

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

Vol. XVI No. 6

PAW PAW, MICH., MARCH 15, 1891.

Whole Number 366

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY.
(1st and 15th of each month.)

AT THE OFFICE OF THE TRUE NORTHERNER, PAW PAW, MICH.

EDITOR'S address, Paw Paw, Mich., to whom all exchanges, communications, advertising business, and subscriptions should be sent.
TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months. Subscriptions payable in advance, and discontinued at expiration, unless renewed.

A. C. GLIDDEN, Editor,
PAW PAW, MICH.

"Co' Bossie."

While soft the summer's twilight falls,
Ere yet the western light is hid,
Or in near trees the hyla calls,
Or starts its twit the katydid,
The slow-paced heavy-shouldered kine
Move homeward at the milkmaid's cry,
By devious paths in crooked line.
Brindle and Spot,
Dimple and Dot,
And petted silk-coated Floss,
Each knows the voice that calls and why:
"Co' boss! Co' bossie! Co' boss!"

How memory takes us back to homes,
Some alien but to memory now,
When soft the summer evenings come,
And far we hear the looting cow
And see the herd wind down the lane,
Responsive to the well-known call
That brings it to be milked again.
Brindle and Spot,
Dimple and Dot,
And venturesome roaming frisky Floss
Snatching the wheat ears o'er the wall:
"Co' boss! Co' bossie! Co' boss!"

Perhaps we knew the milkmaid then,
One sweet as God makes farmers' girls;
With gentle, helpful ways, and ken
Of only thoughts as pure as pearls,
Her gift and smile make water wine;
Her handiwork changed milk to gold;
And ne'er was music more divine:
Brindle and Spot,
Dimple and Dot,

And fawn-eyed, free, familiar Floss,
Than was her call to you, of old,
"Co' boss! Co' bossie! Co' boss!"

Loved rural scenes of farm and fields
Which retrospective thought recalls,
The different present to you yields
Its twilight of memorial halls;
Till half in dream, and half in truth,
The simpler life the country lives
Restores at times our vanished youth.
Brindle and Spot,
Dimple and Dot,

Come home at milking time with Floss,
And some lost voice the old call gives:
"Co' boss! Co' bossie! Co' boss!"

—The Cosmopolitan.

Grumbling.

Read before the Van Buren County Farmers' Institute, by I. P. Bates.

It is assumed that every one can write the best on the subject with which he is most conversant, and so this theme fell naturally to my lot, and if we will examine it we will find it a tree with two main branches. On one of these grows that kind of grumbling that emanates from a realization of the difference between the ideal and the real. With the natural eye we see things as they are, but by intuition we see them as they ought to be, and this margin is so great that it creates a feeling of dissatisfaction in the mind, and this vents itself in grumbling. This grumbling is legitimate, useful, if it does not spend itself in mere grumbling, but seeks to reduce this margin by trying to bring the real continually nearer the ideal. That this is being done, a stroll through the corridors of the Patent office will convince any one, for against nine-tenths of all the patents issued is written the word "improvement." The same is true of our laws. "Amendment" heads by far the greater part of them.

How to improve farms, stock, buildings, roads, etc., is a constant inquiry among farmers. Perhaps not as much as it ought to be, yet something is being done in that direction continually.

That this source of grumbling and chance for improvement will ever cease we doubt, for we believe the mind is more capable of expansion than any of the mate-

rial things of creation, and so our ideals will always be in advance of the real. Possibly some things may, in time, reach the limit of improvement, but there will be enough left so that "Onward" may ever be our motto.

The other branch of this tree bears a very different kind of fruit. To describe the fruit before naming it, it looks about like this: "Somebody has done more for somebody else than he has for me." Its name is "Jealousy." Its expressions are: The laws are such that the "rich are made richer and the poor poorer"; "Railroad men, merchants, manufacturers, etc., become millionaires, farmers do not"; "Bankers, teachers and others work from six to ten hours a day, we have to work from twelve to sixteen." These are but specimens, but back of it all is the thought expressed or implied that the laws of the land are blamable for all this difference. It was said that congress ought to do something to aid the people, and so they stopped up that Louisiana lottery hole, into which the people were throwing several millions every year, and yet the people grumble.

They asked for more money to be put in circulation, and congress replied by sending into every nook and corner of the nation an amount equalling about two dollars per capita of our entire population, in the form of pensions, and yet they grumble.

They said the railroads were making too much, and so the Inter-State Commerce commission was established. Still they grumble.

Coming to our state matters we find these same things. The people said our railroad men were getting rich too fast, and so the legislature passed the graded fare law, and the court sustained it, but still they are grumbling. Perhaps the thought is that this reduction is all in favor of the rich, just as a man said it was when they reduced the postage, for, said he, "It is the rich that write the letters." So in this, perhaps, it is the rich that ride on the cars.

As the railroads have been, perhaps, the leading cause of grumbling, let us examine a little closer in comparison with farming.

Our farms in Michigan average just a little less than 100 acres each, and it takes about three hands to work one.

In the U. S. there are 160,000 miles of railroad and 1,000,000 operatives. Dividing these up as our farms are divided, it would bring them into half mile sections with three hands to each section. Thus dividing the rolling stock and machinery of each half mile would about equal the walking stock and machinery of a farm. We grumble because some men get rich, but if each half mile section of railroad were run independently, as we run our farms, it would not be a week before a thousand petitions would go in for the return of Vanderbilt and Jay Gould to the head again.

It is simply impossible to run railroads as farms are run, and if it were possible to divide the profits among the million operatives, there would be no more millionaires than among farmers. Government can regulate this matter to some extent, and it is so doing, but the general principle that a few will control the roads and get the lion's share of

the profits cannot be changed. Then why grumble?

But there are no millionaire farmers. Do we wish there were? Let us see. Our county is assessed at \$14,000,000. Drop two millions for village property and we have twelve of farm property. If we had millionaires here twelve men would own the county, or each a township and a half. Would you be willing to give up your farm for the chance of drawing cuts to see if you might be one of the twelve? Honestly do we believe that would be a better state of affairs than it is to have the county divided up among some four thousand independent land owners? I do not. Instead of grumbling it should be a cause of rejoicing that we have an occupation that cannot well be monopolized by the few to the detriment of the many.

Another principal source of complaint is our taxes, especially our state taxes. Our state came to us this year and said for every thousand dollars you have we want about a dollar and a half to run the state, but for every child of school age you have we will pay you back the like amount. It used to be said that one kind of children were worth but \$500, but the state put them all at the highest figure, \$1000. It chances in this county that we have but 9245 school children, and the state valued us at \$14,000,000, so it leaves a balance in favor of the state. About this difference the people are grumbling, but I have been unable to determine whether it is because we have too much property, or whether they think the state in some way to blame because we have no more children.

On this state taxation nearly every state enterprise has come under the ban of criticism. We will mention but one, the militia. That costs about \$65,000 a year, \$42,000 of which was for state encampment. This may have been more than should have been paid, but is not the militia our insurance against, and our hope in case of war? If each of our northern states had put a million of dollars into men and munitions of war in the ten years preceding the rebellion there would have been none. Foreign fire insurance companies pay into the treasury of this state over \$100,000 at the rate of three per cent on each premium, besides all our state companies, and yet we do not wish to burn out; so if our militia will prevent war or repel invasion, let us have it, even though it does cost something.

Turning now from this leading branch let us look at some of the side branches, merchants, manufacturers, etc. Farmers are continually grumbling because these have so much better times than we do. The reason we think this is because we only see the front side of any other business, and so form but a partial judgment. To illustrate: A few years ago a man who stands high as an educator in this state crossed the ocean, taking with him a son of just the right age to desire to see all there was to be seen, and in his surveys on ship board he strolled into the cook room, but soon came back to his father and said that it was the nastiest place he ever saw. His father replied that if he wished to enjoy his dinner he had better keep out of the kitchen. So we say to our village friends, if you wish to enjoy farming just ride along the

highway when the crops are at their best, and you will enjoy it, but to hold the plow among the stumps and stones and care for the stock amid the storms of winter, is not as enjoyable. The same thing is true on the other hand. We can enjoy store-keeping as long as we stay in front of the counter and look at the nicely arranged goods; but let us get on the back side where we can see and feel the shop-worn goods, the bad debts, the leakage and breakage, the danger from fire and thieves, and especially the changes in fashions and fancies that may leave us at any time with a lot of old stuff on our hands, and it looks altogether different.

Again, our ideas of the per cent made by merchants are often as crude as was the old lady's about the profit of the farmer. She kept a grocery, and a man wished to trade her potatoes for goods. She said she could not afford it, as he was making too much profit. "You," she says, "will plant a bushel of potatoes and perhaps will get three or four, while we never make over 25 per cent on our goods."

A manufacturer may get a large amount of goods on hand, when a new design may block his sales completely, but farm produce is nearly always salable at a fair price.

Then again, farm mortgages have been brought forward as proof positive that we would soon all be sold out to the money sharks, and be reduced to a state of vassalage.

There are two or three things in this connection worth considering: 1st. Is it not true that three fourths of our property has been made while we were in debt? Is it not also true that there are more men poor to-day because they did not go in debt for a farm and dig out than are poor because they have run in debt and failed? Is it not true that there is less indebtedness among farmers than among any other class of business men in the United States, and also less failures? Look over the failures reported for the past year and find what proportion of them are farmers. You will be surprised at the smallness of the per cent. Much of the fabulous wealth is simply speculative and will not bear a crucial test. When Millionaire Flood's wealth was placed in the hands of administrators it shrunk 75 per cent from its lowest estimate. Would our farms do that? We may not make as great gains as some others, neither are we in danger of suffering as great losses. Farming has its drawbacks; it has also its compensations. If we cannot get as rich as some, yet we are not as poor as others.

If we do have to work more hours, we are not subject to the caprice and whims of some man or corporation, as are most of the day laborers on railroads and in the manufactories.

All things considered, do we not stand up to the average in physical, mental, moral and financial circumstances in life? If so, why grumble? Instead of complaining because others water their stock so much, let us water and feed our own stock more. Instead of asking government to loan us money at two per cent, let us make seven per cent on our farms, and then what we have will be our own, not the nation's. Instead of asking the government to build elevators for us to

store wheat in for mice to eat, let us sell when it brings a fair price, and avoid the ten per cent shrinkage that each year would bring.

Finally, let us climb down out of this branch of the tree of Grumble and up into the other one, so while we grumble we can be improving our condition by cutting off such luxuries as tobacco and cigars; by adding on the best knowledge obtainable from our associations with each other and the press; by studying the soil, crops, markets, and everything connected with our business; and especially instead of asking somebody else to furnish us money to pay our debts, when we get money of our own let us apply it on our indebtedness, rather than trying the luxury of carrying it in our pockets until it has all leaked out in dribbles, and we know not when it went. If we do this our mortgages will grow beautifully less until they vanish altogether; our farms and stock will show the hand of a master workman; our children will feel that the business of their father is not only honorable but profitable, and will cling to the old farm with all its hallowed associations, while grumbling, gambling in stocks and kindred vices will be abandoned to those who do not know what honest contentment means.

CHARLOTTE, Mich., March 9. ED. VISITOR: I have read with some interest the article in your issue of March 1st from the pen of D. E. McClure, Sec'y Oceana county schools. It is astonishing to what extent our views upon most subjects are warped by selfishness.

Mr. McClure advocates certain appendages to our public schools because, they furnish him his bread and butter. I oppose them because they heap upon me excessive and unnecessary taxation. I find no fault with, but fully concur in his views of excessive illiteracy and ignorance, and frankly admit that of the two evils illiteracy is more to be feared than "high school graduates." What does his "free text book" theory mean? It means that I, after being heavily taxed to build school houses, furnish fuel and all the paraphernalia of a modern school room, including teacher's pay to educate Peter Smith's children, must still be taxed for their books which, costing them nothing, would soon have to be replaced with new ones. Perhaps Mr. McClure would go still further and tax me for their wearing apparel. To the states furnishing these books at cost, and thus establish a state uniformity, no one would object.

This county supervision that he speaks of is well calculated to provoke laughter. Supervision by whom? A person of whom the law as it now stands requires no qualifications whatever. He may be as illiterate as a jackass, but if he can secure two out of three votes there is no law in Michigan that can prevent him from summoning the teachers of his county before him to be examined.

Four years ago the people of Michigan secured the repeal of the useless office of County School Superintendent, thus saving to the schools of the state over \$60,000 to find themselves confronted by this Board of School Examiners more expensive and less useful to our schools. JAMES CROSS.

In the Nest.

Gather them close to your loving heart— Cradle them on your breast; They will soon enough leave your brooding care...

Does Farming Pay?

[The following paper, read before the Farmers' Institute at Centreville, was solicited for and sent to the Grange Visitor for publication.]

It is the universal talk on the street, at the market, and whenever farmers meet, that farming does not pay; our vocation has ceased to be profitable; we are losing our farms by mortgages and shrinkage in values.

Now, brother farmers let us be consistent. There is one blessing we enjoy: a fair degree of intelligence. Let us exercise it and come out of self and mingle with the sixty-two millions of our fellow citizens that make up our commonwealth, and we will be better able to see how we stand as farmers and producers.

Now you ask me to tell you how to make farming pay. Let us cast our eyes around this room and our thoughts out among our brother farmers who have attained to or past the meridian of life.

