

8. A new direction has been given to the public thought. Once the professional man, the bondholder and the capitalist were the only citizens thought worthy of Government protection; now the plowholder asserts his equal right, and the law-makers recognize it.

9. The Grange has given to Missouri the best constitution in America; where the rights of the taxpayers and minorities are carefully guarded, corporations restricted within their legitimate bounds, education fostered, and the utmost liberty accorded to the citizens, compatible with good government.

10. It is but little known that the leaders of the Grange generally signed a memorial to Congress, and personally urged the passage of the now famous *jetty system* for opening the mouth of the Mississippi, and giving to the great West direct commerce with all the world. All honor to Capt. Eads for the great boon; but the Grange claims also its humble share in helping all it could.

Has not the Grange done something to entitle it to recognition as a great instrument for the public good? It is hoped that every weak brother, who cannot see ample compensation to him in what has already been done, will stop growling that the Grange has not filled his pockets with money without even an effort of his own, and get out of the Grange as soon as possible. We want no such drones, but men who can see what great things we have already done, and what wonders we may yet do, if we are earnest workers in our grand co-operative movement. These are but a few of the benefits already conferred on our country by the Grange, and when time and space will allow, it may be profitable to go into this subject more in detail, showing the success of local Grange enterprises and new systems of co-operative associations recently organized.—*Monthly Talk.*

TOO MANY VARIETIES.—The following from the *N. Y. Weekly Sun* expresses ideas which those intending to plant fruit of any kind should heed: "Ninety persons out of every hundred who set out trees for home use or for market, indulge in too many varieties. This one fatal error has ruined more fruit growers than all other causes combined. Nurserymen propagate their hundreds and thousands of sorts simply because a majority of their customers do not know what they want and will not take the advice of those who do. The prevailing passion with the novice in fruit culture is to try as many varieties as possible; and we have known men who had 'just begun,' and with very little capital, to go into a nursery and undertake to make a short purse go a long way by purchasing a tree or two of each variety, instead of acting the wiser part, selecting from a number of trees a few of the very best."

—The purchases of Excelsior Grange, No. 379, of Bucks county, Pa., in 1875, reached \$8,000, on which the seventy members made a clear saving of \$1,600, or \$23 each.

How to Do It.—In order to make a Grange useful to its members and beneficial to the community in which it is located, every member should study the cardinal principles of the Order; what it is capable of doing and the best manner of accomplishing its purposes. Then work as if the enterprise depended alone upon your individual exertions. Where each member works faithfully, it is very easy to co-operate and concentrate. Don't wait for others to give interest to the Grange; don't keep away because your neighbors fail to attend. You can no more expect prosperity as a Grange, unless you do your duty, than you can hope to realize a crop of corn or tobacco without fertilizing and working your lands.—*Virginia Patron.*

A FIRM UNITED FRONT.—Here is a bit of sterling sense from the pen of a correspondent of the *Cincinnati Grange Bulletin*, which will do no Patron any harm to read:

"Keep it before the Granges that our obligations demand us to work together in harmony, that we must sacrifice our individual preferences or prejudices for a certain reaper or plow, wagon or sewing machine, and stand by those who are willing to make terms with us. Here is our secret of success. A firm united front for one year would bring our most bitter enemies to terms. It can be done, I believe it will be done; but it will only be accomplished by keeping these things prominently before our people. I know we get tired and discouraged by harping on these things eternally, but that is the way people are educated"

THE ROCHEDALE PLAN.—This is what has resulted from the Rochdale plan: "Husbands who never knew what it was to be out of debt, and poor wives who, during forty years, never had a sixpence uncondemned in their pockets, now possess little stores of money sufficient to build them cottages, and go every week into their own market with money jingling in their pockets; and in that market there is no distrust and no deception; there is no adulteration, and no second prices." Stick to the Order; make co-operation a working reality, not merely a thing to be talked about and played at, and you will soon reap the substantial benefit that the English operatives are now enjoying.

—S. T. Hopson says that the Girard Mercantile Association has a capital of \$10,000. Shares \$10 each. Started with a paid up capital of \$1,630. Run eight months, invoiced and divided \$1000 among stockholders. Goods that were sold averaged 14 per cent. above cost.

THE RIGHT GRIP.—"It will be a sad day for this country when the Grangers loosen the splendid grip they have on the throat of corruption and monopoly. Better choke the life out of them now, than to wait ten years and have ten times a bigger job to do."—*Hoosier Patron.*

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN,

PAW PAW.

PATRONS AND FRIENDS:

Thinking that the labors of the harvest would so engross the time and attention of farmers, that their correspondence with this office would very generally be deferred until the "harvest was gathered," I resolved to drop the pen, vacate my office, and take my place with the "Laborers" in the field. For two weeks I have labored in the harvest field; and have answered only such letters, as seemed to demand immediate attention; consequently quite a large number of unanswered letters have accumulated on my table. I ask pardon of the writers for this delay. I assure them that my help was needed in the harvest, and that I have done good work in the field, besides doing justice to three full "harvest feasts" each day. My harvest is now finished, the laborers have returned from the field; and I am again at my table. I will endeavor to be more punctual in answering correspondents in the future.

A Correspondent asks, if subordinate Granges are required to pay dues to the State Grange, on its Charter members; and quotes Rule 84 of the Parliamentary Guide, which reads as follows:

"Subordinate Granges are not required to pay membership dues to the State Grange on account of Charter members."

The above rule evidently contains an error. "Membership fees" are not required, either of Charter or initiated members. The rule should read as follows:

"84. No membership fees on account of Charter members."

"Subordinate Granges are exempt from the payment of membership fees to the State Grange on account of Charter members."

The following letter from Brother D. Wyatt Aiken, Chairman of the National Executive Committee explains itself; and I trust will be interesting to the Order in this State.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., July 7, 1876.

