

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOLUME 8—NO. 10. }  
WHOLE NO. 138. } [Printed by Kalamazoo Publishing Co.]

SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH., MAY 15, 1882.

{ YOUR SUBSCRIPTION  
{ WILL EXPIRE WITH THIS..

Entered at the Post Office at Kalamazoo as Second Class matter.

## The Grange Visitor

(ENLARGED)  
Published on the First and Fifteenth of every month,  
AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,  
Eleven Copies for \$5.00.

J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager,  
Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order, or Draft.

This Edition 8,000.

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## Agricultural Department.

### APRIL AND MAY.

BY CELIA THAXTER.

**I—APRIL.**  
Birds on the boughs before the buds  
Begin to burst in the spring,  
Bending their heads to the April floods,  
Too much out of breath to sing!  
They chirp, "Hey-day, how the rain comes down!  
Comrades, cuddle together!  
Cling to the bark so rough and brown,  
For this is April weather."

"Oh, the warm, beautiful, drenching rain!  
Let us be glad together!  
Soon will the sky be clear again,  
Smiling, and fresh, and blue.  
"Sweet and sparkling is every drop  
That slides from the soft, gray clouds;  
Blossoms will blush to the very top  
Of the bare old tree in crowds."

"Oh, the warm, delicious, hopeful rain!  
What did the brave birds say?  
Let us be glad together.  
Summer comes flying in beauty again,  
Through the fitful April weather."

**II—MAY.**  
Skies are glowing in gold and blue:  
What did the brave birds say?  
Plenty of sunshine to come, they knew,  
In the pleasant month of May!

She calls a breeze from the South to blow,  
And breath on the boughs so bare,  
And straight they are laden with rosy snow,  
And there's honey and spice in the air.

Oh, the glad, green leaves! Oh, the happy wind!  
Oh, delicate fragrance and balm!  
Storm and tumult are left behind  
In a rapture of golden calm.

From dewy morn to starry night  
The birds sing sweet and strong,  
That the radiant sky is filled with light,  
That the days are fair and long;

The bees are drowsy about the hive—  
Earth is so warm and gay!  
And 'tis joy enough to be alive  
In the heavenly month of May!

—St. Nicholas for May.

### Michigan Seedsmen.

Bro. Cobb:—In September last I found myself in a condition that required the use of considerable grass seed. In order to ascertain where I could get a supply to the best advantage, I wrote to D. M. Ferry & Co., of Detroit, and asked them to send me one bag each of timothy and orchard grass seed for examination and test, and the same day I asked Albert Dickinson, of Chicago, to do the same thing. In both cases the seed was shipped to me promptly, the two bills bearing the same date. In Ferry's bill the charge for timothy seed was \$3.00, for orchard grass seed \$3.50 per bushel, with the same stipulation that has been already printed in the VISITOR regarding responsibility on a card attached to each bag.

In Dickinson's bill the charge for timothy was \$2.80, for orchard grass seed \$1.75 per bushel, but no stipulation. Ferry charged 25c. each for bags, Dickinson 20c.

I wrote Mr. Ferry informing him of the price in Chicago, and asked if there was not a mistake in his charges. The reply was that the bill was correct; that he "charged that price to consumers." And I ceased to consume his seed.

I prefer to trade with dealers in my own State, but 25 per cent. profit on bags and 100 per cent. profit on seed does not seem to me to be an even thing on "consumers," and they had better not submit to it if they have much consuming to do.

My subsequent orders went to Albert Dickinson, of Chicago, and the second lot was billed at \$1.60 for orchard grass seed, the third lot at \$1.50 for the same seed, and \$2.25 for timothy seed. The seed was all clean and good, so far as I know, and the transportation from Chicago to Ionia on a half ton of seed costs about \$2.62.

I know nothing of either of these men except in a business way, and give this information solely for the protection of those who have suffered loss by the combined influence of the grub and severe drought, and wish to replenish their denuded fields and head off the weeds so far as possible.

ALONZO SESSIONS,  
Home, May 4, 1882.

### Thanks.

I thank Soil for explaining what ensilage is, but the change of color, the slight acidity would make me fear to use it. The forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden was, I think, that which was slightly decayed; food was in it; it had not become unpleasant to the eye (Genesis, 3, 6, but the slight poison—what results? Let suffering, dying humanity tell if it can.  
Mrs. A. HAMILTON,  
Peach Belt, April 18, 1882.

### Red Clover.

By W. J. Beal, M. Sc., Ph. D., professor of botany and horticulture in Michigan Agriculture College.

The Scotch and English claim that English red clover is the strongest, largest and strongest red grown. They say that good red comes from the north of France and Germany, but the seeds are smaller than the English and the leaf a good deal smaller. The Dutch-grown seed is paler in color, but is very good. British reports say that great quantities of American red clover seed is imported, and it is even smaller in size than the French or German, and is often weak. The reverse state of things has often been noticed in this country with many other kinds of seeds as well as with red clover. We see that in each case, after many generations the clover becomes acclimated.

In Great Britain two or three varieties of clover are in common use, besides the species. The latter is *Trifolium pratense*. One variety is called *Trifolium pratense*, var. *perenne*, perennial red clover or cow grass.

This is described as valuable for purposes for which the red clover is wholly unsuited. It produces only one crop in the year, is fit to cut two or three weeks after red clover is in the same condition. The roots are spreading and run deeper and the leaves and stalks grow larger.

Another is called Sutton's giant hybrid clover. *Hybridum trifolium pratense giganteum Suttoni*, certainly a formidable name. It is claimed to be a cross between red clover and cow grass.

Then they describe a paleflowered variety and a white flowered variety, both of which are occasionally seen in our fields in this country. Professor James Buckman, one of the best English authorities, says all of these forms of clover are usually much mixed.

I have often studied red clover in this country, and can truly say that in flower, and stalk and leaf this plant varies almost as much as Indian corn. Some heads are very large, others small. Surely here is a grand chance for any one having the skill and patience to select and perfect some improved varieties of red clover which shall be an honor to his name. We need a sort that will root deeper and stand dry weather better, and if possible to have less hair on the stems and leaves; and for some purposes, a perennial variety is quite desirable.

Many substitutes have been tried for red clover. Among these are white clover, alfsike clover, Italian clover, hop trefoil, yelvet clover, lucerne, or alfalfa, saint john, vetches, cow peas, peas, lupines, melilotus, lotus, vetchling and others, all of which belong to the same family as red clover, viz.: *leguminosae*. Some of these have met with marked success in certain places for certain purposes, but as a general thing, none of them begin to come up to red clover in value. Alfalfa stands dry weather better. Melilotus is famous for bees and may yet turn out to be a first class plant for green manuring. Numerous other forage plants take the place of red clover where red clover would be preferable.

Care should be taken to examine seeds which come from the east, as they may contain the seeds of a parasite called *casculia* (corder). On the experimental grounds of Purdue university, Indiana, last year, Professor Ingersoll found some of this pest. Too great pains cannot be taken to eradicate it at once. A small vine winds about the stems of clover and sticks to them sucking the very life out of the clover. It is not yet common in the West.

### CLOVER FOR SIX YEARS IN SUCCESSION.

Laws and Gilbert, of England, speak of the total amount of green clover obtained in six years from a good garden soil as nearly 128 tons per acre—equal to 26½ tons of hay, or to an average of 4½ tons of clover hay per acre per annum. The produce was considerably increased by the application of gypsum, and still more by the application of phosphates of potash, soda and magnesia and superphosphate of lime. In four years the increase, by the use of gypsum, amounted to about 15½ tons of green clover, or about 3½ tons of hay—nearly one ton per acre per annum. The increase in the four years by the use of the alkalies and phosphates, amounted by estimate to 1½ tons increase of hay per acre per annum. Fourteen acres of clover were cut in six years. In an experimental field near by, clover could not be secured, even for a moderate crop, during the six years, without reseeded.

### USING CLOVER TO KILL CANADA THISTLES AND OTHER WEEDS.

J. S. Woodward, of Lockport, New York, is a farmer of close observation and marked good sense. At my request he furnishes the following on this topic: "Canada thistles have long underground stems or root-stocks, nearly devoid of roots. These root-stocks store up nourishment during the latter part of summer and fall for pushing the upright growth in the spring from the eyes. The spring growth is mowed fed from the root-stocks. If early plowing cuts off the upright stems another set will follow, and so on with several times plowing. If we let the plants grow till near flowering, the root-stocks will be nearly exhausted, and the thistles without the loss of a crop, as follows: Have the land rich, if possible, at least have it well seeded to clover and by top dressing with plaster, ashes, or by some means get as good growth to the clover as possible. As soon as the clover is in full bloom, and here and there a thistle shows a blossom, mow and make the crop, thistles and all into hay.

Thistles make good hay at this time. After mowing apply a little plaster to quickly start the clover; you will find this to come much quicker than the thistles. As soon as the clover has a good start, from July 20th to August 5th, plow down, being careful to plow all the land and to fully cover all growth. Then roll down and harrow at once, so as to cover every thistle entirely up. But few thistles will ever show themselves after this, and they will look pale and weak. When they do show cultivate thoroughly with a cultivator having broad sharp teeth, so as to cut every one off under ground. In two days, go over with a sharp hoe and cut off any that may have escaped the cultivator. Watch and when you see any coming up again, follow the same plan with cultivator and hoe until freezing up. You will see them getting scarcer and scarcer each time and looking as though they had the consumption. Follow this plan faithfully, and my word for it, you will never see a thistle again unless it comes from the seed. By plowing the field just before freezing up, you will have the land in the finest condition for a spring crop. This plan not only kills thistles, but I have found it most efficacious in clearing the lands of all noxious weeds, much better than any summer-fallow, and without the loss of any crop."

### CLOVER SEEDED WITHOUT ANOTHER CROP.

In my article for the *Clover Leaf* last year I spoke of success in this way on a number of different years. In a recent prize essay in the transactions of the Highland Society of Scotland, the author says, "To suit certain conditions of soil, the sowing of grass seeds without a crop has recently been adopted on several farms with great success." He adds, "It is surprising that it is not more generally practiced where a regular system of rotation is not observed." As a good crop of rotation is the year of sowing, it need not interfere with a good rotation.

In the year 1877, the weather in autumn was quite wet in many parts of Michigan, and clover seed was much damaged. I obtained samples of about forty lots from different parts of the State, and tested their vitality. Over 86 per cent. germinated. A high average for good seeds is 90 per cent.

I began some test of clover seeds saved this fall, which has been quite remarkable for wet weather. The room was rather cool a part of the time, and the results are not quite satisfactory at the time of writing these notes. The average was 84 per cent. of good seeds. I think the average would be much better with a good test. Further tests have been made with light and dark seeds. Two hundred and fifty seeds of each were taken from the same lot. Of these 240 of the dark germinated, and 244 of the light seeds. In the spring, two small beds 4x6 feet were planted side by side at the same time. The seeds for one bed were all dark, those for the other were all light. While young, the bed from dark seeds seemed to be most vigorous, but later in the season no difference could be seen. The plats will be further studied next year.

### Trees by the Line Fence.

The question has often arisen whether the fruit which grows on the branches of a tree overhanging the land of a neighbor, belongs to the owner, to the neighbor, or both. The rules are now pretty well established, though in the past they were somewhat contradictory. If the stem or trunk of the tree grows so close to the line that parts of its actual body extend into each, neither owner can cut it down without the consent of the other, and the fruit is to be equitably divided. If the stem of the tree stands wholly within the boundary line of one owner he owns the whole tree with its products, although the roots and branches extend into the property of the other. There is an old rule of law that the latter might claim from the yield of the tree as much as would be an offset for the nourishment it derived from his estate, but this is now obsolete. The law gives the land-owner on whose soil the tree stands the right to cut it down at his pleasure, and to pluck all the fruit from it while it stands. In New York State the courts have decided that trespass for assault would lie by the owner of the tree against the owner of the land over which its branches extended, if he prevented the owner of the tree, by personal violence, from reaching over and picking the fruit growing upon the branches, while standing on the fence dividing the lands. The owner of the land over which the branches extend may lop the branches close to his line. He may also dig down and cut the roots square with his line, if he so elects. In plain terms, if no portion of the trunk is within his line, he may refuse all trespass of the tree on his premises, either above the ground or below it. But if he gives the tree license either to extend its roots under the soil or to hang its branches over his premises he does not thereby gain any right to its fruit. He cannot pick it for himself nor interfere with the picking by the owner as long as the latter remains in the tree or on the fence which divides the property. This right to the fruit does not, however, permit the other owner to come upon the soil on the other side of the line to gather the fruit, and all the fruit which falls without violence to the ground on that side may thus become the property of its owner.—*Albany Evening Journal*.

A BROOKLYN man advertises a powder to "cure cats and dogs of somnambulism." It is put in a gun.

### Talks on Poultry, No. 7.

#### FANCY EGGS AND FANCY PRICES.

The chicken fever served up as a mild epidemic among the farmers of Michigan is "a consummation devoutly to be wished for." Not that Michigan is lagging behind, but that she might take her place at the head. Years ago a farmer in Pavilion said he believed every egg a farmer raised cost him five cents. Another farmer in Portage to whom we paid some money for corn rather irreverently remarked, "Lord! going to feed that to hens? Why, I should think you would rather sell the corn." We kept itemized accounts, so the remark didn't sink very deep. Each of these gentlemen now keep as fine flocks of pure-bred poultry as you could wish to see. Michigan farmers are awake in the day-time, and the present high price of eggs and poultry are causing demands for the best breeds for either eggs or meat, and we wish to remind them that the best is the cheapest.

People inexperienced in the poultry business often think, "Why should I send away and pay two or three dollars for a dozen eggs? Neighbor So and So keeps Brahmas, Leghorns or Cochins, as the case may be." My good Granger, Neighbor So and So does not keep as good fowls as the man who asks two or three dollars per dozen for his eggs. The breeder who raises high-bred poultry must maintain breeding pens; his fowls are registered with a registration fee of fifty cents each; they are birds which have had extra care and taken prizes at fairs; excellent knowledge and judgment are essential in mating the fowls to produce the best results; eggs are carefully kept and shipped per express packed in little baskets; then expense of advertising and correspondence—considering all these items of expense, and the fact that it is a business that must be tended to immediately, a reliable party who charges two or three dollars per dozen for such eggs makes no more profit than you do when you sell wheat for one dollar per bushel.

#### ANOTHER MATTER.

Among almost 10,000 subscribers of the GRANGE VISITOR, thousands are successful turkey raisers. From years of experience, you have many little schemes or conveniences. If you tell them to us through the VISITOR it would do you no hurt, and us much good. For the VISITOR of June 1st we wish as many short items on turkey-raising as the good Grangers of Michigan will send us; about the breed you prefer; in setting the eggs—where, when and whether you use a turkey or common hen; how long after hatching you leave the turks under the hen; their first feed and when; their after care and feed, and anything you may know about turkey-raising. You say you are busy? So are we. Simply write a postal card, if time is limited. If you lack experience, remind your neighbor Granger of this. Address to Brother Cobb, who sanctions this, and wishes a generous response. Please write so that it will reach us by Friday, May 26, sharp. Experience teaches that now is the best time to do a thing. Please remember this means YOU.

Grand View Farm, }  
Kalamazoo. } OLD POULTRY.

#### Poultry Houses.

A poultry-house may be quickly and effectively cleaned out by first using an old broom and removing cobwebs, dust, &c., and cleaning the floor with a shovel. Then take half a bushel of lime and slake it in a barrel. If one of the syringe or fountain pumps used for washing windows can be procured the lime wash may be syringed all over the inside, forcing the lime into every crevice and cranny, and thoroughly cleansing them. The lime that falls on the floor will sweeten that. When the work is done turn out the refuse lime for the fowls to pick at.—*Poultry Nation*.

#### Kicking Cows.

J. T. Frisbie, of N. Y., says: I once had a cow left for me to milk for a few weeks, which was the worst kicker I ever knew, being vicious to the last degree, and the only cow I was ever afraid to milk. Whipping and kindness were alike of no avail, and strapping up the foreleg did no good, for she would kick just as well standing on three legs as on four. We were at last told to buckle a sur single tight about the body just in front of the bag and over the hips, and we found we had her, for though she could jump up and down, she could not kick. To put it on we secured her head in the stanchions, and passing the strap round her body just back of the forelegs, slipped it back to its place, and then quickly tightened it, and she would soon submit to be milked for that time, and was soon broken.

A dozen of eggs will average about 1½ pounds.



## OUR SOLDIER'S GRAVES.

BY WILL CARLTON.

Cover them over with beautiful flowers,  
Deck them with garlands, those brothers of ours,  
Lying so silent by night and by day,  
Sleeping the years of their manhood away—  
Years they had marked for the joys of the brave;  
Years they must waste in the mouldering grave.  
All the bright laurels that waited to bloom  
Fell from their hopes when they fell to the tomb,  
Give them the moonlight they have won in the past,  
Give them the honors the future forecast.  
Give them the chaplets they won in the strife,  
Give them the laurels they lost with their life.  
Cover them over, yes, cover them over,  
Parent and husband, brother and lover!  
Crown in your hearts those dead heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

Cover the faces that motionless lie,  
Shut from the blue of the glorious sky,  
Faces once decked with the smiles of the gay,  
Faces now marked with the frown of decay.  
Eyes that looked friendship and love to your own,  
Tips that the thought of affection made known,  
Brows you have soothed in the hours of distress,  
Cheeks you have brightened by tender caress.  
Oh! how they gleamed at the nation's first cry!  
Oh! how they had streamed when they bade you  
good bye!

