

GRANGE VISITOR

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

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WHOLE NO. 410.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE GRANGE.

MORTIMER WHITEHEAD.

I am requested to write upon the possibilities of the Grange?

What are the possibilities of the acorn? What are the possibilities of the block of marble before the sculptor? Of the bare canvas before the painter? Of the clay in the hands of the potter? What are the possibilities of the infant in its mother's arms? What are the possibilities of "the little red school house?" What the possibilities of the baby Moses floating among the bullrushes of the Nile? What the possibilities of the coming of the child at Bethlehem? Of the sermon on the mount? Of the missionary in the wilds of Africa? What the possibilities when at Concord bridge

"The embattled farmers stood
And fired the shot heard 'round the world?"

Of the death at the stake, on the scaffold or the field of battle of martyrs for freedom, who, in all the centuries of the world's history and progress, with Arnold Winkelreid proclaimed.—"Make way for Liberty!" What the possibilities of the voyage of Columbus as he sailed with his little fleet from Palos. Of the new world he looked upon four hundred years ago?

Measure the height, and breadth, and depth of all of these other possibilities and you have the possibilities of the Grange. All that they contain of growth, beauty, art, education, religion pure and undefiled, freedom, progress and "Peace on earth, good will towards men" are among the possibilities of the Grange.

It is the advocate, promoter and conservator of all the good that these other possibilities have brought to make our world brighter and better. In its life of twenty-six years enough has been accomplished to base a "forecast" of its future. Wherever and whenever the ideal of its founders has been kept in view, and wherever its work has been upon the lines of its "Declaration of Purposes," which are all for good and never for evil, there will be found shadowed forth its possibilities and let us hope, its probabilities. Whatever it has wrought in the way of a better agriculture, more social life, brighter and happier homes, higher education of head and heart, the better manhood and womanhood, in dispensing charity, planting the flowers of good works, in developing a better citizenship, a purer ballot, in securing more equitable laws, in protecting the weak and restraining the strong, are but as the first footprints of Columbus on the shores of the new world compared with its future development and possibilities.

How far will the possibilities of the Grange be realized? Just as far as have all the other possibilities before spoken of, if the same means to the ends, work to faith, care, vigilance and fidelity, are ever and forever used. If the acorn falls on stony ground it has no depth of root, the oak is dwarfed and never becomes the giant of the forest, defying the storms of centuries. If the sculptor is careless, the perfect angel never steps from his marble block. The painter who only dreams, will never see his living canvas make his name immortal. The vase of the potter may be ruined in the firing. Mother must watch the little feet or baby will never grow to be good and great. The little red school house can never develop statesmen if its seats are unoccupied and its children are truants. The baby Moses must be guarded carefully

from the cruel edict of Pharaoh to destroy every male child. The babe in the manger, who became the Light of the world, must be carried away by his parents who flee unto Egypt to escape the wrath of Herod who ordered all babes under a year to be slain. The first shot fired for Liberty did not bring victory. Signing the Declaration and the old bell ringing forth, "Proclaim Liberty to all the earth and to the inhabitants thereof," must needs be followed by long years of war and suffering. The trials and tests of Valley Forge and Trenton, and of even a Benedict Arnold must be endured before the possibilities of that first shot could be realized. Aye, more, for in those days false prophets will arise. Men will spitefully use you. Madam Roland said as she ascended the scaffold: "Oh, liberty, liberty, what crimes are committed in thy name." Pilgrim must avoid the slough of despond, doubting castle, giant despair, the enchanted ground, the flatterer, the net of the spoiled, and fear not the lions in the way. Columbus must have a brave heart, must trim his sails to the storm, must avoid rocks and shoals, must quell mutiny.

"Labor omnia vincit." Perseverance, faith, work until the end. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and combined with faith and work, of all success. These have brought out all possibilities of their success. The acorn grows to be the oak; the marble becomes the statue; the canvas the lifelike reality; the vase a thing of beauty and a joy forever; the infant a statesman; the schoolboy noted among men; Moses leads Israel out of the land of bondage; in Judea the child grew and waxed strong and the world is saved; Yorktown places the seal upon victory and the hopes of the earth for freedom are lighted; four centuries of labor and faith have developed a continent, and this year with all our wealth and civilization we honor Columbus.

These other possibilities have been realized. Shall it be so with the possibilities of the Grange? With this inspiration, with all it can do before us, who will wish to be other than a brave soldier, loyal and true; a cheerful worker, helping to develop its possibilities year by year; aiding in bringing about the new heaven and the new earth; in making our home in the Grange, our home on the farm and our home in our country—in the words of one of the founders of our Order—"An earthly heaven to go to heaven in."

LEGISLATION FOR BETTER ROADS.

GEO. E. STEELE.

The Legislature is invoked whenever anything goes wrong in the economy of the State, even to attempting to make men temperate. A large part of the precious time of the law making body is taken up in changing the name of Miss "Fide Bona" to Miss "Bona Fide" and such like, of vast import. It may be readily guessed after making these startling statements that we are not of the class which has implicit confidence in the Legislature at once setting us on the macadam road to glory, all in the "one horse shay." Revolutions do not come by a flirt of the executive pen—except in South America. We must be content to ask the Legislature to do the very best it can, as quick as it can, for the *patient is very low*. We must then hold up our hands and promise to do our part. Then the era of good roads will begin to throw out a faint light

in the East, following it, the clear lay.

It need not be expected that the Legislature will move far in advance of public sentiment; and this sentiment is not at present educated up to the point of demanding good roads. Some are taking advance ground, and the subject is having general attention, but the most of our people do not realize how much is lost by bad roads. They easily fall into the ruts of "well enough" or "cost too much." Although we are somewhat behind some of our sister States, we are vaccinated, and will in due time break out with "road rash."

This period of organization must precede all else, as well in road building as in other lines. The Legislature is handicapped by the constitution which prevents it from vacating or altering any road laid out by Commissioners of Highways. Art. IV, Sec. 23, and under 11 Mich. 155, and 20 Mich. 95, confines this action to State roads, by delegating the power to Boards of Supervisors. Also by Art. XIV, Sec. 9: "The State shall not be a party to, or interested in any work of internal improvement, nor engaged in carrying on any such work, except in the expenditure of grants to the State of land or other property."

Under this it has been decided "that township highways and other local roads be under the control of the township officers." This makes the Highway Commissioner the *sine qua non* of township roads, or, to translate the Latin, he is "Big-Injun-Me."

See also 15 Mich. 347 and 34 Mich. 46 where the Commissioner is given full power to lay out, alter or discontinue highways. I cannot here enter into a discussion of these constitutional restrictions. Whatever may be done to make the constitution a help to good roads, must be preceded by a thorough school house campaign of education, or the amendments will be killed by popular prejudice. In view of such misleading error I believe more can be accomplished if the Legislature does not at first attempt too radical changes. I admit that most radical changes are needed, but we are not to expect suddenly to emerge from the "corduroy" road to the "Appian Way." Then, in my judgment, such a plan should be adopted as would, by increasing public attention and appropriate legislation gradually bring us into better condition.

Let us map it out.

1. Preserve the township system with some modifications for local or unimportant roads.
2. By a local option plan provide that any county may set in operation a county system with three County Commissioners, who are distinct from the Board of Supervisors, and who shall have power of location, construction and maintenance of the most important thoroughfares. If these were treated as "State" roads they would, under present decisions, be free from control of the Township Commissioner.
3. Have a County Engineer who shall locate all town and county roads in conjunction with the officers named; map carefully all roads, set out work for contractors and see that their work was properly done.
4. Do away with all building of roads by the State at large, and make the laws we have, so far as applicable, to conform to new county system.
5. Provide that by vote of the people of any county bonds may be issued, guarded by such low

rate, long time and proportion to valuation provisions as would seem best. This money only to be used for a few important roads.

The modifications of the town system would be mainly as to the power of the Commissioner to locate or alter highways. There is no check on this officer. He lays roads in the most hasty manner, and sticks to the section lines if they are well nigh impassable. We have lost enough by this poor policy already in State roads and highways to have built a stone road the whole length of the State. As a surveyor I have been called upon to make such locations as I knew were not best, but had no power to do otherwise. A road should be located by a capable engineer with as much care as a railroad (permitting heavy grading) and with curves instead of abrupt angles, all being thoroughly monumented. Authority should be given in this direction, and also to alter roads laid out so as to improve them. We would then stop expending money where it was worse than thrown away. Such poor locations are expensive luxuries. By proper application certain portions of roads already laid out could be condemned, these portions thereafter to receive not one dollar of public money. The new and best location would follow as a matter of course. The older parts of the State have their roads located, and the improvement of location could be made. But it must be remembered that, over say one-half of the State, new roads are constantly being laid out, and this will continue for many years. The question of location then becomes the very foundation of all subsequent expenditures, and should be committed to those best capable of giving it attention, free from local bias, and who make this work a study. This would be expected of the county board and engineer. It would be an advance to brush the dust off from the county surveyor and make an engineer out of him. The office is now of no consequence, and by making it the "Hub" of road construction, would be filled by men chosen with this in view, and become something besides an empty name. As to the State taking up the road building, it would seem that the day is passed. We have no use for long military or other roads. The railroads take the place of such. We have already seen the misappropriation of hundreds of thousands of dollars in State road building, and if these are samples of State construction then deliver us from any more. County credit should be as good or better than the State. The former can not repudiate, the latter can. Those counties where first-class roads are built will find their credit thereby improved. Other counties not moving in the matter will retrograde. There are minor details occurring, of which I may write, if not already a trespasser.

Traverse City.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Paw Paw, Mich.

If the Masters of State Granges who have not sent me the names of their Committee on Woman's work in the Grange will kindly do so, I will organize our work for an active campaign at once. Do not delay. The Grange work for the year should begin now, and we want no missing link.

Mrs. H. H. WOODMAN.

Chairman of National Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange.

"A FEAST OF REASON," ETC.

EDITOR VISITOR: On Thursday evening, Dec. 8, 1892, West Handy Grange No. 613 celebrated its seventeenth anniversary by having a feast.

The day was stormy, and old Boreas seemed to have made up his mind to be as disagreeable as possible, but a genuine granger cares nothing for wind or rain as was proven by the goodly number that met in our pleasant hall and filled the air with music, chatting and laughter.

After listening to some very fine singing prepared for the occasion by the choir, the tables were spread by the ladies, and after partaking of the good things placed thereon, all pronounced it a feast, indeed. After supper the gentlemen assisted in clearing the tables and washed and wiped dishes, thus verifying the old adage by being useful as well as ornamental.

Seventeen years ago our Grange was organized with 39 charter members. It now numbers 106, a good share of them being wide-awake young people who will study their own interests. So there is not much danger of its being a dead Grange very soon. Long may it live and prosper.

