester, Vt.

Executive Committee.

- LEONARD RHONE, Center Hall, Pennsylvania
E. R. HUTCHINSON, Virginia
J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw, Michigan

Officers Michigan State Grange.

- MASTER—G. B. HORTON, Fruit Ridge
OVERSEER—M. T. COLE, Palmyra
LECTURER—J. J. CROSBY, Jr., Ypsilanti

Executive Committee.

- J. G. RAMSDELL, Chn., Traverse City
H. D. PLATT, Ypsilanti
THOS. MARS, Berrien Center

Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange.

- Mrs. Mary A. Mayo, Battle Creek
Mrs. Mary Sherman Hinds, Stanton
Mrs. Belle Boyce, Baroda

General Deputy Lecturers.

- MARY A. MAYO, Battle Creek
HON. J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw
HON. C. G. BOE, Coldwater

County Deputies.

- D. H. Stebbins, Atwood, Antrim Co.
C. V. Nash, Bloomingdale, Allegan
R. B. Reynolds, Dowling, Barry

Revised List of Grange Supplies

Table listing various supplies and their prices, including Porcelain ballot marbles, Secretary's ledger, and Grange Melodies.

the legislature that more money is needed to carry on, widen, and intensify the work. We cannot take men from their farms and their orchards to give freely the results of their experience and counsel without compensating them for it.

INSTITUTES IN NEW YORK.

Mr. J. S. Woodward, to whom we wrote for information on this point, was unable to write an extended article, but sends the following brief letter:

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—Our legislature appropriates \$15,000 yearly for institutes. We have a director in general charge. The workers are mostly from this state, selected for their fitness to speak on some particular topic.

Our workers are paid a per diem and expenses. The money comes from the general fund of the state. The local farmers furnish halls, light and warm them, and usually furnish one speaker for each session, and music if any is had.

I had the great honor of being the originator of the work and should probably have continued at its head, only that I tried to do the work of three men and my health failed.

I would gladly have written the article you ask for, only I am getting ready to go to the work and have no time.

Yours truly, J. S. WOODWARD. Lockport, N. Y.

INSTITUTES IN KANSAS.

The following from a printed circular, shows what Kansas is endeavoring to do for farmers' institutes: Recognizing the fact that the farmers' institute is in line with the work of the agricultural college, the college authorities have taken an active part in institute work for the last thirteen years.

at the expense of the college, without any tax whatever on the institute, or on the community where the institute is held. This is "college extension" work of the most practical nature, in that it seeks to reach and help those already engaged in active farming, and not merely to prepare the young people for future work.

The agricultural college intends to continue and to enlarge its activity in this direction. Members of the faculty and other college employes will be sent to all parts of the state to aid at institutes wherever such aid is necessary and desired. They will be sent at the expense of the college.

BIENNIAL SESSIONS OF THE STATE GRANGE.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—Are annual sessions of the State Grange necessary any more, or as much as annual sessions of our state legislature? No, we do not need annual sessions of either body. What necessity was there for the last year's meeting of the State Grange? Was the business transacted worth to the Order the money it cost?

I believe it would be a move in the right direction to only have the State Grange meet sometime prior to the meeting of the legislature every second year. Then make the VISITOR a weekly. Consolidate the single Grange, in counties having only one, or less than three, with other Granges for representative purposes.

D. WOODMAN. Paw Paw.

MILLET.

Millet is used chiefly as a "catch crop" for hay, since it can be sown in spring whenever it is discovered that a seeding of the permanent grasses has failed, or that a hard winter or insects have destroyed the clover.

It is safer and more palatable if cut before the seed begins to ripen. The best variety is German millet, providing the soil is good and it can have the entire season. For late sowing, or poor soil, use common millet.

THE GRANGE.

From Address of National Master, at Springfield, Ill., Nov. 14, 1894.

The Order which you represent seeks to teach the farmer how to secure for himself a just share of the rewards of his own labor; how to secure that social culture and intellectual training without which he can never fully enjoy the privileges which belong to American citizenship.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

Your legislative committee has, as heretofore, presented your action to congress, and when permitted to appear before committees, has urged such measures as have been approved by the National Grange.

PURE FOOD.