The National Grange having adjourned in November last without selecting a place for holding its next meeting, the Executive Committee have in accordance with Act 2, Sec. 3 of our Constitution selected such place, and do hereby inform you, that the National Grange will open its next session at 12 o'clock noon, in the city of Chicago, on the third Wednesday of November next.

Fraternally,

D. WYATT AIKEN.

—We forget that if we stay away from the Grange meetings, the Grange has no social feature; that, unless some of us contribute to the Grange meetings something improving to ourselves and our brothers, the social feature is nothing to be proud of.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the Number of their Grange.

Quarterly Reports.

In the June number of the VISITOR, I gave a list of Granges delinquent in Quarterly Reports, for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1875. Since that issue I have received some twenty of those delinquent Reports, and I hope by keeping the list standing to get the attention of Secretaries, and sooner or later get the necessary Report. In many instances it is no fault of the present Secretary that all Reports have not been made. But I need the Report, no less because the Secretary of last year did not do his duty, and have no one to look to but the present Secretary to make good the delinquency of his predecessor.

Granges delinquent in Reports for quarter ending Dec. 31, 1875. A star before the number, indicates that the Grange is also delinquent in Reports for quarter ending Sept. 30, 1875. No. 15, *36, 52, 71, *119, *132, 151, 162, 172, 180, 187, *210, 211, *244, *280, 182, 306, 311, *357, *377, 399, *413, 430, 444, *454, 478, 480, *506, 507, *510, 543, 551, 576, 478, *588, *575, 609. A few Granges omitted from this list, not having reported for a year, are considered dormant.

In the August number of the VISITOR, we shall give a list of Granges delinquent in Reports for the quarter ending March 31, 1876.

Several orders issued to Masters in payment for attendance at the January session of the State Grange in 1875, have been returned in answer to our request in the June VISITOR.

There are still Orders outstanding, issued to Nos. as follows, which I hope Secretaries will return soon as possible. I am anxious to give the several Granges credit for the amount of the Order and close that old matter up.

OUTSTANDING ORDERS.—Nos. 4, 13, 29, 39, 48, 68, 97, 98, 116, 119, 122, 123, 130, 139, 149, 150, 162, 165, 166, 188, 193, 201, 206, 209, 218, 223, 226, 239, 248, 283, 290, 299, 300, 301, 302, 320, 329, 349, 356, 377, 388, 397, 404, 404, 416, 417, 434, 439, 453, 459, 463, 516, 523, 533, 539, 549, 564.

We had a call last week from Mr. Taylor of the firm of Day & Taylor, of Grandville; he gives a very satisfactory account of the condition of the Plaster business.

The work of mining has been continued, and rock is being piled up under the sheds of the company. The mine proves far better than promised by all examinations made by Mr. Weston. He claimed 12 feet of plaster rock in the lower strata. Day & Taylor, find it 21 feet, and ten inches in thickness, which makes it the best Plaster bed that has ever been opened in the Grand River Valley. All are aware that but a small part of the orders sent me last fall for plaster were filled this spring. Some plaster is used in the fall, and more ought to be used

about barn yards, manure heaps and stables during the summer than is used. That there may be no disappointment hereafter, we ask all our people who want plaster this fall to send me their orders at as early a day as possible.—Please give name of consignee, his post-office, name and number of the Grange, on what railroad, and to what station, and when you want the plaster shipped. If orders are received in season, they will be filled promptly—price as before, \$3.00 per ton on the cars at Grandville. I think if we do our part in season, that we can safely depend on Day & Taylor to make good their contract with the committee. It is important that orders be received at an early day, so that cars may be secured, and every thing done on our part to meet the wants of our Bro. Patrons in this matter.

The following from T. J. Crowe, will answer some complaints that we have received in regard to seals ordered of T. J. Crowe & Co. We have always considered Mr. Crowe reliable, and still believe he will do all in his power to merit the confidence of his customers;

DETROIT, June 28, 1875,

MR. J. T. COBB, Dear Sir;—I have been sick for four months and unable to attend to business and request you to say in the Grange VISITOR, that the firm have discontinued business. On all orders not soon filled, the money will be refunded.

Very Truly Yours,

T. J. CROWE.

I SHOULD like to be able to Report to the next State Grange, what Granges, and how many in the State have built or own Halls. From letters received, I am of the opinion such a Report would make a very creditable showing of the faith and enterprise of Michigan Patrons. In making quarterly Reports, Secretaries can very easily give us a statement in relation to Halls built, and owned by Patrons. Shall we have it?

☞ We are well pleased with the large number of communications we print in this issue from our friends in different parts of the State. The improvement in this direction will add materially to the value of the VISITOR, and promote "the good of the Order." Farmers are too little accustomed to give the public the benefit of their opinions and experience. The Grange is doing vastly more good in developing latent talent in speaking and writing than it has credit for. Time will prove that it is a great educator. Continue to send us articles "for the VISITOR," and if you think it worth the trifling sum of 30 cts. a year to a Patron, induce your friends to subscribe for it.

☞ A formal notice to a delinquent member will frequently jog his memory and bring him to the Secretary's desk with the back dues. Secretaries will please remember that we keep a supply of these blank reminders, which we furnish post-paid for 40 cts per hundred.

☞ The State Grange derives no revenue from the Pomona Grange, yet as it has become a constitutional part of our organization, it is important that we not only have a report of organization from the organizing Deputy, but that we have quarterly reports from Secretaries, showing the membership and pecuniary condition of the Grange. Several Secretaries of Pomona Granges are delinquent in this matter.

