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THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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

Some Time.

Some time, when all life's lessons have been learned
And sun and stars forever more have set,
The things which our weak judgment here have spurned,
The things o'er which we griev'd with lashes wet,
Will flash before us out of life's dark night,
As stars shine most in deeper tints of blue;
And we shall see how all God's plans were right,
And how what seemed reproof was love most true.

And we shall see,—and mayhap frown and sigh,—
God's plans go on as best for you and me;
How, when we called, he heeded not our cry,
Because his wisdom to the end could see.
And e'en as prudent parents disallow
Too much of sweet to craving babyhood,
So God, perhaps, is keeping from us now
Life's sweetest things because it seemeth good.

And if, sometimes, commingled with life's wine,
We find the wormwood, and rebel and shrink,
Be sure a wiser hand than yours or mine
Pours out this portion for our lips to drink.
And if some friend we love is lying low,
Where human kisses cannot reach his face,
Oh, do not blame the loving father so,
But bear your sorrow with obedient grace!

And you shall shortly know that lengthened breath
Is not the sweetest gift God sends his friends,
And that sometimes the sable pall of death
Conceals the fairest boon his love can send.
If we could push ajar the gate of life,
And stand within, and all God's workings see,
We could interpret all this doubt and strife,
And for each mystery could find a key.

But not to-day. Then be content, poor heart;
God's plans like lilies pure and white, unfold.
We must not tear the close-shut leaves apart—
Time will reveal the calyxes of gold.
And if, through patient toil, we reach the land
Where tired feet, with sandals loose, may rest,
When we shall clearly know and understand,
I think that we will say that "God knew best."

Grain Gamblers vs. Farmers' Organizations.

It is quite generally conceded that the farmers suffer serious loss from the transactions of grain gamblers in depressing values by "bearing" the market, but just how it is done does not seem to be generally understood, hence the farmer's remedy does not become efficient; but he sloughs off his resentment in rotten, bubbling political stuff about a people's or a reformer's party, that will enact laws to prevent options; which if once prevented, would only give place to some other form of speculation, involving all the baneful effects, with perhaps less of moral and legal restraint.

But would he once apply his brain power to the task, and by cool calculation, thwart the "bear's" clever scheme by joining forces with the "bull" element of trade, he would soon make the business of options so risky that the laws of supply and demand would be allowed to take their natural course, while the farmer would receive his deserved reward, and be what God intended him—nature's true nobleman.

In all of its political furor, the Farmers' Alliance has at last through the genius of one of its leaders, semi-officially and openly advocated a plan for relief to farmers that towers above all the politics that ever has, or ever will pervade its structure, or impel its operations. It is the simple bit of advice to put the price of your wheat at not less than \$1.35 per bushel, and hold it for that price. It simply involves the business-like method of computing the cost of one's product, and then selling in the

market at a reasonable profit. Some pot-house politician or ward-heeler will, I doubt not, at once array before the public an assumed aggregate of three million bushels of wheat, and estimating the difference between the \$1.35 per bushel and the 84c. contracted delivery of the board of trade gambler for next December, announce to us, "3,000,000 bushels of wheat, at 51c per bushel increased price (gasp!!!), more than one and one-half millions of dollars extorted by the great farmers' monopoly, swept from the tables of the poor, downtrodden(?) laborers of America." As this ward-heeler is invariably neither a farmer nor a laborer, only a menial vampire in society and business, it will never occur to him that this million and a half of dollars will, in speedy distribution, divide itself up in increased trade with the merchant, and bless all the legitimate vocations of the country. With business active, the people satisfied, and the farmer easy in money, the demagogue's politics cannot thrive, and his coveted janitorship, or stewardship, cannot be realized, because prejudice will give way to reason, impulse to discretion, and better men be elected in his stead. Let reason and judgment, and the philosophy of good business tact and talent enter into the great farmer organizations of America, and this nation will enter upon an era of progress we have no comprehension about.

The Alliance has now, as an organization, proposed what a few of us as individuals have preached for years; "regulate the supply." set your prices upon a basis of profit commensurate with the importance of your calling, and when December comes, the time when those gamblers propose to deliver your wheat for 84 cents per bushel, let them hold only the dence spot, while you have the bowers in your granary, and the joker is in lead at \$1.35 per bushel. Manufacturers will praise you, merchants will honor you, professional men will be proud of you as fellow men and co-workers; they would hurrah to see you get \$2 per bushel for your grain, because they know that means increased business for them. But when you flaunt your nasty politics in their faces, and thrust upon the public unsound doctrines of finance, inferior men into public trust, then they despise you; and when you come sneaking back to them with, "I voted for a change, we got it, we turned the rascals out, but we put some worse ones in," sinks beneath the shades of common decency, even after the influence of such conduct, and with it has gone self-respect, without which there is naught worth living for.

Let the American farmer take warning; good business enterprise will ever stand as the bone and sinew of his organization, while political complications will ever be in the homely comparison of a seething, stinking compost to his better work.

As Grand Secretary of the Patrons of Industry of Michigan these statements may seem strange to people who have, not without reason, supposed the Patrons were a political organization. Never in the spirit of the constitution has it been such, never by the consent of its leaders, nor its originators has it been such, and if by proclamation or influence it has been such, it has been because of extraneous influence and effort—because of the ever present effervescing of

scheming agitators for personal agrandizement—while the conservative, careful and practical constituency have silently submitted and allowed many honest but misguided ones to be led along the path of error, seeing their mistake too late to save the fault, but not too late to retrieve their steps. And now that the bone and sinew of the order is settling down to work on business plans, it is decidedly an opportune time for every thorough practical, intelligent farmer to join his best efforts to the support of the correct principles of the Patrons of Industry of Michigan. And it seems to me it is but a practical and worthy object of the order of Patrons, to aid and support on every hand the proposition of the Alliance to have some interest and influence in settling the price of our produce. So also the farmer who is not a Patron may contribute to his brothers' effort, by carefully husbanding his powers and forces that nature and the respected liberties of men have given him.

Let the honest tellers of the soil, the grain producers of the United States, come together, if need be, in grand convention, devise, if means there be to execute, what we may design. While some can't hold their grain, a large percentage can. One can sell beef to save his wheat, and one can sell corn; all can economize and be sparing in their contribution to the supply. "The poor must sell," but there are enough who are not so poor that we must glut the market. Already our wheat, yet unthreshed, is sold on the board of trade for 84 cents, to be delivered in December. Shall we deliver it and keep on prating about "people's party" and all sorts of political slush, which only divide our strength, diminish our influence, and destroy our friendship (such being the result of experience, that no argument on earth can overthrow the fact); or shall we come together as representatives of the great farmers' organizations for business that is profitable? Let thinking men of Farmers' Clubs, of the Grange, of the Farmers' Alliance, and of Patrons of Industry, ponder these points and commit their judgment to the public in print, but never through the official organ of a fraternity. In this I have practiced what I preached, and suppressed my article from the Patron organ of which I am editor, as I will suppress the articles of any one who will mix political inference or zeal with business or social rights.

And then, in conclusion, if farmers' orders are to be prostituted to political partizanship, I have done with them; if they are for the refining, the enlivening, the lifting up, the educating, of our fellow men, and the development of business-like enterprise that will yield a profit for my labor, and a lasting comfort to my home, then I will work till galled in the harness. I know full well in this article I shall invite the gall and bitterness of some blustering small weights, but the time has come for a wholesome change in the predominant drift of public sentiment for the public good. It is time for thinking men of experience to speak and write their long suppressed opinions, and if in this article there is the germ of that which may in time call for the others to speak and lead to better ways and more profitable action in behalf of private

enterprise and public good, I shall have sufficient compensation in the respect of men of greater value.—JOHN E. TAYLOR, in Michigan Farmer.

"visible" Wheat.

The rapid absorption of the unprecedented amounts of wheat marketed so far during the present grain year (reckoning from July 1), is accounted for first by the large purchases for export in anticipation of an unusual demand in Europe, which became evident as soon as the near approach of harvesting there cut off hope of improvement in their condition; second, by the very small supply of "visible" wheat which could be drawn upon to meet immediate demand for home consumption and unusual export at so early a date. Sometime ago, the Orange Judd Farmer gave the estimates of the small stock of "reserves" remaining in the possession of producers. The "Visible Supply" here referred to, means all the wheat East of the Rocky Mountains (Canada included) in the elevators and other storage, in the 21 chief market centers; also the wheat in transit on lakes, rivers and canals and that on shipboard at New York and St. Louis.

VISIBLE WHEAT SUPPLY AS ABOVE (FOR TEN YEARS.

Year	Bushels	Year	Bushels
1882	10,107,000	1887	34,413,000
1883	19,418,000	1888	23,619,000
1884	15,439,000	1889	15,301,000
1885	41,375,000	1890	20,174,000
1886	28,219,000	1891	13,590,000
Average for the ten years.....21,161,200			

This shows a smaller supply than in any year past since 1882; about two million bushels less than in the other two low years (1884 and 1886), and only about five-eighths (64 per cent) of the average, counting in 1882 and the other low years. It is to be noted also that this year's low supply follows the other consecutive years of very moderate stocks, the average for 1889 and 1890 being 17,737,500 bushels on July 1st, or about 3 1/2 million bushels below the general average. The effect of this was to reduce the "reserves" in those years, and make earlier drafts upon the crop of 1891. With the rapid absorption for consumption and especially export of the large early receipts, the visible supply increased only half a million bushels during the first 25 days of July. The recent enormous and wholly unprecedented early marketing of wheat had for the same reason only increased the visible supply to 17,767,937 bushels at the end of the week ending Aug. 1st.—Orange Judd Farmer.

ED. VISITOR:—In a communication in a late number of the Visitor I advocated the proposition that the state is under no obligation, and has no right, to tax the people to support any but primary schools. But the state will probably always continue to maintain the higher institutions. It is such a glorious thing to have a University that will be the largest in the world, and to have high schools in every city and village, that the statesmen will continue the system, whether the people want it or not. Then, too, it is a fine scheme to enable people who are able to pay for the higher education for their children to get tuition free.

Now, if the people have got to be taxed for anything but a primary education, let us have taught in the University and high schools the trades and arts—carpentering, blacksmithing,

cabinet-making, printing, cooking, dress-making, washing and ironing, drawing, painting, architecture, and many other things that might be named. It would do the children of the poor much more good than a knowledge of French and German, the dead Greek and Latin, conic sections, differential and integral calculus, spherical trigonometry, geology, astronomy, metaphysics and the rest.

This practical education would be greatly higher than the other. It would be good for the children of the rich—would give them something "to fall back on" if they should be reduced to poverty. In Germany the sons of the wealthy largely learn trades.

One reason why many educated people do not succeed is, they haven't the physical strength. An education of the arms and the chest in learning a trade would give them the force that would help to carry them through any kind of business. Exercise in working at a trade is better for physical education than ball-playing, boating and gymnastics. The student has a great object in view—his living and his feelings are interested in the best way. He gets to love manual work—it is a pleasure to him. A man is vastly more effective when he labors with a love of work. The intellect sympathizes and works more vigorously in a body that delights in work.