CARRIE J. BOWERS,
Secretary.

LINCOLN SHEEP BREEDERS.

We present the report of the annual meeting of the Michigan Lincoln Sheep Breeders that convened at Lansing, Dec. 21, and which was omitted from our last issue.

It was the most enthusiastic ever held by the association. Eighteen new members were added to our membership, eight being from Canada. The outlook for Lincolns is of the most promising character. R. Gibbons of the *Michigan Farmer* read a paper entitled, "The Future of the Lincolns in the United States," which was well liked by every member present. The list of officers we published in last issue.

A PROGRESSIVE MAGAZINE.

The editor of the *Arena* says:

"I desire to call your attention to the timeliness of topics discussed in the December *Arena* by master brains and representative thinkers. 'Compulsory Education,' 'Government Ownership of Railways,' 'The Opening of the World's Fair on Sunday,' 'The Rapid Spread of Occultism in Paris,' 'Evictions in New York,' 'Are We Socialists?' 'Religious Persecution in Tennessee.' These are all live topics, with which even the busiest of thoughtful persons are more or less interested; while among subjects more strictly literary in character will be found: 'A Chinese Mystic,' 'Whittier and Tennyson,' 'Religious Thought of Colonial Days,' 'The Defence of Shakespeare,' by the eminent Shakespearean scholar, Dr. A. Nicholson, and Miss Dromgoolle's charming little Christ-mas story.

I would further note the breadth of thought and the conspicuous fitness of the authors represented to discuss the subjects in hand, as for example, Bishop J. L. Spalding on the 'World's Fair,' Rev. Lyman Abbott, so strong an advocate of universal justice, on 'Compulsory Education,' Napoleon Ney, distinguished among thoughtful Frenchmen, and a grandson of the French Marshal, on the 'Occult in Paris,' T. V. Powderly on 'Government Ownership of Railways,' so important a work as the story of a woman adventurer, unattended by any white person, penetrating the wilds of Africa, calls forth words of criticism and appreciation from such eminent persons as Sir Edwin Arnold, Prof. Swing, Col. Knox and Col. McMichael. I wish to call your special attention to Mr. McLoughlin's startling paper on 'Evictions in New York.' This is the first paper of our series of discussions on 'Social Conditions of To-day.' The December *Arena* is an earnest of what the *Arena* will be during 1893. We are determined to maintain our review as the foremost progressive and reformative magazine of the age."

Field and Stock.

SOME SUGGESTED EXPERIMENTS IN FEEDING SHEEP.

Read at meeting of Breeders of Improved Live Stock in Lansing, Dec. 20, by F. B. Mumford, Ag. College.

It is a noticeable fact that our experiment stations, while they have given considerable attention to the subject of feeding, yet have not given the same attention to the profitable production of mutton that they have to the production of beef and pork. While some experiments of more or less importance have been carried on with sheep, they have usually been conducted with so few animals that the results are not of general application.

I have examined the Experiment Station Record for the years 1889, '90, '91 and '92 and I find as nearly as it is possible to discover that the whole number of sheep employed during the four years in strictly feeding experiments, does not exceed 100 for the whole United States.

These have been fed mostly in lots of three so that the published results must be taken with allowance, for this reason: The individual differences of the animals are not easily overcome in such small lots, and these differences are often greater than the effects of the different foods themselves.

Notwithstanding the lack of attention on the part of our experimenters toward the sheep industry, much of the work done is of general application and applies equally as well to sheep as to cattle and swine.

Science has done much for feeders, but it has not yet reached a stage where it may be considered as an exact science. There is no absolute mathematical process by which we can compute the nutritive value of a food. Chemical analysis in itself alone fails to furnish us with exact data by which we may work out the value of a food with absolute certainty. Other considerations beside that of the chemical composition have much to do with its real value for feeding purposes. Palatability, digestibility, mechanical condition, etc., all enter into the consideration of food values. The most remarkable and probably most successful attempt to reduce the art of feeding to an exact science was that of the German experimenters. The results of their experiments and their conclusions are embodied in what is known as the "German feeding standards." These were the result of carefully planned and executed experiments, and for a time the study of these standards was considered to be the study of the science of feeding. Many prominent scientific men at the present time have taken a stand of doubtful neutrality concerning the German tables, while others are unmistakably arrayed against them. Others, among whom may be mentioned Prof. Henry, Georgeson, Roberts and Goessman of this country, and Professor Kuhn, of Germany, take a rational view and hold that with modifications the German standards are guides, and when combined with the knowledge of the practical feeder are invaluable aids in the economical production of meat products.

Is it not possible that our experimenters have approached this question from the wrong standpoint and have endeavored to compound rations which take into consideration only the feeding standards, and wholly neglect to take into account the palatability, mechanical condition and peculiarities of the animal?

We believe this question can best be studied from the standpoint of the foods themselves. Practical feeders disagree as to the value of foods. Let our experimenters investigate thoroughly without prejudice the comparative merits of different foods and discover if possible, if there is a general law which can be relied upon in selecting foods.

The question naturally suggests itself, what lines of work shall our experiment stations follow? It seems to us that two lines of work more or less distinct present themselves to every experimenter. We will call them 1, scientific experiments and 2, practical experiments. The terms are somewhat misleading and the division between the

two not well defined but the division is sufficiently definite to answer our purpose. We think right here that a misunderstanding has often arisen between the feeder and the experimenter. The feeder has been led to expect immediate results from experiments which were scientific in their nature and only links in a chain and not the complete chain itself. In the first division we would place all those experiments which are of wide general application and which aim to build up theories of nutrition, the effect of certain classes of foods on the bodily functions, etc. This line of experiments can not produce immediate results of practical importance to feeders of the present day, but are nevertheless valuable and should be given due attention.

The other class of experiments are called practical, because they aim to solve questions which confront every feeder and are of especial importance because the results are valuable for immediate use. Many of these experiments will be of only local application, yet if properly planned and executed will be of incalculable value to the farmers of the locality, county, or state wherein the experiments are conducted.

There seems to be a tendency on the part of some of our experimenters to devote their attention almost entirely to the first class of experiments. We do not propose to discuss here the relative importance of the two lines of work, but we believe that much of the so called scientific investigation can be as effectively accomplished in connection with the practical work. For instance the observed effects of certain elements in foods on the bodily functions may be studied while carrying on tests to ascertain the comparative value of foods for fattening purposes. The nutritive ratio theory may be studied in the same connection.

It seems to us that some of the following experiments may profitably engage the attention of our stations. The study of the comparative value of grains and grasses for various purposes of feeding may well occupy the attention of our stations. Many farmers in Michigan are feeding sheep and cattle as a business in itself outside of the ordinary farm operations. Most of the feed is purchased and it is a question of importance to know what to buy. No experiments have been conducted with an idea of finding a standard of comparison. For instance there are no satisfactory data which give us even an indication of what we may expect from corn when fed as an exclusive grain ration. The same may be said of other grains and mixtures. If accurate data on the fattening qualities of the common foods could be furnished, the feeder, by knowing the prices of the materials could readily determine which food would yield the most profit. We have at the College 150 sheep under experiment; 80 of these are fed on a grain ration of corn, oats or bran, singly or in combination. Each lot receives in addition one pound of roots per day for each sheep and all the clover hay they will eat up clean; 40 others are being fed on silage and roots, a continuation of last year's experiments; 5 lambs are being fed on a self feed, in comparison with those fed regularly in the ordinary manner. A pen of breeding ewes are fed liberally on silage in comparison with another lot fed in the most approved manner to maintain health and condition. These experiments are all along the line suggested and we believe are valuable. A study of different grasses and forage plants should demand the attention of experimenters. Just now the subject of rape for sheep feeding should be thoroughly investigated. The subjects of shelter, close confinement, exercise, etc., are all questions which at present are mere matters of opinion and should be investigated and if possible settled. The preparation of food is a subject of lesser importance, but worthy of study. The effect of foods on quality of product, feeding for wool, shearing lambs in the fall before fattening, etc., are all subjects which should not be overlooked.

The VISITOR is for every farmer, whether he is a Granger or not.

Teachers can get the VISITOR and MODERATOR for \$1.50.

THE MUTTON TYPE.

Read before the Shropshire Breeders at Lansing, Dec. 21, by Eugene Davenport.

Let it be borne in mind that the mutton type is an idea, not a sheep; and that there are as many of them as there are of successful breeders of mutton sheep. I emphasize successful, because there are men raising not only sheep but all kinds of stock without a type in the mind's eye, but they do not succeed in adding valuable qualities to the breed upon which they inflict their attention.

So we all have an ideal of what a perfect mutton sheep would look like, but none of us will ever see the sheep. I shall not attempt to picture mine to you, for it is impossible to fully describe a type in words. Besides, mine is likely no better than others.

However I will venture to mention some characters that it seems to me should be present in the ideal of any breeder, no matter what his chosen breed, together with others most valuable when absent. And if we do not agree, so long as we are dealing with an ideal, there is no damage done thereby—not even to the sheep.

All agree in the policy of securing the highest development of parts in themselves especially valuable, as the loin and thigh. This is common to all meat types, and I know of no better evidence of the mighty power of the breeder than this fact, that he has, so to speak, changed ends with both cattle and swine. As we breed them now for meat they are relatively heavier behind than before—the exact opposite of the type in a state of nature. Consider in your mind the heavy shoulder and fore quarters of the wild form of both cattle kind and swine and their related forms; then remembering this to be true in the majority of cases with wild animals, especially with males; observe carefully the domestic forms, and see what the breeder has accomplished. Has he not changed ends with the carcass? All this he has done in developing the most desirable cuts. Oh, I tell you if the demand should arise to breed our animals wrong side out, I sometimes think our Yankee breeders should undertake the job.

So perfectly have breeders agreed upon the policy of developing valuable parts, that in many cases other characters, intrinsically less valuable upon the block but often intimately and necessarily associated with the vigor, the constitution, the health, the assimilative, yes even the very reproductive power of the animal have been absolutely neglected and practically bred out. I think, fortunately, that the mutton sheep has not yet suffered in this direction as have some of the pork and beef producing animals. And I hereby enter a strong plea for those parts more intimately related to the vital functions of this mutton factory; a chest that is both deep and wide across the floor, as indicated by thickness through the heart.

Whatever may be the reason, ample quarters seem necessary to the proper development of good digestive, respiratory and circulatory organs. For the same reason we must avoid the short rib which so easily appears, and the elbow that scrapes the side.

Perhaps there is no better place than this to call attention to the fact that the type of the wild sheep and his closely related forms differs radically at least so far as I have seen it, from that so common among other animals.