CO OPERATIVE FAILURES.—There will necessarily be some failures of co-operative societies, as many are being organized among persons who have no experience. Let them all, however, guard carefully against the known causes of failure which have been ascertained by experience, which are the following:

1. Starting business with too little paid up capital.
2. Want of fidelity in the members in trading at their own store.
3. Active opposition of rivals, selling at or below cost for a time.
4. Extravagant expenses in the management, and dishonest managers and employees.
5. Reckless or unskillful purchases and accumulation of dead stock.
6. Imperfect keeping of accounts, bad auditing and neglect to watch the progress of business closely. The transactions of every week should be carefully scanned.

When the stock of any article has been exhausted, the books should show exactly what was sold of it, and how the amount sold of it compares with the amount bought.—Co-Operative Journal of Progress.

☞ At the meeting of the Secretaries of the State Granges to be held in Philadelphia, in September, there will be present many members of the State Executive Committees, the general purpose of all being to arrange methods for the workings of the Order. Present indications show that there will be a good number of the Secretaries on hand ready to discuss the various plans on which the business of their respective offices is conducted.

—Every Grange should have a library. If each member of the Grange, having, say 50 members, buys one book to read, and then pass it round, that Grange will have at once a library of 50 books. By consulting with each other before buying, a great variety of works could be obtained, and we are confident that the study of 50 well selected books will not only make the members of that Grange wiser and better men and women, but will confer practical benefits on them, of which they have no idea.—Helper.

☞ We know of no place, in or around Philadelphia, where more good solid home comfort, for the same money, can be enjoyed, than at the Patron's Encampment near the centennial grounds. Every one who has been a guest there speaks of its accommodations in the highest terms. We notice that the editors at the centennial enjoyed a good dinner there the other day, by invitation of the managers.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

Duties of Officers--Continued.

CHAPLAIN.

This officer opens and closes the Grange with prayer, and when Grange funerals are held, acts in a similar capacity as prescribed in the manual.—To do his duty well, the Chaplain should be interested in his duties. He should feel what he utters in devotion, and what he says to those he instructs in the degrees. He should also have the ability to make all who hear his words feel that he is sincere in them, that they are of the heart. To be thus impressive, the Chaplain should, be a devout man, one whose daily life does not belie his office, one who can perform the duties without feeling or leading others to feel that it is a mockery, or at least that he is doing life service only.

The Chaplain should be a good and impressive reader, who will carefully study his duties and enter heartily into their faithful discharge. He should be a patron in his life, and an example for all the members of the Grange to follow, especially the younger ones.—The Chaplain should gently reprove all improper and immoral conduct on the part of members, all seeming violations of obligation and ever be the Champion of Right, Truth and Order. As has been said of the other officers, so the Chaplain should be familiar with all work of the Order, for we have known a case where this official being a ranking officer in the absence of others, had to take Master's station and give instruction to candidates, while men usually fill this position, we have often met with Granges where a sister has filled the position with credit to herself, and profit to the Grange.

In closing, we would condemn the spirit that often casts odium upon the office, and does injury to the feelings of members by electing to this place persons totally unfit in character and ability. Don't forget that "*whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well.*"

TREASURER.

The banker of the Grange, as this officer is, should have the general confidence of all, yet this should not relieve him from filing bonds, for even the best "know not what a day may bring forth," and if this is always practiced there will be no funds lost, no "locking the door after the horse is stolen." A good man will not hesitate to give bonds, and a doubtful man should be required to give security before entering upon his duties.

The Treasurer should have a book of receipts with stubs, to give a receipt for moneys received from Secretary, and have the stubs to show the same. He should carefully file all orders drawn upon him as paid, and should keep a debit and credit account of all moneys received and paid, in such a manner as to show the amount on hand at any time. Separate accounts should be kept with the different funds, and none be overdrawn without notifying the Grange.

All books and papers of this office should be ready for inspection at any time, and give any information desired on a moment's notice. The Treasurer should be at every meeting to receive the amount paid, and to pay orders if any are drawn upon him, thus saving others much trouble. The Treasurer's example in punctual and regular attendance will do as much to instruct the younger members of the Grange in this direction, as the systematic manner in which he keeps his business, books and papers, will to teach order and system.

The Treasurer may have but little to do in a Grange meeting, yet the moral influence of this officer may be great if well exerted.

August Meetings.

The following notices are here given that other localities may not take the same time, and may arrange for the services of the State Lecturer when in their vicinity. A meeting will be held at Ionia, August 23, of all the Granges in the county.

August 11th, there will be a Grange picnic and meeting at Morenci, Lenawee county. A similar meeting will be held August 17th, at Hartford, Van Buren county. Other parties desiring the services of the Lecturer, should correspond with him at once, and the meetings after August 25th, and for September, may be announced in the next August number. Let the Patrons of Monroe and Lenawee counties arrange for visits about the 11th, and those of Van Buren, Berrien and Allegan about the 17th. Those of the vicinity of Ionia at the time of the meeting there. A word about other public meetings of our Order. They will be useful to all, and in proportion as the arrangements are complete and well carried out for holding them.—System is a great essential. A few may have the general arrangement and oversight, but ALL should take hold in earnest, and each do his *whole duty*. Large expenses in non-essentials should be avoided, but each member and each Grange should be on hand to carry out what ever arrangements are made. United action is the point of success. By carrying out these hints, many large and more successful and interesting meetings may be held in the State, which shall awaken interest, correct errors and redound in good to the farming community.

Old members will become more energetic, and new ones will learn more of the Order, and their duties therein, while those without the Gate will be led to enquire how it may open to them. Let such meetings be Grange meetings. Let the whole membership arrange for a holiday and go.—See that wife and children all go. Arrange that hired help can all go. A day's recreation will not be lost to any. Arrange in time for speaking not too much, but that which is good. Have none but members of the Order to teach its principles, and even let the tenor of our meetings be such as that all will be pleased and interested, and the instruction given of an elevating tendency, leading the thoughts and resolves of those who attend toward a higher and truer life.

