

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

Vol. XVI No. 24

PAW PAW, MICH., DECEMBER 15, 1891.

Whole Number 384

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY.

(1st and 15th of each month.)

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

Editor's address, Paw Paw, Mich., to whom all exchanges, communications, advertising business, and subscriptions should be sent.

TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months. Subscriptions payable in advance, and discontinued at expiration, unless renewed.

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

The Grange is Doing Better and More Effective Work than Ever Before.

National Master Brigham began his excellent address by congratulating the members on the success of the order during the twenty-five years of its existence. Nearly every important measure which the order has championed has either been incorporated into the law of the land, or has reached a stage of advancement which fully warrants the hope and expectation that a successful realization of our desires are near at hand.

In the line of business, co-operative efforts have greatly reduced the prices of farm implements and household supplies for farmers in all parts of the country.

The establishment of experiment stations, the national control of railroads, the elevation of the department of agriculture, all secured largely through the influence of the grange, have brought the material welfare of the farmer. No influence has done more to advance

THE SOCIAL CULTURE AND ENJOYMENT OF THE FARMER

than the grange. Its social and moral influence is felt in all grange communities in many ways. Substantial political reforms have been effected, but still more important results may be expected in the near future.

The grange will champion no class legislation, no class political party, but will boldly sustain the rights of every citizen to the untrammelled use of the ballot for the protection of his home and dearest rights. An organization of farmers is

AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY

in this country, and its leaders should be men who are thoroughly identified with the agricultural interests of the country. None others are wanted.

We look with pleasure upon the awakening among farmers which indicates a realization of this necessity, and, although we do not agree with some of those who advocate what we believe to be impracticable measures, yet we sympathize with the vast army of toilers who seek to secure for themselves and families a fair share of the profits of their own skill, capital and labor.

Upon matters and questions pertaining alone to our order, its laws, constitution and usages, the decision of the National grange is final. We should not, however, lose sight of the cardinal principles of our order, viz: The absolute

POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

of the individual. No official, not even our national body, can place restriction upon this freedom. A majority of the members of the National grange may endorse certain propositions involving questions of political economy, affecting the material interests of citizens—such as tariff or finance—but in no case is a member of our order bound by such action or expression of

opinion unless his own judgment shall approve.

The members of the grange can be committed to no party, to no individual, to no religious creed, to no political theory or monopoly, by any act of any official, or by any resolution adopted by subordinate, state or national grange. Any other position upon these propositions means disintegration and death.

In regard to

THE TARIFF.

there is an honest difference of opinion, but the free and full discussion, and the investigation now being conducted will doubtless soon practically settle the policy of the government for a term of years.

Upon the money question there is also a radical difference of opinion among our membership, and anything I may say upon the subject will not bind this body or any member of the Order. I believe we should have a sufficient supply of money for the transaction of business. I do not believe that either a contracted or redundant condition of the circulating medium is conducive to prosperity. I believe that the increase of money should correspond to the increase in population and the uses to which money is applied.

The Grange has never endorsed the sub-treasury scheme and in the interest of farmers may feel compelled to antagonize it, as every impractical proposition pushed upon the public attention by farmers' organizations works injury to our interest, and the sooner they are disposed of the better for all concerned.

Another proposition is

THE LAND LOAN SCHEME.

the advocates of which see in the plan proposed great relief to the debtor class, a reduction of interest (now certainly too high), and an increase in the amount of money in circulation. In opposition it is said that this also is class legislation—that the government should not be turned into a loan agency; that the government has no money to loan except what is raised by taxation; that to provide for a large issue of paper money would endanger the credit of the government and depreciate money now at par with gold; that great abuses and losses would occur in carrying out details; that instead of inducing debtors to pay their debts, the low rate of interest would lead them to keep it and borrow more; that those now free from debt would be tempted to mortgage their lands in order to obtain some of the cheap money; that an era of

EXTRAVAGANT AND WILD SPECULATION

would be sure to follow, and that the final results would be disastrous in the extreme. The discussion of all these propositions should be encouraged, as out of discussion may come light and help for the needy. It is not, however, advisable for the National Grange to lend its powerful endorsement to schemes which have not been thoroughly digested by our members, and which may lead to dissension in our ranks. None of these propositions is likely to be adopted hastily by the people of the United States, and we can take ample time for consideration.

There will undoubtedly be an organized effort made to induce the government to embark in schemes of irrigation for purposes of bringing vast fields of arid lands under cultivation, and

farmers who now feel the effects of over-production should not be indifferent spectators to the scheme.

Much can be said in favor of the plan of a government postal telegraph system, and also in favor of the plan to have the free delivery of mail extended to rural neighborhoods, and both propositions are commended to the careful consideration of the National Grange.

THE CAUCUS SYSTEM

should be removed from our legislative proceedings. It is this system which enables men who have neither character nor ability to obtain seats in the United States Senate by the improper use of the great wealth frequently obtained by disreputable methods. Abolish the system, and representatives can no longer plead the caucus decree as an excuse for outraging and misrepresenting an indignant constituency. Surely, men can be found for legislative positions who will be reasonable and unite on good men and measures, if left free to act.

The financial condition of the National Grange was never better. In many sections of the country the Order is making numerical gains. But far more important than this is the fact that we are doing better and more effective work for our members than ever before.

Report of the Executive Committee of Michigan State Grange.

A year has passed since here we met in council. We congratulate our brothers and sisters in the Order, and extend our congratulations to our brother farmers throughout all the land, on the bountiful crops which a kind providence has vouchsafed to us, and the remunerative prices which our products bring.

While we cannot rejoice over the misfortunes of our brother farmers in foreign lands, we are thankful that from the abundance of our stores we can spare enough to supply their wants, and feed the hungry millions whose home supply has failed them.

The brighter days, whose dawning we saw a year ago and prophesied in our report, are fast approaching. The wise and fearless statesmanship which controls our foreign relations has opened markets abroad heretofore closed to us, and removed restraints and procured concessions which have broadened the demand for our products in foreign lands. The rapid building up of new industries and the revival and expansion of old ones is so enlarging our home market that we need no longer fear to plant lest our abundant crop should glut the market and leave our labor unrewarded.

Believing, however, that we have a duty to perform, beyond and higher than the mere raising and marketing of crops; in educating and elevating the farmer above the mere drudgery of farm life, to a higher intellectual activity and broader views of public affairs; and to awaken in him a self-consciousness that he has not only a personal interest in public affairs, but that he has a duty to perform as an American citizen, in protecting the weak against the strong, and resisting the unjust exactions of incorporated capital, we shall continue to point the way to more just and economical conditions, and to suggest remedies for existing evils, and to call

upon the people to right the wrongs that unbridled greed has inflicted and is still inflicting upon an honest but too confiding public.

As the objects, motives and methods of the Grange are more or less confounded in the public mind with the numerous political farm organizations which have sprung up in the land since the Grange was organized, we desire to correct this error by informing all that the Grange is not a political organization. It offers no crazy patchwork of inconsistent, incongruous and conflicting demands upon government as a party platform for farmers to stand upon. It refuses to be used by the political malcontents of either party as a commercial factor in their bargains for office. Standing upon the broad platform of equal rights for all, and special privileges to none, and recognizing the common brotherhood of all lawful industries, it demands the confidence and respect of the public press, and the sympathy of all patriotic citizens.

Its mission is to build up and improve, not to tear down and destroy; to correct abuses, not to cripple or impede legitimate enterprise.

The Grange does not call upon its members to abandon their creeds, or forsake their churches; but it does ask them to infuse among their brethren in the church a broader humanity and a more charitable consideration of the differing views of others. It does not require its members to abandon their political parties, and vilify and abuse their former associates; but it does ask them to enter actively into their party councils and endeavor to elevate politics above the mere consideration of partizan advantage, and direct them to the great needs of a rapidly advancing people; and especially to the needs of agriculture for a protective barrier against the robberies and exactions of boards of trade and organized capital. The Grange appeals to the reason and conscience of the people, not to their passions or prejudices; it appeals to the statesmen of all parties, in the firm belief that, if it points out the right way, they will follow the path we blaze, and correct the errors of our random lines.

In our Grange halls we discuss not only those economic questions which affect our calling as farmers, but we discuss those broader questions of political economy, that affect the well being of our whole country. It is there we formulate our views upon all important public questions for submission to the delegated assemblage of all the Grangers of the state to be passed upon, and such as are approved are sent forth as the expression of our order, for the candid consideration of an intelligent public.

So far as we suggest remedies for existing difficulties or abuses, point out impending dangers, or propose modes of action for the betterment of the farmers' condition, or for the promotion of the interest and welfare of the whole people, we ask for them respectful consideration by all.

NATIONAL FINANCES.

As we predicted in our last annual report, the addition to our currency of national treasury notes based on the gold value of 4,500,000 ounces of silver per month, the product of our gold mines not used in the arts, and balance of trade in our favor dur-

ing the year, have not been sufficient to meet the wants of legitimate business. An unnecessary stringency has prevailed in the money market, crippling business, and preventing the prosecution of enterprises projected early in the year.

That an annual increase in the currency much larger than that furnished under the present law is necessary to meet the business wants of the country, is so universally admitted by all save those depending on fixed incomes or interest on money loaned, that we deem an extended discussion of the cause at this time unnecessary.

The balance of trade with foreign countries in our favor, and the product of our gold and silver mines, not used in the arts, as a basis for demand treasury notes would be ample for all needs of the country, were it not for the immense outflows of money to pay interest and dividends on foreign capital loaned and invested in this country.

The amount thus earned by foreign capital as interest and dividends amounts to more than \$150,000,000 a year, and is so rapidly increasing that, unless checked by proper legislation, it will exact an annual tribute from the American people of \$400,000,000 for the benefit of English capital during the next generation. This drain during the last fiscal year has amounted to more than the entire output of our gold and silver added to the balance of trade in our favor. This constant outflow of money, or its equivalent in products, for which nothing is returned, is an annual tax upon the industry of our country, and the greatest menace to our continual prosperity.

How to check this increasing indebtedness, and the consequent increasing absorption of our earnings by foreign capital, is one of the difficult problems which our statesmen have to solve, and to which their attention cannot too soon be directed.

In the meantime, and until this outflow for interest and dividends is checked and reduced below the average annual balance of trade in our favor, and the annual output of precious metals from our mines, provision must be made for a greater increase in our currency than the present law permits—enough to meet the demands of a rapidly increasing trade and commerce.

What shall be the amount of this increase, and how it shall be made are questions being widely discussed and many plans have been proposed.

Two of these plans we will consider, viz:

The proposition of Mr. M. D. Harst, M. C., to turn the people over to the tender care of private banks; and the proposition of the silver kings to take control of the coinage.

We are unalterably opposed to the issuing of money by either state or national banks, no matter how well secured or safely guarded. We regard such issues as a dangerous surrender of the functions of the government to private corporations. It would give to these corporations the practical control of the money of the country, and enable them to contract or inflate the currency as their private interests might require regardless of the public weal.

That the banking business can be carried on profitably and to any extent that the business of

[To be Continued.]

The Brook Beneath the Snow.

Way down in dad's ol' medder, where the pussy willers grow,
I used to go and listen to the brook beneath the snow;
Above I heard the roarin' win' an' saw the snow-gust whirl,
But the brook beneath the snow an' ice danced singin', like a girl.
I'd put my ear down to the ice—I didn' min' the col',
An' w'en I heard its music there was summer in my soul!
An' w'en dad licked me, an' my heart 'ud bile an' overflow,
I'd go an' hear the music of the brook beneath the snow.
An' then my sobs 'ud change to shouts, an' sorrcer change to glee,
For it strewed along its music from the mountain to the sea;
An' I'd stretch my ear to hear it, an' my heart 'ud swell an' glow,
W'en I listened to the music of the brook beneath the snow.
Since then the wintry blasts of life have blown me here an' there,
An' snow-storms they have blocked my way an' hedged me everywhere,
But, sheltered from the hurricane within the valley low,
I listen for the music of the brook beneath the snow.
For I know beneath the snow an' ice that there is golden sand,
By that glorious streak uv melody that wiggles through the land;
The storm beats hard: the wind is high; I cannot hear it blow,
For I listen to the music of the brook beneath the snow.