Oh! how they glowed in the battle's fierce flame!  
Oh! how they paled when the angel came!  
Cover them over, yes, cover them over,  
Parent, son, husband, brother and lover!  
Kiss in your hearts those dead heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

Cover the hands that are lying untried,  
Crossed on the bosom, or low at the side,  
Hands to you, mothers, in infancy thrown,  
Hands which you, father, clasped close in your own,  
Hands where you, sister, when tried and dismayed,  
Hung for protection, and counsel, and aid,  
Hands that you, brother, in loyalty knew,  
Hands that you, wife, wrung in bitter adieu;  
Bravely the musket and sabre they bore;  
Words of devotion they wrote in their gore,  
Grandly they grasped for a garland of light,  
Catching the mantle of death-darkened night.  
Cover them over, oh, cover them over!  
Parent, son, husband, brother and lover,  
Crown in your hearts those dead heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

Cover the feet that all weary and torn,  
Hither by comrades were tenderly borne:  
Feet that have trodden in flowery ways  
Close to your own in the old, happy days.  
Feet that have pressed in life's opening morn  
Roses of pleasure, and death's poisoned thorn,  
Swiftly they rushed to the help of the right,  
Firmly they stood in the shock of the fight.  
Ne'er shall the enemy's hurrying tramp  
Summon them forth from their death-guarded camp;  
Ne'er till the bugle of Gabriel sound,  
Will they come out of their couch in the ground.  
Cover them over, yes, cover them over,  
Parent and husband, brother and lover,  
Kiss in your hearts those dead heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

Cover the hearts that have beaten so high,  
Beaten with hopes that were born but to die,  
Hearts that have burned in the heat of the fray,  
Hearts that have yearned for the homes far away,  
Hearts that beat high in the clasp of the right,  
Hearts that fell low in the prison's foul night.  
Once they were swelling with courage and will,  
Now they are lying all pulseless and still.  
Once they were glowing with friendship and love,  
Now their great souls have gone soaring above.  
Bravely their blood to the nation they gave!  
Then in their bosom they found them a grave!  
Cover them over, yes, cover them over,  
Parent, son, husband, brother and lover!  
Kiss in your hearts those dead heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

Cover the thousands who sleep far away!  
Sleep where their friends cannot find them to-day,  
Those who in mountain, and hillside, and dell,  
Rest where they waited, and lie where they fell.  
Softly the grass blades creep 'round their repose,  
Sweetly above them the wild flower blows,  
Zephyrs of freedom fly gently o'er their head,  
Whispering prayers for the patriot dead.  
So in our minds we will name them once more,  
So in our hearts we will cover them o'er.  
Roses and lilies, and violets blue,  
Bloom in our hearts for the brave and the true.  
Cover them over, yes, cover them over,  
Parent, son, husband, brother and lover!  
Think of these far-away heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

When the long years have rolled away,  
E'en to the dawn of earth's funeral day,  
When at the archangel's trumpet and tread  
Rise up the faces and forms of the dead,  
When the great world its last judgment awaits,  
When the blue sky shall swing open its gates,  
And our long columns march silently through a rough,  
Fast the great Captain for final review!  
Then, from the blood that has flowed for the right,  
Crowns shall spring upward, untarnished and bright;  
Then, the glad ears of each war-martyred son  
Proudly shall hear the good tidings—"Well done!"  
Blessings for garlands shall cover them over,  
Parents and husband, brother and lover,  
God will reward those dead heroes of ours,  
And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

## A Question for Discussion.

**Editor Grange Visitor:**—We hereby propose a question which we wish to have thoroughly discussed through the columns of the VISITOR, viz.:

**Resolved,** That wives are entitled to, and should be endowed with legal authority to hold as her own, and will or otherwise decree in case of her decease, one third of the property gained during married life.

While women are not excluded from the discussion, we earnestly hope that it will not be left wholly to a few women's rights women, but will be honestly and practically discussed by the men, the voters and law makers of our state, our Worthy State and National Masters, and all who compose our State Grange, in fact all who are interested in having just and noble laws to govern our people. \*\*\*

We commend the following hit of the Pueblo (Col.) *Populi*: "A doctor will set down and write a prescription: time, five minutes; paper and ink, one-fourth of a cent, and the patient pays one, two or ten dollars, as the case may be. A lawyer writes ten or twelve lines of advice, and gets \$10 or \$50 from his client. An editor writes a half-column puff for a man, pays a man fifty cents to one dollar for putting it in type, prints on several dollars' worth of paper, sends it to several thousand people, and then surprises the puffed man if he makes any charge. And yet the world is surprised at seeing so many millionaire editors roaming around the country! Sensible publishers are rapidly learning, however, that 'business is business,' and the difference between what constitutes news and that which relates purely to the promotion of other men's business ends."

## How shall we make Farm Life more Attractive to the Boys?

A paper read before the Romeo Grange, P. of H., by J. E. DAY.

The question assigned to me assumes that there is a lack of attractiveness to farm life, and that for this reason the boys are liable to leave it, and seek other and more congenial occupations. Such is not always the case. Diversity of pursuits in the world, all important and necessary, calls for diversity of taste and talent. And all these varied pursuits find their ranks swelled by farmers' boys. And if they are fitted for the positions they occupy, it is well. But the restless and uneasy leave the farm without any good reason.

The youth is in haste to be rich, and he sees how his father and his neighbors are bowed and broken down with toil, and how scanty their wealth, and by what slow degrees it has been garnered up; and even this has been through the rise in value of real estate, rather than by any foresight or wisdom of the owner; and seeing this he very wisely, as he thinks, concludes that this is too slow for him. And so he resorts to speculation, or mercantile life, or an agency, to realize the gold of his dreams. He cannot see, as you and I can, that those who thus leave the farm place their feet in a snare from which few, very few extricate themselves without serious injury either to character, or purse, or both.

Our papers abound with enticing offers of unlimited wealth to those who will accept their terms: a service in the city, an agency, or something of the sort, with a certain but indefinite salary. And at the end of three years, or by the time the youth reaches majority, thousands of dollars will be gained.

Now in the same time, if he works upon a farm, he will have the insignificant sum of only \$200. But in the first case there is not only much doubt about the wealth, but an almost absolute certainty of dissolute habits, and extravagance in dress, which eat away all the promised wealth, and he enters life without character, without influence, a damaged constitution, and perhaps a wife picked up in some hasty and doubtful way, who will be a dead weight to him as long as he may live. In the other case the money, though small in amount, is sure, and he enters life with habits of industry, economy and self-reliance, a good name, a wide influence, hosts of friends, good health and a sober, industrious and virtuous wife. I tell you, my friends, there is not money enough in the county of Macomb to make up the difference in these two cases.

But how can we help it? Can any attractions be added to the farm which will help in the matter? Give the youth the current papers, and let him read the reports of boys who left a good home and have thus fooled themselves. Let them read of failure after failure, and of clerks and cashiers who have darkened a life by crimes, and it seems to me the remedy will be found.

Another boy says, I cannot endure this humdrum way of living. I must stir people up. I must make a noise in the world. Well, you and I know, that often those persons who make the most noise are of the least use, and have less influence than the quiet but indefatigable workers.

After a child has been told a thing three times no further telling will be of any use. Tell the child not to put its finger in the pretty flame. It may understand you, but it must feel the pain before it will realize the consequence of the act. Now, if these boys will not be told, then the sooner experience completes the schooling the better for all concerned.

We cannot keep all the boys upon the farm, neither is it well we should. I am proud to think that all the other avocations are well and honorably filled from the ranks of the farmer; we are represented in all the higher walks of life. Neither can we keep the smartest boys on the farm and let the others go. All we ask is a fair proportion of the average talent, so that agriculture may stand side by side with the other honorable callings. In order to gain this proportion a few things by way of attraction I beg leave to suggest—

First, make the young feel a personal interest in farm matters and management. Make them feel that in a certain sense the farm is theirs, and the results will be in proportion to their thought and energy. Talk with the boys about the crops and the soils adapted to the growth of each, of the stock, the tools, the fruits, etc. Get them to plan and propose and think and execute, and then, when a plan is given do not treat it as an idle talk or only child's play, but treat it with respect and if such plans can be tried without serious loss by all means try them, and if "failure" has to be written across the page a question has been settled which so amount of argument could satisfy. The very thought that a field has been worked by a special plan of some one invests it with an interest to that person unfelt before. But if the plan succeeds do not tell of it boastfully as the result of your skill and wisdom, but give the honor to whom it belongs. Boys are sensitive as regards their honor in this respect, and do not like to be robbed of it. I know a boy who by his own thought and work set out and cared for a nice row of forest trees, and after they were nicely started his

father boasted of them in the presence of the boy as his own. I know that the boy was hurt by it, and felt that he was wronged. Then the boys may be encouraged and their interest secured by giving them a certain share of the products of a field, as a reward of faithfulness in raising the crop. If the young can be induced to keep a daily journal of events and of accounts, entering a debtor and credit page with each field, and making out the final summary, and at the end of the year showing the profit or loss on each field, or each kind of grain, on the cattle, hogs, or sheep, a new interest will be felt, and a store of practical information gained which will be a source of value in after years.

A want of attraction is often felt in the manner of many in their talk of crops, weather, or prospects—always with a whine—nothing is right. The weather is bad, taxes are high, the season is backward, the prices are awful low, and farming is a dog's life—all work and nothing for it. Now if an atmosphere made up of such continual fog and chill does not drive the youth off the farm, I do not know what will. The expression is often met with, "only a farmer," thus placing agriculture at the bottom of all the vocations in life. Inspire, the boys with your own spirit, and show them that there is at least one who does not think his work degrading. The boys see a brother or a neighbor's boy fitting for a mechanic or a profession. Several years of the best of his life are taken up in study and preparation, before he is qualified to enter upon such a life. His ideas must be enlarged, his intellect brightened and his whole being must undergo a change. For himself a few months at the district school, and a term or two at the academy are all that is deemed necessary to fit him for his business—no expansion of mind is needed, no enlargement of ideas, no brightening of intellect will be required, for he will be only "a farmer you know."

All this is wrong and a mistaken policy, as time will surely prove.

A want of attraction is also felt in the dress of many farmers both at home and at the village or places of resort. The youth has visited the city and all are well dressed and carry about the air of respectability, which he looks for in vain among the farmers. He sees them gather in the public places, one without coat and sleeves rolled up to the elbows, and with an old slouch hat, the relic of by-gone ages, and coat to match, and then with adornment in the shape of variegated patches behind and before; still another with pants tucked into boots that must have taken the hides of a pair of cattle to make; and these covered with mud and manure; and he says "not any of this for me. I want to make myself a little more genteel in appearance than this, and if I can't do it upon the farm, I shall go to something else."

A man may dress according to his work or business, without making a boor of himself. I like to see the solid yeomanry of our land dress in a sensible way, but they can do this without putting on the appearance of a sloven or a clown.

So much has been said and written upon the subject of home adornment, that I shall occupy but little of your time upon this topic, and this in regard to the family library. "Of making of books there is no end" and yet there is a scarcity of literature in most of our homes. During the odd times of broken weather and "off days" and during the long evenings time is spent in games or on the streets, or at the village, simply because there is nothing to read. Now, I know that in many homes this is absolutely the case. No paper, not a book—good, bad, or between; and time which might have been used in gaining useful knowledge is worse than wasted. There is no wonder that the boys sigh for a better state of things, and seek it in other occupations.

An attraction is to be found in rural societies of various kinds. A literary society for the purpose of mutual improvement, or a library association, or both in one, should be formed and maintained, with a little aid from the older ones, in every two or three school districts. One dollar each, as a membership fee for the support of the library, will give a zest to country life and be instrumental in giving a taste for useful knowledge that will be of life-long benefit.

But this will cost something. True, it will, but it is cheaper thus to furnish useful enjoyment for the young than to buy them out of mischief or the grip of the law. Parents are anxious to be able to give the boy a farm when he shall come of age, and they work and strive and deny for this end, when it would be far better to spend at least one-half of the money and pains in preparing him to fill his place in society with credit to himself and credit to his parents. The sentiment regarding agriculture has changed much within the last few years, and we all will be behind the times if not prepared to take our places in the front ranks of our calling, whatever that may be.

In conclusion, let us show our youths that we honor our calling; and when we choose that some of them shall follow it, we go choose not because they are fit for nothing else, but because we believe it may be made conducive in the highest degree to their happiness and the good of the society in which they shall live.

## Address of Welcome.

*Ladies and Gentlemen, Brother and Sisters of Grange No. 431:* Unto you all, greeting. The Creator of all things, in his wisdom, has given you and me a task to perform, a mission to fulfill, which, summed up in a few words, means just this, to dare to do right under all circumstances. This association, if I understand aright, is a means to an end; its ostensible objective point is now, to grapple with that insidious and treacherous foe of humanity and the masses of our toiling citizens, and it is called monopoly. In this land of liberty-loving citizens, in this "Land of the free and home of the brave," with all of our boasted Yankee sagacity, and the terrible lessons that we have been taught by the toiling millions of Europe, we have allowed that foe to grasp our railroads, our telegraphs, our coal mines, our oil wells. Foreign capital is purchasing 50,000 acres of land in one body, and the writer of this article would not be surprised to see them yet reaching out to grasp the postal service.

The people, slow to believe such things, are, notwithstanding, becoming alarmed, or else why these Knights of Labor, Farmers' clubs and Alliances, Trade unions and Granges. Brothers, what does all this mean? Why, you all agree with me, that cause produces effect. I admire and appreciate your watchful care and caution in your management of this association, coupled with your social and friendly amenities. I begin to understand why we lay aside our lazy ease at home, and count as naught the darkness, mud and storms, to prepare for what we see too plainly is coming. We have undertaken a herculean task, and if we do go slow, we go sure.

Now let me call your attention to one fact. We have all heard a great deal about capital and labor. Now, it may seem trivial to mention it, but capital is always quoted first, while just the reverse of this is true, for it is labor that creates capital. They are now antagonistic factors in the elements of prosperity. Surely we ought to learn a lesson from the past and wake up from our Rip Van Winkle sleep and see where we are drifting. It is our mission to harmonize these two factors, viz.: Labor and Capital. Now we have got the horse before the cart where he properly belongs; labor is the creator, and capital is the thing created. What would a lecturer, orator, or preacher think if we should say, "Why such a thing is an abomination in the sight of man or God," but reverse it, and it sounds all right. Now you laborers and producers, my brothers and my sisters, you have made this wilderness bud and blossom like the rose, you have made 10,000 blades of grass grow where none grew before, and through the long toiling years, both early and late, you have denied yourselves the luxuries of life and perchance some of the necessities, and with rigid self-denial you have barely achieved a competence. But those who have manipulated, and speculated, on your earnings, have piled up their tens of millions. It seems incredible that one single branch of that monopoly (the Railroad) has filched from the farmers' pockets sixty thousand dollars from this county alone since the close of navigation on the transportation of wheat, corn and oats alone, as was stated by Brother Moore in a recent address delivered here. We are struggling to compass the death of that gigantic robber and as sure as God is above man, we will yet accomplish it. You are all familiar with what was called the irrepressible conflict, that outrun all human calculations; that only embraced about four millions. But this mighty Moloch and Mammon, this great mogul baptized monopoly, holds now in his firm grip over forty millions of toilers and producers in this land of the free and the home of the brave. But my brothers and sisters, the seed is sown, the tree of liberty has been planted, its roots have gone down deep into the soil, the fame of its fruit has drawn the representatives of all nations to seek a shelter under its branches. We may or may not live to see our David slay this Goliath, but as old Samuel Adams of revolutionary fame once said, "Sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish," we will fight monopoly until one or the other goes under. Now a few words more, and I trust that I am not treading on dangerous ground. Beware of any and all, who under any pretext whatever, will either endorse it or apologize for monopoly. We as a people of this nation are now wavering in the balance. Our enemies, the monopolists proper, are few in number, but they hold the sword, the purse, and the patronage of this nation. The workers and producers of this nation are vastly in the majority, if they can only be made to see it. Now if the toiling millions can be brought to understand that monopoly is their deadly enemy, then the mighty change is wrought, the problem solved. Then, the social, moral, and financial millennium has come. Then we will understand, realize and appreciate the blessings of liberty, equality and fraternity. Now my brothers and sisters I would to God that every man and woman farmer in our country were grangers, but as that thing is to be devoutly wished, but never to be attained, I will make a few suggestions in reference to applicants for admission into our Grange. First and above all they should be anti-monopolists to the core; Secondly, they should be producers of something to eat, drink, wear, to shelter, or to use, or directly interested; Third, of good moral character, with these qualifications let them come and remain, by conforming to the rules and regulations gov-

erning the Grange, and as far as I understand it, that about covers the whole ground. All of which is respectfully submitted for your consideration. A few words more, and I will close. No true reformer, of evils that infest and impoverish society but has met censure, ridicule, and persecution, but brothers and sisters hold your grip, we are a Spartan band, and should ever bear in mind that truthful adage, "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity."

Yours truly, T. J. TOWN.

Have a Distinct Mark to Aim at.

From the Spirit of Kansas.

No farmer knows his real strength, his latent and unused powers, the stores of energy treasured up in himself, till some emergency calls it out. To many, perhaps to the majority of farmers, this exigency never comes, and they plod on year after year, plowing the same field, fattening the same number of hogs, raising about so many calves, cutting the same quantity of hay, and doing the like things over and over again, till the whole work of farming becomes mechanical and might as well be carried on by an automaton as by a man having reason, imagination and a prophetic spirit. To these dreamy, humdrum characters there is no future, or if a future, it is the same dusty, beaten track over the same dead level, without any grand mountain scenery, any shady groves, or fertile, flowery meads; there is no journey's end in prospect, no magnificent Niagara to visit, no dear friends to meet, no mountain heights to climb, but only a plodding, aimless, dog-trot sort of movement in a way that leads nowhere and ends in nothing.

Such a life no farmer should be content to live. This world is God's world—the very best He could make for us; with infinite pains and millions of years' patient labor, He has given it into our hands, not yet finished, to be sure, but in such a forward state towards completion that we can live in it comfortably now, with a bright and encouraging prospect that with our willing and hearty co-operation it will be finished so that it will be a splendid, well-furnished and spacious mansion for ourselves, our children, and our children's children, to dwell in forever.

Now, the practical question for every farmer and every worker is, What can I do in this year of 1882 to help build up this home for myself and family? What can I do to make life this coming year more noble, more grand, more fruitful of good, more abundant in happiness and more blessed in every respect? Now is the nick of time to form plans. Let the plans be sober, reasonable, practicable, such as can be carried on towards the completion of a larger and more comprehensive life plan, which will round out our three-score years and ten and make life worth living.