Instead of the heavy and especially high fore quarters, we find them remarkable rather for their width and lack of depth. We find too a broad if not deep thigh and hind quarter, and a round body standing on legs higher behind than before. The neck arises from between the straight shoulders and stands erect, giving the animal a peculiarly high-headed appearance, as will be noticed among some Cotswolds. He is naturally a mountain animal.

Now reversions always tend to approach the original type. From this fact and considering the essential differences in wild type, I am inclined to think that a shortened rib and a retreating brisket as much to be dreaded as is a thin chest, and far more likely to plague the breeder. Also that the tendency to long legs is to be carefully and especially guarded against.

In nature as with man, utility

and adaptation to purpose is always the test of selection. Nature's one demand above all others is for vigor and endurance. We have many others.

Again, though we have never improved upon nature in any particular to which our attention and selection have not been directed, it is also true that we have never failed to improve upon her whenever we have selected from similar standards and along the same line, whatever characters may be included. I offer as example excessive milk production, speed, etc., as among the many qualities we breed for.

I mention this because some are content to accept a loss of vigor, or more mildly put, a lesser degree of vitality as an unavoidable consequence of domestication. Not at all. The trotter and the thoroughbred exceed both in speed and endurance, in will and vigor of constitution, any wild type of horse we have ever known.

Compare also the greyhound with the wild dingo of Australia, and you see before you the well trained reserve force of the one to the great disparagement of the nervous, aimless, restless activity of the other.

Neither is a degree of vigor below that of the wild type a safe condition. It is said that with food and shelter provided, a less degree of endurance is necessary. But should that mean upon the whole a less degree of vitality? No. In all our well-bred animals we tax to the utmost their physical abilities, as the muscular and nervous organisms in speed animals, so also the digestive and assimilative powers in those producing milk, meat or wool.

The well-bred domestic animal of today is doing more actual labor for man than he ever did for himself, in a wild state, to seek his food and defend himself from his enemies. As a manufactory, the work we put upon him is severe.

This may be an extended plea for vigor, but the sheep kind are originally more active in their mountain homes than any of our domestic animals in the natural state. Their hard fare, too, developed remarkable powers of getting much out of little. Let us not accept this natural power of the sheep as an inborn heritage for all time, but watchfully guard it that it never be lost; for it is likely not too much to say that its loss would be even more serious than among other domestic animals. Loss of vigor has not yet plagued the mutton breeders greatly, and I hope it never may, but it is a possible evil at any time.

So let attention be given to the bold front, the heavy shoulder where health and heavy weights reside, to the deep body, where essential processes are going on, to the bright but mild eye, to the elastic step, and, yes, I will say it, to the pink skin, showing that the mechanism is working well, and that the machine is comfortable and well satisfied with itself.

Neither would I neglect the strong muzzle, nor those general outlines of the face that give character to the countenance.

One portion of the body whose possibilities have not yet been attained either in mutton or beef, is the rib. I speak especially of thickness of meat. A rib roast is the choice cut of the pig. Ribs of beef may sometime become even better than now, and I believe the rib of mutton may be greatly improved. In short I am inclined to think that the surest way of securing well filled crops is by selecting for a thick meated rib.

I have not described fully a mutton type, I do not intend to do so, but speak only of certain characters. Breeders of different breeds no doubt agree much closer in their ideals than any are ever likely to attain. As with an individual, so with a breed—it is impossible to secure all the desirable qualities, and avoid the undesirable ones. For each development, a deficiency occurs somewhere, and to increase what may be called the algebraic sum of good qualities is a slow and difficult process.

As the lawyer considers most carefully the probable line of argument of his opponent, and his own weak points as well as strong, so the breeder of any breed must be able to discover even in his favorites their relative or absolute weaknesses. To do this requires a no mean degree of judicial ability.

This is a period of small meat. There is no doubt that the most

serious competitor of beef is pork. There is no doubt that early maturity is to be demanded, not only on the score of the most economical production of meat, but within reasonable limits, of the highest quality. It may be a question at what stage of maturity to slaughter, but I think none at all as between early and late maturity.

Whatever the breed, let the type be held within the extremes of size above rather than below the medium, for animals fed for meat tend to diminish in size, but certainly not the largest. Aside from the question of maturity, they rarely possess the quality or the feeding powers of the more nearly average specimen. Three things must not be tolerated in a sheep,—a weak back, and long legs, and a bad chest, and one or all generally accompany extremes in size.

No question is more interesting than the probable wool producing capacity of the mutton sheep, and how and to what extent its improvement is advisable. While strongly inclined to special purpose animals, I do not look upon mutton and wool production as incompatible characters. All relations exist between the multitude of characteristics that go to make up an animal or a breed, some are harmonious, some antagonistic, some utterly incompatible, and others, no doubt, indifferent to each other. This is the great law of correlation.

Given a breed with certain characters well developed and in a large degree in equilibrium with each other and with others less developed, including harmonious, indifferent, and antagonistic perhaps; can then a certain desired set of characters be brought forward and developed to a high degree without damage to the type characters? Your general purpose man will say—certainly, any number of them. Others recognizing that there is a natural limit to the productive energy and believing that any disturbance will be fatal, will as positively declare it impossible, especially if anything like a high degree of excellence has been reached.

Now it seems to me that the possibility of the thing depends largely on the nature of the degree of antagonism between them; great size and high speed are almost incompatible. Meat and milk production in the same animal is a different question from that of mutton and wool. The habit of milk production is a sexual character peculiar to females only, and in nature limited to a brief period. But we have developed the habit till it has become practically continuous; till it engages almost the entire energy of the female. More than this, it has changed her whole organism and circulatory system for its activities are largely directed to supplying a single gland. So pronounced has been this development as to react even upon the males, and we hear now-a-days a great deal about milk type bulls.

Beside all this the antagonism between mutton and wool is insignificant. Both require a diffused circulation. The body covering is not only common to both sexes but to nearly all wild animals. I cannot, therefore, look upon mutton and wool as incompatible nor to any great degree antagonistic characters, further than that the sum of their development must always be limited by the productive energy of the animal, and as that limit is neared one or the other must take precedence, or both stop short of the highest development.

In brief, it would be difficult to find two characters more intimately associated than the body and its covering. Shall we then breed for both? Certainly, we must. But it introduces two difficulties.

First, by adopting two standards of selection the number of animals that will meet their exactions is greatly reduced, and a less vigorous selection will be likely in practice to be applied to either. All are anxious for results. Few can do more than one thing at a time, and, withal the dollars must appear as both oil and mainspring to the enterprise.

The fact that Shropshires, and for that matter all mutton breeds, are yet quite variable, is no detriment to the attempt to improve in two directions. I hope, however, that the mutton qualities of the mutton breeds will be kept always and first in mind. Breeding for two things is at best a sort of bimetallic attempt, and if made at all let "mutton wool" gravitate to its

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proper relations with the true standard.

One more thought. In what direction will wool improvement among mutton breeds be most satisfactorily directed—toward evenness of fleece, or toward a finer quality?

Again consider nature. Among wild animals if one part of the body is better covered than another it is always the shoulders, protecting the vital parts. Examples are too common to deserve mention. These are the very parts that produce the finest portions of the fleece. This leads us to believe the hind and lower portions to have been the least covered, as they are certainly the most scantily, and the first to lose that covering.

Without farther expansion I will say that I am strongly inclined to think that breeders of mutton sheep will do well to look first to evenness of fleece, the covering of all parts, and afterward, if they please, to its fineness. Above all, let each breed strive for a uniform type. It will be peculiar to that breed of course, but let it be uniform as possible, and not be disturbed and deflected by the varying standards of other breeds.

In the present popular days of the Shropshires lies their greatest danger. If they have the inherent quality to withstand the reducing effects of a decade or two of great popularity, well; if not, then the future of this great breed will depend upon the course of a few judicious breeders.

NEWAYGO POMONA.

Pomona Grange No. 11 met with Ashland Grange Dec. 28 and 29, 1892.

On the morning of the 28th of Dec. we left our home with a light heart and hied us away to the "Court of Pomona," 23 miles distant. The air was full of feathery flakes, but what cared we, snow flakes went hurt a Granger. The sleighing was all that could be desired and we dashed along right merrily, our voices keeping time to the jingle of the bells (isn't that so, Bro. Dan?).

About noon we arrived at Ashland Grange Hall, where a warm welcome and a rich, reeking dinner awaited us. After greeting old friends and new and indulging in a social after dinner chat, the W. M. called to order in open Grange.

The program follows: Opening Song by Ashland Grange Choir. "The Creamery," S. V. Walker. He seemed to think creameries paid. "The Need of Education as a safeguard to American Institutions," paper by Wm. W. Carter. This was an able paper and in all probability will appear later on in the GRANGE VISITOR. "Woman's Work in the Grange," Mrs. Hall. Fine duet by Ashland Grange choir. "Seed Day in the Grange," Dan Mallery. This subject brought out a great many ideas and we found that Bro. L. Reynolds could raise the largest cabbage in Ashland, perhaps in the whole county, and make the best kraut (with the assistance of his wife). "Co-operation in Selling," Chas. Haskins. "Should the Method of Paying County Officers by Fees be Abolished?" L. Reynolds. "Care and Management of Cows for Dairy Purposes," Calvin Lillie. After supper Grange was again called to order and we listened to the far famed "Peek Sisters." This was rendered by the young ladies of Ashland Grange and was very amusing. They looked very ancient and very funny indeed with their peaked hats and kerchiefs; they did themselves great credit and possess great musical talent, and great command of language.

The fifth degree was conferred on 12 candidates. This meeting was also the election of officers and the following officers were chosen: M., S. V. Walker; O. C. Tinney, L.; W. W. Carter; T., L. Reynolds; Sec'y., F. Terwilliger; G. K., Sister Hillman, who thought she could fill the office well. W. W.

Carter was chosen deputy for the county. The Grange made a good selection for Bro. Carter is the "Grangiest" of all Grangers. We then took a recess until the next morning.

On the morning of the 29th the W. M. called to order in open Grange and an able paper was read by Wm. Gould on the "Election of Senators" which will also appear in GRANGE VISITOR. This subject took up nearly all the forenoon. The Grange then closed to meet again at Ensley the 2d and 3d of March. We were disappointed because Sister Mayo could not be with us. She would have enjoyed it. Ashland Hall is the finest in the county and it is well named by a motto I noticed on the wall, the "Farmer's Home. It has a lot of energetic, hard-working young people, which according to my way of thinking is the making of the Grange. We were highly entertained and tenfold repaid for our long drive. May the people of Ashland live long.