—S. W. Foss, in Yankee Blade.

The Liberty Farmers' Club.

The November meeting of the Liberty Farmers' Club was held at "Meadow View," the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Winans, on Saturday, Nov. 7.

The matter of awarding premiums to the young ladies of the Club who will exhibit the best loaves of bread of their own make at the January meeting, was referred to a committee of three ladies, who shall make all arrangements and report at the December meeting.

A sumptuous dinner of chicken pie and other good things was enjoyed by all.

First on the program for the afternoon was a paper by Mrs. A. W. Dunn, "Literature in the Home." Webster's first definition of literature is, "Learning; acquaintance with letters and books;" the second, "The collective body of literary productions." If we had a home well stored with good books and papers, the impression made upon our minds is that in that home there is learning; there is a refining, educating influence in the very presence of good books in the home, and children can be taught to feel it; and yet there are many who look upon books and papers as an expensive luxury, suited only to the pocket-book of the wealthy. Into how many homes about us we might go and not find a single book that has been bought within the last five years, and yet find the homes otherwise well furnished, including, probably, an organ which some agent has made them believe they ought to have, regardless of whether the children have any talent for music whatever. When children have a taste for music I would have it cultivated if possible. Music helps to brighten the home. It is not usually from lack of means that we find so little literature in so many homes, for in these days of cheap books and papers, a dollar will furnish a family with a great deal of reading matter. But it is a lack of interest, and if we would have our children grow up with a taste for reading, we must cultivate it while they are young. Bring them picture books instead of candy; read to them as soon as they can understand what you read, and when they have learned to read encourage them to read aloud to you, talking over with them and explaining what they do not fully understand. There are some books which should be found in every home. First I would place the Bible; next, a good dictionary and, if possible, a good encyclopedia. Then form the habit of constant reference to them whenever anything comes up that we are in doubt about. History and biography should find a place, and we should have enough of the standard authors to at least be able to form an intelligent opinion of them. No library is complete without some of the poets. I think it better as a rule to buy books only as we can read them. Very much is to be gained by a systematic course of reading, such, for example, as

in the Chautauqua course. I have been watching with interest the development of a similar plan, but designed for farmers and their families, and designated as "Farmers' Progressive Reading Circles." The plans are so far completed as to have the readings ready for the first of December.

Mrs. Dunn read a circular giving the plan, which consists of a four years' course in progressive agriculture—chemistry, botany, geology, and recommending collateral readings. The readings for the course are divided into 26 chapters, designed to be read one chapter each week, commencing the first of November.

The subject was discussed to some extent, and all agreed that it would be an excellent thing for farmers to either form circles, or read at home in same manner.

Mrs. M. E. Wetherby read a beautiful selection, "The Mystery of Life."

The subject for discussion, "Planting in the Moon," was opened by R. D. M. Edwards.

"Planting in the moon," or, more scientifically, the effect of the moon on the earth and its vegetation, is the subject assigned me for a paper. If the moon does affect in any way the vegetation on the earth, does it act in any way on the germination of the seed, and thereby govern in the least the future crop? It is a fixed law of nature that all bodies are acted upon by, and act upon, other bodies; that all are drawn toward each other by an unknown power called attraction of gravitation. Although distance may lessen their power, its power is not overcome by any distance that we can comprehend. As the moon is the nearest heavenly body to the earth, being only 240,000 miles distant, and is one-thirteenth the size of the earth, its attractive power on the earth is comparatively great. As that planet revolves around the earth in 27 days, 7 hours and 43 minutes, and the earth turns on its axis every 24 hours, some part of the earth's surface is always next to the moon, and all of her surface is next to the moon every 24 hours, but not always the same distance from the moon or in the same relative position. The sun also attracts the earth, but not so much as the moon does. When the sun and moon are either in conjunction or opposition, that is to say, on the same or opposite sides of the earth, they unite their attractions, as in the new and full of the moon. When in the quarters, the attraction is less. How do we know this? By the tides, which are caused by the attraction of the sun and moon acting unequally on the waters in different parts of the earth, thus disturbing their equilibrium. When the sun and moon are in conjunction, or opposition, as at new and full moon, their action produces a greater than the usual tide. When in the quarters, the sun's attraction in part counteracts that of the moon, thus producing a smaller tide than usual. The attraction of the moon upon the land is just the same as upon the water, and were it not for the attraction of cohesion holding the particles of earth together, thereby overcoming the power of attraction of gravitation, the land would rise and fall the same as the water. These elevations would differ in the different phases of the moon, highest in the new and full moon. If the moon exerts such an influence on the earth's surface, why may it not affect its plant growth? Perhaps you say, "Suppose it does affect the growth, what has that to do with the planting?" It is another fixed law of nature that on the time and condition of the planting depends largely the growth, development and fruitage. We all know that the sun, although 95,000,000 miles away, does affect the growth of seeds, and that the effect is governed by the relative position that the sun and earth sustain to each other, and it is changed as the earth moves, or at different times of the sun. Then why not the moon, when it is only 24,000 miles away? Perhaps you may have thought I would tell you in what time of the moon to plant? Plant potatoes in the old of the moon, beans in the full; sow wheat when the sun is up so you can't see the moon, and other

things when you get ready, provided it is the right time of year. Above all, see that your seed is good, the ground well prepared and containing lots of fertilizers to help the moon bring up what you plant.

"A wonderful thing is a seed—
The one thing deathless forever;
The one thing changeless—utterly true,
Forever old, and forever new,
And fickle and faithless never.
Plant blessings, and blessings will bloom;
Plant hate, and hate will grow;
You can sow to-day—to-morrow shall bring
The blossom that proves what sort of thing
Is the seed, the seed that you sow."

T. Speer cites a man that he knew who did everything "in the moon," and who was the most successful man he ever knew.

D. Speer—We have many traditions about the moon. When we were boys we thought seeing the moon over the right shoulder a good sign. I remember the man my brother speaks of. When he came to this country he had \$100. When he died he left \$90,000, which his boys soon run through with.

Pres't Dunn—He did not die in the right time of the moon, or the boys did not spend the money in the right time.

D. Speer—They spent too much time at the saloons.

Mrs. Edwards—Think planting in the moon like making soap. I never pay any attention to the moon, and always have good soap.

J. D. Crispell—This year, in order to make a test, I planted some potatoes in the new of the moon and some in the old of the moon in June. I saw no difference in the potatoes when they were harvested. If you plant them in the ground, and attend to them, it will be all right. You can't grow potatoes and weeds.

Mrs. Wetherby—Two years in our own life we have planted cucumbers which grew beautiful vines, but they bore no cucumbers. What was the reason?

Mrs. Crispell—Three years we planted cucumber seed when I knew it was in the new moon. We had thrifty vines and plenty of blossoms, but no fruit. Since then we have been careful not to plant in the new moon, and have not failed to have plenty of cucumbers.

D. Speer—To produce fruit, plant cucumbers when blackberries are in bloom.

Mr. Edwards—We are quite apt to scoff at what we don't understand. If it had been the sun, we would understand that the difference lay in the direction in which its rays strike the earth. We do know that every heavenly body affects all others, but we don't understand the power of attraction. I am inclined to think the moon does affect vegetation.

Recitations by Miss Edith Lewis and Miss Benita Crispell were nicely rendered.

The subjects for discussion at next meeting will be, "What is the influence of school teachers on our children?" opened by Mrs. J. D. Crispell, and "Am I doing my utmost to make the Farmers' Club a success?" opened by Geo. Shafer.

Adjourned to meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Dunn on the first Saturday in December.

Mrs. J. D. CRISPELL,
Club Reporter.

The Farmer as a Mechanic.

There are those who uphold the work of the specialist until they would have the farmer as helpless as the city man who only has to give an order through the telephone and the mechanic is on hand to do any work in any line needed. With the farmer all this is changed. He is at some distance from the city, and any mechanic that may reside in the neighboring village is likely to be only a third-rate hand, or he would have gone to a centre where better work and greater skill is better paid.

In doing his work, the farm hand of necessity has to learn something of handling tools of all descriptions. There are breakdowns on the road in which his ingenuity is brought out in a thousand ways. Sometimes a man would be so badly stuck that he would not venture out alone if he were not equal to the occasion in fixing up an unfortunate break that otherwise would disappoint all his calculations. A broken trace or other part of his harness

must be mended without loss of time, or the load will not reach the market in season. Again, the majority of farms are so isolated that it requires more time to go to a carpenter or blacksmith shop than it requires to mend the break.

As winter approaches, there are a number of jobs that require doing, in order that stables may be placed in readiness when the first blast of winter comes. For this and a hundred other reasons, a farm workshop is required, where tools of all sorts are kept to fix up wood or iron work when required. There should be a room large enough for a stove, so that there will be comfort for those who intend working at any job which is required, and many a rainy day may be spent to great advantage there.

Bolts of all sizes should be kept to replace those worn or broken in any machine, and different wrenches should always be at hand when needed. This is an example of how a few dollars spent on tools required would supply many a convenience that is done without. Machines would be mended in time to prevent a general collapse. It does not require an expert to paint an implement that has of necessity to be out in much of the weather, and for want of which they very soon get old looking. The water penetrates and swells and rots the wood; and valuable machines get out of order and have to be replaced with new, which takes much of the profit which is made from the farm.

Again, if a man learns how to repair a machine or implement, he will take more care to prevent its abuse, and will take more pride in having them in the best working order, which last of itself will save much of the wear and tear which a badly-running machine entails.

Farmers must give time to kitchen gardens or else they go without vegetables. If they have the time to go after and buy what is required, how different from the fresh, crispy lettuce and other garden stuff that is at once delicious and healthy, to the faded, wilted stuff that has been hawked in a town and stood in the sun until every vestige of freshness is gone. A few hours spent at this time of the year on asparagus and rhubarb beds will plant out enough to last for years. The fall is the time when the garden should be plowed, so that it will be in readiness to sow the seed and do what planting is contemplated in the right season when hurried spring work comes on. A few boards will make a cold frame that will start many a delicate vegetable. Why not turn them to account and have early lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, or any other vegetable you fancy, that not only contributes to enjoyment, but is also necessary to health.—Farmer's Advocate.

How to Save Boys.

Women who have sons to rear, and dread the demoralizing influence of bad associates, ought to understand the nature of young manhood. It is excessively restless. It is disturbed by vain ambition, by thirst for action, by longings for excitement, by irrepressible desires to touch life in manifold ways. If you, mothers, rear your sons so that your homes are associated with the repressions of natural instincts, you will be sure to throw them into the society that in any measure can supply the desire of their hearts. They go to the public house at first for the animated and hilarious companionship they find there, which they find does so much to repress the disturbing restlessness in their breasts.

See to it, then, that their homes compete with public places in attractiveness. Open your blinds by day and light bright fires by night. Illuminate your rooms. Hang pictures upon the walls. Put books and newspapers upon your tables. Have music and entertaining games. Banish the demons of dullness and apathy that have so long ruled in your household, and bring in mirth and good cheer. Invent occupations for your boys. Stimulate their ambitions in worthy directions. While you make home their delight, fill them with higher purposes than mere pleasure. Whether they shall pass happy

boyhood and enter manhood with refined tastes and noble ambitions, depends in a large degree upon you.

Weeds.

It is not alone in the form of useless and obnoxious vegetation in our fields that we can accept the definition of the word heading this article. Weeds are not alone to be found as a burden that prevents the necessary growth or development in our cultivated crops. Though perhaps not so glaring to the casual observer, weeds are ruinous in the stud, in the herd, and in the flock. It is the poorly developed animal that fails to bring a price equal to what it costs to produce it, therefore it takes up the room of a better and more profitable subject, which would, on the other hand, have produced a profit from the food consumed. It is the unprofitable cow that eats every three hundred and sixty-five days of each twelve months, and yet only produces slightly over half the days of the year, her product not being sufficient to pay the cost of what she consumes, while as a reproducer she brings into the world such as again multiplies unprofitable farm animals.