G. A. MORGAN.

Kellogg, Mich.

"Was it Suicide?"

Why marriage is sometimes a failure is an interesting and important question to all; and every one, married or single, should read the absorbing story with the above title, by the pen of the poet-novelist, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, written in that popular author's most forcible style, which is published in the September number of that always bright periodical, Demorest's Family Magazine. It contains, besides, an abundance of other good reading matter, just the sort that one enjoys at this season. There is a splendid article, fully illustrated, about "Brazil;" "A Poet at Home" tells about Ella Wheeler Wilcox and her lovely home, and with it are pictures of "the poet's corner" and portraits of her in some of her noted gowns; whether you ever enjoyed that rare sport moose-hunting or not, you will be interested in "A Stray Shot at a Moose," written by the fortunate amateur sportsman who brought down his game at the first shot, which is finely illustrated; "A Seven Days' Tramp and What it Cost" describes a "tramp" made by eight girls and a chaperon, and the chaperon tells the story; then there are stories and poems, and the various departments are replete with useful and amusing matter, and there are nearly 200 illustrations, besides a beautiful water-color, "Play ball, Pa!" which appeals to every admirer and devotee of baseball. And this is only a fair sample of what one gets monthly in this ideal Family Magazine, which is published for \$2 a year, by W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th St., New York City.

Much injury is done by the use of irritating, gripping compounds taken as purgatives. In Ayer's Pills, the patient has a mild but effective cathartic, that can be confidently recommended alike for the most delicate patients as well as the most robust.

Why Is it So?

Some find work where some find rest,
And so the weary world goes on;
I sometimes wonder which is best,
The answer comes when life is gone.

Some eyes sleep when some eyes wake,
And so the dreary night-hours go;
Some hearts beat where some hearts break;
I often wonder why 'tis so.

Some wills faint where some wills fight—
Some love the tent—and some the field,
I often wonder who are right—
The ones who strive, or those who yield.

Some hands fold, where other hands
Are lifted bravely in the strife;
And so through ages and through lands
Move on the two extremes of life.

Some feet halt where some feet tread,
In tireless march, a thorny way,
Some struggle on where some have fled;
Some seek, when others shun the fray.

Some swords rust where others clash,
Some fall back where some move on,
Some flags furl where others flash
Until the battle has been won.

Some sleep on, while others keep
The vigils of the true and brave;
They will not rest till roses creep
Around their names, above a grave.

—Father Ryan.

The Old Homestead.

There may have been a time afar away in the earlier days, when the race was nomadic, that one spot was quite as dear as another—a time when each tree was a shelter and each cave a refuge. But aside from Gypsodom, and dating back through as many centuries as there is data for us to dream upon, there has been a love for one spot above all others, that has clung through the years, overpowering all grander, more imposing and more beautiful and attractive places. It is this feeling which moved the lonely John Howard Payne, in the midst of Bohemia, to sing that plaintive song, so full of heart-felt longing, which assures us all that "Be it ever so humble, there is no place like home," and this which made our witty poet weave bits of pathos into his rhyme, when he tells us that "No soil on this earth is so dear to our eyes as that we first stirred in terrestrial pies." And this has sung itself over in the rhymes of those who spoke to the world, and of those who paused in the rush of life to hold communion with their own hearts. Happy hearts have sung it in joyous measure; lonely, desolate hearts have wailed it in their agony, and busy men and women have felt it all their lives.

The "Old brown homestead," of which Alice Cary sang, is seen by many of us to-day. In the elegant mansion when the gas has burned all freshness from the air, and the night has given the electric light in place of the sun, and there is no friendly darkness, because the wealth at hand would lure burglars hither were it not for the clear light, the alarm, ever ready to sound, and the many safeguards provided, then the thought comes of the little childhood's home, where the wooden button was the only lock, and that rarely turned, where "the latch string hung outside the door, and was never pulled through," as was sung in the days of the Tippecanoe campaign, and visions come of the dear little home

"That reared its walls, the wayside dust aloof,
Where the apple-boughs could almost cast
Their golden fruitage on the roof."

And, indeed, no artist paints a fairer picture. Then, with Longfellow, there is realized the sweetly true words,

"We may build more splendid habitations,
Fill our rooms with paintings and with sculptures,
But we cannot buy with gold the old associations."

It may not be difficult to realize that the Sally of those early days would be but poor company to-day, with her homespun ways and rustic dress; that her hands, rough and coarse as they are, would be difficult to confine in a dainty glove, and that her variance from the rules laid down by Lindley Murray would jangle discordantly in the fashionable drawing room; but we have such tender memories of this little girl, who was our playmate in the happy days, that no breath of jasmine scented kerchief can equal its delightful suggestion, though its fragrance bring unsought the proudest of patrician beauties to our eyes. It is easy to feel the inconvenience of the old life, with the crude household utensils; but the fact that they accompanied our contented days casts a halo over them, as it were, and renders them sacred. All who know a real country home, whether humble or exalted

above its fellows, knows a blessed thing, and most of us realize it. No one can love the bustle and whirl of a city's exciting life so far as to forget the joys of the country, and to dream of laying down their life where first they found it, in the restful shade of country ways. And blessed are they who do not realize too late that their wisest choice is to go back to the old homestead before their happy life is over—if so be they have been tempted to leave it in some silly hour—and there have the taste of enjoyment before life is yielded. There is such nearness to nature in the country that one is healed there soonest when ill, rested soonest when weary, and reconciled the more easily to any loss, even if it be one's own life.

Many have realized this, and have recognized that the place soon to be sold to a stranger for a song is worth more than money can estimate, and have roused themselves and bought the old homestead, the ancestral acres for a season in the hand of the family. They rarely keep the old home as a dwelling; they may preserve it, as one of the buildings upon the remodelled estate, but they will keep the old spot famous. The "old Allen place" has no right to become the "Adam house" so long as an Allen lives worthy of the name. A strong appeal is made to these stray children, which is worth keeping. It reads:

"Oh, don't you remember the schoolhouse red
Which stood far back on the hill,
And the great oak tree which lifted its head
Close by? It stands there still.
You learned addition in that old place,
And the use of verb and noun;
They have earned you much in life's hard race—
Give some to the dear old town!"

"You have wandered far from the hearthstone gray
Where your infant feet first trod,
You have walked in many a devious way,
But you worship your father's God.
For you'll never forget the lessons taught,
When at night you all knelt down
In the home that you hold in your tenderest thought
In your own old native town."

"It is old and needy now, they say,
How many have gone West!
And under mouldering headstones gray
Lie nearly all the rest.
But it is not poor, this village dear,
It can never get run down
While its sons are rich, and feel that here
Is their own dear native town!"

"The bluebells grow on the river-bank,
And the violet on the hill;
The wild azaleas, sweet and rank,
The gray, wet marshes fill.
There is pink arbutus in the woods
When the spring is cold and brown;
It is only poor in worldly goods,
In your own dear native town."

"Ah! go when the summer solstice burns,
And your city home is hot,
Go look where the winding river turns
In the green old meadow lot.
Then ask the people what it needs,
And count it life's best crown
To build it up with filial deeds,
Your own dear native town!"

These are the days when the towns are full of city people, and as they read this some may be moved to seek out the old homestead and see if it may not be brought back into the family. Others, who have no such homestead, will perhaps choose one whence all the children have passed from earth, and adopt this as the future homestead of their family. There may be many alterations made conscientiously with the old home that may be classed as improvements, and all that can be done be put forth to benefit the town, yet when this is done, even though it be the act that saved the town from oblivion, let modesty prevent the desire of a change of name, if so be it bear already a fair-sounding name, rather than make it conditional that the place be known evermore by the name of its latest benefactor.

The old homestead appeals to all, and each year more of us listen and are benefited by the remembrance. It may be, also, that the place of the old home is dearer, in that association and real help come from the consideration. If this is true, all will have cause for rejoicing in the better state of affairs thus resulting.

A very good freckle lotion can be made by taking muriate of ammonia, one-half drachm; lavender water, two drachms; distilled water, one-half pint. Apply with a sponge two or three times a day.

To make a good tooth paste take rose pink, two drachms; precipitated chalk, twelve drachms; carbonate of magnesia, one drachm; sulphate of quinine, six grains. Mix.

Accepting the Risks of Others.

A few days since a young man came to me to have a "reference" endorsed by the local magistrate to the effect that this young man was "of good character, did not drink, of responsible word, and was not encumbered by debt," all of which I willingly subscribed to, knowing well this particular young man. Why was this? He had been appointed to a responsible position which required a \$500 bond. He would not ask a friend to assume any responsibility for him, but chose to pay for responsibility by giving his personal bond to a New York Trust Company to secure him, and paid for it, and then if failure should come in any way, his friend or friends would not be made to pay that from which they had received no benefit.

Several instances of signing a note to accommodate a friend in this vicinity, lately, call renewed attention to this practice of requested responsibility, not only in private business but in signing official bonds for friends. This practice carries its own condemnation upon the face of it. If a man is secure enough to guarantee the man who signs with him, he is able to become his own security. A man who can make his own obligations good needs no bail, and when a bond is required let this man, as did this young man, buy a security for the required amount, the same as an insurance policy. Then if disaster or reverse does come, a wealthy corporate company, who propose to make money by taking risks, make good the loss, and not one or two honest old farmers, who can ill afford to put a few hundred dollars "into a hole" because they could not say no, and so obliged a friend; and along this line of boughten experience it is that many a man gets his first lesson in misplaced confidence.

The exchange of property of any kind or sort is a matter between two parties, individual or corporate. Both can see an advantage to be gained; but when one of these can only make the exchange good by a promise to pay, then is the time for the third party who is asked to lend his name to this promise, to either say no or demand some kind of visible security in his case.

Why should this third party be called upon to make the transaction good? If the buying party is capable of managing the acquired property, let him assume the whole responsibility (for if he can pay he needs no "backer") and not ask a man for the use of "his name" and in return not give value received.

Often such transactions come out all right, but I can count up about me half a dozen cases of financial stringency, of wrecked homes, and of families struggling along under a burden of debt, the result of solicited responsibility.

One of the evils of this "backing" the paper of a friend, is the false position it often enables a man to take before the public—that of a monied man—and ends in the ruin of half a score of people who, by this false light, are "inspired" to trust their belongings with him, and in the grand crash that follows their ruin is quite complete.

Every one has such instances in mind where a man has been "carried" on the name of friends, and at last it was wonderful to know how the business had been conducted; and it only illustrates how deeply a man will often run in debt, and to what extent he will assume obligations when he can get willing endorsers. This is also conspicuous in public affairs. Treasurers of cities and counties get ten men whose combined wealth is a million dollars, as bondsmen, and then, when the coffers are full, they suddenly decamp with the funds to the Queen's domains, and the bondsmen have to make the amount good, or, what is the same thing in one sense, the tax payers have their per centum doubled up.

I have almost come to the belief that treasurers should give only their own personal bond, and let the tax-payers exercise a little of their constitutional rights in selecting and electing a man who is of good reputation. Very few "ward heelers" would then be nominated as treasurers as a reward for party services.