Yes, let us have an object to aim at this year. "I will increase the value of my Jersey and grade stock, or my short horn stock, or my native stock, to the amount of two hundred dollars. I will not so much try to increase their number as their quality, their productiveness. I have several cows in my dairy that are quite inferior. I will weed them out, selling them or exchanging them for better, or fattening them for market, and I will replace them by other and better cows. I will also take better care of my dairy stock, feeding my cows up to the point of the best condition of health, growth and productiveness. To this end I will arrange my crops of clover, millet, rye for forage, corn for stalks and meal, wheat for straw and bran, so that I shall, beyond bread for the family and a portion for market, have an abundance of fodder and of the kind that will keep up a full flow of milk and a healthy growth. I will raise so many calves, and they shall be the best of the kind, and shall receive the best of care, so that if raised for market they shall be prepared at the earliest period possible for sale; if for the dairy, they shall be prepared for milking at the time or before they shall be two and a half years old."

We give this as a hint only in one department of farming. There are several other departments respecting which plans could be formed. But this of the dairy will perhaps be enough for the present year while managing the other departments somewhat in reference to it. One thing at a time is undoubtedly the wisest plan, till we have worked up to it the best we can and the nearest to our idea. "This one thing will I do." This one thing may just as well be seeding the farm to grass, the increase of corn or other cereals, the planting of an orchard, or perfecting any department for which we have a taste or which we think will advance our interests or enhance the value of our farm. The point on which emphasis is to be laid is to have a plan, a precise, definite object to accomplish, a work to do that will tax not only our brain and our hands, but our heart also—will call forth our energies and enlist our enthusiasm to the degree that will make our work a pleasure and not a burden and a servile task.

THE former Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Windom, in a recent letter to the President of the Anti-Monopoly League, said: "The channels of thought and the channels of commerce thus owned and controlled by one man, or by a few men, what is to restrain corporate power, or to fix a limit to its exactions upon the people? What is then to hinder these men from depressing or inflating the value of all kinds of property to suit their caprice or avarice, and thereby gathering into their own coffers the wealth of the nation? Where is the limit to such a power as this? What shall be said of the spirit of a free people who will submit without a protest to be thus bound hand and foot?"

VERY much has been accomplished by our organization since its first starting out, but there remains much to be done. While the discussion of party politics is very properly not permitted within our Order, we are in duty bound, in casting our votes for men to fill the various offices in our government, to see that our suffrages are given to those who are honest, capable and faithful.—Ez.

THROUGH the Grange co-operation in all its branches will be popularized by associating it, as it ought to be associated, with the thoughts of what will make life pleasanter to the body of mankind in our farming communities, than is at present. Can any farmer say nay to this proposition?



Correspondence.

THE PIONEERS.

I hear the tread of pioneers, Of nations yet to be; The first low wash of waves where soon Shall roll a human sea.

I hear the far off voyagers horn, I see the Yankee's trail— His foot on every mountain pass, On every stream his sail.

Behind the scared squaw's birch canoe, The steamer smokes and raves, And city lots are staked for sale Above old Indian graves.

The rudiments of empire here Are plastic yet and warm; The chaos of a mighty world Is rounding into form!

Each rude and jostling fragment soon The fitting place shall find— The raw material of a State, The muscle and its mind!

And westering still, the star which leads The new world in its train Has tipped with fire the icy spires Of many a mountain chain. —Whittier.

NORTH STAR, April 11, 1882.

Bro. J. T. Cobb—As it is very interesting to me, to read in the VISITOR the reports from Granges throughout the State, of their prosperity; therefore it might interest others to know that Liberty Grange, No. 391 is still alive, and on the advance. During the last quarter we received two new members, and one by dimit, and at our last meeting we received one by dimit, also six new members who will receive the 3rd and 4th degrees at our next meeting. We are ordering groceries &c., from Geo. Hill of Detroit, which prove very satisfactory to all concerned. Yours, Fraternally, L. J. DEAN, Master.

Lapeer County Pomona Grange.

Bro. J. T. Cobb, DEAR SIR:—At the last meeting of Lapeer County Pomona Grange, No. 29, held with North Branch Grange, No. 607, on April 13, 1882, I was requested to present a condensed report of the proceedings of said meeting to the VISITOR for publication. The first thing that came on the program was the dinner, which was served in a way that only sister Patrons can serve it. Immediately after dinner the Grange was called to order. After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, reports were heard from the Subordinate Granges, which were good, showing that the Grange is going forward in the county. One dormant Grange has been reorganized during the quarter (Goodland). Bro. Thos. F. Moore delivered two series of lectures in this county during the past quarter, and I think we will reap benefit from them. The questions for discussion that were published in the VISITOR, in the issues of March 15 and April 1, were handled in a lively, entertaining and instructive manner. The wool question was discussed at some length; it was decided that we ship our wool this season. Bro. E. Bartlett of Dryden was appointed agent to ship the wool. After selecting a program for next meeting, and transacting quite an amount of other business, the Grange closed, to meet with Lapeer Grange, No. 246, on June 8, 1882.

Fraternally yours, JACOB W. SCHELL, Sec'y. North Branch, April 24, 1882.

The Other Side.

HUDSONVILLE, Mich., April 23, 1882.

Bro. Cobb—Dear Sir: I see in your last issue of the VISITOR a notice, headed "Grange Seal Stolen—Caution—Imposter, etc." And that one E. A. Quarterman has stolen impressions of the seal of Knickerbocker Grange so he could sell his paint to Grangers, claiming it was the Celebrated Ingersoll Paint. Now I do not believe Mr. Quarterman is that kind of a man. We have bought paint of him and can say it is just as good as the Celebrated Ingersoll Paint. I believe Mr. O. R. Ingersoll caused this notice to be printed to injure Mr. Quarterman, for the very reason that said Quarterman sells just as good paint as the Celebrated Ingersoll paint for less money than the Ingersoll paint is sold for. Mr. Quarterman's paint is used all over the country, and by a great many Granges in this State, and they all recommend it highly. I do not write this because I am working for Mr. Quarterman, but because we have used his paint and believe it to be just as good paint as any kind in use. Fraternally, DELL BARNABY, Sec'y Hudsonville Grange No. 112. P. O. H., Hudsonville, Mich.

Shiawassee Pomona Grange.

Bro. Cobb—I herewith send you the report of our Pomona Grange, which has been delayed on account of the blanks having been sent to Bro. Burkhardt, of Perry, and of whom I have just received them. Our county meeting at Shafsbury was held May 3d and was largely attended. There was considerable talk of making a Grange exhibit at our county fair next fall, and a committee of three from each Grange in the county was selected to meet with the county Agricultural society June 5th at Owosso, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements. We think that fair generally have been managed and controlled by citizens who were not practical

farmers long enough, and that if we ever expect to elevate the farmer and reward merit we must take a more active part in the management. The best men of our county are members of our Order, and they are being chosen to the management of an Agricultural society and the county Mutual Insurance association, and it will not be long before the farmers of this county will have their full share in the management of these organizations, in which they are so largely interested. If the present move to make a Grange exhibit at the fair next fall is successful it will give us a big boom, we hope. The reports from Subordinate Granges made at our county meeting were all very encouraging and there will probably soon be one or two new Granges organized in this county. Yours fraternally, J. C. STONE, Secretary.

Barnum's Temperance Talk.

P. T. Barnum, who was justly advertised by the Manhattan Temperance Association as a mammoth attraction, addressed yesterday afternoon probably the largest audience ever gathered at Masonic Temple. He was introduced by the Rev. S. Thomas Williams as "one whose name is a household word through the United States." The great showman came forward, looked florid and healthy, and bowed to the audience. He was dressed in a dark suit, with sack coat. He spoke with energy. "I have probably drank more liquor," he said, "than any man in this hall; but now, thank Heaven, I drink no more! I had the best wine cellar in the State of seven years. I went on drinking for six or seven years. I found that I couldn't do as much business as I used to do. I began to get headaches, I didn't think for a moment it was the liquor. I invited Dr. Chapin to come to Connecticut some time after that and preach a temperance sermon. I heard it. It was directed against the moderate drinker. I couldn't go to sleep that night. The next morning I got up bright and early and broke every champagne bottle in the cellar. I showed Dr. Chapin what I had done. He asked me if I was a teetotaler. 'Yes,' I replied, 'I am; but I have been so only for two hours. I signed the pledge that morning. I am now 72 years of age, and I know I should have been in my grave twenty-four years ago had I not become a teetotaler. "Alcohol is indigestible. There is no more nutriment in it than in a pound of tennepny nails. It is just as sensible to drink the glass itself as to drink what it contains. Some people think it a fine social thing to say when they meet their friends, 'How are you, my boy? Let's take a drink.' It would be a more sensible thing for a man to go out with his pockets full of baked potatoes, and say, when he meets a friend, 'How are you my boy? Let's eat a potato. "When I was in Erie a reporter came to interview me about my circus. He incidentally intimated that he would take a drink. I told him I was a teetotaler. Then I interviewed him. The interview wound up with his pledging himself not to drink again. He wrote to me and told about his success after I left Erie. He finally wrote me a letter asking me to write a letter to a lady, whose name and address he inclosed, telling her what I thought of him. I did it. In his next letter to me he said: 'Barnum, we're engaged.' He is now chief editor in Detroit. He wrote me recently saying: 'Barnum, I've got a boy.' That man's boy is now 11 months old."

Mr. Barnum concluded his speech by urging all young men to sign the pledge.—N. Y. Sun.

The Origin of the Tides.

All bodies attract each other; The power exerted depending upon the weight of the bodies and their distance from each other. The weight of any body is, in fact, the force with which the earth attracts the body to itself. The celestial bodies are all chained together by this power. The sun and the moon both exert an attractive influence on the earth, inducing the earth to approach them. This attraction being counterbalanced by the centrifugal force, we describe a circle, which is the resultant of the two forces. But the surface of the earth consists of fluid and solid; the former owing to its mobility, exhibits the greater tendency to obey the attractive influence and therefore rises to meet the sun or moon. The sun, on account of this enormous bulk, exercises a much greater attractive force on the earth than the moon, but the solar tide is much less than the lunar tide, for this reason—the moon being near the earth attracts the sea far more than its solid bed, and, therefore, the water rises in a heap underneath the satellite. The sun on the other hand, being so distant exerts nearly as much force on the surface as on the ocean bed beneath, and, therefore lifts up the water but very little. The identically same effect is produced upon that part of the earth most distant from the sun or moon, only in this case the ocean bed is drawn more rapidly to these bodies than the writer, which is, fact, left behind. When the sun and the moon are either in conjunction or opposition—that is, when the line joining them passes in the neighborhood of, directly through the centre of the earth—then these attractive forces being united, the tidal wave will be at a maximum, forming "spring tides." If they be in "quadrature"—that is if the lines drawn from their centers to the earth's center form a right angle the tides will be at a minimum, or "neap tide" will result. It will be evident, then, that if the earth were a world of waters, each tidal wave would pass completely around the world in twenty-four hours. The existence of continents materially modifies its transit, and it is driven from its course, and consequently retarded. The great tidal wave takes its rise in the Antarctic Ocean. As it traverses the ocean the water is not raised a few feet, but when it enters a shallow sea or an estuary, where the tide finds itself in a sort of a funnel, then the rise is as much as seventy feet, as is the case in the Bay of Fundy. The wave is not a wave of transmission, but one of motion, and if the particles were destitute of all cohesion or friction among themselves, they would only rise and fall in the same place after the attraction had passed. A wave of this nature is illustrated by throwing a stone into a pond; the wavelets expand from the point of disturbance, but do not carry to the shore anything that floats on the surface of the water, such bodies only rising as it were, to allow the waves to pass beneath them. This proves that the water only had a downward and upward movement as it formed the wave.

Old Uncle Sammy's New Medicine.

BY REV. EDWARD A. RAND.

Just think of it! Tom Simpson was constable! A laughing, social, good-natured, jovial fellow, was appointed a minister of the stern law. "He won't hurt a flea," people said. But however he might feel as Tom Simpson, as constable he buttoned his coat over his feelings, and meant to do his duty. He felt that he was specially bound to enforce the law that said no liquor should be sold as a beverage in town; that in cases of sickness or manufacturing, the town liquor-agent alone should dispense all intoxicating fluids. "I'll enforce that law," said Tom, "and I will avail myself of the right to search suspected places, and I will make wrong-doing scarce if I can."

He was expressing this opinion silently as he passed the home of old Uncle Sammy (nobody ever said Mr. Samuel Nevins). The window was up, but the curtain had been dropped—not fully dropped, for an inch of light from the evening lamp shone out into the road. And that one inch let out the constable's name—"Tom Simpson!"

He heard it distinctly. At first he fancied some one might be calling him. No, the talking steadily went on. Then it flashed upon him that mischief might be brewing in Uncle Sammy's, and mischief too, that he was specially interested in repressing, for Uncle Sammy had one 'weakness,' that might make him a transgressor of the law Tom specially meant to enforce.

"I know that is just so, and here goes an ear and eye, too; two ears and two eyes if I can accommodate myself to this small hole," thought Tom.

Looking into the window he saw Uncle Sammy sitting in a high-backed chair. He was a snuffy, weak-eyed, flabby old man, and a bandage about his throat showed that he had some trouble there, or thought he had. He was holding in his right hand a pocket-book. With his left he was gesticulating while he addressed a young man, to whom he was offering the pocket-book.

"That is Vester Harrington," thought Tom. "Vester, as stage-driver, has his nobby coach rig on, ordered by the stage company. What are they up to? See that decauter and bottle on the stand behind Uncle Sammy. Their talk had something to do with liquor I know." "Now Vester, Uncle Sammy was affectionately saying. His full name was Sylvester, shortened to 'Vester' generally, and here lovingly softened down to 'Vessie.'"

"Vessie, why not?" whined the old man, giving a silly smile of entreaty. "You say I might go to the town agent? But you see he don't appreciate my—my peculiar difficulty."

Nonsense! The town agent knew that the old man would come on the smallest pretext when liquor was not really necessary. And did not Uncle Sammy's wife agree with the town agent? Did not the old lady say, "Try something else in the place of liquor; it is getting a hold that is strong on you."

"Do you say you will, Vessie?" inquired Uncle Sammy, taking a big pinch of snuff. "No, I don't, for this business is risky. Tom Simpson might arrest me for bringing liquor into town."

"Tom Simpson," said the old man, hasn't a backbone worth that, and he snapped his fingers loudly. Tom Simpson don't know nothing."

Somebody at the window did not enjoy this one bit. "Now, here, Vessie, I have put some money in this pocket-book. Take it to Brooks, at Chatham, and say Mr. Samuel Nevins wants you to fix him a little jug full of his—his—favorite medicine," said the old man, winking his little eyes.

"Shall I put it that way, as medicine?" "Sartin'; I'll take what he sends, for I need sartin'," said Uncle Sammy, with an air of intense sincerity.

"All right!" replied the stage-driver. When Sylvester came back to town that night, pompously driving a rattling, banging, bumping stage of the famous "Air Line," under the duster covering his legs, was a little quart bottle.

"It won't be noticed there," argued Sylvester to himself. "Hello, Vester," said the lynx-eyed constable, determined to improve any opportunity given him by that chance hearing the evening before.

"What did you bring from Chatham?" "Passengers, for one thing," said Vester, keeping his seat. "Don't you let them out?" "They can get out."

Sylvester seemed to be so anxious to keep his seat, that Tom was suspicious. "Vester! Vester! This way, please." It was the landlord calling from the hotel where the stage stopped.

"What, sir?" "Please drive the stage into the yard, and then take this note up to the post-office. Just step up with it."

Tom followed the stage into the yard, and poor 'Vester' was obliged to go off juggles. "Now is my chance. I am going to examine that stage, and especially the box," thought Tom, and out came the jug.

"Vester can't do that errand and get back for twenty minutes. I will have some fun out of it," thought Tom. "Wife," he said, hurrying to his home, which was in the neighborhood, "make some of the most fiery ginger tea possible in about five minutes."

Emptying the jug, and reserving its contents to be consigned and appropriated as the law directed, he filled up the jug with the new kind of 'fire-water,' adding this label. "Take it hot, clear and often."

When Vester returned the jug was waiting for him in the box, but Tom lingered about, and did not give him an opportunity to carry off his 'medicine' until it was cool.

"Here, uncle Sammy," said Sylvester, delivering the precious article, "I had the greatest time avoiding that Tom Simpson, but it is all right now. Take the jug." "Good boy, Vessie. My! haven't you been a blessing to an old invalid!" replied uncle Sammy.

When alone he examined the label on the jug. So thoughtful in Brooks; 'Take it hot, clear and often.' I won't wait long. I'll heat it now," he said, taking a pinch of snuff. "I wonder how it smells?" But snuff and cold had so ruined the sense of smell, that he couldn't tell ginger tea from strong cognac or sweet cologne.

Filling a mug, he took a big, generous dose. "Oh! my!" he exclaimed, dropping the mug and jumping round the room. "What have I done? Oh! oh! Wife, come here, he shouted in the entry.

"What is the matter, Samuel?" said his wife, rushing in. "Is it fire?" "Yes, yes, in here!" and uncle Sammy patetically flourished his arms, then stroked his poor, tormented body.

"Why what have you taken? Let me examine the jug. Nonsense, this is all right. It's ginger tea—pretty, pretty strong, that's so. But, Samuel, now, you be sensible. Who sent it?"

"Well, he knows what is best. Take the advice he gives you, and try some more. It will drive your cold away, and—and will give you an opportunity to begin a better course of medicine."

And will you believe it? Uncle Sammy took her advice, and is a much better man every day because taking the constable's medicine. Tom Simpson did know something.—Church and Home.

Land-Grant Grabs—How the Railroads Have Plundered the Public Domain.

