

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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Postal Jottings.

OFFICE JOTTINGS.

CONTRARY to the custom of most Granges two reports are sent from Kent County Pomona's last session. The second, received from Mrs. O. I. Watkins, confirms the first that it was a live and fruitful meeting.

ASPIRING young men, see the advantages the Grange offers you! Read jottings from Schoolcraft.

A WELL-WORDED subject for both sides of a debate is, "Resolved, That the higher education is needful to women."

STATE Secretary Murphy's letter from Iowa "reads like a story" and will be read with interest by all. Best of all he adds in a private note, "I insisted that each Grange reorganized should take the VISITOR."

"A PATRON" forgets one prohibitory law and sends a communication asking for another. He forgets the one that prohibits the publication of anonymous articles.

IMPROVED attendance, returning members, well-executed programs, are some of the signs Olive Grange heralds as omens of good luck. We should incline to salute them as the sure rewards of pluck, perseverance and patience on somebody's part.

The Railway Commissioners having been appointed by President Cleveland the action of Whitteville Grange, No. 222, is omitted.

WHEATLAND Grange, No. 273, has resolved not to buy any more plaster at present prices on account of combination, but would like to try the ground limestone if shown to be of value. F. FULLER, Hudson, March, 1887.

BANNER Grange has initiated two new members and reinstated one. We thank Bro. C. C. McDermid for his receipt for copying pad (in Feb. 1, VISITOR). Our W. Lecturer made a pad and now we have programs by the wholesale. Our programs are so interesting that some of the members are anxious to respond before their time comes. We have programs announced three weeks in advance. In our Grange the pad is called "the young Granger" and is the most active member we have. We meet every Thursday night. GUY HALL, Ionia Co. ["The young Granger" should be initiated in every Grange in the State.—ED.]

THE members of Leonidas Grange are very indignant in reference to the advance of plaster, and by action of the Grange have resolved that they will not buy one pound of plaster this coming season. SEC'Y.

At a very interesting and profitable meeting of Oakland Pomona Grange, held at Birmingham, Feb. 15, 1887, the following resolution was adopted and ordered printed in the GRANGE VISITOR: Resolved, by Oakland Pomona Grange, That we will not purchase any plaster at a price higher than \$2.50 per ton at Grand Rapids.

EDITOR VISITOR:—I shall be glad to receive at once samples of seeds of grasses or clovers to test as to their vitality and freedom from weeds. Half an ounce of each sort will be sufficient. A prompt report will be made, giving results, through the VISITOR.

Some farmers buy poor seed and never realize to what extent it is poor. Many are sowing seeds of vile weeds in good soil and in after years reap a rich harvest. Truly yours, W. J. BEAL.

AT THE last session of Bath Grange No. 659 the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we buy no plaster at present prices, also that a notice of this resolution be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

Yours fraternally, G. E. BRINDLE, Sec. Bath, March 1, '87.

WHITTEVILLE Grange No. 222 is still prospering. We have just added 53 volumes to our library. Only two members have purchased plaster this year where usually fifty tons were

purchased. We think the plaster is worth more to the manufacturers than to the farmers and propose they shall keep it. The Grange has received a car of 150 bbls. of salt to sow in its place. We are trying the literary contest with gratifying results, calling out members that never took any part in the exercises before.

H. B. PROCTOR, Sec.

Kent Co.

ALTHOUGH still early to begin work in the flower garden it is not too soon to plan for it and probably those who grow annuals already have their sunny window sills lined with boxes of starting seeds. The practice of choosing plants for grouping that are suited, by size, color and habits, to grow together is too little ignored by the amateur florist. The massing of foliage or flowers with regard to their harmony of color is a trick of the florist that the country gardener has the best right to practice because he has the most room for it, but has yet mostly to learn.

On a hillside sloping down to a railroad which leads out of Cleveland last summer might have been seen a magnificent floral butterfly. It had the appearance of having rested there for a moment in its flight. Other forms and fancy patterns are elaborately worked out by the professionals, but the small florist has also an infinite scope for designing flower plots and with much room for improvement. Stars, crosses, circles, crescents, diamonds and pyramids, set in harmonious colors in the green of a lawn speak of cultured taste and a love for well-blended beauty that a straggling hit-and-miss fashion of flowerbed can never suggest to the passer by. Try it, flower lovers, and see for yourselves. J. B.

GRANGE No. 333 is not quite dead. It succeeded in having a meeting on Saturday evening last with the result of two subscribers to the VISITOR. Almost every attempt at a meeting for the last three months failed from bad weather, bad roads or something bad. Two weeks ago was to have been a children's meeting, but some of those western countries where they get up such things sent us one of its bad blizzards which made it too bad to turn out. It is to be tried again in two weeks. Please inform the plaster association that Oakwood buys no plaster this year. H. C.

At a regular meeting of Kent County Pomona Grange, held at the hall of Harmony Grange, No. 337, on March 9, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The combination known as the Grand Rapids Plaster Company have advanced the price of land plaster from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per ton, while the products of the farm have in almost every instance declined in value, also the price of labor, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Patrons of Kent County Pomona Grange that we express our indignation at such advance of price, and that we will not accede to such demand, and will not buy nor use land plaster manufactured by the aforesaid combination no farther than the strict necessities of the case may require. LEVI NASH, Sec'y.

PITTSFORD Grange, No. 133, is doing fairly well, receiving new members occasionally, conferred the 4th degree on four last Saturday, had an oyster supper and a general good time. All seem interested and quite regular in attendance. Our Worthy Lecturer is looking up the literary work rather more than has been done for a while past. We have bought over \$2,000 worth through the Grange the past year, would like to buy 20 or 30 tons of plaster, but will not if the ring holds the price up to \$3.00, as we can go without and not hurt us much. Hillsdale Co. P.

HOW TO BIND A LOAD OF HAY OR STRAW.

Run a rope over the load fastening each end to the rack, or two short ropes tied together on top of the load are just as good or better: Then take a sharp stick three or four feet long, thrust it down into the top of the load beside the rope. Then with another stick about the same length take a twist in the rope carrying it around the upright stake until the rope is sufficiently tight. Then fasten one end of the stick to the rope and the load is nicely and firmly bound. Try it, farmers, and we think thereafter you will not lug around a long, heavy pole for a binder. "How to be a good husband," instead

of "how to manage" one, was the subject of the most excellent paper by Sister Whitcomb referred to by Bro. Gould in the VISITOR of March 1. Both of these questions are important and open a wide field for discussion. We would suggest that some of our sisters who have found out the secret of managing husbands would make it known, as very many husbands are incapable of managing themselves much less their business, families or property. D. WOODMAN.

HAD any one of Michigan's Patrons happened in for a call on the VISITOR office on the evening of March 10 he would have found the sanctum sanctorum atmosphere dense with expectancy not in keeping with the usual editorial profundity. The well-worn weapons of warfare, weary with long charges on plaster men, Bohemian oats swindlers and anti-amendmentites, were scuttled into out of the way hiding places, there to reap the reward of the deserving, while the room of their domain was transformed into dressing rooms. Had this stranger Patron, a little after 8 P. M., looked through the door into the adjoining room he would have been witness to a scene not common to him. The white walls of the room, one might be pardoned for mistaking it for a parlor, were decorated tastefully. Heavy ropes of green swung from the sides to the chandeliers and across the further corner, where one looks for a Master's chair in a Grange, was lifted an arch of arbor vitae. Potted plants made a bank of living green behind the arch, and at its feet stood paintings and groups of flowers. In the arch hung a glistening white bell, below the date, 1887. It was a comely sight, the lights danced, anticipation was rife. Officers' chairs were filled as for a Grange, only the Master's chair being vacant. Music announced his coming, but he did not come alone, for when there, at the Master's post, under the bell of white, Frank M. Cox, W. M. of Schoolcraft, No. 8, was united in marriage to the one of his choosing, Miss Carrie Roberts.

What followed, you surmise. The Grange entertained their guests in hospitable style and spread a suitable collation before them. The occasion was one of entire satisfaction, we judge, to the 130 persons present. Among the guests, the Stranger Patron would have recognized the face of Mrs. J. J. Woodman who, being in town, was able to attend.

The members of this Grange were glad of an opportunity to show their esteem for one who, as it were, has been reared in the Grange. Since old enough he has been a faithful member and trusted officer. He has already gone to build him a home and command a farm in the west, and although a young man we can with confidence assure Patrons of Nebraska that Michigan can send them no stancher, more loyal and faithful friend of the Order than they sent in Frank M. Cox. Schoolcraft.

BRANCH COUNTY POMONA GRANGE.

A meeting of Branch County Pomona Grange was held March 10, with Quincy Grange in the large and pleasant village hall. It having been planned to make this meeting, or the literary feature of it, a celebration of the semi-centennial anniversary of the admission of Michigan to the Union, Quincy Grange had the hall beautifully and profusely decorated with national emblems, the stars and stripes waving in all parts of the room.

The usual business session was held in the forenoon and very encouraging reports were received from most of the Granges in the county, one of them—Butler Grange—having a real boom, holding meetings every week, and at the last meeting fourteen applications for membership were handed in.

It is hardly necessary to say that at noon a bountiful dinner was served by Quincy Grange.

As the afternoon exercises were open to the public, many of the citizens of Quincy village came in so that the hall was well filled. The following is the program of the anniversary exercises:

Opening song—"Michigan, My Michigan." Geography and Geology of Michigan—Elliston Warner. Early Settlements and Early Farming in Michigan—Hon. Harvey Haynes. Early History of Michigan to the time of its Admission into the Union—Carrie L. Fisk. The Admission of Michigan into the Union—by 25 ladies of Quincy, giving the various stages of petition, Congressional discussions, amending its Constitution, and final admission. Michigan as an Agricultural State—Isaac E. Corless.

Recitation, Turning the Switch—Mrs. Frank Lyon.

The Comparative Products of Michigan—by about 20 members of Butler Grange.

The Progress of Michigan for the last fifty years—Orlo Dobson.

Michigan in the War of the Rebellion—Bro. Eldred, of Quincy.

The program was too lengthy to permit anything like a synopsis of the various papers. Suffice it to say, that they were carefully prepared and furnished a great fund of interesting, instructive, and historical matter. The admission feature was arranged with a good deal of labor, the matter and procedure being entirely original, and it was carried out with great credit to the ladies taking part in it. The Congress was composed of 24 ladies, each representing one of the states then in the Union. There was also a lady presiding officer and clerk. Each lady wore a badge made with gilt letters on a dark ground, designating the State she represented. The badge of the president was "Liberty," that of the clerk "Union," and a brighter and more brilliant appearing Congress never was seen. And that is not all, but all the proceedings were conducted with a degree of gravity and dignity that became the occasion. J. D. W. FISK.

OTHER STATES.

ONE year ago there was not a Grange in Mills County. Now we have four in good working order with a fair prospect of reorganizing four more in a short time.

Bro. C. L. Whitney gave four lectures in this county last month which resulted in much good. Two Granges were the outcome of these lectures, besides awakening the farmers in other localities to a sense of their duty which will without doubt result in more Granges. Who says that lectures do no good? We expect to have ten Subordinate Granges and a Pomona Grange in this county before the year 1887 rolls by. Now what can be done in Mills County can be done in nearly every county in the State. Come, Patrons of Iowa, wake up, or you may wake up next December to find that Mills County has captured the State Grange. What have become of the promises you made at the State Grange? Mills Co., Ia. A. JUDSON.

METAPHYSICS.

Christian Metaphysics is the title of a magazine published in Chicago. "Well," you ask, "what does it teach?" That is just what I wish to answer.

Occasionally we have read in a newspaper an account of some wonderful cure, "mind cure" or "faith cure" it was supposed to be. Having no faith, we, like the world at large, passed it by as some fanatical "blind," but the time being ripe for reform, and being of an investigating mind, we heard of this new science for therapeutics, advanced, saw, and was conquered, and are ready to defend it with our strongest arguments, which are works. Metaphysics, through its teachings, brings harmony into discordant lives, dispels disease without drugs or "spells," and builds up man morally and physically. It is a science founded on the New Testament teachings—the very essence of purity, but no "ism." While this is called a new science, it is not new, but dates back to the first century when Christ healed the people. But his disciples were not sufficiently aroused to the value of this science. No, to them it must have been a gift, which they could not comprehend to teach; but being truth, it could not be destroyed, but because the soil was not receptive it has lain dormant in the main, only now and then becoming manifest and known as prayer or faith cure.

Metaphysical healing will become the greatest motor of reform the world has ever known. We make this assertion fearlessly, having known cures the world would call miracles, and not one cure, but many. The science can reach any case, where a cure is possible, and many tumors, cancers, cases of paralysis, etc., claimed to be incurable, are on record, cured by this science. Dr. Arens, of Boston, has both taught and practiced this healing for many years, and has many published works on the science. Dr. Charles, of Chicago, President of the College, is a very successful healer and teacher. The world is slow to accept any new science. Race beliefs and early teaching are environments hard to overcome. Let this healing be investigated and tested; "for by your works," etc. Who will seek the truth? Mrs. O. M. SIKES, Boulder, Col.

Communications.

Away With High License.

At our meeting to-day the question, Is it policy to add a prohibition clause to our state constitution was presented and discussed. The following thoughts were advanced by a brother. The Grange voted he should furnish it to the Visitor for publication:

Worthy Master! Are we not at a point in reformatory movements where we should stop the sale in ardent spirits?

Have we not tried the high license system and found it the monopoly of abomination! We have found, as by mathematical demonstration, that the result has been to close the small establishments, and open large establishments, thereby making the selling and drinking more respectable. The selling places being fitted up with all the glitter of a first-class hotel, with master piece paintings on the walls, cut glass on silver servers, upholstered like a Turkish harem, uniformed servants to open the door, uniformed servants to take your hat and cane, adjoining rooms with luxuriant divans on which you can recline, when taken mysteriously ill, after too freely imbibing.

Do we not see that this high license strikes at the heart of the best homes in the land, that it proposes the fattest lambs for its sacrifice, that it is at war with the most beautiful domestic circles in America!

Does it not propose to pave with honor, to adorn with splendor, and guard with monopolistic advantage, a business which is making the ground hollow under our beautiful land with the catcombs of slaughtered men and women.

I think we should do away with high license because it is anti-American, anti-common sense and anti-Christian! Our revolutionary fathers, wrote first with pen, then with sword, first in black ink, then with red ink, that all men are equal before the law. Impartiality is written on the Declaration of Independence, on the Constitution of the United States, over the door of national and state capitols. Now then how dare we for one hundred or a thousand dollars let one man sell this blighting curse while we deny to his fellow the right because he cannot raise more than one hundred or more than fifty dollars or cannot raise anything. Are the small dealers in this festive liquid to have any rights? I plead for equal rights for the poor! What right have we to say to wealthy men, standing beside their great and gorgeous temptation, go ahead? While we deny the poor fellows in this traffic the right even to give away a drink. I plead for equal rights, the first American doctrine. Now if liquor selling is right let all have the right, and if it is wrong five hundred or one thousand dollars is only a bribe to government to give to the few men the privilege which it denies to the great masses of the people. Have we not tried this license system long enough and too long! Do we not know what it is? Was it not the white flag of truce sent out from alcoholism to prohibition to make the battle pause long enough to get the army of demijohn and decanter better organized? Away with that flag of truce, let us shiver it at the polls, and so shiver it that the fragments will not be worth picking up! On the one side are God, sobriety and the best interests of the world. On the other side is the sworn enemy of all righteousness, and either alcohol must be defeated or the church and civilization compromise with it! We had better compromise with the panther in his jungle! With the cyclone in its flight! With an Egyptian plague as it blotches an empire! With Apollyon for whom this evil is recruiting officer, quartermaster and commander-in-chief.

Now let's fight it out on this line.

C. G. G. R. S.

"Preservation of Landmarks" Continued.