Would I refuse all personal assistance? I would, in a certain way. The law provides for two forms of security—chattel and real security. The man who requires help beyond trivial sums ought at least to have enough visible capital to secure such, and if he has no "belongings," should he ask a third party, simply "on his honor," to become responsible? Why not the man selling take the word of honor himself?

No one can guarantee the luck of an irresponsible man, and how has it happened that this man is requesting responsibility of another to make his name good when he has had the same world to create responsibility in and make his own name worth 100 cents on the dollar?

In a general way, I am inclined to say, in the light of much observation along this line, that in a great majority of cases, where the responsibility amounts to more than a trivial sum, one should refuse to endorse unless secured, and men who can secure endorsers need no "backing."

I think that this signing bonds as a form of law, or lending names at auctions, and for all minor offices, administrators, &c., should be stopped, and let the man who needs bail pay his premium for a bond of the "Trust Company," organized for just that purpose, and then, if needs be, put the settlement of estates wholly in the hands of either probate or trustees, secured by the Trust Company.

If you feel that you should sign for a friend, ask for 24 hours in which to think it over. Talk it over with your wife, and without her assent don't do it. Paying a note for another man, as a rule, is a matter that calls for economy, and in that event it is the wife and children who bear the brunt of it. More work, fewer comforts, closer staying at home to save help, and more "sweat of the brow" that the man who was "accommodated" rarely shares in.

The lesson of the hour is to be more self-asserting, more individually independent and responsible in word, deed and obligation. These make a man legally, manly and financially strong; then if our property only counts up a few thousands, our names will count as millions among our friends and those with whom we come in business contact.—John Gould, in Country Gentleman.

Why the Government Should Own the Railways.

In an Arena article for the present month, favoring the government ownership of the railways, Mr. C. Woods Davis gives some calculations in favor of the economy of such an ownership that have not before been presented in so concise and striking a form. Mr. Davis is a railroad expert and employe, and is therefore an authority on the subject he discusses.

In the first place he calls attention to the power that the joint owners of coal mines and the railroads running to them have over the price of coal. By furnishing cars to themselves and denying them to other coal operators they can largely control the output and consequently the price of coal.

Another great advantage would be the dispatch of traffic by the shortest routes. Under the present system the longer route gets no greater rates for transportation between two points than the shorter. If the traffic can be sent by the longer route at a profit then the cost of sending it by the shorter should be much less than this. If the government owned the lines it could send traffic over the shortest route at cost. The saving by this change he reckons at \$25,000,000 per annum.

There would be a great reduction in the number of employes. In many places the three or four railways that come in could be consolidated. Duplicate freight and ticket offices, stations and the large local staffs they all employ could be abolished. This economy he puts down at \$20,000,000 a year.

The great number of expensive railroad attorneys and the legal expenses growing chiefly out of the competition of the roads, or in "endless controversies between the corporations, in wreck-

ing railroads; in plundering the shareholders; in contending against state and federal regulation, and in manipulating elections and legislation," could be abolished. The cost of the legal departments of the railways, which would be done away with under government control, he puts at \$14,000,000 per annum.

He says that 10 per cent of the travelers on the railroads are carried free, and this would amount to \$30,000,000 annually.

Then there is a vast expenditure in paying commissions for the diversion of traffic to particular lines often the least direct. National ownership would do away with at least \$20,000,000 spent for this purpose.

The immense salaries, the cost of official staffs, are not paid because the mere business of operating a railroad calls for such extraordinary talent. The talent thus paid for is employed by every railroad to check and counteract the tricky competition of rivals. Under government control there would be no such competition and consequently no need for the \$25,000,000 now devoted to this kind of official ability.

Competition, too, requires \$7,000,000 of advertising, \$5,000,000 of which might be saved.

Fifteen million dollars is spent on the maintenance of freight and passenger offices, a large part of which is rendered necessary by the attempts to divert traffic from one line to another.

The traffic associations devoted solely to the task of trying to prevent the different companies from violating their solemn agreements are another source of expense that would be unnecessary if the government operated the roads.

These retrenchments amount in the aggregate to \$160,000,000 annually. To this should be added \$150,000,000 for decrease in interest charges, making a total saving under government control of \$310,000,000.

This is a favorable showing, and it will probably be challenged by the corporations. But there is no denying that the drift of public opinion is in favor of the government control of railroads, both city and general, of telegraph communication, of the express business and of the whole system of human intercommunication. Beginning with letter carrying, there is no logical stopping place. When one asks, Why not packages also? Why not freight? Why not passengers? there is but one answer. In Australia they have answered it and have taken control of all means of transportation with excellent results.—Detroit Journal.

Not a Wise Move.

I do not think the organization of the people's party, at present at least, a wise move. The farmer is and has been gaining in political influence and power for many years and many of his demands, made through grange committees, for legislation favorable to his interests have been granted by both state and national Legislatures, and nearly all of them have received respectful consideration at least. Both of the great political parties are anxious to secure the farmer vote and any reasonable demand which has the hearty support of a majority of the farmers' will, I think, finally be granted. It will be granted much sooner if we work through the old parties than if we form a new party, since we have now the balance of power in the old parties and can succeed if we hold them to their good behavior. Again I will say that I personally know of no one who favors the sub-treasury scheme, or the loaning of money at a low rate of interest on land security by the government. A few favor unlimited coinage, however.—F. A. Allen, Secretary Maine State Grange

An enterprising Nebraska man says, that he will take to the Exposition a crowd of 50,000 school children from Omaha and vicinity. He proposes to have each car load in charge of a teacher, and he has already begun negotiations with the railroads for special rates and special trains.

PATRON'S PAINT WORKS. MANUFACTURER OF INGERSOLL'S LIQUID RUBBER PAINT.

Cheap, Indestructible Paints for BARNs and OUTBUILDINGS. Beautiful Sample Color Cards and Book of Instructions—FREE. We Guarantee Satisfaction.

Limitations. "If youth could know! How many needless fears were stilled!" We tell our hearts with trembling lips.

Weeds a Blessing. The farmer prepares his seed-bed by furnishing fertilizers, by making the ground mellow and bringing the plant food within reach of the roots of the growing grain.

express the enjoyment of all who participated. Truly such neighboring visits are very enjoyable as well as beneficial. Later, July 28, Rollin Grange held an ice cream social on the beautiful lawn of one of its members and had a good crowd, netting enough to pay for a new freezer for the use of the Grange.

A \$45 SEWING MACHINE for \$15,

Including One Year's Subscription to this Paper. SINGER SEWING MACHINES. We have made such arrangements as enable us to offer the Chicago.

Is Woman Equal to Man in the Grange? In Grange Homes of recent date we find the following, regarding the number of offices held by women in the Granges of several of the states.

Just here is where blessing comes in. The destruction of the weeds cultivates the growing maize, the cabbages, the root crops, etc., and but for the weeds many a lazy farmer would use neither hoe, cultivator nor plow, and thus suffer the soil to bake and thus cut short his crops often to more than 50 per cent.

Don't Work too many Hours. We never work but ten hours a day at farm work, and haven't for a good many years, says T. B. Terry in the Practical Farmer. We used to work from early in the morning until 8 or 9 p. m. It was a foolish, drudging way, but we then thought it was necessary.

One of the strongest things connected with the progress and advance of humanity is that the coarse abuse of the innovator and reformer often answers for argument, and the masses are let into the monstrous error of stoning these who desire to help them.

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 on the following instruments on receipt of cash to pay for Boxing and Shipping.

Woman's vote in the Grange counts as much as a man's. In many Granges she has a majority of the offices. Some of the finest literary work emanates from her pen and brain. Can these things be if woman is not equal to man in the Grange?

Wise farmers plow under clover for improving the condition or fertility of the soil, and the roots of clover form no inconsiderable portion of the plant as fertilizer. Clover is embraced in every rotation or system of farm crops, and is worthy of the place.

Farmers' meetings often discuss the question whether or not agriculture is as profitable as other occupations, and the question is usually left undecided for lack of accurate data. Mr. Horace Wadlin, chief of the Massachusetts bureau of labor statistics, has made a careful examination as to the profits of manufacturing in this state, which will be of immense service in throwing accurate light on the relative profitability of farming.

Ingersoll's Ten Years' Test. IROQUOIS Co., ILL., June 29th, 1891.—O. W. Ingersoll's Paint Works:—Gentlemen:—I shall do some painting this fall, and as I sent you an order of \$64.92 in October, 1882, also one of \$23.00 in May 1883, and as the paint has given entire satisfaction, I propose to use no other than the Liquid Rubber Paint.

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.

Join the Grange. Every farmer should join the Grange. It does not matter that he is a member of the other organizations, he should be also a member of the Grange. This organization he needs for himself, for his wife and for his children as they approach maturity.

Nonsense to the Rear. Farmer friends, you are now on trial before the public. All eyes are turned on you in measuring the reasonableness of the demand which you make respecting legislation. If you prove consistent with yourselves, and so formulate the propositions with which you intend to go before the public as to show a comprehensive understanding of all the needs and equities of the case, the people are ready to give you the full assistance you require.

Assuming these figures to be correct, as they probably are, coming from such eminent authority, it follows that for agriculture to be as profitable as other kinds of business, the farmer must earn wages at the going rate, and then must make a profit of four per cent on the total value of his product. But as the farmer is engaged in a business that mixes up home life and business life, he must not forget to place on the other side of the account the value of his living—including rent, all farm products consumed in the house, and the use of team for personal use.

CHOICE CLEVELAND BAY AND 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.

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.

Every farmer should join the Grange. It does not matter that he is a member of the other organizations, he should be also a member of the Grange.

Saturday evening, July 25th, nearly 50 members of Rollin Grange went over to Onstead Grange by invitation. At their request Rollin Grange officers took charge of the meeting, after which came the feast of rich ice cream and cake.

We have received an elegant copy of the Foster Bros. Catalogue of Shropshire sheep. This firm's breeding farm and address is at Monterey, Mich.

FOR MEN ONLY! POSITIVE CURE For LOST or FAILING MANHOOD; General and NERVOUS DEBILITY; Weakness of Body and Mind; Effects of Errors or Excesses in Old or Young. Munn & Co. Scientific American Agency for Patents.

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:

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Table with 2 columns: Paper Name, Price. Includes Weekly Free Press, Detroit Weekly Tribune, Cosmopolitan Magazine, St. Louis, Demorest's, Michigan Farmer, Farm Journal, Farm and Garden, Christian Herald, Atlantic Monthly.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

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

Commencement at the Agricultural College.

A notable feature of the week has been the action of the faculty and of the State Board of Agriculture in conferring the degree of Master of Agriculture upon Hon. John T. Rich, and the degree of Master of Horticulture upon Hon. T. T. Lyon. Those are the first gentlemen upon whom those honorary degrees have been conferred by the college, and they are bestowed upon men of high attainment in each of their professions.