Be prompt and explicit in making

and carrying out arrangements. Give ample notice to all Granges and the people. Send special invitations to all desired to attend. Have no misunderstanding with speakers, as to time and place and conveyance to the place.

That these thoughts, with the many more they will suggest, may be of some use to those who read them, is why they were written.

Victor Grange Clinton County and four others unite in a Pic-Nic, at Round Lake, on the 10th of August.

Aid Matters.

Since the article in the June number was written, money has been received from Granges as follows, to-wit:

Flushing No. 387, \$6.00; East Arlington No. 157, \$10.00; Bee-Hive No. 158, \$1.50; Lyons No. 216, \$21.00; Madison No. 384, \$5.00; and I think Seed Grain from one Grange to whom credit has not been given. If any have been omitted in giving credit, please inform me at once, stating what and how sent.

All Granges receiving aid, sent me upon request the number of persons needing aid, and what they needed, and to what address the articles were to be directed, when goods came here the freight was paid and distributed among the Granges *pro-rata* as they represented their wants. All goods sent have reached their destination as receipts will show.

Twenty dollars of the money received was used in purchasing seeds, and the same forwarded by express or mail pre-paid. Freight paid to the C. & L. M. R. R. was \$19.68; to the M. L. S. R. R., \$14.89; pre-paid the former in forwarding \$2.88; \$10.00 was sent to Mainistee County Granges to pay freight upon the Lake Steamer. A small sum remains on hand, which I trust will be increased by returned R. R. freights, which have either been promised or are being negotiated.—The F. & M. P. M. R. R. will refund the amount paid them as soon as the receipts are sent to the general office.—The M. L. S. & D. & M. R. R. are considering the matter.

If there are Granges still needing aid the amount on hand can be used or placed in the Treasurer's hands awaiting orders.

From Brown Grange No. 581, the following was received too late for June VISITOR.

NORWALK, June 6th, 1876.

At the monthly meeting held to-day, these resolutions were passed: *Resolved*, that we return thanks to Bro. Whitney, (Worthy Lecturer of the State Grange,) for the efficient manner in which he has responded to our call for aid. *Resolved*, that we also thank those Brothers and Sisters who have contributed the Seeds, &c., sent to us. Signed and Sealed.

JOHN WIEBE, Sec. No. 581.

P. S.—**Seeds and \$10.00 rec'd; also, Freight and box of Sundries.

W. H. Bennett, of Chippewa 518, says:—Bro. W. ** received to-day, two bbls. and five bags grain, and was glad to get the same.

June 6th, 1876.

Wm. Kilpatrick, of Baldwin City to whom goods for Central and W. Lake were consigned on June 4th,

says: "Please find inclosed receipt of shipment of Grain. June 4, '76.

Henry Saunders, of Chase, June 17, writes of the goods sent to Eastern Lake. "Enclosed, please find receipt for freight on the balance of Grain.

These receipt were sent me that I might forward them to the F. & P. M. R. R. to get the charges returned upon them. Hope to report fully and close up the matter next number, properly receipted in full.

Hall Dedication.

On June 22d, we had the pleasure of meeting with Gratton Grange, No. 170 of Kent county, and aided in the Dedication of their Hall. This hall has been conceived and built since the 1st of the year, and except the plastering, is the gratuitous work of the enterprising and industrious membership. It is of ample dimensions, with a gallery and the entrance and ante-rooms which adds largely to its seating capacity. All the appointments were as well as could be asked; few if any Granges have better. The decorations were excellent; we make mention of the *arch of green*, 20 feet in height and suitable width, back of the lady officers. On this arch, in letters of red roses were words: Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity. The hall was filled to its utmost, by the members of this and other Granges and their friends. We were greeted by many worthy Brothers and Sisters of the neighboring Granges of Kent and Montcalm. After a sumptuous dinner had been discussed and the remnants cleared away, the afternoon exercises began; music by a choir of young ladies and gentlemen of the Grange, supported by an organ, was a great addition to the attractions of the occasion. We thought "that every Grange had such a one," and why not?

Among the pieces sang was an original one by the leader of the choir, entitled: "Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity," creditable to both author and the Grange.

The keys were duly received from the architect and builder, Bro. C. M. Slayton, and the dedication was duly conducted in accordance with the new service which impressed all present with its beauty and adaptation to the end.

We commend the Master Chaplain and Lady Officers for the prompt and creditable manner in which they performed their duties.

Gratton No. 170 has a home and is assured of permanence.

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - CENTREVILLE.

Let all Farmers now examine their wheat fields carefully and ascertain which variety gives the best yield of grain, all things considered and then sow that particular kind principally. Two kinds are generally desirable to be raised on each Farm; an early and a later ripening variety, so that one can be cut before the other is ready. The Fultz is as early as any, if not the earliest, and yields very well; a bald chaff, light amber color berry,

medium straw and stands up well.— On rich strong soils the Deiel has yet given better returns than any other in my knowledge. It ripens early, short stiff straw; it shells easily and should be cut before fully ripe. The Clawson is loose on the head, the chambers wide apart and large straw, requiring a strong clay soil to give the best yield. It has been introduced in some parts by the name of Early May. White Amber, so named from the straw resembling the large amber, is a white wheat, originated in St. Joseph county by a Mr. Himebaugh, a fair yielding, late ripening variety; long straw, does not shell easily, stands up well and gives good returns from light soils. I wish all wanting Drills to be used this fall would let me know soon, the kind and number wanted, so that I may be able to contract for them as soon as possible. I have already engaged a number of the Superior Drills from the manufacturer, and have just received a car load of them, which will be furnished at wholesale prices to all orders accompanied with the cash. There are but few Drills its equal for putting in all kinds of grains, and none ahead. It comes at a considerable reduction from last years prices. I have an offer for wagons and carriages at a material reduction if I can take a car load; and if all wanting wagons for this fall would let me know at once, I would see to selecting them personally, and endeavor to give satisfaction in quality of work and price. Boots and shoes are offered at wholesale by a large manufacturer in New York who has been dealing with us for some time, and is anxious to continue to do so. His work is first class in every respect, and warranted equal to any in the market, and he is not afraid to send his boxes marked with his name. His prices are low and will be furnished on application to all wanting to *buy*, but not to pry down local retail dealers.