Before going farther in this direction I will digress a little and bring up some points in connection with law. What is known as the common law is that class of law not for the most part found on the statute books, but is the outgrowth of immemorial usage and the decisions of the various courts handed down from time to time. Much of it comes down to us from the English, the Normans, the Romans and other nations so far back in the scale of time that no man can tell now where it did originate. This common law is made by the constitution of Michigan and by the constitution of most, if not all, of the states as much a part of the law of the land as the statutes themselves, and governs in all cases where the statutes do not supersede it or overrule it. Now, a part of the common law which is as old as the ownership of land runs to this effect that if a man purchase land and it is marked out to him on the ground by visible monuments, whether stakes, stones, trees or streams, whether natural or artificial, and he purchases with reference to those monuments; that those monuments and marks on the ground are decisive as to the boundary lines of his land. No matter if the direction of the lines or the distances or the amount of land does not agree with the description in the deed, the purchaser holds to the marked lines and the monuments and no further. There are many good reasons for this law growing out of public policy for the prevention of disputes, controversies and litigation. I will in this connection mention only one of them and that is the difficulty in measuring twice alike, or of running lines twice alike, or of running lines twice in the same direction, especially if the magnetic needle is depended on to give the course. In the first place such a thing as absolutely, mathematically correct measurement is unknown. The nearest known approach to it for any considerable distance on the earth's surface is found in the measurements of base lines by the coast survey, where lines of several miles long are measured and remeasured time and again with utmost possible care and precision on mathematically straight lines, with difference in temperature of the air, difference in level, and every other disturbing cause taken into account and as far as possible provided against, and yet the different measurements disagreeing from half an inch to several inches. Between such measurements as these of the coast survey and any measures that can be taken on the ground, under the ordinary conditions of land surveying, there is a wide gap in the degree of accuracy. So, too, in running lines. If the magnetic needle is relied on the difference is unavoidably far greater in different surveys. I have many times heard it said to the disparagement of a surveyor that he could not run his lines twice alike, or that no two surveyors were alike. In some cases there is undoubtedly just cause for such criticism, but in a majority of cases it has no foundation in justice whatever. These criticisms are usually made against lines run by the needle. "Why they say he did not come out within two rods of where he did before." That may be, and yet be nothing in the least against the character or ability of the surveyor. Why not? Because it was the fault of the compass and not the fault of the surveyor. Many people, I think most people, believe that the magnetic needle is an infallible guide—that it always points true to the pole. This is a colossal mistake. It is never entirely at rest, but swings backward and forth each day over an arc varying from a sixth to a tenth of a degree. A line run for half a day by the needle would describe one side of a letter O and if continued the whole day would make a letter S, on account of the change in direction of the needle. Suppose a line be started at a point on one side of a section by the compass at six o'clock in the morning and run straight across the section; suppose the day to be a warm, pleasant one in summer, and that at two o'clock in the afternoon we start again from the same point and run by the compass straight across the section again. It will not run the same line it did in the morning, and the difference between them at the end of the mile under the ordinary condition of the variation of the needle on such a day would be about two feet less than two rods. But these changes in the direction of the needle are not alike any two days in succession, and the surveyor can only guess at what they will be on any particular day or time of day. But aside from this daily change which I have mentioned there is another change in the direction of the needle which extends over long periods of time. When the township of Battle Creek was originally surveyed the records show that the needle pointed something over five degrees east of true north. Now it does not point so far east by at least four degrees. That means that in following the magnetic needle north across a section you would go about 22 rods further west to-day than you would have done 60 years ago. When we further call your attention to the fact that owing to the construction of the compasses there are no two of them in which the needles point in exactly the same direction at the same time and place, (I have compared two compasses that varied 1/2 degree), I think you will agree with me in saying that the surveyor should not be too severely criticised if his lines do not come out twice in the same place or if no two of them are alike. But if we can not depend on the measurement and can not depend on the compass how are we to settle our boundary lines? This brings me to the point of the whole discussion; which is answered both by the common law and by the statute, that we must be guided by the lines marked and the monuments planted on the original survey of the land according to which the land is sold. This rule applies to village and city lots as well as to all other landed property. As I have said before this is the old common law which has prevailed since "the time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." I have in a general way shown how the United States became possessed of the title to the public domain. Very soon after the first session of land to the general government which was made by New York in 1781, the first act providing for a public survey was passed, to which I have already alluded. In 1803 came the great Louisiana purchase of about 757 million of acres. In 1805 came the passage of the act which gave definite shape to the system of U. S. Surveys and the old common law is re-enacted in it in the following words:

First, all the corners marked in the surveys returned by the Surveyor General shall be established as the proper corners of sections or subdivisions of sections which they were intended to designate, etc. Second, the boundary lines actually run and marked in those surveys * * shall be established as the proper boundary lines of the sections or subdivisions for which they were intended, and the length of such lines as returned shall

be held and considered as the true length thereof.

Thus the Congress of the United States at the outset put at rest as far as possible for them to do so all questions in regard to the true corners and the courses. They well knew the difficulties which absolutely prevent similar measurements and the running of similar lines, and shut off all controversy as to which was the correct one by saying once for all: "We have marked out your corners and boundary lines on the ground as far as it is necessary for us to do so and given you the length of those lines. We sell you the land accordingly. There are your corners and lines; occupy to them and let that end it." Now, that survey which is thus made the standard to which all other surveys must be made to conform was very far from being a perfect one. In theory we have the whole country marked out into a beautiful system of squares of a mile each on a side, with the lines all running truly north and south or east and west, with the mile and half-mile posts all set in true lines and at exact and regular distances from each other. In practice we find the lines running angling and zigzagging across the country, and frequently have the corner posts set and the boundary lines marked where they ought not to have been. Yet however perfect or however faulty they may be these are the corners and lines of last resort. Their marks upon the ground are the only fully reliable and unerring evidence we have as to the location of all our boundary lines where the land has been sold according to U. S. Survey. How important then that these corners and boundary lines should be preserved, and the more imperfect the original survey was so much the more important is it that it shall be preserved so that every man's rights shall be respected and no wrong shall be done to any. It is not a matter for a day or a generation only but a matter for all time, so long as this race of men shall endure in the land and titles pass from one generation to another. When this people shall be swept away like its predecessors, and titles no longer come from them then it will not matter whether these boundaries are preserved or not. Until then it is of the greatest importance.

(Continued.)

Huron County, March, 1887.

EDITOR VISITOR—I have just laid down the Visitor of March 1, and I can truly say that reading the Jotting page has given me much pleasure. In the jottings and communications are abundant evidence that the Order is in a prosperous condition throughout the state. I see that in counties where commercial fertilizers are indispensable that the Patrons have taken a firm stand against the plaster monopoly, and I hope they will stand firm by the resolutions adopted in so many Granges.

In Huron County the Grange is doing good work, and a short history of the Grange here may be of interest to some of your readers. Two years ago on the 19th of last February Bro. J. Q. A. Burrington organized North Burns Grange, the first Grange in the county, with 22 charter members. For over a year North Burns Grange toiled on alone, but here and there they dropped some seed which took root and is now bringing forth good fruit. Now we have seven good Subordinate Granges with a total membership of about three hundred, and Bro. Leitch, our indefatigable special deputy, is going to organize another Grange, with about 30 charter members, on Wednesday next. Bro. Jason Woodman, Lecturer of the State Grange, gave us a series of lectures last week which I think will result in much good. On Tuesday, the first day of March, he spoke in Bad Axe, our county seat. The Circuit Court being in session and occupying the Court-house, we had not a hall large enough to accommodate the large gathering of farmers from the surrounding townships. In our dilemma we applied to the Judge to give us the Court-house. He kindly consented to adjourn Court for two hours, and the farmers streamed into the Court-house until there was hardly standing-room. "To tell the truth and shame the devil," I felt a little uneasy when the little Lecturer arose to address so large an audience in the presence of a Judge and a staff of lawyers, but he had not progressed far in his speech when all fears on the part of his friends were allayed and, although he is small of stature, he gave us a lecture that commanded the attention and respect of every one present. I felt proud of him, and I felt proud of our organization, as I listened to him and considered that there are to-day hundreds of farmers' boys throughout the State who, if they would join the Grange and take an interest in its meetings, and cultivate the faculty of acquiring and diffusing knowledge, might yet be able to acquaint themselves before an audience as creditably to themselves and the cause they represent as Bro. Woodman did. After the lecture the members of the 5th Degree adjourned to the Macabee Hall and Bro. Woodman instructed a class of eight in the mysteries of the 5th Degree. We had a pleasant time and if Bro. Woodman ever comes to Huron County again I can assure him that he will find some warm friends. The State Lecturer spoke in three other places in the county and I am told he had large and enthusiastic meetings. He labored faithfully while here and I think we will get a good return for his labors. We expect at least two or

more Granges which will place us among the strong Grange counties in this State.

D. BUCHANAN.

Compensation for Prohibition.

There is little need of additional evidence or discussion to show the necessity of prohibition. All who are capable of reasoning have sufficient evidence before them to make up their verdict and there would be no doubt as to the issue if the question could be submitted to a disinterested jury, but the great jury, the electors of the state of Michigan, are not disinterested and the result may be against the best interest of society. The question of compensation to those whose business may be destroyed and who would be financially ruined in the event of the proposed amendment being carried, has not been discussed to any extent. This is a large field for statistical work. I am in favor of such compensation and believe a balance could be shown in favor of the people in five years after paying all losses. It may be said no one has a right to engage in a business so directly opposed to morality and the public welfare, which is no doubt true in the abstract, but when considered in connection with the circumstances preceding and surrounding this traffic it would hardly be logical or just to cause a few to suffer the whole loss when it can scarcely be denied that every person is more or less in complicity with it, if not by aiding and abetting certainly permitting, or in other words failing to enforce the restrictive laws we already have. The public has legalized it and placed it on an honorable level with other industries, and laws are made and enforced for its protection. The public honors those who follow this calling with high political stations. Society welcomes the successful saloon-keeper, and the churches accept the pelf of the generous contributor to their treasury. Socially the so-called moderate drinker is not debarred from good standing, and in all stations in life the youth are permitted to ape their elders in the public bar room. Who can say he or she is not in some measure accountable with him who sells or makes. The business is followed for profit, which owing to the follies of men and the peculiar effect of alcohol on the brain, is more lucrative than almost any other, hence those who follow it resort to extreme measures for its protection, and its suppression even after the amendment will require something more than prayers or paper resolutions, men and women of a type now known only in history like the old Christian martyrs, the Pilgrims, and our own Revolutionary heroes, who have the force of character to pledge "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor" to maintain and enforce all just laws pertaining to this subject, and to do it, too, even unto death! Have we these would-be martyrs for the love of humanity? Churchmen and professors of morality and virtue, the world is looking to you, not for protestations, but acts in consistent with your professions. You are organized and pledged to maintain the right and oppose the wrong, shall the ominous words "Tried in the balance and found wanting" be written against your names?

Arenac, Mich.

An Animated Council Session.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—We feel that a brief report of the meeting of the the Detroit and Bay City Council of P. of H., held in the M. E. church at Metamora, March 3rd, should find its way to the Visitor. In December last, at Council meeting held in Oxford, that body accepted the welcome invitation of one of its members and also of Lapeer Grange, to move from former limitations of meeting along the Michigan Central R. R. line, and unite with the Lapeer Grange.

The Lapeer County Grange used every effort to complete arrangements satisfactorily and offered a true welcome to all. The day of meeting came, with favorable weather. And on the arrival of the eleven o'clock train from the south, Rochester, Orion, and Oxford were well represented by attendance. At the time of the opening of the afternoon session, open to all, the numbers increased to about two hundred. Friends from Lapeer, Thomas Station, Richfield, Farmer's Creek, Dryden, Pontiac and Hadley were present. The program was carried substantially out.

The welcome address was given by the Worthy Master of Lapeer Grange and responded to by the Worthy Lecturer of the Council. A resolution was then read and adopted, for the Granges and all farmers who felt so disposed, to withhold from the purchase of plaster until such time as it could be procured at a fair price to buyer and seller. The subject, "Who shall carry the pocket book?" was introduced and discussed by the ladies with one exception, when a brother followed with some mirthful and boastful remarks, concluding with the statement, "He believed no happier or more peaceful couple could be found than himself and wife. And he carried the pocketbook."

A short, beautiful poem was recited by an Oxford sister. The question of Grange work and interest was ably set forth by the remarks of Patrons and a brief sketch given of the workings and progress of the Grange during the past ten years. The Worthy Master of the Council was called out on this question; and with a few excuses, saying, "the people would know enough of him by looking at him

as chairman," he soon warmed up to a high pitch of enthusiasm, and words fell like flakes in a snow storm and to the point. When again seated at his post of honor, one brother arose, saying, "The Worthy Master is a pupil of the Grange." "The best means of promoting temperance" drew out thoughts from so many that the shades of evening were fast approaching when it was reluctantly dropped. The diversity of opinion among certain people upon this momentous question is startling. The defense of those opinions, earnest and decisive. It seems apparent to an observer that whatever issue or means may yet be adopted by the people, and for the people, time alone can prove its efficiency in driving this cure from our midst.

In our endeavor to give these items as condensed and briefly as we deemed possible, we overlooked the mentioning of a paper on "Arbitration versus Litigation" in which some of the abuses in our system of jurisprudence were recited and the farmers warned to avoid unscrupulous lawyers and arbitrators.

Mrs. F. E. O'DELL.

Will They Adopt It? Yes? or No?

The prohibitory amendment to the constitution is before the people of the state for their action at the coming spring election. What will they do about it? Will they adopt it, and stop it, and stop the legalized traffic in intoxicating drinks? Or will they reject it, and give the saloons, with all the evils they represent, a new lease of life and power? The motive, the influences or reasons that induced the legislature to submit the question at this time are of no moment as against the great fact of submission. If the legislature declined the responsibility and consequences of an enactment themselves of a prohibitory law, and decided to refer the matter to the people, that was undoubtedly their right, and we are grateful for their action. The responsibility of the settlement of this momentous question has most suddenly been thrust upon the people. A grand and glorious opportunity they now have to render their verdict in April next at the polls.

What will the people do? Waiving minor considerations, partisan bias and all sorts of prejudices, will they openly and earnestly espouse the cause of home, sobriety, thrift, good order and the best welfare of the community and the state? Or, will they unite with saloon-keepers, drunkards, gamblers and all their debauched profligate allies in defending and perpetuating a most infamous traffic that saps the very foundations of society, that blasts and destroys every refined, elevating, ennobling principle in man, sinking him lower than the brutes, a business without a single redeeming feature, one that subverts and defies authority, a stigma and reproach to the civilization of the age.

Fellow countrymen! Voters of Michigan, this is your opportunity. The appeal is to you! Will you vote for the amendment, wipe out this stain, and banish legalized saloons and dram-shops from every respectable community? It will be no dress-parade, swallow-tailed, kid-gloved contest. Dram-sellers, dram-drinkers, debauchers, gamblers, outlaws of decent society—the hosts of Belial under the generalship of king alcohol, will swarm up from the slums and dens of infamy all over the state and cast their ballots solid against the amendment. And it will come to pass on election day, that men will be judged by the company they keep. The "good Lord, good devil" policy, will not meet the case. God and cleanliness on the one side; moral rottenness and the devil on the other. Choose ye on that day whom ye will serve. Doubtless there will be many professional gentlemen, merchants, bankers, capitalists, tradesmen and citizens, all of more or less respectability with weak knees and limber backs, who never have, and probably will not in this issue, openly antagonize or vote against the saloons, or the whisky traffic. There will be clergymen, possibly, and many professing Christians, that make fervent prayers, pay money for the spread the gospel and conversion of the heathen, who are usually ready to "stand up for Jesus," who will not have the manliness or moral courage, prior to or on election day to stand up in the great congregation of the people and be counted on the side of godliness, temperance, social purity and the suppression of the more than heathenish saloon. There will be scores of professional politicians, office-holders, office-seekers and camp followers, void of conscience, humanity or real love of country, men who bow down to and abjectly worship the party god, who first last and all the time are only solicitous of party welfare, party interests and party success, whose mission on earth and chief end and aim of existence, according to their catechism is—to glorify and enjoy it forever. These consort and fraternize with drunken, vulgar, licentious, mercenary, illiterate, ignorant voters; and the saloon is the reeking hot-bed and general headquarters of American politics and politicians in all the larger towns and cities. These formidable, hostile elements are naturally, and will be, opposed to the adoption of the amendment.