Brazil is waking up to the importance of establishing schools of agriculture in her provinces, and has sent one of her most eminent citizens to the United States to learn our methods and to secure a director for the first college. This Brazilian gentleman, Luiz V. de Souza Queiroz, accompanied by John L. N. Hunt, the superintendent of schools in New York city, have been at the Michigan Agricultural College for several days, studying its methods, and preparing to copy after it in the first agricultural school to be endowed by the Brazilian government. These gentlemen stated that they had made inquiries of the leading educators in the east what colleges it were best to visit, and the unanimous advice was to go to Michigan, for all that was of value in any of them could be found here. They expressed themselves as delighted with what they had found, and with the treatment received from all in authority.

The college graduates a class of 32 this year, and the outlook for the next college year is good.

Grange Sentiment Justified.

We call attention to the article on the first page of this issue, taken from the Michigan Farmer, written by John E. Taylor, Secretary of the Patrons of Industry organization. We are particularly gratified because the sentiment of the paper so nearly coincides with the tone of sentiment which the Visitor has steadily maintained through all the shifting opinions of the past year and a half. We have been berated and abused because we would not bend in the direction of the blasts of political frenzy, and sanction the vagaries of wild schemers. We have tried to maintain the dignity of the Grange as an organ, believing, as the sequel has proved, that conservatism and a steady uplifting of public sentiment

through its educating influence, was a stronger and more effective weapon than a pyrotechnic display of meteoric nothings. The time has gone by when a city can be taken by marching about it blowing ram's horns and shouting. The Grange campaign is more a siege than a sortie, and success will be won, as Mr. Taylor intimates, by addressing ourselves to the practical side of farm affairs and the practice of attending to our own business.

Mr. Taylor utters a very practical Grange sentiment when he says: "If farmers' orders are to be prostituted to political partizanship, I have done with them; if they are for the refining, the enlivening, the lifting up, the educating of our fellow men, and the development of business-like enterprisa that will yield a profit for my labor and a lasting comfort to my home, then I will work till galled in the harness." Shake, Bro. Taylor! On that platform the Grange and the Grange Visitor will meet you, and we will work side by side for the purposes so ably expressed.

Island Park Assembly.

We attended the meetings of this pleasant resort three days between the 4th and 7th of this month. There have been few changes during the last three years, except that several cottages have been built. The management have evidently been more intent upon making money than upon making improvements. There are many things to criticize and that deserve criticism. The entertainment furnished at Assembly Hotel is far from being satisfactory to the class of people whom they invite, and to whom they must look for support. There was much muttering and many vows to steer clear of the Park until a change in this respect was effected.

It seems more important to the management also that the "Triumphs of Methodism" be instilled into the minds of the multitude, than that they should enjoy a literary entertainment outside of that persuasion, and that any superannuated expounder of the bible is good enough for half the lectures, because, forsooth, he will come for his expenses. We heard two good lectures and two very poor ones. Bishop Joyce and Robert McIntyre and others of their caliber will sustain the reputation of Island Park, but Cheap Johns ought to be hooted off the platform. Crankiness is insinuating itself into notice on all occasions. Chautauqua Assemblies, Farmers' Institutes and County Grange meetings are the fields upon which the champions of these vagaries look for great victories, or to find listening ears for their bugle blasts. It is akin to fraud when the managers admit these "advocates" to their platforms and compel an audience by virtue of this kind of deceit. "Reformers" with a "mission" are in the market for small pay, and this is their principal virtue. If the policy of lemon squeezing all around is to prevail Island Park has had its day. The place deserves a more liberal policy.

Compelling Showers.

The news comes from Texas that Senator Farwell's scheme for aerial irrigation has scored a great success. Prof. Dyunerfurth has indicated his displeasure at the drought by firing a boom in the upper regions of air and air currents, and, as soon as those upper forces had time to consider—about ten hours—they said like Crockett's coon, "don't shoot again; we'll come down." It is

reported that the subjected forces of the upper air shed two solid inches of tears over their subjugation. This victory revolutionizes all former methods of irrigation. The fretful rivulets from the mountains may now be left to their own sweet will, either to meander upon the surface or follow the quiet subterranean streams to seek the sea. Efforts toward artesian wells will now be directed upward for a never failing supply. The battle fields of earth have taught men by inference to assault the battlements of the sky, and this professor, the pronouncement of whose name even simulates dynamite and induces energy, has "fired a shot heard round the world," or at least it must have been heard up in Kansas, for at the same date of the two-inch victory in Texas we hear of three inches of rain falling in the former state a thousand miles away.

Now whether this latter deluge was sympathetic—a sequence or a coincidence, is left for our intelligent readers to determine. May it not yet be possible that those Kansas clouds came together for a kindly purpose, without even hearing the commotion down in Texas? and that there may still be some difficulty in a second attempt at conquering the clouds? We shall not yet advise Granges nor farmers' clubs to organize a campaign against a brazen sky, at least not until the wind gets out of the northwest. We are still of the opinion that nature has some fixed laws which an act of congress, with an appropriation even, cannot easily change. We are glad the theory is being tested. Nine thousand dollars is well expended, if it fails after this in every instance, as we predict it will, except when rain may follow as a coincidence. We are not running to cover nor hedging, when we say that we should like to see science score a point in this attempt, and should be among the first to hail the important discovery. We wish it success with a kind of mustard-seed faith in its accomplishment.

We feel gratified when other papers find something in the Visitor worth copying, and make a proper acknowledgment by giving credit for it, but we feel like roasting the fellows who use our brains to illumine their editorial pages without as much as saying "by your permission." There is an Alliance paper on the east side of the state whose editor evidently has the astuteness to know a good thing when he sees it, but lacks the mental endowment necessary to construct his own columns, and the moral stamina to admit it; so he rubs the trade mark off our goods, and gets the credit for being smart by wearing our coat. He can thus pose in peacock plumage occasionally, and eke out his reputation as a writer for a month or two longer. We shall tell the whole story next time.

The great want to-day is men. Men who can't be bought and sold. Men with votes too honest to sell them. Men in office too honest to buy them. Men who think twice before they speak, thrice before they act, and four times before they vote. Men quick to see and prompt to act. Men who will stand for right, firm as a rock, though powers and parties crumble, and all around seems chaos and confusion. Men prompt to condemn wrong, whether found in high places or low. To supply that want is one of the primal purposes of the Grange, and it is supplying right along.—Farmers' Friend.

In Grange Fields.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE STATE GRANGE.—Summer is not the season to see the Grange at its best in its halls and program work, but in its social features on picnic and assembly grounds, and in the practical, clear headed working of its members in their fields and homes.

Good work has, however, been done along regular Grange lines, as is evidenced by the reports made to this office. Almost without exception, the subordinate Granges of the State report progress, a few of them showing a flattering increase. Birch Run, No. 574, that lone Grange of Saginaw county, wins the banner for the most additions to its membership since March 31st, so far as reported. With so much zeal in itself and so wide a field to work in, it will be no surprise to hear of new Granges formed in that vicinity.

Cass county, with only two active Granges, has lately taken to herself a third, the youngest in the state, No. 694.

Genesee county, close by Saginaw, has also set a good example. For several years Flushing, No. 387, has been the only surviving Grange of that county. This year their leaven effected the founding of Swartz Creek, No. 693. Several other fields near are only thought to wait the deputy's tillage.

A short time ago it was my privilege to visit this last named county and spend a pleasant day among its Patrons. Flushing Grange was out in force to conclude the reception of a class of new members. Its roomy and tasty hall, in the village of Flushing, is warrant of permanence. H. W. Marshall is the efficient Master, and Bro. Jno. Passmore the long time Secretary, while the faces of Brothers Turner, Marshall, Knight and Penoyer, and Sister Passmore, all familiar to State Grange goers, are in the faithful ranks. Their allegiance to Grange principles is loyal; their welcome to a wayfarer was royal.

Stopping with Bro. and Sister Passmore, there was the dishwashing machine—of woman's covetous admiration!—to be seen in actual operation. Mrs. P. is general agent of the state, and many interesting instances did she tell me of the way the "washer" is being received.

Probably more women have prayed to be delivered from the tri-daily bondage of the dish-pan than any other item of routine. Here they think they have found deliverance! And so, indeed, they have, judging from the quick and thorough way a pile of dinner dishes was made clean and pure as hands and time could have left them. I did not wonder when Sister Passmore told me her machine never failed to draw the crowd at the fairs and expositions. It touches "responsive chords," no doubt, and is destined to rank in the kitchen with the machine that, in the field, supplants hand work three times a day three hundred and sixty-five days in a year (if such there be).

JENNIE BUELL.

Market Report and Indications.

The supply of live stock at the principal markets, as compared with last year for the month of July, show a decided decrease in receipts, amounting to 39,307 head of cattle, 148,858 head of hogs, while sheep show an increase of 25,800, and for the expired portion of the year 107,401 head. Prices for the entire month of July have been satisfactory for sheep of good quality, while thin and low grade sheep have ruled low throughout. Hogs average 65 to 85 cents per 100 lbs. higher than a month ago, and \$1.35 to \$1.80 higher than the corresponding month of 1890. As to the future prices of hogs, I can see nothing to prevent good prices for good hogs of medium weight until hogs fattened upon grain raised this season make their appearance in the market. The shortage in cattle predicted in the early part of the season is an established fact, so far as native cattle are concerned, as receipts of Texas and range cattle have increased 25,000 head over July 1890, while native cattle decreased nearly 65,000 head in the same time. Farmers would do well to

consider that range cattle are coming forward in splendid condition—some of them being good enough for export. This depreciates the prices on native cattle except for strictly corn-fed, high grade cattle. Present prices are considered low, but are \$1.30 to \$1.55 per cwt. higher than a year ago upon this class, while butcher stock is 25 cents higher.

E. A. WILDEY.

Received their Sheepskins.

The commencement exercises of the class of '91 of the Agricultural College took place Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, in the armory. On the platform were the faculty, the State Board of Agriculture and the members of the class. The eight orators who represented the class delivered their orations with energy and care. F. W. Ashton spoke on "A Phase of the Labor Problem." The problem is misrepresented for political purposes. It is the same problem that has always confronted us. However, legislation is not a complete remedy for the ills that have a real existence. Neither are labor organizations effective. Individual effort is the only successful means of improvement—let the wage earner improve his mind, for mind conquers muscle. Legislation, backed by individual intelligence, is the remedy. L. K. Butterfield had for his subject, "Reciprocity—the Farmer's Duty." Usually it is stated that everything depends on the farmer. But he is dependent for much of his prosperity. Legislation in making wise laws; social standing, in giving business prestige; science, in the great discoveries and experiments; education, in helping him to make use of the other aids—all these help the farmer. His duty is then to take his place in government; to improve his social capabilities; to use the discoveries of science in his business; to read more, to make a better district school system; to help the Agricultural College. By these things, and these chiefly, will he succeed. William Enders' oration was on "Some Influences of Mechanical Invention." They have had physical, mental and moral effects. Steam has mightily advanced civilization. Changes in the art of war have materially aided civilization. The influence of the art of printing upon the human intellect cannot be measured. The lens of the microscope and telescope teach us that the same hand moulded the atom and the universe. W. A. Fox had for his theme, "The Hundred Days." During the quarter century, he said, from 1700 to 1815, Europe was convulsed with continual revolution. Chiefest among those who figured in the struggles was Bonaparte, that most extraordinary despot, against whom all Europe combine to prevent a return of all the horrors of the dark ages and anarchy. He possessed wonderful genius, rose early and high, but using his power against his fellow men, he fell and bequeathed to the world an example it were not well to emulate.