Of course we have had adverse seasons, but we must not throw away the pail when the cow kicks. I have known hundreds of farmers who have failed and lost their all—some from lack of prudence to manage the patrimony given them, some by devoting their time to some other calling and starving the farm.

Now, brother, if you are out of debt, you have \$767 income from your hundred-acre farm to add to your possessions, to send your sons or daughters to college, or to loan to your brother farmers at the same rates of interest charged by the banks.

self must either hold or drive."

Providence may have provided a place for a lazy man, but I am satisfied it is not on the farm. It is pre-eminently in that calling where a man shall earn his bread by the sweat of his face.

Farmers, this is pre-eminently the land of opportunities, and the young man who grasps the opportunities gets to the front.

All do not succeed who attempt the tillage of the soil; all do not make it pay. All never did, all never will. I have known farmers to find fault with the times when wheat was three dollars per bushel.

Well, I think I hear some one ask the question, "Does it pay anybody?"

Now this opens up the subject. I answer most assuredly it does. Well, what is pay? It is a fair remuneration for your labor, enterprise and investment at its present market value.

This being a practical subject, let us look at it in a practical way and discuss it from a practical standpoint. Our fair farms seem to have got down to a value of about fifty dollars per acre, making a hundred acre farm represent a value approximating \$5,000, with tools and stock at \$1,500; total, \$6,500.

The account would run thus: Farm, 100 acres, \$5,000; Tools and stock, 1,500; Total investment, \$6,500; Interest on same at 6 per cent, \$390; Labor, 250; Taxes, tear and wear, 150; Outlay on buildings and fences, 150; Total annual expenses, \$940; Income: Wheat, 600 bu., A grade, \$540; Corn, oats, hay and straw should be fed, 85; Wool from 50 sheep, 150 lbs., 6¢ 25¢, 100; Sheep and cattle sold annually, 100; Hogs and pork, 100; Butter and eggs sold, 50; Horses or colts, milch cows, potatoes, etc., 100; Total produce sold, \$977; To which should be added what you have for family use, viz.: House rent, 75; Fire wood, 50; Butter and eggs, 50; Meat, lard, e c, 50; Potatoes and other vegetables, 40; Flour, 50; Fruit and other farm products, 25; Total annual receipts, \$1317; Leaving a balance over expenditures and interest on capital of, 377; Net gain added to interest, 390; Total, nearly 12 per cent on capital, \$ 767.

Now, brother, if you are out of debt, you have \$767 income from your hundred-acre farm to add to your possessions, to send your sons or daughters to college, or to loan to your brother farmers at the same rates of interest charged by the banks.

concede its fairness. Some years farms of the aforesaid size and value produce much more, but my estimate is based on the handling of the farm, that its fertility may be increased rather than diminished.

Methinks I hear some one say, "You are guessing too much." Well, to meet that objection, I say that you have my experience and belief. I could give you the figures of the annual production of my own farm, 212 acres, for I keep an accurate annual itemized account.

While I am free to admit that no fortunes can be made at farming, yet I do believe, waiving bad seasons and special calamities, the farmer who is up and doing, with an eye single to success, stops growling, applies himself closely to business, with a proper combination of brain and muscle, will be well paid for his labor and outlay.

Twenty-five years ago the bulk of our wheat was raised east of the Mississippi river. Then our farmers made a specialty of raising that cereal, and it was a good business. But the restlessness which characterizes the American people prompted them westward.

Again, the East Indies, South America, Australia, and even the isles of the sea, have so increased their products as enables them to throw into the lap of consumption their unwonted millions of bushels, when the granaries of the world are already filled to bursting.

Now, brother farmers, look at all these things. Stop quarreling with bankers, monopolists and legislators, who are powerless to change these conditions. We have a soil and climate adapted to as many productions for the use of man as can be found in the world. Let us utilize it. I can see no reason for despair because wheat has ceased to be our only source of dependence.

A few facts worthy of our notice: The year 1889 reports only eight million bushels more wheat raised than in the year 1882, and yet, with increase in yield, the farmers will receive one hundred and eighty million of dollars less for their wheat crop. We had five hundred million more bushels of corn in 1889 than in 1882, yet our pocket-books were stuffed seventy-eight million dollars the most with the light crop, showing conclusively that it is not in years of abundant harvests that farmers make it pay best.

I think our granger friends understood this question of political economy in the interest of farmers when they sent their Master, Mr. Brigham, of Delta, Ohio, to Washington last winter, to confer with the committee on Ways and Means, who were then preparing schedules of protection; and with great ability and good sense he championed their interests, and that committee, composed of men willing to listen to the voice of wisdom and the demands of thousands of producers, granted the protection

prayed for and which will prove a great blessing.

Think of the imports into these United States in 1889 of agricultural products to the value of three hundred and nineteen million dollars, with all our varied soil and climate, adapted to the production of all our needs.

Farmers, do you see any use in paying Canada eight millions of dollars for barley, as we did in 1889? I think, with the right kind of protection, we can raise our own barley, supply our own markets, and distribute all these millions among our own people. We paid, in 1889, \$20,000,000 for fibres, hemp, jute and flax. Now, it has been demonstrated that all these can be raised under the protecting folds of the stars and stripes. Let us stop paying \$20,000,000 to foreign governments for fibres to bind our cheap wheat.

Taxes have grown to be quite a burden to our farmers. The specific tax collected by the state is very insufficient compared with the real value of the property represented. Nearly all the property in the state which pays specific taxes has largely increased in actual value, while the tax roll remains the same.

It is conceded that the farmers of our state are more or less afflicted with mortgages on their farms, and I can conceive of no honest way to get rid of them only by paying them. But to continue to ask the holders of these mortgages to pay taxes on them (it being clearly property they do not own) has always seemed to me an outrage and at variance with all ideas of equity and justice, and certainly a hindrance and impediment in the way of canceling the debt.

Another hopeful sign in the interest of producers is the manner in which the various state legislatures are crushing trusts and combines. I hope the good work will continue, and that the Federal government will frame a law that will forever prevent the combination of capital for the purpose of extorting exorbitant prices from the people.

The whisky trust has already taken alarm. Ohio is no longer an asylum for them to operate with their millions of capital. They remove to Illinois as a corporate body. The great sugar trust has taken alarm in the state of New York, and seeks in Vermont a rendezvous. I would lay an embargo on no man's business. I would encourage legitimate business enterprises everywhere, but let every man and every company put their own wares on the market, and let there be a healthy competition, that we may all stand alike before the law.

Brother farmers, know your soil; know your business. Be vigilant in season and out of season; be loyal; be generous in support of the truth; discountenance all visionary schemes and sophistries. Let the gospel of peace and good will among men receive your generous support. Be hospitable at home, generous when abroad; be a kind neighbor and true friend, and believe me, your larder will never run empty nor your wants above your ability to supply. Your life will be a success and your memory green in the minds of those you have blessed and who emulate your virtues. ALEXANDER SHARP.

Seeding to Clover.

How can we best secure a good catch of clover, is a question that is claiming the attention of more farmers to-day than how to raise a large crop of wheat. Some may think I am somewhat disqualified from giving advice on this subject when they are informed that I plowed two stubble fields, one in 1887 and one in 1888, on account of failure in seeding; but experience is the best of teachers, and perhaps I can point out my mistake as well as my ultimate success, writes Abner Wilson to the Ohio Farmer. Some three or four years ago I made up my mind that timothy was not the thing on my land, and consequently have sowed but very lit-

tle of it since. I have been seeding all ground sowed to wheat the past four years, but two years of severe drouth killed the young clover after it was four to six inches high. I will give my mode of seeding on my fields, which are nearly free from stone and quite sandy. In the spring of 1887 I seeded my west front and back fields, sowing six quarts of clover seed to the acre. About the first of April I dragged these over with a smoothing harrow and rolled them down. The west front field was corn stubble, and the other was stubble plowed early. On the corn stubble I hitched the harrow on behind the roller, and it did good work. The seed all came up thick and nice and grew about four inches high, when, along about haying and harvest, the drouth commenced, and by the time I cut my wheat the ground was one mat of dead clover, leaves and stems. I lived in hopes that the roots were yet alive, but I was doomed to disappointment. I am safe in saying that in the front field, which was a beautiful stand, not 500 plants remained alive. The back field was some better. I could see clover in patches, and about the first of August, not wishing to plow it up, I went over it with half clover and half timothy, four quarts to the acre, with a wheat drill, letting the hoes dig in the ground. Some of the clover and most of the timothy came up, and this year I cut fair hay from it. The other field I plowed up in the fall, planted to cabbage last year 15 acres, and had a very good crop. Last spring I decided to try seeding without any other crop, but a good many shook their heads. Some advised me to sow oats, and others barley, to shade the crop, but having experimented in a small way with clover seed alone, I went at it. I cultivated with small teeth on a Planet cultivator, going twice in each row of cabbage stumps. I then sowed seven quarts of clover and one quart of timothy to the acre, with a wheelbarrow seeder, and dragged with smoothing harrow and rolled down. Finished April 12th, and for six weeks no rain fell; but the seed was in the ground from one to two inches deep and came up just beautiful, and it did me good to walk over a field once more with grass so thick you could not step without treading on it. Wet weather now came on, and all the weeds whose seeds had lain dormant for two years came up, and my clover field was one of the worst looking patches of weeds you ever saw. But about the first of August, with a new Wood mower, I cut the field over, setting the knives so as to cut four or five inches high, and got 17 loads of fair sheep hay. Since then the young second growth has stood about still, owing to the drouth, but the plants are all alive and bid fair to get good top to stand the winter. I have not turned any stock on this field, nor shall I do so, and hope to cut two and-a-half or three tons to the acre next year, as well as get a good crop of clover seed.

Circumstances alter cases, and all lands cannot be treated in the same way, but for heavy land I would advise sowing early. Have your seed all ready, and when the ground cracks, or honeycombs, get up long before breakfast and all hands sow clover, and the freezing and thawing will cover it. No fear of hurting by freezing; clover and timothy are hardy plants.

In conclusion let me say: Be sure to sow enough seed. Six quarts of clover and four of timothy are none too much for heavy land; and for sand, eight quarts of clover and two quarts of timothy. Be sure the seeds are covered, either by freezing and thawing, beating rains, or by dragging and rolling. Keep all stock off entirely. If necessary, mow after harvest to kill the weeds, and let this lie on the ground for a mulch. Then you will have a field of clover so thick that the ground will be shaded all the time, allowing the nitrogen in the air to be entrapped and held for future plant food, and so thick the May beetle cannot get down to lay her eggs, and our neighbors will say, "That man has good luck getting clover seed to catch."—Farmers' Review.

PATRON'S PAINT WORKS. MANUFACTURER OF INGERSOLL'S LIQUID RUBBER PAINT. Ten Thousand P. of H. and Farmers testify they are best and Cheapest. WRITE US AND SAVE MONEY.

Cheap, Indestructible Paints for BARNs and OUTBUILDINGS.

Beautiful Sample Color Cards and Book of Instructions—FREE.

OFFICE: 243 Plymouth St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

We Guarantee Satisfaction.

He Worried About It.

"The sun's heat will give out in ten million years more." And he worried about it. "It will sure give out then, if it doesn't before." And he worried about it; "And he worried about it; It would surely give out, so the scientists said In all scientific books that he read, And the whole mighty universe then would be dead, And he worried about it. "And some day the earth will fall into the sun." And he worried about it. "Just as sure, and as straight, as if shot from a gun." And he worried about it; "When strong gravitation unbuckles her straps Just picture," he said, "what a fearful collapse! It will come in a few million ages, perhaps." And he worried about it. "The earth will become much too small for the race." And he worried about it; "When we pay thirty dollars an inch for pure space." And he worried about it; "The earth will be crowded so much, without doubt, That there'll be no room for one's tongue to stick out." And he worried about it. "The Gulf Stream will curve and New England grow torrid." And he worried about it; "Than was ever the climate of southernmost Florida." And he worried about it; "The ice crop will be knocked into small smithereens." And crocodiles block up our mowing machines, And we'll lose our fine crops of potatoes and beans." And he worried about it. "And in less than ten thousand years, there's no doubt," And he worried about it; "Our supply of lumber and coal will give out." And he worried about it; "Just then the Ice Age will return cold and raw, Frozen men will stand stiff with arms stretched in awe, As if vainly beseeching a general thaw." And he worried about it; His wife took in washing (a dollar a day), He didn't worry about it; His daughter sewed shirts the rude grocer to pay, He didn't worry about it; While his wife beat her tireless rub a dub dub, On the washboard drum in her old wooden tub, He just sat by the stove and just let her rub, He didn't worry about it. —Yankee Blade.

Farmer Jones.

ED. VISITOR—All of the VISITOR readers know the subject of this sketch, as he lives right in their midst, and is, in fact, next door neighbor to a great many of the farmer subscribers who will read of, and yet fail to profit by, his experience, his successes and his failures, and yet they are well worthy of careful consideration by all hard-working sons of toil who are trying, under adverse circumstances to make a living from their farm, large or small, and pay the interest on the mortgage that covers the acres like a blanket, and needs continual patching to keep it good.

Those who follow the trials and tribulations of Farmer Jones can profit by his successes, and be warned in time to avoid the pitfalls into which he stumbled while blindly plodding along in the dark. What is example good for, if not that others may profit by it? A careful habit of noting how others work and succeed or fail, is of untold value to all who wish to make a success of life. The man who plods onward doggedly determined to stick to the old ways, and takes no interest in the doings of his brother farmers, has no chance in these days of close competition. It is the wide awake, enterprising, progressive man who will succeed every time, and he it is who will "make farming pay," notwithstanding the croakers who "don't believe in new-fangled notions."