I quote Cooking Stoves at Detroit, as follows:

No. 8 Onward Sq., \$15 75, with Reservoir,	\$25 00
" " " " " "	28 00
" 8 New Issue " " " "	28 00
" 9 " " " " " "	26 00
" 8 Legal Tender, 12 60 " " "	21 25
" 9 " " " " " "	24 25

Steel drag teeth at Detroit, 10 cents a lb. Farmers make your own drags at odd times.

My contracts for Dry Goods and Groceries at wholesale are still in active use, and I am forwarding orders daily for goods to be shipped direct to the place where wanted. Sugars have recently advanced one-half to a cent a lb. on all grades in the principal markets. I think that this rise will not hold long. Teas have declined in price in the mean time. I have a contract with Thomas Beck, of Detroit, to furnish tubs and Ashton salt for packing butter, to be received and sold by him on commission, and I would advise all good butter makers to pack and hold for better prices in the fall or winter. Printed directions for putting up butter in the best manner will be sent either by Mr. Beck or myself to all applicants.

I have an offer from a Commission House at Detroit to receive and sell wheat for two dollars a car load in bulk; this house is quoted as a No. 1.

Some appear to think that dealers and manufacturers are responsible for damages to goods in transit on railroads or depots; this is expecting more than can be borne out, when a shipper takes a receipt for articles in good order he is then clear from any claim for injuries done while in transit to the place of delivery, and if any loss occurs it must be collected of the carrier, as he alone is responsible.

I would again ask correspondents to give their Post-Office and County, as letters are constantly returned to me, marked uncalled for, which causes often inconvenience to the Brother seeking information. The name of your Grange is often not the name of a Post-Office, and it takes time to look over the list of Granges to find your office, some complain that they have received nothing from me. I have only the address of those given by Secretary Cobb in last winters list from his office.

I give a short extract from the *Farmers' Friend*, which I think we all should heed and act upon the suggestions. "All the professed concentration under heaven will amount to nought if it is not practiced. It is time we learned this practically and experimentally, as a Grange, and not for Patrons to divide up for sixteen to twenty different kinds of plows and reapers in a single Grange, and then blame the purchasing officers for not getting better terms and better machines. The way to do, it seems to us, is to have a competent board appointed, and then let that board decide on the best reaper, the best plow, or the best sewing machine; and then let it be understood that we all join in, and buy that reaper, or that plow, or that sewing machine, so long as the conditions remain. But you say one kind of plow will not answer for all kinds of soil. Of course not; but one kind of plow will answer for one kind of soil, and another for another. If we have to make a different kind of plow for every individual Patron, we will never realize the advantage of co-operation, because we will never have it. Patrons, can we not forsake individual preferences on some one thing, concentrate on that one thing, and astonish even ourselves with the advantages that will be wrought."

I am almost daily receiving money and orders for goods on which I have to pay express charges, registering fees and purchase drafts to be forwarded to manufacturers and dealers that amount to a considerable sum in a short time, although each separate item may be small. This is not exactly right; each Brother should pay his expressage, or when sent by registered letter enough should be enclosed to pay for a draft or registering the same when I forward it to pay for the articles wanted. In these cases I have to either lose it, or ask the State Grange to reimburse me, which is wrong. I can not keep an item account of these small sums of daily occurrence, and I trust in future every order will either be accompanied with a New York draft, or if by letter the fee for registering will be sent along.

The best way to remit is always by a New York sight draft, as this is al-

most absolutely safe. Registering a letter is only evidence that it was sent, and if lost by carelessness or stolen there is no redress, and the sender has to bear the loss. I have sent some remittances lately which is claimed were never received by the parties to whom they were forwarded.

Many Granges in Texas are offering premiums to their members for the best cultivation of various products. The competition thus induced cannot fail to be beneficial.

Communications.

Class Legislation.

A late number of the VISITOR contained an article that should be carefully investigated by every Patron in the land. It was headed, "Which shall Rule: Nine Tenths or One Tenth." This is an important question, and the welfare, prosperity, and happiness of the farmers, as well as other laboring classes, in the future, depends upon its proper solution. He who has examined carefully the legislation of our country, for the past fourteen years, must be forced to the conclusion, I think, that such legislation has been in favor of the capital instead of in the interest of the people.

It has created, fostered and protected a money monopoly, the most gigantic, the most overbearing and domineering that ever existed in our so-called free republican government.

It has enacted laws which dealt out justice between its different citizens, and then, at the command of capital and the money tyrants, it has repudiated its promises and repealed said enactments, so that said monied rings could grow rich from the labor of the toiling millions.

It has passed laws granting to bankers the use of over 350,000,000 of dollars for almost nothing, while those who perform the labor, and create all the wealth must pay said favored class a rate of interest for the use of said money over three times as much as the average increase of our national wealth.

The great object of many of the leading politicians, and men of the nation, seem to have been to devise plans and schemes, and get them in the form of legislative enactments, by which it compels the laboring and producing classes to surrender a part of the results of their labor and honest toil to a set of scheming money sharks, who have grown immensely wealthy.