Furthermore, a retired judge of the supreme court has, in advance, volunteered a merely captious technical opinion, that, in his judgment, some of the provisions of the proposed amendment are unconstitutional. What a calamity that would be, to have the constitution, when adopted and ratified, unconstitutional. This learned, conscientious judge would forego the

preservation of the state even; the cause of public morals, and the general welfare of the people, that the constitution in its literary, legal excellence may stand without a blemish. An Episcopal bishop of Michigan has recently published a letter over his own signature, directly calculated to influence and array the laity as well as the clergy of his church against the amendment, for the alleged reason, in substance, that alcohol or fermented wines were not exempted for sacramental uses, thus officially declaring that alcohol or fermented wines are essentially the only lawful substances or emblems that can be used in the Episcopal church to typify the "shed blood" in the memorial sacramental service! The good bishop seemed to be grieved at this apparently clerical oversight, for he intimated that prior to this submission he had favored prohibition, but the phraseology of the amendment in reference to sacramental wines, unfortunately for the cause of temperance, has undoubtedly turned him against it. Then, to fill up the measure of the opposition, the Catholic bishop has authoritatively declared, it is said, that, in event of its passage, all good Catholics will disregard the law, even suffering martyrdom stripes and imprisonment in obeying the mandates of a "higher law"—ignoring transubstantiation as a practical means of escape. Whereas, the Bible, the foundation of the Catholic as well as the Christian religion declares the duty of subjection; and that the powers that be are ordained of God! Is it true that "the night is far spent; the day is at hand" when "rioting and drunkenness, chambering and wantonness" shall cease; and the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of truth and righteousness? Is the millennium at hand?

Citizens of Michigan, friends of humanity, lovers of home, of country and of truth more than lovers of whisky, you get an inkling of the magnitude of the coming contest, you war not against ordinary flesh and blood, but against principalities—the malignant, untrusting hosts of evil thoroughly organized and equipped, aided and abetted as we have seen by men high in social position. But, citizens, fortunately for the welfare of society and the state, you are not all capitalists, merchants, professional gentlemen, judges, church members, office-holders or politicians. You that have pride of character, the germ of true manliness, the bravery and moral courage to stand by your convictions, turn out on election day, get your friends and neighbors to come, and vote for the amendment. Banish the saloon; stamp this monstrous evil under your feet; and in so doing your duty to yourselves and your fellowmen, may God bless you.

Kalamazoo, Feb. 25, 1887.

Hints on Speech-making.

What the curriculum is to the school the program should be to the Farmers' Club, and let the word club include all kinds of farmers' meetings. Let the members go into pupilage, so to speak, under the instruction and training of the President of the club, aided by an ample program, which he turns into a text-book for drilling his pupils. Here, then, every farmer can have the advantage of a first-class training school, one in which he can, if he desires, soon learn how to talk on his feet before a public audience. And let him adopt this as a rule, always to speak at a public meeting when an opportunity is offered him. There must be persistent effort made if one would succeed in this matter. You can not learn to swim unless you go into the water. You should not let fear govern you but, sink or swim, you must start in, and tussle single-handed with your difficulties till they are overcome. That fear that keeps you from rising to speak in the club, when once got under your control, will constitute the motive power to sustain you in making a speech. For speech-making, after all, where a subject is well understood, is mostly a matter of courage. There is little promise of that man's success as a public speaker who, on the start, has no fear to overcome. The best of speakers have had great difficulty in mastering this trepidation on coming before an audience. Henry Ward Beecher has said that he never did completely master it, but always suffered more or less from it for the first few minutes of his appearance before an audience.

Bonaparte, when told that a French officer's face blanched with fear when going into battle, replied, "That is an indication of the true soldier; you can not trust a man in battle who has no fear." One of our most intelligent farmers, as chairman of a committee, was called upon to read a very brief report at a late club meeting, and he shook as if he had a fit of the ague while he was reading the few words written on the paper he held in his hand. This man, outside of the club, is a leader among his fellow farmers, and he has but to overcome this trepidation before a public gathering to make himself a leader in the club. At another time I heard a well written paper read at a club meeting and thought that the reader acquitted himself well for his first effort before a public meeting. Yet he told me afterwards that he came near breaking down for his paper shook so from his trembling hand that he had to lay it on the desk before him and read it from there. He was afraid that when the audience discovered his paper shaking that it would shake worse, and he would succumb to his feelings. It was a fortunate thing for him that he laid his paper on the

desk, as he thus got along with his reading without any trouble. This is a good suggestion to any one who may be similarly affected in reading a paper or essay before the public. We have been speaking in regard to papers or essays read before the Farmers' Club. But let us now say generally to those who wish to learn the art of speech-making, never take a scrap of paper before an audience. What is the aim of your notes? You fear that without them you will fail in your speech—lose your thread, your logic and connection, or some valuable fact, or illustration. But the most important thing to your audience to be kept in entire sympathy with yourself, that the magnetic contact should not be broken. And the chances are that your audience will not miss what you leave out, if you have forgotten anything; but they give you their eager attention which is the inspiration to the orator. In fact you must risk something, and you can only get en rapport with your audience by boldly winning their confidence. It is fortune that favors the brave. Without the attention of your audience you go at a discount. The late Judge B. R. Curtis once lost a case in court of which he had felt very sure. When asked the reason he said, "That fellow, John P. Hale, somehow got so intimate with the jury that he won the case." The speaker that has got intimate with his audience has won half the battle, and nothing so restricts or impedes that intimacy as a scrap of paper.

But you cannot become intimate with, or effectually impress your audience unless you can speak to them through their surroundings. To illustrate: Two speakers addressed a large colored audience. The first was not only able, but gifted with fluent speech, wit and humor. But although he did his best, his speech made no perceptible impression on his hearers. The second speaker was a man of less talent, and compared with the first, of little oratorical power, yet he had lived in the South and was well acquainted with negro life there. He had not spoken five minutes before he had his audience under his complete control; they were laughing, crying, shouting and applauding him. He knew some good old "Uncle Tom," some kind "Aunt Dinah," that they were acquainted with "down South," this at once gave him access to their sympathies and feelings and he soon had it all his own way.

The gentleman who spoke first, in referring to the matter afterwards said: "I never was so badly beaten in speech-making in my life. That little curly-headed fellow stepped in so easily between myself and that negro audience and at once became so familiar with them, that while my speech was entirely excluded from their memories, his captured and captivated them." It all came from his acquaintance with, and knowing how to adapt himself to his subject and his audience. Finally, in the language of a western orator, we would say on this head to the beginner, "Get full of your subject, and then let nature caper."

The Liquor Tax Humbug.

TO THE VOTERS OF MICHIGAN:

So much is said about the revenue produced by the liquor tax, it is time to present some facts concerning it. The liquor tax law was passed in 1875. Its passage was strongly advocated by the Detroit Liquor League. In 1876 The Public Leader, of Detroit, organ of the liquor dealers, declared the liquor trade had secured its adoption.

It is in no sense a temperance measure, or temperance law, and the only merits that can be claimed for it are its regulating features and the revenue it produces.

Does the law regulate? It says saloons must close at ten o'clock at night, but everyone knows they do not. They are required to close on holidays, Sundays and election days but they do not. In Detroit the saloon keepers impudently announce through the newspapers, that they intend to close on the next election day so as to work all day at the polls against the amendment; thus virtually admitting it is their habitual custom to violate the law on other election days. They are forbidden to sell to minors, but boys of sixteen can readily obtain liquor, even on Sunday. The law, then, does not regulate.

The tax produces some revenue, but if it is of any value, other taxes ought to be less than before. Has it decreased other taxation? Before 1876 liquor taxation was unknown in this state. In 1875 the state levied a tax of \$521,232. In 1879, your state taxes had jumped to \$1,153,096 and in 1885, after enjoying the "revenue" for ten years, your state taxes had increased to \$1,655,261, three times as much as they were without it. The rum-sellers boast they pay a million a year of your taxes, but of what benefit when your state taxes are still a million dollars a year more than they were in 1875.

Why do taxes increase? Because every session of the legislature since the tax law was adopted has had to provide a new state institution for the care of the wrecks of the rum traffic. You have built a new prison at Ionia, a new insane asylum at Traverse City, a reform school at Adrian, an insane asylum at Ionia—the fourth in the state—a new prison at Marquette—the third in the state; and the Legislature is now considering a project for an asylum for idiots. Every tax payer can judge for himself what portion of these expenses are caused by the liquor traffic. But what portion is paid by the liquor tax money?

Not a cent. Not a dollar of the liquor tax money goes into the State treasury.

The effect of the liquor traffic on county taxes is worse than on state taxes. Every arrest by a sheriff, constable or policeman, is paid for by the county. All the expense of criminal cases is borne by the county. And the poor become a county charge.

How much of this expense is caused by the liquor traffic? Judge for yourselves. But how much is paid by the liquor tax money?

Not a cent. Not a dollar of the liquor tax money goes into the county fund.

The state law gives the liquor tax to the city or incorporated village in which the saloon is situated. If not in either, then it goes to the township. The effect of the law has been to greatly increase the number of incorporated villages. There were, in June, 1884, forty-eight of these in the state with less than 500 inhabitants each, some of them having little more than 100. Let a saloon locate on a cross road and straightway the neighbors draw an imaginary line about it and become incorporated. All outsiders are thus fenced out from the benefits of the whisky tax. The great farming community receives not a cent.

The village is only a very small portion of the community in which it is situated, but it gets all the whisky tax. That is why it is incorporated with only a hundred inhabitants. But while the village gets the tax money, the country pays its full share of the expenses caused by the liquor traffic, and whenever the village constable arrests a drunken man, the county, not the village, pays him for it; and the farmers probably pay two-thirds of the county and state taxes.

According to the census of 1884, the population of the state was 1,853,000. Of these, 720,000 lived in cities and in incorporated villages and these received this whole tax; but there are 1,133,000 people who are fenced out from this tax by corporation lines. Are these 1,133,000 satisfied with this sort of law?

How does it operate? The law in effect is a bonus from the state to towns, but to secure the bonus it is necessary to have a saloon, and the more saloons the more bonus. This bonus, amounting to over a million dollars a year, is a steady drain on the farming community. Farmers, weary of being taxed to support cities, are leaving their farms and moving into town. This is the only way they can share the tax. From 1880 to 1884 the population of Michigan cities and incorporated villages increased 180,000, while the farming population only increased 37,000. The towns added 33 1/2 per cent. to their population, while the rural district added only 3 per cent. The state is paying a premium to municipalities to induce them to increase the number of saloons and the farmer foots the bill until, tired of the drain, he moves to town to escape it. No wonder the towns are growing eleven times as fast as the farming community!

The tax money does not come from the saloons, but through the saloons. The tax law makes the saloon an ingenious device to collect money from the country tax payers, for the support of city and village governments. Every farmer who votes against the amendment will vote to continue an infamous system from which he gets not the slightest good. Farmers, how will you vote? You now have a chance to erase this one-sided law from the statutes; will you do it? Then vote for the amendment.

But some of the residents of cities are growing tired of it. The money is stained with blood. It is the paltry price of the ruin of their sons and of the shame of their daughters.

How shall you vote? If the cities are ready to repudiate the tax law and support the amendment, the farming community certainly ought to be unanimous in voting "YES."

How shall you vote?

Iowa Pluck that Yields Luck.

By request of W. M. Blackford, Iowa State Grange, and on invitation of Abraham Owen, (known as "Uncle Abe"), W. M., of Cardiff Grange, No. 175, Iowa County, I left home March 4, en route for Ladara, to look after "dead Granges" and, in my power, to bring the dead to life.

Bro. Levi Lewis had previously informed me that he had called for a meeting of old Patrons at Ladara on the 5th inst., and desired me to meet with them.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable condition of the roads and a snow storm in the forenoon, 10 or 15 farmers assembled and we had a long consultation, resulting in a unanimous vote of old Patrons that we will reorganize "O. K." Grange, and Friday, March 11, 1887, 2 p. m., was appointed as the time to complete the organization.

Bro. Abraham Owen, Worthy Master of Cardiff Grange, had appointed to meet us at Ladara on the 5th.

To show slightly what kind of material some Patrons in Iowa are made of, let me give a short historical narrative of the brother.

Bro. Owen was born in Vermont, in October, 1817; went to Mississippi when a youth; worked there five or six years; came to Ohio, traveling on foot; from far east in Ohio reached Iowa in 1838; went to Iowa City in 1839, when but few houses were there; obtained the name of "Old Dad." The city was his headquarters until 1849. During these ten years he hunted, trapped, explored, traveled, (all on foot) all over the territory north and west of Iowa City, in Iowa, and in parts of Minnesota and Dakota.

When the California gold fever broke out, "Old Dad," in company with 22 chums, and with seven wagons and teams (oxen), in the spring of 1849, left the city by over-land route for the gold fields.

He passed through Iowa to Kaneshville, crossed the Big Muddy, hired a half-breed Indian as guide to the Rockies, crossed the Elkhorn, traveled up the north bank of the Loup, to and beyond government farm, on the caves on the Loup; then south to Platte River, west of "Old Ft. Kearney." He celebrated July 4, 1849, near Ft. "Laramie," and thence onward and westward, having encounters with wild beasts of the plains and mountains, and cruel, blood-thirsty Indians.

He can show several scars from Indian arrows, bullets and beasts. He swam every river on the route (including Mississippi) to San Francisco; has made three round trips from the "Bay" to the Sandwich Islands and two trips between the "Bay" and New York.

This is the man who to keep his word to meet me encountered flood, mud, snow and storm for 22 miles between his comfortable home and Ladara to convey me to the south part of low and north part of Keokuk counties, to look after and hunt up "dead Granges."

We started out on Monday, with roads muddy, snow melting, ground thawing and waters rising. We found some "has beans," and talked with them; stopped at Bro. James Johnson's and consulted with him about a plan for further work. Bottom about out of roads.

Tuesday, 8. Bro. Owen in lead, on foot we started to visit "old Granges," walked over snow drifts in places, ice, in mud, through timber, brush, prairies, on public highways, through timber, under or over barbed wire fences, hedges, ditches, sloughs, and creeks, from house to house, in Indian style, all the forenoon. Told people we met there would be a meeting at Webster school-house on Wednesday night, March 9, and to come and hear and see for themselves. In the afternoon, we tried bugging; roads awful; a thunder shower came up about dark. Wednesday we spent about as Tuesday, perambulating on foot. Seven p. m. came; Owen and I on hand; school-house full; audi. nice intelligent and attentive; old men, young men, old ladies and young ladies; greater portion of them had walked.

We opened our Grange batteries on our hearers at long range, and, as the battle warmed, we advanced our lines; came within close range of small arms; by 11 p. m. contest hotter and hotter; by 12, had captured all old Patrons present; by 12:30, a few had escaped; in a few minutes more captured 22 who had never been Patrons; turned them all into Patrons; reorganized Walnut Grange, No. 472, elected officers, installed their Master. By 2 a. m. all was quiet on the field and Bro. Owen and I went to bed. Thanks to good workers on the battle-field.

Thursday we spent a large part of the day exemplifying the unwritten work to five of their officers; walked five miles through mud to railroad depot—North English, Friday, 1 p. m. proceeded to Ladara, via railroad; reorganized O. K. Grange, with 15 members, and would have had double the number, only for a funeral. Elected officers and set them on their pins; expect to go home to-morrow by rail.