B. A. Holden spoke on "The Future of American Agriculture." The causes of the present depression in agriculture are over-production, homestead laws and increase in rural population. It is not likely that these will continue. For the resources of the west are limited, as the farming system there has been wasteful; population tends now toward cities, and so increases the proportion of consumers to producers. Foreign countries will hardly compete with us, but the farmer must also improve his mental and social conditions, and he is doing so.

A. R. Locke made "A Plea for our Forests." As forests have disappeared, floods and extremes of temperature have become more frequent. The people must learn the necessity of tree-culture and the preservation of our native forests.—Detroit Tribune.

Have you any truly great men at the present day? Some doubt it, and ask to be shown the modern Washington, Franklin, or Webster. However this may be, of one thing we are sure, there never was a greater blood-purifier than Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

Farmer Jones' Home Surroundings

There are some places that we glance at as we pass by upon the road, and instinctively wish we might know the people who dwell there. A single glance gives us a favorable impression. At the same time we glance at another place and are unfavorably impressed. It is true we are not always to judge a man by the clothes he wears, but we can usually judge him pretty well by the way he wears them.

It is not necessary to become a millionaire before the home surroundings are made beautiful. The cost is nominal; almost any farmer can have all the trees he wants for the trouble of transplanting them, but how often he puts it off year after year, and lets the sun pour its unobstructed rays upon his dwelling until (in summer) it's but little cooler than the "lower regions" are supposed to be.

There is nothing pleasanter on a sultry August day than the thick, cool shade of a broad-spreading maple, and yet Farmer Jones, surrounded on all sides by forests of those trees, neglects for twenty-five years to set one out. The house stares out upon the highway with all its eyes, and the traveler hastens by with no wish to linger or pleasant memory of the place. The acres may be broad and the house large, but it does not attract us as the place farther on will. We come to it unexpectedly; so surrounded and protected by trees and shrubs that we view its appearance with perfect surprise. The vines clamber over its low porch, for the house is small and weather-beaten; the acres are few but well cared for. Shrubbery dots the well-kept lawn, and a hammock swings invitingly in the shade of two wide-spreading trees. How we love those people! They may be entire strangers to us, but we are sure they would prove pleasant acquaintances, and we find it hard to pass with only a glance at the outside of this Eden; and after we have passed we often recall it with pleasure and wish we knew the people who dwelt there. We do not know their name, but we are certain it is not Jones. We know him well and can tell his place at a glance, and always pass it at a good trot, while we look to see if our horse is sweating, when we drive, but if we walk we always hasten, too, for there are no trees to shade the way, and we are anxious to reach the cool shadows beyond.

In summer Jones usually pastures a horse about the house, and, as a variety, a dozen or so small pigs (but large enough to turn sod) spend their days in search of grubs; while now and then, or oftener, the whole drove of cattle saunter or charge into and through the front yard, when they find the gate open or fence down, and trample down the few shrubs or flowers that Mrs. J. or the girls have coaxed into an attempt to adorn the desert waste. It is a wonder that women do not give up in despair under such circumstances and let the "lawn" become a howling wilderness; but every spring they repeat the attempt to beautify the place, but before fall the same melancholy fate is pretty sure to befall it. Jones never sees the beauty of anything unless there is a dollar behind it to set it off.

Is it to be wondered at that the Jones boys don't stay on the farm, and that the girls hasten from it to homes of their own with no feelings of regret at leaving the old home behind them. A great deal has been written about how to keep the boys on the farm. There are farms and farms. You can't keep boys on a Jones farm unless you tie them up.

Let people say what they will about the boys having no care for beautiful things. These people have forgotten their boyhood, if they ever were boys; and if they were not, they don't know anything about it.

One way to solve the problem of keeping boys on the farm is to make the home attractive, not inside but outside as well. The surroundings count.

Some things are more beautiful by contrast, but don't let the contrast come too close. We admire the sparkle of the diamond, but

we don't want the setting to be of lead in order to have a contrast; the setting must be of the purest gold.

The home is the diamond; let the setting be naught baser than fine gold.

Make the home a thing of beauty. Put a tree here and a shrub there; let a vine clamber over the porch; make the lawn smooth and keep it well trimmed; in that out of the way corner place a rustic seat, just large enough for two, and in yon shady spot hang a hammock, and do not begrudge the dollar and-a-half it cost or the time spent in constructing the rustic seat.

Have everything so beautiful and so homelike that that when your children go out into the world, or to homes of their own, they may still look back to the old place as the brightest spot on earth, and to the years spent there as the happiest of their lives.

What are dollars and cents in comparison? A. L.

Michigan Crop Report, August, 1891.

The average yield of wheat per acre as estimated by correspondents on the first of this month is, in the northern counties, 17.96 bushels; in the central counties 13.10 bushels, and in the northern counties 11.31 bushels. These figures represent the average of the estimates of all the correspondents reporting from each section, and the estimates are based on the total acreage sowed, as returned by supervisors, and on examinations made when harvesting and stacking.

The present estimated yield for the southern counties is 1.69 bushels higher and for the central counties it is .70 bushels higher than that of July 1. Wheat this year is of fine quality. Many of the correspondents report it extra good.

Harvesting was done at the usual time. It was begun in the southern tier of counties the latter part of June and became general throughout the southern counties the second week in July. The total number of bushels of wheat reported marketed by farmers in July is 628,850, and in the twelve months—August to July—is 15,510,681, or about 69 per cent. of the crop of 1890. The number of bushels reported marketed in the same months of 1889-'90 was 14,917,271, or 65 per cent. of the crop of 1889. Reports were received in 1890 from about 77 per cent., and in 1891 from about 90 per cent. of the elevators and mills in the southern four tiers of counties.

Oats in the southern counties are estimated to yield 33 bushels per acre, in the central counties 30 bushels per acre, and in the northern counties 19 bushels per acre.

Compared with vitality and growth of average years the average condition of corn in the southern counties is 89 per cent., in the central 85 per cent., and in the northern 79 per cent.; and the average condition of potatoes in the southern counties is 96 per cent., in the central 93 per cent., and in the northern 73 per cent. The condition of corn declined in all sections of the state during July.

The hay crop in the southern counties is, in quantity, 84 per cent. of a full average, but in the central it is less than one-half, and in the northern less than four-tenths of a full average. It is of prime quality in all sections.

Apples in the southern counties promise 38 per cent., and in the central and northern counties about one-fourth of an average crop.

The mean temperature of July in the state was seven degrees and in the lower peninsula six and one-half degrees below the normal. There were five general rains in the state during the month, but no heavy rains after the 7th, and the total rainfall was below the normal. In the northern counties the deficiencies of rainfall in the three months, May, June and July, is nearly six inches. Crops in this section have been greatly damaged, and unless rain comes soon will be ruined.

Farmers at the World's Fair.

It is intended that the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 shall commemorate the progress of civilization, and be an incentive to further development, not only by displaying the best products of men's thoughts as shown in material things, but also by bringing together for conference in a series of congresses the leading thinkers and workers of the world. The world's Congress auxiliary has been organized with the approval and support of the Exposition authorities, and of the congress of the United States, to have general charge of these congresses. The directory of the exposition will provide suitable audience rooms.

Among these congresses few, if any, can be of greater interest or importance than that devoted to agriculture—using the word in its widest signification, as including the production of nearly all the necessities of life, the culture of the field, the garden, the orchard; the rearing of animals and the utilization of the products of the soil. This basal industry engages the attention of a larger number of men than does any other occupation. It has made great advances. In these days it meets new conditions, new aids, and new obstacles. New problems confront the farmer, affecting not alone his individual efforts in producing and disposing of things useful to man, but also his relations to his fellow-workers, and to those engaged in other pursuits; his rights and duties as a citizen, and his position as a member of society. Arrangements are being made for meetings of many national, state or district organizations devoted to important special agricultural interests. To these meetings the auxiliary, especially through the general committee on agricultural congresses will give every aid that is practicable and desired. The Central Agricultural Congress will seek to help the individual farmer and the special agricultural interests by giving chief attention to comprehensive problems affecting most, if not all, persons engaged in agriculture. It will necessarily give more of attention to the principles underlying agricultural progress and reform than to the application of those principles to the special needs of localities or particular interests.

The following are suggested as topics which may appropriately engage the attention of the agricultural congresses:

The progress and present condition of agriculture in various countries, with reference to the influence of climate and other natural conditions, and of different systems of land tenure, labor, social organization, etc., in advancing or retarding its development.

The relations of those engaged in agriculture as land owners, tenants, or laborers, to each other and to those engaged in other pursuits.

Legislation as affecting agriculture, including such problems as those relating to taxation, indebtedness, control of public lands, special legislation in aid of special interests, etc.

Transportation as affecting agriculture, embracing all the means and agencies in use for the distribution of agricultural products to points of consumption; the relation of middle men to producers and consumers, etc.

Technical agricultural questions, such as those relating to buildings and machinery; drainage and irrigation; fertilization and methods of culture; breeding and feeding domestic animals; the manufacture, preservation and disposal of the products of the field, orchard, garden, vineyard, dairy, apiary, etc.

Investigation and experimentation in agriculture; the applications of science; the work of governmental and private experiment stations, etc.

Agricultural education, in public and in special agricultural schools and colleges, and also by means of books and periodicals, societies, conventions and exhibitions.

Agricultural organizations, including the work and methods of increasing the efficiency of national, state and district associations in the interests of any branch of agriculture.

The home life and social position of the rural populations, and the means whereby needed reforms may be secured.

It is confidently believed these agricultural congresses will be of the highest interest and value. In these times in which—coupled with a noticeable increase of intelligence; with wonderful inventions for the aid of farmers; with a marvelous increase in the agricultural products of many countries, and an equal development of means for distribution of these products—there is a wide-spread feeling of dissatisfaction and unrest among those engaged in agriculture, the thoughtful discussion of such topics as have been named, by leaders in thought and practice from many lands, cannot fail to set in clearer light the real and the mistaken causes for discontent and its remedy; and to point out what may most wisely be done to further lighten the labors and increase the rewards of those who feed the world.

Particular attention is called to the fact that the great Department of Agriculture as above defined will be divided into appropriate divisions, chapters and sections, for the purpose of affording to each important interest involved an appropriate opportunity for the consideration and promotion of the measures which those engaged in it may deem most deserving. Each subdivision of the department will, in due time, be intrusted to the charge of a special committee, whose duty it will be to arrange for the convention or congress in which the particular interest involved will be considered.

The active committee in charge of the arrangements for the various meetings contemplated, must necessarily be composed of persons resident in Chicago, or near enough to the city to enable them conveniently to attend committee meetings. But to give the auxiliary the benefit of the advice of wise and able leaders throughout the United States and other countries, and to make the Agricultural Congresses truly and comprehensively representative of the vast interests to be considered, advisory councils of the auxiliary on the principal divisions of the department will be appointed. These advisory councils will be composed of eminent members of the faculties of agricultural colleges, officers of farmers' alliances, granges, and other agricultural societies and associations, and distinguished representatives of special agricultural interests throughout the world.