A. drains a piece of low ground where the water stands after every heavy rain, and which usually produces about one-fourth of a crop. B., who joins him on the right, notes the result and goes and does likewise, and like A. finds it a paying investment. C., who joins A. on the left, and has several acres that, underdrained, would be the most productive on his farm, can't afford to spend money to drain his land properly, so plods on and makes a shining failure of farming. Do A. and B.? Ask them, and they will tell you that the increased productiveness of the drained land paid the cost of draining the first year. Ask them, too, if farming pays and they will tell you "yes" emphatically. And it

does pay, but it pays the men who make it pay by their intelligent foresight and forethought. It pays to think—no matter if your philosophy be in clouds or clay. The better scholar a man is the better farmer he can be, but the people are only just awakening to the fact. Farming furnishes a wider scope for the different branches of learning than any other occupation, and each can contribute to the final success. Chemistry, surveying, book-keeping, law, and even theology, for it will be found that the man who has to submit to the deprivations of his careless neighbor's stock has need of all the grace he can acquire.

But this isn't telling of Farmer Jones, the reader says. Very true; so I'll switch back and start again. Some will want a description of him. Well, he's a very ordinary sort of man, about such as you meet every day, and his family is about like the ordinary farmer's family, but in regard to the family and farm, that must be left for another time.

When Jones began farming 25 years ago, he had more faith in hard work and lots of it than he did in "book learnin'"; but time changes all things, and Farmer Jones has learned that he doesn't know everything yet, and is now positive wisdom won't die with him. When a man gets to that point he is in a hopeful state, and hence we will not despair of the ultimate success of Farmer Jones, for when a man finds out how much he don't know he is just ready to begin to learn. How many of our readers are in that state? A. L.

EATON RAPIDS.

To Farmers' Boys.

Whatever may be your hopes for the future, whatever may be your plans, do the work nearest to you thoroughly and well. It will not injure your future prosperity. On the contrary, it will put into your hand the key to success in any calling for which nature has equipped you. Obtain a practical education. Know thoroughly what you study. A little smattering of many branches of study only unfits a man for success in anything. It is quite probable that as you begin to realize the possibilities of agriculture you may determine to remain on the farm rather than take the chances of professional or commercial life. Agriculture in the future will be recognized as one of the most important, as well as honorable, professions in the land. The numerous farmers' organizations are all educational in their influence; and in time the farmer will learn to know his power and also acquire the skill and courage to use it. When that time comes, he will have surer and better harvests, and will himself enjoy the profits arising therefrom. The drift toward professional and city life is so strong that a reaction must come, and when that time arrives, as it surely will, the ambitious boy who has become a thrifty, successful farmer, respected by all sensible people, will have reason to rejoice that he did not allow himself to be swept along with the hurrying crowd who "through life's thoroughfare." The successful farmer need not be ignorant of public affairs. He will have leisure and opportunity to ponder well the problems forced upon the citizen sovereigns of this proud republic, and will come to be recognized as one of the pillars of the state. His life on the farm need not deter him from the pleasures of social life or the opportunities for intellectual culture. He may have time to read, and time to meet his associates in his organization, where all proper questions may be thoroughly discussed.—J. H. Brigham, in New York Tribune.

How Much is the Freight?

Send 10 cents for the horse book. It tells you all about our celebrated buggies, and gives the freight charge to your place. Pioneer Buggy Co., Columbus, O.

Hayseed is Risin'.

We kin all of us remember how long about September The papers used ter tell about the caucus or the fair, End them fellers from the city used ter git almighty witty On the feller with the duster what had hayseed in his hair. They hed fun in Legislators with the man what raised peraters If by any hook or crook or chance elected and sent there, End the reportorial friskers used ter comment on the whiskers End the carpet sack of Bilson, what had hayseed in his hair. But, by gum! ef you've been readin' you observe a strange purceedin'— It's the feller with chin whiskers that is slowly gittin' there, End it won't e too surprisin' ef by slowly organizin' Old parties may wake up tew find the hayseeds in their hair. —M. Whitehead.

Superior Maple Sweets.

When making an extra quality of maple syrup put it in glass fruit-jars boiling hot, rather than in tin cans, especially if sold direct to consumers. It can be seen at once as to color and density. Many who think they put it in jars hot fail to get it hot enough. We put it through a funnel nearly as large as the mouth of the jar in a warm room, and get it in as hot as possible. The jars will not break if stood on a wet cloth and if the jars are warm. Be careful not to get any on the outside of the jars as that will break them. After the jars have been filled twenty minutes or a little more, screw the rings down again, as they have swelled by the heat so as to be loose. The jars should be full to the brim. Don't let a stream of cold air hit them when first filled. The syrup should be boiled until thick enough to raise a saccharometer to 33 degrees while boiling hot. For one or two customers we make it 34 degrees, but thick as that it is more likely to sugar in the bottom of the jars; 33 degrees is just right. The only way soft sugar can be kept in fresh sugar is to can it the same as syrup. We boil for soft sugar to 38 degrees, and put in jars as soon as it begins to grain, while very hot, and it is fresh and nice after a year's time as when first made, and it can be taken out with a spoon. For making caked sugar it should be boiled to 40 degrees, and late in the season a little more. The saccharometer should be kept in water so as not to get it loaded with sugar. We tried a few jars last year filled with cold syrup; will never try it again.—D. A. Barker, Genesee Co., N. Y., in New York Tribune.

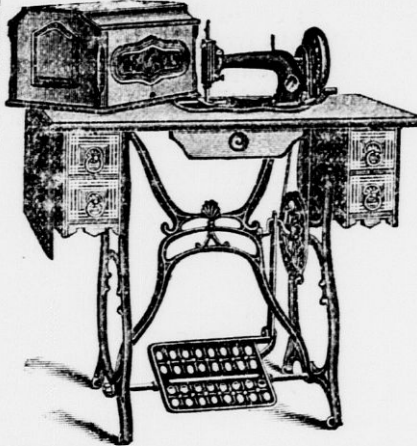
Who of the army of the restless—"fortunate farmers if they did but know it"—will lay to heart at the acceptable time these words, from The Forum, by President Eliot, of Harvard University? Nevertheless we will print them, that readers beguiled by the enchantment of distance may be fairly warned anew:

Scarcely one person in 10,000 betters himself permanently by leaving his rural home and settling in a city. To most such a change means increase in anxieties, in uncertainties of livelihood, in the nature and hours of labor, and in the hardships and wearing burdens of existence. Life may have less color in the country, but it has more calm, less bustle and excitement, but more depth and true satisfaction; less brilliant rewards for the few, but more lasting happiness for the many.—New York Tribune.

We maintain an army of lawyers in this country, whose services could be largely dispensed with if we could subdue pugnacious tendencies a little—exercise more forbearance and common sense. Let us all begin the new year with a resolve to do our part toward abolishing all unnecessary litigation. Introduce friendly arbitration as a means of settling disputed matters.

A \$45 SEWING MACHINE for \$15,

Including One Year's Subscription to this Paper.



We have made such arrangements as enable us to offer the Chicago

SINGER SEWING MACHINES

at the above low rates. This machine is made after the latest models of the Singer machines, and is a perfect fac simile in shape, ornamentation and appearance. All the parts are made to gauge exactly the same as the Singer, and are constructed of precisely the same materials. The utmost care is exercised in the selection of the metals used, and only the very best quality is purchased. Each machine is thoroughly well made and is fitted with the utmost nicety and exactness, and no machine is permitted by the inspector to go out of the shops until it has been fully tested and proved to do perfect work, and run light and without noise. The Chicago Singer Machine has a very important improvement in a Loose Balance Wheel, so constructed as to permit winding bobbins without removing the work from the machine.

EACH MACHINE IS FURNISHED WITH THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS:

HEMMERS, RUFFLER, TUCKER, PACKAGE OF NEEDLES, CHECK SPRING, THROAT PLATE, WRENCH, THREAD CUTTER, BINDER, BOBBINS, SCREW DRIVER, GAUGE, GAUGE SCREW, OIL-CAN, filled with Oil, and INSTRUCTION BOOK.

The driving wheel on this machine is admitted to be the simplest, easiest running and most convenient of any. The machine is self-threading, made of the best material, with the wearing parts hardened, and is finished in a superior style. It has veneered cover, drop-leaf table, 4 end drawers, and center swing drawer. The manufacturers warrant every machine for 5 years.

They say: "Any machine not satisfactory to a subscriber, we will allow returned and will refund the money." Price, including one year's subscription, \$15. Sent by freight, receiver to pay charges. Give name of freight station if different from post-office address. Address, with the money,

GRANGE VISITOR, Paw Paw, Mich.

To those interested in a Business Education, We would say that

PARSONS' BUSINESS COLLEGE, OF KALAMAZOO.

offers many advantages over similar schools, among which are the following:

- 1. The rooms are the finest in the State.
2. Five first-class instructors are employed.
3. The law lectures are given by prominent attorneys of the city.
4. It is the largest Business College in South-western Michigan.
5. The course is more thorough and practical.
6. The north-hand department is far superior.
7. Students deficient in any of the English branches have a chance to prepare themselves without extra charge.
8. The college has been established for 22 years, and has a national reputation.
9. We publish our own text-books, which are having a large sale in all parts of the U. S.
10. The president of the college gives his personal attention to all examinations, and knows the standing of all the students. Send for catalogue.

W. F. PARSONS, Pres't.

The Cheapest Music House in the World.

For the purpose of introducing our goods throughout the country, and to advertise our House, we will for a short time send any person receiving one of these instruments on receipt of cash to pay for Boxing and Shipping. It is expected that every person receiving one of these instruments will show it and inform others where he bought it. We will only send one to each person. We will send a

- \$10 Ole Bull Violin for \$2.
\$10 George Christy Banjo, \$3.
\$10 Celebrated Aimee Guitar, \$3.
Send Money by Postal Note. Send Stamp for Catalogue. L. W. LINCOLN & CO., Chicago, Illinois.

Rosy Complexion, Youthful Beauty, Plumpness and Loveliness

are produced by Old Dr. Heath's Harmless Arsenical Rejuvenating Wafers, and Black Heads, Pimples, Eruptions, Skin Diseases, Ulcers, Catarrh, Hay Fever, Asthma, Lung Diseases eradicated. Perfect health is the mirror of beauty, and only \$1 a box or six for \$5. Mailed sealed. Free consultation at offices, 291 Broadway, New York.

CHOICE CLEVELAND BAY

French Coach Horses.

Our latest importations give us a large number of imported Stallions and Mares, from which purchasers can select a

PRIZE WINNING COACH HORSE.

We guarantee our stallions to be foal getters, and all are well broken, stylish fellows, with good action and high individual merit. Send for catalogue.

CLEVELAND BAY HORSE CO., Paw Paw Mich.

DEAFNESS, ITS CAUSES AND CURE,

Scientifically treated by an aurist of world-wide reputation. Deafness eradicated and entirely cured, of from 20 to 30 years' standing, after all other treatments have failed. How the difficulty is reached and the cause removed, fully explained in circulars, with affidavits and testimonials of cures from prominent people, mailed free. Dr. A. FONTAINE, 34 W. 14th st., N. Y.

PATENTS THOMAS P. SIMPSON, Washington, D. C. No att'y's fee until patent obtained. Write for Inventor's Guide.

Patrons' Plow Co.

Only responsible Plow Co. selling direct to Patrons at Wholesale Prices.

Oldest Plow Works in N. Y. State.

All Sizes of

Field Plows, Subsoil, Ditching, Gang and Potato Plows.

See our Plows Before Buying.

OUR POTATO PLOW is the best hilling plow in the market, worth double any shovel plow in use. Buy no other. OUR GANG PLOWS for Vineyard, Orchard, Hops and Small Fruit culture have no equal. Takes the place of Field Cultivator, and for fall plowing do better work than any other implement.

Write at once for circulars and prices. You run no risk in buying of us. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED IN EVERY CASE.

Phelps Chilled Plow Works, Phelps, N. Y.



FOR SALE.

Some Special Bargains in FRUIT LANDS in the vicinity of South Haven, the heart of the famous Peach region. I have also a large variety of farming lands in all stages of improvement. These lands will never be lower than now, and now is the time to buy. Send for illustrated descriptive list. H. J. EDGELL, SOUTH HAVEN, MICH.

THE GRANGE NEWS.

(THE ONLY PAPER IN THE WORLD PUBLISHED ON A FARM.)

Was changed from a semi-monthly to a weekly publication, Jan. 1st, 1891.

Its Subscription rates are as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Quantity, Frequency, Price per copy, Total Price. Includes rates for 1 copy, 2 copies, 3 copies, 5 copies, 1 year, and 4 years.

It is an 8-page paper and all home print, and the official organ of the Grange in Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri.

N. B.—To introduce the GRANGE NEWS to the readers of the VISITOR we will send it a full year to the FIRST HUNDRED sending in their subscriptions for 85 CENTS each! Sample copies free.

GRANGE NEWS PUBLISHING CO., OLD HARMONY, ILL.

Glubbing List with The Visitor.

Table with 2 columns: Publication Name, Price. Lists various magazines and newspapers like Weekly Free Press, Detroit Weekly Tribune, etc.