This has been a prosperous year for the Grange in Newaygo county; we have added 147 new names to our list of membership and we have a full treasury and we intend to spend our money in bringing lecturers into our field to help promote our general welfare, and when next you hear from Newaygo you will learn that two or three new Granges have been established within her boundaries. That the Grange may live and prosper in all its undertakings, always trusting in an arm omnipotent to enable it to grapple with stern realities is the wish of its past secretary, Mrs. MARY ROBERTSON.

INSTITUTE NOTES.

At the farmers' institute in Benzie county, December 20, the following members of the Agricultural college faculty were present: Pres. Clute, Profs. L. R. Taft, R. J. Coryell, and P. G. Holden.

Prof. Coryell gave his lecture on potato culture. The ground covered was amount of seed per acre; distance apart in row and hill, character of soil, and mode of culture; also amount of moisture and season of year when most necessary; also manner of cutting seed. The proper conclusions were drawn from experiments covering two or three years and were as follows: Everything else being equal, the more seed per acre. This, however, is to be governed by the price of seed and the probable market value of the crop. The best depth to plant is from 4 to 5 inches, and the best fertilizers those that will retain the most moisture, (a mulch) especially at the time of the formation of tubers.

Wm. H. Voorheis was called upon and gave his paper on peach culture. Mr. Voorheis said in peach culture it is important to plant right, to begin with, on ground properly prepared and where air drainage is perfect cares little about the particular slope in his locality. To guard well against the borer by careful examination of the stalk near the roots before planting. Trees should be set 20 feet apart each way. The next enemy to be met is the cut worm. He protects by putting tin shields around the trees. He plants corn for the first two or three years, partly to furnish food for the worms (it is cheaper than peach trees). Do not plant potatoes under any consideration. Cultivate up to the first of July, no later, then leave whatever vegetable matter may grow to take up the virtue of the soil in order that the peach trees may ripen for winter. When trees come to bearing he cultivates one month later. Plant no corn or other crops after the bearing period of the orchard. He cuts back each year's growth on main shoots from one-third to one-half, and keeps all shoots cut off to 18 inches from bottom. He picks when fruit is ripe but before it is soft; it needs nice discrimination to determine this. He grows his

own stock and buds the first year, in August.

A paper on bean culture by E. C. Coates was discussed. Mr. Coates opened the question, and Prof. Holden and others followed.

The points made seemed to be that it was a good crop for rotating, should precede wheat, and was capable of being made profitable when properly managed. Perhaps the most vital point of the whole is to secure the crop after being grown in good order. The plan recommended was to pull when ripe and spread thin enough in rows to cure quickly, and then haul and put under shelter.

Prof. Holden gave a lecture on smut in grains. The following conclusions were reached: 1st. Smut is a parasite plant; 2nd. Smut infests oats at blossoming time; 3rd. Smut infests barley at blossoming time; 4th. Bunt, or stinking smut, in wheat at any time; 5th. Smut in corn is confined to that particular crop, is unlike other smut and no remedy has yet been discovered; 6th. Infection not by spores contained in soil; 7th. Infection not in spores contained in manure; 8th. Wheat does not turn to smut; 9th. The smut of one cereal will not infect other cereals. For preventing smut in oats and wheat dip in hot water at 130 to 135 degrees five minutes. For barley soak in cold water ten hours, then dip in hot water at 125 to 135 degrees five minutes. For full treatise on this subject see Bulletin No. 87, Michigan experimental station, which can be had free by addressing the secretary of the Michigan Agricultural college.

Prof. Taft treated the question of insects and insecticides; also fungus and fungicides. The great remedies for insects are the arsenites and kerosene emulsions and for fungoids. The only drawback seemed to be lack of interest enough on the part of the residents of the county to turn out and show their interest in the degree that the subject demanded. The call for a report of the fruit crops and potato crop was responded to by only five towns. The following is the total of each article in the townships reported. Potatoes, 70,071 bu.; apples, 29,381 bu.; peaches, 2,275; crabs, 770; pears, 1,152; strawberries, 350.

C. S. LINKLETTER, Sec.

THIS IS THE KIND.

WORTHY BROTHER: Alumina Grange No. 585 voted to furnish the VISITOR to each family among its members. Enclosed you will please find money order for \$14.80, the amount at 40 cents each for the thirty-seven member heads of families.

We have been waiting to see if the State Grange would give the VISITOR the "grand bounce." We are glad that it is to live another year.

Fraternally yours,
M. M. THOMPSON, Sec.
Holtan, Muskegon Co.

Postal Jottings.

FRUIT RIDGE, NO. 278.

At our last regular meeting Fruit Ridge Grange, through its Secretary, presented Worthy Master G. B. Horton with a nice gavel with the request that it be used in calling the next session of the State Grange to order. Bro. Horton was also re-elected Master of our Grange, Mrs. Amanda Horton Lecturer, and Alfred Williams Secretary.

CHARLOTTE GRANGE, NO. 67.

elected as Master, Jas. Murray; Lecturer, Mrs. Belle Tanner; Sec'y, Chas. Hoffner.

CHARITY GRANGE, NO. 417.

elected Will Kerr for Master, while Nelson Geoffrey will fill the Lecturer's chair, and R. Geoffrey will keep the books.

WHITE OAK, NO. 241.

At the request of our Grange I wish to say a few words as a partial report of our doings for the year just closed. We have had 49 regular meetings of the Grange, one for installation of officers, and royally entertained the Pomona Grange besides. The average attendance during the year has been 22.18 out of a membership of 60, now in good standing. The officers elect for the ensuing year will be publicly installed January 14, 1893. There will be a literary entertainment after the installation. All are invited. A happy New Year to all.

\$45 SEWING MACHINE FOR \$15

HIGH ARM MACHINE \$2.00 EXTRA.

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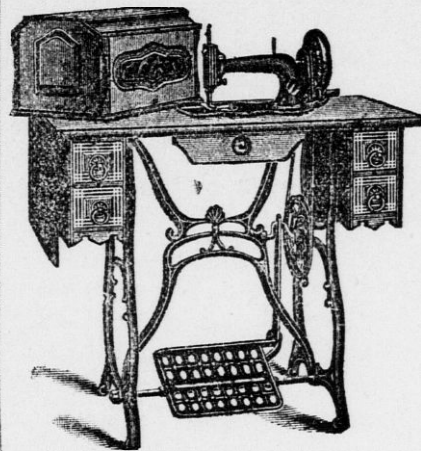
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at the above low rates. This machine is made after the latest models of the Singer machine, and is perfect fac simile in shape, ornamentation and appearance. All the parts are made to gauge exactly the same as the Singer, and are constructed of precisely the same materials.

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The Chicago Singer Machine has a very important improvement in a Loose Balance Wheel, so constructed as to permit winding bobbins without removing the work from the machine.

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

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

They say: "Any machine not satisfactory to a subscriber, we will allow returned and will refund the money."

Price including one year's subscription, \$15. Sent by freight, receiver to pay charges. Give name of freight station if different from post-office address.

This Machine will be sent for \$10.00 Cash and 10 New Subscriptions to the VISITOR at 50 cents each.

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Companion Organ

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It is made with strong, handsome lamp-stands, with ornamented ends and front. The cases are made in dark hard wood, finished in oil and hand-rubbed.

DIMENSIONS—Height, 42 in. Length of octave, over all, 39 in. Length of 5 octave, over all, 45 in. Depth, 15 in. Weight, securely boxed about 140 pounds.

FOR EIGHT YEARS as is given with our large instruments. In all our experience as organ manufacturers we have never produced an organ of equal capacity and price that gives us more satisfaction than this new Companion No. 2.

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E. P. CARPENTER CO.:

Gentlemen—We have used organs made by your company for several years. They have given us entire satisfaction. Yours truly, PERRY, MASON & Co. The Youth's Companion.

And Here is What "Pat" Says of it:

"The Grange Visitor—The organ you offer is O. K. I can recommend it to teachers for their school-rooms. H. R. PATTEGILL. Lansing, Mich., Oct. 29, 1892.

Every school house should have an organ. Get the pupils interested, and the parents, and the schoolboard and you can easily get one. We will send this organ, which sells for 30.00, with bench and a 216 page instructor, for Sixty New Subscribers at fifty cents a year, and 10.00 cash, receiver, to pay freight. The organ weighs, ready for shipment, about 140 pounds. You can't do better than to try for this splendid premium.

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AN OFFER

We have made arrangements with George C. Dow, North Epping, N. H., who is the inventor and manufacturer of DOW'S CAPONIZING INSTRUMENTS, and author of "DOW'S CAPONS AND CAPONIZING," a book of sixty pages, illustrated, fully describing the operation and advantages attending it,—to supply our readers with either of the same at the following terms:

Dow's Caponizing Instruments, with instructions, post paid, per set, \$3 50
Dow's Book, "Capons and Caponizing," sixty pages, illustrated cloth, 50
Dow's Caponizing Instruments and this paper one year, 2 50
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For a club of fifteen new subscribers we will give as a premium a set of Dow's Caponizing Instruments.

For a club of twenty new subscribers, Dow's Instruments and Book.

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Postage paid on Instruments, Book and Paper, in all cases.

\$5 A DAY (Farmer preferred) in each county, selling GIANT WIRE FENCE and WIRE STRETCHERS. Fence costs 25 cents per rod. Write for circular. T. J. ANDRE, Wauson, O.

Teachers desiring to advance in grade, and others to become teachers attend the Normal Dept. of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Business College. For particulars, address A. S. PARKER.

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

Kenyon L. Butterfield, Editor and Manager, LANSING, MICH.

To whom all exchanges, communications, advertising business and subscriptions should be sent.

TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months. In Clubs of 20 or more 40 cents per year each. Subscriptions payable in advance, and discontinued at expiration, unless renewed.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft. Do not send stamps.

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I. For one new name for one year we will send a copy of *Black Beauty*.

II. To any one sending in 5 new subscribers for one year we will send the *Visitor* one year free.

III. To any one sending in 15 new subscribers for one year, we will send the set of Eliot's works.

IV. To any one sending 30 new subscribers for one year we will send Dicken's complete works.

V. To any one sending 30 new subscribers for one year and \$5.00 we will send a Webster or Worcester Dictionary. Or we will send the same for 60 new names.

VI. For 80 new subscribers for one year and \$10.00 we will send the Companion organ. Or we will send it for 120 new subscribers for one year.

Do not send stamps.

Send in your names as fast as you get them, with the money, stating what premium you are working for.

Begin now.

Renew!

If your time is out, renew.

Renew at once, if your time is out.

Secretaries, be prompt in reporting Pomonas.

We are getting "lots" of new names. Are you helping?

We can not send the paper, if your time is out, unless you renew.

Get your articles in early if you want them inserted in a particular issue.

We continue to hear of Patrons who are working for our premiums. Are you in line?

The Legislature has done little as yet except organize and elect United States Senator.