The special object of this address is to elicit from organizations and individuals suggestions for the promotion of the success of the proposed agricultural congresses, to be utilized in forming the final plans in pursuance of which such congresses will be held; and the organizations, agricultural periodicals and individuals to whom this address is sent, are cordially invited to favor the auxiliary, at their early convenience, with all such recommendations as they may deem conducive to the desired end.

Inquiries and communications in relation to the proposed Agricultural Congress should be addressed to Benj. Butterworth, Chairman of the General Committee of the World's Congress Auxiliary on Agricultural Congresses, Chicago, Ill., U. S. A.

Thomas A. Edison, the electrician and inventor, is preparing to astonish the world by the exhibit he will make at the World's Fair in 1893. He hopes to be able to throw upon a canvas a perfect picture of anybody, and reproduce his words. Thus, if Patti should be singing somewhere, this invention will put her full length picture upon canvas so perfectly as to enable one to distinguish every feature and expression of her face, and see all her actions and listen to the melody of her voice. The invention will do for the eye what the phonograph has done for the voice, and reproduce the voice as well, in fact, more clearly. This invention will be called the "kinetograph." The first half of the word signifies "motion," and the last "write," and both together mean the portrayal of motion.

ED. VISITOR:—I would like to say a few words to you on a matter which seems to me deserving of very serious consideration on the part of those farmers who are connected with lyceums or debating clubs of any sort. No one can fail to see how valuable the work done in these societies may become for those taking part, yet I am convinced that it is possible for much greater benefit to be obtained, with the same expenditure of time and labor. What is needed is greater system in the arrangement of the work to be done, and some suggestions from an expert as to how to work and what to work upon. I believe that if proper attention be given to these matters, the programs of literary societies can be made much more enjoyable and valuable.

Would it not be possible for a club to undertake to learn something about modern science, its methods and results, and its bearing upon the farm and farm life? Could not a course of reading of properly selected books, or a course in elementary science of an experimental character, be undertaken? Would it not be interesting for a club to undertake a series of practical experiments in growing various kinds of seeds, for instance, and make a comparison of results at the club meeting? Wheat, corn, beans, peas, clover, pumpkin, and many other seeds, might be raised in boxes of earth where they could be easily watched, their eccentricities learned, and thus much very interesting information could be obtained as to how plants grow. Again, collections of flies, bugs, moths, worms, and such things, could be made, and their peculiarities of structure studied. Or, cocoons could be gathered and hatched, or worms made to spin cocoons and transform themselves, so that much interesting information could be obtained as to how such things come about. With proper direction, such work might become not only very interesting and instructive, but also of considerable practical value in a business way. Similarly, a regular course of reading about such things and about questions of the day could be planned for, which would aid people materially in forming correct opinions.

Where could the proper direction and advice come from? Does not the state of Michigan have in its employment, in the Agricultural College, men who are eminently fitted to give such assistance? If a club of people should organize with the desire to pursue a course of reading or study of the kind just indicated, and should apply to the professors of that institution for suggestions concerning books, apparatus, or methods of procedure, is it supposable that they would hesitate to render all the assistance in their power? Perhaps the college could be induced to take a peculiar interest in such systematic reading or study, and recognize it in a particular way.

It would be worth while for literary clubs to seek some such amendment to their usual arrangements. I have no doubt that a most agreeable variety would be introduced into the programs and the work done made to possess a higher value.

Respectfully yours,

PROF. N. D. CORBIN.

Members of Whitneyville and surrounding Granges held a big picnic at Campau Lake, Kent county, July 31. Recitations, songs and essays was the program of the forenoon. A. J. Crosby and others spoke after dinner. Mrs. S. C. Peterson, the Lecturer of this Grange, deserves much credit for her untiring efforts to make it a success.

August 6th was the occasion of a grand picnic of the farmers of Lenawee county, at Fruit Ridge, in Horton's Grove. Miss Mary Allis as Lecturer of the Pomona, held the reins and carried out a program of songs, recitations, dinner, and speeches by County President Moore of the P. of I.'s, and Jason Woodman of the Grange, balloon ascension and parachute descent, closing the day with theatrical entertainment at the Grange hall in the evening.

Ladies' Department.

About Husbands.

Johnson was right. I don't agree to all
The solemn dogmas of the rough old stager,
But very much approve what one may call
The minor morals of the "Ursa Major."

Johnson was right. Although some men adore
Wisdom in woman, and with wisdom cram her,
There isn't one in ten but thinks far more
Of his own grub than of his spouse's grammar.

I know it is the greatest shame in life;
But who among them (save, perhaps, myself,
Returning home, but asks his wife,
What beef—not books—she has upon the shelf.

Though Greek and Latin be the lady's boast,
They're little valued by her loving mate;
The kind of tongue that husbands relish most,
Is modern, boiled, and served upon a plate.

Or, if, as a fond ambition may command,
Some home-made verse the happy matron shows
him,
What mortal spouse but from her dainty hand
Would sooner see a pudding than a poem?

Young lady—deep in love with Tom or Harry—
'Tis sad to tell you such a tale as this;
But here's the moral of it: do not marry,
Or, marrying, take your lover as he is—

A very man—with something of the brute,
(Unless he proves a sentimental noddy),
With passions strong and appetite to boot,
A thirsty soul within a hungry body.

A very man—not one of nature's clods—
With human failings, whether saint or sinner,
Endowed, perhaps, with genius from the gods,
But apt to take his temper from his dinner.

—John G. Saxe.

The Hills of Song.

Lo! I have fared and fared again
Far up and down the ways of men,
And found no path I strayed along
As happy as the hills of song.

As in the days when time began
Are played the merry pipes of Pan,
And never rises note of wrong
Upon the happy hills of song.

There is no frost of doubt to blight;
The sun of faith sheds lustrous light;
To peace and joy the hours belong
Upon the happy hills of song.

Then ho! who will, and follow me!
Through flowery meads the path shall be:
Fear not the way is steep or long
Unto the happy hills of song.

Lo! I have fared and fared again
Far up and down the ways of men,
And found no path I strayed along
As happy as the hills of song.

—Clinton Scollard, in Harper's Bazar.

The Account Book.

How few women keep an accurate account of their income and expenses, or know what their share has been in the management and economy of the household. Many shrink from the task for one reason or another. It is too much trouble, or they do not wish to be reminded just how many unnecessary and foolish expenditures they make. They prefer to drift along blindly, economizing spasmodically and often unwisely, trusting to luck to bring about the desired state of their finances. For many it requires self-denial and courage to live within the means at hand, especially if it be less than that enjoyed in childhood's early home, or less than the world's estimate.

Yet it is the doing of this (and doing it cheerfully) that makes a happy home and lays the foundation for worldly prosperity. The first requisite is, of course, to know just what is the income available for household and personal expenses, leaving out all uncertainties and counting only that of which we are sure. Then consider what is to you the most desirable division—bringing the most pleasure and the most comfort to the family. It is well to be exact and systematic in small things as well as in great. It will often be found that this or that superfluous article can be dispensed with, and what is saved in small ways may aggregate enough to purchase some valuable thing which otherwise one would feel unable to procure; or the money may be invested in some way to yield a profit and consequent satisfaction. Some have made a rule to save one-fifth of their income; but each individual must judge of the matter independently. If there are children to educate the problem is more difficult, and if the income is small the saving must be light also, but it is very desirable that something be laid aside for that traditional "rainy day," when crops shall fail or unforeseen drains and losses occur. There is only one way of regulating the expenses, and that is by the account book. Its pages, when properly kept, tell precisely what has been the past disposition of one's means, and if not satisfactory, shows where a remedy may be applied to insure better results in the future. The demands of modern living are so many and varied that one must pick and choose; must plan and

regulate; and the cash book is a wise monitor which one would do well to heed. It shows so plainly how mere trifles of expenditure, when multiplied, become sums worthy of consideration, and spurs to greater efforts in economy, for it seems necessary for most workaday people to take care of the pennies. It is only a simple sum in arithmetic, but one that most women sadly need. Probably numbers who conduct their affairs on the usual haphazard, trust-to-luck method, think they economize in all possible ways; but by reducing their affairs to this systematic arrangement far more can be realized, better satisfaction given, and much worry of mind obviated. It has been said that there is no man who works but may save something. There is no calling from which some one has not risen to ease and wealth. Thrift and economy must be the oars by which he propels his craft, and the wife must labor with him side by side, and conduct the affairs under his supervision with equal exactness and system. Labor, management and sacrifice should be divided. She should have a certain sum under her charge and be accountable for its proper and wise use. When this is done and she adopts the same systematic management applied to larger transactions she will obtain equally favorable results, and in nearly every case she will feel a commendable pride in a faithful discharge of the responsibility.

This solution of one of life's problems is engaging our attention more and more. Much is being said and written upon it, and the agitation should continue for woman and man alike need education in this matter—the former in the management and the latter in furnishing the opportunity. M.

How English Women Live.

I greatly admire the Englishwoman for her utter refusal to worry or be worried, and the consequence is that she looks young at fifty, writes Edward W. Bok in the Ladies' Home Journal for August. She undertakes no more than she can comfortably carry out, and thoroughly believes in the coming of another day. By this I do not mean that she procrastinates; she simply will not let the domestic machinery grind her down to ill-health and early old age. She is a frequent bather, and regards health as the prime factor of life, to be looked after before everything else, though the breakfast might be an hour late. She sleeps nine hours, and takes a nap during the day at that. She arranges her day's work in the most systematic manner, and her little memorandum slip always shows two vacant hours; they are for rest. She eats heartily, but the most digestible food. In the most modest home, no matter how little there may be on the table, there is nothing but the best. She would rather have a mouthful of good food and go partly hungry, than eat a whole meal of cheaper things. She is a true economist; regulates her expenses carefully, and is a true believer in the allowance system. There are some things about the English woman which her American sister dislikes, just as it is vice versa; at the same time there are others which would make our American women happier and healthier if they imitated.

Recreation for Farmers' Wives.

The summer season is the time when farmers' wives overwork and lay the foundation for misery for themselves and their children. Many women work under great disadvantages. Some have very few labor-saving utensils; others have no facility for planning their work so that it may be done with economy of strength—to use the homely saying, they do not "let their heads save their heels"; others still have no encouragement in the way of appreciation from their liege lords, and inevitably break down from a combination of work and depression of spirits; and others again who possess all the latest inventions for saving work, break down for the want of a little variety in the scene of life.

I have seen people work very hard to get a little recreation,

which is an unwise proceeding. I can understand how much easier it is for a farmer's wife to remain at home and do her ordinary day's work, than to prepare for a day of pleasure (?) at a picnic. When I recreate, I do not wish to overwork preparing for any pleasure.

One farmer's wife told me that her ignorance of the art of milking had effected a saving of much time and strength—a very economical proceeding. If she had known how to milk, there had been scores of times when she would have been called upon to do it; as it was, the milking had always been done—without her assistance.