PEACH TREES at wholesale and retail. Prices on application. R. S. JOHNSTON, Stock-ley, Del.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

Published on the 1st and 15th of every month.

AT 50 CENTS PER ANNUM.

A. C. GLIDDEN, Editor and Manager,
PAW PAW, MICH.Remittances should be by Registered Letter,
Money Order or Draft.Entered at the Post-Office at Paw Paw, Mich., as
Second Class Matter.

To Subscribers.

Send money when possible by either postal note or money order. We prefer a dollar bill for two subscribers, to 50 cents in stamps for one. The bank will take the dollar, but they refuse the stamps.

We shall send the paper only so long as it is paid for. If you wish it continued, a prompt renewal will keep it constantly coming and save us the trouble of making the changes. If numbers fail to reach you, or your post-office address is changed, notify us at once and we will gladly send another number and make the desired change. Packages of papers will be sent to all who desire them for distribution.

Send the names of your friends on a postal card when you desire to receive sample copies.

Political Changes.

Among the things which politicians frequently ignore in their estimate of the chances for success, is the one fact that in every decade nearly one-half of the voters have become such by arriving at their majority; and the other fact that political ties are constantly growing weaker. This younger element is restless under old foggyism, and will not submit to have their political lines fixed and dictated by the whims of precedent or time-honored custom. Modern politics must conform to the trend of business and not to fixed principles. There is a growing tendency toward a breaking away from party ties, and the old party steerers are confronted and confounded by unlooked-for results in the returns. There is also the other and fully as potent a factor to be considered—the growing intelligence in rural communities that cannot be led. The exigencies of the times are constantly bringing men to the front whose claims to be heard cannot be ignored with impunity. Illustrations need not be cited; they are too fresh to be forgotten. Repeated examples will follow so long as the lessons of the past are unheeded.

Opinions formed at the hearthstone crystalize into beliefs when exchanged with neighbors, and these in turn become principles that cannot be summarily set aside by caucusses and conventions with entire safety to the party. There will be a kicking out of the traces on all sides, to the discomfort of the drivers and danger to the load to be carried. So long as those who have assumed to be leaders say, practically, "the people be damned," so long will they be breeding disappointed ambitions and blasted hopes. There is, indeed, a public sentiment which will not be exchanged for another at the dictation of a set of selfish demagogues, and political changes may safely be predicted until the *vox populi* is properly interpreted and wisely considered.

In every instance at the spring election, where this "manifest destiny" is fairly expressed and fully ignored by either party, our advice is to vote for the other fellow, and prove what other elections have indicated, that our individual vote cannot be carried in some other fellow's pocket.

LAWRENCE, Mich., Mar. 9.
ED. VISITOR:—Will you kindly answer a few questions through your paper.

1st—In these times of farm depression, are other men suffering as much in their business as the farmer?

2nd—What business is most prosperous at present in Southwestern Michigan?

And allow me further to add: I have been told that one of the speakers at an open meeting of the P. of L., at the Barnes school house, said that that order had a Commercial Union, with headquarters at Lansing; that their members could buy agricultural implements from 40 to over 100 per cent cheaper than the agents through the country were selling them for; and said that a 5-foot cut mowing machine, which sold last year for \$55, could be bought new this season for \$25 through this Commercial Union; and mentioned other farming tools that could be bought equally low. I have read about this organization, and have thought about the Grange, and would ask: Does the Grange have a purchasing agent where farmers can buy as cheaply, or are these statements made to boom the C. U. and get farmers to join the order?

I want to buy several farm implements, and if I can get these tools so cheaply I am willing to join anything that is honorable; but I am not willing to pay out money these hard times without some return.

One other thing: Is there not danger of this Commercial Union getting prices down so low that the labor that manufactures these implements will be oppressed?

I have read the Visitor, and the most of it I like, and if you can answer these inquiries you will oblige
A FARMER.

1st. Yes; we believe every other business in an agricultural community or district has suffered a like depression in common with the farmer. Mining, and those engaged in extensive manufacturing at manufacturing centers may be the exception; but merchants, tradesmen and all engaged in the professions in our interior towns, have only kept even with their expenditures. These, however, do not shout out their failures across their counters, or stand in the doors of their offices to hail the passer-by with a sorry tale of woe, to beg for sympathy, or to ask for legislative relief.

2d. Every line of farming in Southwestern Michigan is doing better, but to single out but one of the special products that show a margin of profit above another, we should say that sheep are paying best for the money invested and for the care and keep involved in raising them. They are likely still to maintain a place in the front rank of agricultural productions, for the following reason:

First—There are not enough sheep to create a surplus for many years.

Second—The production of both wool and mutton does not satisfy the demand of the market, and the price for both is likely to advance rather than recede.

Third—There is an incidental profit, not usually reckoned in dollars and cents, which adds to the fertility of the farm from the keeping of sheep, and is of importance in considering the question of profit in sheep raising.

As to the assertions made by the speaker alluded to, they should be taken with a degree of allowance for his zeal in booming the new enterprise. In recent numbers of the Visitor we have expressed our views regarding the "Patrons' Commercial Union," or reflected them by quotations from the writings of others. More than one hundred per cent reduction from last year's prices ought to satisfy those whose appetite for hyperbolic assertions has been excited by such unwarranted statements. We heard an individual who has been hoisted

into the dignity of state senator last week assert that the mortgage indebtedness of farmers in our state was \$100,000 more than the farms would inventory today. If there are individuals still to be found with effrontery enough to make these unwarranted assertions, it is not surprising that there are persons who have credulity enough to believe them. We think it is best for those who do believe in the rank statements of these agitators, to test them for the truth. That is the quickest way to cure credulity. Let them take stock in the P. C. U. to the limit of their enthusiasm and faith in its value, and watch the effect. There is a wonderful temptation for the child to put its finger in the flame, *once*. Later he wants to touch his tongue to frosted steel, *once*. Then he buys a prize package, *once*. Now, perhaps, he wants to invest in the P. C. U., *once*. Let him.

Obituaries.

On account of the crowded condition of our columns we must, after this date, decline to publish series of resolutions on the death of members of the order. We shall cheerfully give space for brief death notices, giving name, age and date of death, but shall be compelled to return MSS. containing the usual obituary resolutions. The few appearing in this issue were in type for the March 1st number. Those remaining can be returned if desired.

We are occasionally receiving names, a few at a time, at a rate of 40 cts. each. We wish to say once for all, that we cannot receive subscribers at that rate unless the conditions are complied with, viz: Every family represented in the Grange must be supplied with the paper, and the money for these subscriptions, and the names must be sent at the same time. It is recommended that as an offset to this favor, members be required to pay a year's dues in advance, but of course each Grange can do as it may choose with its funds. If it prefers to send to every member or family represented, without this, it can do so. If this regulation is not strictly complied with, the offer must be withdrawn, for we cannot afford the Visitor in any other manner at 40 cents. This is a concession to encourage prepayment of dues and to get the names all in at one time and for no other purpose.

We visited Chicago last week and investigated the Chicago Sewing Machine Company—went through their works and saw the several processes through which it goes before it comes out a perfect machine. Every machine is sent direct from the factory, is tested before it starts and is just as represented in our advertising columns. The one we send for \$15.00 is a perfect machine and will do as good work as the higher priced ones. We can send a High Arm machine for \$2.00 more or \$17.00, and the Visitor for one year, or if any of our subscribers want fancy finish, nickel plated, all the "stops" and "sub-pedal" attachments in either red oak, antique oak, or walnut case, gothic cover—a "way up" machine—as good as the best on the market anywhere, send us \$25.00 and we will send the machines and a year's subscription to the Visitor.

Frank Converse writes us from Augusta, giving some account of Ross Grange. They are having a contest, with whetted appe-

titles for a blissful future, when the losing side shall be compelled to furnish the wherewithal to appease them. He closes with the gratifying assurance that most of the members take the Visitor, and that we have many readers who are not members of the Grange, who are well pleased with the paper. "May their tribe increase."

Fees to the State Grange.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE—SECRETARY'S OFFICE, MARCELUS, March 6. ED. VISITOR:—There seems to be a want of understanding as to how the reduction of initiation fees affects the amount to be remitted to the State Grange. Several Secretaries have already written asking about this, and others will probably feel inclined to do so before sending in their reports for the quarter ending March 31st, 1891. Turning to Art. XIII, Sec. 1 of the revised State Grange By-laws, it will be seen that paragraph 2 remains unchanged, and hence the amount to be remitted to the State Grange is the same as before the reduction of fees took place, that is, one dollar for men and fifty cents for women.

It will be observed that with the reduction of the fees it is provided that *six months' dues shall be required of new members in advance*. This secures the Subordinate Grange against an entire loss of pecuniary benefit from the new members.

Secretaries of Pomona Granges will notice that by the striking out of Section 3, Art. IV. of By-laws of Pomona Granges, they are no longer required to remit dues to the State Grange.

The supply of "Combined Degrees" in pamphlet form is exhausted. Granges desiring to avail themselves of the combined form for conferring degrees, should order copies of the 7th edition Manual, which, indeed, should now be found in every Grange hall.

Fraternally,
JENNIE BUELL, Sec'y.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE—MASTER'S OFFICE, BERRIEN CENTER, March 8. PATRONS:—Where and whenever you desire any lecture work done, do not be backward about it, but write me and I will send you any speaker you wish who is at my command. Brother Jason Woodman is in the best of trim for work. Bro. Crosby is giving excellent satisfaction. I think Sister Mayo will do what she can, provided the weather is favorable. Brother Luce ought to be kept busy. Do not let him get rheumatic—keep him on the move. Now is the time for work.

Yours fraternally,
THOS. MARS.

DELTA, OHIO, March 5, 1891.—To the members of the order of Patrons of Husbandry in the United States of America—Sisters and Brothers: A Macedonian cry for help, comes from our brethren in the drouth stricken region of Nebraska; and I am fully convinced that they are in great distress. Our brethren in other sections of the state have responded nobly, but cannot afford sufficient help. I therefore appeal to the membership at large to respond to the call. As seed time is near at hand, (and what is needed most is seed and feed), prompt action is important. I therefore suggest in cases where regular meetings are not soon to be held, that special meetings be called, or that the Masters appoint special committees at once to canvass for contributions. Money can be sent at least expense and can be made most effective, but garden seeds will be acceptable and can be forwarded at little cost. Be sure however to prepay charges. Send all contributions to J. R. Cantlin, Sec'y State Grange, Webster, Neb.

I hope the committees on women's work will lend a helping hand in this effort to drive hunger and suffering from the homes of our sisters and brothers in Nebraska. Fraternaly,

J. H. BRIGHAM, Master of the National Grange, P. of H.

Communications.

An Institute Lesson.

ED. VISITOR:

The farmers' institute is a recognized feature of rural education to-day. It fills the place and accomplishes the work not otherwise provided for, but like other educational methods it is subject to improvements, and the object of this short article is to make some suggestions that may be useful in conducting institutes. They are the outgrowth of personal experience. An institute should recognize the type of farming followed in the immediate neighborhoods, but should never exclude from its deliberations matters of general interest because a few leading workers desire their specialty to be exhaustively treated.

For instance, in a locality adapted to dairy husbandry in which, if good business principles prevail, the milk product can be made to return to the farmer especially good profits, because of soil or market, this specialty will naturally lead others in the arrangement of a program, but it should not be forgotten that all farmers' wives and children may not enjoy too exclusive a milk diet and as the institute is emphatically an educator of the family, every inducement should be offered for the attendance of entire families.

It is desirable to give up an entire session to one topic or class of topics, and not attempt to give variety to each session by sandwiching in between essays or discussions matters entirely irrelevant to the leading features of the program. For instance, it is quite customary to have a house topic, a garden topic, and a field topic, interspersed with recitations at a single session. It would be far better to have one entire session devoted to various phases of the house question; a second to garden topics, and a third to matters of the field. It is delightfully appropriate to have the younger members of the institute open and close the exercises of the session with music, recitations and other pleasant and appropriate exercises.

In the arrangement of a program it adds to the interest and effectiveness of a discussion to have a general topic somewhat analyzed, and several invited in advance to say a word upon each sub-topic, instead of asking one person to cover the entire broad subject, running the risk of having a tedious time of it all around. I can make this more plain by an illustration. Instead of entering as one feature of the program: "Our Rural Schools—Geo. H. Smith, of Smithville. Discussion," put the topic in this form:

OUR RURAL SCHOOLS.

(a) Building and Grounds—James Farlow.

(b) Supervision—County Sec'y Dobbs.

(c) Parents Visit Your Schools—Jane Brookins.

(d) Compulsory Attendance—Mrs. S. Edwards.

(e) Home Assistance—George Metcalf.

Discussion.

Let me give another example. It is getting to be very fashionable at a farmers' institute to discuss the Silo. Now instead of asking some man who has ability to write an elaborate paper on the subject, substitute the following analysis and ask several men of experience to give five minute talks, each taking one of the sub-topics in the following analysis:

SILOS AND SILOGE.

(a) Method and Expense of Building a Silo.

(b) Crops for the Silo and how to Grow Them.

(c) How to Fill and Empty a Silo.

(d) Feeding Silage.

(e) Who Shall Have Silos?

Discussion.

Five short talks, full of experience, leading to a thorough discussion of the points brought out, will be far more effective than never so exhaustive an essay by the most intelligent man in the community.