Special to the Cincinnati Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 24.—The Assistant Clerk of the General Land-Office, Mr. J. W. Lebarne, makes an interesting statement about the manner in which the land-grant railroads have been treated by the Interior Department. The Cedar Rapids & Missouri River railroad is a completed road under grants available for its construction, and its total length, as certified by the Governor of the State, is 271.6 miles. The grant was six sections per mile, or 1,042,944 acres, but the land actually certified and patented under the grant is 1,141,690 acres, or 98,746 acres more than the greatest possible amount that could rightfully be embraced in the grant. The grant was diminished, however, by overlapping grants of other roads to the extent of 25 per cent, so that the excess given to the company is really more than 300,000 acres for 563 miles of road.

The Sioux City & St. Paul road of Iowa was entitled to 359,520 acres at the utmost, but 407,910 acres have been certified and patented to it, while the grant ought to have been diminished not less than 37,000 acres other overlapping grants.

The St. Paul & Sioux City road of Minnesota was entitled to 850,000 acres, but has received 1,200,858 acres, an excess of 350,858 acres.

The St. Paul & Pacific road in Minnesota has also received an excess of the maximum area of its grant, and the legal and actual reduction to which the grant is subjected does not appear to ever have been considered.

The area given to the Iowa Falls & Sioux City road in Iowa is 25,000 acres in excess of its maximum grant, and it has received 100,000 acres since 1875.

The Winona & St. Peter Company is credited with a nominal area of 1,710,000 acres, and it was estimated that the actual area to which it was entitled was 710,000 acres, but it has received 1,668,007 acres, an excess of more than 250,000 acres over the geographical lines of the grant, and an excess of nearly 1,000,000 acres over the real area of the grant. It received nearly 3,000 acres in 1879.

IN SEVERAL OTHER CASES the probable area of grants has been exceeded. The total area of the Alabama & Chattanooga road's grant would be 44,000 acres, if there were no reductions, but it was originally estimated that the area would be only 461,000 acres, because of reductions. The road has already received more than 600,000 acres.

In many cases lands to which companies were entitled upon the completion of their roads have been withheld from settlement for many years, although the roads have not even begun. The grant to the Gulf & Ship Island road in Mississippi was made in 1856, and it expired in 1866. No road has been built and no lands have been applied for, but all the public lands within alternate sections for a breadth of 30 miles on the line of the proposed road and for a length of 170 miles were withdrawn from settlement in 1860, and have ever since been held in reservation.

The Coosa & Tennessee road in Alabama has now been built, but the company has received 67,000 acres, and many thousands of acres besides have been withdrawn since 1858. For 80 miles the lands along the Coosa & Chattanooga road have been reserved since 1858, but the road has not been built.

The St. Louis & Iron Mountain grant was abandoned by the company, but the lands for 20 miles each side of the line first proposed are not open to the settler.

The Land Office has no official report of the construction of any part of the Pensacola & Georgia road in Florida. There is unofficial information that 150 miles have been built, but 1,250,000 acres were certified or patented in advance of construction, or 1,000,000 more than the road is yet entitled to. The road was to be 408 miles long, but the grant expired in 1866. The lands along the whole line were withdrawn from settlement in 1857, and are still reserved.

These are only a few instances of the loss of money in which the Land Office has carried on its business with the land-grant roads, to the disadvantage of the settler.

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MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R. DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

Table showing departure times for Westward and Eastward trains, including Night Express, Accommodation leaves, Mail, etc.

L. S. & M. S. R. R. KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

Table showing train schedules for L. S. & M. S. R. R. Kalamazoo Division, including Le. Grand Rapids, Ar. Allegan, etc.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. Corrected Time-Table—January 31, 1882.

Table showing train schedules for Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, including Le. Port Huron, Grand Trunk Junction, etc.



## The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, - - - MAY 15.

### Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

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#### A SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

The Grange organization early recognized the great fact of the importance of agriculture and declared its purpose to educate and elevate the agricultural class.

In looking over the field it saw the machinery of the government in the hands of other classes, and the paramount interest of the country occupying a subordinate position without representation and without influence. The importance of its commissioner was more political than useful, and he served party rather than practical purposes.

The counterpart of the asserted claim that agriculture was the most important interest of the country, and the broad foundation on which all other industries and enterprises must depend, was the demand that agriculture have governmental recognition, and a place in the councils of the Cabinet of the Executive of the United States.

By those who had all their life-long thought and spoken of that half of the citizens of the country as *only* farmers, this claim was treated as presumptuous, if not impudent.

At the advent of the Order it found the Committee on Agriculture in the House of Representatives in the hands of lawyers, with a New York city lawyer for its chairman. This might have been regarded as a comical fact if the consequences to the country were not of such a serious character. Millions were annually expended in the less important departments of the government, and agriculture turned over to half a score of lawyers, whose only care for the bantling was measured by its political and partisan value.

But the world moves, and so has Congress, as the following telegram shows, from the Honorable Member, representing, as we believe, not only his constituents of the third district of Michigan, but the people of the State and country as well.

Washington, D. C., May 10.

To J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich.:

Anderson's bill making Agriculture an Executive Department passed the House, one hundred seventy-two ayes, seven noes. EDWARD S. LACEY.

We give the bill in another column. If section 2 of the bill had required that the secretary of agriculture be a practical agriculturist as well as his assistant, we should have been better pleased with the bill. But, though there is room for improvement, so much has been gained that we are not in fault finding mood.

D. M. FERRY & CO.

A letter from Ex-Gov. Sessions, found in another column, goes to confirm the impression which some of our people entertain of the business habits of this firm. In an article referring to this firm published a few weeks since, we think we may have done other seedmen in the country some injustice in saying that this firm is probably neither better nor worse than other firms in this business all over the country. With accumulated evidence we now incline to the opinion that we were in error, that the firm of D. M. Ferry & Co. are making a more determined effort to consume "consumers" than any other we know of, and we advise Michigan farmers to take chance of fair treatment with other parties when they deal with any seedmen.

"THE Washington County (Vermont) Court spent a whole day recently in deciding a case involving twenty-four cents. The case took up the time of three judges, officers of court, twelve jurymen and three lawyers. It resulted in a verdict of fifteen cents for the plaintiff."

We need not go to Vermont to duplicate that sort of judicial fraud. The profession don't any where in this country object to engaging in just such raids upon the treasury of a county, and they will continue to do so until the press of the country demands protection for the people, who are thus victimized by these honorable guardians of the rights of the citizen. When neighbors will quarrel about "24 cents," to our notion of justice a decent regard for the rights of the community demands that the expense of the quarrel should be borne by the parties thereto. But legal science evolved from a legal education—and legal and judicial practice, justifies a raid upon a public treasury with a pretext too paltry for patient-hearing by honest men.

#### NEWSPAPER INDEPENDENCE.

In the last number of the VISITOR we had something to say about the administration of law by the bar and courts of this country and charged up to the press of the country a part of the blame of the present condition of things. Since then we invited the editor of a country paper to copy our article and make such comments as he saw fit. Did he do it—No. It is so much more important to fill up a sheet with current news, nine-tenths of which has no value to the community in general beyond the transient satisfaction afforded by knowing "what is going on in the world." While we are not blind to the fact that a newspaper must be abreast of the times and give at the earliest moment all news of real importance, or else fall behind its cotemporaries, yet we think we know another thing just as well.

The independent outspoken paper that has some positive opinions outside hackneyed flings at political opponents and gives expression to those opinions fearlessly and often, does something for its readers that is worth paying for and makes for itself some reputation that gives it character and standing.

To boldly strike a blow at a general or local evil may sometimes require courage but it is a duty the journalist owes to his patrons and if judiciously administered gives character and standing to a paper.

But most newspapers are not conducted in accordance with this view, but on the contrary are timid and all the while apprehensive lest a friend or patron shall be offended, and a subscriber lost or an advertisement withheld. With somewhere from a couple of hundred to a couple of thousand of subscribers, nineteen-twentieths of whom would consider the paper worth five hundred per cent more if its editor said just what he knows to be true with regard to the usages of lawyers and courts, the average county newspaper editor is abjectly dumb before the influence of the other twentieth who practically muzzle the press.

We have little patience with this tacit approval of this most glaring and expensive imposition upon the rights of the people.

The finest opening to popularize himself and make his mark, is presented to any lawyer of talent who will courageously come to the front and pronounce against those rules and usages of courts and the bar, that at the expense of the people surround trivial cases with technicalities and delays until their essential merits are obscured or lost sight of behind a pile of accumulating costs and the lapse of time.

#### ANTI-MONOPOLY.

Many of our readers are not aware of the extent of the Anti-Monopoly organization, with headquarters in New York, the commercial metropolis of the continent. With men of wealth and influence at its head, it has been spreading with a liberal hand printed matter among the people in all parts of the country. While it is true that it has not prevented combinations, pools, and special rates, to the detriment of individuals and the general public, it has in common with the Grange, enlightened the public upon the subject of railway abuses, taught the voter the value of his vote in protecting his own interest, and prepared him to some extent to disregard the political war-cry of the scheming politician who demands fealty to party as above and beyond every other consideration.

In several eastern papers we find reference to the late Anti-Monopoly meeting held at Albany on the 26th of April, and attended by over four hundred persons of recognized activity in this comparatively new movement. The *Husbandman* says: "Mr. L. E. Crittenden, President of the Anti-Monopoly League, was called to the chair precisely at one o'clock, and made a stirring speech, in which he set forth the principles that animate the persons known as anti-monopolists, depicted the dangers to our republican institutions in the unrestrained exercise of corporate power, and appealed earnestly to all good citizens to come to the rescue of their liberties, imperilled by the encroachments of corporations and monopolistic tendencies of business."

The people of the State of New York have had greater cause of complaint than we of Michigan.

A legislature, controlled for years by the combinations of monopolies, notoriously corrupt and defiant, so outraged the rights of the people that under the impulse of self-defense or self-protection, they organized some few years ago a Farmers' Alliance. As we understand, its members were largely farmers, and the purpose was and is, to correct existing evils by legitimate means—an appeal to the ballot. The organization working in harmony with the Anti-Monopoly League organized in New York City, is beginning to make itself felt. The successor of that pronounced monopolist, Senator Wagner, killed in his own car by the collision at Spuyten Duyvel, is a pronounced anti-monopolist, and owes his election to the Farmers' Alliance and the Anti-Monopoly League. We will not take space for the column of preamble and resolutions adopted at Albany the other day, but will give the gist of the whole thing as expressing the line of its political action recommended by the League:

"We will, as far as possible, endeavor to influence nominations by the existing political parties of candidates who will support these principles. Where such candidates are nominated we will support them. If neither party should present such a candidate, then the League will make its own nominations and sustain its own candidates."

and out Republican paper, we shall look over both papers with care until we know whether we are working on this question of free passes with Don Henderson or Mr. Reid, or both. We hope with both, but as this anti-pass doctrine is not essentially Republican either in platform or practice we cannot be sure, and we await developments. One or the other of these editorial gentlemen has taken position, and to be consistent must urge the point taken, and endeavor to make it a plank in the platform of the Republican party.

#### FREE PASSES FOR JUDGES AND LEGISLATORS.

"We copy the following gems from a speech made in the Ohio senate, by the Hon. Coates Kinney. They are just as well fitted for the latitude of Michigan as for that of Ohio, and equally as applicable:

The railroad pass that is not earned by actual service has no good reason for being. Juries cannot be worked by railroad passes, and hence almost all railroad cases are taken up to the higher courts as a matter of course, out of the reach of stubborn juries.

There ought to be no room for even the suggestion of a suspicion that any judge or any officer of the courts has been plied with a motive for running the machinery of litigation so as to favor by a hair's breadth any man or set of men.

The official railroad pass has grown so prevalent as to be pestilent. The great managers are reported to have held a secret meeting in Chicago for the purpose of concerting some measure for ridding themselves of this pest. But, after an earnest discussion and deliberation, they concluded that they could not afford to run the risk of offending judges, and auditors, and legislators, and congressmen by withholding passes from them.

Suppose, senators, that the life insurance companies of the State had, in the first week of the session, sent each of us a handsome policy paid up to the close of our term of office; should we not have been put upon our suspicions that the transaction had some faint and delicate relation to laws for insurance companies? Or suppose the liquor dealers of the large cities had pooled their interests in legislation and sent us checks for free drinks on the saloons of Columbus "good until the close of the session of 1882"! The entire framework of society would have toppled with indignation and horror.

Farmers and taxpayers of Michigan, see to it in your selection of the legislators next fall that you choose men who cannot be tampered with by the gift of free passes from the powerful railway corporations which operate lines in our State, and that you elect men to represent your interests and not corporate feudalism. It is high time that the free pass system to judges, legislators and public functionaries shall go with slavery, polygamy, and every other form of corruption and iniquity. The people pay legislators to make laws in the state's interest and not of railroad magnates."—*Allegan Journal*.

We have never forgotten the remark a gentleman made to us some years ago, after we had narrated to him the particulars of an affair that seemed likely to develop a law suit. Said he, "Mr. Cobb, I should be surprised at what you have told me, but I long ago made up my mind not to be surprised at anything."

We have remembered this to some purpose, and yet we were overtaken with an agreeable surprise in looking over the columns of our contemporary, the *Allegan Journal*, of a late date, as we read what we have copied above.

The *Journal* has been known as an ultra radical Republican paper, always ready to go it blind for the party. We very well remember having a little set-to with the *Journal* after it undertook to make the Hon. Thomas Palmer Governor of Michigan. The *Journal* ignored the rights of the farmers altogether, even after we had shown up two very important facts.

First, that of the 91 gentlemen who had been honored by election to the office of Governor of the State or to the Senate or House of Representatives of the United States since Michigan became a State, but three of these gentlemen had been farmers. And this too in the face of the fact that Michigan is an agricultural State and has been during all these years. The *Journal* did not undertake to show that farmers as a class could furnish no suitable material for these offices. It did not undertake to prove that we were wrong in urging in behalf of the great agricultural class of the State our demand for a farmer Governor; but it did persist in urging the claims of its city candidate after we had proved that he had defrauded the State out of thousands of dollars.

In view of the course the *Journal* pursued at that time, we had not a very exalted opinion of its political honesty, and that accounts for our surprise at finding it so outspoken on the question of free passes.

We clip the above from a late issue, and while we are quite in the dark as to which of its able editors is entitled to the credit of expressing in such decided terms this orthodox doctrine of the Grange, we can assure the author of this, that on this question of the propriety of legislators and judges accepting passes from railroad corporations we shall work in harmony.

The *Journal* has brought the matter right down to a point when it demands that "the farmers and tax payers of Michigan see to it in your selection of legislators next fall, that you choose men who cannot be tampered with by the gift of free passes from the powerful railway corporations which operate lines in our State."

We need not have referred to which of its editors, and should not, only about the time this appeared in the *Journal* the editorial department of the paper had a violent attack of unpleasantness that resulted in the establishment at once by the junior editor of the *Journal* of the *Allegan Gazette*. As Mr. Reid proposes to make the *Gazette* an out

and out Republican paper, we shall look over both papers with care until we know whether we are working on this question of free passes with Don Henderson or Mr. Reid, or both. We hope with both, but as this anti-pass doctrine is not essentially Republican either in platform or practice we cannot be sure, and we await developments. One or the other of these editorial gentlemen has taken position, and to be consistent must urge the point taken, and endeavor to make it a plank in the platform of the Republican party.

We expect to present the VISITOR to 20,000 readers regularly for the next six months, and while we don't intend to mix up in politics in violation of the principles of the Order, we do expect to urge our voting readers to so far ignore party obligations as to refuse to support any man for a legislative or judicial office who does not give in advance a pledge to refuse and return every railroad pass sent him during his official term.

There is no question before the American people so important as this, Shall corporations control; the people, or shall the people control the corporations which they have created? And there is no better place to begin the determination of this question than right here. It never will be settled in favor of the people, while all prominent attorneys of the country, all its judges, and all its members of legislative bodies travel for business or pleasure under the influence and obligation of a railway pass.

We are under renewed obligations to Senator Ferry, and to Congressman H. W. Lord, of the First, E. S. Lacey, of the Third, and J. C. Burrows, of the Fourth District, for reports, speeches, and documents. That these gentlemen have done and are doing what they can to have a representative of the agriculture of the country in the Cabinet of the President, and also to secure such amendments to the patent laws as shall give needed protection to the uses of patented articles, we have no doubt. And we are pleased to know that their labor, together with other members from Michigan, has been largely instrumental in securing the results already obtained upon these two questions. The demands of the Grange so manifestly just and right, seem likely soon to be realized.

We are in receipt of a polite invitation from the Secretary of the West Michigan Farmers' Club to attend an implement trial, under the auspices of the Club, June 6, for which we return thanks.

The Horse Association of Schoolcraft have also favored us with an invitation to be present on the 24th, 25th, and 26th of this month, at their grounds near our village. Besides horses there will be a large exhibition of farm machinery on the grounds.

NOTICE of advertisement of the *Poultry World*. This is a most excellent poultry journal, and thoroughly practical. You can learn here how to keep poultry for profit. Profusely illustrated with the best, simplest and latest designs for troughs, coops, nests, poultry-houses, etc. Back numbers furnished. A year or volume makes a complete cyclopedia in poultry matters. We like it. Editor H. H. Stoddard is well known as the author of some valuable books on these subjects.

"C. A. P." writes from Keene giving a brief account of the flourishing condition of the Grange in that locality, but as the article is without name its publication must be "indefinitely postponed" under the general rule of universal application by publishers.

JUST as this number went to press we received the synopsis of an address delivered by H. Eshbaugh, Lecturer of the National Grange, which we have to defer to the next number.

Do not overlook Bro. Burrington's report—Aid for the Fire Sufferers. Patrons who suffered, were remembered by Patrons.

#### VISITOR RECEIPTS (CONTINUED).

##### APRIL.

28—P H Evans, \$3.85; I B Hamilton, 1.25; Saml Felker, 1.00; W C Johnson, 1.00.  
29—D R Bates, \$2.80; Mrs Ann Shadle, 2.50; D D Cook, 1.00.