Laws are now in force which tax the people nearly twenty millions of dollars annually in the shape of interest, which is paid to a set of useless middlemen.—And a conspiracy is now proposed which, if carried out, as contemplated, will increase said burden of interest, annually, millions of dollars more, which will be paid to the same set of favored middlemen.

If favors are to be granted to any, it should be to those whose services are the most valuable.

The cause of this wrong and injustice is: we have sent a class of men to Congress who have been legislating for themselves, and for the interest of those who have plenty of money, instead of legislating for the interest of those who sent them there. The people have employed them at a high salary, and they have worked for the interests of others. Shall we continue to be thus unwise? Shall we continue to send to our national legislature, to make laws for us, a set of men who care not one fig for the rights, the prosperity, and the happiness of the farmer and the laboring people? Are we so foolish, so unwise, as to voluntarily give the position and power to men who hesitate not to make use of means to increase our burdens, our taxation? who are continually devising

schemes to rob and plunder the laboring and producing classes of a part of their hard earnings without compensating them for the same? If not we must have the stamina, the backbone, and the moral courage to be independent, and support for office, only those whose conduct and action in the past clearly demonstrate to us, that they have the welfare, the happiness and prosperity of the millions at heart more than they do the enriching of a few millionaires, at the expense of the people. We must send men to make our laws, who are more identified with the interests of Agriculture. We should send them not only for this reason, but because it is right and just that the farming interest should have its just proportion of representatives in Congress. But we should be careful in the selection of men, even among the farmers. There are many without doubt who are well qualified in many respects to represent our interest, who will work for the interests of the rich aristocracy; such should be avoided.

A. FANKBONER.

Schoolcraft, June 13, 1876.

We think our friend Fankboner has given his views in rather strong terms, but we agree with him fully in regard to the propriety and necessity of coming to the front—and insisting that while the Agricultural class comprise more than one-half of the whole population, it shall no longer be satisfied to be represented in Congress by Bankers and Lawyers, be they ever so capable and honest.

That there are practical Farmers competent to represent the interests of the people in our National Legislature is no longer an undecided question.—There is not a District in Michigan that has not within its limits farmers of ripe, business experience, men superior in every respect to the average Congressman of the period; Southern Michigan is certainly an Agricultural Country. Shall it always be represented in Congress by Lawyers and Bankers? It will be in the future as in the past if we permit it. As Patrons, we have duties in the political field as well as the corn field, and we should not be satisfied in attending to the one and disregarding the other.

J. T. C.

COREY, June 19th, 1876.

Bro. Cobb, I wish to make a short communication through the GRANGE VISITOR, of a visit I had the other day to the Promised Land. You know Moses sent spies to spy out the land of Canaan, and said to them: "Get up this way, southward, and go up into the mountain." Well, I wasn't sent, but I got down out of the short knobs. Eastward I saw the land—what it was, and the people that dwell therein. Some were strong and some weak. There was not many, but few. But the commandment went still farther: They were to see what the land was; whether it was fat or lean, and to be of good courage, and to bring off the fruit of the land. I was of good courage, for I went alone and have yet to learn that one man is to fear others; but as concerning the land it had the appearance of fatness, for the table, if there had been any mortality about it, would have ached under its load, for the sisters of the fraternity had done ample justice in preparing the good things of the land. There was enough, and plenty to spare, and, judging by myself, I think it would have been better for dyspeptic stomachs if the provision had not been so fat. I did not bring off any of the fruits of the land, because it was not in the time of the first ripe grapes. But when I got to Laish and saw the people that were therein,—how they dwelt, careless after

the manner of Zidonians, quiet and secure, and there was no magistrate in the land to put them to shame in anything, and they were far from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man outside the Pomona. We considered them selfish, for they did not even give us an honorary seat with them. This, we think, is rutable in all deliberate bodies; and their only strength is: the great head recognizes them. But we failed to see that the land was any richer, or the people any fairer than in the Fourth Degree. Their treasury is not very flush, according to what we think has flown into it. We have met the same people when in the Fourth Degree, in the county council. They were just as good looking, just as pleasant, and seemed to be just as happy, and, we think, enjoyed themselves better than they do now; but, oh, the higher degree. They are hung to it with that tenacity that will destroy the order unless there is a yielding. We notice that a majority of the petitions that were presented to the National Grange were for the abolition of the higher degrees, but the minority prevailed and has become law,—we think to the disadvantage of the order. Had the higher degrees been abolished, the fees lowered, the order would have been a great deal more numerous to day than it is; and our opinion is, the sixth degree will be brought within the reach of every member of the State Grange. Then, perhaps, the head will say to the body, I have no need of the brethren and sisters. Let us awake to a sense of the duty we owe to ourselves and others around us. Let us petition the proper authorities to abolish the higher degrees and reduce the fees; we care not how much, for it is the members we want, not the fees. If this is done there are thousands that will yet flock to our standard and labor with us to establish equality and justice throughout the land.

Now, Bro. Cobb, you are aware that the spies returned with false report, but it has not been my intention to report anything falsely; if I have, it has been for want of a proper knowledge, and would ask some from the goodly land to correct it.

A. P. SHEPHERDSON.

BERRIEN SPRINGS, June 4, 1876.

Bro. J. J. WOODMAN, Master Michigan State Grange P. of H.

Dear Sir and Bro.:—I would be glad to have the following questions answered in the VISITOR:

1st. Has a member a right as a Patron to buy implements for Non-Patrons through the order or its agencies.

Ans. 1, No. The business feature of our Order has been organized for the special benefit of its members, and not for those who refuse to affiliate with us.

2d. Has a Grange a right to issue a dimitt to a member and erase the recommendation without preferring charges against the person asking for the dimitt.

Ans. 2d. Dimitts should be in the form prescribed by the National Grange. Any other form of dimitts would not be relied upon.