I sometimes hear Mrs. So-and-So spoken of as a very "smart" woman, as she has accomplished a most extraordinary day's work; to my mind there is nothing very smart about it. That woman is "smart" who takes care to keep her health and spirits, even though some of the drudgery is neglected.

Let me advise you, my sisters, to do something besides work during the trying days that are to come; lie down, read a book, take a drive, call on a cheerful friend, rest in any way you prefer, but do something each day outside of the routine of work. Disregard my advice, and you will make miserable not only yourselves, but your husbands and posterity.—Lillian Mayne, in Brattleboro Household.

Shadows.

If folks could only be brought to a realization of the fact that there's as much sunshine as shadow in this grand old world of ours, life would take upon itself another and more wholesome aspect; but it seems a most difficult thing to do, to prove to a certain class of would-be sufferers that there can be no shadow without a light, and the soul who tries to make clear this simple, philosophical fact to his fellow-beings too often throws up his hands in despair, and, stepping to one side, watches sadly the procession of the foolish, willful ones, tramping steadily and gloomily on in the shadow they themselves make, as they so deliberately place themselves in their own light.

Forever walking away from the sunshine! Forever bewailing the fate that darkens the path before them—when, would they but once, turn about face, the glorious, golden light could be found flooding their world. And the light is substance, while the shadow is a thing all unreal—a nothingness, a mere negative, a lack of light because of obstinate obstruction. Light pours forth warmth and cheer and glad life, and to stand in its way is to produce cold and gloom and death. How big the shadow seems, how far it reaches, yet how unreal it is proved to be when once the light touches it with its dazzling finger.

To dwell in one's own shadow, to journey on and on with the great, dark void spreading over one's life-path, chilling all the bright places, dulling the sun-gilded pebbles, obscuring the beauty of the flowers, blackening the yellow sands, dimming the emerald mosses and rendering all things in the present and near future cheerless, joyless, somber, mournful, dismal and sad. This seems almost to be a sin, when, if one would turn to the real and living light that hath a necromancy all its own, gilding and brightening and cleansing and glorifying every prosy commonplace object it touches, one could then see the beauty of living and the real meaning of life.—Free Press.

Health of American Women.

A French physician, traveling in this country last year, expressed his surprise at finding that the healthiest children whom he had ever seen belonged to the families of educated, wealthy Americans. He expected to see them thin and nervous, the victims of indigestion, but he found them plump, rosy and strong.

The reason is that their parents know now, as past generations of Americans did not know, the necessity of change of air, of exercise, of simple diet, and scientific training for the bodies of their children, and they are

able to command these things for them.

In a paper read last August before the Town and Country Club at Newport, it was stated that a singular advance had been made in late years in the physical condition of young American women.

The writer stated that twenty years ago sharp criticisms were made contrasting the thin, delicate, sallow American girl with her robust, English cousin. No such comparison would be just, now.

The reason of this marked change is, that the little maiden in New England or the middle and western states, as a rule, swims, skates, rows, plays croquet, ball or tennis, with a vigor which would have been thought unwomanly by her grandmother. An English journalist, who visited this country twenty years since, returned a few months ago, and, on his return home, commented upon the improvement in the appearance of American women as one of the most remarkable changes which he had noted.

"The American woman, if not the man, is learning to live out of doors, to eat slower, systematize her work better and to give up her old habits of hurry and worry."

It is always helpful to obtain a glimpse of ourselves as others see us, and it is especially useful when the results seen are so cheering and so easily obtained. —R. H. D., in Household.

"A Hygienist," Tipton, Ind., makes a plea for simple food, for children especially:

"Can we expect children to grow up with a natural appetite so long as the demands of the system are met with so much compounded and stimulating food? The love for sweets can be gratified by sweet fruits, oranges, figs, dates, raisins. Vegetables simply prepared and in variety are satisfying. Meats should be sparingly used in hot weather. Rich pastries and desserts ought to be rare on any family table.

"Graham flour ought to be constantly used in mushes, puddings and bread. A fruit cracker, nice for lunches, picnics, or Sunday dinners, is made as follows: Take Graham flour, sift it coarse, form a stiff dough with sweet cream, knead as little as possible and roll very thin. Spread with a generous layer of dates chopped fine, or stewed dried cherries or currants drained; then roll out another thin sheet, press together with the rolling-pin, and cut any shape desired. Bake in a moderate oven, not too hard.

"Graham gems, made in the old-fashioned way: As a usual rule—flour varies in amount of wetting needed—take three cups of Graham flour, two of cold water, half a cup of sweet milk, beat well, and pour in hissing-hot pans, on the top of the stove. Fill even full, place on the grate of a hot oven ten minutes, then twenty-five on the bottom of the oven. The heat raises them. When done, wrap in a cloth fifteen minutes before serving. If properly made, they will be as light as sponge-cake. They compel chewing, and thus the digestion is helped."

The new fashion journals, "La Mode de Paris" and "Album des Modes," published by A. McDowell & Co., 4 West 14th street, New York, are the most elegant of the kind ever brought to our notice. The styles are drawn by the best artists, and the books are produced by rival houses in Paris, each trying to excel the other in the character of its publications. Formerly they were printed only in French, but they are now published in English for the benefit of American readers. These journals furnish the styles one month in advance of any similar publications; and they have a practical department, in which lessons are given each month on how to cut dresses, etc. The admirable fashions, the lessons in dress-making, and the giving of the styles one month earlier than heretofore are strong points in favor of these Fashion Books, causing them to be called "The Favorites." These excellent publications can be obtained from all newsdealers.

Taking out Grease Spots.

A correspondent asks how to take wagon grease out of a spring overcoat. Wagon grease makes the hardest kind of stain to remove from clothing, and we are therefore very glad to give a recipe which has never been known to fail, if proper time is allowed for the "charm" to work. If one could but step behind the scenes at a cleaner's, benzine and French chalk would be found to play a deservedly important part in making "old clo'" look like new, but we were told by a professional that amateurs, almost without an exception, leave a ring when they try to remove a spot with the former.

If a folded piece of clean woolen goods is placed under the part to be cleaned, a second, saturated with benzine, rubbed gently the way of the nap, and another dry piece used at the last and the spot rubbed until perfectly dry, there will positively be no mark left.

French chalk requires a little more time to remove grease, but has the advantage over benzine of being odorless. A piece that will last a long time may be procured at any druggist's for five cents. Scrape this thoroughly on the spot over night and brush off gently in the morning. If the stain is a bad one, it may not have entirely disappeared. In such case the application may have to be made again.—New York World.

Things Worth Knowing.

The blackened lights of old oil paintings may be instantly restored to their original hue by touching them with dentoxide of hydrogen diluted with six or eight times its weight of water. The part must be afterwards washed with a clean sponge and water.

To make indelible stencil ink: Take varnish, such as is used for ordinary printing ink, one pound; black sulphuret of mercury, one pound; nitrate of silver, one oz.; lamp-black, two tablespoonfuls. Grind all well together; thin with spirits of turpentine.

Another way: Sulphate of magnesia, two parts; lampblack, one part; sugar, four parts. Grind thoroughly to a fine paste in a little water.

To make air and water-tight cement for sinks, casks, cisterns, etc.: Take melted glue, eight parts; linseed oil, four parts. Boil into a varnish with litharge. This cement hardens in forty-eight hours.

To make a hard crystal varnish for maps: Dissolve Canada balsam, one ounce, in spirits of turpentine, two ounces.

Calmness a Necessity.

When a person falls down in the street, keep cool, and think quietly what is best to do. Do not be in too much haste about getting him up.

Look first and find out where he is hurt; a limb may be broken, and great care must be taken in moving it, else you may do harm.

If this be the case, tie it up in a shawl, or tie handkerchiefs around it—one about four inches from the other. Tie them tightly; this will save the patient much pain.

Do not cut clothes off in a hurry. Be gentle. Soothe the patient and keep him quiet and encouraged while waiting for the ambulance or surgeon.

If there is bleeding, examine closely; for if the blood is dark red and coming in jets, it is from an artery; if dark blue and in a steady stream, it is from a vein, and requires, in the first case, compression between wound and heart; in the latter, between the wound and the extremity.—Trained Nurse, in Household.

A certain cure for corns is obtained by taking one teaspoonful tar, one teaspoonful coarse brown sugar and one teaspoonful salt-peter. Warm the ingredients together. Spread on kip leather the size of the corns and in two days they will be drawn out.

A sure remedy for inflammatory rheumatism is made by taking one ounce pulverized saltpeter and putting it into a pint of sweet oil. Bathe the parts affected and a sound cure will be speedily made.

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Homesickness.

I knew a strong man, And he dwelt 'mid the hills where the swift streams ran. For he loved to live where his life began. But they took him away and made him abide Where the great streets darken and chafe and chide.

Atavism of Plants.

The term atavism may be defined as the tendency in offspring to return to the ancestral type; or resemblances in special features to remote ancestry.

Not long since a very practical and intelligent German-American friend of the writer, conversing as to the culture of potatoes and his varied experiences with that crop, made the rather singular assertion that he does not like to see an abundant show of blossoms where he expects a good crop of tubers.

Our friend is so thoroughly reliable that we cannot for a moment presume to question the correctness of his observations. What, then, can be the true explanation of this interesting phenomenon to which he has drawn our attention?

Our domesticated potato plant, (Solanum tuberosum) derived from a South American wild plant resembling deadly night shade, like the latter plant once flowered profusely and produced numerous "plums" or seed balls.

We offer this as a mere theory to explain the cause of the effect noticed by our German-American friend. Doubtless some of our readers may be able to throw additional light upon the subject; if so, we shall be most pleased to hear from them.

"seed" (tubers) tends to degeneracy in product. It is also noticeable with the potato as well as with many other plants that adverse conditions, such as hard, barren or cold soil lead to struggles for survival, sometimes indicated by profuse blossoming.

The whole question may be summed up in the conclusion that free-blossoming and plum-bearing are the original habits of the undomesticated potato plant, and that the reverse is the result of man's interference with nature's laws with the object of developing and fixing the propensity to produce tubers.

Some woodpecker studies are contributed to the August Atlantic under the title of "Two Little Drummers," by Olive Thorne Miller. She says: The raspberry hedge before my window was the decoy that gave me my best chance to study the red-headed woodpecker.

The raspberry hedge before my window was the decoy that gave me my best chance to study the red-headed woodpecker. Day after day, as the berries ripened, I watched the dwellers of wood and meadow drawn to the rich feast, and at last, one morning, to my great joy, I saw the interesting drummer alight on a post overlooking the loaded vines.

Our friend is so thoroughly reliable that we cannot for a moment presume to question the correctness of his observations. What, then, can be the true explanation of this interesting phenomenon to which he has drawn our attention?

Our friend is so thoroughly reliable that we cannot for a moment presume to question the correctness of his observations. What, then, can be the true explanation of this interesting phenomenon to which he has drawn our attention?