It is the weed growth that takes the sustenance from the growing crop. It is the weeds among animals that occupy the room that should be given to the good and salable horse, whose presence on the farm is a delight to the owner, while the other is a nuisance at home, and cannot be sold because there are too many such in the market. The weeds usurp the place of our best shipping steers, and in their place there grow animals that not only occupy the room, consume the feed, but, worst of all, prevent their owner from developing a love and taste for his work, without which he cannot possibly attain success in his calling.

Who would go to see a field of grain abounding in noxious weeds with any expectation of pleasure? Who would realize any satisfaction in showing a friend a lot of colts that are weeds in his own eyes, and whose chief characteristics are their different degrees of unsoundness?

The task of selling a lot of scrub steers whose narrow, bare frames are such as only the poorest class of butchers will buy, exemplifies the case. It is the lower grade farmer that produces them, it is the lower grade butcher that buys, and he sells to the lower grade consumers—the result being a lower grade price all through.

Where laudable ambition fails to move men to aspire to better methods in their calling, shame steps in and prevents a too great falling away. For this reason good farmers are required in every locality to assist in illustrating that in farming for profit a high aim must be taken, or they will strike below the mark, which causes the balance to appear on the wrong side of the ledger. A drive through the country will convince the observant man that many farms which should continue to produce good crops, will very soon be largely occupied by weeds, unless a radical change in farming operations is brought about.—Farmer's Advocate.

Philadelphia Grange No. 645.

Phila. Co., Pa., Sep. 21.

Mr. O. W. Ingersoll:

Dear Sir:—In regard to your paint I will say, that our members have used it and are well pleased, and other members expect to use it the next painting they have done. I have seen many houses painted with your paints, and know them to be far better than any Ready Mixed Paints on the market in this vicinity. This system of direct buying saves to the consumers all middlemen's profits.

I am, fraternally yours,

R. MARGOUM, Master.
(See adv. Patron's Paint Works.)

When a man has nothing to say then is a good time to keep still.

An ounce of cheerfulness is worth a pound of sadness to serve God with.

For any man who knows more than he tells, there are fifty who tell more than they know.

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We Guarantee Satisfaction.

The Michigan Grange.

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich., Nov. 28.—Editor Detroit Tribune: In an editorial of Nov. 25, entitled "End of the Patron Craze," you seem to confound the Patrons of Industry with the Patrons of Husbandry, who are commonly known as Grangers. I have noticed in several other editorials in The Tribune during the present management the same confounding of the orders. The Granges feel a little sensitive over this, and do not like to be held responsible for the shortcomings of the Patrons of Industry and Alliance. There is a broad distinction between the principles and methods of these orders. The Grange is not a political organization and has never yet in this state lent its aid to or proposed to divide offices with any political party; neither has it nominated a ticket of its own. The Michigan State Grange, by resolution unanimously adopted, has opposed the craze of free coinage, government loans on farm mortgages, government advances on and warehousing of farm products, and has advocated such a change in our tax laws as will place the burden of taxation equally upon all in proportion to wealth. At the annual session of the State Grange in December, 1889, the following resolution on finance was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That we consider it for the best interest of the farmer as well as the entire debtor class of the United States that the whole product of our gold and silver mines should be utilized by the government, as the basis of a legal tender money currency, by purchasing the entire output of our mines at its bullion value, but without coinage of either metal until the necessities of the treasury require it." I am informed by Senator Stockbridge that when this resolution was submitted to Senator Sherman of Ohio he pronounced it sound financial doctrine, and commended the Michigan farmers for their advanced financial views. Congress in enacting the present law, complied substantially with the pre-expressed views of the Grange, in as much as the 4,500,000 ounces of silver purchased per month takes the entire output of our mines.

The annual meeting of the State Grange in December, 1890, reiterated its views on the financial question and then met the government loan craze in the following paragraphs:

"We regret that the National Grange, the Farmers Alliance and other organizations of farmers, have endorsed the proposition in one form or another to make loans by government to the people. We are opposed to any action that would encourage people in contracting debts. That the issuing of one billion of treasury notes and loaning it to the people either directly or indirectly through the state and county organizations at low rate of interest would lead to a wild clamor for credit, every intelligent person must admit. That no system could be devised, or its operation so guarded as to prevent partiality and favoritism in its distribution, first, to personal friends of the loaning agent, and next to his political associates, every thoughtful man must foresee. That it would create a feeling of helpless dependence upon government aid by those whom it is designed to benefit, thereby relaxing their individual effort, destroying their energy and self-reliance, and rendering them helpless mendicants of government charity, every observer of human nature must know. That it would lead to thriftless improvidence, relying upon government aid or government forbearance by those whom it seeks to benefit, and prove a curse instead of a blessing, is so plainly evident that we are surprised that the National Grange should allow itself to be carried away by the clamor of those who hope to gain for themselves public preferment, by holding out a scheme

so enticing to the ignorant or improvident debtor and scheming speculator. What the farmers need, and especially those who are in debt, are greater facilities for paying debts, not for contracting them; better remuneration for their labor and capital, not inducements to speculate upon capital not their own." And upon the equally absurd proposition to warehouse farm products and advance loans thereon the Grange gave its emphatic dissent in the following language: "This, too, we regard as a proposition unjust, impractical and utopian in the extreme. If the products of the farm are to be received and stored by the government and advances made upon them, why not the products of all other industries? If the government is to become a broker for the farmer, why not a broker for all other products, the cotton, the woolen, the silk and the linen manufacturers, the iron masters, the potters, the glass-makers and all manufacturers of warehouseable products? If we ask the government to interfere with the law of supply and demand by hoarding our products for a rise, why should it not interfere with the same law by hoarding all other non-perishable products of labor for the same purpose? We regard the proposition as too absurd to gain the approbation of honest, intelligent men." The Grange then sets forth the true cause of the agricultural depression existing at the time, which is a perfect answer to the calamity wailers of the Simpson class, who attribute every agricultural ill to adverse legislation. In justice to an organization of farmers that has done so much toward disseminating correct economic views among our people I think The Tribune should cease to classify us with the political malcontents who would use the farmer vote as a commercial factor in jobbing for office. J. G. RAMSDALL, Chairman Executive Committee Michigan State Grange.

Those Farm Mortgages in Kansas.

Extra Census Bulletin No. 14, dated Oct. 28, 1891, is the authority for the following statements. The document may be had by applying to the Census Office, Washington, D. C.

The mortgage indebtedness of Kansas aggregates \$235,485,000, or 14.3 per cent of the true value of all property taxed and not taxed. Of this indebtedness, 29 per cent rests upon city and village land, leaving the relation of mortgaged farms to the true value of all property but 10 per cent. The mortgaged farms represents but 58 per cent of the total number of taxed acres in the state, and the mortgage debt upon farms but 28 per cent of estimated true value of all taxed acres. Farm mortgages comprise 71 per cent of the total mortgage debt. Still favorable to the condition of the state as a whole is the fact 34 per cent of the mortgage indebtedness on farms is on real estate in the western half of the state, where values are low and where settlement was made but a few years ago, largely upon public lands. The debt upon farms is 48 per cent of the value of the mortgaged farms, the averaged debt per mortgaged acre being \$65. The averaged mortgage covers 130 acres, valued at \$1798. The circumstances under which the debt was incurred reflect credit rather than dishonor upon the givers of the mortgages. More than half the existing mortgage debt was incurred between 1885 and 1889 inclusive and fully three-fourths for purchase and improvement. Such was the activity of that "boom" period in Western Kansas that the recorded indebtedness of the state was reduced 42 1/2 per cent from 1887 to 1889. How the debt grew and then how rapidly it diminished is shown in the following figures: In 1880, the mortgages recorded amounted to 18 million dollars; this increased steadily till 1887, when the amount recorded was 97 millions;

there was a decline to about 70 millions in 1888 and to 56 millions in 1889.

Ten per cent interest was paid on more than one-fourth of the total number of mortgages from 1880-9, 8 per cent by an equal number, the others being mostly at 7 or 9 per cent. More than one-third of the mortgages were for \$500 to \$1000. The average life of a mortgage in Kansas is 3 1/2 years, of a farm mortgage on city or village lots 2 1/2 years.

The Patrons of Husbandry.

Judge Ramsdell of Traverse City, justly and vigorously protests, in another column, against confounding the Patrons of Husbandry, commonly known as Grangers, with the Patrons of Industry or the Farmers' Alliance. The Michigan Grange, as Judge Ramsdell says, has never become a political organization. It has never been carried away by the utopian and fanatical projects of the Alliance cranks. It has proved to be a conservative farmers organization, dealing with the problem of agricultural depression in a practical way, and in its own manner has been productive of great good to its membership.

In justice to itself The Tribune must disclaim the imputation of Judge Ramsdell that it has ever linked together the Patrons of Husbandry, the Patrons of Industry and the Farmers' Alliance in a general condemnation. We did not refer to the Grange in the article mentioned by Judge Ramsdell, and we do not recall having ever criticised the Patrons of Husbandry in connection with other so-called farmers' movements.

The Tribune is aware that the Michigan Grange does not favor the sub-treasury fiat money scheme or the free coinage idiosyncrasy. These two favorite tenets of the Farmers' Alliance, as Judge Ramsdell points out, have been expressly denounced by the Michigan organizations. If other farmers' organizations would do the same thing, they would meet with far more sympathy than they now do from the press and the public. There is ample work for farmers' organizations to do, and the Michigan Grange, we are glad to know, is doing that work.—Detroit Tribune.

A Gigantic Step.

Sunday's Pittsburg Dispatch, a strictly independent political newspaper, has the following significant and important article, which concerns every tax-payer in the country.

The farmers of the United States are not only interested in politics, but they are working on a great financial scheme to relieve the burdens of debt in agricultural districts. The Grangers are determined that the policy of the Government in the future shall afford the same protection to their products that the tariff system insures to manufactured articles. The farmer feels that the bankers and manufacturers have been favored, while he has been neglected.

Of the numerous farmer organizations in the State the National Grange is one of the strongest and most conservative. The Grangers make little noise, and for this reason are not as well known as the Alliance. The Grange in no way affiliates with the latter Order, and its members are not in sympathy with the sub-treasury and other visionary schemes. Their aim is to enhance the value of farm products, and protect their markets. At present the Grange has 1,000,000 members in the United States, and they are increasing rapidly. A MAMMOTH MORTGAGE SCHEME.

At the annual meeting of the organization in Springfield, Ohio, which has just closed, it was decided to have a company organized that would fund the mortgages of the Grange farmers. Leonard Rhone, President of the Pennsylvania Grange, and Chairman of the National Executive Committee, was appointed to look

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after this branch of the work.

In discussing their financial plans Mr. Rhone said he thought that from \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000 would be needed to relieve the people in their society. If the money can't be raised in America, he knows it can be procured in Europe. Agents have been started to interview New York bankers on the subject. The farmers want the money loaned on long time, and at a reasonable rate of interest, giving mortgages on their land as security. Mr. Rhone thinks the investment is one of the safest that can be made. The Grange is to be in no way responsible to the company. He remarked that the scheme was similar to the funding of the national bank debt by the Government.

An agent will be appointed in each State to find out the financial needs of the farmers and report to the company. In making loans this representative will examine the titles and see that everything is satisfactory. Mr. Rhone adds that the financial arrangement will make the Grange so popular that every agriculturist in the country will be anxious to join it. He also says there is a great deal of distress among the farmers, and while the crops are heavy this year, prices have not advanced, so that the relief afforded is very small.

You May See a Million.

A concession has been granted to M. Stepanni to erect a Moorish palace at the World's Fair. One of the many attractions which he proposes to exhibit in this palace is \$1,000,000 in gold coin in one pile. He believes that this will be a great drawing card and that nearly every visitor will want to see it. Of course great precautions will be taken for the safety of such great treasure. It will be in a strong cage and Mr. Stepanni says: "Just under the gold will be constructed a fire and burglar proof vault. To the doors of this vault will be connected electric wires. In the event of an attempt to rob the palace my guards will press an electric button, the entire pile will fall into the vaults and the doors will spring shut." A space 200 by 250 feet was granted for the Moorish palace, upon which Mr. Stepanni says he will expend \$400,000.

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A POPULAR FAMILY.