J. W. MURPHY,

Sec'y Iowa State Grange.

When we stepped into the fine hall of Harmony Grange, where Kent County Pomona met last, we found many familiar faces of those whom we had often met before on such occasions, and here let me remark: Had it not been for the Grange, perhaps we should never have met those faces and formed lasting acquaintances, which we will look back to in the future with happy remembrance. This, I think, is one of the many benefits received from the Grange—the meeting together from far and near, becoming better acquainted with one another, and in the interchange of ideas we become better educated, better men and women, better citizens.

After the regular order of afternoon business was finished, the time was given to the Worthy Lecturer, who responded with a few brief remarks upon the Good of the Order. He was followed by others with short talks on the subject. These brief speeches were interspersed with an essay, recitations and singing and, on the whole, the afternoon was very enjoyably and profitably spent.

The Grange also adopted a resolution, to be found elsewhere in the Visitor. The Grange took an extended recess until after supper, after which some time was spent in visiting and listening to some very fine recitations by Bros. Best and Adams.

The Grange then opened in the fifth degree and two sisters were instructed in the mysteries of this degree. The Grange then closed and all felt well paid for their time.

E. G. NASH.

Vergennes, March 12.

The Plaster Question.

BRO. CORB.—Please allow me a small space in your columns that I may call the attention of Patrons to the plaster question on a point which I have not seen made in your paper.

I will first quote from our declaration of purposes, "That we buy and sell together and, as far as may be, act together for our mutual protection and advancement as association may require," that all the members may fare alike and be equally benefited.

Then, why is this discrimination

made—\$2.50 per ton by the car load, and \$3.00 by the sleigh load to the Patrons of Kent County? We talk long and loud about the discriminations of railroad companies, and yet our own Order has made this discrimination among our own members, and our delegates at the State Grange have opened not their mouths, but have been dumb on this subject, and the Plaster Association, thinking that if we will bear this we will bear a little more, have (as I understand) added 50 cents more and plaster is now \$3.00 by the car load and \$3.50 by the sleigh load.

And now the kicking commences all along the line, and I say, "Kick, and while you are kicking for fifty cents, I am kicking a dollar's worth; yes, a full one hundred cents."

I used to buy good plaster for \$2.50 per ton. Now they take out—first, all that will make stucco; second, all that will do for alabaster; then what can be used for kalsomine; after this they extract what can be made up into bug exterminator, and, fifthly, comes land plaster—the refuse or offal—to be sold to farmers for \$3.00 per ton to fertilize their lands. Oh, forbearance! thou hast indeed ceased to be a virtue.

Suppose we offer our crop of apples on the same plan. First, we will take out the shipping apples; second best we select for the groceries; third quality we sell to the evaporators, fourth quality we will make into cider, and the rest—what are literally good for nothing—we sell to the Plaster Association for \$3.50 a barrel. How long before somebody makes the discovery that he is being cheated?

Feb. 28. KENT CO. PATRON.

Small-fruit growing used to be considered a branch of horticulture. Recently many have conducted it as if it belonged to agriculture. The result is not surprising. The horticulturist strives to grow large quantities of produce on small areas of land by means of heavy manuring and high culture; the agriculturist spreads his operations over broad areas of soil, which he cultivates enough to enable the roots of the crop to spread through the soil, without serious obstruction, in search of adequate supplies of suitable food, and to prevent weeds from obtaining such growth as to overcome the plants he is seeking to grow. The horticulturist seeks a small tract of garden soil near a town or city, where he can have an abundance of fertilizers, laborers of the right kind, and where proximity to market enables him to deliver his products, from day to day, fresh to consumers.

Now it seems to me that too many small fruit growers have within a few years adopted the methods of the agriculturist rather than those of the horticulturist. They have planted their fruits in fields instead of gardens; they have manured as if for farms instead of garden crops, and they have cultivated after the manner of farmers rather than as gardeners cultivate. Moreover, many have located remote from town, subjecting themselves to quite a tax in transporting their fruit to market and in transporting their laborers to and from their labor. Let the farmer stick to farm crops and they who are fitted by nature, tastes and training for horticulturists, grow small fruits. This, I think, is the natural order of things and to this, I believe, we shall be obliged to come.

Can it be proved that growing the same quantities of fruits on smaller areas of land will reduce their cost? I think it can. Let us first take strawberries, the fruit in which the grower now sinks the most money. We will say that 200 bushels per acre is a possible crop of strawberries. I have known much larger crops grown, but we will take 200 bushels for illustration. I do not believe that the average yield in the way this fruit is generally grown is over 50 bushels per acre. Suppose that a grower of strawberries cultivates so as to grow on one acre what now grows on four, does any intelligent horticulturist believe that the berries would cost so much per quart?

If the agricultural strawberry growers come out about even growing strawberries by farmers' methods, the horticultural growers may make a few cents per quart at the reduced cost.

"Laugh and Grow Fat."

It is said that no one who can laugh heartily can be wholly bad, and it is quite true that there is no person whose society is counted more than the man who can provoke a laugh. There is such a thing as sensible foolishness, and no one need be a clown to set a room full of people in a gale, nor is it necessary to have a noisy manner to convulse an audience. Hygienically, laughter is a "most excellent" thing.

"Perhaps there is not the remotest corner or little inlet of the minute blood vessels of the body," says the Scientific American, "that does not feel some wavelet from the great convulsion produced by hearty laughter shaking the central man."

Important to All Who Work

for a living. Write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, and they will send you full information, free, showing you how you can make from \$5 to \$25 and upwards a day and live at home, wherever you are located. Some have made over \$50 in a day. Capital not required. You are started free. All ages; both sexes. All is new. Great incomes sure from the start. Fortunes await all workers who begin at once.

The estate of the late Cyrus H. McCormick, sr., of Chicago, foots up a total of more than \$4,500,000, the profit of the patent reaping machine.

The Grange Visitor.

Published on the First and Fifteenth of every month,

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SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

Entered at the Post Office at Coldwater, Mich., as Second Class matter.

SHALL WE TRY IT?

The success of the TOWN MEETING effort in 1885 was so satisfactory that we are seriously thinking of trying the experiment

APRIL FOURTH, 1887.

Yes, we will. We will sell the Visitor for the rest of the year,

Nine Months for 30 Cts.

This offer SHOULD give the VISITOR several thousand new subscribers and a few hundred renewals.

Will it do it? The answer is with those who read the offer.

Sample copies free to any address.
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Remittances may be made to us in postage stamps, or by postal note, money order, or registered letter. If you receive copies of the paper beyond your time of subscription it is our loss not yours. We aim to send every number of the paper for the time paid for, then strike out the name if not renewed. Renewals made promptly are a matter of much convenience, and we respectfully solicit such that no numbers be lost to you.

Advise this office at once of a change in your address, or if numbers fail to reach you.

To Subscribers and Correspondents.

All subscriptions to the GRANGE VISITOR, and all correspondence, excepting for advertising, should be addressed to

J. T. COBB, Editor,
Schoolcraft, Mich.

To Advertisers.

All persons desiring to advertise in the GRANGE VISITOR, should address A. J. ALDRICH & Co., Coldwater, Mich., as they have assumed complete charge of that department. Prices will be furnished upon application. Average circulation for 1886 has been over 6,800 copies. Regular edition 6,000 copies. The paper circulates in nearly every county in the lower peninsula of Michigan and into families of as intelligent a class of people as can be found in any state in the union. The VISITOR, also has a good circulation among the Patrons of Iowa.

A. J. ALDRICH & Co.,
Printers of the GRANGE VISITOR.

THE VISITOR AND APRIL 4TH—NINE MONTHS FOR 30 CENTS.

We hope the good Patrons of Michigan have not overlooked our offer in the last number of the VISITOR, and if not, what are you going to do about it?

Patrons all believe the Grange of value to the farmers of Michigan.

Is not the VISITOR of value both to the Grange and to the farmers of the State? If so, help extend its circulation. By a little personal effort, you—yes, reader, you, can secure renewals and obtain a good list of new subscribers. Will you do it? Here is a good chance to do a little work for the GOOD OF THE ORDER.

CONSERVATIVE voters, who habitually make wry faces whenever the subject of woman's suffrage is broached, will find small comfort in reading the late news from Kansas. Since the Legislature of that enterprising State made provision for women to vote in villages and cities, the women have energetically pushed the work of registration and of instructing the new voters in regard to their duty. On March 15 there had 2,000 ladies registered in the city of Leavenworth and 800 in Atchison, and organized effort in the cities all over the State is being made to get a full delegation out to the spring elections.

Our Michigan Legislature has, awaiting its decision, a bill similar to that which is now operative in Kansas. It is to be hoped that our legislators will be stimulated to pass it by the favorable reception Kansans give it.

Your vote helps to determine whether our homes or the saloons shall predominate.

The Republican Press.

It is a matter of surprise that the Republican press of the cities of Michigan should ignore certain facts established by the highest official Republican authority in several prohibition states, and offset direct evidence given in favor of the practical results of prohibition by such bald statements as we find in the State Republican of the 19th of March. We quote from its first article in which its brazen cheek is especially noticeable. Speaking for itself the Republican says:

It has witnessed the result of over twenty years of the utter failure of prohibition in Michigan. It has also witnessed the failure of prohibition in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Iowa, Kansas, and other states. It knows that prohibition is a failure. It doesn't depend upon anybody's hearsay. It strongly desires the redemption of Michigan from the liquor curse; therefore it opposes going back to prohibition, which has proved free whisky in every state where it has been tested."

How does it happen that The State Republican knows more about prohibition in Maine than ex-Vice President Hamlin, Hon. James G. Blaine, Senator Frye and an ex-Governor? Here is what these gentlemen say:

Of the great good produced by the prohibitory liquor law of Maine no man can doubt who has seen its results.—Ex Vice President Hamlin.

I can, and do, from my own personal observation, unhesitatingly affirm that the consumption of intoxicating liquors is not to day one-fourth so great as it was twenty years ago; that the law has itself created a temperance sentiment to which opposition is powerless.—James G. Blaine.

Intemperance has steadily decreased in the State since the first enactment of the prohibitory law, until now it can be said with truth that there is no equal number of people in the Anglo-Saxon world among whom so small amount of intoxicating liquor is consumed as among the six hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants of Maine.—James G. Blaine.

In 1830, thirteen distilleries in the State manufactured 1,000,000 gallons of rum; 300,000 gallons were imported. Now there is not a distillery or brewery in the State. In 1833 there were 500 taverns, all but 40 of these having open bars; now there is not a tavern in the State with an open bar. In 1830 every grocery store sold liquor as freely as molasses; now not one. In 1832, with a population of only 450,000, there were 2,000 places where intoxicating liquors were sold. Their sales amounted to \$10,000,000 annually, or \$20 for each inhabitant. Last year the aggregate sales of 100 town agencies was \$100,000, or 15 cents per inhabitant; on the average in the remainder of the Union \$14 per inhabitant.—Ex-Gov. Dingley.

And with this evidence, not new or hard to find, The State Republican gives the larger part of its editorial page of the weekly referred to to outspoken opposition to the amendment. While we believe Neal Dow is good authority we do not bring in his evidence when we have such witnesses as have been quoted.

The Governor of Kansas can be relied on as likely to know quite as much about practical prohibition in that State as the State Republican. Gov. Martin in his annual message delivered Jan. 12, 1887, said:

"A great reform has certainly been accomplished in Kansas. Intemperance is steadily and surely decreasing. In thousands of homes, where want and wretchedness and suffering were once familiar guests, plenty, happiness, and contentment now abide. Thousands of wives and children are better clothed and fed than they were when the saloons absorbed all the earnings of husbands and fathers. The marvelous growth of the State during the past six years has been accompanied by an equally marvelous moral progress, and it can be fairly and truthfully asserted that in no portion of the civilized world can a million and a half of people be found who are more temperate than are the people of Kansas.

"That intoxicating liquors are sold as a beverage anywhere within the limits of Kansas is not because of faults in our laws touching this question. Those laws, defective as they are in some features, are ample enough in their directions, restrictions and penalties to punish every person who either sells or buys liquor for unlawful purposes. There is not a town, city, or neighborhood in the State in which an illegal traffic in liquors can be carried on for a single week if the local officers discharge the duties plainly enjoined upon them by law with zeal and fidelity.

"The public sentiment of Kansas is overwhelmingly against the liquor traffic. Thousands of men who, a few years ago, opposed prohibition, or doubted whether it is the best method of dealing with the liquor traffic, have seen and frankly acknowledged its beneficent results and its practical success. The temptations with which the open saloons allured the youth of the land to disgrace and destruction; the appetite for liquor, bred and nurtured within its walls by the treating custom; the vice, crime, poverty, suffering and sorrow of which it is always the fruitful source—all these evil results of the open saloon have been abolished in nearly every town and city in Kansas. There is not an observing man in the State who does not know that a great reform has been accomplished in Kansas by prohibition."

The Attorney General says, in a report made to the Governor of the State:

"The saloon is fast disappearing from the State—practically is gone. Prohibition is a fixed fact, and no longer problematical."

He expresses his surprise at the marvelous results of the law, and says that even in counties where juries, it was thought, could not be obtained to convict liquor sellers, recent prosecutions have resulted in convictions. In closing his report he says:

"The prohibitory law is no longer an experiment, but is enforced as carefully and as

successfully as the law against horse stealing, murder, arson or other crimes known to our statutes."

Nor is prohibition a failure in Iowa. Gov. Larrabee says:

"There are many counties where anything resembling a saloon cannot be found. It should be so in Fayette. I find in the cities and counties where the prohibitory law is well enforced, crime and police expenses fall off wonderfully. Not a saloon is open in this, the largest city in the State. The sheriff of this county told me a few days since that he had spoiled his business by enforcing the law. He also stated that he was glad of it. Several of the judges have recently told me that there was a marked falling off in criminal business in their courts in consequence of enforcement of the law. There are several judicial districts without a single open saloon. If our courts and sheriffs and constables would do their duty properly the saloon would soon be completely driven out. We have great reason to be encouraged. Many of the judges elected last fall are more likely to enforce the law than their predecessors. A few courageous and determined men can compel violators of the law to run from any community."

Now these witnesses are reliable, or they are not. If not, then the Republican party has had at the front several unreliable men for a long time. These men are old-liners; men of national reputation, and this half page of pettifoggery against the direct evidence submitted, has, to say the least, a very suspicious look.

Aside from principle and acting from the standpoint of policy and the partisanship we see no wisdom in the course adopted by the Republican press, that has seen fit to champion the anti-amendment liquor interest of the State.

Temperance sentiment is having a rapid growth. The baneful results of the drink habit are becoming so well understood that whatever the result of the battle of the 4th of April the saloon business of Michigan has got a fight on its hands from which it can neither escape nor expect a final triumph. Look over the years of a generation behind us and look forward over the years that shall include the next generation, and who shall dare say that in the past the future is not plainly written? Men are coming to understand that aside from every consideration of decency, morality and religion, that financially the burden has become too great to bear and the great Republican party that claims to champion the cause of temperance cannot afford to ignore the conclusive evidence of so many of its eminent leaders, that prohibition does prohibit.

The Detroit Anti-Amendment Meeting.

If anybody supposes men have so overcome their selfishness as to know no interest but the public good, that notion can be extinguished in so far as the men of wealth in the city of Detroit whose names appear in the list of Vice Presidents at the Anti-Amendment Mass Meeting as published in the Evening Journal of the 22d inst.

