









Lecturer's Department.

To Resign.

Brothers and Sisters of Michigan.

It has for some time been our purpose to resign our position as Lecturer of the Michigan State Grange at the coming meeting of that body on December 13th. We shall do so, and think it our duty to thus formally give notice of our intentions...

May wisdom guide you in selecting your future Lecturer, who shall have every assistance we can give him personally and officially...

Fraternally, C. L. WHITNEY.

Election of Officers.

The month of December is again at hand and during this month by the organic law of our Order the officers for the Subordinate Granges for the ensuing year are to be elected.

While none but members in good standing in the Grange can legally be entitled to a vote, those who, for neglect of payment of dues, may soon remove this disability...

As only members in good standing can vote, so none but such as are in good standing can legally be elected to official position.

What Grange or other organization would improve its condition by electing for officers those who are negligent of duty, who disregard the organic law, or the by-laws...

Whom shall we select? Faithful Patrons, those whose fidelity to the principles of our noble Order has been proven—progressive Patrons, those whose earnest, active efforts have been and can and will be to advance the Order and all its true interests...

Each should act independently—not as some one else does. Be true Patrons in this respect; allow no canvassing, no nominating, but ballot until you elect.

Who are best qualified for office? Those who attend regularly and are always punctual. Those who have the broadest ideas of the Order and its capability. Those who best understand its laws and requirements...

I CAN make more pork with clean shelled corn soaked twelve hours in pure spring water, than I can with new, soft corn. I will keep my pigs in better condition...

Lecture Bureau in Michigan.

The National Lecture Bureau, P. of H., has its lecturers in the field. Our Brother Cheek, of North Carolina, has just concluded his course in time to reach the National Grange and perform his duties there.

Brother Hilborn, of the Dominion, has been in Michigan and filled his bureau engagements there. Every where he has given great satisfaction. He concludes his course in Rockford, Ill., on December 3rd, having been five weeks in the field.

Brother T. A. Thompson, of Dakota, Past Lecturer of the National Grange, author of the Unwritten Work, began his course of lectures on the 25th of November. He will be in Orland, Stubs county, Ind., on the 7th of December; in Lenawee county, Thursday, the 8th; in Oakland county, Friday, the 9th...

It is expected that Brother A. B. Smith, Worthy Master of the Kentucky State Grange, will visit this State soon after the State Grange meets.

We learn at a late hour that Sister Thyng's appointments have been withdrawn, but some one will be substituted in her place. One good sign in these lectures is, that each succeeding meeting in each location is better attended than the previous one.

Three Good Papers.

We would urge it as the duty of every Patron and every farmer in Michigan to take and read the GRANGE VISITOR. It is a State paper and you should support it and endeavor, as you have your calling and your Order, to extend its circulation.

Uncle Si on the Constitution.

Brother Cobb.—The villain-killer having passed through these parts, there is not a villain to be found now; and, had the fool-killer been here also, I fear, your old uncle would now be found among the missing.

The VISITOR is highly prized here, both by those inside and out the gate; but I have learned that the old adage, "many men of many minds," is true still.

I dearly love a live institution, and such I believe the VISITOR to be. It does me good to see the sisters pitch into each other—some for "Women's Rights," some oppose it, some have had husbands, or are they "sweeping some other's door-yard?"

Therefore, the founders of the Order said, as plain as words could make it, that only men should fill the first nine offices in the Grange, and only women should fill the last four; and I would be glad to know of one Grange, in this State, previous to 1874, which did otherwise.

heads the women will have to come to it too. You don't fear any such thing? Neither did the women of France until it came upon them. That was done by infidels? Well, is not infidelity the same now that it was then?

When the VISITOR arrives from the office I am anxious to peruse it, and when the Nov. 1st came to hand I read the first page, opened to the fourth and read, and when I got to "About Representation, etc.," now, thought I, for something rich, for Brother Cobb can do it.

Where men believe in witches, witches are; but where they don't believe, there are none there."

The subject of Representation in the State Grange, if looked at in the light of the Constitution of the National Grange and the By-Laws of the Michigan State Grange, is as clear as noon-day. In the Constitution of the National Grange, when speaking of the degrees, it says, in Article I, "Fourth degree, Husbandman (man), Matron (woman)"; and in Sec. II, same Art., "And, Provided, That when the number of Subordinate Granges in any State becomes so great as to render it necessary, the State Grange may, in such manner as it may determine, reduce its representatives by providing for the election of a certain proportion of those entitled to membership in the State Grange from each county, and the members so chosen shall constitute the voting members of the State Grange."

The phraseology of the above Articles and Sections go to prove that the "Masters and Past Masters" must be men and capable of having wives, and if they are Matrons (women) they are members of the State Grange without any election—so it used to be.

Do not be alarmed, your uncle admires woman as much as any man need to, and if you will only have the Constitution and By-Laws fixed to suit it, he believes there is not a sister in this Grange but what is capable of filling any office in it.

The power that has established the credit of this people on a firm basis, reduced interest rates, regulated exchanges, and guaranteed prosperity in all branches of useful industry, is agriculture.