Bro. D. H. English of Chandler, Ionia Co., sent in 65 names last year. Has any of our helpers a better record?

We have some especially fine Grange articles in this issue. We mention those of Bro. Whitehead on page one and Miss Jennie Buell on page six.

Madison Grange, Adiam, sends in 43 names in one lot. Madison pays out of the Grange treasury for each family in their Grange. Have you tried that plan? If not try it this year.

Any agents who would like a list of present subscribers to the *Visitor* in their Grange, can have the same by dropping us a card. Be sure to give names of offices to which the paper is sent.

The reading course will be ready very soon. There have been some unavoidable delays in arranging for books. We hope in our next issue to present a complete explanation of the course.

Our friends will remember, if their communications do not appear at once, that for the last two or three issues our columns have been crowded with advertising and articles that must appear. We shall reach you soon.

The State Agricultural Society will probably not hold a fair this year. Very likely the society will ask the Legislature for aid. It is thought that one one-hundredth of one mill as state tax would amount to sufficient to make a good premium offer.

DELEGATES TO STATE GRANGE.

We have sent letters and sample copies to all delegates to the last State Grange, with the request that they see that a *Visitor* agent is appointed in every Grange, and is at work, getting renewals and winning new subscribers.

If each Grange would get one new subscriber a week from now till April 1st., we would have a list almost double its present size. Any Grange ought to do that. Won't you go to work with the idea of securing at least one name a week from each Grange?

OUR LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

The State Grange passed several measures that it is important should be pushed before the legislature. We believe that the Patrons who are members of that body will do all they can for such measures, yet it behooves our legislative committee to be at work. And members of the Order should stand ready to reinforce the requests of their committee by petitions and letters, whenever necessary. We hope that the legislation recommended by the State Grange will be advocated by our legislative committee.

THE GRANGE PAPER.

The writer of this paragraph, who has stood at the helm of Grange journalism for 20 years, should be credited with sincerity when he states that the greatest weakness of the Order has been, and now is, its failure to make strong by unanimous support its entire Grange Press. This journal, in its eagerness to see the Grange occupy its true and lawful position, pleads not selfishly for its own encouragement, but for a united Grange Press, whose heart-felt cry is, "God bless the Grange."—*Grange Bulletin*.

The Brother knows whereof he speaks. It is surprising how many, for instance right here in Michigan, do not take, will not take, can't be persuaded to take their Grange paper. If all who ought to take the *Visitor* and who do not take it, would subscribe at once, our list would be increased by 30%, we fully believe—this among Patrons. And if every Patron worked as hard for the *Visitor* as some of them do the list would gain 50% more.

Worthy Patron, can't you get one, one, new subscriber to the *Visitor* this month?

THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

The Patrons of Husbandry do not seem to make so much stir in the world as do the Alliance, the Grange and some other organizations, but they have a platform that is extremely sensible and that might well be subscribed to by every farmer in the land. It proclaims that we should buy less and produce more, in order to make our crops self-sustaining; that crops should be diversified, and no more land cropped than can be thoroughly cultivated; that the weight and bulk of products exported should be condensed, selling more on the hoof and in fleece and less in the bushel; that farm work should be systematized, and an intelligent calculation made of the probabilities; and that the credit system and all other systems that tend to prodigality and bankruptcy, should be discouraged. As they stand, these will do pretty well for an agricultural creed, but one of these points is worthy of special attention, and that is the intelligent calculation of probabilities. Many serious errors and missteps occur through the general disposition to overestimate the value of crops before they are harvested, and the tendency to count too largely on the outcome of the year's work. This sometimes leads to injudicious expenditures, and always to disappointment, and should be carefully guarded against.

We quote the above from the *Grand Rapids Democrat*. We are glad indeed to see such commendable words for our Order, but surprised that the writer should separate the Grange and the Patrons of Husbandry. Let it be hereafter

known that our national body is the "National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry." Let these words of praise for our Order weigh upon the minds of all Patrons, for thereby hangs a lesson. Many men are speaking just such good words,—men not in the Order, but men who are observant and watchful. We believe that there never was a time when the principles and work and requests of the Grange were so much respected. This fact furnishes a strong argument for earnest revival work at once. Farmers are waiting for us to come to them. Will we go?

TEMPLE TO CERES.

Much has been said about the erection at Washington of a Temple to Ceres; comparatively little has been done as yet in the way of securing funds for this very desirable object. Michigan in particular has as yet hardly taken up the work.

Brother Woodman and others discussed this question at the last State Grange. No action was taken however in the way of providing ways and means for raising money for this commendable undertaking.

I have a suggestion to make to my sisters of the Order in this jurisdiction for the purpose of starting this fund, and it is this: That the committee on Woman's Work in each Subordinate Grange arrange for a public literary or festive entertainment to be held during the winter, at which the public will be invited to attend and a reasonable admission fee charged. Entertaining programs could be arranged, and the public, always glad to encourage home entertainments, would be likely to patronize reasonably. It might be desirable to furnish light refreshments to those desiring to buy. What say you Sisters? Shall we start out now and have an entertainment at as early a date as practicable for the benefit of the Temple to Ceres?

Worthy Lecturer Brother Crosby suggests in this connection an entertainment commemorative of Washington. "Should any adopt this particular entertainment it should be held not far from February 22.

I herewith append a program of scenes and characters for a Washington entertainment. It can be changed and modified to suit the tastes of those furnishing the entertainment.

PROGRAM FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

The hall should be decorated with flags and a large picture of Washington placed upon the wall before the audience. Let the Colonies be represented by thirteen girls dressed in white, and they should wear red, white and blue sashes and carry small flags. The name of each colony may be placed upon a coronet worn by each one.

Music.
Recitation—Washington's birthday.

Historical Sketch of Washington—As a Youth, Man and Statesman.

Recitation—Influence of the character of Washington.

Music.
Recitation—The Consummate Glory of Washington.

Singing—"Hail Columbia," by the 13 girls dressed in white, waving their flags as they sing.

Tableau.
Wreath the victor's brow.

Let the girls above mentioned arrange themselves, six on each side of Washington's picture, the thirteenth standing just in front of it, with a wreath of evergreen, which she is holding up as if about to place it upon Washington's head; the eyes of all of them should be turned toward the picture. In the evening a very pretty effect would be produced by throwing a red light upon the scene.

Recitation—The Grave of Washington.

Singing—Mt. Vernon Bells.

Tableau.

The Washington family.
A table around which are seated Washington, his wife and her children, a boy and girl; Washington reading the Scriptures; two servants standing behind them all in costume in ancient style.

MARY SHERWOOD HINDS.
Chairman Woman's Work State of Michigan.

A GOOD SHOWING!

The condition of our Grange is "A No. 1." We have nearly doubled our membership in the last eighteen months, our present number being 106. We have a good hall, 28x50, two stories high, Grange hall above and public hall below, which is rented to the town for township purposes only, the Grange having the use at other times.

We have good heating and cooking stoves, skeleton tables, and dishes, knives, forks and spoons for 100. We have about 100 wooden seat chairs, and 50 folding chairs for emergencies, a good organ, and best of all, a good choir to accompany it. We have a neat bookcase and a mixed library of about 100 volumes.

So much for our circumstances. I think our Grange is in better shape now than at any time since it was organized, Feb. 23, 1874.

Our exercises consist of discussions, declamations, songs, music, recitations and talks, with occasional dramatic performances, and usually two contests each year.

We held an agricultural fair which was well patronized by our members and was a complete success, in fact the display in vegetables, fruits, flowers, cookery, and the fine arts, was beyond our expectations and would have competed favorably with fairs of much larger pretensions.

We have just begun a new contest, to embrace three meetings for each side, the prize, or forfeit, to be an oyster supper. I will try to send you the result at its close.

The only fault I find with the Grange is that so few of its members take the *Visitor*, but I have tried till I am tired of trying.

J. S. LOCKE, Sec.
Berlin Center Grange No. 272.

A QUERY.

A correspondent writes: "Will some one who knows, tell us whether a Grange has any authority over a member who has not paid dues for a year or more, and can he be denied a demit if he pay dues according to by-laws, that being the only offense."

REPLY.

Refer to Art. XIII., Section 10, Par. 1, p. 27, State Grange By-Laws, which reads: "Any member in good standing, and clear on the books of the Grange, is entitled to a demit or withdrawal card upon application therefor, and the payment of twenty-five cents." Also Par. 7: "Applications for demits, or withdrawal cards, must be made in writing at a regular meeting of the Grange; and if the fees and dues are paid, and no charges preferred against the applicant, the Grange cannot legally refuse to grant the same."

WHAT SCHOOL SHALL I ATTEND?

Twenty years ago the young person rarely had occasion to ask this question. No choice was offered to him then. The question that troubled him then was, "Can I attend school at all?" Times have changed. Under favorable circumstances every young person has an opportunity to attend some school. This being an age of specialism he turns kindly to the normal school, the business school, the shorthand school, etc. In response to the demand, a great variety of schools have been organized in every state in the union. Eight years ago, the FERRIS INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL of Big Rapids, Michigan, was organized. The attendance the first day was fifteen. On the twenty-third of December, 1892, preceding our holiday vacation, we closed with an enrollment of three hundred and fifty. During the vacation, Michigan has demanded more teachers, more first-class book-keepers, more competent stenographers than we could supply. After reading these facts need any ambitious, hard working enquirer hesitate long in determining what school to attend? If the reader were to select a bank in which to deposit his hard earned savings, he would select one that had been organized for several years—one that had a fine reputation. A young person who desires an education should exercise the same good sense. Tuition rates compare favorably with those of any other similar institution. Board, including room, lights, etc., in private homes \$2.50 a week. Club board \$1.50 to \$1.75 a week. For further information, address the Principal, W. N. FERRIS, Big Rapids, Mich.

SEEDS WANTED.

Clovers, Alsike, Timothy, Red Top, Millets, Etc. Every quality. Can use MIXED lots and TALLINGS. Write for sample mailing envelopes (free). Mention this paper.
THE WHITNEY-NOYES SEED CO.
Binghamton, N. Y.

DO YOU READ

any of the following papers and magazines? If so you can make money by sending to us, thus getting the *Visitor* for nothing in some cases, and in some instances you can get a first-class magazine and the *Visitor* for less than the price of the magazine. Send cash with order. Remember that if you subscribe now you get the *Visitor* until January 1, free.

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	Regu- lar price.	Price with <i>Visitor</i> .
American Agriculturist	\$1.50	\$1.50
Ohio Farmer	1.00	1.35
Farm News	25	65
Western Rural, with Market Review	2.25	2.25
Prairie Farmer	1.00	1.20
Breeders' Gazette	2.00	2.00
Farmers' Review	1.25	1.50
Country Gentleman (state if new)	2.50	2.50
Orange Judd Farmer	1.00	1.20
Green's Fruit Grower	50	75
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O. CLUTE, PRESIDENT
Agricultural College P. O., Mich.