The value of an institute depends very largely upon the presiding officer. He should, if possible, know the people in the audience so as to call them out by name on the subjects, accord-

ing to their experience and opportunities for observation. He must be prompt, decided, and have sufficient tact to shut off a tiresome talker without giving offense. He must be able to lead the discussions by suggestions into the channel which will be most valuable for the community.

To aid the chairman in his desire to be prompt with the different numbers on the program, it is well to have each topic set down for a special hour.

While it is altogether appropriate for the first session of each day to be opened with music and prayer it is better for all concerned to omit these pleasant preliminaries, if they are made unpleasant by delays and friction or want of method in preparation.

There are a few topics not often found upon institute programs that might be profitably discussed in any farm community. For example the following:

Studies in barns; Household contrivances; simple dooryard decorations; strong steps indoors and out; care of vehicles, water for house and farm; simple remedies.

From the examination of the contents of question boxes at institutes, I have been led to believe that if an occasional institute could be held for a whole week with an enrolled membership and a course of instruction previously outlined, great good could be accomplished in rural communities.

Possibly our State Board of Agriculture can work out a plan that would give to interested farmers an opportunity to have one or two of these week-long agricultural schools next winter, in our State, and ascertain if the farmers are not as ready to take hold of this method of instruction as our teachers are.

One thing is certain. With our rapidly increasing population we will soon be compelled to adopt more improved methods of agriculture. What only an occasional farmer accomplishes in the raising of a larger and more profitable crop and at the same time enhancing the fertility of his acres, must be the practice of the majority. There is no better way to diffuse through communities the best known methods and practices than by well arranged and popularly conducted farmers' institutes. S. Q. LENT.

ALMA, Mich., March 4th, 1891.—ED. VISITOR: Gratiot County Pomona Grange met with Arcada Grange Saturday, Feb. 21, and the W. Lecturer's program was carried out with one or two exceptions.

The W. Sec'y was instructed to write for prices on binder twine and drain tile.

During the public session the two per cent loan was discussed at some length and the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That we, as farmers and Patrons of Gratiot county are not in favor of Stanford's loan bill.

At the fifth degree session in the evening eight candidates were initiated.

We were most hospitably entertained by Arcada Grange, which by the way is the banner Grange of the county in some respects. They were organized one year ago last October, and since that time have built them a large hall two stories high, built in nice shape and all out of debt. Their membership comprises some of the best families of the neighborhood, and I have no doubt that they have a successful Grange career before them.

Wright and Arcada purchased twenty-three tons of land plaster and made a considerable saving by so doing, at \$3.85 per ton, and everything satisfactory.

Wright Grange had three more applications last Saturday night, and we have hopes of more to follow.

The sisters of our Grange organized themselves into a society called Grange Gleaners. They meet once a month at some member's home and are to use their dues to furnish and decorate the hall. Over forty were present at their last meeting.

By reading the Grange News I see they are having great success in Illinois. Now why can't we do as well in this state. There is one way in my opinion to help

the matter along; that is let every one report their success through the Visitor, and that is the reason for my writing these lines. E. N. POST.

Tri-County Meeting.

In response to the invitation from Eaton county Pomona Grange, nearly every Grange in Ingham and Clinton counties sent delegates to a union meeting at North Lansing, Grange hall, Saturday, Feb. 21st. This was the first meeting of the kind, and as Eaton county proposed it, the officers' chairs were filled with Eaton county officers.

Bro. A. D. Bank called the meeting to order, and after a few remarks introduced Miss O. J. Carpenter, who greeted us in a manner that made every member glad to be there. To this a response by Sister Carrie M. Havens, from Ingham, added greatly to our interest in the order, and enthusiasm for the success of this meeting. Sister Gunnison responded cheerfully for Clinton supplemented by encouraging words from Bro. Pennell.

The delegation then resolved itself into an "Eaton" convention and feasted at the expense of Capitol Grange. After dinner Bro. Dills, Master of Clinton County Pomona Grange, called the meeting to order with the remaining officers' chairs filled with Clinton county officers. The program began with an oration from M. J. Johnson, from Windsor Grange, on "Newspapers of the day detrimental to the morals of the people," paying particular attention to discussing the untruthfulness, the horrible and trashy reports of sacred things; newspapers make criminals by detailing robberies and villainous plots, and they cause loss of much valuable time in reading. In the remarks which followed the paper it was universally endorsed; Bro. Hewit said he had destroyed many of our daily papers to keep them from his children, while another brother advertised the GRANGE VISITOR as, in this respect, a perfectly harmless sheet.

Then followed reports from various Granges which ran as follows: Bath—Bro. Clemons: Grange has been very low; held meetings in houses awhile; now encouraged; stronger; rent a hall; meet weekly; money ahead.

Eaton Rapids—Bro. Saxton: Not very strong; twenty-eight members; good live Grangers; good prospects; rents good hall with fuel and lights, \$15 per year. Williamston—Bro. Jas. Webb: Own the hall; new organ, chairs and carpet; running good; weekly meetings. Victor—Bro. —: Four year old Grange; not prosperous; contest ended in strife; Grange took a rest; new hopes now. Charlotte—Bro. Eddy: New members giving the Grange a boom; contest did lots of good; growing and full of money. Alledon—Sister Wiley: Grange is seventeen years old; own the hall; three contests have proven good; enjoying a boom now.

Dewitt—Bro. Dills: Seventeen year old Grange; own the hall; sixty-four members; have always flourished; like the question box; are discussing legislative questions at each meeting. Sunfield—Sister Barr: Doing well; thirty-five members; in a contest now and very hopeful. White Oak—Grange seventeen years old; dormant three years; reinstated two years ago; fifty-three members now and ten coming; ten members at this meeting thirty miles from home; own and furnish the hall; propose to put in a loom and sew and weave a rag carpet for the room right in the hall.

Essex—Bro. Jewett: one hundred members; fifteen new ones; doing well; nice hall; new carpet and store with cash in the treasury; meet weekly; discuss a question immediately after recess then program and close with quotations. Bellevue—Brother Lankton: Grange in good flourishing condition; thanked the order for the good it had done him and his family; eleven new members coming in.

Felts—Bro. Woodland: Grange the most popular it ever was; contests have done lots of good;

own a hall, but it is too small.

South Riley—Bro. Pike: Thirty-four members; own their hall; taking a rest just now.

Cedar—Bro. Hatch: Grange has been the banner of Ingham county but now somewhat dormant; Grange unfortunately situated.

Bunker Hill—Sister Carrie Havens: Grange alive but not booming just now; contests have been very successful.

Clinton County—Sister Gunnison: (She was a little boastful but very clever) Thinks they have the best Pomona Grange; dates and places of meeting scheduled at the beginning of the year; advise closed meetings.

Eaton County—Sister Carpenter: Reported very flattering condition of affairs (and we judge that things go all right if Miss Carpenter has anything to do with them); the most interesting thing to us was her description of the Pomona Grange contest, given in the VISITOR Feb. 15th.

Ingham County boasted of its good meetings and excellent programs, which make up for what it lacked in numbers.

After a recess Ingham county officers occupied the chairs and Bro. Beal was called upon to report for Capital Grange. He reviewed the work of Capital with a glow which made the heart of every member present swell with pride. Of the eighty members who were present at the first meeting only a half dozen remain. We attend the Grange about one-twelfth of the time; we have tried to improve our opportunities; we have college presidents and professors on our roll; we have a member in Washington, and our ex-members are scattered all over the world, one is in Japan. When we count all the benefits we have received from the Grange in these many years, we conclude that it does pay. The best places the Board of Agriculture have found to hold institutes have been where there were Granges.

The continuity of these exercises was broken several times by inserting the following:

A violin solo—Miss Lou Pray, enclosed.

Song—Williamston Choir, enclosed.

Poem—Miss Ella Pullen.

Recitation—Miss Lou Carlton. An oration on "Farmer's Progress" by Bro. Eddy, of Charlotte, which showed deep study and thought and proved the writer's abilities.

It now became evident that the long program prepared for the occasion would have to be beheaded, as we had only used the first of it and our time of closing had nearly arrived.

It was moved to hold two like meetings a year and the three masters were made a committee on permanent organization and to prepare for the next meeting.

A song from White Oak Choir and the meeting adjourned to the call of the committee. J. D. TOWAR.

OLIVE CENTER, Ottawa Co., Mich., March 2.—ED. VISITOR: By request I submit the following report of the doings of Olive Center Grange No. 652. During 1890 we held 48 regular and four special meetings. W. Master John Owens and a fair attendance of members were present at each meeting. We took in 17 new members; lost by dimit, 3; by suspension, 4; by expulsion or death none. So far this quarter of 1891 we have taken in seven new members and lost two by dimit. More applicants are known to be about to knock for admittance. We hold meetings every Saturday night, which are well attended and interesting. A. R. R.

We hope subscribers will look over the "Want" column, to see if there is not something they have been looking for. We are gratified with the expressions of approval regarding the scheme which comes to us from many of our correspondents.

The sugar beet seed imported by Dr. Kedzie is now ready for distribution. There will be a part of it sent out in small packages for small test trials. Applications to this office can be made for Van Buren county, and as long as the supply lasts applications will be filled.

Notices of Meetings.

ADRIAN, Mich., March 5.—ED. VISITOR: On request of Lenawee Pomona Grange I send you the following list of meetings and the order of their occurrence, as adopted at its last annual meeting: 1891—Onsted, April 2; Morenci, June 4; Adrian, Aug. 6; Fruit Ridge, Oct. 1. 1892—Macon, Medina, Palmyra, Rome, Rollin, Riga, Tipton, Madison. The next regular meeting will occur at Onsted, April 2. Patrons are cordially invited to attend. Worthy Lecturer announced that a good program may be expected from Rollin Grange. WAYLAND DOWLING, Lec.

The Manistee District Pomona Grange No. 21 will meet at Cleon Grange hall, March 17, at two p. m. Election of officers will take place at said meeting.

BINGHAM, Feb. 23.—The annual meeting of Huron County Pomona Grange will be held with Bingham Grange, at their hall in Verona, Thursday, March 26. Election of officers will take place, and all should try to attend. MRS. R. NUGENT, Sec.

Hillsdale County Grange will hold its next meeting at G. A. R. Hall, Hillsdale, Thursday, April 2d.

Regular business in the forenoon.

Program for afternoon: Music by choir.

Essay—Mrs. Addie Patterson.

Discussion of finance or money loan question. Opened by James Cousins and Reuben Strait, followed by Mrs. H. A. Hunker, Mrs. E. Bowditch and others.

Select music—Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Haughey.

Recitation—Mrs. C. G. Perrin. Those who were on program for the last two meetings and not present can do some of the work at this time.

All Patrons are cordially invited to attend and take an active part in the work. J. E. WAGNER.

Program for the meeting of Kent Co. Grange, to be held at Grandville, March 25th:

The forenoon will be devoted to the regular order of business of the Pomona Grange.

Afternoon session will be public, and the following subjects will be discussed:

Fruit trees for profit and ornament—Charles Butrick.

Shape and management of the garden—H. C. Dennison.

Paper—Mrs. L. A. Dockeray. Best variety of field corn and its care—J. Best.

Woman's work in the Grange—Mrs. W. T. Adams.

Care of the potato crop and cause of the scab on tubers—Robert Dockeray.

What kind of oats give best returns—Samuel Laugdon.

Recitation—Miss Porter.

Farmers' organizations—W. T. Adams.

Please bring specimens of corn, oats, potatoes, and any other crop from which we may gain knowledge. H. G. HOLT, Lecturer.

ROCKFORD, March 4th.—The Kent County Pomona Grange will meet at Grandville, March 25th, at 10 o'clock a. m. GEO. A. DOCKERAY, Sec.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 8, 1890.—ED. VISITOR:—The question of price for land plaster is so often brought before us, and as it has been claimed that \$3.00 a ton is too high, for the coming season we will give the following a trial. The price of land plaster in car lots will be \$2.50 per ton, f. o. b. at mills, and for all land plaster shipped out and paid for by March 1st, 1891, a discount of ten per cent. will be allowed, \$2.25 per ton. WESTERN PLASTER AGENCY.

Wants and For Sale.

This column is for the use of subscribers only. A five line notice of about 40 words will be admitted free in one issue. For every subsequent insertion ten cents per line will be charged, which must accompany the order to continue. A fee of ten cents per line will also be charged for the excess of five lines, or at the rate of 10 cents for 8 words. Nothing will be admitted free except notices relating to the miscellaneous wants of farmers—such as will facilitate an exchange of articles, implements, animals, etc.; farms to rent and those wanting them; help wanted and those wanting work; exchanging large farms for small ones, or vice versa; exchanging locations. Regular breeders having animals for sale, or those growing seeds or plants for sale, will be charged per line as above. Read the first sentence of this notice again.

I HAVE for sale or exchange the following fruit plants: Strawberries—Crescent, Bubach No. 5, Michel's Early, Gandy's Prize, Cloud and Great Pacific; also many of the best old sorts. I have also Marlboro, Curdlett, and Turner Red Raspberries. M. COLLIER, Springport, Mich.

FARM of 107 acres in Macomb Co., Washington township, 1/2 mile from store, and good quality soil; beautiful country; good water; good buildings; one barn 60 feet long, one 84, with basement. Artificial grove, 10 acres best undrained gardening or onion land, reasonable. JOHN J. SNOOK, Rochester, Mich.