3d. It is claimed by some, that a Grange has no legal jurisdiction unless incorporated under the laws of the State.

Ans. 3d. Incorporation does not affect the jurisdiction of a Grange.

For General Rules on dimitts and jurisdiction, see Feb. and March No's of the Visitor.

MARILLA, Manistee Co., Mich., }
July 12th, 1876. }

J. T. COBB, Worthy Bro.:

The following item is by order of the Grange; will you please insert it in the VISITOR.

A response from the Granges of Manistee and Lake Counties, may be looked for through the columns of the VISITOR, by the several Granges, who so kindly and liberally "dispensed charity," as is seen in the June number.

The Marilla Grange, No. 580, the

youngest Grange and township in Manistee county, suffered perhaps more than any other one, by the frost and rain of last year, as not a crop of any kind (except oats) matured, and seed of all kinds, even vegetables, had to be procured from "outside." But not one asked for or received aid; though we all fully appreciate the kindness and efforts of our Fraternity, in behalf of our worthy brethren.

We venture the hope of a bountiful harvest this year—crops of all kinds look promising.

Grange is active and harmonious.
MRS. JENNIE A. POPE, Sec'y.

BIRCH RUN, Mich., July 8, 1876.

MR. J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft:—If you have space in the VISITOR, please allow the following:

Patrons Greeting:—Last evening, July 7th, we met for the first time, in our new hall, which is, rapidly being completed at a cost of about one thousand dollars. It is 20x55, eighteen foot posts. On upper floor we have a private hall room 20x45. On first floor, we have a hall for public purposes 20x45, and a stair room 10x20, including stairs. We found it much more commodious, pleasant and entertaining than the Garret, which we formerly rented at a cost of \$25 per year.—We are now supplying ourselves with a permanent trading fund. We can derive much benefit from that source, and are looking forward soon to see a more perfect system of co-operation established. We regret we have no established place in Detroit for dry goods as Mr. Geo. Peck & Co., will not fill orders until cashed. We cash our orders on receipt of goods and believe our leading firms ask nothing more.

We hold our meetings weekly on Tuesday evenings, all meetings are regular. Extend a cordial invitation to neighboring Grangers to come and see us.

GEO. N. FISHER, Sec'y.

BELLVILLE GRANGE,
No. 331, June, 1876.

J. T. COBB, Worthy Sec'y:

Bellville Grange is in a flourishing condition since the dedication of its new hall. The hall was built in connection with a town hall. The building is of brick, two stories high, 30x60 feet. The Grange organized a stock company and built the upper story at a cost of \$1,400. We have in connection with the hall, a room for groceries, and keep nearly everything in that line—also a supply of plow points, cultivator teeth, nails, &c., for convenience as well as profit are kept on hand. In spite of the influence of traveling humbugs, and the tree agents, that prophesied that trees would not be worth setting, or even to bush peas with unless purchased of them, we sent east through our fruit agent, orders to the amount of \$380 for fruit trees—consisting of apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches, apricots, and some of the leading varieties of grapes, including Salem and Concord. We found to our satisfaction, that the traveling humbugs don't know it all as we think the State of New York could not send any better trees than those sent to our agent. We have not done much in the line of shipping produce, but as an experiment, shipped 5 cars potatoes in March to Louisville, Ky., and a quantity of beans to Chicago, with satisfactory results. Potato bugs are as familiar as ever. At the last meeting 100 pounds paris green were ordered. In short, we can dispense with the middle men, for nearly every thing we need is bought at wholesale from a bar of soap to a chest of tea, from a plow point to a combined machine. The Champion is the leading machine that we handle. We hold meetings once a week.

Eurotus Troop, Fruit Agent.
J. R. Brayton, Business Agent.
L. Briggs, Purchasing Agent.
J. R. CLARK, Sec'y,
Wayne Co., Bellville, Mich.

THOMASTOWN, Mich., July 1, 1876.

J. T. COBB, Sec. of Mich. State Grange:

Worthy Brother:—Perhaps it would be interesting to you to read a brief statement of the past and present condition of Lelia Grange, No. 597. It is well known throughout this part of the State that for the six months immediately succeeding the organization of our Grange, (June 29th, 1875), we were in a flourishing and prosperous condition; since that time we have encountered and surmounted difficulties that I hope few Granges are ever called upon to meet. We have had trouble, and I am sorry to say that trouble was mostly chargeable to a member of the Order who locked us out of a Hall that the Grange had fitted up at an expense of over \$200, captured and retained the property of the Grange as well as the private property of individual members. Finding ourselves without a place of meeting of course something must be done.

We made an effort to build and own a Hall in connection with the township; this proposition was voted down, and we were compelled to fall back on our own resources. The result proved that "where there is a will there is a way."

At this date we have a building 28x52 with 20 feet posts, standing on a good brick foundation. The roof is on and we have money, labor and material sufficient to fit the Hall for occupation.

You may see by this worthy Brother, that Lelia Grange is up and doing, and is determined to occupy a prominent position among her sister Granges. She is determined to not sink beneath a sea of trouble, but to ride triumphantly upon its surface.

Yours Fraternally,
CHAS. H. BUTTS,
Sec'y of Lelia Grange, No. 597.

SOUTH WRIGHT, July 14, 1876.

BRO. J. T. COBB:—I send you herewith an abstract of the Report of the Executive Committee of Wright Grange No. 285. There was placed in the hands of the Grange Agent on the 1st of Jan. last, \$63,00 which was kept revolving during the first quarter, doing business to the amount of \$403,00, and saving to our members not less than \$240,00. Had at the close of the quarter \$73,00 worth of goods on hand.