The Lecture Field.

HINTS TO LECTURERS.

Letters From Various People of Experience—Lecturers, Read!

We will suppose that you have recently been elected Lecturer of the Grange in your neighborhood, and that you are glancing about for any helps that may enable you to carry out a successful campaign for the next year. It is a very difficult place to fill—if filled well—and full of discouragements at every turn, but if the Lecturer performs his part well, the Grange must to some extent prove successful.

I should secure a small, cheap blank book, if convenient to carry in the coat pocket, all the better. I should at once look up and note the dates for meetings for the whole year and leave several pages for each meeting.

In this "dummy" I place topics of importance, and those that are reasonable, opposite the appropriate dates. In this connection I glance over the list of members, which I have complete with post office address of each in my book, and see where I want and how many times I want each member. I do not pretend to fill the dummy at once, but as I meet each member from time to time, I shall try to interest him in the cause, get his favorite topics, and secure a promise for future work. I should keep a sharp eye for live topics, especially those which are unique and not already worn threadbare. I should make notes and cut slips for the dummy, which will gradually become worthy of a better name. The office of Lecturer gives free scope to the broadest and best trained mind of the most alert person. There must be a constant effort at variety, to be sure, and get something every little while that will arouse the enthusiasm of every member to do his best.

Topics can be picked up from current papers of the day, from programs of farmers' institutes, from agricultural reports, more especially from those printed in other states than our own. It must not be considered a failure if only a moderate number of the older members attend, even when a meeting is held in the day time for their especial benefit. The old members like topics which call out their experience in early days when this country was new. They like to tell what they did in the good old times. There should be sometimes a day meeting and a special effort to call "back numbers" together for a reunion.

Occasional help from those not belonging to our particular Grange will be beneficial, but nothing will interest a member so much as to be aroused to make personal efforts at speaking, debate, reading, etc. Unless he be set to work, or induced to find something to do in the Grange, he won't think it amounts to much, and he is likely soon to drop out.

Avoid topics which are too broad or general in their nature. It is better to itemize the subject, assigning a particular part to one person. For example: Instead of placing the subject "Indian corn" and leaving it at that, divide it up:

- a. Time and manner of selecting the seed.
- b. The best varieties for our neighborhood.
- c. Preparation of the soil. The proper rotation among other crops.
- d. Cultivation: Tools, method, times.
- e. Harvesting, cutting, shocking, husking, storing.
- f. Threshing, cutting stalks, putting into the silo.

Some letters from persons once members who have moved away. Try an occasional correspondence with someone in a distance Grange, perhaps in a distant state.

There are one or more meetings for the children, a picnic, a meeting for exhibits of farm products, possibly a day for physical contests, a visit to another Grange, an institute, a drama, a meeting devoted to singing and music, a masquerade, debates will be just the thing, perhaps, a local paper, a contest, a spelling school, a social. Topics of a substantial character pertaining to live stock, farm crops, or management, the school, the Agricultural college; legislation in

state and nation must not be crowded out.

Former reports and notes in former numbers of the VISITOR have contained most or all of these suggestions and many of them more than once, but there are new members who may not have thought of all of these hints.

Attendance at every meeting is important, and then the Lecturer should hustle around among the members, as though he were working to secure votes for election to some honorable and remunerative position.

W. J. BEAL.

Agricultural College.

A Lecturer, in order to make the most of the time and talent put at his disposal, should early in the year develop some definite plan with a purpose in view. Just what this plan may best be must be determined to fit the individual case; perhaps the pursuance of some special line of study, which should occupy a stated portion of the evening, the remainder of the time to be devoted to varied literary work.

We have seen farm and household topics carried through the year; a brother having charge of the farm, planning barns and out-buildings, and as the season progressed, crops were planted and garnered and the various duties given careful attention. In like manner the sisters built and furnished a model house, caring for fruit, dairy, etc.

The contest system seems to have fulfilled its mission; in our case we found it more satisfactory to divide the Grange into classes, putting such a number into each class as to fill out a good program; each class is assigned an evening. The work will be for merit rather than points.

Flora, Ceres, and Pomona days should become established festivities. The meeting nearest the birthday of an author affords a good opportunity for an evening devoted to the study of literature.

Public notes make a good change from quotations. The assignment of farm crops to various members to ascertain the cost of producing, and testing experimental methods will be found profitable and interesting.

While it is important for the Lecturer to know what each can do best, yet to accomplish the most good, to assist in rounding out and developing, a careful study should be made of individual needs, helping the diffident and calling out latent talent.

MARY C. ALLIS.

Adrian.

Sample Topics.

Roll call, responses—Quotations about winter; news of the day.

Paper, followed by general discussion—Winter care of vegetables.

Debate—Has the purchase of Alaska justified itself?

Debate—Does the United States need a navy?

Paper—The indebtedness of the United States.

General talk—A bird's-eye view of the Chicago World's Fair grounds and buildings as completed up to the present time. Use all obtainable charts, maps and pictures for this exercise.

General talk, led by lecturer—The geology of this neighborhood.

General talk—Legislative doings.

Paper—Patents. Who may obtain them. What may be patented. What do patents insure?

Explanation and discussion of the Agricultural reading course advocated by the State Grange, with a view to securing readers and using the books in our Grange program.

A series of five-minute papers:

General topic—Bread.

1. Quality of flour and yeast.

2. White bread.

3. Brown bread.

4. Personal experiences.

5. Stale bread.

WASHINGTON DAY, FEB. 22.

Open with a "Colonial Collection" made-up of all the antique articles that can conveniently be brought together.

Roll call—Sentiments about our country.

Brief papers or talks—George Washington:

1. As a citizen.

2. As a soldier.

3. As a patriot.

4. His "better half."

Select reading of a patriotic poem or a prose sketch, such as, for instance, "A man without a country," by E. E. Hale, several members taking turns in the reading.

Mt. Vernon at the World's Fair (See Chicago Inter Ocean, Jan. 3, 1893).

LINCOLN DAY, FEB. 12.

[Adopted from *The Chautauquan*

with the sincere hope that many Granges will try it.]

A Rail Party.

If the Grange can assemble in a room having an old-fashioned fireplace it will add greatly to the interest of the occasion; an open grate or stove, however, will well serve the purpose. The mantlepiece should be draped with flags and a picture of Lincoln, or several of them, placed over it. Each member of the circle is to come bringing a miniature fence rail, and is to be prepared to tell some part of Lincoln's history.

That all may be arranged in proper sequence, special topics must be assigned beforehand and called for in consecutive order by numbers. The following may be found a helpful arrangement: 1. Lincoln's ancestors and other relatives. 2. Childhood. 3. Education and love of books. 4. Personal appearance and physical strength. 5. First attempts at public speaking and at writing. 6. First business adventures. 7. Connection with the Black Hawk war. 8. Love and marriage. 9. Life as a lawyer. 10. Early political life and speeches. 11. Lincoln as president. 12. As commander-in-chief of the army. 13. The emancipation proclamation, and his life-long hatred of slavery. 14. His death. 15. His character. 16. His biographers. The number of topics may be increased or diminished to suit the requirements of each Grange.

The telling of these bits of history may represent the splitting of the rails—for diffident talkers it will not require a very great stretch of the imagination to perceive some likeness between the two acts—but each must follow the example of the great "rail splitter," and do his best possible. When each has finished his part his rail is to be thrown down upon the hearth. When all are done there will be a pile of rails ready for use.

Their use on this occasion is to serve as fagots. One after another, now in no regular order, is to tell a story, either one about Lincoln or one that he told if these should prove too difficult to find, any story of the civil war may be substituted. As each begins, he is to draw out one of the rails, throw it on the fire, and while it burns tell his story, which, as in the "fagot parties" now in vogue; must be adapted in length as to consume just the time the rail does in burning. If the rails are not patterned after some uniform model, it should be a rule that no one be allowed to draw out the one he contributed to the pile. After the stories are done there can be a general conversation around the fire regarding the whole subject in general.

Notices of Meetings.

ALLEGAN POMONA.

The annual meeting of the Pomona Grange of Allegan county will be held with Allegan Grange January 19, commencing at 10:30 A. M. There will be the election and installation of officers and reports from the retiring officers, with suggestions for the good of the county organization supplemented by an interesting program. Patrons, do you not know that "Well begun is half done?" Then rally to this meeting and make it one of our best, which will give an impetus to the meetings to follow.

Lecturer Allegan Co. Pomona Grange.

An adjourned meeting will be held first Thursday in Feb'y at Centerville Grange hall for the purpose of finishing up the business of January 5, 1893. All members are requested to be present.

MRS. HENRY COOK, Secretary.

WESTERN POMONA.

Western Pomona Grange No. 19, will hold its annual meeting with Talmadge Grange, January 26 and 27. A good attendance is requested. At our last meeting held with Olive Center Grange the following resolution was adopted:

"That any Grange in the jurisdiction, wishing a session of Western Pomona during the year, be instructed to send in their request at this meeting. The invitations to be placed in charge of the Executive Committee for disposal."

MRS. H. J. AUSTIN, Secretary.

HILLSDALE COUNTY POMONA

Grange will hold its next meeting with Wheatland Grange No. 273, at their hall at Church's Corners, Thursday, February 2, 1893, commencing promptly at 10 o'clock A. M. The following program will be carried out:

Business meeting in forenoon.

Dinner at 12 o'clock.

Afternoon session open to the public.

Music furnished by Wheatland Grange choir.

Welcome address by Sister Alice Pease.

Response, Bro. S. E. Haughey.

Recitation, Sister Mina Trugley.

Paper "Poultry Raising," Bro. L. D. McClave, followed by discussion.

Select Reading, Sister Phebe Perrin.

Music, Sister Etta Bolev.

Essay, Sister J. B. Phillips.

Music, Bro. Fred Myers.

Paper, Bro. Bert Williams.

Discussion.

Dialogue, Bro. Carl Crittenden and Arthur Taylor.

Original Poem, Sister Belle Moore.

Music, Bro. and Sister Haughey.

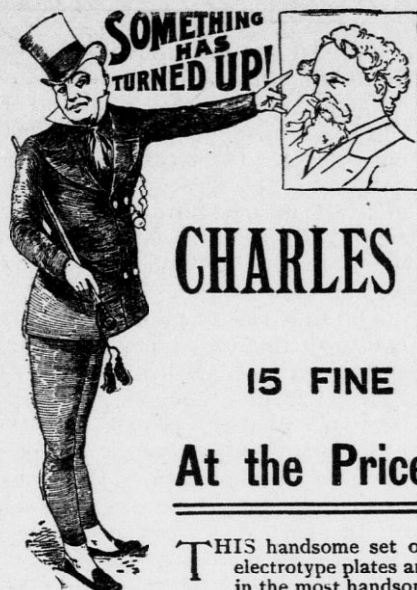
Paper, Bro. M. H. Walworth.