The speakers went over the same ground of increased taxation, free whiskey, no enforcement of law, increase of saloons and all that argument that has been proven fallacious and unfounded by the highest authority in prohibition states. The arguments presented not only ignored the statements of such men as James G. Blaine and the Governors of Maine, Kansas and Iowa, but to all intents and purposes advised a surrender to the liquor interest, confessing that it was superior to government itself. The immense tax collected in cities was kept prominently in view and "that's what's the matter" with these rich fellows whose first speaker, Mr. C. A. Kent, uttered the following invitation to lawlessness and crime: "Liquor dealers would resist the law, first by legal means and then by the weapons given by God and nature. Out in the State a church had been set on fire by liquor people. Many people would support such means of defense." No wonder Labadie quietly said, "Kent's an anarchist if he only knew it." D. Bethune Duffield pettifogged the case of the city taxpayers most bravely and proved his fealty to his clients' cause when he said: "Since 1876 \$8,000,000 had been taken from the saloonists' profits and put into the county treasuries." Of course he neglected to say how many hundreds of millions had been paid over saloon bars in these years contributing to the cost of all departments of government covering pauperism and crime. Nor did he say that of this eight millions of dollars a single dollar had been applied to lessen the taxes of the great agricultural class. Michigan farmers were not his clients that night. He was talking for the taxpayers and liquor interest of Detroit—only these and nothing more. These were his clients and able to pay for service rendered. He seemed to think he had

made a capital hit when he turned to Chairman Sheley and asked, "If he had ever heard of prohibition blotting out ten saloons." That was a well directed inquiry, and the answer could be as easily foretold as that of the devil when invited to rebuke sin.

All this talk about the non-enforcement of prohibitory law suggests the inquiry: When and where have these men put themselves on record as requiring existing laws affecting the sale of liquor to be enforced? They admit the evils to society of the drink habit and traffic and advocate a tax and with its collection and application to the current municipal expenses their interest subsides. This part of the law enforced and the saloon keepers may have it all their own way after that. The essential feature of the law's requirements has been met. The minor matter of selling to minors and drunkards and of closing at such time as the law requires is left to the officers of the law who are dependent on saloon influence and support for their election. It is decidedly cool, not to say impudent, for these men to talk about prohibitionists not enforcing the law when the tax part of existing laws is all they have shown any real interest in enforcing. We can not speak from personal knowledge regarding these Detroit defenders of the saloon but we can of Kalamazoo, and the difference between the men of one city and another who favor taxation and are never willing to go farther in the enforcement of law, is probably not much. If these men whose arguments summed up are a surrender to the saloon after the tax is paid had stood right up for the full enforcement of law in every particular, the evils that now attach to the business would not have made it so infamous.

When these representatives of Detroit's rich men relieve themselves of their indifference to the execution of existing law except in so far as the collection of the tax is concerned by uniting and enforcing all the provisions of existing laws that relate to this business we shall have faith in them.

The Evening Journal gave it as an editorial opinion "That the meeting represented the public opinion of Detroit and foredoomed the failure of prohibition in this city." Well, Detroit is not THE STATE, nor will it be with all other large cities added to it. Evidence is abundant that prohibition has rooted the traffic out of the villages and rural districts of prohibition states and diminished the amount sold in the cities of those states.

No reasonable man expects that the amendment if adopted will work miracles, but when the traffic ceases to help pay taxes, some of these men will soon be found on the other side and will go to work and help dry up these fruitful sources of taxation.

Trow out all the brewers, distillers, saloon-keepers and their daily patrons, put them on exhibition as they appear when engaged in their regular business, and on the other side of the line invite all other citizens to come to the front. Let this exhibit cover all the citizens of any township, county or state, and it won't take any man long to decide which of the collections of men includes the most morality, virtue, decency, progress, and all that represents the best conditions of our civilization.

Looking this thing square in the face and who will say that saloon-keepers are friends of good order, that they promote the public welfare?

The standing and character of the business and the quality of the liquor sold has been deteriorating, going down, for 25 years. All efforts to make the business respectable must fail. Years ago the current set in against it and that current of public sentiment has been growing broader and deeper until now the whole business is under the ban of public condemnation.

No reputable citizen stands up in defense of the business of selling whisky. Good men differ as to the best means of restricting its sale. None expect to extinguish the evil altogether, any more than they expect to extinguish any of the crimes for which men and women are arraigned before courts every day in every state in the Union. As the business has become the fruitful source of pauperism and crime public attention is now all over the country directed to this the greatest question of the day, and all good citizens are ready to curtail the evils of the open saloon if not suppress the nuisance altogether.

PATRONS, take notice of the offer of Prof. Beal found in second column, first page. That is a valuable offer.

Fined \$910 for Ninety-one Offenses.

BENNINGTON, VT., March 21.—Thomas Stewart was to-day fined \$910 and costs for 91 offenses against the prohibition law. If he should be unable to pay this he will be sent to the house of correction for as many days as there are dollars in his fine. This is the second prosecution by the Law and Order League and others are promised.

If the amendment is adopted and the Legislature gives the people some good common-sense legislation to carry the amendment into effect, it is more than probable that this State will find Law and Order Leagues useful in some places in bracing weak-kneed officers elected to enforce law. A great and pressing want of this country is a sense of official responsibility and backbone to discharge official duties regardless of its effect on the election of the official himself. When the individual citizens who desire the public welfare more than party supremacy discriminate in their voting as do the saloonists, we shall soon have no use for Law and Order Leagues.

The catalogue of Montgomery Ward & Co., of Wabash Avenue, Chicago, issued for the spring and summer trade of 1887, is an immense affair. They claim it is the largest and most complete catalogue in the world and offer to send it to any applicant on receipt of ten cents to cover postage. Their ad. has been standing in the VISITOR for years and we know the firm is reliable.

THE new ad. of D. Woodward & Son on our 8th page should attract the attention of farmers. We have before us a price list and the endorsements of some of the best farmers in Michigan of their plows. Send for circulars and if in want of a plow, you will be quite likely to order one or more of this firm. The jointer is especially recommended.

Communications.

DURING the month of February I organized a County Grange in Huron County. The first week in March I went back and delivered a series of lectures in the county, and at the request of members I send a few notes in regard to the Grange and its membership.

There is a large section of country, known as the thumb of Michigan, of which Huron County is the tip, that is destined at no distant day to be one of the finest parts of the State. There is a uniformly good soil, but very little waste land and a thrifty, enterprising class of people.

The Huron County farmers have taken hold of the Grange work with a will and are rapidly bringing the Order to the front. During the latter part of February and the first week of March three new Granges were organized by the indefatigable County Deputy, Bro. A. M. Leitch, making a total of eight Granges in the county, with a good prospect of more to follow. The County Grange has 60 members with a live, earnest, brawny Patron at its head. With the start the Order has and the class of people who are taking hold of it, there is no doubt but what a strong Grange membership will be built up and permanently maintained in Huron County.

JASON WOODMAN.

What will They Do About It?

THE VISITOR has asked this question of the people of Michigan in reference to the adoption or rejection of the prohibitory amendment to the Constitution of the State, and what shall the answer be? Will the people vote to retain the saloons and perpetuate the evils of intemperance; or, will they vote in favor of the amendment, and suppress the now legalized traffic in intoxicating drinks?

Whatever may have been the real motive, whatever influences or reasons may have induced or instigated the submission of this question to the people by the present Legislature, is of no consequence as against the great fact that the question is so submitted. If the Legislators declined to take upon themselves the responsibility and consequences of the enactment of a prohibitory statute direct and decided to refer the matter to the people, that was their right and no blame is attached. The responsibility of the settlement of this momentous question has most suddenly and unexpectedly fallen upon the people and they now have a grand, a glorious opportunity to render their verdict at the polls in April next.

What will the people do about it? Will they waive all minor considerations, divest themselves of narrow prejudices and partial bias, and openly espouse the cause of home, sobriety, thrift, good order, and the best welfare of the community and the State; or, will they unite with drunkards, saloon keepers and all their debauched, profligate allies in supporting an infamous traffic, that saps the very foundations of society, degrades man to a lower level than the brutes, blasting and despoiling every refined, elevating, ennobling principle—a business that subverts and defies authority, that has not one single redeeming feature, a stigma and a reproach to our so-called Christian civilization?

My fellow countrymen! Citizens of Michigan! The appeal is to you. Will you roll up such an overwhelming majority in favor of the amendment, that

hereafter there shall be no licensed dram shops and the saloon shall be banished from all respectable communities?

But this will be no kid-gloved, swallow-tailed, dress-parade contest. The hosts of Belial—the dram-sellers, dram-drinkers, debauchees, gamblers and outlaws of decent society will swarm up from the slums and dens of infamy all over the State, and plump their ballots solid against the amendment. And so, men will be judged on election day by the company they keep. Choose ye on that day whom ye will serve, for you can not serve God and sobriety on one side, and whisky and the devil on the other.

Doubtless there will be hundreds, it may be thousands, of weak-kneed, limber-backed, very respectable capitalists, bankers, and professional gentlemen, who never have, nor will they probably openly antagonize the saloons or the whisky traffic.

There doubtless will be clergymen and scores of professing Christians in all denominations who, while they make fervent prayers and pay money for the spread of the gospel and the conversion of the heathen, and are ready to "stand up for Jesus," are not ready, neither have they the manliness or moral courage to stand up in the great congregation or elsewhere and be counted on the side of temperance and in favor of the suppression of the more than heathenish saloon.

Then you will encounter an immense army of professional politicians, office-holders, candidates and camp-followers, without conscience, humanity, or real love for country, who bow down to and abjectly worship the party God, who are solicitous only for party welfare, party interests and party success, first, last, and all the time, and whose mission on earth and chief end is—according to their catechism—to glorify party and enjoy it forever!

Then the low, the vulgar, the licentious, the mercenary, and the illiterate, ignorant voters have their headquarters, and are almost entirely under the absolute and immediate control of saloon keepers in all the large towns and cities.

Besides all these formidable, hostile influences that are and will be opposed to the adoption of the amendment, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court has volunteered in advance a captious opinion, that some of the provisions of the proposed amendment are unconstitutional! Well, that will be bad enough—to have the Constitution itself, when adopted, unconstitutional! The preservation of the State, the cause of public morals, and the general welfare of the people to be set aside, that the Constitution may stand without a blemish?

Furthermore, an Episcopal Bishop of Michigan, has published a letter recently, that is directly calculated to influence and array the laity of his Church against the amendment, for the alleged reason that alcohol or fermented wines were not excepted in the bill, for sacramental uses, thereby officially declaring that alcohol or fermented wines are essential, and are the only substances that can lawfully be used to typify the "shed blood" in the sacramental or memorial service! The good Bishop seemed to be grieved as he wrote this letter, for he intimated that he favored prohibition; but unfortunately, the phraseology of the amendment in reference to fermented wines, has undoubtedly turned him against it. Verily, the scriptures are fulfilled anew, for "They strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

Then to fill up the measure of the iniquity of this merely frivolous, hair-splitting opposition, comes the Catholic Bishop of the diocese who, it is said, has authoritatively declared, "that, in the event of its passage, all good Catholics will disregard and defy the law! That they will suffer martyrdom, stripes and imprisonment—obeying the mandates of a 'higher law'—and this in the face of the Bible, the foundation of their religion, which declares that, 'The powers that be on the earth are ordained of God.'"

Here is richness certainly. Here is consistency. Here is sanctified, apostolic leadership. Surely, "The night is far spent; the day is at hand."

Citizens of the commonwealth! Lovers of country, of home, and of truth! Friends of humanity! You get an inkling of the magnitude of the coming contest. You war not against ordinary flesh and blood, but against principalities, the malignant, untiring hosts of evil, thoroughly organized and equipped, aided and abetted, as we shall find, by men high in authority.

But, voters of Michigan, fortunately for the welfare of society and the State, you are not all capitalists, bankers, lawyers, doctors, clergymen, merchants, professing Christians, politicians, judges, or Church Bishops!

Let every man, who has any pride of character, who has the least spark of manliness and courage in his nature, turn out on election day; get his friends and neighbors to come and vote for the amendment. Banish liquor saloons from this State. Stamp this monstrous evil under your feet, and in so doing, may God bless you.

Kalamazoo, Feb., 1887.

The Lowell District Council is holding open special meetings this year; in February, one was held at South Boston with about 100 Patrons and farmers present. Our program consisted of readings, recitations and music. One question discussed was—Creamery vs. Individual Butter-Making. The subject was introduced by an original paper favoring the creamery plan and was discussed lively for over an hour. All present were apparently well

pleased and no doubt profited by the discussion.

The March meeting was held at Keene Grange hall with fully as large an attendance. The creamery subject was continued and the plaster matter talked of. The sentiment of the farmers is to curtail its use till the combination comes to its senses. The audience was a unit on the temperance question but hardly as good a showing was made on the subject of female suffrage, while the indignation shown the English sparrow culminated in asking the Legislature to offer a bounty of one cent each for their scalps. With Bro. D. H. English in the chair, no time goes to waste and our meetings prove very profitable and enjoyable to all. The Lowell creamery firm, or rather its manager (M. Tarleton) present by invitation, gave the new method to be used by this firm in measuring the cream collected from patrons of the factory, and what is of great interest to butter makers is the fact that the tons of butter sold to the village groceries would have brought more dollars to the makers if the cream had been sold and the factory made the butter—principally on account of its uniformity. Now, some of our good brothers say the creameries are monopolies and are damaging the dairy interest and it is wrong to listen to their sophistries. Now, we who invite discussion and argue for creamery against the old way want to be consistent Patrons. Our declaration of Purposes says on this, "We desire to bring farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and intimate relation possible." So, Bro. Cobb, if we have transgressed the law, please right us up, and as I am afraid of your scissors, I will cut this short. Fraternally yours,

E. HANCOMBE, Sec'y.

Lowell, Mich., March 16.

[No brother need be afraid of our scissors who sends us a short, practical article like the above. We want more than we get. It's the long essays that we are afraid of simply because they are not read in these days of hurry. EDITOR.]

Is Anybody to Blame?

We notice with chagrin, and so often, too, that the news gatherers for our local publications are so completely indifferent about the doings of the community among which their periodicals circulate and upon which they depend for patronage. If 200, more or less, of any community hold meetings, literary societies, Granges, or institutes, with open doors and for the education, improvement and enjoyment of the people, the local paper may possibly, to please some acquaintance and subscriber, insert at his request, a short notice of such meeting in some obscure place in the paper. But, knowing of such gathering, how often do we know of any correspondent taking the trouble to go there and by reasonable attention report such sayings and doings as are of interest to the public! How seldom does the local paper give words to cheer and encourage some worthy laborer striving more for others' good than for personal honor or benefit!

But, on the contrary, let two disreputable nothings meet in drunken combat, and you can see the ever-wanting-to-be-present news men scrambling to take in the whole thing, and the next issue has a front column, spreadingly headed, giving in detail all the disgusting event, with the instruction it bears to the youth.

Go to the low courts. There sits the diligent reporter, gathering his supply of the scandals and all the filth which low-class lawyers can drag into the amusement of hangers around. Is it any wonder that driving with a lash and coaxing with prizes are necessary to bring into line the reluctant subscribers, when such trash is furnished to the satisfaction of a few who hold down store chairs and occupy all the comfortable space about a fire, where they can get trusted on bills! These are the fellows who read sponged news from papers they never think of subscribing for. Is it a fault that our local papers contain an account of every move of our publishers' families and all their friends' families, from man to dog, to the number of a score or more of village folks, while 500 good and equally respectable country people, readers and supporters of the papers are never heard of or thought of, except about election or renewal time?

A. J. C.

How prohibition prohibits in Maine

—United States authority—What James G. Blaine says about it. The revenue returns show that in fourteen cities and fifteen large villages and sea-shore resorts in Maine, with a population of about 90,000, there are 593 dealers in liquor, including the druggists who pay the U. S. tax, while in the 470 other towns and plantations in the State, with a population of about 459,000, there are only 220 dealers—or one to over 2,000 inhabitants. There are 355 towns and plantations in Maine, comprising the bulk of the exclusively farming towns, in which, according to the U. S. returns, there is not a single open or secret dram shop.

The fact that the U. S. Revenue Report shows that only 4 cents per inhabitant was collected on the manufacture and sale of liquors in Maine in 1882, while \$1.40 per inhabitant were collected in the whole Union, affords a very striking contrast.