On the 15th of May, the Executive Committee placed \$100 more in the hands of the agent. The amount of business done in the second quarter was \$800, and the amount saved to Patrons, \$207,00, with \$185,00 worth of goods on hand. The amount of produce handled during the second quarter was \$605,00.

It is surprising what an amount of business can be done with so little capital, by adhering strictly to a cash business, and it is a great satisfaction to know that it pays so well to do business on Grange principles. We have bought in New York, Toledo, and Chicago. I wish we had a reliable wholesale Grange House in Detroit.

What can I get an Organ for, one that retails for \$200 or an Esty, one that is just as good.

Enclosed, find 30 cents for VISITOR; send to Mary F. Hubbard, South Wright, Hillsdale County, Mich.

Fraternally Yours,
C. W. ABBADUSKA, Agent.

BOWNE, Kent Co., Mich.,
May 15th, 1876.

WORTHY MASTER & BROTHER:—Our Grange is doing a good business, buying goods at wholesale rates and distributing among our members; we are saving at least 20 per cent; we have a new hall 24x48 feet, 18 feet high, with plenty of room for business, and meeting room above; we feel very much encouraged. We raised a fund of one hundred dollars the first of February, and have up to this time between \$300 and \$400 worth of goods; it has been the nimble sixpence with us as we have paid out and received the whole amount once a month.

Our Grange is incorporated. We formed a joint stock association to raise means to purchase material for our hall, done our own work, and thereby saved the expense of carpenters.

M. A. HOLCOMB, Master,
Brown Center Grange, No. 219.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Success depends not so much on a Grange having a large membership, as in the effectiveness of the members. Effective working is the true test.—We all remember some little people who can walk clear around an overgrown, lubberly neighbor every hour in the day. Granges of twenty wide-awake, devoted members can be, and often are, more at heart Patrons of Husbandry than some similar organization with over fifty on the rolls.—This is so in every State; and before we begin praising a Grange with a large membership, simply because the membership is large, we ought to compare them with some of apparently smaller growth. The cedar doesn't grow like the hemlock, but which of the two do we prefer for our fence posts? By the comparison it is not intended to discourage the larger Granges, but to cause Patrons to look around and see, for once, if they have not seen, that some of our brightest gems, as Granges, are the meek and humble ones; who speak not of themselves, but pursue an even tenor of way altogether charming.—*National Granger.*

The sisters of the Grange should never fail to attend and show the lukewarm brethren their duties as members of our Order. Their finer sensibilities add much to the improvement of men, and make them feel that action is needed to keep them advancing.

There are two kinds of Patrons, just as there are two men or two kinds of bees—one workers and the other drones—of course each know their position and occupy it. But we hope, as the world progresses and advances, any drone who reads this will do the same.

Our Grange friends report crops much better everywhere than they were this time last year, and many more persons experimenting with fertilizers than at any former time. We hope to hear, in due season, of many improvements from this cause.

Every Grange should have a book in which the members can record any article they may have for sale, or of any stock strayed, stolen or taken up. By this means buyers will always know where to go for such things, and the members will be greatly aided in finding lost stock, etc.

Brandywine Grange, No. 60, Chester county, Pennsylvania, has presented the Encampment Association with a handsome flag, 22 feet long, which is floating gaily from the main building of the Encampment.

Every State in the Union reports large numbers of Grange co-operative stores, wherein the Patrons are learning the great benefits of union, and the strength of concentration.

JONES,
OF
BINGHAMTON,

N. Y.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

NEW YORK STATE GRANGE.

To Patrons:

We are personally acquainted with EDWARD F. JONES, generally known as JONES of Binghamton, President of the Jones Scale Works of Binghamton, N. Y., and are somewhat familiar with the Scales manufactured by him, and know they are reputed to be first class.

From our knowledge of him and them, we say freely to the Order of Patrons of Husbandry that it is our opinion that he is worthy of their confidence and will make good all representations made by him.

He was one of the first to make concessions in prices to the Order, and never to our knowledge, has failed to deal fairly with them.

WM. G. WAYNE, Chairman, } Ex. Com.
JOHN O. DONNELL, Sec'y, }
L. H. BISHOP, }

WM. A. ARMSTRONG, Sec. N.Y. State Grange
Ex-Officio Member Executive Com.

We also refer to Bro. J. H. Gardner, Michigan State Agent, who has had one of our Stock Scales in use several years and through whom Scales may be ordered, or direct to us. Send for free Price List and Discounts to Patrons.

JONES of Binghamton, N. Y.

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By-Laws of the State and Subordinate Granges, single copies 5c, per doz.....	50
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Rituals, single copy.....	15
" per doz.....	1 50
Blanks for Consolidation of Granges, sent free on application.....	
Blank Applications for Membership in P. Granges, furnished free on application.....	
Blank Orders for use of Granges or Purchasing Agents, per doz., 10 cts, per 100.....	50
Blank "Articles of Association" for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges with Copy of Charter, all complete.....	10
Manual of Jurisprudence and Co-operation, by A. B. Smedly.....	1.25
Patron's Pocket Companion, by J. A. Cramer, Cloth, 60 cts., Morocco with tuck.....	1 00
Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100.....	40

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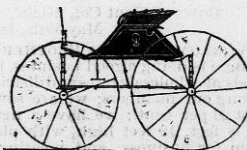
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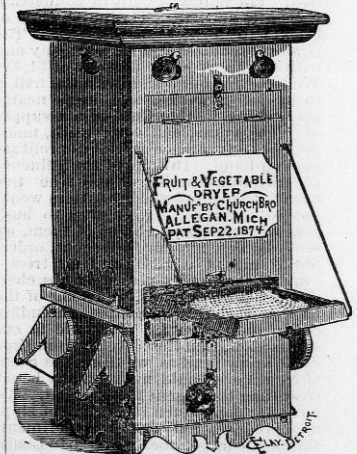
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