JENNIE: "How is it, Kate, that you always seem to 'catch on' to the latest new thing? D. what I may, you always seem to get ahead of me."
KATE: "I don't know; I certainly do not make any exertion in that direction."
JENNIE: "Well, during the last few months, for example, you have taken up painting,



without any teacher; you came to the rescue when Miss Lafarge deserted her Delsarte class so suddenly, and certainly we are all improving in grace under your instruction; I heard you telling Tommy Eames last evening how his club made mistakes in playing baseball; you seem to be up on all the latest facts, and know just what to do under all circumstances; you entertain beautifully; and in the last month you have improved so in health, owing, you tell me, to your physical culture exercises. Where do you get all of your information from in this little out-of-the-way place?—for you never go to the city."
KATE: "Why, Jennie, you will make me vain. I have only one source of information, but it is surprising how it meets all wants. I very seldom hear of anything new but what the next few days bring me full information on the subject. 'The Family Magazine' is a great treasure it is to us all, for it really furnishes the reading for the whole household; father has given up his magazine that he has taken for years, as he says this one gives more and better information on the subjects of the day; and mother says that it is that that makes her such a famous housekeeper. In fact, we all agree that it is the only really FAMILY magazine we read, as we have sent for supplies of all of them, and find that one is all for men, another all for women, and another for children only, while this one suits every one of us, so we only need to take one instead of several, and that is where the economy comes in, for it is only \$2.00 a year. Perhaps you think I am too lavish in my praise; but I will let you see ours, or, better still, send for one to the publisher, W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th Street, New York, for a sample copy, and I shall always consider that I have done you a great favor; and may be you will be cutting us out, as you say we have the reputation of being the best informed family in town. If that be so, it is Demorest's Family Magazine that does it."

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- " next largest list, 10.00
- " " " " " 5.00
- " " " " " 3.00
- " " " " " 2.00
- " " " " " 1.00
- " " " " " 50c each, 10.00
- " " " " " 50c each, 10.00

Rules Governing this Competition:

1. All names must reach us not later than December 1st, and all prizes will be mailed not later than December 10th.
2. Put the names of those living in different towns on separate sheets of paper, giving the name of the state and county in the top right-hand corner, and the number of names contained on the sheet in the top left-hand corner. Thus:

KANSAS
Mrs. Henry Brown, Olathe.
" Amelia Duggan,
" Charles Semple, box 310.
" Amelia Warren.

3. Give the total number of names contained in your list in the letter accompanying the same.
4. Be careful to write as distinctly as possible, and on one side of the paper only.

Names of the prize-winners will be announced in January, 1892 number of THE HOME MAGAZINE.

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

State Grange Items.

Springport Grange is the only Grange in Jackson county, and it has had a long spell of nerveless prostration. The life has been kept in the body by about a dozen plucky members, who put their hands in their pockets to pay dues, rents, etc., hoping for the good time coming, which has at last arrived. That appreciation of the benefits of the Order to farmers, which, sooner or later is sure to come, has at last dawned upon those who ought earlier to have grasped the idea, and Springport Grange is having a boom. This we gather from an enthusiastic visiting member. The history of this Grange is the history of many others reported. Grange seed once planted is indigenous to Michigan soil. Neglect cannot entirely kill it out, and a little encouragement has a wonderfully stimulating effect upon it. A little shower of public sympathy, or a generous rain of appreciation is sure to come to revive the neglected plant. Wherever it has had an opportunity to mature and shed a crop of seed, the young plants spring spontaneously up to occupy the ground.

The modesty of the VISITOR prevents a repetition of the many complimentary words said in its favor on the floor of the House, and in the corridors of the Capitol. It is very pleasant to know that our efforts to make the paper what it ought to be for the Order are commended and acceptable. If editorial labor on any paper has less of censure and more expressed appreciation than ours, their felicity over the fact is enviable. If the past is any prophecy for the future, the VISITOR has still a mission, and will try to perform the labor acceptably.

The crowded state of our columns still prevents the filling of the fourth page with its accustomed variety. We believe that our readers are more desirous to know what is being done and said by others in regard to Grange interests than for any words of ours. We hope all will carefully read the report of the Executive Committee, begun in this issue, as it takes advanced views upon the leading questions of the day, and will have its influence in shaping the policy of parties in the future.

One of the pleasant features of

this session of the State Grange was the attendance of many of the "Old Guard" of the Order: Ex-Gov. Luce, Hon. J. J. Woodman and wife, J. H. Forster John Holbrook, J. T. Cobb, J. E. Taylor, Professors from the College, and many others who came as visiting members to renew old friendships, and to give countenance and counsel to the good work of strengthening this arm of agriculture in the State. The enthusiasm of these veterans never wanes in work for the Good of the Order. If one wishes to kindle a flame of indignant protest, it is only necessary to utter words derogatory to the Grange in their presence. If strong speech is necessary to sustain the principles of the Grange their voices are ready and earnest in its defense. The motto of our State is: "If you would behold a beautiful peninsula, look around you!" and the motto for the State Grange, in session, might be: if you would behold patterns of the nobility among farmers, look around you!

The Michigan State Grange has fallen into line with the National Grange, the New York, the Pennsylvania, and other progressive State Granges, in the matter of Farmers' Day at the State's largest summer assembly. The Bay View assembly, through its superintendent, Jno. M. Hall, of Flint, extended to the body a cordial invitation to send lecturers, and its Patrons, one and all, to attend upon a Special Day, next summer, which shall be set aside for farmers and their interests.

A volley of brief speeches from members from every part of the State, in short space, set every phase of the matter so before the house that a unanimous and hearty vote was given in favor of accepting the invitation and instructing the executive committee to make program arrangements at the proper time.

This is a new opening to carry Grange gospel to new territory and to people not now familiar with the educational and social force of our Order. It will undoubtedly mean much to the Grange in Michigan.

Michigan State Grange.

Master's Office, Lansing, Dec. 10, 1891—Officers and Members of Michigan State Grange: In compliance with the constitutional provision of our Order, the Patrons of Husbandry of Michigan have assembled to participate in the exercises of its nineteenth annual session. As presiding officer of this grand body of men and women, it gives me great pleasure at this time to extend to you a hearty welcome, and I trust that your deliberations may be valuable to the Order and to all human kind. While we expect much pleasure in coming together annually; yet we have a duty to perform, and but four short days in which to accomplish that duty. It is exceedingly pleasant to meet each other in fraternal greeting, and to renew the friendships of the past, to clasp hands in fraternal grip with those who are to swell the numbers in the future, and to congratulate ourselves that we are representatives of the grandest calling known to man.

We meet to-day under more favorable circumstances than one year ago. A bountiful harvest has been garnered, the prospect for remunerative prices for our surplus is very much better than for years. If we will intelligently consider the situation, we will not allow those who stand ready to mislead, to secure the surplus at prices below its real value, thereby depriving the producer of his just profits.

There is a shortage in the staple products of the Old World. Our surplus is large, but it will all be required to feed the starving millions of more unfavored localities. The people must be fed, and "Heaven gives the power to the hand that holds the bread."

If our farmers show any kind

of wisdom and manifest any staying qualities, they will, without doubt, realize fair prices for their surplus products. Then husband well the products and stop the "calamity wail," and turn our attention to a broader field of education—"make two blades of grass grow where but one grew before." Look well to the leaks on the farm; house the implements; sow no more than you can cultivate well, and buy no more than you have actual use for, and then be assured that you are engaged in the best, surest, and happiest occupation in this country.

I would suggest that there are many things we need to make this life more desirable. We need some stringent legislation to protect the interests of the people. We should have a greater representation in our law-making bodies, composed of intelligent, earnest, honest and determined men, who will work in the interests of the whole people, and not legislate in the interest of political perpetuation. There are many questions agitating the minds of the common people at this time, some of which have puzzled the ablest minds of the age. It is our province to study those questions, view them from all stand-points, and if possible to solve them, and be thoroughly convinced that the solutions are true ones, then dictate to the Government the policy they should adopt, but be sure that we are right.

I have some very decided opinions in regard to various questions, and have been interviewed relative to placing them in this communication; but I hold it is not right and not for the best interests of our Order to inflict on a civic body any opinion that savors of a political nature.

The financial and Government loan questions have been thrust upon the National body and, by a majority adopted, to the great mortification of many members. I shall not at this time ask this body to adopt or act on any line of policy that has been outlined by any political party and has become a fixed plank in their platform. It is my candid opinion that we can only by united action in grappling with the greatest abuses and drawbacks of the American farmer, accomplish what we seek and reach the goal of our hopes, thus bringing untold blessings to the door of every citizen of this republic. I have reference to the combinations of capital and the pooling of interests to thwart the great laws of supply and demand.

The Boards of Trade, as now conducted are, as a rule, nothing but wholesale gambling, and should be suppressed, or regulated by the strong arm of the law. The present system of adulterations in nearly everything that is consumed by man is outrageous and should be speedily made the duty of congress and the various State legislatures for the protection of the people and the punishment of the adulteraters.

We have done much in the past to bring this matter before congress, and we have made fair progress, but we must not slacken our energies in this direction in the future. We have a stalwart committee in congress to look after all our wants, and it must be our duty to assist that committee in every legitimate way to carry out the wishes of our Order.

Patrons, we ought to feel happy that our lots were cast in this country. For five long years we have been visited with severe droughts, and every year we have had a surplus. I have visited nearly every county in the State, and find in every locality more visible signs of prosperity and thrift among the farmers than in any other country I ever saw, and I think I am safe in saying that the farmers of Michigan, as a whole, are more prosperous and comfortably situated than any other class of citizens in our country, and will compare favorably, intellectually. I am satisfied much credit is due our Order for this condition of things.

We have made some advancement during the year, but not what we should. We have an increase of 475 members, five new organizations. We must, the coming year, devise some system of work that will reach every

dormant locality, and all the new territory available, and I entreat this body to devise some plan by which this desired thing can be accomplished.

I would suggest that there be a committee of untiring workers placed in every township to work in connection with the County Deputy, or some plan by which the matter of thorough organization will be laid at the door of every farmer. I do think there should be a change in the law relative to the appointment of deputies. I called the attention of the members last year to the importance of having a deputy in every county early in the season, and the result was but eleven counties reported, and some of those not until late in the year. Now, let us this year, with the incentive of prosperity in other states, come to the front and report greater accessions than any other State in the union. This will cost some money and any amount of work and energy, but it will pay in many ways.

The Order throughout the land has increased many thousands during the last year. New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Missouri and Illinois have made wonderful growth since the last annual meeting. In our State there seems to be but little done in the way of lecturing. I have endeavored to attend all calls made, and where others were wanted I have supplied the wants.

The National Grange convened on the 11th of November, at Springfield, Ohio; twenty-nine states responded to roll call on first day. It has been my good fortune and great pleasure to meet with this representative body of able men and women for the last four years. We feel proud to say that at each meeting the general opinion was that this meeting was superior to the former; and I am satisfied that its ability for earnest, candid work, and determination to make the power of our Order felt in the councils of our States and Nation, was never more manifest than at this meeting. I will not take your valuable time by giving you an extended history of what was done at this meeting, only to say that the growth of the Order has been greater the past year than for twelve years. I complied with instructions from this body of last session and forwarded to the Visitor the daily proceedings. One very favorable feature in the National body, at the last session, was that there was no change in the organic law—no constitutional amendment submitted.

The executive committee was instructed to arrange with the World's Fair committee for Grange headquarters, where all members will congregate and feel at home while in attendance at the World's Exposition.

GRANGE VISITOR.

Patrons, again I call your attention to the most active agency in use for the purpose of keeping the Order alive in our State, which is a medium of intercourse between the members of the Order. First, the Visitor; without this medium we can scarcely hope to succeed. I wish I could impress on every member his whole duty in regard to the maintenance of our organ. Its financial success must engage the earnest and best endeavors of this body.

The Pomona Granges have done much to keep alive the interests of our Order. They are mediums of success that should be extended into every county where there is any considerable number of subordinate organizations. They concentrate the wisdom, the talent and social qualities of the subordinate organizations, and where the true spirit is manifest no dormancy can exist.