It has already been observed that prohibition practically abolishes secret as well as open dram shops in the rural sections, and confines the traffic to the cities and larger villages where it can hide. This is strikingly shown

by the United States revenue returns for Maine.

But counting all as dealers, and we have one liquor dealer to about every 800 inhabitants, and all secret dealers outside of seventeen places, who are doing a very small business under great difficulties; while 50 years ago there was one licensed dram shop to every 225 inhabitants. The average number of dealers in Northern wholly license states is one to every 210 inhabitants, or nearly four times as many as in Maine; and in not a single wholly license State in the North is the number less than one to 250 inhabitants. In New York and New Jersey there is one dram shop to every 180 inhabitants, in Rhode Island one to 200, in Delaware one to 250, and in California one to 95. The average for the whole Union is one to every 300 inhabitants.

The last internal revenue report shows that in the four northern States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Kansas, in all of which the prohibitory law is in force, the number of retail liquor dealers (mainly secret dealers) averaged in 1882 one to every 620 inhabitants; that in the four northern States of Massachusetts, Iowa, Indiana and Nebraska, in which local prohibition prevailed to some extent, the number of liquor dealers averaged one to 335 inhabitants; and that in the fourteen other northern States in which license wholly or nearly wholly prevails, the average number of liquor dealers is one to every 210 inhabitants. In other words, there are three times as many dram shops in the wholly license States as in the wholly prohibitory States. It appears also that as soon as local prohibition is applied to municipalities or counties here and there, the number of drinking places begins to decline.

Taking Maine as a whole, and the number of arrests for drunkenness last year was only 2,652, or only four arrests to every thousand of the population, judging by partial statistics received. There is no wholly license State of the North that shows less than twice this number of arrests for drunkenness, and the average is considerably more.

In a letter written nearly one year ago by Hon. J. G. Blaine, that distinguished statesman and careful observer thus summed up the good results of prohibition in Maine:

"Intemperance has steadily decreased in this State, since the first enactment of the prohibitory law, until now it can be said with truth that there is no equal number of people in the Anglo-Saxon world, among whom so small an amount of intoxicating liquor is consumed as among the six hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants of Maine."

DETROIT, MICH., March 21, '87;

DEAR SIR:—In your issue of March 1, I noticed an article on Jerseys and Jersey Butter. I had wondered why the "little queen of butter cows" was never noticed in your columns. If your many readers knew what the Jersey cow is capable of doing they would as soon as possible get and keep them and no other.

I am quite aware of the fact that most farmers think the Jersey too small to be valuable. It is simply the money-making ability or earning power that should decide what breed is best. One thing is sure; that is, the general purpose cow is an impossibility. If you want a large supply of milk for the market or cheese factory get the Holsteins or Ayrshires; if you want beef get the Shorthorns or Herefords, but if you want cream or butter then get the Jersey, for as the Live Stock Journal very truly says:

1. Jerseys make more butter usually for the food they eat than any other breed.
2. Jerseys make better butter than any other breed, better grain, better flavor.
3. Jersey milk is the most profitable, contains more butter per quart, cream rises quicker and butter comes quicker than any other breed.
4. Jersey butter brings from 2 to 10 cents per pound more than any other.
5. Butter farming is more pleasant and more profitable than truck, beef, poultry or pig farming.
6. For every cent lost on account of her small carcass there are two cents gained on account of her better butter and larger annual yield. And I would add, by reason of better price her calves will bring.

In proof of statement No. 3: In November last I mixed 1 pint of stripplings from my four-year-old Jersey cow, Dora Le Brocq, put it in a quart fruit jar and in about 36 hours from time of milking shook it four and a half minutes when, in common parlance, "the butter had come." My wife took it from the can, worked it properly, did not salt it, and it weighed two and one-half ounces, which would be at rate of one and one-fourth lbs. to the gallon. A day or two afterwards I took one pint of milk from a milking (taking it from the pan so as to get her common milk) put it through the same process and it made two ounces, being at the rate of one lb. to the gallon. That day she gave eleven quarts and one pint of milk.

I have several other cows that will do as well as this one. Now if any of your readers have such cows it will be a very easy matter to see if any of them will make as good a showing.

I do not write this for an ad. for I have no Jerseys for sale, but simply to let our friends know what is an indisputable fact, viz.: that for a family cow, or a butter cow, the Jersey can not be excelled.

Yours Truly,
G. A. W.

Crops and the Market.

The Secretary of State has sent out his monthly crop report for March in which the preponderance of the evidence seems to be quite strong that throughout the State the wheat has been injured by the weather during February and the early part of March, the complaints from local correspondents being largely in the majority. The general conclusion reached by the compiler is that "it is accurate to say the wheat plant was not sufficiently well protected during February." He further adds: "The weather since the first of March has been no less unfavorable than in February. On nine of the first eleven days of the month the temperature has both dropped below and risen above the freezing point, giving a constant succession of freezes and thaws. Such weather can hardly fail to injure the wheat plant, but it is useless at this date to attempt to estimate the amount of damage."

The total amount of bushels of wheat reported marketed in August, September, October, November, December, January and February is 9,785,448 or about 37 per cent. of the crop of 1886. The number of bushels reported marketed in the same months of 1885 and 1886 was 10,606,957, or 43 per cent. of the crop of 1885. For these months in 1885-6 reports were received from about 44 per cent., and in 1886-7 from about 53 per cent. of the elevators and mills in the southern four tiers of counties.

The estimates show that in the southern counties there is 16 per cent.; in the central counties 14 per cent., and in the northern counties 12 per cent. of the 1886 wheat crop yet on hand.

The report of the visible supply of wheat in the United States on Saturday evening, March 19, at the close of business shows a decrease of 1,093,355 bushels, but the amount in sight is several millions greater than for any previous year at this date. Wheat declined in price a trifle while corn and oats remained nominal. Markets on the whole are rather dull.

Notices of Meetings.

The April meeting of Clinton Co. Pomona Grange, No. 25, will be held with South Riley Grange on the 6th inst., commencing at 10:30 A. M., which session will consist of the usual morning exercises; afternoon session, music by South Riley Grange Choir; opening address by South Riley Grange; reply by Pomona; select reading, Hiram Simmons, A. B. Cook, Mrs. A. Gunnison and Mrs. Estella Dills; autobiography, Dorr K. Stowell; essays, Mr. Ira Eaton, Mrs. David Scott and Mrs. Riley Rice; recitations, Mr. A. Gunnison, M. L. Corbin, Estella Conrad and Blanche Garlock; paper by Lecturer of South Riley Grange; question, "Can we expect the condition of our laboring classes to become better in the future than at present?" Evening meeting public, to which all are invited. I. D. RICHMOND, Lect.

The next quarterly meeting of Berrien County Grange No. 1 will be held at Benton Harbor Grange Hall, April 5. It will be an "open meeting," and the following program will be observed: Song, by Benton Harbor Grange Choir. Address of Welcome, Miss Mattie Ruggles; Response by some member County Grange. Principal address by Jason Woodman, Lecturer of State Grange. Installation of officers. Address by Worthy Master-elect John Clark. Recitation, Miss Ida Bridgeman. Reflections, A. N. Woodruff. Essay, Miss Anna Ragatz. Recitation, Miss Addie Ruggles. Essay, Theodore Clark. What is the State Grange doing? Thos. Mars. Music will be furnished by Benton Harbor Grange Choir as called for. The fifth degree will be conferred on the evening of first day. LEVI SPARKS, Lect.

The next session of St. Joseph County Grange, No. 4, will be held at Centerville Thursday, April 7.

A full attendance of members is desired and all 4th degree members are cordially invited to attend the afternoon session. A. E. HOWARD, Sec'y.

The next meeting of Lapeer County Pomona Grange, No. 29, will be held at Dryden Grange Hall at Dryden Village April 14. Program for the meeting:

Secret session at 10 A. M.; dinner, 12; public meeting 2 P. M.

Does it pay farmers to have business outside of their farm?—P. H. Foot and Geo. B. Terry.

How blessings brighten as they take their flight—Mrs. R. E. Owen.

Abuse of knowledge—W. E. Moor. Failure and success—E. E. Owen and V. Stover.

All 4th Degree members cordially invited to be present. The public is invited to attend afternoon meeting.

E. BARTLETT, Lec.

Allegan Co. Pomona Grange will hold the regular annual meeting for election of officers, with Michigan Lake Shore Grange No. 407, on Thursday April 21 1887, at 10 A. M.

Any wishing to go by R. R. will please write Bro. D. D. Tourbellott, at Glenn P. O.

ERNEST HART.

A MEETING of Branch County Pomona Grange will be held at Gilead Grange Hall Thursday, April 7. The forenoon session will open at 11 o'clock to which all fourth degree members are invited.

The public will be cordially welcomed to the afternoon session, commencing at 1:30 o'clock, the following being the program of exercises:

Opening song. Choir. Address of welcome—A member of Gilead Grange.

Response—A member of Pomona Grange. The general subject—"Be temperate in eating, drinking and language, also in work and recreation," to be divided as follows:

How and how much should farmers work and recreate?—E. G. Luce.

Work and play for women—Mrs. S. M. Treat.

Temperance in language—Mrs. A. R. Bonney.

Temperance in cooking and eating—Mrs. Geo. Fuller.

Intemperance or extravagance in farm buildings, illustrated—R. Coward.

Mr. Coward will also give some points in the history and workings of prohibition where it has been tried.

If the vote for the amendment carries, what shall we do with it? L. M. Marsh.

Committee on ratification of the vote on the amendment—A. K. Bonney, H. B. George, and M. F. Fredenberg.

This committee are expected to ratify or cry according to circumstances.

A good variety of music and recitations will be interspersed through the program.

J. D. W. FISK, Lecturer.

Who is responsible, if not the voter for all the wretchedness, crime and pauperism that flows from liquor-selling?

WHY DO YOU BUY

Land Plaster

WHEN YOU CAN GET

Ground Burned Lime

—AND—

CARBONATE OF LIME FLOUR!

—OR—

Ground Lime Stone,

For less money, and guaranteed to be more effective and a better Fertilizer.

It increases the quantity and improves the quality of all kinds of grain. Its presence in the soil enables vegetation to stand drought better than when land plaster or other fertilizers are used.

It is the result of universal experience wherever agriculture has been advanced to the state of an art that the presence of Lime is useful to the soil. Lime, or Carbonate of Lime, is the basis of the fertility of all soils; it is impossible for even an average fertility to be manifested where lime is entirely absent. The grain and straw of our corn-bearing plants, and the stems and seeds of our grasses, all contain lime whenever and wherever they are grown, and most of them attain high health and luxuriance ONLY where lime is easily attained.

Actual Tests Prove

—THAT—

Ground Lime or Ground Lime Stone

is as beneficial as Land Plaster.

TRY IT

AND BE CONVINCED.

We also offer to the farmers

PIERCE'S

Potato Bug Killer!

Ready for use, no mixing required; a PERFECT combination, by MACHINERY, of Paris Green with other material.

SURE DEATH

to Potato Bugs, Curculio, or the Cotton, Tobacco, Cabbage, Currant and Apple Tree Worm, and all other insects. Have your dealer order for you, or send direct to

Toledo White Lime Co.,

No. 10 Oak Street,

TOLEDO, OHIO.

Ladies' Department.

Where I would live.

BY MILTON BELDEN.

[Reprinted by request.]

I would live in a country of hillside and plain,
Mid blossoming trees and bright waving grain,
Where the hills and the valleys, the wood-land and farm,
Would give to the landscape a beautiful charm.

I would live where the wild waves would beat on the shore;
I would list to the sound of the cataract's roar;
And the clear, babbling brook that goes carelessly by
Would sing me sweet notes with its soft lullaby.

I would live where the wild winds of winter would blow,
And shed o'er the earth a bright mantle of snow;
Where the howl of the storm, with its cold, wintry moan,
Would oft make me bless that warm home of my own.

I would live where the warm breath of April would blow,
And drive from the country the frost and the snow;
And the warm breath of May, with its days bright and clear,
All nature would rouse from the grave of the year.

I would live where the wild bird in spring time would come,
And sing their sweet songs 'round my own cottage home;
Where the hum of the bee and the blooming of flowers
Would cheer with their presence my most lonely hours.

I would live where both dogmas and creeds are unknown,
Where each had a soul and that soul was his own;
Where reason and science would shed their bright ray,
A light for our pathway, o'er life's rugged way.

I would live where the people are happy and free,
And to base superstition would ne'er bow the knee;
Where the laws gave to each what was only his own,
And our wives and our mothers had rights like our own.

I would live where the rich and the haughty no more
Could live on the toil of the lowly and poor;
Where bosoms in mercy and kindness would heave,
And the poor and needy would ask and receive.

And when my life's journey should draw to a close,
My friends would be many and few be my foes,
I'd have the bright assurance that goodness can give,
That the world has grown better because I have lived.

Housekeeping Melodies.

Sing a song of cleaning house!
Pocketful of nails!
Four and twenty dust-pans,
Scrubbing-brooms and pails!
When the door is opened
Wife begins to sing—

"Just help me move this bureau here,
And hang this picture, won't you, dear?
And tack that carpet by the door,
And stretch this one a little more,
And I drive this nail, and screw this screw;
And here's a job I have for you—
This closet door will never catch,
I think you'll have to fix the latch;
And oh, while you're about it, John,
I wish you'd put the cornice on,
And hang this curtain; when you're done
I'll hand you up the other one;
This box has got to have a hinge
Before I can put on the fringe;
And won't you mend that broken chair?
I'd like a hook put up right there;
The bureau drawer must have a knob;
And here's another little job—
I really have to ask you, dear—
But could you fix a bracket here?"

And on it goes, when these are through,
With this and that and those to do,
Ad infinitum, and more too,
All in a merry jingle—
And is n't it enough to make
A man wish he was single? (Almost.)
—Good Housekeeping.

From the West.

This is a summer day; we sat in the shade of the house till the heat sent us inside. These days are common in this climate but are sandwiched between cold or windy ones so as to break the monotony. I begin to long for an old-fashioned three-days' Michigan rain storm, the "clearing up" is so nice.

Spring really does not open up here as early as with us in Michigan, although much plowing is done in February frequently, but not this year. I looked upon a corn-thresher at work today for the first time. In reading Michigan news I find they have used these threshers to some extent. Corn must be very dry or it would heat in the bin. On this account I doubt whether it will prove as profitable with us as it does here. The farmers here are much more isolated than in Michigan, not necessarily because they own such large farms, but they build for the convenience of the farm. I often wonder why they do not build as they do in the old countries—place their houses near together in groups for the sake of society, even though they do go farther to their work.

I have attended the literary society of Lake View, in Larimer County, that takes in a radius of 24 miles. There were but five families; two of those have moved away, but the three others continue their meetings up to March when spring work begins in earnest. This "Lady Washington" society met

once in two weeks and always had a paper and each member, including the youngest who could prattle, must give a recitation or quotation from their favorite author. There were two little ones who would stand up as dignified as their elders and give Mother Goose Melodies. To drive eight miles across these bleak prairies, cold, dark and sometimes muddy, is no pleasant task; but we are social creatures and the mind must be fed. I found these meetings very full of interest, the more so as the whole family had a part.