FOR SALE—A second-hand Dederick Hay Press as good as new. Price \$50, cash or time to suit purchaser. O. P. MORTON, Mattawan, Mich.

WARRANTED Pure Maple Syrup, 11 pounds per gal. L. F. BRENDER, M'Ft., Trowbridge, P. O. Oshtego, Mich., box 199.

100 acre farm for sale; located 4 miles north of Mason, county seat Ingham Co., 10 miles southeast of Lansing, 2 1/2 miles from Holt station. Good house, horse barn, grain barn with basement, sheds, corn crib and other buildings; good orchard and windmill, well fenced and under drained. MRS. SARAH WILEY, Mason, Mich.

I HAVE Cuthbert and Turner Raspberry plants; also Snyder, Taylor, Proffers, and Agawan Blackberry plants, to exchange for Gregg or Marlborough Raspberry, or Crescent, Jessie or Gandy Strawberry plants, in quantities of 500 or more. C. M. BOWEN, Chelsea, Mich.



The Lovett Raspberry.

Owing to its wholesomeness, large yield and the wide range of soil and climate in which many varieties succeed, the Black-cap Raspberry, or Thimble berry as it should be termed, has long been a popular fruit. For evaporating it is one of the best of all our fruits, and the invention and perfection of evaporators have given it an importance second only to the strawberry, among the small fruits. It is therefore apparent that too much attention cannot readily be given to secure the best varieties, especially by those growing for the market or the evaporator. The ideal Black-cap is one with large, jet black, firm berries of high quality; a strong growing, ironclad, prolific cane and ripening its fruit early and quickly. Many varieties have been produced and found wanting—the defects most commonly met with being lack of hardness, inferior size and excess of bloom; imparting to the fruit a stale and mouldy appearance. The Gregg, introduced a dozen or so years ago, marked a decided advance in size, but its fruit presents an excess of bloom, it ripens late, is inferior in quality and never was very hardy or prolific, the last named defects becoming more apparent with each season. The J. T. Lovett Co., Little Silver, New Jersey, is an enterprising establishment that is always on the lookout to secure and supply the public demand; and when they heard, some years ago, of a black raspberry in Indiana as large as the Gregg and of firmer texture, as early as the Souhegan or Doolittle and more prolific, of superior quality and little bloom; a strong growing cane that was absolutely hardy without protection with the mercury at twenty degrees below zero, they were not long in securing plants of it for their trial grounds. On visiting the originator and inspecting the variety in bearing, and finding it as represented in every particular, they were not satisfied until they had secured control of the entire stock of it, for which one thousand dollars were paid. The variety has since been thoroughly tested upon a variety of soils and in different states, and is now for the first being offered to the public. See advertisement on another page.

Ladies' Department.

The Hymns that Mother Sung.

Throughout the charming scenes of life,
That shadowed vale of smiles and tears,
Where all is lost within the mist
That hides the by-gone years;
Some strains there are that linger yet,
And many hearts no longer young
Are thrilled with joy, again to hear
The hymns that mother sung.

We used to gather at the hearth
When darkness overcame the day,
And, dreamily, as children will,
We'd watch the shadows play;
And sitting by the glowing fire,
As to and fro the kettle swung,
We learned the song we've always loved—
The hymns that mother sung.

We seem to hear again her voice,
So long remembered, clear and sweet,
When, in days of long ago,
We sat at mother's feet;
And gazed upward on the wall,
Where dearest father's picture hung,
We thought he smiled, for he, too, loved
The hymns that mother sung.

On many snowy winter nights,
When all without was cold and drear,
We've clustered close around the chair
In happiness and cheer.
No more for us the glowing fire,
No more the cricket's chirping tongue,
And never more on earth we'll hear
The hymns that mother sung.

To them we owe our happy homes,
Praise be to God that reigns above,
For keeping ever bright and clear
The lessons learned in love,
Outliving sorrow, bearing hope,
The dear old songs have always clung,
And never can the heart forget
The hymns that mother sung.

—New York Observer.

Strive, Wait and Pray.

Strive; yet I do not promise,
The prize you dream of to-day,
Will not fade when you think to grasp it
And melt in your hand away;
But another and holier treasure,
You would now perchance disdain,
Will come when your toil is over,
And pay you for all your pain.

Wait; yet I do not tell you,
The hour you long for now,
Will not come with its radiance vanished,
And a shadow upon its brow;
Yet far through the misty future,
With a crown of starry light,
An hour of joy you know not
Is singing her silent flight.

Pray; though the gift you ask for
May never comfort your fears,
May never repay your pleadings,
Yet pray, and with hopeful tears;
An answer, not that you longed for,
But diviner, will come one day;
Your eyes are too dim to see it,
Yet strive, and wait, and pray.

—Adele Anne Proctor.

Woman's Work.

Read before Farmington Grange No. 267, at the woman's meeting, Feb. 14th, by Mary Green.

It has always been an established fact in society that a man can engage in whatever employment he may choose (provided it is protected by law) and still retain his proper sphere in life. But yet, while it is generally conceded that men and women are alike created free and equal, we do not find the same opinion prevalent in regard to women.

From the earliest period of history until the present time, women have been striving for higher and more fitting places in the society of the world, and have been constantly preparing themselves to occupy these positions.

We are all acquainted in some degree with the history of former periods, when women were worse than slaves, receiving no attention and having no enjoyment except that which could be obtained from constant application to the hard tasks assigned her. But, becoming discontented, we have seen her gradually rising, until at last she stands on an equal footing with her brother; and although there are various opinions as to what constitutes her work, yet we may find her in almost every vocation.

Having gained access to nearly all of our colleges, she is found in the capacity of book-keeper, short-hand writer, and teacher. She is received in art, in science, and in the field of letters. Indeed, all the avenues of the scientific, literary and professional world are opened to her. She is to be found on the lecture platform, where she presents those sweet thoughts of "Peace on earth, good will to men," and devotion to "God and home and native land."

But what has been her work in the Grange? Besides being the companion and help of her brother, she has assisted in the literary and social events of the order, thus casting that shade of refinement over the meetings with which she has always been credited. And now a new field is opened to her—that of interesting the young in Grange work. Many ways may be found by which this may be accomplished,

as the silver medal contest, the literaries, etc., and we trust she may have power to carry out some of the many projects.

I have mentioned only a few of the avenues opened to women, but whatever may be our conclusions as to what a woman can do, there is one thing that she can not do and still retain the respect of worthy people—she can't afford to do nothing. Can anything be more humiliating to one's self, or more repulsive to others, than to be a cipher in the world, merely making one more, but contributing nothing to society?

"What is woman but a creature,

Only fit for fashion's mart;

Beautiful in form and feature

But devoid of mind or heart!

Are the thousands all around us

But the butterflies they seem?

Or within their deeper natures

Lives there still a nobler dream?

"Tell me, sisters, comes there never

Visions of a loftier aim,

Something better, purer, higher,

That e'en woman may attain?

Lives there not within your bosoms

Deeper thoughts than ye can say,

Yearning for more earnest action

In life's ever changing way?

"Ah! methinks I hear the answer;

From the pure soul's deep recess,

Comes the longing cry for freedom,

For a life of usefulness,

Yet ye fold your spirit's pinions,

Hide your better thoughts away,

And becoming fashion's minions,

What can woman do or say?"

"Waken from your idle slumbers,

Throw your gilded chains aside,

There is work for countless numbers,

For the world is large and wide;

Stay the tears of sorrow's children,

Scatter blessings o'er the land,

Find among earth's suffering millions

Earnest work for heart and hand."

The Way of Success.

The most useless waste of human force is in the thriftless, diffusive method which the ordinary mortal has of applying himself or herself to the particular tasks in hand. Whatever duty or purpose is worth performing at all is worth the concentrated attention and effort of the moment given to its discharge and the moral and intellectual impetus gained in a daily discipline of this sort, determines with absolute certainty the triumph of desires that lie closer to the will, and which are in fact the index of our special individual use. That he who is faithful over the small things of life will be faithful over the greater also is a truth that we accept, not more because it was divinely uttered than because our own observation and experience constantly confirm it.

The calm, clear, self-poised soul knows always the way to make the lesser things of life subservient to the larger, and in the multifarious activities of the day there is no flurry of doubt, hesitation, or fear.

As a rule, it appears that women even more than men scatter and dissipate their living energies by a skip and a dash at a dozen offices, no one of which is quite carefully fulfilled.

The consequence of this nervous and hurried touch-and-go system of action is a feeling of dissatisfaction with and inadequateness to the situation in general, and a habit of complaint and fault-finding is gradually engendered, which really has its root in an unacknowledged sense of personal failure.

To devote to the minute or the hour our entire power of thought to the object demanding attention would not only secure the more faithful and satisfying accomplishment of this particular good, but would strengthen our ability to deal successfully with the special work which we feel to be our own. It is the mental worry, impatience, uncertainty and half heartedness with which we meet our responsibilities that exhausts and squanders the powers, which we should bring to the execution of our higher purposes.

The first requisite to the attainment of success in any direction is a clear, calm, self-reliant and unshaken state of mind, without which all effort is a feverish striving toward what is quite likely in the end to prove a disappointment.

The prime necessity to such a condition is a desire for it. Not that supine sort of desire that expresses itself in sighing aspiration, but the strong, resolute, believing purpose which consents to nothing less than its own fulfillment. No good ever comes of waiting for that which we long

to have and to hold, whether on the mental or material plane. Only by securely standing for the possession which is ours by divine right can we expect to make our claim show forth in the advantage that we desire. Common observation and experience everywhere verify this truth, which is by no means extraordinary or occult. The man or woman whom we distinguish by that qualifying phrase "lucky" or "fortunate" is almost invariably the individual who has that elementary character which we contemptuously name "self-conceit," but which is oftener a sublime confidence in the law of endeavor—a law which will bring to him who waits, with positive and reposed faith, the good for which he has persistently and undoubtingly toiled. It is true that the result may sometimes differ from that which is expected, but it will be found, none the less, the gateway to a higher achievement. A steadfast belief in the righteousness of one's aim, and an undeviating purpose to attain it, is as certain in result as the law of cause and effect.

Difficulties are not always to be overcome by flying at them with the set jaw and sledge-hammer of an aggressive determination. It is the silent force of the will that tells. The lions in the way are vanquished, not by crying out against them, but by quietly ignoring them.—A. L. M., in *Phrenological Journal*.

The Dowery of a Bride.

In this country there is no special brand put upon a bride for any lack of dowery. Yet, after all, every young woman should have a rich dowery to take to her new home. What shall it be? First of all, a character as wonderfully beautiful as all the formative influences of her life can make it. Shakespeare speaks of modesty as being "the jewel in her dowery." Let her have a character founded upon virtue and ornamented and lighted with a loving heart and a cheerful disposition. These, in lofty wealth or deep poverty, shall bear her upon the crest of every wave, and their value be without price. Parents can never secure happiness to their children except by giving them the ability to meet its demands. This, money comes far short of doing. If there is any obvious truth in this, that happiness is a personal mental condition maintained independent of circumstances, that a naturally or spiritually made happy person cannot be made more and less happy by circumstances, but it does mean this: If a daughter is brought up to be, or allowed to be, selfish, exacting and eternally expecting more than she ever receives, she will not be happy though she owned half the earth and wore the engagement ring of the owner of the other half. Next to character in value as a dowery is executive ability of some kind. If a few hundreds, more or less, can be expended upon our daughters, let us give them some special education which will fit them for self-support. A woman thus endowed is happier than one who is the recipient of a yearly income from a father's bounty.

It is needless to recite the names of avenues which are so deservedly popular and open to women, but we may name one or two especially suited to a woman's true, eventual living in a home as wife and mother. One is that of the trained nurse. What a blessing to any home and to herself! Yet only strong young women can take this course of instruction, and it is a hard life when made self-supporting. But it will always recommend itself to the brave, practical girl. There is a glorious movement well started and marching grandly toward health. It is physical culture, now so fashionable. A thorough course of instruction in this will fit our daughters for real life, and secure to their children "the right to be well born." There is a great demand for teaching in schools and colleges which can be turned to bank account or board, as well as toward the perfect woman in physique.

Gold is good for what it secures to us, but after all, it is hard and cold, and its glitter is

mostly in reputation. In reality how often it is quite dull and far less bright than pinchbeck.

A voice says: "To be sure, some people insist upon calling a drop of water on a red rose something more æsthetic, but the 'dew drop' on the 'blushing rose' will not furnish us bread and shoe leather." And we must admit the truth of such a statement, but oh, for a glimpse of the beautiful—and oh, the hungry souls! "My mind to me a kingdom is!" What a dowery!—J. W. A., in *Country Gentleman*.

The Social Life of the Home.

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares," is commonly explained in the light of Abraham's hospitality.

But often in towns and country places, our neighbors may be "strangers, so far as any feeling of friendship goes.

Certainly no young people can be as perfectly rounded in social graces without companionship, as where a proper amount of "going" and entertaining is done. The fathers and mothers are kept younger and more in sympathy with the children, when they count themselves a part of the outside life.

In the changing customs of our times, we have left behind the quiltings, the husking bees, the candy pullings, the wool pickings, the barn raisings, the neighborhood threshing days, and what have we put in their place?

Machinery has done away with the need of extra help, and so many a home draws about itself a narrower circle than is conducive to the best good of all the inmates.

The ideal home does not have a boundary within its walls, nor yet its own church, but carries the home thought in each direction, to all the homes about it. So that if there were even one in ten, really friendly homes, in a short space of time all the world would be home-like.