I would recommend the renewal of the Contest System; where properly managed it has done much to increase our membership and enlist the young. Patrons, I feel an earnest desire to increase the membership of our Order in Michigan. I have stood ready to go at any time, whenever called upon, and I have urged my services and that of the Lecturer, but for some reason unknown, many localities have not been visited the past year.

It seems incumbent on the Grange, in order to make its use-

fulness felt and its influence more general, to inaugurate some plan by which the farmers of Michigan can realize there are good and sufficient reasons for every member of a farmer's family to connect him or herself with our organization. If a few thousand Patrons of Husbandry in Michigan are able to do as much as has been done for the intellectual advancement, the moral culture, the social enjoyment, and the financial success of the farmers of our State, what results would follow should there be a live Grange in every town in the State? To this end let us labor, that the Grange may be extended, until every farmer and every inmate of his family, of proper age, shall become a member of our association, and at no distant day will the burdens of the agricultural classes be removed, and the millenium of the brightest possibilities dawn upon the American Husbandman.

"May kind Heaven the glad day hasten,
When in our fraternal band,
We shall number in our Order
All who till this smiling land."

"Like a mighty host with banners,
Peaceful victory we will gain;
Moved by Right's resistless purpose,
Held by Law's electric chain."

Market Report and Indications.

The same conditions are prevailing in the cattle market that existed last month. The receipts of half-fatted cattle still continue largely in excess of the demand, and the common kinds are greatly neglected; prices range lower for this kind, and may be quoted as steady for the best. The hog market is barely steady, with receipts heavier than the corresponding week of 1890. Prices are quoted higher than last year and the future prospect looks brighter. Sheep continue in moderate supply, but still in quantities sufficient to prevent any decided rise in prices—too many thin sheep and lambs seems to be the state of affairs.

E. A. WILDEY.

The State Grange last evening paid a fitting tribute to the longest and most arduous service of any one person who has been in its ranks since the organization of that body nineteen years ago. J. T. Cobb of Schoolcraft is attending the session of the Grange this year for the first time as a private, having for eighteen years been its secretary and a member of the Executive Committee Ex-officio. In a few hearty words, in behalf of the Grange, ex-Gov. Luce recalled the long years of close connection that had existed between the ex-secretary, himself and the Grange, dwelling especially upon the courage of Mr. Cobb in the early days that tried the strength and soul of the Order. The little surprise closed by the presentation of a fine gold-headed cane, which should remind him no less of his long faithfulness than of its sincere appreciation by his co-workers. To one who has labored with so much unselfishness, heart and strength, for the uplifting of the farmer, such tribute from such source must be peculiarly touching and gratifying.—Lansing Republican.

Ed. Visitor—So much time has elapsed since a word has been sent to you of Grove Grange that we are afraid that you will think it napping, or gone quite to sleep. But no, it is wide awake; up and doing; new members being added occasionally. Our worthy Sister Mayo's lecture gave us new life and energy, with a determination to stick to the Grange. This week we should have liked, oh, so much! to have attended the State Grange, for we know they are having a happy, social time. We talked of having a Silver Anniversary on the 4th inst.; but as we are talking very seriously of building a new hall, concluded we could hardly afford any extra suppers, so postponed that supper until the dedication of our new Hall, in the near future. The committee on Woman's Work have finished a quilt and sold 100 tickets on it, and next Friday evening there will be a social, and supper, and quilt drawing at Bro. S. E. Martin's. We hope to see a full house, for we are sure of a cordial welcome from host and hostess.

MORE ANON.

Who Santa Claus Was.

Jes' a little bit o' feller—I remember still—
 Ust to almost cry fer Christmas, like a youngster
 will.
 Fourth o' July's nothin' to it!—New Year's ain't a
 smell!
 Easter Sunday—circus day—jes' all dead in the
 shell!
 Lordy, though! at night, you know, to set around
 und hear
 The old folks work the story off about the sledge
 and deer,
 And "Santy" skootin' round the roof, all wrapped
 in fur and fuzz—
 Long afore
 I knowed who
 "Santy Claus" wuz.
 Ust to wait and set up late a week er two
 ahead;
 Couldn't hardly keep awake, uer wouldn't go to
 bed;
 Kittle stewin' on the fire, and mother settin'
 near,
 Darnin' socks and rockin' in the skreeky rockin'
 cheer;
 Pap'd gap and wonder where it was the money
 went,
 And quar'l with his frosted heels and spill his
 liniment;
 And we a dreamin' sleigh-bells when the clock
 'nd whirr and buzz—
 Long afore
 I knowed who
 "Santy Claus" wuz.
 Size the fireplace and figger how "Old Santy"
 could
 Manage to come down the chimbley like they said
 he would;
 Wisht that I could hide and see him—wondered
 what he'd say
 Ef he ketched a feller layin' fer him that—
 away.
 But I bet on him and liked him same as if he
 had
 Turned to pat me on the back and say: "Look
 a here, my lad,
 Here's my pack—jes' he'p' yurse! I like all good
 boys does!"
 Long afore
 I knowed who
 "Santy Claus" wuz.
 Wisht that yan wuz true about him as it 'peared
 to be—
 Truth made out o' lies like that un's good enough
 fer me.
 Wisht I still wuz so confidin' I could jes' go
 wild
 Over hangin' up my stockin's like the little
 child
 Climbin' in my lap to-night and beggin' me to
 tell
 'Bout them reindeers and "Old Santy," that she
 loves so well;
 I'm half sorry for this little girl sweetheart
 o' his—
 Long afore
 She knows who
 "Santy Claus" is,
 —James Whitcomb Riley.

Various Opinions.

For the Visitor.
 "What an old soldier says" in the Nov. 15th issue of the Visitor struck me as containing more truth than the average un-happy-go-lucky farmer would be willing to admit. If the Peoples' party cranks who are trying to gain converts among the sons of toil would advise their hearers to go home, stay there, and attend strictly to business, they might not be so popular with the leaders of the said party, who hope to profit by the votes of the deluded agriculturist, but they would help the sooner to solve the problem that is vexing the thousands of farmers of our land. The law may not be all that is desired, but no law that can be passed is going to make a lazy or shiftless man prosper. A cure for nine-tenths of the ills the farmer complains of, lies in his attending as closely to his business as the merchant does to his, in carefully seeking to reduce his expenses, (though not by niggardly saving) and increasing his profits. Should the city merchant as industriously neglect his business as the average farmer does his, failure would be a foregone conclusion. No other business under the broad canopy of heaven could stand the neglect that farming is subject to and yield man a living year after year. That it does stand it is evidenced by the continued whine of men who ought to be kicked and told to go to work and make it pay, when they repeat the old chestnut about "farming don't pay." Is it any wonder they find it so, when they never half tried to make it pay? A farm won't run itself, while the "farmer" goes to town three days in the week to talk about the ills he has to bear. The man who expects his farm to yield him a princely revenue without his doing his proper share of management is going to be disappointed one hundred times out of ninety-nine, and don't you forget it. But if he will attend strictly to business, with a fair share of brains and gumption, he can make a living every time, and a good one, too, without working sixteen hours a day.
 I have no sympathy for a farmer, or any other person for that matter, who spends more time bemoaning his lot than in trying to improve it, and I don't believe

the grumblers are half as happy as they would be if they rolled up their sleeves and started out to "make it pay;" but that is the last thing they will do, more's the pity. One holds this theory, another that. One thinks the national banker is at the bottom of his troubles, while another is of the opinion that the Wall street gambler is the author of all his woes, and the poor, short-sighted mortal never dreams that if he should attend to his farm as closely as the gambler does to the stock market, the revenue of his farm would double the first year and treble the second. If he doubts it let him try; but he won't do that.
 A. L.
 Eaton Rapids.

National Grange Anniversary.

In compliance with the request made in the last Visitor, Grattan Grange celebrated the 26th anniversary of our Order. It being a bad day, the wind blowing a perfect gale, with rain and snow, the attendance was not what we anticipated, but enough came so we had a very enjoyable meeting. As agreed upon, we came early and had our dinner at noon. At half-past one the W. M. called the meeting to order and gave the usual welcome. The Secretary then read the National Grange greeting, which was considered very instructive and appropriate for the occasion. An hour and a half was then spent in literary exercises, music and speaking. The meeting was then dismissed and the remainder of the afternoon was spent in social intercourse and doing up our Grange housework, which was soon done, for you know many hands make light work. We think all were pleased with the idea of celebrating the birthday of our Order. Would it not be a grand thing to make the 4th of December a general Grange holiday, to be observed with appropriate exercises? What say you, my brothers and sisters?
 Fraternaly yours,
 MRS. O. I. WATKINS.

Read at Grattan Grange Celebration, Dec. 4th.
 W. Master, Brothers, Sisters and Friends:

The object of our meeting here to-day is to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the National Grange. We believe it justly fitting that we celebrate the birthday of our noble Order and to pay our tribute of respect to the founders of one of the best organizations yet known. The Grange, after twenty-five years of unremitting labor and perseverance, has established itself firmly in the minds of the agricultural class as being the most reliable organization for farmers. In it we have many benefits that are not attainable elsewhere. It is educational in every sense of the word. It is also a social, moral and intellectual institution, and one that every honest tiller of the soil should be a member of if possible. I consider it a grand thing to be a member of the Grange. If I did not, do you suppose I would make the effort that I do many times to go? I tell you truly I love the Grange, through and through. Its principles are grand and elevating, and we are all the better men and women when governed by them. We are of the opinion if farmers rightly understood the aims and objects of the Grange, they would not be long in making up their minds to join the Order.

Our Declaration of Purposes can be seen and read by any one who wishes to do so. I presume it would benefit all of us if we read them more frequently, and I am sure we would find them instructive as well as elevating and well adapted to the wants of the agricultural class. We are too prone to overlook the blessings that are nearest our doors. It is so with the farmer when he rejects the Grange. You may say what you will, there is not another institution on the face of the earth that has done so much to help lift the farmer out of the rut of ignorance and superstition as the Grange. So we, then, should return our heartfelt thanks to the founders of our Order. They builded better than they thought, and reared for us a monument much grander than any that famous sculptors ever yet have wrought.
 Perhaps it would be well to say

here that Hon. Oliver H. Kelley was the real founder of the Order, and that his estimable niece, Miss Carrie A. Hall, was the first to suggest that ladies be given full membership in the Grange. Much honor is due this beloved sister of our Order, for I fear the Grange would have been shorn of much of its strength ere this if it had not been for woman. I think there were but seven who participated in organizing the first Grange. The meeting was held in a little room away back out of hearing in our National capitol. To say the least this meeting was the starting point of the great Grange movement which soon followed and spread like wildfire throughout the land. The Grange has had its ups and downs, but it came for a purpose and to-day it stands on a firmer and surer basis than ever before. The Grange is exerting a greater influence now than ever in its history. When the Grange speaks now, our law-makers will listen. They begin to realize our strength, and are willing occasionally to grant our requests, if for no other reason than to keep on the right side of the rural class when they want its vote.

We have digressed somewhat from our subject, and return to finish our tribute of respect to the noble seven. Let ours be the task, fellow patrons, to build high and strong the temple whose foundation they have laid with skill so rare that it indeed seems marvelous that in so short a time such progress hath been made. All honor, then, to the illustrious seven. A Tennyson or a Scott should blend their names in enduring song.

And now in conclusion, my friends, I would say: This Grange by your visit is strengthened to-day; And that we may often glad greetings exchange; We'll e'er bid you welcome to Grattan's fair Grange.

To those who are not of our order we'll say: We're glad to see you at our meeting to-day; And may the time come we'll take each by the hand

And give you full welcome to our social band. We need such as you are to help in our fight To put down monopolies and gain what is right. So, send in your names while you deem it not strange, Glad welcome we'll give you to this Grattan Grange.

AUNT KATE.

A Correction.

Ed. Visitor: We were sorry to see in your last issue that you made us to say what we did not wish to say, and ought not to say, because it was not true. And it was all from the omission of a period—just a mistake.

We wanted to say, "The next day was Sunday, and we were so glad." Yes, we were glad, for we were weary; so weary, and felt we needed the rest. We were not glad to leave Bro. Snyder's, as your paper made us say. They were too kind, too attentive to our wants for us to say that. We were glad it was Sunday, so that we could rest.
 Yours truly,
 MARY A. MAYO.