The great fight here, as in many other places, is against monopolies and whisky. I read eagerly the news from Michigan, as the plea for voters to pass the constitutional amendment is heard and reasons are given and reiterated, until I wonder if there are two distinct classes or species of human beings. Why should not every man in Michigan vote for the amendment? What is its object? To destroy health and property, cause crime and misery? You voters know it is not; but, on the contrary, the law, if enforced, will put food into the mouths of hungry children, clothes on their naked bodies, and better than all, give hope to the despondent. And yet you will not vote it! Why? "It may not prohibit." Bosh! There are women enough alone to make it prohibit. Make it a law and then stand by it like men, and the W. C. T. U., with five times their number not enrolled with them, will all stand firmly by your side and hold up your hands till prohibition does prohibit. Woman suffers the most from this curse, but she must not be allowed to vote. Oh, no! that would be unwomanly and politics might soil her moral garments. Her moral garments are not soiled when she has to hide her ragged children to protect them from the brutality of a drunken, crazy being she calls husband. Women, why submit longer to such humiliation and degradation? The amendment must be passed. The times are ripe for this measure. The people are educated up to it. If it is not passed, it will be on account of a partisan vote. Men and brethren, can you afford to be selfish or narrow-minded in this regard? People may honestly differ on almost any other measure, but there can be but one honest opinion about the good or evil of intoxicating drinks. I can not see how a true Patron can do other than vote for the measure, no matter what party he affiliates with. I feel an anxiety for the success of this measure because it is a long stride towards health and happiness for so large a class of those who would be the salt of the earth, barring this fiery chain.

Mrs. O. M. SIKES.
Loveland, Col., Feb. 28, 1887.

Fugitive Thoughts.

"In the quality of the homes of the Nation abides the Nation's destiny."—Holland.

If the homes of the Nation could attain the ideal; if the "crown jewels" of tenderness, charity, unselfishness, usefulness, temperance, purity, and culture were set as shining stars in the firmament of love in every home, the followers of the White Cross would be a universal "standing army"; the ministrations of the W. C. T. U. and kindred organizations would be as useless as lamp-light under the mid-day sun, and the millennium of "social purity" and "total abstinence" would be the inheritance of the nations. But, alas, the ideal is approached by few, attained by none. The highest good, however, was never reached except by a higher aim, and the ideal is of value as a mark at which to fix our aspirations; for, thanks to an innate principle of emulation in humanity, every good home is a benediction upon every other home which can be touched by its influence, and the influence is ever widening. "It is as a pebble cast into the ocean and the ocean is never quite the same afterward."

With due allowance for "inherited tendency" and pre-natal influence, we believe that our lives are largely shaped by surrounding circumstances. How slight a circumstance will affect a whole life! Not an hour with a friend, not an hour with a book, magazine or paper but makes its impression, and thrice blest is he who can, like the little bee, extract the richest sweetness from these flowers of circumstance, even though sweetness seems to be utterly wanting.

Through intercourse with friends or books, we may learn lessons in charity, patience, home-government, good housekeeping, economy, or be brought to read some choice book, poem or selection, which else might have been unlearned or unread and without which our lives would be a little less rounded and complete.

Some one when asked his age by a valued friend said, "I am four years old; I have only begun to live since knowing you." We can all look back at periods in our lives when it seemed that a new and broader universe of thought and life was suddenly opened to us through the advanced thought of some master mind and we felt that true life had begun.

I have just read "Aurora Leigh" and when my mind withdrew from the "soul-forward, headlong plunge where in we gloriously forget ourselves" in the words "impassioned for their beauty and salt of truth," I felt that my life had missed much for not reading before the book in which that "Shakespeare among women"—Elizabeth Barrett Browning—has placed her highest convictions upon life and art, and it was only a circumstance that gave it to me now.

Some principles of home government chanced to drift my way and I send

them on, hoping they will work the good for others which they are working for me and mine.

One comes from that peerless public speaker—Frances E. Willard—who said of her mother, "She expects the best, extracts the best from those she is training, and loves to acknowledge its presence in their hearing. When I used to misbehave, she would lay her kind hand upon my head, look wonderingly in my face and say, 'Do you know where my little girl has gone? She is such a pleasant, obedient, dear little daughter, I wish she would come back. This one, who speaks cross words, I do not know.'"

Another is from Mark Twain, who attributes the good behavior of his daughters to the discipline of their mother, who always meets every promise to them, "whether it involves a picnic or a whipping," and in case of the latter "the child never goes away from the scene of punishment until it has been loved back into happiness and a joyful spirit."

Unpleasant subjects should never be introduced at meal-time or at bedtime. If censure must come, let it be at another time and place, so that the happy-heartedness, which is almost as necessary to digestion as gastric juice, may not be spoiled through fear of an impending disclosure of some naughty act or misdeed which has marred the day. A lady once told me that she attributed her slight stature to the fact that the table was the place where the wrong doings of the children were daily recounted by well-meaning but mistaken parents.

If children can be put to bed with some cheerful story from the mother's lips or with minds elated with some pleasant project for the morrow, "tired nature's sweet restorer" will soon take them into her kindly care and there will be none of the fear and apprehension which come with solitude and darkness to the little heart made sorrowful by a harsh word or hasty blow. The hour before bedtime should be literally the "children's hour." It is as much the mother's duty to make that hour one which shall be looked forward to with delight as it is to prepare wholesome food and comfortable clothing. "Where there's a will there's a way." The earnest mother will find the time and the means, even if it involves self-sacrifice which is one of the necessary attendants of motherhood. There is much, if not entire, compensation in the pleasure and in the solution of the problem, "How shall we keep boys and girls at home evenings?" I would like to enlarge upon this subject by practical suggestions, but space forbids.

When I feel a great help from some lesson learned, it is accompanied by a desire to "spread the glad tidings" and I am often moved on to execute my impulse by the poet's helpful words:

"What though our lives by good intent
Be moved as by a storm,
What benefit to those who need,
Unless we give them form?"

Sister matrons, let us consider ourselves members of a "mutual benefit association," in which the ability to give a word of help is always a call to give it.

BELLE M. PERRY.

[The "presiding genius" of this page hopes Mrs. Perry will favor us with those "practical suggestions" in the near future. Space never "forbids" on such an important subject, unless asked for in too large bulk at one time.]

A Present Privilege.

Presumably no member of the Ladies' Department has been a disinterested looker-on at the panoramic display of temperance sentiment exhibited in "my Michigan" since that day when our State Solon sagely said, "Let the people speak." I am of the opinion that if all the direct results of election day are not taken into account at all, the agitation of this vital question has been a matter of immense benefit to the homes of our State. It has shaken up the unshaken; it has given scores of silent or uproarious dining-room table talk in which every member of the household took a part. Temperance, proper, is so simple and common a subject that from the youngest to the oldest every one can have an opinion on it. Moreover, it can be made so many sided that profound thinkers are busied with its phases. It is fermented intemperance, versus fermented temperance in this spring's campaign and we are fast finding out the quantity and quality of either there is in the homes of our land.

I hope every woman in Michigan has had an opportunity to hear one or more white-hot lectures on this fearful question. I hope it, not alone for the amendment's success, but for her own sake. It will be a pity if, when the cream of American eloquence is in our midst, that any should not have a share. It is worth a hard ride, or even a few dollars to come in contact with one of these speakers—speakers who are in a sense, the mirrors of temperance progress. Oh, as I listened a few nights ago to John B. Finch, I wondered how many others of you would go out of your paths to hear him or to hear others who, like him, are running the swords of their rarest geniuses to the hilts through and through this Moloch, Strong Drink. It is being cheated out of much of this life's progress to keep one's self out of these moral conflicts that are such rapid educators—that is, to permit indifference or trifles to keep one out.

Mr. Finch appeared to me a master of the platform, and more logical than rhetorical. I had been satisfied to study his control of himself and his great audience, had not his theme been too commanding and held every thought

loyal to the furious charge against the accursed traffic. In some degree, I can imagine how, in the earnestness of a battle, firearms may glisten in the sun, plumes wave, pennons dance and advancing and retreating files of disciplined men make a fascinating sight to the beholder's eye, and yet how the solemnity of a country's peril would engulf every other thought, and, forgetful of splendid displays, he would be conscious of nothing but virtuous, heaving wrath, patriotic zeal and hope for the principle at stake.

Whatever the outcome of this struggle between the home and the saloon, we are the stronger for taking a part in it. It lifts people up to awaken their strongest convictions and induce them to act upon them. Even in case the amendment carries, the home must still sit as a refiner of silver for a long time ere its features are seen in this mess of stuff out of which it is burning the dross; but in the manliness of its boys and men it trusts for that sight yet to come.

J. B.

My Vision.

[Mrs. F. E. Odell sends for "editorial perusal," over her own veto but at the urgent request of friends, some original verses that she read at the Bay City and Lapeer County Council. We do not marvel at the taste of those who heard them read but wish in vain for space to insert more than the extract below. Faith and hope have spoken in turn and now app. ar "the greatest of these."—Ed.]

I heeded not the one who stood in the rear,
Until her fairy form came hovering near;
She touched my hand with tear dimmed eyes,
While her bosom heaved with heart felt sighs.

"Oh, sister, how blind, how thoughtless,"

said she,
"To forget the coming of meek-eyed Charity;
Heaven-born is my mission, while here on earth;

The Jewels I scatter are of countless worth.

"Neath my flowing mantle humanity seeks rest;

None cast it aside; no, not even the best;
What weak, cringing creatures the sight

would reveal,
Were I its folds to withdraw and my care repeal.

"Not only earth's lovely ones find shelter there,

But each child of Nature needs its protecting care

To do unto others as they do unto you,
Is what Charity teaches her long life through.

"Faith lendeth courage; Hope brightens the heart;

But 'tis Charity that addeth the magnanimous part.

She bringeth love and mercy, peace and good-will,

With true Christian fervor, the mind to instill.

"Faith and Hope forever united may be;
Charity is the greatest of these fairies three;
Her labors win laurels and a joy for the soul,
That cannot be purchased, tho' yours be the whole."

I bowed my head as I beheld her go,
Lower and lower it drooped, oh, how low;
The lesson I needed; well, it remembered w. l.
What struggles for me the future might tell.

Society in Farm Homes.

The day, dear ladies, outside the ring-fence of a fire, favors silence and a distant welcome; but inside my warm circle it is all the more cozy because of the March fierceness without. 'Tis the very hour for a social tete-a-tete, and that brings me to the thought that was uppermost in my mind when I sat here thinking of you scattered far and near, mostly in farm houses where neighbors' visits are not so common but that you remember one over night and it can serve to brighten several days beside, if it is first class.

Is there not a hungry ring and thirsting sometimes among us, that a lonely, routine life can not satisfy? If so, who is in fault? Some women take life the hardest way because for years it was their only way. They long ago ceased to ask for an easier way. A large class of really good, capable women wish and wish for a way out, but have not enough inventive genius to contrive a way of escape. This is probable Nature's wise fore plan to keep woman-kind from flying off, each on her own tangent, for these capable people are the best of workers when once a plan is proposed in which they can "follow directions."

What I was about to ask, is, what are some of the means used by you for keeping the social side of your natures up with the working side? How do you manage to cultivate conversation and ease of manners so that when we meet at the State Grange, at Farmers' Institutes, and at rarely-occasional dinner parties, you are not more conscious of what you can not say and do not know than of what you can and do? Even in assemblies of "lower caste" than these I have mentioned one does not always relish the discomfort of not knowing what to do with one's self. I do not intend to say that farmers' wives and daughters are always thinking themselves "sublimely ridiculous" in other people's eyes, but there have been times, as most of us have found, when we would have given anything for the ease, composure and ready reply of some ladies who have acquired these social qualifications by constant practice. We have opinions, but they lie as unmined ore, with no words at our command to express them properly. We mean well, but when a tinge of formality is expected of us, we are all at sea.

Ought these things to be? True, there are Granges, reading clubs and literary circles at work more or less directly to wear away this constraint that comes so naturally upon the social ease of farm life, but are there not other ways also? Let us use every means within reach, for, at best, the farmer's wife and daughter, in this respect,

make bricks with less straw than any other women.

I will tell you one woman's plan and hope others will give their ideas on this subject, which seems to me an important one. It was my pleasure yesterday afternoon to visit a country ladies' literary club, whose progress I have been interested in and whose meetings I have once in a while attended. For some years these ladies have carried out quite an extensive study of branches that now make a goodly number. Every two weeks they meet and review and pretty thoroughly discuss their work. In the progress of time, they, too, have progressed and no one thing is so noticeable in their advance as the deepened and broadened opinions they hold on each subject. In fact, they have run a little to the extreme in profundity. The flow of their meetings lacks the sparkle and splash a shallower bed now and then would give them.

In speaking of this feature to one of the members as we walked towards her home, she said: "Yes, we realize that, and so we have arranged to meet every other week for a purely social afternoon, to take our sewing and understand we meet for social improvement—not to get our heads together and talk about the failings of folks, but to learn how to talk concerning things. Indeed," and she laughed pleasantly, "that is our watchword—'Things not People.' We shall aim to fit ourselves so that we can give as well as grin when in the society of strangers; and, besides," this with a half-sly tone, "we expect to keep young longer, furnish up our wits and be able better to defend 'the lights and shadows of farm life,' because of a cheerier appreciation of them."

RUTH RESTLY.

How to Save Our Boys.

THE MOTHER'S COMPLAINT AND THE FATHER'S ANSWER.

M.—"Our Boy is out late nights."

F.—"Well, we must tax the saloons \$50."

M.—"Husband, I believe John drinks."

F.—"We must put up that tax to \$100."

M.—"My dear husband, our boy is being ruined."

F.—"Try 'em awhile at \$200."

M.—"O my God! my boy came home drunk."

F.—"Well, well, we must make it \$300."

M.—"Just think, William, our boy is in jail."

F.—"I'll fix those saloons. Tax 'em \$400."

M.—"My poor child is a confirmed drunkard."

F.—"Up with that tax, and make it \$500."

M.—"Our once noble boy is a wreck."

F.—"Now I will stop 'em, make it \$600."

M.—"We carried our poor boy to a drunkard's grave to-day."

F.—"Well, I declare, we must regulate this traffic, we ought to have made that tax \$1,000."

MY BROTHER:

In the name of home and Heaven, I ask you:

Can we ever save our boys by this plan?

Can we possibly be any worse off with prohibition?

Won't you vote for the Amendment for the sake of our boys, and give it a fair trial?

ILLINOIS PATRONS, at the late meeting of their State Grange, set their mark for 5,000 new members during 1887, and they are working for them, and work wins.

ADELBERT MARTIN, proprietor of a shingle mill near Blue Lake, pays his men monthly, but keeps a store at which they may buy provisions and dry goods at actual cost. Martin never has any strikes at his mill.

THE next number of the Century will contain an editorial on "Lincoln and Lowell," which alludes to some of the tributes paid to Mr. Lincoln by the leading American writers, but especially to Mr. Lowell's remarkable record on this point.

ALL are not aware of the influence which the Grange now has in public affairs. Fifty-four of the Legislators and State officers of Maine to-day are members of the Order, and many of the recommendations of the Governor's message and a large number of the bills now before the Legislature were directly inspired by the Grange.

THERE is a passage in the President's message vetoing the seed bill that should be attentively considered by those mendicants of the Grand Army that are clamoring for more government aid for the soldiers. The President says: "The lesson should be constantly enforced that, though the people support the government, the government should not support the people."

THE American Economic Association announces the publication of a valuable monograph on the "Relation of the State to Industrial Action," by Prof. Henry C. Adams, professor of Political Economy in Cornell University and the University of Michigan, to be issued March 25. Herbert Spencer's theory of the State is explained; the doctrine of laissez-faire is critically analyzed; the insufficiencies of the English School of Political Economy are pointed out, and the views of the New School explained; the principles which the author thinks should control industrial legislation are given. Price, 75 cents. Copies may be had of Richard T. Ely, Sec'y, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

Visitor's Clubbing List for
1886-87.

jan 186

Young Folks' Club.

A Nail to be Hit.

PRESIDENT MAE AND COUSINS:—Enclosed is a "hammer" on a horrid "nail" that needs pounding down, as we were asked to send them at the last Club meeting. I do not send the moral for it is so plain we can all tell what it would be.

KATE R. F.

HOW TO CUT-TAIL THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

It was in Aready.

The Council of State, made up of patriachs with gentle eyes and long beards, sat meditating on measures pertaining to the public weal.