##### MAY.

2—Victor Howland, \$1.00; C L Tousey, 1.00; Asa Crofoot, 1.00.  
3—G W VanAken, \$1.50; J D Merrit, 3.00; S V R Earl, 2.10; A M Willett, 1.00.  
4—Addie S Ames, \$1.00; A Sainsburg, 1.00; J S Locke, 1.50.  
5—S A Gardner, \$1.00; Job Manby, 1.00.  
6—Robt Milne, \$1.50; H E Ruthford, 1.10; J Beadle, 1.00.  
9—O H P Sheldon, \$1.00; T M Sheriff, 1.40.  
10—W A Webster, \$1.20; H C Cooley, 2.00; Mrs S O Young, 1.00; B J McIntyre, 2.00.  
11—H B Ross, \$1.00; Mrs M Benjamine, 1.00.  
12—Perry Babcock, \$2.00; Ed Cuthbert, 1.00.

The Farmers' Review, of Chicago, is a most excellent agricultural weekly paper. Has full market reports—and is in the front rank on all questions that so much interest the producers of the country. Price \$1.50 per year.

By special arrangement we can send the REVIEW to all new subscribers to the VISITOR. BOTH PAPERS ONE YEAR FOR ONE DOLLAR.

#### A Secretary of Agriculture.

The following is the text of the bill adopted by the Committee on Agriculture last week and subsequently introduced to the House: A bill to enlarge the power and duties of the Department of Agriculture.

Be it enacted, etc., That the Department of Agriculture, established at the seat of Government of the United States, shall be an executive department, under the supervision and control of a Secretary of Agriculture, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and section 158 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to include such department, and the provisions of title 4 of the Revised Statutes are hereby made applicable to said department.

Sec. 2. That there shall be in said department an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture who shall be a practical agriculturist, and the several chiefs of the bureaus hereinafter named to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of four years, who shall perform such duties as may be required by law or prescribed by the secretary.

Sec. 3. For the purpose of collecting and disseminating all important and useful information concerning agriculture, and also concerning such scientific matters and industrial pursuits as relate to the interests of agriculture, the Secretary shall organize the following bureaus, namely: First, the Bureau of Agricultural Products, which shall include divisions of botany, entomology, and chemistry, the chief of which bureau shall be a practical agriculturist, who shall investigate the modes of farming in the several States and Territories, and shall report such practical information as shall tend to increase the profits of the farmer respecting the various methods, the crops most profitable in the several sections, the preferable varieties of seeds, vines, plants and fruits, fertilizers, implements, buildings and similar matters. Second, the Bureau of Animal Industry, to be in charge of a competent veterinary surgeon, who shall investigate and report upon the number, value, and condition of the domestic animals of the United States, their protection, growth and use; the causes, prevention and cure of contagious, communicable, or other diseases; and the kinds, races, or breeds, best adapted to the several sections for profitable raising. Third, the Bureau of Lands, the chief of which shall investigate and report upon the resources or capabilities of the public or other lands for farming, stock-raising, timber, manufacturing, mining, or other industrial uses, and all powers and duties vested in the commission now known as the Geological Survey, together with all clerks, employees, and agents, and all instruments, records, books, papers, etc., are hereby transferred to the Department of Agriculture and the Secretary may, through said bureau, institute such investigations and collect such information, facts, and statistics relative to the mines and mining of the United States as may be deemed of value and importance. Fourth, the Bureau of Statistics, the chief of which shall collect and report the agricultural statistics of the United States, and in addition, all important information or statistics relating to industrial, educational, and agricultural colleges; to labor and wages in this and other countries; to markets and prices; to mode and cost of transporting agricultural products and live stock to their final market; to the demand, supply, and prices in foreign markets; to the location, number, and products of manufacturing establishments of whatever sort, their sources of raw material, methods, markets, and prices, and to such commercial and other conditions as may affect the market value of farm products or the interests of the industrial classes of the United States. And the Secretary is hereby authorized to establish such divisions in this bureau, and to make such monthly or other reports as he shall deem most effective for the prompt dissemination of such reliable information respecting crops and domestic and foreign markets as will be of service to the farmers or other industries of the United States.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall hereafter receive the same salary as is paid to the Secretary of each of the executive departments. The salary of the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture shall be the same as that paid to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. The salary of a chief of bureau shall be the same as that paid to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Sec. 5. All laws and parts of laws relating to the Department of Agriculture now in existence, as far as the same is applicable and not in conflict with this act, and only so far, are continued in full force and effect.

#### A Gritty Son.

The Champion publishes a notice by a son that he will prosecute to the full extent of the law, any person furnishing any intoxicating liquors to his old father.

The name appended to the notice is one well known in Atchison. Its owner has not been conspicuously active in religion, moral or philanthropic movements; he has never passed any considerable portion of his life in denouncing other people as "rummies" and "whiskyties," but in the publication of this notice he means business, and if he gets the evidence he will make it very sultry for his offender. He is not waiting for public sentiment to be educated up to his standpoint, but says: "If you give this old man, tottering on the verge of the grave, any more whisky, I, myself, individually, without the assistance of any league or union, with my own funds, will prosecute you as long as I can find you." On this notice the Champion thus pungently remarks:

We regret that the publication of such a notice is necessary. We should think that no creature standing on two legs, possessing clearly defined eye-brows, and without bristles down his spine, or hair on the inside of his hands, and calling himself a man, would, for ten or fifteen cents, push this old man as he stumbles and gropes to his grave. Of course no man with any sense of honor or decency will fall to regard this notice. If he does he may rest assured he will regret it. A word to the wise is sufficient. The word has been given, and will stand in the *Champion* for a week, for the benefit of those it may concern.

We clip from the *Husbandman* "A New Method of Potato Culture," which some of our readers will see before their crop for this year is in the ground. We hope it will be tried the result reported to the VISITOR in October next.



Master's Department.

Progress of Patent Law Legislation.

On the 29th of April the committee on patents in the House of Representatives reported the following bill and unanimously recommended its passage:

BILL.

No action for damages or proceedings in equity shall be sustained, nor shall the party be held liable under section 4919 or 4921 of the Revised Statutes of the United States for the use of any patented article or device, when it shall appear on the trial that the defendant in such action or proceeding purchased said article for a valuable consideration in the open market.

On reporting the bill, Mr. Caswell for the committee made an earnest effort to secure immediate consideration. But under the rules of the House this required unanimous consent. Mr. Hewitt, of New York, objected, and the bill was ordered printed and placed on the calendar to come up in its order, unless the rules are suspended at some future time and the bill placed on its passage. This will require a two-thirds vote. From the temper of the House manifested at the time the bill was reported, it seems more than probable that this may be done.

It seems to me that this bill is in harmony with our demands. It is in accord with the principles of the bill drawn up by the subcommittee of the ex-committee by direction of the State Grange, and published in the VISITOR some time ago. If this bill should become a law, as we hope it may, the innocent purchaser of a patented article for his use will be exempt from action and danger of action for using an article that he honestly buys and pays for.

During the brief discussion pending the effort to place the bill upon its immediate passage, it was stated that this bill had the approval of the Commissioner of Patents.

Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, united with others in the effort to secure action at once. I have every reason to believe that the Michigan delegation in Congress is solid in favor of this righteous measure. And I make an earnest appeal to them to miss no proper opportunity to place it in the statute as the law of the land.

Every honest man and every honest interest will be benefited by it.

C. G. LUCE.

Gilead, Mich., May 6th, 1882.

The Sign of Caution.

The swindler is abroad again. I have just received the following letter from a brother Granger in Canada, which sufficiently explains itself. He writes:

"On the morning of April 2d, a person came to my house and informed me that he was a Granger in distress. He said he had been to Buffalo with a car load of horses; and had taken the train to go home, had fallen asleep and while in this condition his pocket was picked, the thief taking all of his money and his ticket home, and the conductor had put him off the train, at Brantford, Canada.

"I tested him in all of the signs known to the Order and found him correct. He wanted to borrow money to go home with. He gave his residence as Littleton, Michigan, 119 miles west of Detroit and 14 miles north of the Michigan Central R. R. at that point. He said he belonged to Big Mill Grange, No. 193, that the Master's name was John Allen, the secretary's name was Charles Stratton. I lent him some money which he promised to pay as soon as he reached home.

"He told me his name was Wm. Harris. I have not heard anything from him and I understand that there is no such place as Littleton in Michigan."

"I have been cheated out of my money, and am anxious to find out if there is such a person a member of the Order in your State. I think that if we can find this person, whoever he is (for I suppose he gave me a false name), he should be exposed and expelled from the Order. He must have been a Granger from the way he answered all of my questions."

I withhold the brother's name as I have not had time to obtain consent to this publication. But he gives excellent references, and I have no doubt that the writer of the above letter is a genuine good Patron who has fallen a victim to this arrant swindler. He has plied his art for some years, telling this same old lie with so much pathos and show of genuine piety that he has been able to deceive the very elect. A brother in the Order justly honored above all his fellows was once done out of a small sum of money by this same chap, with the same lie. At that time he belonged to a Grange in Illinois.

It is perhaps useless to say that he does not belong to any Grange in Michigan. That we never had a Big Mill Grange, No. 193.

Our 193 was Ceresco, at White's Station in Calhoun Co, 119 miles west of Detroit. I suppose this Grange is dormant as no reports have been received at this office for some years.

This man is a swindler of the worst character. This is published as a caution to all, and as an inducement to all who have an opportunity to aid in hunting him down.

If he could be induced to go to Missouri, he can be finished up in short order. That State is blessed with a governor who disposes of this class of criminals in a summary manner.

Gilead, Mich., May 10th, 1882.

C. G. LUCE.

"Michigan and its Resources."

This is a collection of facts, figures and statistics compiled under authority of the State of Michigan, by Frederick Morley, Commissioner of Immigration. The second edition is just out of the press, making a book in pamphlet form covering 166 wide pages.

It contains more useful information in regard to the soil, climate, productions, laws and institutions of our noble State than can be found in any other half-dozen books published. The compiler has kindly placed at our disposal copies enough to supply each Grange in the State with one copy. An arrangement has been made by which a copy will be mailed to the Secretary of each subordinate Grange. I have furnished a list of these to the Secretary of the Governor who will address them directly from the publishers.

The Secretaries will bear in mind that these books are for the Grange. Where a library has been established they should be placed there with the other books. Where the Grange has no library the book should be left at the hall or taken to any meeting. It tells of so many things of interest to farmers and citizens of Michigan, that it can be used with profit to some or all at any time.

It tells of our honest lands improved and unimproved. Of state and government lands. It tells of the mines and their products. Of the lakes and rivers with their finny inhabitants.

One arises from a perusal of the book with a more exalted opinion of our State than he had before.

Patrons utilize the information it contains. Please do not think it worthless because it costs you nothing directly.

C. G. LUCE.

Aid for the Fire Sufferers.

Bro. Cobb:—I suppose the readers of the VISITOR have been looking for a report from me, on the distribution of the funds contributed by Patrons for the aid of our brothers and sisters who suffered by the forest fires of last September. The delay has been occasioned by the slowness with which the funds came in, and by protracted sickness and death in my family, which prevented me from giving as prompt personal attention to the work of distribution as I could have desired. This I presume will be a satisfactory excuse for not making an earlier report.

It would afford me great pleasure could I give credit for the funds received, to the generous donors in different parts of the country, but the manner they have been received renders it impossible for me to do so. But a small portion has come to me directly from the donors, but has been sent through other hands and I have not the means of knowing from whom it came. The larger part has been forwarded through Brothers Luce, Woodman, Whitney and yourself.

I have received from all sources in cash \$1061.56. This has been distributed amongst twenty two families belonging to five different Granges, in sums varying according to their needs.

I have also received and distributed four barrels and one box of clothing, and one package of seeds.

I should like very much to give the readers of the VISITOR the names of those who have received aid, and the amount paid to each, but for reasons that all Patrons will appreciate I do not deem it best at this time to do so. Should this be made known, the amount they have received in this manner would be deducted from the amount they are entitled to receive from the general relief. This I am sure of, as I know that efforts have been made by some of the agents for the distribution of the State funds to ascertain who has received aid from us. For this reason I do not deem it prudent to give the names of those who have received of the bounty given by Patrons in aid of their suffering brothers and sisters. A full and complete report will be made to the Master and Executive Committee of the State Grange.

The aid has been timely and was gratefully received, and the hearts of our brothers and sisters have been cheered and strengthened by the evidence that their sufferings had touched a responsive chord in the bosoms of generous Patrons all over our land. Their love for the Order has increased, and they will labor with greater zeal to advance its interests. While many of our members suffered heavily, the aid received from Patrons and from the general relief fund, has brought them safely through the winter, and will sustain them until another harvest, when they will be beyond the need of further assistance.

I have endeavored to do the work assigned me in such a manner as would meet the approval of the donors, and have distributed the aid where I deemed it most needed. The sum at my disposal was not large, but has been sufficient to afford substantial aid to those of our members who suffered the greatest loss.

I cannot close without giving my thanks to Brothers R. F. Wellwood and James Anderson of Sanilac county, and George S. Farrar and A. N. Hatch of Tuscola county, for efficient aid rendered.

J. Q. A. BURLINGTON.

A New York State Grange.

Bro. Cobb:—There are two copies of the VISITOR taken in our Grange. We like to hear from Patrons in Michigan, and are rejoiced to hear that they are doing so well. I have read selected essays and letters in our Grange from the VISITOR, and the brothers and sisters in our Order are so well pleased with the paper that the Worthy Steward, P. E. Cart, and myself have succeeded in obtaining ten trial subscribers for three months, and one additional name, if it will not be an innovation against your rules. Our Grange has been growing steadily since its organization, March, 1881, so that now we have about one hundred members. The Husbandman is our State Grange paper, and an excellent paper it is, though not exclusively devoted to the interests of the Grange, as is the VISITOR. It is fighting monopolies manfully. I take the VISITOR and Brother Cart the Husbandman, and, as all good Grangers should be, we are on friendly terms, and exchange papers; thereby each one has the benefit of both, a saving for us; but not a gain to editors, but farmers who have to bear the burden of taxation must practice economy. Enclosed is a money order for the payment of GRANGE VISITOR for three months to eleven trial subscribers, amounting to one dollar and ten cents.

Yours fraternally,

H. E. RUTHERFORD, of Oswego Grange 437. Campville, Tioga Co., N. Y., May 1, 1882.

The Visitor and the Grange.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:—When I get the VISITOR I like to find short reports from different Granges all around the State. It seems to me that is what the VISITOR is for, or that is one thing it is for—to let its readers know of the condition of the Order in the State and Nation. I like the VISITOR very much—would not and could not do without it. We might and ought to take thirty copies in our Grange, but don't take but eight or nine. "Can't afford it," the members say, when I call their attention to it. At the same time these very Patrons are taking from one to two political party papers, each of which costs three times as much as the VISITOR. Now, I don't think this is right. If I am a Patron I will be one and take a Grange paper, and when I can't do that I will take a dimut and a party paper. I think that would be more consistent. Either be Patrons or get out of the flock altogether. But my choice is to take hold of the old Grange plow handles and not look back, but keep an eye on the grand principles of the Order and the objects ahead.

We have a good many Patrons in our Grange that are of the don't care sort. We have some members—good Patrons that want to see the Grange prosper, and some that don't seem to care whether the Grange goes up or down. Some are running after something else that draws their attention away from the Grange. Now, I think when we should stick to it and not give attention to something else, to the injury of the Order, that we know is so good and useful to us. Let us let everything else go and stick to the Grange—that's me. Attend all meetings when it is possible. I am going to give a prize to the members who attend all the meetings of the year. Worthy Editor, I wanted to rest a little. I have been Secretary of No. 443 for five years, and have only missed two meetings in that time, though living a part of the time four miles from the hall. I think officers should be in their places. But I have resigned the office and Bro. John F. Miller was elected as my successor. Four miles is rather too far to insure attendance in all weather. But I shall be as good a Patron as ever and attend every meeting when I can.

Fraternally yours,

WM. CAMPBELL. Groveland, May 10, 1882.

The Future of the Visitor.

Bro. Cobb:—Unfortunately I could not attend the last meeting of Cass County Pomona Grange, and am not qualified to judge of the quality of the papers read. I have been so closely engaged with young stock and new men that I have found it impossible to give the attention to preparation and revision of papers which they needed. I see, however, with pleasure that you have no lack of matter yet, your paper having been of unusual interest. Should the contributors thicken and the contributions improve in the future as in the past the VISITOR will in the near future be one of the leading papers, if not the foremost paper in the Peninsula State. It contains already more real original thought than any State or county paper with which I am familiar. I hope and believe, not without reason, to see its size and circulation very much increased another year. Should be pleased to have you and as many of your people attend the meeting on the 31st at Cassopolis, as can make it convenient. Yours fraternally,

GIDEON HEBRON.

FERTILIZING WITH CLOVER.—Nothing helps land so much as clover. Old worn-out fields can be put in a state of fair productivity by sowing to clover and keeping in clover a few years. Clover makes good pasturage, and is especially valuable in seasons of drought, as it resists it better than any other pasturage crop.

A New Method of Potato Culture.

Farmers near Philadelphia employ a process in planting and cultivating potatoes that gives them excellent crops at the smallest cost. Briefly stated the plan is, to take ground clean from weeds and plow to the depth of about four inches, make the furrows as straight as possible and drop the seed at distances eighteen inches apart, each piece placed in the angle made by the furrow, that the rows may be straight when they come up, to facilitate after cultivation. A furrow is then turned over the seed, another furrow plowed and treated in like manner, thus making the rows a distance apart equal to the width of two furrows. The design is to make the furrows about nine inches wide, which makes the rows eighteen inches apart, and the seed eighteen inches apart in the rows. This completes the planting. The next step is to harrow the ground thoroughly with a light instrument that simply smooths and pulverizes the surface soil. If the land is in suitable condition for rolling, sometimes the roller follows, leaving the field smooth and even. Just about the time the sprouts appear the drag is again pulled to make the whole surface completely mellow. This operation destroys all weeds that have started, and makes also a very efficient cultivation for the potatoes. Under this treatment they grow rapidly and soon require further cultivation. This is effected by means of a narrow implement fitted for running between the rows, provided with sharp narrow teeth—a sort of a compromise between a cultivator tooth and a drag tooth. All it does is to cut up the surface and destroy what weeds may have appeared subsequent to the previous dragging. This cultivation is repeated at intervals until the tops are too large, after which nothing more is done. It will be noticed that the field is left all through cultivation flat. No heaping up of hills, no work with the hoe, unless it is necessary now and then to cut out a few weeds that appear between the hills in the rows. If any weeds attain considerable size and thereby interfere with the growth of the potatoes they are pulled up by the hand. By this method of planting there are at least three times as many hills as in ordinary field culture. The theory is that the eighteen inches of space furnish sufficient room for each hill, and that the ground is more fully utilized than by common planting. The object in planting single pieces, cut to single eyes, is to prevent an undue growth of tops. Of course, but a single sprout appears from each piece, and this sprout has eighteen inches of space. When the potatoes attain full size, they cover the ground completely and smother out whatever weeds may be left.