Lecturer Whitehead of the National Grange, in commenting on the work of the late session, says that the National Grange plainly reaffirms its position of last year in favor of the two per cent land loan scheme. We should be pleased to know what authority he has for such a statement. The writer was a member of the committee to which the land loan matter was referred and assisted in drafting the only resolution which touched upon the subject and it in no way endorses the scheme. Four out of five members of the committee were outspoken in their opposition to it. The fact is that most of the supporters of the scheme in the National Grange have become convinced that it is entirely impractical and unwise and they are anxious to have it covered with the dust of time; but the National Lecturer has gone crazy on the subject. It was the substance of his theme during the past year and it looks as if his efforts would be used in the same direction the coming year unless checked by the Executive Committee of the National Grange.—Grange Homes.

The correctness of the maxim "nothing succeeds like success" is well exemplified in Ayer's Sarsaparilla. The most successful combination of alteratives and tonics, it always succeeds in curing disease of the blood, and hence its wonderful popularity.

Report of Pomona No. 16.

Ionia County Grange held their meeting on their regular day.

After refreshments, W. M. Mattison called the Grange to order; found most of the officers present.

The Secretary read the Minutes of the last meeting; minutes approved.

Then the Worthy Master called on the regular Order of Business, after which Delegates to the State Grange were elected.

Then the Grange took up the subject of forbidding any hunting and trespassing on their lands by the city sportsman; hence a good thing for the State Grange to take up, as it requires united action of farmers.

As the season is past for fruit and flowers, the subject was brought before the Grange; but as the committee who was authorized to award the prizes for exhibits was not present the matter was postponed until another meeting.

The members have succeeded in keeping up a fair amount of work and interest in the County Grange during the busy season.
 MRS. L. J. BARNARD.

Cascade Grange Hall, Dec. 4, 1891: The anniversary of the first quarter of a century of the existence of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry was celebrated at this Hall. The Whitneyville Grange united with us in the exercises and a grand, good time we had—long to be remembered by all those present. Happy greetings, visiting and dinner were well enjoyed, after which the labors of the day commenced. After a few preliminary remarks relative to the occasion, Bro. Ed. Campau, of Whitneyville Grange, gave an instructive description of the first organization of the Order; the very small beginning, the trials, disappointments, need of money and members; yet, by perseverance, success crowned the efforts of the few, and the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry was established, as also was the contraction of a debt of six thousand dollars. By integrity and zeal large numbers were brought into the fold, the debt was honorably paid, and the Order now stands on a firm basis, the oldest farmers' organization in existence, and the parent of all other farmers' organizations. Recitations, readings, and vocal music were interspersed, which added much to the interest of the exercises.

The advantages and accomplishments of the Grange were set forth by various members. The Grange is the farmers' school; in it he learns business principles, and is taught to do business in a business manner; it teaches one to be a good citizen, to be economical, temperate, frugal, and charitable in all things. By the influence of the Grange the Commissioner of Agriculture has been appointed and given a place in the President's Cabinet; the Inter State Commerce Law has been enacted; the Oleomargarine tax is levied; the renewal of the patents on sewing machines has been prevented; the drive-well royalty was ousted; also the slide-gate royalty; the plaster combine broken; Experimental Farms and Stations established; also Farmers' Institutes. All these things are for the public good and not especially for Grangers; and yet people will say, "What good is the Grange? I don't see as it accomplishes anything."

Farmers, extend your vision a little and see if you are not receiving great benefits at the work and expense of other people. If so, why not help on the good work by joining the Grange and bear the burdens, while you will richly enjoy its meetings and get broader views of life and its duties. The Grange needs you and you need the Grange.
 H. C. DENISON, Lect.

Berlin Center Grange No. 272, have finished their Contest with good results and a lively time, giving a literary entertainment that was a credit to both sides. A week from the night of the defeat the vanquished party gave an oyster supper, with dainties too numerous to mention, which were enjoyed by all. We are now having special meetings for initiation. The Lecturer makes

out a program for our regular meetings, upon which our members do faithful work; therefore, we have successful meetings. We have a good choir of young people and the new books; also a good library that young and old seem to appreciate.
 Yours fraternally,
 MRS. L. J. BARNES,
 Chairman of Woman's Work in Berlin Grange.

Canton, Dec. 5, 1891—Ed. Visitor: Superior Grange No. 68, observed the 25th Anniversary of the Grange on the evening of Dec. 3d. The following program was presented:

Call to order.
 Music—"The Wild Winds Sweep," by the choir.
 National Grange Proclamation—Greeting: Mrs. C. S. Sayles.
 Declamation—J. A. McDougall.
 Select Reading—"Going Aloft," Mrs. E. M. Cole.
 Music—"Meet Me at Twilight, Sweet Bessie," by the choir.
 Select Reading—Scotch Dialect, Miss Kate Grant.
 Paper—The 25th Anniversary of the Grange, J. H. Hanford.
 Music—solo and chorus—"Only a Picture," by the choir.

Declamation—Alfred Sly.
 Instrumental Music—"Fantastic Waltz,"—organ, cornet and violin, by Miss Millie Cole, Eddie Quackenbush and Linus Galpin.
 Recitation—"Our Folks," Miss Ida Collings.
 Mouth Organ Solo—"Home, Sweet Home," Edwin Pooler.
 Recitation—"Putting Up a Stove," Mrs. G. H. Kimmel.
 Instrumental Music—by Miss Bessie Root.
 Remarks—by E. M. Cole.
 Music—"Song of the Whippoorwill," by the choir.
 Closing Remarks—by J. A. McDougall.

MRS. C. S. SAYLES,
 Secretary.

Ed. Visitor: Although Dec. 4th was a stormy and windy day and evening West Handy Grange No. 613, called together a goodly number of its members to celebrate the "Silver" Anniversary of the Grange.

A fine literary program had been prepared and that, interspersed with excellent music—both vocal and instrumental—was listened to; after which supper was prepared by the ladies, and all proceeded to do justice to the feast. We hope there will be another revival in the Granges this winter. Not because there is a falling off among the members, but so there will be more people know how much good there is in the Patrons of Husbandry. We think the Grange Visitor a most excellent paper.

C. J. BOWERS, Sec'y.
 Fowlerville, Mich., Dec. 9, '91.

Ed. Visitor: We would be pleased to inform the readers of the Grange Visitor that we, the members of Charity Grange No. 417, are still alive and on the move. Although the weather was very unfavorable and the roads bad, quite a number of the members met with a few of their friends, Dec. 4th, to commemorate the 25th Anniversary Day of the Grange. We all partook of a bounteous dinner, which had been prepared by the good sisters of the Grange. The afternoon was occupied by recitations, music by the choir, and a short speech by the Master, then all returned to their respective homes.
 SECRETARY.

Lansing, Nov. 10, 1891—Ed. Visitor: You will please insert the following: All those members of the Grange who took the sixth degree at the last session (1890), will please forward to the Secretary of the State Grange their name and address, plainly written. The object is, that all may receive the certificate of said degree. The record of these names has been lost and the certificates cannot be distributed until the names and post-office address is in hand.
 THOS. MARS.

The harsh, drastic purgatives, once deemed so indispensable, have given place to milder and more skillfully prepared laxatives; hence the great and growing demand for Ayer's Pills. Physicians everywhere recommend them for costiveness, indigestion, and liver complaints.

Ladies' Department.

Shall it be for the Wrong or the Right?

As the numberless grains of silvery sand
Form the far out-stretching shore.
As the whispering breeze which the flower has
fanned
Swells out in the tempest's roar,
As the murmuring brook is lost in the sea
While it adds its contributing mite—
So the moments of time form eternity.
Shall we make it for darkness or light?

As each heart-throb tells us how life flows on,
As the pulse-beat measures its space,
And each tick of the clock marks a moment gone
Of our vanishing, mortal race,
As each breath we breathe wafts our bark away
Toward the haven beyond our sight,
Shall it anchor in joy or go down in dismay?
Shall our freight be the wrong or the right?

As showers from glistening raindrops are made
When they fall on the finishing plains,
As the emerald carpets are formed blade by blade,
And the harvest is counted in grains,
As tiny drops blending make vast ocean's power
As the waves and the billows unite,
So our deeds make a life as life fills the hour.
Shall it be for the wrong, or the right?
—Frank N. Scott, in Boston Transcript.

Some Kisses and Smiles.

There are beautiful songs that have never been
sung—
That never were uttered by the pen or tongue.
They are waiting in silence a magical word
From the heart of the poet, that has not been
heard.
Sometime they will come from the echoes in store
And thrill with their rapture a desolate shore.
Then, hearts that have languished in sorrow and
grief
Shall spring from their ashes to happy relief.

There are kisses untaken, like beautiful gems,
That linger on lips like sweet fruit on the stems,
Those lips may grow pale in the whirlwind of
time
And lose the sweet flush of their young, sunny
prime.
They may pass from our view like the rainbow's
bright gleams,
But oft they'll return to our spirit in dreams
And bring their sweet kisses, untasted before,
To thrill our sad hearts on this time-beaten shore.
Bright smiles have been wasted; their glory un-
seen,
Has lingered awhile like the bright sunny sheen
That falls on the mountains so hoary and old
To lend them a mantle of glory and gold,
Transforming the face of the dark, gloomy sod
Into beauty and grace, like the smile of a god.
Those smiles that are wasted—by desert winds
tossed—
Shall gladden our souls, for they have not been
lost.
—Chicago Enterprise.

Woman's Work.

"Four things are required of a woman," say the Chinese, "that virtue may dwell in her heart, that modesty shine on her forehead, that gentleness flow from her lips, and that work employ her hands."

Given these four and we have a perfect woman. We will presuppose every woman to be possessed of the first three; the fourth—employment—is what we are to consider.

Where is woman's true vocation? The prevailing thought has changed greatly since the first command was laid on man to work. It was not man but woman who was commanded to work. There was another punishment for woman, altogether different, which by her pure and holy life she can overcome until the pain becomes a pleasure. But this first command to man has been so enlarged that it is now believed to include all humanity, and to such extremes that the overworked part of humanity is womankind.

What a beautiful life was woman's first intended to be. I think when God first expressed the thought woman into so beautiful an image for the happiness of man, the thought work had no expression, just love the fragrance of the divine life, breathing beauty and harmony over the Paradise.

As we find life now, those first designs have changed into the fixed thought that work for woman is a necessity. Since that is the present condition of affairs, the question is, what is the proper sphere for woman? The answer which man gives is, "in the home"; the rearing of her family, performing domestic duties and shining by the reflection of his rays. We will say that answer is correct, if she is placed there to be beautiful, sweet and good; not to toil and slave and drudge.

If she must do this she can neither be beautiful, sweet nor good, and the Creator's original design is frustrated. We will presume that women who are queens of homes, are cared for, shielded from harm, protected from every ill by that strong arm who placed her there to be his joy and happiness—that is the supreme idea of happy woman life.

But supposing she has no home, no family; supposing no lord and master has cast his benevolent

eyes upon her and gathered her into the sacred precincts of a home. What then? There are a great many homeless women outside this paradise without means of support. They must work. Now, what calling is best adapted to them? If all mankind are free and equal, can she not choose from all the world whatever she has best capacity for? You cannot lay down a rule for all, say a few branches where she can becomingly work, and deny her the rest. In the multitude of women workers there are multitudes of talents, as varied and distinct as you find in man. If she can best train the youth, let her do that. If she has the natural healing powers, let her be a physician. If she can best lead an army, let her do that, and let us not call it unwomanly.

During recent years women have shown that they can excel in what they undertake, and shall we not accept the best that can offer, regardless of sex? And how much women are improved with this broader range and view of life—a contact with the outside world, of business and life. As she is kept within a narrow sphere, so is the mind running in the narrow grooves of self, while as she moves abroad independent of restraint, what a grand, free, noble life for herself and freest liberty for all who surround her or are dependent upon her.

It certainly was not designed for women to work, but the ages of crystallized thought throughout the world have permeated her with the idea of work, till it is impossible to find a woman absolutely idle for any length of time; her hands are usually occupied with something, while men, who were created with that express command—yes, you can see them any day, idle in the hotel lobbies and on the streets for hours and contented, too.