Question Box, Sister Jessie Sabin.

Interspersed with other work we are not prepared to report. Brothers and Sisters come; you are welcome and will have a profitable session.

MRS. E. D. NOKES, County Lecturer.

DIED—January 2, Bro. Horace Sayles, a prominent and much esteemed Brother of Palmyra Grange No. 212.



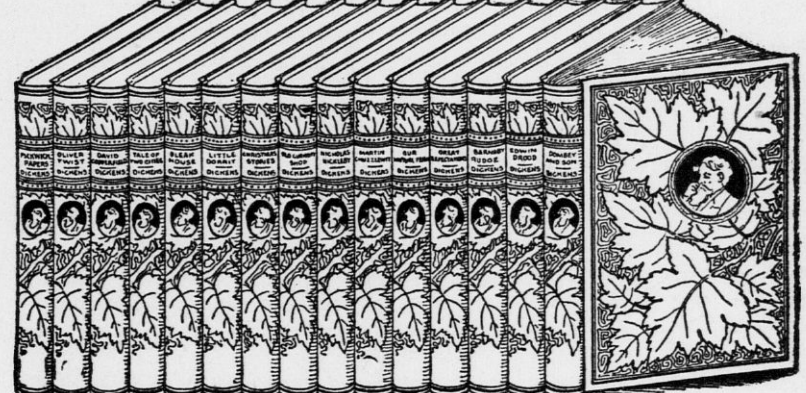
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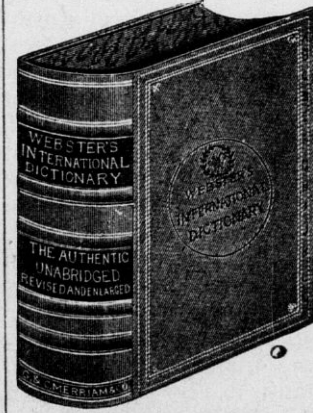
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THE GRANGE VISITOR, Lansing, Mich.

Ladies' Department.

BRINGING HOME THE COWS.

When potatoes were in blossom,
When the new hay filled the mows,
Sweet the paths we trod together,
Bringing home the cows!

What a purple kissed the pasture,
Kissed and blessed the alder boughs,
As we wandered slow at sundown,
Bringing home the cows!

How the far-off hills were gilded
With the light that dream allows,
As we built our hopes beyond them,
Bringing home the cows!

How our eyes were thronged with visions,
What a meaning wreathed our brows,
As we watched the cranes, and lingered,
Bringing home the cows!

Past the years, and through the distance,
Thrills the memory of our vows,
Oh that we again were children,
Bringing home the cows!

CHARLES G. ROBERTS,
in January Lippincott's.

WOMEN IN THE GRANGE.

JENNIE BUELL.

Feminine life in the country stands depicted in two contrasting pictures in the poems of Whittier. The one is of a farmer's daughter, Maud Muller, who in her "torn hat"

"looking down
On her feet so bare and her tattered gown,"

has been the generally accepted ideal of rustic maidenhood. The truth is, she looks backward over what has been.

The other, a farmer's wife, in that exquisite setting of "Among the Hills," faces what is to be and has already begun. For there is a womanly farm life in some homes that provokes us, too, to wonder in the lines of the poet

"Before her queenly womanhood
How dared our hostess utter
The paltry errand of her need
To buy her fresh-churned butter?"

As there are women in every other avenue seeking to rise above "the level stretches white with dust" of motiveless drudgery, so they of the agricultural communities have touched their every-day living with higher inspirations,

"And culture's charm and labor's strength
In rural homes united."

If the public was astonished twenty odd years ago to see farmers fairly flock by thousands into an organization of their own, how they would have rubbed their Rip Van Winkle eyes could they have looked forward and seen what that movement meant to those farmers' wives and daughters!

The founders of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry recognized that all life needs both its complementary halves, the strength, the wisdom of masculine qualities, and the gentleness, the love of the feminine, else results must be crude and opinions biased, therefore woman was called. She was needed beside the man to make of the Grange its highest ideal, an enlarged country home.

Think what it must have meant a quarter of a century ago to country women to come together once a week or fortnight and spend a social evening with their husbands and brothers. How lonely it had all been before! Days and days shut in with only her own thoughts and seldom seeing faces besides those of her own family, is it a wonder the mind grew distracted, turning on itself, and weak in its power to handle social amenities or topics of the larger world beyond her door-yard? Timid, shrinking, all empty of conceit, not guessing the abilities that were latent within her, she came to the Grange. She drank eagerly, deeply. New wheels of thought began to revolve in her brain as she worked. So it was that the weary worn woman of the farm, one often read about as if she had no ideas higher than her pantry-shelf nor deeper than her butter tubs, whose conversation, amid all the wealth of "nature's best bestowing" must needs have been of poultry and puddings and whose hands were briar-torn and sun-tanned, incapable it was thought of dainty cunning, found a sustenance in her own province. Neighbors revealed new virtues to her, music from many voices stirred her soul as never before, books and papers held out hands of greeting that once she fancied were only for the leisurely. She did the best she could with it all. She listened and learned; she set splendid tables at the frequent feasts. This much she could do.

Gradually she dared to raise her voice, she counseled, she executed, she bore her part in all the exer-

cises. In many instances she grew skilled in parliamentary practice, or became an accurate clerk or a lecturer whose words move to better living. In local, state and national sessions, at institutes, picnics, assemblies, fairs and festivals, wherever farmers' families came together to enjoy and to improve, woman had a share.

Did they talk of plowing and pie-making? But they talked of poetry and piety, too! Of hems and hems, harrowing and hedging? So did they of history, health and the heathen! For farmers are but people, and human nature, the world over, discusses something outside of its every day work when once the harness is off.

The Grange grew more and more educational in its scope, although casting off none of its practicality. At the same time it shed, like so many excrescences, those whose love of money had induced them to join.

In the progress of the years, woman's field widened. No longer could she sit still, a satisfied gainer; she must become a giver as well. The national body appointed a "Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange." The idea was transmitted through thirty-four State Granges to their thousands of subordinate societies. It is the mission of these committees to further every legitimate work of the Order. Really they are only another fraternal tie to bind the women of farm land closer in interest and in action.

Especially have such committees taken into their province the care and training of the young in the homes, reading clubs and juvenile Granges, places of meeting are furnished like homes, flowers are sent to the sick, the sorrowing and the poor, libraries are established, Grange papers aided in editing and by contributions, and funds are being raised for a Ceres Temple to be the home of the Order at Washington, D. C. All these and many, many more are the channels through which the efforts of women are flowing. Each committee chooses its own work, the best it can do. One Grange of our State this year has begun the beneficent fresh air work; for the giving of a rest,—and such a rest!—to one poor soul and body famished girl is but a beginning, I believe, of what is to be done through the Grange hearts and hearths for the sickened, wasting vitality of our city sisters.

The Woman's Work in Michigan Granges has been carried on during the past year under the State leadership of Mrs. Mary A. Mayo, herself a practical home-keeper on a Calhoun county farm, as well as an efficient and popular lecturer on topics of keen interest to agricultural classes.

It is not easily told, the whole significance of all this. Women everywhere, in or out of the Order, the farmer's wife and she who does not know the smell of clover nor low of cows, all are affected by the fact that women are in the Grange.

We rise and fall together. Perhaps no one has had the opportunity to judge of what the Grange, opened to women, indicates, as Mrs. Harty Hunt Woodman has had, whose name has been in the list of officers of the National Grange or upon its Woman's Work committee most of the time since their inception. In a recent letter she sums it up in these words:

"There never was nor can be such an awakening among the wives and daughters of farmers as our organization has brought about. It surpasses anything I have ever known. No local society, or sectarian gathering of any kind, can bring together the talent, combined with general knowledge and physical strength. They are always ready to respond in the Grange to any call that may be made, but outside the gate they are diffident and only listeners. The time is soon coming when their light will shine beyond and all will feel and know that our organization has developed the mind of woman more than the most sanguine dared to hope for. The founders of our Order are jubilant every year we meet in our annual sessions because of the work woman is doing. As they organized they made her a part of the Grange, knowing that if husband and brother had wife and sister with them it would be perpetual."

Mention the VISITOR in writing to advertisers.

ARE FARMERS' WIVES ENTITLED TO GREATER CONVENIENCES IN THE HOME?

MRS. C. H. PIKE.

It would seem almost as if this question was without argument when we consider the important position occupied by the farmers' wives of this country, and we wonder why it is that these evils of inconvenience in rural homes exist to such an extent to call for public mention. We look upon the average farmer and see in him a man who loses little by comparison with other men; he is usually kind and pleasant in his family, enjoying his home and home society in a manner that is a credit to his taste and moral character. He thoroughly understands his business and can run a farm on scientific principles, getting every bit of value out of an acre. He knows how much his teams can stand and he will not overtax them. If the load pulls hard he puts on three horses. A considerate man is he, for his stock and land represent money value.

But it is when he attempts to draw up a plan to build a house that his genius is most apparent and we have striking illustrations of his judgment in this line all through the country. Still it is only right to say there are many exceptions and we can all think of almost ideal farm houses where we have visited in which housekeeping is almost a poem, because the conveniences are as near perfection as is possible in rural districts. But to return to the average farm house; it must look well on the outside, for a good farmer is justly proud of fine looking buildings. He draws up a plan and suggestions offered by his wife usually fall upon a deaf ear. Who is clever enough to convince him that it makes a particle of difference how the partitions are set inside? Don't you remember, when building your new house, you almost had to have a battle to get him to consent to have a clothes press? Wasn't he determined also to make the bedroom below stairs about six feet square? And when he came to the woodshed wasn't his plan (and heaven only knows why) to have one step down between that and the kitchen? I know of a man who built a house without a pantry. He made a cupboard for dishes and his wife had to keep everything in the cellar and make trips up and down the stairs to set the table; so much vital force wasted that took years from her life. I know of another man who despite his wife's entreaties built the kitchen fifteen feet back from the dining room because he thought if it was apart from the house they would not be troubled with flies and through sunshine and shadow, rain and storm she runs from the dining room down steps across the green into the kitchen, takes a plate of meat in one hand, a coffee pot in the other and makes the journey back up three steps setting her table in this way three times a day. If this woman's health should break down under this strain and she should become fretful and nervous and complaining the verdict of mankind would be "She is as cross as a bear," and no man could be made to believe that continual chafing against inconveniences had anything to do with it. A fitting epitaph for some of our tombstones might be: "The load pulled hard but the man did not put on the third horse."