As to the yield, it is claimed that it is greatly in excess of that obtained by ordinary culture, a claim apparently justified by the greater number of hills, each accorded sufficient space in which to develop tubers. Col. Plottet, of Wysox, Pa., has employed this method for two or three years. He says his crops have been much larger than before. Even in the past year when potatoes suffered considerably from drouth, he had about two hundred bushels to the acre, and a previous crop raised by this method gave four hundred and fifty bushels to the acre.

When the time comes for digging the plow is used. It will be observed that the method of planting secures absolutely straight rows, and a uniform depth of four inches, or whatever other distance the plow is set to run. The potatoes will be found at about the same depth. Now the plow is set to run a little deeper than the hills, and is driven straight as before. This turns the hill up so that the potatoes lie on the surface. They are gathered up, all that appear, when a light cultivator is run over the field and any that may have been concealed are likely to be thrown to the surface, where they may be seen easily and gathered without hindrance.—Husbandman.

The Apple Tree Borer.

The Massachusetts Ploughman is one of our most valuable exchanges. We clip the following from a late issue and suggest that the application of "a stitch in time saves nine" theory is sure to work in the protection of young trees from these secret but active enemies.

"The large orchardist need not be reminded that the season is at hand for looking after this, one of the most destructive enemies to the young orchard, if permitted to have its own way; but the owner of a small orchard, unless occasionally reminded of the importance of looking after his trees, will sometimes neglect them so long that the borers will get possession before he is aware of it."

"It should be the aim of every fruit grower to keep the borer from obtaining a lodging place in his orchard; for when a borer once gets into a tree and eats away the bark, he leaves an inviting place for the beetle to lay her eggs, and it also gives the young worm a good place to commence life in; the uneven surface gives him a better chance to hide away from the orchardist."

"A tree with a smooth trunk is a great protection, because an egg will rarely hatch if deposited on a smooth surface. The beetle evidently understands this, and very rarely deposits an egg on a smooth surface, but almost invariably selects some old scar in the tree, where the egg can be deposited in a sheltered position, and also where it will be kept moist."

"It is best to examine carefully every tree early in May. This should be done by scraping the earth away from the tree several inches below the surface; then with a good sized knife scrape the tree. If any borers are in the tree, they will be discovered by their castings. Worms of one year's growth will be found from two to five inches below the surface of the ground, just under the inner bark of the tree, having entered slightly into the wood. They are easily found by letting the knife follow down the channel they have made in their downward passage. Worms that are full grown will be found six or eight inches above the surface, having passed up through the wood during the winter to the perfect insect, and are about ready to leave the tree. A close examination will disclose the position he occupies by a small dead spot on the bark of a tree, for the worm before changing eats his way out so near that but a mere thin skin of the outer bark is left. The beetle is easily killed when his hiding place is discovered."

"Having destroyed all of the borers in

the tree, others should be kept out by placing a cone of sand or fine gravel around the trunk of the tree up to a smooth surface. This should be removed in September, and the trees again examined."

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

The next meeting of the St. Joseph County Grange will be held with Leonidas Grange June 1st. A good program is arranged. All fourth degree members are cordially invited to attend. WM. HULL, Lecturer.

The regular quarterly meeting of Kalamazoo County Grange will be held with Texas Grange, No. 171, at their hall on Thursday, June 1st. Program of the day: The meeting will be called to order at ten o'clock sharp. Essay—Preparation and Application of Manures—A. Fankboner. Breeding and Raising of Horses—E. A. Strong. Recess for dinner.

AFTERNOON. Reports from Subordinate Granges. Conferring of the 5th degree. Essay by Mrs. Nathan Pike—Essayist to select her own subject. Present and Future of the Farmer—Z. O. Durkee. Review of Grange Work—S. F. Brown. What kind of Stock shall we keep on our Small Farms?—A. Haas. Fourth degree members are cordially invited to attend and participate in the discussions which will follow the presentation of these several subjects.

The Clinton County Pomona Grange will hold its next meeting at the South Riley Grange hall on Wednesday, June 7th, commencing at 10 A. M. A cordial invitation is extended to all members of the Order. Tile Draining will be the subject for general discussion. FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

The next meeting of Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, of Ottawa and Muskegon Counties will be held with Tallmadge Grange, No. 639, at their hall, May 25 and 26, 1882. All 4th degree members are cordially invited to attend. JAS. G. VAN SKIVER, Sec'y.

A meeting of Cass County Pomona Grange will be held on the fair grounds at Cassopolis on the 31st inst. Program: Calling to order by the Worthy Master at 11 A. M. Music. Reading program. Refreshments. Music. Address by State Lecturer. Essay by Mrs. Robert Wiley. Music. Essay by Gideon Hebron. By order of Committee.

The next meeting of the St. Joseph Co. Pomona Grange will be held with Leonidas Grange, No. 266, in their hall at the residence of D. Millard, four miles north-east of the village of Mendon. An open meeting will be held in the grove in the afternoon, to which all friends of the Order are cordially invited. S. H. ANGEVINE, Sec'y.

Under the auspices of District Grange, No. 17, a series of lectures has been arranged for Brother Thomas F. Moore, of Adrian, as follows: June 1st—at Kingsley station, Town of Paradise, Grand Traverse, Grand Traverse County, 7 o'clock, P. M. June 2d—at Williamsburg, 1:30 P. M. Same evening, at Elk Lake Grange, 7 o'clock P. M. June 3d—at Traverse City Grange hall 1:30 P. M. June 5th—to arrange. June 6th and 7th at the meeting of the Pomona Grange at Silver Lake hall. Will speak at 7 P. M. of the 6th, Grange open at 1 P. M. of the same day.

These lectures are all public and everybody is cordially invited to come out and hear the farmer speak. S. H. HYDE, Sec.

The next meeting of Hillsdale County Grange will be held at the Allen Grange hall on the first Wednesday in June. Program as follows:

Select Reading—Sister Benedict. Address by the Worthy Lecturer—Subject, the science of Living. Select reading—Sister Mumford. Question—In what way can Woman's Moral Influence be best felt in Society—Discussion opened by Sister McDougal. Essay—Sister Freeman. Question—Are the Burdens of Supporting our Government equally distributed? Discussion opened by Brother Benedict. N. T. BROCKWAY.

The next regular quarterly meeting of Lapeer County Pomona Grange, No. 29, will be held with Lapeer Grange, No. 246, at Hunter's Creek, June 8th, 1882, meeting to commence at 1 o'clock P. M. It is important that all Patrons of Lapeer County should be present, as permanent arrangements for shipping wool will be made at this meeting. The following is the program:

1st discussion—Which is the best method of making underground drains, with tile or wood, and at what depth should they be placed to secure the best results?—H. Bradshaw. 2nd discussion—How much education is necessary for the farmer and his wife, for their success as farmers?—E. Bartlett. 3d discussion—Would it be advisable for the Grange to build store-houses at railroad stations in which to store their produce?—H. S. SCHELL, Sec'y.

THE agricultural colleges, boards of agriculture and agricultural societies are all solicitous for the support of the agricultural press, and so it should be, if those institutions are established for the benefit of farmers. But why is it that their officials usually send reports of their meetings, copies of their documents, and take measures for sending telegraphic crop reports to the daily press in advance of sending them to the agricultural papers, through which they must eventually reach their constituents? In their public addresses these gentlemen frequently urge the importance of the daily papers, but rarely endorse the labors of the weeklies. Are city speculators and merchants of more importance than the farmers?—Exchange.



Ladies' Department.

WHICH SHALL IT BE?

[A rich man who had no children proposed to his poor neighbor, who had seven, to take one of them, and promised, if the parents would consent, that he would give them property enough to make themselves and their other six children comfortable for life.]

And shook his head: "Nay, love, not thee,  
Which shall it be? Which shall it be?  
I looked at John John looked at me,  
And when I found that I must speak  
My voice seemed strangely low and weak;  
"Tell me again what Robert said;  
And then I, listening, bent my head—  
This is his letter:

I will give  
A house and land while you shall live,  
If in return, from out your seven,  
One child to me for aye is given?  
I looked at John's old garments worn;  
I thought of all that he had borne  
Of poverty, of work and care,  
Which I, though willing could not share;  
I thought of seven young mouths to feed,  
Of seven little children's need,  
And then of this:

"Come John," said I,  
"We'll choose among them as they lie  
Asleep." So, walking hand in hand,  
Dear John and I surveyed our band;  
First to the cradle lightly stepped,  
Where Lillian the baby slept,  
Softly the father stooped to lay  
His rough hand down in a loving way,  
When dream or whisper made her stir,  
And huskily he said "Not her!"

We stood beside the trundle-bed,  
And one long ray of lamp-light shed  
Athwart the boyish faces there  
In sleep so beautiful and fair:  
I saw on James' rough, red cheek  
A tear undried. Ere John could speak,  
"He's but a baby, too," said I,  
And kissed him as we hurried by.

Pale, patient Robbies ailing face  
Still in his sleep bore suffering's trace;  
"No, for a thousand crowns not him!"  
He whispered, while our eyes were dim.

Poor Dick! had Dick! our wayward son—  
Turbulent, restless, idle one—  
Could he be spared? Nay, he who gave  
Bade us befriend him to the grave;  
Only a mother's heart could be  
Patient enough for such a he;  
"And so," said John, "I would not dare  
To take her from her bedside prayer."

Then stole we softly up above,  
And knelt by Mary, child of love,  
Perhaps for her "would better be,"  
I said to John. "Quite silently  
He lifted up a curl that lay  
Across her cheek in a wifely way,  
And shook his head: "Nay, love, not thee,"  
The while my heart beat audibly.

Only one more, our eldest lad,  
Trusty and truthful, good and glad,  
So like his father. "No, John, no,  
I cannot, will not, let him go."  
And so we wrote in courteous way,  
We could not give one child away;  
And afterward toil lighter seemed,  
Thinking of that of which we dreamed,  
Happy in truth that not one face  
Was missed from its accustomed place;  
Thankful to rest for all the seven,  
Trusting the work to One in Heaven.

Reminiscences of the State Grange—No. 2.

BY MRS. O. M. SYKES.

The forenoon was occupied in receiving and correcting credentials; in the afternoon, while the Worthy Master was out making up his committees, the Worthy Overseer occupied the chair, and speeches for the good of the Order were called for. Brothers Mickle, Moore and Woodman responded to their names, and it was no effort for them; they had only to open their lips and the words came pouring out, making glad the hearts of those who listened. Not so when some presumptuous voice called the name of your scribe. Coming so unexpected, it took our breath so completely that we had barely presence of mind to arise, make a feeble excuse and sink back in our chair, feeling too insignificant for anything.

Right here let me beg the sisters to forgive me for letting slip so grand a chance to acknowledge the benefits the Grange has been to women, giving us a glimpse of what life is worth, enlightened and beautified as it has been through this influence. Does not the household department of every agricultural paper testify to the advancement and culture of woman? By the way, did not Bro. Cobb pay the contributors of the VISITOR a handsome compliment in the issue for April 15? Honest words of commendation do much to cheer, encourage and enliven our hearts.

Allow me to mention a little matter in regard to the youths' department. There was quite a feeling among the delegates that it had better be discontinued. Worthy Master Luce was consulted, when he answered promptly, "No: we must not drop anything out of the VISITOR." "But," we said, "so few write for it." "Well, said he, "those who do are worth encouragement, and others will come in," and his words are verified; others have come in, and I think we may confidently look forward to no inferior talent being brought to the front by rivalry in that department. We shall watch with interest these youthful voyagers, under Aunt Nina's judicious leadership.

But to go back: One may have a full appreciation of the situation, may be alive with fervor and zeal for the cause, and be able to comprehend all its possibilities, and yet lack the confidence to stand before an intelligent, thinking audience, and let oneself be so embued with the theme as to forget the world is full of criticisms, forgetting everything but the silent, eloquent faces upturned to catch the magnetic force of "thoughts that breathe and words that burn." Sister Gardner fared better. When called she responded,

ed, and I thank her in the name of the sisters for her timely words of cheer and encouragement. By her voice we were saved the humiliation of having the word go out that we were not represented among speech-makers by one of our own sex. We missed dear Sister Steel, whose voice could always be depended on in a time of need, for her heart is full of good works. Sister Steel, many spoke of you with loving remembrance and a hope that another year may find you present in health and strength, to aid in our deliberations and social associations.

Thanks to the Grange, whose door has been opened wide—not a little crack, as the Masons and Odd Fellows do, to let their wives and daughters just peep in, but full admittance, equal with men. Do we appreciate what untold good the Grange has already worked to woman? We must, when we look back to the old dreary time when woman's "sphere" was limited to the four walls of her house, and her aspirations confined to fancy work, and baby clothes, or pretty tidies for sofa or chair. Many of us still do such little nothings, and like to, but we can never again be satisfied with this as an ultimatum. Our spirits and minds have feasted on nectar, and nothing but the sparkling gems of truth, as they fall from inspired lips, can again satisfy our longings and make life worth the living. No one who has a spark of enthusiasm can go to the State Grange and contemplate the serenity of countenance, the bright, sparkling eyes of those working women, who have laid aside their cares for a season, to come with their husbands to have a voice in the legislation of Grange laws, and not feel that the Grange has done a noble work for women. Who shall say the work is hindered by her presence? and does she not show advanced thought and intelligent reasoning?

We thank Bro. Mickle for the many tributes of regard he has shown to woman. The first day was a time of "soul-kissing," as Bro. Mickle compared the hand-clasp to, and he said the Grange mission cannot be filled until the highest powers have been reached and the farmer stands a peer with any class.

Blackboard in the Family.

I find I cannot do without it. It came into the family by accident. Being a teacher of a primary class in Sunday-school, I found it necessary to have one, in order to make illustrations clear, and to impress upon the young mind many things which otherwise could not be done. Every primary teacher who has used one, knows how valuable it is.

When the cares of a family came on, and I could no longer continue my services in the Sunday-school, the blackboard came into the home. Many are the hours employed by the little folks in making letters, houses, cars, engines and all sorts of imaginary pictures. Even our little two-year-old, with his face all radiant with smiles has his piece of crayon and imitates the older ones in making letters and drawing pictures. When I am weary and want to avoid the clutter of feet and toys, and have a few moments of quiet rest, I have only to supply the children with crayons and blackboard, and all is quiet save now and then exclamations of delight; and it is not only a source of amusement to them, but they can be learning something at the same time. Letters, words, sentences, pictures and many things, with a very little outlay of time and labor, can be placed upon the board for them to copy. And this is not all. It is useful to the older members of the family as well. While I do not boast of any great learning, and only expect to fill the humble sphere in which I move, yet I do love study, and some time ago I had placed upon the board for my benefit, the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, and, would you believe it! our four-year-old boy is rapidly learning these. Mothers, supply yourselves with a flexible blackboard, one that can be easily tacked up, or rolled up and put away when necessary, and a box of crayons, and you will soon consider it one of the best investments you ever made.

Office Beggars.

The rush for office at Washington was never madder, never more harassing than now. Women are frequent applicants, either for themselves or their male relatives; and the dust can be laid with the tears they shed at their disappointments. Judge David Davis is the victim of these terrible women. One day last week one of them declared with tears in her eyes that she was starving. Happening to catch sight of her handsome gold watch and chain, he suggested that it did not look like it. To this remark she made no answer. To a group of three women who were pressing him for an appointment, he gave some very sensible advice to the effect that instead of placing themselves in the ignominious position of begging for favors when there are thousands ready to crowd them to the wall, they were intelligent enough to go and learn to cook and to be housekeepers and be certain of good homes and independence. People would then be running after them instead of their having to run after people. "The position of a respectable servant in a good family," he said, "is one infinitely to be preferred to that of hanging to some beggarly office, dependent on the whim or will of some bureaucrat." His words of wisdom were of course received in high dudgeon, and the three women flounced out of his presence calling him an old fool and wondering what he took them for. They wanted to starve and be insulted as public servants: not to have plenty to eat, a comfortable home, and be ordered about as public servants.

THE Massachusetts legislature recently received 104 petitions, signed by over 5,000 retail grocers and their patrons, praying for the appointment of analysts throughout the State, to be employed at public expense, in detecting and exposing all adulterated and dangerous articles sold in the markets.

Why is it that our American Women are not as Healthy as they were 50 or 60 Years ago?

I am aware that I have taken up a subject of great importance, and feel that I lack the ability to do it justice; but perhaps if I open the subject others will assist in carrying it through.

Now we that are old enough can remember when women were more healthy and able to endure more than now. In order to show you the reason why it is so, we must compare the present with the past. I will in the first place say there are many and various reasons why we have degenerated into a weakly and nervous condition.

I will first speak of the way they did in my mother and grandmother's days, as near as I can learn. They lived plain, natural lives. Their food was good and simple. It did not consist principally of pie and cake, but it was just such food as was necessary to build up the system and make good blood. This is one reason they were more healthy. Perhaps some would like to know what they lived on in those days. I will mention some of the principal things. Rye and Indian meal bread, or corn flour (fine flour was used only on extra occasions), pork, beef, mutton, vegetables of all kinds, eggs and butter were standard. They ate but very little pie and cake. It was not used for common as now. They cooked three warm meals a day, winter and summer. It was necessary. They rose so early in the morning and worked very hard, for in those days they had to card, spin and weave everything they had to wear, especially for every day, and in those days large families were the rule and not the exception, so that every house had help enough to work up their wool and flax without hired help. And I tell you those children had to work, but they were generally healthy and strong. And why were they? Because they had healthy parents, and warm clothing, and ate their breakfast with the elder ones of the family.