So you see the nobility and self-sacrifice of a race of women who carry their own curse and that of man too. And still there are some who think she would not adorn any work she was fitted for. There are women, hundreds of them—girl bachelors—in our large cities who support themselves in some trade or profession, and care for a sweet little home nest of their own, too; bright, active, interesting lives, they are building woman-character which will be felt all down the coming line of women.

Women workers are the salvation of the business world of today. They carry a different element into the dusty old offices, moss-grown for years with their staid old styles; they freshen and brighten these monotonous places, and when they leave no one finds false entries or embezzled funds.

I wish I could give you a brighter picture of woman life on the farm. In too many cases, the majority I fear, it is a ceaseless round of toil and care. Certainly there are exceptions, as we all can prove.

But look at the middle-aged farm woman, old before her time, sad, no light, no smile of content, no happiness.

A continual wear of physical powers, and a continual narrowing of thought and life. Oh, if we could but lift the burdens placed there, not by God, but by man, and make them restful, sweet and beautiful as their own fields and flowers! What lovely children there would be! A new race would spring up, born of hope and purest peace.

BINA S. AYRES.
Lansing, Mich.

Christmas Gifts.

Sachets have not lost popularity, and a dainty lady can never have too many of them. Everything—gloves, veils, hose, handkerchiefs, ribbons and laces must be kept between the sweet folds of a sachet. We made one for veils, of chamois, lined with pale green silk. The size is optional, as veils can be folded, but 12x18 inches is a good size. Put a layer of wadding, plentifully sprinkled with sachet powder on the chamois; line with plain silk or with the quilted satin which is sold by the yard. Finish around the edge with a slender green silk cord. This is folded like a book, and several leaves of bolting cloth are tied in. Tie them through

the middle with narrow ribbon, the bows on the outside of the chamois cover—very much as magazines are fastened in a binder. The chamois is decorated with a girl's head crowned with a wide-brimmed hat, and over all a filmy veil. On the leaves were mottoes painted in different colors. "Blue, 'twill keep you lily white," said one. "Brown, for twilight eyes," said another; and "Veils of misty white," said a third.

For a handkerchief sachet we took a large silk handkerchief, old rose and light blue in colors. This we padded with scented wadding, lined with pale blue, edged with lace and folded the four corners to the center, where they were tied with ribbon.

Another one was made with a square of gendarme blue silk, lined with shell pink, wadded, scented, edged with creamy lace and folded and tied as above.

A glove sachet was made of white linen fifteen inches square, which was to be folded in three and tied with narrow pink ribbons to match the wild roses embroidered on in shaded pink silks. The motto, "For that pretty white hand of thine," was etched in sepia-colored fillosole. As it was intended that this should be laundered when considered necessary, a scented sachet of thin pink silk, 5 by 15 inches, was laid in loosely.

For the mother's linen closet, one was made of a square of hemstitched linen, with the motto, "In lavendered linen I'll sleep thee," etched upon it in lavender silk.

The pretty little trifles which a girl loves to gather upon the walls of her room open a wide field to the busy Christmas worker. She can never have too many wall-pockets for the receptacle of a stray handkerchief, a pair of party gloves, a scent bottle, keys, pencil and tablets, and all the little etcetera which girls love to have right at hand. Then, all sorts of contrivances—banners, screens, fans and what-nots to hold the photographs of her dear five hundred friends, are always welcome. For one of the latter, Marie took a large Australian palm, with artistic ragged edges, which she left unclipped. Beginning a few inches from the handle, she stretched toward the outer edge converging lines of ribbon of a rich copper color, tacking them at intervals to receive the pictures. Hiding the space near the handle which she had left bare, she placed a great bow of soft silk of exactly the same shade. This was intended to make some spot on the wall of her Vassar chum glow with color, and when filled with pictures, with beauty.

Another photograph holder is a banner of golden-brown plush, with tabs of gold-colored ribbon through which to slip the photos. On one of these tabs was painted in sepia, "Friends out of sight." On another, "Tho' lost to sight, to memory dear." On a third, "To lodge a friend," while a fourth said, "Old friends are best."—Country Gentleman.

The "Favorite Fashion Journals."

These handsome Fashion Magazines continue to improve each month in appearance and usefulness. The object of the publishers seems to be to give American ladies real, neat, plain French styles, just as are shown in the corresponding original French editions. The pages of these journals are not filled up with any kind of cuts or fashion plates, used solely because they are cheap. Ladies purchasing the "Favorite Fashion Journals" can rest assured they will find nothing in them except the genuine French styles. On going abroad they would also always find themselves "in the fashion" if they followed the styles as given by these journals. "La Mode de Paris" and "Album des Modes" are each 35 cts. per copy, or \$3.50 a year. "La Mode," the Family Fashion Journal, is 15 cents per copy, or \$1.50 a year. If your news agent does not keep these new Fashion Journals, do not let him persuade you to continue taking any others, but get direct from A. McDowell & Co., 4 West 14th street, New York, the best ever published.

Little Things.

A good-by kiss is a little thing.
With your hand on the door to go,
But it takes the venom out of the sting
Of a thoughtless word or a cruel fling
That you made an hour ago.

A kiss of greeting is sweet and rare,
After the toll of the day,
And it smooths the furrows out of the care,
And lines on the forehead you once called fair,
In the years that have flown away.

'Tis a little thing to say, "You are kind,"
"I love you, my dear," each night,
But it sends a thrill through the heart, I find;
For love is tender, as love is blind,
As we climb life's rugged height.

We starve each other for love's caress,
We take, but we do not give;
It seems so easy some soul to bless,
But we dole love grudgingly, less and less,
Till 'tis bitter and hard to live.
—Emma P. Seabury, in Union Signal.

New England Writers.

Some thirty odd years ago there was developed on the New England seacoast a remarkable literary instinct among the young women living in that vicinity. Celia Thaxter, as a school-girl, was beginning to draw to her the eye of those literary powers who controlled The Atlantic Monthly. She was writing poems, and they had a delicious flavor of the sea air in them, and suggested an imagination stimulated by daily vision of the ocean. Miss Sarah Orme Jewett was also beginning to write in a girlish manner short sketches which contained a promise which she has subsequently fulfilled as a mistress of the art of short story telling. Miss Edna Dean Proctor was also gaining rebute by her stirring lyrics and gentler poems, and Louisa M. Alcott was fascinating the readers of weekly story papers.

Miss Wilkins, then a little school-girl in short petticoats, was, with childish wisdom and intuition, gaining impressions of those quaint country characters whom she has of late immortalized in her volumes, "A Humble Romance" and "A New England Nun." Near the coast of Maine there was a young girl who had both the literary instinct and a musical gift. She was a frolicsome, jovial, whole souled creature, fond of a romp, and so exuberant in her sports that her friends used sometimes to wonder whether she was not likely to become that reprehensible but not very shocking character which is known in New England as a tomboy; but when she sang for them, they forgave her childish pranks, and when she told them the fairy stories which she invented as they chatted, they thought her wonderful. Music mastered her, and afterward, when she became famous as America's greatest contralto on the operatic stage, Annie Louise Cary used sometimes to go to her old Maine home by the seacoast and for a few weeks live her old, frolicsome and jovial life over again with her companions whom she had outgrown.

Rose Terry, down by the seashore in eastern Connecticut, was beginning to write for the Atlantic Monthly her delightful stories of New England life, and Mrs. Stowe, who lived for some years near the Maine seacoast, was writing her series of novels whose stories were located in that vicinity. It was a period of extraordinary development for the women who drew physical vigor as well as intellectual strength with every breath of sea air.

Perhaps the most interesting career of all has been that of Blanche Willis Howard, and it is suggested just now when a new novel of hers, entitled "A Battle and a Boy," is on the press. Miss Howard is the daughter of a Maine physician, and she did not display literary instinct until she was well along toward the close of her school days. Her neighbors knew her as a whole souled, jolly girl, full of fun and delighting in frolic which characterized her schoolgirl acquaintance Miss Cary, who was, however, some years older.

Miss Howard astonished her father, the physician, one day nearly twenty years ago, by declaring that she wanted to spend a summer in Europe. The father said "No," and the daughter persisted. Then, in order to quiet her, he declared that he had not the money, and she laughed at him, showing how she had by certain feminine shrewdness earned enough to take her on a brief trip. So the father was

persuaded, and in company with two or three friends, Miss Howard took her summer jaunt in Europe, never dreaming that it was the turning point in her career. When she returned she collected some of the letters she had written, revised them and added to them, and took the manuscript to a publisher. Mr. James Ticknor Fields was delighted with the manuscripts, and he was one of the very few publishers who found greater joy in discovering genius or talent than he did in making money. The book was published and it was called "One Summer," and Miss Howard found herself not only famous, but with a market at her command. It was a gentle little story, full of wit and humor, odd thoughts and quaint descriptions, and it has become a classic.

This story was followed within a year by another, which, while it did not increase Miss Howard's reputation, did not detract from it. Desiring to spend a considerable time in Europe, Miss Howard sailed some eight years ago for Germany, and with her were two young girls, the daughters of a wealthy lady. To these children Miss Howard acted as companion and guardian, and the income which she received for so doing enabled her to write without the anxiety which is the lot of those who are dependent upon their pens for their support. She has lived in Stuttgart constantly since then.

Miss Howard also found that which is better than literary repute in Germany, for a German nobleman, a man of high character, discovered in this American girl a charm which no German maiden had for him, and she saw in him her ideal, so that she now has domestic happiness. Blanche Willis Howard, the frolicsome and fun loving Maine girl, is now a baroness, but she will continue to write, for she tells her friends that her marriage has stimulated her literary bent, and that she believes she is capable of doing better work than she ever yet has done.

E. J. EDWARDS.

"A Course Dinner."

With numerous illustrations, showing a modern dinner-table beautifully decorated, a diagram of how to set it, and also each course separately, and describing in a charming and explicit way every detail of appointments and service, and the thousand-and-one "little things" that are essential to the success of such an entertainment, is one of the attractions of the December number of "Demorest's Family Magazine," which will be of interest to all women, and invaluable to inexperienced housekeepers. From the initial water-color, "Ahead of Santa Claus," the humor of which all will appreciate, to the Pattern Order on the last page, there is not a single thing in this splendid number which would not be regretted were it omitted. The beautifully-executed full-page engraving, "The Mother of Our Lord," is a gem that is especially timely; and a Christmas hymn, followed by a profusely-illustrated paper on "Holly, Mistletoe, and the Yule-Log," furnish in themselves a holiday menu that can hardly be surpassed. Taking all in all, "Demorest's Family Magazine" gives the most generous return for the subscription price, \$2.00 a year. It is published by W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th street, New York City.

Gossip is the business of the feeble-minded, and it enfeebls any mind it captivates. It has root in misdirected and unhealthy developed minds of that kind which is concerned with trivial aspects of our neighbors' lives. Its characteristic acts are in the nature of an invasion of the domain of privacy. It develops into an endless struggle to know what goes on behind the closed blinds of other people's houses, and it becomes scandalous mainly through a habit of making large and unwarranted inferences from facts. People who have abundant occupation are not apt to trouble themselves about the privacy of others.

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

Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad.

Nov. 15, 1891.—Central Standard Time.

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Table with columns: No. 1, No. 3, No. 5, No. 7. Rows: Cincinnati, Richmond, Fort Wayne, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Cadillac, Traverse City, Potosky, Mackinaw.

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Table with columns: No. 2, No. 4, No. 6, No. 8. Rows: Mackinaw City, Potosky, Traverse City, Cadillac, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Fort Wayne, Richmond, Cincinnati.

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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: 1 copy, 1 year, \$ 1.00. 2 copies, .95 each, 1.90. 3 " " .90 " " 2.70. 4 " " .85 " " 3.40. 5 " " .80 " " 4.00.

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

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

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Clubbing List with The Visitor.

Table with columns: Both Papers. Rows: Weekly Free Press, Detroit Weekly Tribune, Cosmopolitan Magazine, St. Louis, Demorest's, Michigan Farmer, Farm and Garden, Christian Herald, Atlantic Monthly, Century Magazine.