Outrageous adulterations of food products threaten the health and even the lives of the people. Radical efforts should be made to correct this great evil.

EDUCATION.

The work of the Order is educational in every department. We seek to advance the intellectual, social, and financial interests of the farmer.

We aim to teach him how to do better farming. All investigation and discussion of practical questions will add to his knowledge, and consequently his profits.

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT.

The farming class must learn that social culture and enjoyment must be part of the farmer's life if he is to stand on a parity with his fellows.

The boys and girls who are ambitious and promising will not select a calling which will deprive them of the advantage that comes from social culture.

LITERARY EXERCISES.

The farmer must learn to investigate, think, discuss and decide for himself. In this lies his hope of advancement. To neglect this important work is to accept hopeless servitude to those who do our thinking and tax us roundly for it.

POLITICAL REFORM.

The Grange is in no sense a party organization, nor can it be without courting speedy dissolution. We do, however, propose to discuss, freely and fully, all questions of political economy, and earnestly urge the farmer to study and investigate for himself, rather than rely upon the partisan speaker and organ for his information.

MORAL INFLUENCES.

The Grange does not assume to be a religious organization in the common acceptance of the term; but does claim to be working in the interest of great moral reforms. No member of any church need fear any interference with his religious views by our Order.

We inculcate temperance in all things, and teach "Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity," to all who join us.

Charity, and Fidelity," to all who join us. The following from the Secretary of the National Grange, speaks for itself:

"Taking into account the excitement, political and business, the Grange has done wonderfully well. More new Granges organized for the year ending Sept. 30, 1894, than in the previous year, and I think double the number of Granges re-organized. We have every reason to be proud of, and satisfied with the growth and standing of the grand old Order."

The words of good cheer from the conservative Secretary of the National Grange should cause us to redouble our efforts. Thousands of patriotic farmers are ready to come when the real conditions and purposes of our Order are understood.

Let each member of the Order ask himself or herself, "What can I do, where can I go to help on the grand cause so dear to our hearts?"

AN IRRIGATION EXPERIMENT.

Enterprise, Kansas, is well named. Its citizens are enterprising. Mr. C. B. Hoffman, a regent of this college, has in hand a most commendable project, namely, the irrigation of a hundred and twenty acre tract at Enterprise. It is bottom land, situated on the bank of the Smoky Hill river.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for this farm is ample. It will be pumped by water-power. A dam and wheel, already employed by Mr. Hoffman in his milling business, will be utilized for this purpose.

It has been repeatedly noticed that crops do best where there is an ample supply of moisture from beneath. Even with a plentiful supply from above, if the subsoil be baked, the distribution is not the best. It is proposed to operate the plant during the winter, thus saturating the subsoil. Thus the crops will have on tap, as it were, a subterranean reservoir.

ALLOTMENTS.

The plan is to allot in small parcels of five or ten acres, twenty being the maximum. These allotments will be farmed out to small cultivators, who unaided could not avail themselves of irrigation privileges through lack of capital.

All Kansans, but especially those of the east and east-central parts of the state, will watch this experimental stage. Here is a case where private enterprise is undertaking alone what the experiment station is carrying on at another point. Aside from its experimental value in irrigation, the undertaking will furnish a good

AN IRRIGATION EXPERIMENT.

[Continued from page 7.]

object lesson in high culture. Kansas has, in common with other states where land is plenty and labor scarce, gone to the extreme of extensive agriculture; often extensive failure has followed. What is needed now is intensive culture. If irrigation leads, even by indirection, to higher culture, it will be a great blessing to the "land-poor" farmer.—Prof. H. M. Jones in *Kansas Industrialist*.

Grange News.

Correspondents, and all Patrons indeed, are requested to send us postal cards giving some news jotting,—anything of interest to you. It will interest others. Please also send short answers to some or all of the following questions. Help us to make this the most valuable column in the VISITOR.

1. How is your Grange prospering?
2. Have you many young people?
3. What do outsiders think of your Grange and its work?
4. What difficulties do you meet?
5. What are your prospects?
6. What is most needed in Grange work in your vicinity?
7. In what way are your members most benefited by belonging to the Grange?

JOTTINGS.