People do differently now-a-days. A great many children lie abed until most school time, then get up, drink a cup of coffee, eat a cookie or two, a few crackers, a piece of pie, and they are done; and it is not any better for dinner, if they go to school; and in the summer for supper it is just the same with little variation, until our children are almost starved for good healthy food.

We look at our children and mourn and wonder what makes them so puny. They have but very little appetite, and I think in the majority of cases it is for want of proper food. They must not eat so much rich victuals. It weakens digestion, and in a short time they have no appetite for anything but nice and dainty food. Now as long as we continue to feed our children this way, we shall have delicate children with poor constitutions.

But you ask, How about these sickly women? Well, we must have healthy children, or girls, before we have healthy women. This is the reason I have said so much about children. I think it the duty of every man that has a family to support, if he be able, to provide plenty of vegetables and fruit for his family, so they will not have to eat so much pie, cake and meat. We must make frequent changes in our diet, if we wish to be healthy. We should eat more coarse bread, not all fine flour as the most of us do at present.

Next I will speak of dress, as this has much to do with health. In our grandmother's days they wore shoulder-straps to support their petticoats and skirts, which was very sensible. These heavy dressskirts of now-a-days are enough to make a well woman sick to carry them about, if she does not wear suspenders, and but few do wear them. And this is the reason so many complain of weak backs, pain in the side, etc. They press the internal organs down and out of place, causing the worst of diseases. And in those days it was not recommended to wear corsets as now. Little girls were not known to wear them as now. Oh! it makes me almost lose my patience to think women will persist in wearing those health-destroying machines, and then furnish them for young girls who have not their growth, which is worse yet, and all for the sake of fashion. Oh dear! says one, how I should look without a corset! So she squeezes herself to look trim and nice, or tries to. Another is so poor and flat she must wear one to fill out with, and so it goes and so it will, until women value health and comfort before fashion and style.

I should like to know why women cannot have the privilege of dressing just as comfortable as men without having remarks made about them; but they cannot, and the men are just as bad about this as the women. So they dress regardless of health. I like to see women dress in fashion, if it be comfortable. I think if we had a few more independent women that dare to live and dress in accordance with nature's laws, and would advocate the same, we should soon see women making some physical improvement. It is our duty to inform ourselves, so we may enjoy good health.

There is one thing about young girls' dresses, who go to school in winter. There are but few that dress half as warm as the boys. This is not right. With such short dresses as the girls wear they need good warm wool stockings, leather shoes, drawers to come down into the stockings to shoot,

then flannel panties over them to come half way below the knee, and then leggins and overshoes. Then you have them dressed to stand the cold, if the rest of the clothing is suitable. There is nothing gained in going half clad, unless it be a hard cold, or some disease that will shorten our lives. Very many of our diseases are contracted in childhood.

In old times they did not drink tea and coffee as we do. It is well known these are stimulants, and, if used strong, injure the nerves; hence another cause of nervous women.

But there seems to be a cause we can't help, that I will charge to husbands and fathers. Now don't look so innocent, for I believe you are to blame for much of the nervous suffering of women and children, and I will try and tell you how. You must admit that like begets like. You see fathers indulge in tobacco and intoxicating drink. This poisons their blood and makes them nervous and diseased. This they transmit to their offspring, causing them to be nervous and sickly. Children of such fathers cannot withstand disease like those of temperate habits. So all the reform on the part of mothers cannot bring about a general reform unless the fathers do their part in the work.

Then there is another cause I would faintly mention that is more common now than it once was. This one I believe the men equally to blame with the women; but women bear the blame and are the victims at last, and the worst of it is, it is a crime before God and an outrage upon human nature, and women must suffer the consequences that are sure to follow. It is not pleasant to talk about, but this crime is too well known to be passed by unnoticed.

I could write pages more, but will not. I fear my article is now too long, but I pray you, my dear readers, think on these things, and see if we cannot have a physical reform, which we so much need.

AUNT KATE.

Woman the Mother of the Redeemer of the Race

When the barbarous teachings that might make right shall have passed away, and the highest development of nature's handiwork take the places assigned by nature's God, woman will become the spiritual advisor for every department of human government from the nursery in the private home circle to the council chambers of the nation, breathing into each and every law or rule of action her thoughts and ideas, born of intuition and inspiration, giving to each a more tender regard for justice, love and mercy, which, when clothed with man's stern will and commanding force, will germinate into principles and develop into laws of a higher order than have yet been known to human governments.

As it requires both the paternal and maternal functions to generate and produce the human race, nature and justice must demand that the reasoning faculties of both be called into action to formulate and compile laws for governing the same.

Then and not till then will true reform begin. Then the long crucified redeemer will come forth, clothed with principles of moral fitness for the higher development of the race.

Then the savior born of woman will be acknowledged the true redeemer, and the science of causes demand a return to first principles, while men whose medical lore has risen in the scale of fame to great renown, will step down from exalted seats, forget for a time their titles, positions and fame in their search for truth, and ask the patient, long-suffering mother, Why is your child an idiot? Or of another, Why this child so deformed? and again, Why this boy a thief, taking even that which he cannot use? Or, Why that one blind or dumb from its birth?

Tell me the cause of this impure blood, that makes your child a mass of putrid sores. Why that ill-tempered, wild, insane restlessness, that gives that child no quiet or repose? Or why is that girl so sad and melancholy, never finding any beauty in life, and ever wishing to die?

Give me the reason, if you can, that this boy seeks the drunken revels and the nightly debauch; and why that one the houses of ill-fame?

Why are the houses of prostitution filled with the most graceful, beautiful, charming girls of the age? Oh! tell us, if you can, and we will consider well your answers, for the time has come when the fate of Rome in her dissipation, ruin and death, casts its gloomy forebodings over our own country.

When such questions are propounded in a spirit of kindness, and women are made to realize they can trust to the honor of the questioner, the long hidden, secret sorrows of their burdened hearts for the purpose of bettering their condition, as well as that of their children, instead of ridicule, scandal, blame and persecution (as has often been the case, even in our courts of pretended justice), such revelations will be given that will make tyrants quail, stout hearts bleed, and the world at large wonder that children and people are as good as they are.

Yes sirs, when the rosy cheeked girl, the blooming bride of to-day, becomes the pale sickly wife of a year or two hence, it is proof sufficient that nature revolts at some viola-

tion of her commands and will not be reconciled. But laws made by men alone are only half made, hence have only the physical form, while the soul is left out, and will continue in their failures of justice and reform until the brain force of both sexes come into harmonious relations and generate laws that will reflect both soul and body in all their various forms, which will protect each and all in their "rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Men have made great improvements in their horses, cattle, pigs and poultry, but very little has been said or done in the right direction to improve their own race; but instead, everything that will tend to disease and demoralize humanity is for sale in the markets to the highest bidder, while the most flagitious wrongs and inhuman robberies of the people's rights are clothed with authority and legalized by law.

The majority of men will not insist upon, or even favor many of the needed reforms, because it requires too many sacrifices on their own part; hence women must come to the rescue, and, with the help of the great and good men of our nation, much may be done that will purify and elevate the present as well remaining generations.

Who will join the workers and builders of a better government, and a more just, wise and prudent people.

LYDIA E. DRAKE.

Plainwell, Mich., April 24, 1882.

Morphomania.

When physicians discovered that pain could be subdued by inserting under the skin a small, pointed instrument provided with a tube containing morphia, they little thought that they were paving the way for a new vice. Yet so it was. There are in our merry England beings as wholly under the dominion of morphia as ever was Chinese under that of opium. Women have yielded by degrees to the fatal fascination, until at last they prick the skin a dozen times a day with the tiny syringe that has such terrible results. The operation is almost painless, the immediate effect pleasant. A delicious languor supervenes. Happy thoughts and bright imaginings fill the mind. Some see beautiful visions, others feel only a pervading sensation of comfort and well being. On a few the effect of morphia is to excite to some intellectual effort, if effort that can be called which is pure delight, a glorious feeling of untrammelled power or uncrippled exercise of the highest faculties. It is as though the mind had suddenly developed wings. But at the height of enchantment the influence of morphia begins to subside. The glory fades. The wings trail, and the feet that are their sorry substitutes become weighted as with lead. As with the workers, so with the dreamers. The visions are obscured. The sensation of comfort gives place to one of discomfort, irritation, even pain. The mental vision that had just now looked through a rosy mist, sees all things a crape veil or a November fog. Can it be wondered at that the dose is renewed, that the poison is absorbed again, and again, that the intervals become shorter and shorter between the administration of the potent drug?

And the end? The punishment is terrible indeed. By degrees the mind becomes darkened. Hideous hallucinations seize upon it. Self control is lost. Imbecility overtakes the weak. Madness threatens the strong.

These are the personal consequences. There are others to be bequeathed to sons and daughters and later generations. These can be guessed at. The new vice has not reigned sufficiently long for the world to have seen them exemplified, but a dark array of possibilities suggests itself only too readily. The heritage of insanity, of imbecility, with its future to be traced back to those tiny tubes which hold only a drop or two, and to which men once looked as to a blessed means of relieving pain, forgetting that blessings and curses go hand in hand in a crooked world. Dipomania has now a powerful rival process, and eventually as degrading. The name of the later-born sister-fiend is morphomania.—*Farm and Fireside.*

A NEW York broker is reported as saying that the present year is likely to witness some of the most gigantic combinations and consolidations that the financial world has ever seen. These will embrace the leading railway interests, the coal-producing interests, and the telegraph interests. They embrace, first, a practical consolidation of the Vanderbilt trunk lines, including Northwestern and possibly Union and Central Pacific; second, a similar arrangement for the Gould properties, making a great southwestern through route to the Pacific; third, a money pool among the coal roads which will regulate production so as to insure reasonable prices to consumers, and regulate dividends to the producers; and, fourth, a consolidation of the telegraph and cable companies, a transfer of the same to the government, and a postal treaty between the United States and Great Britain, under which the people of both countries will have ample telegraphic facilities at the lowest possible rates.—*Times.*

Gov. HOYT, of Wyoming, has a good word to say of woman suffrage, after years of trial. We extract from his message: "Objectors persist in calling this honorable statute of ours an 'experiment.' We know that it is not—that under it we have better laws, better officers, better morals, and a higher social condition in general, than could otherwise exist—that not one of the predicted evils, such as loss of native delicacy and disturbance of home relations, has followed in its train—that the great body of our women, and the best of them, have accepted the elective franchise as a precious boon, and exercise it as a patriotic duty—in a word, that, after twelve years of happy experience, woman suffrage is so thoroughly rooted and established in the minds and hearts of this people that, among them all, no voice is uplifted in protest against or in question of it."

It is bad luck for 13 persons to sit down together at table, especially if there is only dinner enough for ten.



Youths' Department.

A SWARM OF BEES.

B hopeful, B cheerful, B happy, B kind, B busy of body, B modest of mind, B earnest, B truthful, B firm and B fair, B ut of all Miss B Havior, B sure and B ware, B think ere you stumble for what may B fall B true to yourself and B faithful to all, B brave to B ware of the sins that B set, B sure that no sin will another B get: B watchful, B ready, B open, B frank, B manly to all men what'er B their rank; B just and B generous, B honest, B wise, B mindful of time, and B certain it flies; B prudent B liberal, of order B fond; B less than you need B fore buying B yond; B careful, but yet B the first to B stow; B temperate, B steadfast—to anger B slow; B thoughtful, B thankful, what'er may B tide B justful, B joyful, B cleanly, B side; B pleasant B patient, B fervent to all; B best if you can, but B humble withal; B prompt, and B dutiful, but still B polite; B reverent, B quiet, B sure and B right; B calm B retiring, B ne'er led astray; B grateful, B cautious of those who B tray; B tender, B loving, B good and B high— B loved shalt thou B, all else shall B thine. —Boston Gazette.

Dear Young People:—The space allotted is more than filled this time, so there is only a little corner left for me to speak to you. I am not going to propose a subject for you to write on, but want you all, everyone, to write about something in which you are interested. And if there is anything of which you have thought but cannot see but the one side, let us know what it is. I know some one of us can help you see our side, which is not yours.

There is nothing that stirs our feelings so much as a hit at something on which we have already set our minds. In the Ladies' Department Sister Sykes has kindly given us a word of encouragement, and let us all do our best that we may feel it is merited.

Of course you all enjoyed Little Hannah's Dream. I think "Sunflower" must have been studying that of which so much is said just now—aestheticism, or she would not have made the Sunflower queen. Now, how many of you know what aesthetic really means, and how much there is to it? You read in the papers of the slim young lady with gliding garments who carries a lily, and glides over the floor rather than walks. And also of the young Englishman in the costume which excites the attention of everyone, and makes him the mark for small boys' gibes. He wears pinned to his coat a sunflower, and lectures on art—for money. These are the extremes of something—they know not what.

But do you know? Have you ever considered that beauty, form, and color are things that need study? That in beauty is enjoyment? And you do not stop long enough to discover where the greatest beauty lies.

I think the "corner" must be filled, but I hope this will set you thinking, and we may hear more about it sometime.

Please write, write often, all write. If the "waste basket" sometimes receives something, that is not worth discouraging one. Try again and a little harder and you will come out victorious.

AUNT NINA.

Mathematics.

Without this study what would the people know and how could they get along. Without mathematics many studies that are of great importance would be of no use.

In geography what would be left if the mathematical part was omitted? For longitude, latitude, degrees, distances, and all calculations are formed by mathematics. Simply the descriptive part would be left and that would be useless as well as uninteresting for we could not tell the size of the object or the position it takes upon the earth in relation to other objects.

In history the mathematical part consists of dates number of battles, and many other interesting statistics. After omitting this part there would be left the descriptive part. Of what use would it be to read "the armies moved to a certain place if we did not know how far that place was from their former positions; or to read which army was victorious if we did not know the number of men lost and the other statistics which make the records of battles interesting.

In philosophy all the wonderful discoveries and calculations are based on mathematics. All studies depend upon this one in the same or a similar manner as the ones I have mentioned and would be of very little use were the knowledge of mathematics excluded.

Even if we could omit mathematics in our studies at school, we could do no business, carry on no farms nor keep house without a greater or less knowledge of mathematics. For were he deprived of this knowledge, the merchant could neither weigh nor measure his goods, the doctor could not tell the amount of medicine to give a patient, the farmer could not tell the amount of seed to plant, and even the very best cook could make neither a loaf of bread or a cake if she did not know how many measures to use of the different ingredients.

It may be said the luxuries which surround us call for mathematics and if they were taken away there would be no use for this study. There would not be as much use for it but the savages who inhabit cen-

tral Africa, and surely they have no luxuries, use mathematics in reckoning the shells that are used in the place of money. So what reason have we to think we could act differently placed in a similar position?

It was through the knowledge of mathematics that Columbus discovered the New World and from the same source came the invention of the mariner's compass. Through mathematics a complete knowledge of the heavenly bodies and their movements has been obtained.

It has been shown how large and what shape the earth is, how it was in its crude state, and many other similar matters which are of great interest and importance to the people of the present generation.

All the inventions for the convenience of the public in general such as steamboat, steam engines and suspension bridges owe their origin to mathematics. Without mathematics the people could not tell the amount of steam necessary to run a boat or an engine or the number of pounds the rods could hold upon which the bridge was to be suspended.

This subject is exhaustless, and I might go on forever, relating instance after instance but I will close now leaving the rest to your imagination.

NETTIE GIFFORD.

Labor.

Cousins of the Visitor:—Of the question, "Is labor a blessing or a curse?" much may be said on both sides, and, as for me, I am on both. To labor day after day with no rest for mind or body, to toil from morn till night, from new year to December, until, weary and broken spirited, we lay down the burden of life with a sigh of relief, seems like a curse. In large cities it is worse than in small towns, or the country.

I was reading the other day of a poor woman who died not long since, the cause being starvation. She was trying to keep herself and her four children on just sixty cents a day. How many drudge from one week's end to another, and get almost nothing for it. In that case labor is a curse; but I did not intend to write a political or an anti-monopoly speech, so I will leave this side and go "across lots" to the other side of the question.

Where is the young man who would not feel a satisfaction in having "a little farm well tilled, a little house well filled, and a little wife well willed," and know that he worked for, and earned them? I see you are smiling at me, but I say he did work for and gain the affections of his little wife. Our parents are willing to toil day in and day out (as the saying goes) for us, and I have no doubt they consider it a blessing to be able to keep us from want when we are too young to care for ourselves.

Labor in most cases is a blessing. If in the open air, it brings the roses to the cheeks and the light to the eye, which those who have nothing to do do not have. But like all things, it may be carried to extremes, and then it is a curse.

Now if this does not land in the "waste basket" to look for my other letter, I will, perhaps, write again.

BROWN THRUSH.

The Dignity of Labor.

Dear Cousins:—I would like to write a few words on the subject of labor, as that was the subject proposed by Aunt Nina to be discussed in the issue of May 15th, of the VISITOR. The question given for discussion, "Is labor a blessing or a curse?" is, as Aunt Nina intimated, somewhat one-sided and difficult, yet there is considerable to be said on either side. I do not hesitate to say, that I believe labor to be not only a blessing, but an actual necessity.

First, it was the intention of our Creator that man should "earn his bread by the sweat of his face."

Again, it is a blessing as a means of obtaining a livelihood. Labor is the only means of obtaining, or at least of producing the necessities of life. Every article, whether destined for our use or convenience, food or raiment, is either directly or indirectly produced by labor.

Labor is necessary to perfect enjoyment. This may look like a rather broad assertion, but it is true nevertheless. It is true some persons might enjoy themselves for a time without it, but it would soon become an old story, and they would long for something to do, some labor to perform.

On the other hand, to whom can labor be a curse? It can be a curse to no one, because, as I said before, it is the only means of perpetuating an existence.

But I have trespassed on your time and patience long enough, so I will close by wishing you all good night.

FRED H. SPAULDING.

Hillsdale, Mich., April 24, 1882.