Mrs. Clark in *Congregationalist* gives this wise counsel: "Meet together; entertain each other at your homes; remember that the New Testament lays great stress upon hospitality, and that hospitality need not imply extravagant expenditure. Avoid belittling and exciting amusements, but provide food for talk and for thought.

"If possible, inaugurate a series of such entertainments, which shall be participated in during their course about equally by all who attend them. You will be amazed to find how much your neighbors know, and what excellent people there are among them.

"And, above all, you will imbibe, if your experiment is pushed in the right spirit, even amid the difficulties which will arise, something of that ennobling feeling of the brotherhood of man, which is one of the best results of true social intercourse.

"And remember, too, it is your individual fault, reader of these lines, that there is not more social life in your neighborhood, if now it is lacking. It takes but one to kindle a fire. The materials are lying ready to hand almost anywhere."—Ethel Edgewood, in *Brattleboro Household*.

Quick way to Recurl Plumes.

No. 1—Throw a small handful of brown sugar on a hot stove, and hold the plumes in the smoke. Move about so the smoke will penetrate every part.

MRS. F. M. C.

No. 2—Let the fire in the cook stove burn down till you have a good bed of coals. Lay corn-cobs on, sprinkle with salt, and shake the plume in the smoke. Add cobs and salt from time to time, and be sure to shake the plume well; the harder you shake the plume, the better it will look. Be careful not to scorch.

MISS G. H.

If the sisters will boil the fat pork used in the pork cake, they will not need to bake it so long in order to feel that they are not eating raw meat, and the cake is nicer.

If "Little Quaker" in Colorado, will use about half as much shortening in her cakes and biscuits, she will succeed better with her Ohio methods of cooking. I know from experience gained

last summer in Canon City, Col.—SISTER EUNICE, in *Brattleboro Household*.

Why Women Marry.

You see, the day has gone by when a man would do anything for a woman; countries need to be either very young or very old when this sort of thing happens, but after all I can't help but remember that question, "What do women marry for?"

Some women marry because they want a home of their own, and these are my conclusions:

Some women marry because they haven't the moral courage to remain single.

Some women marry because they want a little more money in their purses and a larger credit at the shops.

Some women marry because they want to put "Mrs." on their visiting cards.

Some women marry because their mother wants them to.

Some women marry because a man asked them to and they didn't like to say no.

Some women marry for money—money and nothing else. These women get the money, and with it great responsibilities they never dreamed of.

Some women marry because they love the man, because they want to be his wife, his friend and his helpmate; because they want to make him feel that there is one woman in the world whom he can love and cherish, and from whom he will receive love and consideration in return. Because they want him to feel that if sorrow comes he has a sympathizing, loving friend close beside him, and that in the day of joy there is one who can give him smile for smile. These are the women worth marrying. The others are of little worth, and never would be missed if they suddenly dropped out of the matrimonial bonds.—*Bab's New York Letter*.

Live Like Lovers.

Married people should treat each other like lovers all their lives—then they would be happy. Bickering and quarreling would soon break off love affairs; consequently lovers indulge in such only to a limited extent.

Women should grow more devoted and men fonder after marriage, if they have the slightest idea of being happy as wives and husbands. It is losing sight of this fundamental truth which leads to hundreds of divorces.

Yet many a man will scold his wife who would never think of breathing a harsh word to his sweetheart, and many a wife will look grum and morose on her husband's return who had only smiles and words of cheer for him when he was her suitor.

How can such people expect to be happy?

Let no woman think herself well dressed with a dead bird for an ornament. Is it not true that to slay a friend is the most depraved type of atrocity? Already cornfields are overrun with grub-worms, rose bushes injured by slugs, apples deformed and imperfect. There are worms on the cabbage, tomato, gooseberry and currant bushes; bugs on the potato vines; flies on the wheat; curculio on the plum trees—an insect pest for everything, and still the birds are killed off! Let us all agree to use our whole influence for the discontinuance of this atrocious absurdity. (I almost said crime.) For the sake of humanity discountenance the destruction of birds. Let there be no more of this barbaric display in millinery, and I think we will come nearer the ideal of true womanhood.—*Indiana Farmer*.

It is not the being exempt from faults, but the having overcome them, that is an advantage to us; it being with the follies of the mind as with the weeds of the field—which, if destroyed and consumed upon the place of their birth, enrich and improve it more than if none had ever sprung there.

Olive Thorne Miller has recently posted from her home in Brooklyn over 20,000 printed slips asking the women of New York not to wear birds or their plumage.

Do you want the BUYERS GUIDE?

Most people say that it is worth \$ to them as a Reference Book, as it enables them to make a comparative estimate of the value of everything they buy.

MONTGOMERY WARD & Co., 111 to 116 Michigan Ave., CHICAGO.

Weight, - - - 2 lbs. Pages, - - - 540. Illustrations, - - 8,000. Articles Priced and Accurately Described, 30,000.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

Officers National Grange. MASTER—J. H. BRIGHAM... OVERSEER—H. K. HAWKINS... LECTURER—MORTIMER WHITEHEAD... SECRETARY—E. W. DAVIS...

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Michigan State Grange. And sent post-paid on receipt of Cash Order, over the Seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

Novel Scheme for Producing Rain

Senator Farwell, of Illinois, proposes after his term of office expires, which will be next March, to devote himself to the scientific work of trying to produce rain by the firing of cart ridges of gunpowder and nitro-glycerine high up in the air.

discredit falls on him and his instruction. A certain professor in a popular school has been very strenuous in enforcing certain "manners" on his classes, and very properly insists that the little boys should take off their hats whenever they meet any person they know, and also give up their seats in a crowded street car to ladies who are standing.

join them in their pleasure, and sympathize with them in their youthful griefs. The boy's man is rarely disturbed by the shout and laugh of exuberant boyhood. If some sour neighbor be not looking on he wouldn't mind taking a romp with the boys himself.

GERMAN HORSE AND COW POWDER

Is of the highest value of horses, cattle, hogs, and poultry. It assists digestion and assimilation and thus converts feed into muscle, milk and fat which otherwise would be wasted.

MORTIMER WHITEHEAD Says: "German Horse and Cow Powder pays many times its cost in keeping all kinds of farm stock in good health."

Wholesale Prices—viz: Barrels—20 lbs in bulk, 7 1/2c per pound. Boxes—60 lbs " " 8c " " 30 lbs—5 lb pack, 10c.

By ALBERT STEGEMAN, Allegan, Mich. THORNTON BARNES, No. 241 North Water St., Philadelphia, Pa.

G. R. & I. RAIL ROAD.

Table with columns for GOING NORTH and GOING SOUTH, listing stations like Cincinnati, Fort Wayne, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Cadillac, Traverse City, Potoskey, Mackinaw.

Nos. 5 and 6 daily between Grand Rapids and Cincinnati. Nos. 2 and 3 carries through chair cars between Grand Rapids and Cincinnati.

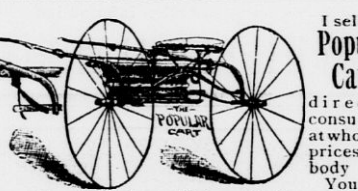
The New Tomato!

From Canada ought to be extra early, and as such it is sent out. The reports of the experimental stations speak highly of it, and numbers testify to its earliness, productiveness, large size, roundness, rich color and freedom from rot.

FOR LADIES ONLY. I will send any Secret, that cost me \$5.00, & a Rubber Shield for 30 cents.

'Planet Jr.' Improved Farm and Garden Tools for 1891.

BETTER, BROTHERS & HAND, TITAN EVERETT. Better and more numerous saws. We cannot describe them here, but our new and improved circular saws, disc saws, and hand saws, are of the highest quality.



I sell the Popular Carts direct to consumers at wholesale prices. Also body carts. You can save the dealer's profit by ordering carts direct from me. Circulars free. Address: W. H. SCHMEDLEN, Manufacturer, COLDWATER, MICH. Mention this paper.

GREGG RASPBERRY

DECIDEDLY THE LARGEST RASPBERRY IN EXISTENCE. Hardy and Immensely Productive. Plants \$1.00 per 100, 25 cents per dozen. Only first-class, well-rooted plants sent out.

BUY WALL PAPERS BY MAIL.

SAVE HALF OR MORE AS WE SELL AT FACTORY PRICES AND SELECT FROM BEST FACTORIES ONLY. Pretty Patterns with Match Borders, 3 to 5c. per roll. Beautiful Gilt with Match Borders, 5 to 20c. per roll.

EVERGREENS!

I have a large stock of all sizes for Hedges and ornaments. My aim is to compete in quality of stock, grade and cheapness with any Evergreen specialists. We pack and ship with safety everywhere.

Numerous Uses for Aluminum.

Among the uses for aluminum suggested by Mr. Eugene H. Cowles, president of the Lockport Company, according to Modern Light and Heat, are the following: At fifty cents per pound the new metal will compete with copper at seventeen cents, the latter being 3.56 times as heavy as an equal bulk of aluminum.

The Boy's Man.

How well the boy knows him, the boy's man! No need to tell him this man likes boys. He shows it in all his actions. If he doesn't say anything there is a kindly twinkle in his eye every time it falls upon a boy, that speaks volumes.

Genuine Politeness.

Politeness is to be worth anything must be instinctive. It is a good scheme to instruct youth in the outward signs of this inward grace even though it hath it not, but the teacher should also practice what he preaches, or

Globular Lightning.

Among the disputed points in the subject of electrical discharges is the phenomenon of globular lightning. Many treat this as an optical illusion, due to the excessively minute duration of the spark discharge, just as, when we have for an instant gazed upon the noonday sun and turned away, we see a reddish globe of fire float slowly straight before our eyes.

The Sunny South.

WALKER CO., Ga., Feb. 16.—Mr. O. W. Ingersoll—Dear Sir: Ten or twelve years ago I gave our house two coats of O. W. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber paints which have given splendid satisfaction, I take pleasure in recommending a paint that has proved so durable in this climate.

The Japanese Lacquer.

The Japanese lacquer which attracts so much attention on trays and ornaments imported from that mysterious land, has an interesting history. It is extracted from a tree, like sugar from the maple, and the lacquer-yielding trees reach a very large size. They only live about forty years, when they are cut down, the lacquer extracted from the branches, and young trees will take their place.

Politeness is a Christian duty.

A man has no more right to be impolite than he has to steal. Politeness is often synonymous with Christianity; that is, politeness will often lead a man to do the same thing which Christianity will lead him to do. Politeness keeps a man from saying that which will needlessly wound another's feelings.

Happy the boys who have a boy's man for a father.

He can discredit falls on him and his instruction. A certain professor in a popular school has been very strenuous in enforcing certain "manners" on his classes, and very properly insists that the little boys should take off their hats whenever they meet any person they know, and also give up their seats in a crowded street car to ladies who are standing.

Money per Inhabitant.

Taking the total of gold, silver and paper used for a circulating or exchange medium at 11,874 millions of dollars, and the population of the world at 1,450 millions of people, the average is about \$8.20 each, including men, women and children, and all uncivilized people who have no barter or trade, except in the way of exchanging skins of animals, ivory, trinkets, etc.

Japanese Lacquer.

The Japanese lacquer which attracts so much attention on trays and ornaments imported from that mysterious land, has an interesting history. It is extracted from a tree, like sugar from the maple, and the lacquer-yielding trees reach a very large size. They only live about forty years, when they are cut down, the lacquer extracted from the branches, and young trees will take their place.

Politeness is a Christian duty.

A man has no more right to be impolite than he has to steal. Politeness is often synonymous with Christianity; that is, politeness will often lead a man to do the same thing which Christianity will lead him to do. Politeness keeps a man from saying that which will needlessly wound another's feelings.

Happy the boys who have a boy's man for a father.

He can discredit falls on him and his instruction. A certain professor in a popular school has been very strenuous in enforcing certain "manners" on his classes, and very properly insists that the little boys should take off their hats whenever they meet any person they know, and also give up their seats in a crowded street car to ladies who are standing.

The Sunny South.

WALKER CO., Ga., Feb. 16.—Mr. O. W. Ingersoll—Dear Sir: Ten or twelve years ago I gave our house two coats of O. W. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber paints which have given splendid satisfaction, I take pleasure in recommending a paint that has proved so durable in this climate.

Land Plaster.

The Western Plaster Agency, of Grand Rapids, as will be seen by the letter of that company standing in our columns, has come down to the old price for plaster—\$2.50 per ton. We learn from the discussions at farmers' institutes, that many farmers in the south part of the state are again determining to sow plaster. The price is certainly no bar to its use, as compared to its known value in the growth of clover. We hope our readers will club together and purchase a car load and try it again in every neighborhood.

Destitution in Nebraska.