Three new Granges in Charlevoix county.

D. H. Stebbins asks for a charter for Antrim county Pomona Grange.

Woodman Grange, No. 610, passed resolutions extending their sympathy to Brother J. J. Woodman in his recent bereavement.

November 7, Sister Grace Olds of Alatedon Grange was married to Fred Rathbone of Livingston county. About forty guests were present. The bride was lecturer of Alatedon Grange.

Kalkaska Pomona Grange expresses sympathy with Brother J. J. Woodman. "The loneliness of coming years will only be intensified by the choice companionship of the years that have flown. The 'Balm of Gilead' only can heal the wound. May our beloved brother look aloft for divine help in this his time of need."

November 17 Eaton county Pomona held a very pleasant meeting with Windsor Grange. The program was well executed. Little Ruby Carlton giving a recitation entitled "Thanksgiving," in Ruby's charming way. Mr. C. L. Torry read a paper on "Plutocracy," which called out many compliments and which will appear in the VISITOR soon. Resolutions were adopted to present to the State Grange. Miss O. J. Carpenter was elected delegate.

Coldwater Grange was just 21 years old last Tuesday evening. Some of the members conceived the plan to ask all who had ever belonged to Coldwater Grange, with their families, to come and hold a grand anniversary and have a reunion with us. The plan was a grand success. A program, with welcome, reminiscences of the past, recitations, and any amount of good music made all feel doubly repaid for coming out to meet with us, if it was a very dark night. About 130 set down to a regular old-fashioned Thanksgiving supper, prepared by the Grange and friends.

May this grand organization live to celebrate many anniversaries, is the verdict of all.

W. E. WRIGHT.

Olive Centre Grange, No. 652, held its first annual fair at Olive Centre Grange hall on Nov. 17, 1894. The exhibits were very fine. There were nearly all kinds of grains, fruits, and vegetables, and also a fine display of butter, pies, cake, etc., and

fancy work. All were very tastefully arranged in each department. A very nice motto was made and presented to the Grange by Brother Dwight Cheeseman, and Sisters Rocepha Miers, and Nellie Green. Premiums were awarded to winners. The Patrons went home well pleased and thinking that they had been well repaid for their trouble, by helping to make the fair a success. We expect that our efforts next year will be crowned with greater success than they were this.

MARY WELTON, Sec'y.

I think we are entitled to a small space in yours, the best paper in the capital county. Alatedon, No. 289, needs no warming up. We are right in line for anything that presents itself of value to our Order and mankind. Nov. 24 we closed our contest, which has been one of the grandest educators we have tried as yet. Old members rose to talk who have been silent for years, the young people fairly tumbled over each other in their efforts to gain the floor. Old and young alike were forced to abide the parliamentary rules. Two applications for membership were presented and 16 subscriptions were secured for the VISITOR. Recitations, essays, and music were of the best sort, enthusiasm fairly boiling over from beginning to end; and above all the decisions of the umpire were accepted without a bit of hard feeling, but here comes the best of the "wheat." The last evening a bountiful supper was served to all, after which we had a fine program.

After the program the young folks joined in "Old Dan Tucker," "Michigan Girls," and "Down to the mill to get a load of bark," until a late hour told us it was time all honest people were in bed.

Long live the Grange in Alatedon!

WM. A. OLDS, Master.

Mt. Tabor holds regular sessions each alternate Saturday at 2 p. m., also each intervening Saturday at 7 p. m. On last Saturday evening our program opened with roll-call, and as the name was called each responded to this question—Why did you join the Grange? The list embraced members in good standing since early in the '70's, and others scattered all through the pathway since. The majority did not stop by telling why they joined but added many reasons why they have stuck to it. It was like an old-fashioned experience meeting and will not soon be forgotten.

On December 1, we had a Thanksgiving program. Each presented some phase of thanksgiving observance throughout the land in which the day is celebrated.

December 8 a portion of the liquor traffic question will be discussed as suggested in the VISITOR of October. Our lecturer divided the subject, that it may be more thoroughly discussed at several meetings. The question, What constitutes a court of record? will be answered by our students of civil government, at that meeting. Also, is a district school meeting a court of record under our system of government?