These two rings and agent's book of sample cards only two cents. Banner Card Co., Cin. O.

Where are the Cents? What becomes of all the pennies? Nobody knows where and how they disappear. Last year the Philadelphia mint coined 94,000,000 of pennies.

Bronze cents are subject to more accidents than happen to any other United States coins. It is said that a penny changes hands in trade 10 times for once that a dime passes from one pocket to another.

One may get a notion of the number of pennies lost from the history of the old half cents. Of these 800,000 were issued a few years ago. Where are they now? A few are in the cabinets of coin collectors.

Since July 1 the treasury has dispatched \$38,000,000, nearly all of it in small notes, to the south and west, for the purpose of moving the crops.

An ingenious youth employed to sweep out a New York bank devoted his attention for some time to gathering up the crumbs from the tills in the shape of corners and other bits of notes such as get torn off and fall about. In the course of time he got together a quantity of scraps of the sort sufficient to fill a pint measure and sent them to the redemption bureau at Washington with the explanation that they had been eaten by mice.

The women experts employed to examine the money sent in are wonderfully skillful. It is marvelous how deftly they will poke over a few charred fragments of notes and set an accurate valuation upon them.

Kitchen stoves burn up more cash every year than is lost in any other one way. People will confide their hoards to them for hiding, and when they are lighted the greenbacks go up in smoke. The greatest sum ever consumed by fire in this country was \$1,000,000. That amount went up in smoke at the sub-treasury.

The new designs soon to be made for the entire series of silver certificates, except the one for \$2 already completed, will furnish a big job to the bureau of engraving. Only the backs are to be changed, but the making of a single one of these money plates, with all the lettering and geometric lathe work involved, is a formidable task.

Will Michigan go to Chicago in 1893 with Her Best Clothes On. From the Hillsdale Standard. ED. STANDARD: Please grant me space for a few thoughts upon a theme of great and growing interest. In less than eighteen months the Columbian Exposition will be opened in Chicago. It will

be the great event of the last quarter of the century. It will set up huge mile-stones that will mark the growth, prosperity and advance in American civilization. The youngest child now living will not live long enough to behold its like again. How is our noble state going to be represented? How are the best specimens of all its varied products to be secured and presented for exhibition? These are questions that come home to every patriotic citizen.

Speaking of the redemption of paper money, an interesting application was made the other day to the division of the treasury which has this business in hand. An ingenious youth employed to sweep out a New York bank devoted his attention for some time to gathering up the crumbs from the tills in the shape of corners and other bits of notes such as get torn off and fall about.

The women experts employed to examine the money sent in are wonderfully skillful. It is marvelous how deftly they will poke over a few charred fragments of notes and set an accurate valuation upon them. Kitchen stoves burn up more cash every year than is lost in any other one way.

Thus selected and thus organized, and with the above ideas firmly impressed upon their minds, they are making just such mistakes as experienced men would anticipate. We can make an exhibit at Chicago under the plan adopted by the board or by its fifth wheel, but we will not and cannot hope to make the exhibit we are capable of making, and we are bound by every consideration of pride, patriotism and self-interest to do our best when we come in competition with the world.

out means or the opportunity or possibility of rewards or premiums as an inducement to prepare and present products for exhibition; but the secretary has sent out this notice, "There is no compensation for what you may do in this direction further than the pride and satisfaction of having your state exhibit its resources."

State Superintendent of Public Schools Fitch seems to have grasped the plan that should be adopted. In an address lately delivered he said that \$10,000 of the \$100,000 should be devoted to an educational exhibit, and he has struck the right note. \$25,000 should be set apart to defray all expenses of an agricultural exhibit, \$20,000 for a manufacturing exhibit, \$10,000 for mines and mining, \$10,000 for an educational exhibit, \$20,000 for a suitable building, \$15,000 for the payment of managers and incidental expenses.

But the secretary gives this further assurance: "In the near future you will be informed of the work you are to do, and the manner in which it is to be done." The brazen assurance of this cannot be appreciated without knowing something of the men to whom it is addressed. Here are names of a few of them: J. J. Woodman, a United States Commissioner to the Paris Exposition and an active agent at the centennial in Philadelphia; George B. Horton, a long time president of the Lenawee Co. Agricultural society; John F. Fitzsimmons, who has been such an active force in making Hillsdale Co.'s fair the model one in the whole land; David Woodman, the great exhibitor of grains and grasses; Geo. W. Thayer, president of the West Michigan fair; Jno. T. Rich, president of the State fair; Judge J. G. Ramsdell, a life-time exhibitor and ex-president of the West Michigan fair; and E. W. Cottrell, the active force in achieving the great success in constructing the Detroit Exposition buildings, and conducting its magnificent shows.

“What shall We do with Our Boys?”

“Whose Boys?” “Your boys; your neighbor's boys; everybody's boys.” Boys will be boys, but not everyone knows how to manage them; but if you wish some practical, common-sense suggestions, read the article on the subject published in the January number of Demorest's Family Magazine, that ideal publication which bears out to the full the promise of its name. The January number contains a genuine holiday feast. The subject of the beautiful water-color “A Slippery Spot” appeals to every parent who has little ones, and the subtle sentiment of the exquisite full-page engraving, “Eloquent Silence” (after a painting by Alma-Tadema), will be appreciated by young men and maidens. The other subjects treated are attractive and full of interest; and this splendid menu, with variations, is furnished twelve times a year, for the subscription price of \$2. Published by W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th St., New York City.

A Parable of Capital and Labor.

Mr. C. used to think about this law of supply and demand as applicable to individuals. He found that men would work for exceedingly small wages when pressed for the necessities of life; that under some circumstances they would give their labor for half of what it was worth to the employer, because they were in a position where they must do something for wife or child. He concluded that he had no right to take advantage of the necessities of others, and that he should in the first place honestly find what the work was worth to him, and then give to the man who did the work that amount. Other manufacturers regarded Mr. C. as substantially insane, while most of his workmen looked upon him as an exceedingly good natured man, without any particular genius for business. Mr. C. however, cared little about the opinions of others, so long as he maintained his respect for himself. At the end of the first year he found that he had made a large profit, and thereupon he divided this profit with the people who had earned it. Some of his friends said to him that he ought to endow some public institution; that there should be a college in his native town; but Mr. C. was of such a peculiar turn of mind that he thought justice ought to go before charity, and a little in front of egotism and a desire to immortalize one's self. He said that it seemed to him that of all persons in the world entitled to this profit were the men who had earned it, the men who had made it by their labor, by days of actual toil. He insisted that, as they had made it, it was really theirs, and they should have it and should spend it in their own way. Mr. C. was told that he would make the workmen in other factories dissatisfied, that other manufacturers would become his enemies, and that his course would scandalize some of the greatest men who had done so much for the civilization of the world and for the spread of intelligence. Mr. C. became extremely unpopular with men of talent, with those who had a genius for business. He, however, pursued his way, and carried on his business with the idea that the men who did the work were entitled to a fair share of the profits; that, after all, money was not as sacred as men, and that the law of supply and demand, as understood, did not apply to flesh and blood.—From “The Three Philanthropists,” by Col. R. G. Ingersoll, in North American Review for December.

St. Joe. Ind., Dec. 12, '91—Ed. Visitor: Watch received. It proves reliable. The package was badly smashed, but did no particular damage. Am well pleased with the watch.

Yours with respect, WALLACE ABEL.

Died, at Tobins, Oct. 10, 1891, James T. Hay, in his seventy-second year.

Be wise in time. You have too many gray hairs for one so young looking. Use Hall's Hair Renewer, the best preparation out to cure them. Try it.

Notices of Meetings.

St. Joseph County Grange No. 4 will hold its next meeting with Centerville Grange, on Thursday, January 7th 1892. The usual hour is 10 a. m. and we shall expect all to be present to eat oysters and assist in the installation of their officers. MRS. D. B. PURDY, Sec'y.

Jonesville, Hillsdale Co., Dec. 7, 1891: Hillsdale Co. Grange will hold its next meeting at G. A. R. Hall, Hillsdale, Thursday, January 7th, 1892, for the installation of Officers and such other business as may come before the meeting. J. E. WAGNER, Lecturer.

Jonesville, Dec. 9, 1891: The list of the officers elected at Hillsdale Pomona Grange, Tuesday, Dec. 4th, to serve for the coming year, are as follows: Master, S. E. Haughey; Overseer, Reuben Strait; Lecturer, Electa D. Nokes; Steward, Walter J. Timms; Ass't Steward, J. B. Patterson; Chaplain, Wm. Kirby; Treasurer, P. E. Rowe; Sec'y, A. W. Mumpford; G. K., R. W. Freeman. Lady Officers—Pomona, Sister A. W. Mumpford; Flora, Sister Elizabeth Boudith; L. A. S., Sister J. B. Patterson. After the election it was voted that the officers elect be installed by Special Deputy Sister E. D. Nokes, at the next regular meeting, to be held in the G. A. R. Hall in the city of Hillsdale, on Thursday, Jan. 7, 1892.

Yours fraternally, H. P. WHEELER.

It is a matter of curious interest why William Morris and other artists advocate Socialism. Walter Crane, the well known Englishman, will have an article in the January Atlantic Monthly answering the query Why Socialism appeals to Artists.

Mr. John Fiske's work on “The Discovery of America” will be published early in 1892. It has involved a vast amount of research, and Mr. Fiske is reported to regard these two volumes as his most important contribution to American history.

In the Atlantic Monthly for January will be printed a collection of letters written by John Stuart Mill while conducting the Westminster Review. This periodical, under his editorship, was one of the most important reviews of England, and these letters throw a pleasant light on a famous man.

An important paper on Boston, from Mr. Emerson's unpublished manuscripts, will appear in the January Atlantic.

It is said that the National Cordage Company, or binding twine trust, has purchased the entire binding twine plant of William Deering & Company of this city for \$250,000. This purchase gives the trust the entire control of the binding twine industry of America.

Grange Melodies.

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Single copies or less than half-dozen, postage paid, 40 cents; per dozen, postage paid, \$4.00; half-dozen, postage paid, \$2.00. Or the purchaser to pay freight or express, per dozen, \$3.50; per hundred, \$27.00; per half-hundred \$13.75.



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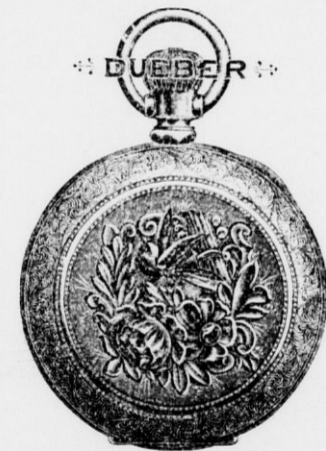
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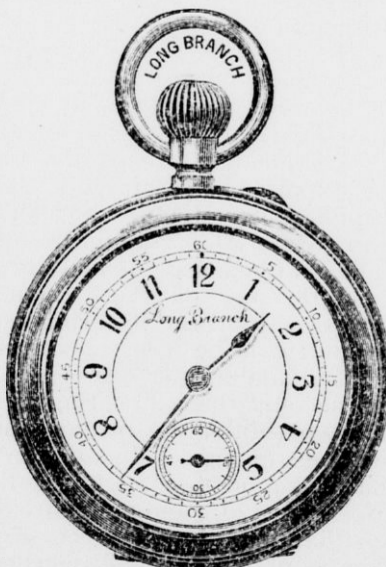
Below we show fac similes of the watches we offer to readers of the VISITOR exclusively. The reputation of this paper is such that no one in need of a good watch should hesitate to send the money for one of these watches. The Editor carries one of them every day, and it proves entirely reliable, is a splendidly made watch, and sells readily on the market for several dollars more than the price at which they are here offered.



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No. 3. Nickel case “Long Branch”; stem wind and set; exactly like cut. Price with Visitor one year \$1.00 Same with 5 subscribers at 50c. each and... 3.00 This makes a good watch for boys attending school, and is reported to keep good time. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY THE ORDER. Treat yourself to that watch you have long desired, or make your friend a Christmas present.

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