Granges do so," but makes the matter worse. I have been told that "men of high degree" have said, "This thing has come in little by little and it can't be stopped now; then, why not change the phraseology of the Constitution and manual? Hence, it is as plain as day, to my mind, that only Masters and Past Masters, who are men, can be elected Representatives to the State Grange; their wives, if Matrons, go there by virtue of their husbands' election; if not a Matron, could not go if elected.

The "Digest" says, "Any member of the 5th degree can install," &c. Does this mean that any boy or girl over 14 years old and who has taken the 5th degree in the Pomona Grange? or was that Digest prepared when only members of the State Grange received the 5th degree?

Again, "Any member of the State Grange can install," &c. If a man is elected and installed Master, and is elected a Representative to the State Grange, his wife is a Matron, but can not leave her family to attend the State Grange, and consequently has never taken the 5th degree, does the sole accident of her husband having been elected a Representative to the State Grange, make her a qualified installing officer?

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

The next regular meeting of the Newaygo Co. Pomona Grange, No. 11, will be held at Fremont Center Grange Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 27th and 28th, 1881.

The orchard and fruit garden." By L. E. Wright, followed by T. Taylor and Lewis Bush.

Our native plants and shrubs and trees, or ornaments." By Lewis Bush, followed by Wilks Stuart.

Steam mills—are they a help or a detriment to the farmer." By A. Terwilliger, A. Flynn.

Why are agricultural profits so small compared with other investments?" By A. D. Scott and T. H. Stuart.

Fall plowing for spring crops." By T. Taylor, John Barnhard, and G. W. Goodwin.

Pearl Grange, No. 81, will hold an open meeting and feast at their hall at Benton, Berrien Co., December 10, afternoon and evening.

The seventh annual meeting of the D. & B. C. Council P. of H. will be held at the Hall of Orion Grange, Tuesday, December 6, 1881, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Morning session—Opening of Council. Music by the Grange choir. Address of welcome by Master of Orion Grange. Response by Mrs. Ann Delano, of Thomas.

How can the farmers of Michigan compete with the great West? By G. M. Trowbridge of Pontiac.

What is the best economy in the purchase and use of farm implements? Discussion opened by Joshua Vanhousen of Rochester, Musie.

How much education is needful for the farmer and his family? Carrol Clark, Orion.

Suggestions.—Hiram Andrews, J. M. Norton, E. F. Cassidy, M. E. Delano, Mrs. Barwick, Mrs. J. J. Snook, Mrs. L. C. Hains and P. T. Butler.

All four degree members are cordially invited to attend.

C. K. CARPENTER, President. J. G. NOBLE, Secretary.

Report of the Committee on Agriculture of the National Grange.

The grand industry that has done so much is yet far within the measure of possibilities. Its rapid development has no visible bounds except in the indifference of the millions engaged in production to the encroachments upon their civil rights.

The grand industry that has done so much is yet far within the measure of possibilities. Its rapid development has no visible bounds except in the indifference of the millions engaged in production to the encroachments upon their civil rights.

It is a fact, supported by incontestable proof, that agriculture pays far more than its just share of taxes for the support of government; and it is equally true that its products are cheapened in the hands of producers that they may yield larger percentages of profit to the various interests intervening before ultimate use.

If all this be true, may we not say with the earnestness of conviction, that the American farmer deserves no greater share of the rewards that follow his labor until he displays manhood enough to assert his rights in the general conduct of affairs?

As the representatives of an organization based on agriculture, having no purpose hostile to any other useful calling, or profession, we deplore the apathy of American farmers on the question of their rights in the body politic, and invoke action designed to restore equitable balance between the various interests, industries, and professions, so that no one shall dominate others, but all persons engaged in every useful labor shall have free and equal chance in the race of material and intellectual progress.

Recognizing as we do the origin of artificial hardships placed on agriculture, in the indifference of farmers to civil duties which they can not delegate to others without certain harm, in shamefully corrupt party usages so engendered, in the cynical contempt bestowed by party leaders and their unscrupulous adherents upon the rights of labor, we, as the representatives of that calling which enlists the greatest number of laborers, and is immeasurably greater than any other—even all others—the magnitude of the values it creates, do solemnly declare all our obligations to political parties terminated, and party association hateful, until such time as party may invite allegiance by wisdom of purpose and purity of method.

Resolved, That this National Grange, representing a membership spread over the entire Union, will exert all its force with unflagging zeal and persistent purpose, to encourage independent political action, to the end that dangers lurking in partisan management of public affairs may be eliminated; that corrupt party strife may incur the odium it deserves; that the elective franchise in its exercise may become the true expression of the desire of the citizen; that the useful industries of all our people, in every calling, may receive just consideration; that intelligence, capability, and worth may become the recognized qualifications for persons designated to official trusts; that money shall cease to be a potent factor in determining nominations and elections to office, and that the government may return to that simplicity which befits a frugal, industrious people.

PUT DARDEN, Chairman of Committee.

GUTEAU has established a precedent in Judge Cox's remarkable court which permits every murderer on trial for his life not only to conduct his own trial but to blackguard every witness who is to appear against him, and every man, witness or otherwise, who presumes to speak unfavorably of him.