Fraternally,

R. V. CLARK.

KENT POMONA.

A special meeting of Kent county Grange was held with Sparta Grange in the Odd Fellows' hall on November 14.

The forenoon session was devoted to the regular order of business and to resolutions and discussions, until the ladies of Sparta Grange announced that dinner was ready in the room below. Over fifty partook of the sumptuous repast.

The following was the program of the afternoon session which was public:

Song by Sparta Grange choir. Address of welcome by Worthy Master Fitch of Sparta Grange. Response by Worthy Master Dockeray of Kent county Grange. Recitation by Miss Mary Fitch.

The following resolution, after long discussion pro and con, was carried in the affirmative,

"Resolved, That this Grange is opposed to the county purchasing the toll roads, as it is now proposed before the board of supervisors."

Recitation by Miss Mattie Winslow. Song by the choir. "Are agricultural

statistics of a benefit to the farmer?" a discussion opened by brothers Murray, Keech and Preston. The general opinion seemed to be that they were of great benefit to the farmer.

Recitation by Sister Myrta Johnson. Essay on Social Culture by Sister Mertie Preston, which essay, by request of the Grange, has been sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication. Recitation by Sister Pearl Cummings. Instrumental music by Sister Emma Bradford. Recitation by Sister Belle Munshaw. Song by Brother and Sister Keech.

The next meeting which will be the annual election of officers, will be held in the court house in Grand Rapids, on Dec. 19. Sec'y.

KALKASKA POMONA.

Kalkaska Pomona Grange met with Kalkaska Grange November 20-21. The first session was the election of officers for the ensuing year. In the evening A. E. Palmer was to have delivered a lecture upon "Organization and Co-operation of the farmer," but on account of a revival service being held in town the lecture was put off until some future time when Pomona will call a special session. Instead the remainder of the program was taken up. The first subject was, "What possible good is to be derived from these hard times as a people and a nation? First lesson: If a nation forget God, retribution will follow. The past history of the world proves it to be true. 2. The American people had overstepped the bounds in commercial pursuits. 3. As a people we had been too extravagant. 4. The necessity of economy. 5. The benefit of saving up something for a rainy day. 6. The people are a part of this government and must think for themselves. 7. The farmer must adjust himself to the changed conditions. 8. It was impossible for the farmer that paid \$1.00 a day to compete with 30 cent labor. 9. Protection to home industries was a necessity to national prosperity and the people's happiness. 10. Political dishonesty is adverse to national prosperity. Tammany rule is an example of the evil effect of municipal dishonesty. 11. Farmers were not united enough for their own benefit. 12. For their own protection farmers should unite as a body. 13. The farmer failing to make one product profitable must turn his attention to another. 14. From the downfall of Tammany, and Breckenridge in Kentucky, woman's prayers and power are needed everywhere. 15. That universal suffrage should be given to woman: her pure vote would suppress the flow of whisky and protect the home against the influence of vice. 16. That restriction of immigration would have an important bearing as a remedy for present and future evil. 17. The necessity for more stringent immigration laws. 18. We are a whole nation, north and south. Each alike need protection to their industries, and that these hard times are leading us as a nation to see eye to eye.

Hard times bring us to see how helpless we are to battle alone with want, distress, woe, and misery. Seeing this many will turn unto the Lord who is almighty to help and comfort.

The subject of potato culture, care, and sale, was taken up and thoroughly discussed.

The morning session was given to the installing of the officers elect and talks upon various topics.

It was voted that all Pomona meetings should be open, except one hour in the morning, when doors would be closed for work in the fifth degree.

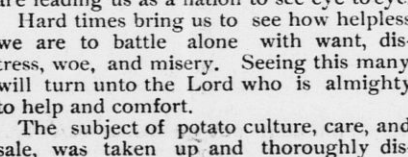
It is a decided fact that Pomona is a great strengthener of Grange interest in this county; every county should have a strong Pomona Grange. The Pomona gathers within its fold the very best material the Granges have; concentration of thoughts upon vital topics must tell for good to every Grange.

H. A. BARNARD, Lecturer.

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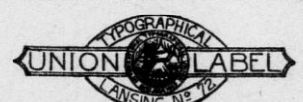
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