Sometimes the spouse of the gay little fellow came also. She was always greeted by a low-whispered "kr-r-r," and the husky-toned conversation between the two was kept up so long as both were there. Now, too, as the male began to feel at home, I saw more of his odd ways.

back, and thus remained for perhaps ten minutes. Again he flattened himself out on top of a post for a sun-bath. He sprawled and spread himself, every individual feather standing independent of its neighbor, till he looked as if he had been smashed flat, and more like some of the feather monstrosities with which milliners disguise their hats than a living bird.

Nary an Army Worm—The Old Farmer was no Raw Recruit if He Was Home Grown.

He was a gay young officer and Uncle Sam was in great luck to have such a nice hired man. The car was crowded and he had to set his bright, new uniform right down beside a dingy, old farmer looking chap.

"Well, my avuncular relative," said he, speaking up so that the passengers might have a chance to join in the laugh, "what promise does he of whom one touch makes us all akin hold forth touching the particulars of farinaceous cereals?"

"The passengers—those who understood him and those who didn't—snickered. "How's the wheat crop, eh?" replied the dingy personage. "Fast rate, fast rate."

"Is that which fell alike by the wayside, into barren places and upon good ground completely subterranean?" The passengers laughed. "Is the seed all under ground, eh?" said the countryman. "Sure; all the seedin's done and things are sproutin'."

"Has your retina been impressed by any members of the advance guard of the cantharis vittata?" The passengers giggled. "Seen any potato bugs, eh?" said the rustic. "You bet; seen lots of potato bugs, but nary an army worm."

"No?" said the young officer hastily, heading off an incipient laugh, "and why is the army worm no longer with you?" "Well," said the old professor from the Podunk Agricultural College, "I heard that most of 'em had been juggled for duplicating their pay accounts."

The passengers roared.—New York Evening World.

A Plea for the Public School.

The private school may be more fashionable than the public school; it is certainly superior in nothing else. The typical pupil of the private boarding-school is the philistine child. He has plenty of money and spends it freely on what only harms his better nature; he is shallow and sordid, but he makes great pretences, and is supremely satisfied with his littleness.

Buy Plenty of Length.

When buying stair carpet buy a quarter of a yard more than is absolutely required. Let it run under the room carpet at the head or foot of the stairs. When your carpet begins to show wear on the steps, change it so that what was on the steps comes on the rise or up and down space between the steps, thus bringing a new spot where the wear comes. It takes twice as long to wear out a carpet if this is done, and what applies to the carpet will apply just as well to the crash used for covering. A very little extra expense when buying saves a good deal in the long run.—Ex.

A Turkish cure for gravel is to take equal parts small pebble stones pulverized to powder, nettleseed and honey. Mix well together. Dose, one teaspoonful morning and evening.

Notices of Meetings.

Calhoun County Grange. The County Grange of Calhoun county will meet on Thursday, Aug. 20, at Bellevue Grange hall, at 10 a. m. A basket picnic dinner will constitute the refreshments. The Grange will be opened in regular form. Scripture reading by Mrs. Poorman; prayer, T. Huggett. Welcome by the Master of Bellevue Grange. Response by the Master of Calhoun County Grange. Song by Bellevue Grange. What shall we do now for the strawberry beds?—T. Webb. DINNER. 1:30: Cause and prevention of smut in oats—G. C. Hicks. Song—John Woodworth. The sheriff system of our county, the laws that govern it, and the duties of the office—C. C. McDermid. Recitation—Celia Chidester. Paper—Mrs. Perry Mayo. Instrumental music—Mr. and Mrs. Chidester. Is it best for the farmers of this county to join the Horse Thief Protective Association?—Silas Woodworth. Recitation—Nellie Mayo. The prospective price of the wheat crop—C. C. Poorman. What shall we do for our state and county fair—Mrs. William Simons. Paper—Mrs. Ellen Simpson. The best prevention of pauperism—Mrs. McDermid. MRS. MAYO, Sec'y.

Farmers' Association, Antwerp and Paw Paw. The forty-ninth quarterly meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Smith, Thursday, Sept. 3, with the following program: 10:00 a. m.—Arrival and social greeting. 11:00—Inspection of farm. 12:00—Dinner. 1:30 p. m.—Call to order. Prayer. Roll call. Quotation upon Fruit and your choice. Reading minutes of last meeting. Music. Paper, A Drop of Water—A. C. Glidden. Recitation—Mrs. E. B. Welch. Music. Paper, Sand—J. C. Gould. Reading—A. M. Gould. B. G. BUELL, Pres't. A. M. GOULD, Sec'y.

Allegan County Council. On Tuesday, Sept. 2d, Allegan County Council will hold its next regular session with Monterey Grange, in their new hall, when the following program will be presented: Music by Monterey Grange choir. Welcome address by Bro. Frank Jackson, of Monterey Grange. Response by some member of Allegan Grange. Is there any benefit to the wage worker by the strikes in the country?—G. A. Morgan, Watson Grange. Music. Recitation by Sister Ida Brest, Trowbridge. The great importance of parents gaining and keeping the confidence of their children—Sister Alice Cook, Otsego, and Sister Rockwell, Trowbridge. Song by Henry Stockwell, with banjo accompaniment. Our kitchens as compared with the kitchens of our mothers—Sisters Cordelia and Julia Miner, Watson. Essay—S. C. Foster, Trowbridge. "Ghosts"—Sister Melissa Leggett, Watson. The actual qualities of woman's nature—C. A. Jewett, Allegan. Opportunities will be given for volunteer recitations, music, etc. Monterey Grange will respond to calls for music also at any time. Refreshments will be served at the dinner hour by Monterey Grange and their friends. We do not think there will be any doubt from the reputation of Monterey Grange or Allegan County Council, but that we shall have a goodly number of friends in attendance. N. A. DIBBLE, Lecturer.

County Grange Meeting. I desire to call the attention of all Patrons of Husbandry to our forthcoming County Grange, which will convene with Baltimore on Friday, Aug. 28, with the following program, which it is hoped may be carried out in full: Address of welcome—George Woodmansee. Response—Alfred Parker. Music—Baltimore Grange choir. Subject for discussion: The six most obnoxious weeds of Barry county, and how best to eradicate them—Discussion to be opened by C. S. Bristol, followed by Guy Manning. Question: How to renovate wornout land—A. C. Towne, A. E. Durfee and others. Papers by Mary Ormsbee, Sarah Warner, Frank Bristol, Charles Mack and others. Recitations by Earl Rhodes, Allie Granger, Frankie Monroe, Cora Mack and Emma Bristol. Selections by Lucy Bristol and Jennie Gorham. Our milling interests—George Brainard. Song—Clara Herrington. Poem—Geo. Bowser. Let all Patrons remember that Baltimore will make you welcome, so come and participate and you will return brim full of enthusiasm and with a deeper consecration to the principles of the order. N. SLAWSON, Co. Lecturer. Banfield, Aug. 8.

COLDWATER, Aug. 7.—ED. VISITOR: The next meeting of Branch County Pomona Grange will be held with Sherwood Grange on Thursday, Aug. 27. There will be a business session in the forenoon. The afternoon session will be public. All are invited. The welcoming address will be given by Bro. Charles E. Swaim. Response—A member of Pomona. A paper by Hon. D. D. Buell—What the legislature of 1891 did for the farmer. Recitation—Mrs. C. Failing. Paper—Are National Banks a necessity at this time; if not, why not?—J. D. Studley. Paper—The future of Branch county as a horse market; on what does it depend?—G. H. Wagner. Paper—J. L. Kilbourn. Plenty of good music and spice by Sherwood Grange. WALLACE E. WRIGHT, Lecturer.

TALLMADGE, Mich., Aug. 7.—ED. VISITOR: The next meeting of Western Pomona Grange will be held at Allendale Grange hall Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 26 and 27. A good program will be prepared and a general attendance desired. MELVIN S. SMITH, Sec'y.

Hillsdale County Grange will hold its September meeting with Acme Grange, Thursday, Sept. 3. A good program will be prepared for the occasion. The welcome will be given by the Master of Acme Grange, and response by Master of Pomona Grange. Music will be furnished by Acme Grange. J. E. WAGNER, Lecturer. Two Genuine Harvest Excursions Will be run from Chicago, Milwaukee, and other points on the lines of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, to points in Western Minnesota, Northwestern Iowa, South and North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and Montana, at cheap excursion rates, on August 25 and September 29, 1891. For further particulars apply to the nearest coupon ticket agent, or address HARRY MERCER, Mich. Pass. Agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, 82 Griswold street, Detroit, Mich., or GEO. H. HEAFFORD, Gen'l Pass. Ag't, Chicago, Ill. P. S.—It will do your heart good to see the magnificent crops in South Dakota. They are simply immense. 993 Fret not your life away because your hair is gray, while young, as you can stop all grayness and can beautify the hair with Hall's Hair Renewer. Died, at his home in Odessa, Ionia county, Mich., June 8, 1891, Wm. Myres, a worthy member of Berlin Center Grange No. 272.

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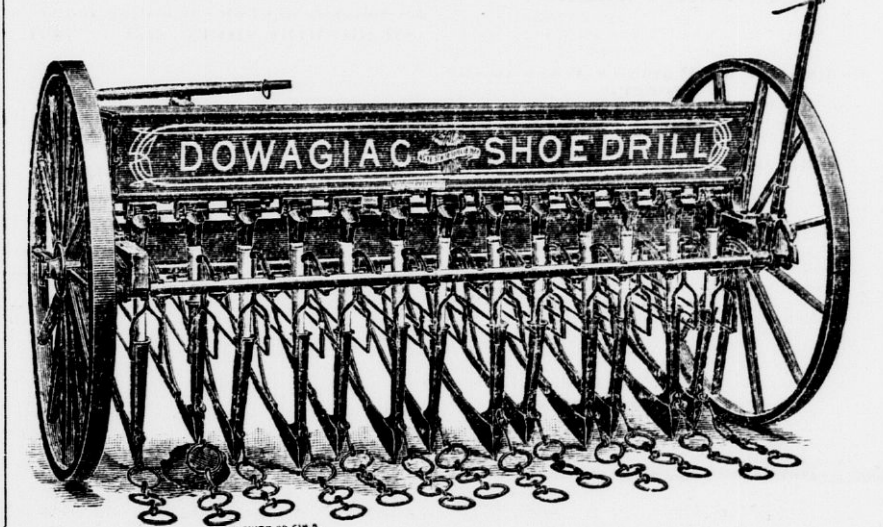
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The demand for a good side-spring buggy has been gradually growing for several years, and there have been several new springs put on the market in consequence. The most of these have proved failures, the construction being such that there was no chance for the side-spring to lengthen when loaded, hence the motion was short and sharp, or the gear was thrown out of "track." In the "Wolverine" these objections are avoided. There are four springs which are put together in such manner that each is allowed full play without straining any part of the gear. It has a wrought iron fifth wheel, clip kingbolt, and a double reach. Every buggy should have a well braced reach to make it keep in "track."

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PAW PAW, May 1st, 1891—In 1875 I purchased an open buggy of Arthur Wood. It has been in constant use since and promises several years service. I have now ordered one of the Wolverine top buggies on the reputation they sustain for excellence, workmanship and durability. J. C. GOULD. Send the money to the editor of this paper, and the buggy will be sent direct from the factory.

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