Many reports have recently reached us regarding great destitution in Nebraska, more especially in that portion of the state embracing the southern and western tiers of counties. These reports, although emanating from various sources have always been promptly contradicted or toned down by some of the leading newspapers of the state as well as by men high in authority. They said that, although there was indeed some destitution in the western part of the state, it was such as could be easily relieved by the people of the surrounding counties. For this reason the Farmers' Review has refrained from taking more action in the matter than to make a passing comment. Now, however, information is at hand that shows that the course of the officials, editors and land agents in belittling the destitution existing in those counties was not instigated by any worthy motive. It has been a deliberate and cold-blooded sacrifice of the interests of these poor people to serve the selfish ends of land-boomers and politicians, mingled, perhaps, with the desire not to detract from the reputation of the state. It might not have been so bad if these men, who said that the people of these counties did not need any more help than the state could render, had relieved the necessity of the people. But the result shows that they have been allowed to suffer from cold, from hunger, and from every other kind of misfortune that poverty brings. And now these counties, or some of them at least, in utter despair, stretch out their hands and ask help from other states. And this help should be bountifully given. But the same journals that have been instrumental in keeping help from these people in the past can doubtless be depended upon still to assert that no aid is needed. As a sample of these obstructionist tactics we quote the following from the "Lincoln Journal":

Those who believe most firmly in the agricultural future of the counties in the western part of the state that are now suffering from the dry season, are the people who reside in those very districts. They do not leave, because they are satisfied that if they can but pull through the winter there will be no trouble about good crops and plenty of means in the future. This is the true Nebraska spirit. Drouth will never be able to conquer a region filled up with that kind of people.

This may be a very heroic way in which to dispose of the question, but doubtless more satisfactory to the editor at Lincoln than to the suffering people in the frontier counties.

Railroad Taxation.

To THE EDITOR: Perhaps it was inferred from what I said at the Farmers' Institute that I thought the railroads were already taxed enough. I did not intend to convey that idea. All I wished was to show that, perhaps, the discrepancy in taxation was not as great as appeared on the surface, because two-thirds of the stock of our railroads is held outside of the state, so all the benefit they get from us is the protection of property, while we get that and protection of life, and also a rebate in the form of primary school money, which this year amounts to two-thirds of the state tax.

Our railroad tax last year was more than one hundred dollars per mile in this state. The highest tax is 3 per cent on gross earnings.

I find by a late report from Illinois that their Central pays 7 per cent on its gross earnings. If I get a correct idea of that road, it can pay more than any of ours, but there is not that differ-

ence. If that road pays what it ought, our main lines should pay 5 instead of 3 per cent.

Many think that this matter could be bettered by local taxation, and a bill has been introduced for that purpose. A part of that bill, I think, is right. Property around which fire and police protection is thrown should bear its part in paying the local tax for such protection. But the local taxation of the track and rolling stock, or in other words the business of the road, is objectionable. First, because of the difficulty of assessment and collection. The bill says rolling stock is to be assessed wherever found. It may be found in a dozen places in one day.

Second, it would not be fair to those townships in which there is no railroad. In our county, Almena, Keeler, Porter and Waverly have no track, and Hamilton and Arlington have each but a couple of miles. Columbia has twelve miles of track and three stations, while Waverly has none. A local tax would be a big boon for Columbia, but if any suit about railroads should come into our circuit court Waverly would have to pay her full share of the expense.

With the exception already mentioned about the buildings, I believe the present method preferable to any I have seen suggested, and as long as our school tax is the highest one we have to pay, the money returned to us by the state for the support of our schools will aid us as much though the railroads helped pay our local taxes.

I. P. BATES.

Obituaries.

EDGEHILL.

It is with feelings of deepest sorrow that we record the death of our much beloved sister, Mary Edgell, who passed away on the 13th day of February, 1891, in her 50th year.

Resolved, That by the death of Sister Edgell, Hopkins Grange No. 390 has lost an efficient charter member; her husband a kind and loving wife; her children an affectionate mother; the community a useful and honored member, and all with whom she associated will mourn her loss and cherish her memory.

Resolved, That our sympathies are hereby extended to the bereaved husband and family; that our charter be draped in mourning for sixty days, and that a copy hereof be sent to the bereaved family.

Resolved, That a memorial page be inserted in the Grange records to her memory.

Mrs. A. P. Congdon, Mrs. J. A. Dunwell, Hattie Mason,

Committee.

Sample Copies of

THE GRANGE VISITOR

Mailed Free to any Address.

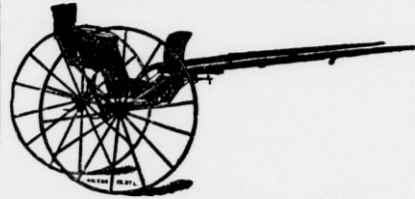
Farming in Central Michigan.

Statistics show that Farming in Central Michigan pays best. Lands are cheap and productive. Schools, railroads and markets are near at hand. Some choice bargains can be had. Those wanting a home write me for a sample price list pamphlet. Sent free.

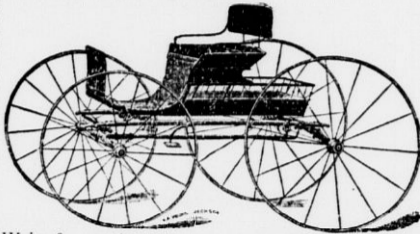
S. W. HOPKINS, 377 MT. PLEASANT, Isabella Co., Mich.

BUSH ROAD CART Co., Lansing,

MICH., Manuf'rs Spindle Road Wagons, Phaetons, Speeding and Skeleton Carts.



BUT ONE GRADE, THE BEST. Will sell you at wholesale prices if we have no agent in your place. Buy direct from factory and save money. All work warranted. Our Phaeton Cart is the greatest seller on the market.



Write for catalogue and prices. Mention this paper

THE BEST PLACE

TO BUY

A PERCHERON

STALLION

Is not always at a large importing establishment. Their horses are usually crowded and fattened, like steers for the shambles, and are overgrown and washy. liable on this account, or the effects of shipment, or change of climate, to die, or fall as breeders, for a time at least, and without being as good, or any better bred, cost more than twice as much as home bred stock.

I have two stallions, bred from noted stock on both sides, imported by Dunham, and recorded in the Percheron Stud Book, that have never been forced or fattened; that have never been kept and day, summer and winter; that never were sick a moment or took a drop of medicine, that I would like to sell to make room for younger ones coming on. They are large, stylish, easy movers and fast trotters, and have good feet and heavy bones. Quality considered, will price them very low for cash or good paper. DON'T BUY TILL YOU SEE THEM.

Grade Stallions, Mares and Heavy Geldings for sale.

A. W. HAYDON, DECATUR, MICH.

\$80 A MONTH and expenses paid any good \$100 month to distribute circulars Salary paid monthly. Sample of our goods and contract free. Send 10c. for postage, packing etc. We may purchase UNION SUPPLY CO. 35 & 38 RIVER ST. CHICAGO ILL

DOWAGIAC SHOE DRILL.



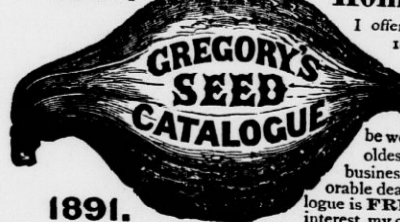
This was the first SHOE DRILL manufactured, and the present PERFECTED DRILL is the result of 22 years' experience and study to obtain the most perfect device for forming and covering drill furrows. As a result of this study and experience we now confidently place before the public

The Lightest Draft Drill, The Most Simple, Practical and Effective Drill, and the Most Durable Drill

In the market. It does not clog; it does not turn up sods; it does put the grain in at even depths on all soils, and it pleases everybody.

Send to DOWAGIAC SHOE DRILL CO. for Catalogue, Cuts, Testimonials and prices.

1891.



1891.

Home Grown, Honest, Reliable.

I offer you my Vegetable and Flower Seed Catalogue for 1891 FREE. Note the immense variety of seed it contains, and that all the best novelties are there. Not much more show about it (you don't plant pictures) but fine engravings from photographs of scores of the choice vegetables I have introduced. Would it not be well to get the seed of these from first hands? To be the oldest firm in the United States making mail and express business a specialty proves reliability. Honest and honorable dealing is the only foundation this can rest on. My Catalogue is FREE as usual. A matter on second page of cover will interest my customers. J. J. H. GREGORY & SON, Marblehead, Mass.

HEAP EXCURSIONS Via QUEEN & CRESCENT ROUTE ONLY \$47.50 TO CALIFORNIA And SOUTHERN PACIFIC Railroad Through Tourist Sleeping Cars without Change. Second-class tickets are accepted on these cars. EXCURSION leaves Central Union Depot at 8:30 p.m., Jan. 21st, Feb. 4th & 18th, March 4th & 18th, April 8th & 22nd. Parties buying tickets in other towns should see that they are for the above dates, and have agent reserve space in the only best connection to Southern TEXAS and MEXICO. For information, address, D. G. EDWARDS, C. P. Agt., QUEEN & CRESCENT ROUTE, Cincinnati, O. or W. C. CONNOR, C. Agt., SOUTHERN PACIFIC CO., Cincinnati, O.

ALABASTINE.

THE TIME TRIED AND BEAUTIFUL COATING FOR WALLS AND CEILINGS.

ALABASTINE IS UNLIKE ALL OTHER WALL COATINGS.

It is recommended by Sanitarians and is not dependent upon glue for its adhesiveness.

Walls can be decorated with Alabastine in any degree of elaboration, from plain tinting, plain tinting with stencil ornamentations, to the most elaborate fresco, and decorating in relief.

Finer effects can be produced for the same money with Alabastine than with wall paper.

Send for article taken from the report of the Michigan State Board of Health, entitled "Sanitary Walls and Ceilings," condemning wall paper and showing the evil results following its use.

We will also send free, on application, a set of colored designs showing how walls and ceilings may be decorated with Alabastine and the stencils we manufacture.

MAKE NO MISTAKE.

Purchase no other wall coating than ALABASTINE, put up in paper packages and properly labelled.

Manufactured only by

ALABASTINE COMPANY, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

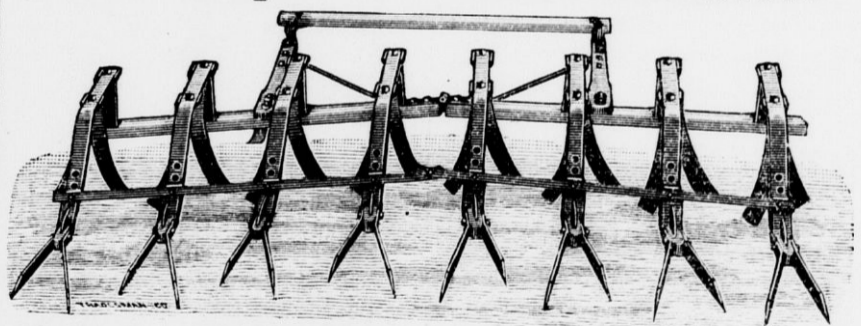
Lovett or \$1000.00 Raspberry.



Early as the earliest, large as the largest, hardy as the hardiest, firm as the firmest, jet black, the finest in quality and most prolific of all. It is fully described in Lovett's Guide to Horticulture. Also all good old and choice new varieties of Small and Orchard Fruit, Nut and Ornamental Trees and Plants, etc. It is a book of over 80 pages, finely printed and copiously illustrated. It states defects as well as merits, gives prices and tells how to purchase, plant, prune and cultivate. Mailed free; with colored plates 10c. Trees and plants to distant points by mail and express a specialty.

J. T. Lovett Co., Little Silver, N.J. Please state where you saw this ad.

The Improved Exterminator.



In offering to the public the IMPROVED EXTERMINATOR, we do not hesitate to say that we have the most perfect CULTIVATOR AND HARROW ever presented to the trade. As it will cut field, and it is a grand success in fresh turned sod or soft loamy soil. The KNIVES can be raised or lowered to suit the ground, and by adjusting the draft and the knives, the EXTERMINATOR can be run at any depth desired.

For prices, terms and other information, address

WHIPPLE HARROW CO., St. Johns, Mich.

SALZER'S SEED POTATOES

There is genuine pleasure in cropping from 300 to 500 bushels Potatoes from each and every acre you plant. Now the way to do this is to get SALZER'S SEEDS. 60,000 BUSHELS SEED POTATOES CHEAP. My WHITE BONANZA OATS took the American Agriculturist's prize—\$500 in Gold—for biggest yielding Oats in America; cropping 184 bu. per acre. I am the largest grower of 35 Packages Earliest Vegetables, SOUTHERN GROWN SEEDS, sufficient for family—per pack—\$1.00. In America, and make a great specialty of FARM SEEDS, Grasses, Clover, Wheat, Corn, Oats, etc. My Farm Catalogue is beautifully illustrated, contains several brilliant color plates painted from nature, elegant enough to adorn any parlor. Send 5c. for same, or we will send Catalogue and grain samples upon receipt of 8c. JOHN A. SALZER, LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN.

IMPROVED INCUBATOR

EXCELSIOR Simple, Perfect and Self-Regulating. Hundreds in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other hatcher. For full Catalogue, Circulars free. CEO. H. STAHL, QUINCY, ILL.

P. of H. Seed House.

HAVE FURNISHED SEEDS TO P. of H. FORT EIGHT YEARS. UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE GRANGE. Send for the Patrons' Special Price List. Address below.

SORGHUM

A LITTLE book that every farmer ought to have is the "Sorghum Hand Book" which may be had free, by addressing The Blymyer Iron Works Co., of Cincinnati, O. Sorghum is a very valuable crop for syrup-making, feed, and fodder, and this pamphlet gives full information about the different species, best modes of cultivation, etc. Send and get it and read it.

Water-Cleaned Seeds Never Fail! Why? Because the light seed is all washed out and what is left must grow. One trial will convince you. Catalogue and Garden Guide FREE. Heman Class, Seed Grower, Rochester, N.Y.