The door was suddenly thrown open and a lad, breathless, with cheeks flushed and eyes bulging out with excitement, after several vain efforts to articulate, at length succeeded in saying, "Your Honors,—there's a mad dog—rammaging the streets!"

"Mad dog rammaging the streets!"

In a moment all was confusion. The aged counsellors sprang to their feet and stood silent with suppressed excitement. Then as with one impulse they all hastened to the front windows of the Councilium.

"There he is!" cried out one of them presently.

"Where? Where?"

"See him! Yonder by the Cross-roads at the Market!"

"Ah, yes! And, oh, horrors! how he is foaming and raging! Woe to any helpless ones that may chance to come before him."

"See by the Pantheon," cried another; "the children are just coming from morning school! They will surely be bitten by this mad beast!"

And bitten they were. One and another of them were torn by his poisonous fangs.

"Oh, this is horrible!" cried one of the venerable men at the window.

"What shall be done about it?"

"Aye, that's the practical question, what shall be done about it?"

"Let us consult the Legalia Convel-la!"

The Legalia Convel-la were the Books of Law, the accumulated wisdom of many ages.

The sages sat solemnly bending over the books. Day after day they had turned over the parchment leaves with no mentionable results. Meanwhile the original mad dog had bitten many others, and there were now scores and hundreds of raging curs, foaming at the lips, hiding at every corner and ready to spring forth upon the passers-by.

The people mourned. There was lamentation in almost every house. People were bitten and limped or were carried to their homes, where, after weeks of lingering pain, they died in awful spasms.

Still the deliberations went on at the Councilium. The aged functionaries were unwilling to do anything without the authority of law, and as yet they had been able to find nothing.

At length, as they were pouring over the Convel-la, a gleam of sudden joy lighted the face of one of them and he cried, "I have it; here it is!"

They looked up eagerly, then all bending over the book read as follows: "Be it ordained: That in case any beast shall so rage and rave as to endanger the public safety, his tail shall forthwith be cut off."

"His tail cut off!"

"Tail cut off!"

"Tail!!!"

"What good will that do? A dog don't bite with his tail."

"No, but he isn't apt to bite so hard if his tail is cut off."

"We don't believe it! We don't believe it!" cried many voices.

"Well, anyway, if we abbreviate the tails of these dogs, we shall be better able to regulate their doings."

"Why so?"

"Because there won't be so much of the dog to regulate."

"And besides we shall lend a respectable air to the whole business in this way."

"How?"

"Why after cutting off their tails, it will be evident that the law has nothing more against them. This will make rabid dogs respectable, and biting a legitimate business."

Yes, and it will increase our revenues."

"How do you make that out?"

"Why, we can levy on the people a tax of one dollar for every tail cut off."

"Enough of this nonsense. What we want to do is to get rid of this whole infernal business. A dog with his tail cut off is just as hard to regulate as a dog with a tail a yard long. And it is no economy to increase the public revenues by a drain on the people's purse. Neither do you gain anything by making mad dogs respectable and a bad business legitimate. What we want to do is simply and solely to stop this rabid biting in the streets." (It was a prohibitionist who spoke—a fanatic.)

Then there was silence for a long while. The Regulators could find nothing to say.

"I have it, I have it!" at length cried one.

"Where?"

Then he read:

"Be it ordained: That in case any beast shall so rage and rave as to endanger the public safety, his tail shall be cut off."

"Why, that's precisely what we had before."

"Yes, but it is enough; it will suppress the evil; no need of our exceeding the law."

"How do you make that out?"

"Why, don't you see, the law doesn't

say where the dog's tail shall be cut off!"

"Well?"

"Suppose we cut it off just back of his ears."

This was approved.

The thing was done.

The dogs' tails were cut off just back of their ears. This was curtailing the business with a vengeance.

It was prohibition. There was no regulation about it.

But this curtailing proved most effective. The mad-dog business was done forever.

Everybody said, "Why didn't we think of it before?"

And when the old counsellor died who had conceived the happy thought they built a monument over him bearing this inscription:

TO THE MEMORY

OF

TEETOTALIS PROHIBITUS,

THE SAGE,

Who originated the maxim, "The proper place to curtail a bad business is just back of its ears."

Games and Conundrums.

(Sent by Rob Roy, who hopes others will send their games and conundrums to the Club for exchange.)

When is a boat like a heap of snow?—When it is adrift.

When is a doctor most annoyed?—When he is out of patients.

What is that which shows others what it cannot see itself?—A mirror.

Why is the letter G like the sun?—Because it is the center of light.

What word may be pronounced quicker by adding a syllable to it?—Quick.

How far would the names of the Presidents of the U. S. reach if placed side by side?—From Washington to Cleveland.

A game called a Thousand Questions is not only interesting, but gives scope for quick and systematic thought and incites to study. From eight to twelve people are a desirable number for this game. Two of the company act as leaders, choosing alternately members of the company until it is divided, when one leader takes his half into another room. Now one person is sent from each room into a hall or other convenient apartment, where they select some object which they have seen, heard or read of, but about which they need to be well posted. The delegate from room A goes into room B, and the other into room A, each to answer yes, or no, or I don't know, to all questions asked. The company first learning the object selected make known their success by clapping their hands. The leader of the fortunate company may choose into his room a member of the other company. This may be repeated until the company is again in one room.—N. Y. Tribune.

Tobacco Literature.

(Sent by Cornelia.)

The tobacco dealers of Detroit are reported to be suspending trade until the result of the amendment vote is known. They depend largely on the saloon trade, and the saloons get trade in cigars from the habit among men of "treating."

Tobacco users have one thing in their favor—Cannibals will not eat them.

The President of the University of Wisconsin says, "Devotion to the tobacco habit harms the prospects of a young man even among employers who themselves make use of the weed."

DEAR COUSINS:—You have heard the report of the Executive Committee. What will you do with it? The report is certainly a good one and very encouraging. We sincerely hope it may be much better next time, that is, at the end of the next quarter.

Miss Secretary have we any proposals for membership? And "Grace," we trust you will not think us intruding upon your duties should we make some suggestions in reference to future work and the success of the Club. Have we not some voluntary reporter in the Club? Will not some one take notes on the weather and report at the close of each month? Count the sunny days, stormy ones, increase of warmth, etc.

Will not another mark the changes in vegetable life for a month and then report to the Club?

Have we not a member who will report upon the appearance of insects during each month? That is, give the names and habits of some of the bugs, beetles, flies, etc., that begin life in the different months.

It would be very interesting and instructive should some one in the northern part of the State write a description of the flora of that part. Another in the west or lake shore part might do the same.

Very truly yours,

COUSIN MAE.

The Visitor nine months for 30 cents.

Obituaries.

GILLUM—

Grove Grange is once more called to mourn the loss of one of its members, Sister J. Gillum, has been removed from our midst by the ruthless hand of death, after an illness of four days, and as we gaze upon our charter in its dress of mourning we deeply feel that there is one more vacant seat in our Grange, another home is robbed of a kind companion and loving mother and many friends are left to mourn her loss.

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from the scenes of her

earthly labors our worthy sister, therefore

Resolved, That as brothers and sisters our heartfelt sympathies be extended to our brother who has met with this great loss, and we can only commend him to the great Master above who doeth all things well, believing as we do that trust in God is the only safe refuge in time of affliction.

Resolved, That as a Grange we sincerely mourn the loss of a respected sister and true Patron.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and our charter be draped for 60 days COM.

BAIRD—

Died, at his home near Colon, Feb. 10, 1887, Bro. Alex Baird.

WHEREAS, It has pleased our great Master to remove from our midst our faithful brother, by which event his family have been deprived of a kind husband, an indulgent father, and this Grange of a faithful member, therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend to the afflicted family our warmest sympathies and commend them to him who has said, "I will not leave you comfortless."

Resolved, That we will cherish his memory, emulate his virtues, and consecrate ourselves anew to the work which he has left unfinished.

Resolved, That our charter be draped the usual period of time, that these resolutions be published in the GRANGE VISITOR, and a copy of the same be presented to the afflicted family. COM.

Colon Grange, No. 215.

ESTES—

Colon Grange is once more called upon to mourn the loss of one of its members. Bro. Estes, who has been a true member of the Grange, departed this life Feb. 1, 1887, being 63 years and 11 months of age. As we gaze upon our hall in its dress of mourning we deeply feel that there is one more vacant seat in our Grange; another home has been robbed of a priceless treasure, and many friends left to mourn their loss.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Great Master to remove from the scene of his earthly labors our esteemed and worthy brother; therefore,

Resolved, That as brothers and sisters our heartfelt sympathies be extended to the family that has met with this great loss, and we can only commend them to the Great Master, believing as we do that trust in God is the only safe refuge in the hour of affliction.

Resolved, That as a Grange we deeply and sincerely mourn the death of a most worthy brother and friend, and hereby record our high estimation of his character as a brother and Patron.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Bro. Estes and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and that our hall be draped in mourning for the space of 30 days. COM.

RICHARDS—

Hillsdale Pomona Grange No. 10 lost one whom we all learned to love, in Mrs. Priscilla C. Richards, who died at her son's home in Jonesville, Feb. 23, 1887, of apoplexy, without a moment's warning. She was a Christian lady, a faithful Patron, and a loving wife and mother, and, as her pastor said, we could always rely upon her word.

Resolved, That while we grieve for our departed sister and feel our loss, we cherish her memory, and extend the heartfelt sympathy of this Grange to her afflicted husband and family. COM.

JENKS—

Daily we are reminded that death is around us, as one after another of our members silently pass away, leaving this earthly grange for a position in the great grange above. Again we are called to mourn the loss of one of our worthy members, Sister Julia Jenks, who died at her home near Birmingham, Oct. 19, 1886, aged 42 years. It is therefore

Resolved, That in the death of Sister Jenks Oakland Pomona Grange mourns the loss of a worthy member and an earnest supporter of the cause; she was one highly esteemed in the community where she lived, and was most loved and respected where she was best known.

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family in this their hour of sorrow; we commend them to the Great Master above, who is too wise to err and too kind to be untrue. COM.

PATRIOTISM, religion and our homes are waiting on your vote for prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Here you have it!



BEST AND CHEAPEST

general purpose

Chilled Plow

—and—

PATENT NON-CLOGGING JOINTER

on the market.

Hoping you will send for Catalogue and Price List and see what Brother Grangers say who have used them, we remain,

Respectfully yours,

D. WOODWARD

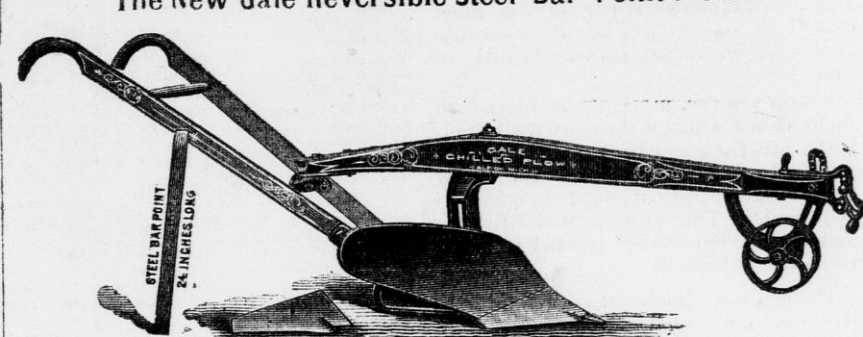
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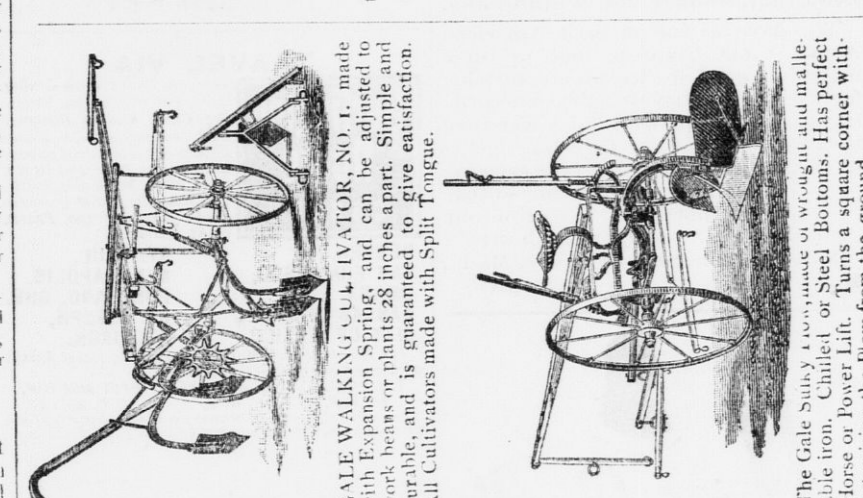
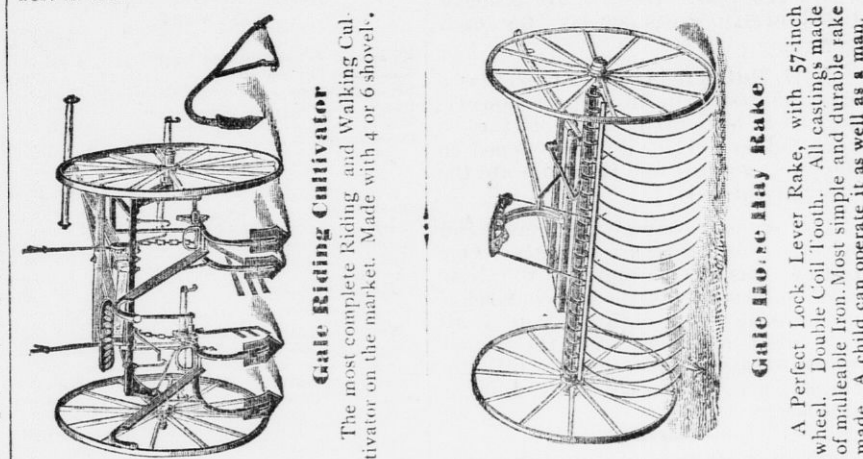
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The New Gale Reversible Steel-Bar-Point Plows.



These plows are made with a Reversible Steel-Bar Point 24 inches long. The Point is fastened in base of Plow by a 3/4 inch Steel-Set Screw in a Steel Nut. The Point can be adjusted to any condition of the soil by increasing or decreasing the length of Point, and remains same amount of section at all times. When point is worn off or beveled on under side it can be reversed, thus making it a positive self-sharpening Point. This is the greatest invention of the age. We also manufacture the ordinary style of Chilled Plow, both right and left hand, with Straight and Slanting Landsides. The Beams and Handles to all Plows made adjustable. Gale Patent Standard Jointers and Knee Coulters conceded to be the best in use.



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Made of White Oak, without Flints or Dashers. NINE SIZES for Dairy and Factory.

Best line of Dairy and Factory Goods made, MOSELEY & STODDARD MFG. CO., POULTNEY, VT.

Agents Wanted.

1887. GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE 1887.

You Will Not Find in my catalogue "store" seed, venerable with years, and greater travellers than Stanley; seed saved from the odds and ends of various crops; seed raised from unsalable onions, headless cabbages, sprouting carrots, or refuse beets. (I am always happy to show my seed stock.) But if you want Northern seed, honestly raised, home grown (not more than two other catalogues contain as many), seed warranted (see the cover), valuable novelties, some of which are to be found in no other, send for my vegetable and flower-seed catalogue for 1887, FREE to all. It contains 60 varieties of Beans, 43 of Peas, 42 of Cabbages, 53 of Melons, 44 of Corn, etc., etc., besides a large and choice variety of flower seed. JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marblehead, Mass.

NURSERY STOCK For 75,000 peach trees one year from bud, 3 to 5 feet high. 40,000 Mann, Penn-akee, Walbridge, Ben Davis, Grimes' Golden, Wayne, and other hardy varieties of apple, all of the very best quality, and healthy. Satisfaction guaranteed. Address

STEPHEN HOYT'S SONS, Mar. 14

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