BOTTOMLESS PITS.—Mr. Mechi, the celebrated English farmer, lately deceased, who did so much for the agriculture of his country, deplored the agricultural losses in our great cities beside their pollution of rivers, and recalls the words of Liebig: "The sewers of Rome engulfed, in the course of centuries, the prosperity of the Roman farmer; and when the fields of the latter would no longer yield the means of feeding her population, the same sewer devoured the wealth of Sicily, Sardinia, and the fertile lands on the coast of Africa."

Labor a Blessing.

Aunt Nina:—I really haven't much 'mettle' (metals) gold or silver, nor that combination called brass, but I would like to assure you there is one deeply interested reader in this far-off corner of your garden. 'George' has expressed what I believe and try to practice, a mingling of work and play, with this rule, "work while you work and play while you play." I believe labor is a blessing unless carried to excess, and even the food we eat is anything but good in its effects if taken to excess, yet no one thinks of asking "is food a blessing or a curse?" Why, for some one says, "food is a necessity," so is labor, if we would be happy.

"There is nothing half so tranquil As the laborer's repose."

"Work develops muscle and brain, and develops in both the power for something better and higher." Without labor there is no progress; contrast the condition of the nomadic tribes of all countries with that of those who are noted for the result of their labors. No one unless possessed of decided Gypsy tastes would hesitate in giving an emphatic response to the truth of Mr. Osgood's beautiful lines:

"Labor is life! 'tis the still water faileth; Idleness ever despaireth, bewaileth." "Work for some good be it ever so lowly:" "Labor, all labor is noble and holy."

May 1st, 1882. SUNFLOWER.

Farm Boys.

BY HENRY STEWART.

It is experience that teaches, and we doubt if all the talking and reading and injection that can be brought to bear upon a person's mind can have the same effect as one short but vivid practical experience. Therefore, it is hardly possible for a person not personally experienced to realize the influence and accidents which draw farm boys to a farm life, or which, giving them a distaste for it, tend to allure them from it to other occupations. And at the outset of the remarks we propose to make here we would say that rural life, the cultivation of the soil, the rearing of domestic animals, the culture of flowers or of fruit, and the various occupations which grow out of or make up farm life are instinctively attractive to mankind. As the first man found his substance in a garden and his sons were one a tiller of the soil and the other a shepherd, so the "atavism," to use a breeder's term, which signifies the recurrence in the present generation of some peculiarities and characteristics of distant past ones, breaks out in us and draws us back to the bosom of mother earth from which we first sprang. Not every man can be a farmer. There needs to be artisans and merchants, lawyers, teachers, doctors and students of science, but every one of these directly or remotely has come from the field and the homestead, and in his inner heart he is often drawn back to the green meadows, the rippling brooks, the blossoming orchards, the golden harvests, or the luscious ripe fruits of the garden. And these men are sometimes envied by the farmer boy, who, human-like, is apt to think, as his elders do so often, that every other thing is more desirable and pleasant than that which he possesses; but nevertheless these equally envy the farmer in his pleasant, quiet, calm independent situation, and would gladly change places with him. This instinct or sentiment is so strong, too, that as soon as success crowns the labors of these men they spend their first savings in purchasing and furnishing a farm, to which they retire for rest and recreation, to live over their young days again, and to satisfy the cravings of the hereditary instinct to which we have alluded.

And some must perforce remain on farms, because they have no other alternative; some going back after abortive efforts to fix themselves elsewhere, and some because they could never leave it. Many of these latter suffer from disappointed hopes and bitter regrets for their future, and chafe in their bonds as prisoners behind the bars; and thus they spend their lives half failed, because their hearts are not in their work. Now, knowing by experience just what it is to have been pleasantly placed on a farm as a boy, and to have been made to love a rural life, and to have been sent from it unwillingly, and to have returned to it when a few years of professional life gave opportunity, we have no greater desire than to see every farm boy so trained as to feel a delight in his farm life, so that if he remains in it he shall be not only contented, but delighted, with it, and if he leaves it for other spheres of labor and usefulness, he may always look back to the homestead with love, and feel that it was good for him to have once been there. We have said "trained," and purposely use the word because every young man who is trained to farm life, and "trained" is not forced. The young, growing mind is turned this way or that, and a permanent bent is given to it, just as we turn a tender vine when it cannot bear its own weight, but droops to the ground, and we fasten it here and there until its growth permanently takes the form we gave it, and all our efforts afterward cannot turn it back again. It is a serious thought for the parents of farm boys, and girls too, that this bent may be given for evil as easily as for good, and how to turn it to the good should be most carefully and thoughtfully considered.

To go into particulars and give a few suggestions, which occur to us, we would say at the outset that the education is the step to be taken in giving a bent to the youthful mind. One is too apt to think that a farmer need know very little beyond the rudiments, "the three Rs," as it is said, "readin, ritin, and rithmetick." There is no greater mistake than this, and a parent can do his child no greater wrong and injury than to act upon such a thought. We are precisely as we are educated: the mind is opened, "led out"—that is the radical meaning of the word—into a larger space, the larger, broader, and deeper is the education—the leading out—has been more complete. And if John is to be a doctor, and James a preacher, and Bill is to remain the farmer, Bill has every right and need for as good an education as his brothers. And as he is so accorded his rights the better farmer he will be and the more satisfied with his position. For can

we not see how the boy will perceive the slight and injury done him? And it will give a wrong bias to his thoughts and to his mind, and he will scorn his life as something so mean and low that he must needs be kept in ignorance to fit him for it. Every one of us can see daily how "dumb" the workman is who is unable to read or write. He cannot use his head and the brain in it simply gives him the common senses only. The other senses, of the perception of the fitness of things and of the results of causes which go to make a man's work effective and successful, and all those which serve to attract an educated person to a rural life, are wanting, and the want is no more understood or realized than is the want of sight to a person who never saw the light, or the want of language to one who never spoke or heard a word. Every farmer has been plagued with such ignorant men, whose work is worth very little as compared with that of a man who, when he is told to do a certain thing, can perceive at once why it should be done so, and will do it in a right and effective manner. Now, can a farmer who has denied his boy this natural right, not to say privilege, because it is more than that, feel that he has done his duty to his child and has given him a fair start in life? To be a good and successful farmer, and to find in farm life all the pleasures and enjoyments that belong to it, and which lie hid in it, requires as good an education as for any other business or pursuit. Why is the student who enters a technical college where boys are taught surveying, mining, and work in the metals put through an examination in Latin and other languages, and in grammar and spelling? A man can measure a chain, or strike a drill, or use a file without knowing how Caesar fooled the Gauls by diplomacy and beat them with his tactics, or how Aeneas first came from the coast of Troy to Italy and the Lavinian shores. It is the discipline of the young mind that is required, the habit of thought which study creates in it; the faculty of learning and the learning how to learn, which are acquired by this discipline, that are of value, and these are as valuable and as necessary to the young farmer to make him a successful, contented, and happy man as to his brother, the lawyer or man of business. Therefore, to keep the farm boy on the farm he should be thoroughly well educated.

But we must hasten, for space fails to write at length on this grateful subject. We will only, then, consider one other view. Interest is the great mainspring of our desires and our acts. When we see that our material interests are served by this or that course of life, we are naturally drawn to it. Then let the farmer early give his boys and girls an opportunity of doing something that will bring them in a recompense for their skillful care and labor. They will soon learn that the better they do this work the more profitable it will be for them, and the first stone of the foundation will be laid upon which the child will hereafter build up a successful life. It is the want of profitable work, and the dreary prospect ahead of poverty and dependence which impels the farm boy to bundle up his small effects and turn his course to the towns and cities, where also too often he finds himself crowded and jostled out of place and opportunity. Then early turn the boy's attention to some special branch of agriculture. Give this one a dozen or a hundred dwarf pears or apple trees; that one an acre of strawberries; another a dozen sheep; the girls a flock of poultry, or a chosen heifer, or an orchard, or a garden for themselves, and let this possession be theirs inviolably; not "Johnny's trees, but father's pears," but Johnny's pears, for which, when they are sold, the agent's check shall be handed to Johnny for him to deposit in his bank. What a stake in life and in the wide world the boy then has, and how knowingly he knows it too. By and by this boy may be another Charles Downing, or Patrick Barry, or successful small fruit-culturist, or great shepherd or cattle man in the far West; and the daughter may be known far and wide as the maker of the best butter in the whole country and take the first premium over all the old dairymen.

Do not let it be supposed there are too many farmers. For every farmer that is at work ten men are required to supply him with clothing, houses, tools, transportation for his produce, and other necessities and comforts; and the fewer the farmers, the fewer of these, and the more farms the more men are set to work by the farmers. There are farmers, fruit-growers, florists, nurserymen, shepherds, dairymen, and graziers; all these to be made of farm boys. And there are fruit-growing, dairying, poultry-keeping, bee-keeping, flower-culture, all furnishing pleasant and profitable occupations for women. There is, indeed, no lack. The ancient condition yet remains—"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few." Farming in all its branches is a profitable and safe employment, and because it is the staple and fundamental industry upon which all others rest and upon which all others are supported, it can never be overcrowded or overdone, because the more productive it is the more it calls for help for thousands of other industrious workers. Therefore, there is plenty of room for the boys in it, and the girls, too.—N. Y. Times.

"THE FARMERS' REVIEW, an excellent agricultural journal published at Chicago, has an editorial headed, "Why Does Timothy Run Out?" We shall require considerable information about Timothy's personal habits, before we can risk answering that question."—Texas Siftings.

Timothy stands pretty well for two or three years, keeping steady on his long feet, and drinking nothing but mineral water.

He stays out all night in the Summer-time and generally lies around the barn in winter.

He is a great favorite with Bovus, and is kind to children hunting strawberries, often hiding them from hard-hearted farmers.

But after a couple of years or so he gets unsteady and not only "runs out" but stays out, and makes himself scarce in the field of useful labor. That is the kind of a fellow Timothy is.—Exchange.

A BOSTON firm is reported to be making an imitation honey in the comb. The comb is said to be moulded out of paraffine wax in good imitation of the natural comb. The cells are then filled with glucose syrup flavored with some genuine honey, and sealed up by passing a hot iron over them.

If a young fool can only be got to listen to a recital of the failures of an old one, and has sense enough to profit thereby, his fortune is half made.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

PATTERSON.—Died at her residence in Casco, on Feb. 28, Mrs. H. PATTERSON, in the 43d year of her age.

Sister Patterson was a charter member of Michigan Lake Shore Grange, No. 407, and while health permitted was ever a constant and faithful member, one whose voice and vote were ever on the side of right, justice and humanity.

To Brother Patterson and family the members of this Grange tender their heartfelt sympathy in this, the darkest hour of their bereavement; and may they look to that source for comfort and consolation which was her strength and her support.

It was ordered that the Grange hall be draped in mourning for 60 days, and a memorial tribute be spread upon the records of the Grange.

DECKER.—Sister DECKER, a worthy member of Ottawa Grange, No. 36, Berlin, Mich., departed this life March 19, 1882, in the 66th year of her age.

The Grange adopted suitable resolutions of respect to her memory and sympathy for relatives, and ordered the same to be inscribed on our Grange records.

TAYLOR.—Died at his residence in Brownstown, on April 11, 1882, Bro. ALBERT O. TAYLOR, a worthy member of Monguagon Grange, No. 622.

Suitable resolutions of condolence were adopted by the Grange and ordered spread upon its records.

THOMPSON.—Died April 26, 1882, of measles, having been confined to the house only a few hours, Brother DARWIN A. THOMPSON, of Gilead, Branch county, Mich., a charter member of Pomona Grange, No. 22.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Divine Master in his power to remove by death our worthy brother, Darwin A. Thompson, therefore

Resolved, That in the death of Brother Thompson this Grange loses one of its most esteemed members and efficient officers; that he was a man highly esteemed in the community where he lived, and one who was most loved and respected where he was best known; that the charter of this Grange and also the charters of all the Granges in Branch county be draped in mourning for 60 days; that the Grange extend its sympathy to our worthy sister, who feels that the loss she has sustained is irreparable; that a copy of this resolution be sent to Sister Thompson, to the county papers and to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, also spread upon the records of this Grange.

Adopted by Branch County Pomona Grange, May 2, 1882.

HARLOW.—Died April 4, 1882, SAMUEL HARLOW, a worthy member of Feltz Grange, No. 347. At a regular meeting of the Grange resolutions expressive of the great loss to the family, to the Grange, and to the community by the death of this brother were adopted, ordered sent to the family and spread upon the records of the Grange.

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Address, F. M. CARROLL, Publishers, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.



South Haven and Casco Pomological Society.

Meeting called to order by the President, who stated the question for discussion: "The use of salt as a fertilizer; how and when shall we use it."

A. S. Dyckman, being called out by the President, said he had great confidence in the use of salt, and was so well satisfied with it that he bought three tons this spring, and had made arrangements for three tons more.

D. C. Lovelady—I have my doubts as to salt being a fertilizer, but in dry weather it is a great benefit to attract moisture. I sowed a strip of land with salt five years ago, and have seen very good effects from it.

H. J. Edgel—I was induced five years ago to use salt to kill the cut worms and wire worms, also the aphs on my onions. I found rust on my blackberries and I was advised to dig them all out, but I sowed salt on a portion and manure and ashes on some.

L. H. Bailey—Had certainly killed the pear blight by sowing salt under the trees, for the trees were all dead. He sowed a strip one rod wide in the Spring across his meadow several years ago, but could see no difference in the grass.

Frank Lunderman—There has been no time fixed for sowing salt, and he would like to know when to sow it, and how much.

M. H. Bixby—If salt is sown in the fall there is a large portion of it wasted by being washed out of the soil. It is best sown on the surface before or during drouth. It will kill some kinds of fruit trees. I killed four by throwing fish brine on them.

A. Voorhees—I think salt is some like plaster. Many people sow plaster on their summer fallows with good results. Grass and thistles are only killed by using large quantities.

J. Lannin—Two years ago I got ten barrels of salt and sowed four barrels on 100 peach trees, and the results were good. The salt attracts moisture from the atmosphere, also brings up water from the sub-soil, which is very necessary for the growth of the trees.

W. S. Morgan, Somers-plant Co., Pa., in view of the fact that the corn-planting season is at hand, gives his experience, which we commend to those who look upon the corn as an enemy.

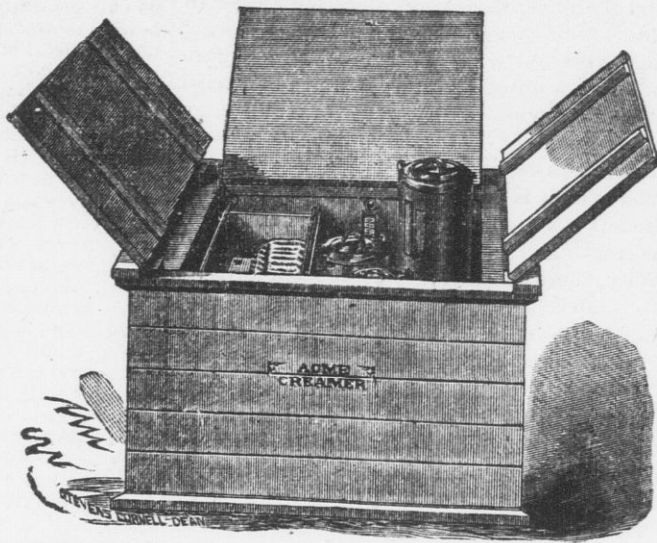
Shall We Wash Our Sheep? This question is constantly coming up in farmers' clubs Grange meetings, wool growers' associations, and being constantly discussed in the columns of agricultural and local papers.

In the three months ending June 30, 1880, the number of horned cattle shipped to Europe from American ports was 78,699, valued at \$5,790,453 or something over \$77 per head, while for the same period in 1881 there were 50,099 head shipped, valued at \$3,946,643, or a little over \$78 per head.

Does in Leroy township, Calhoun Co., have in the last few days killed 44 sheep and wounded half as many more, yet every poor man must have a dog, and if very poor can't get along without two.

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A combination that will produce an even grade of Butter, winter and summer. No Ice required. Saves two-thirds the labor. It will save its cost twice the first season.



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Alcona Co., Mich. Mr. Editor:—Some four years ago we used ten gallons of "Ingersoll Patent Liquid Rubber Paint." It has given perfect satisfaction, and I consider it the best in the United States. Respectfully, R. A. MARSHALL. [See advertisement.—ED.]

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Its Annual Meeting occur at the same time and place as the annual session of the State Grange. This feature was for the express purpose of providing for a large representation of the members of the Society at its most important meeting of the year, when its officers are elected, and without special notice the Society may be made.

The MUTUAL PLAN adopted by this Society provides that an Assessment shall be made ONLY when a member dies, and the amount of that assessment is fixed when a person becomes a member, and cannot be increased at any subsequent period. This assessment is graduated according to age, which is an important and distinctive feature of this Society—one which should commend it to the favorable consideration of Patrons.

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GEO. TAYLOR & SON, at their Nurseries in Portage street, are offering for sale at very low rates, a large stock of Evergreen and Ornamental Trees, shade trees, fruit trees, grapevines, strawberry plants, etc.; 25,000 Norway spruce for hedges, from one to three feet high (transplanted trees) at \$5 to \$15 per 100. A fine stock of large evergreens at proportionate price. Nursery located on Portage street, Kalamazoo, near the old fair grounds. apr17

Grange Seal Stolen—Caution—Imposter.

Some one, to me unknown, entered the apartment where the seal of the Knickerbocker Grange was kept and stole impressions of said seal on sheets of paper, and one E. A. Quarterman has been using said sheets of paper with the stolen impressions on, signing himself, "Yours fraternally," when he was not even a P. of H. The letters from Secretaries of State Granges, and to impose a painting on Patrons under the idea that they are buying the celebrated Ingersoll Ready Mixed Paint. All Masters, Overseers, Lecturers, Secretaries of P. of H. are requested to read this letter to their Grange, that this imposter may be known. Fraternally, O. R. INGERSOLL, apr17f Master Knickerbocker Grange.

Garden, Flower and Field SEEDS,

OF EVERY VARIETY.

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