Conveniences make work a pleasure. Even the most menial tasks lose much of their disagreeable flavor if the surroundings are what they should be. Washing dishes can be made a positive attraction by a nice clean table, a bright dish pan, plenty of soap and hot water, and soft, clean dish towels. Blacking a stove is not an unpleasant task at all if you have a decent thing to black. An old, nasty, cracked affair in a dark corner of a dark kitchen calls for but little enthusiasm on the part of a tired farmer's wife; but change the scene, put in another window to let in the sunshine, throw out the old nasty affair and bring in a modern stove or range (and it need not be expensive), and how easily will the blacking brush come out of its corner and perform its mission, and the task accomplished, made pleasant by the happy surroundings, I'll warrant that the stove will smile out a "thank you" so warm

and hearty that you can't but catch the contagion and return the smile.

The farmer keeps pace with the world in regard to new inventions in the line of farm tools, but seems utterly oblivious to the fact that times have also advanced in the line of tools for housekeeping. He becomes accustomed to hearing complaints of hard work and lack of conveniences, and he pays no more attention to them than he would to a green bottle-fly trying to dash out its brains against the window pane. But many times the lack of proper conveniences in the home is traceable to thoughtlessness, or a scarcity of the mighty dollar, which latter has for a few years past sadly crippled the best intentions of the farmer. When he is forced by a gigantic monopoly to sell his wheat for less per bushel than it costs him to produce it, he is not wholly responsible for a lack of conveniences in his home. Did you ever think what would be the condition of the country if the farmers' wives should go out on a strike? The business of farming would instantly be paralyzed, so would the whole country. Even the 68 cent wheat couldn't be harvested because a farmer can't get harvest hands to work for him unless there is a woman at the wheel grinding out feed. If the farmers are the backbone of the nation, their wives are the other 207 bones that make up the anatomy. We might spare the milliners and dressmakers for we could go back to first principles, but the farmers' wives are as utterly indispensable to the farm and the world as the light from the sun; and considering their important position, who will say that they are not entitled to all the conveniences to lighten the labor that the kindness and ingenuity of man can possibly devise?

THE SIZE OF HEAVEN.

The following remarkable calculation on the capacity of heaven, which is a curiosity in its way, is taken from Bombaugh's "Gleanings of the Curious." The basis of the calculation, which will furnish much food for thought, is found in Revelation xxi, 16, "And he measured the city (the New Jerusalem) with a reed, 12,000 furlongs. The length, the breadth and the height are equal."

Let us, see: Twelve thousand furlongs, 7,920,000 feet, which, being cubed, is 948,088,000,000,000,000,000,000 cubic feet. Half of this we will reserve for the throne of God and the court of heaven; half the remainder for streets, leaving a balance of 124,198,272,000,000,000,000 cubic feet. Divide this last by 4,096, the cubical feet in a room sixteen feet square, and you will find that there is still enough left for 30,321,843,750,000,000,000 rooms!

We will now suppose that the world always did and always will contain 990,000,000 of inhabitants, and that a generation lasts thirty-three and one-half years, making in all 2,570,000,000 for each century, that the world will stand 1,000 centuries, making in all 2,970,000,000,000 inhabitants. Then suppose there are 100 worlds equal to this in point of inhabitants and duration of years, making 297,000,000,000,000, then heaven, according to the measurement above, is large enough to allot one hundred rooms each sixteen feet square to each human soul.

FROM AN OLD FRIEND.

TO THE EDITOR AND OUR DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF THE ORDER—First we will address a few words of commendation to our young and worthy editor of the GRANGE VISITOR. We congratulate you in making the VISITOR so much of a success. It shows you have energy and ability to conduct a first-class paper. All it needs now is a liberal patronage to carry the good work forward to make it a complete success in the future. Now, dear Patrons, what is the matter with us? Why have we permitted the VISITOR to languish and pine for want of support? We think it cannot be the editors' fault, for they have seemingly put forth their best efforts to make it a paper to serve the best interests of the Grange and farmers in general. Through it we have been informed on various things of which we might have remained ignorant all

our days if it had not been for our neglected but beloved VISITOR. Its mission has been to educate, stimulate, and strengthen the members of our Order, and this it has never failed to do, when it has been taken and read with any degree of interest. We never could see just why Patrons of our Order did not support our Grange papers better than they do, unless it is because (please pardon us if wrong) they think more of the mighty dollar than they do of the education and welfare of the agricultural class.

We have been almost on the point of scolding, sometimes, to see the indifference manifested by members in regard to reading Grange literature; even Masters and Secretaries have been known not to take a Grange paper which would have been to them of material aid in their Grange work. Now brothers and sisters we think the best thing for us to do is to rally to the support of the GRANGE VISITOR; let every family that belongs to the Grange take it, and then get as many outside the Order to take it as we can. The VISITOR will then become a financial success and a paying investment to all who read it. There! So much for this time and for the good of our noble Order.

We remain as ever a champion for the GRANGE VISITOR and the Grange cause.

AUNT KATE.

LABOR AND WAIT.

[Read by Mrs. Ellen Rumsey before Newburg Center Grange.]

"Let us then be up and doing
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving; still pursuing
Learn to labor and to wait."

The present only is ours. The future is not our own and the past has gone forever. Then if we would accomplish anything we must improve the present moments. There is no time to be wasted in vain pursuits, either to gratify an idle curiosity or to satisfy the tastes of others. We should have our determination and principles well fixed for life and be sure that we are not deceived in our choice. It should be our constant aim to live an honorable and upright life in the sight of both God and man.

There is no one living without some object in view, however good or indifferent that object may be. It is true there are some that pass through life, scarcely aware that they are considered among the living, moving on day after day with the same smooth, steady pace, never stopping to consider what their course is or where it will lead them in the end.

There never was anything accomplished by sitting still and giving way to every discouragement however small and ever wishing to be rocked in the gentle arms of content, never willing to make the least effort to improve the mind or cultivate the moral qualities.

A person with such habits is to be greatly feared, for no one can pass through life without exercising some influence in society no matter how humbly situated. Then it should be our aim so to live that the memory of our lives may be followed by the conviction that we lived for some high and noble purpose.

Youth is the time to form habits and principles for life. The mind is then in a great degree free from the cares and perplexities of life which in after years demand the attention.

Let us then be up and doing and with renewed energy ascend the rugged hills, ever willing and determined to accomplish all that we undertake, and never give way to the petty discouragements which will doubtless cross our pathway.

While everything passes smoothly and agreeably by we have no means of knowing our resources;

"Let us then be up and doing
With a heart for any fate."

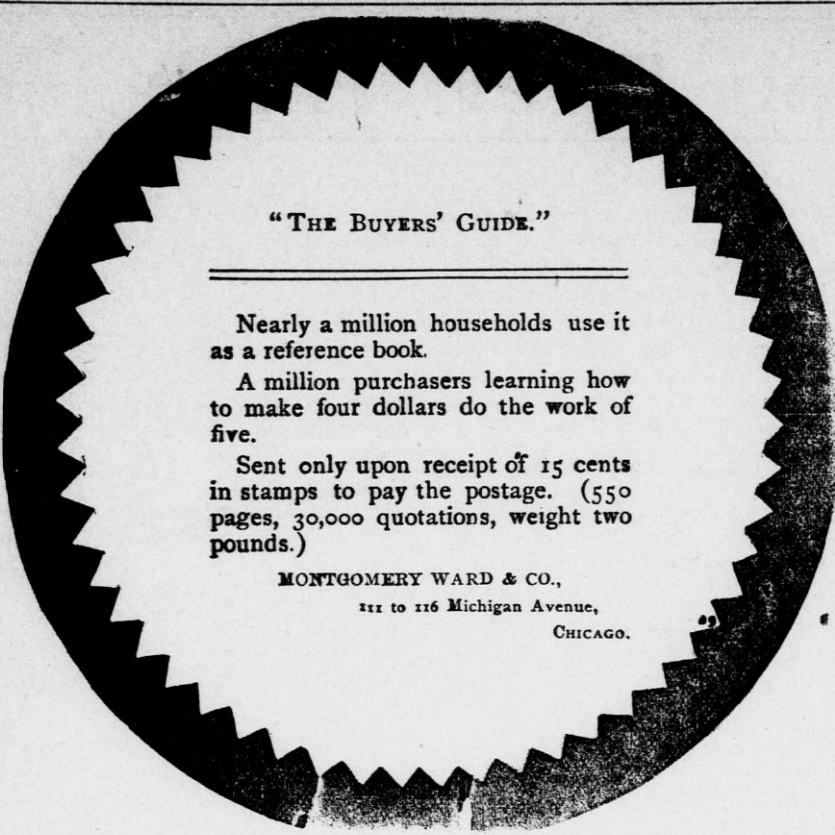
and though we can not now see the reward of our exertions we may rest assured of a future reward.

From time to time for the past seventeen months we have met in this room in the capacity of a Grange, and the scenes enacted at each meeting will have their impression in all coming life, and though we may not dazzle by proud display yet we hope to show to the world that our time has not been wholly unimproved, but that we are steadily and surely approaching the wished for goal, and

"Still achieving; still pursuing"

Will

"Learn to labor and to wait."



"THE BUYERS' GUIDE." Nearly a million households use it as a reference book. A million purchasers learning how to make four dollars do the work of five. Sent only upon receipt of 15 cents in stamps to pay the postage. (550 pages, 30,000 quotations, weight two pounds.)

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The People's Savings Bank of Lansing Mich. Capital, \$150,000.00. W. J. BEAL, President. A. A. WILBUR, Vice President. C. H. OSBAND, Cashier. We transact a general banking business. Pay interest on time deposits. If you have any banking business come and see us. In writing mention THE GRANGE VISITOR.

IF YOU THINK OF GOING ANYWHERE ON EARTH PUT YOUR INQUIRIES IN WRITING AND SEND TO GEO. DE HAVEN, GENL. PASSR. AGENT, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. FULL INFORMATION PROMPTLY GIVEN. What is this Non-pull-out anyhow?

It is the only bow (ring) which cannot be pulled from the watch. To be had only with Jas. Boss Filled and other watch cases stamped with this trade mark. Ask your jeweler for pamphlet. Keystone Watch Case Co., PHILADELPHIA.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Continued from last issue. RAILROAD CAPITALIZATION. In our last annual report we discussed the question of the over-capitalization of railroad properties. We again call attention to the subject. The 170,601 miles of railroads in the United States are capitalized at \$11,110,335,276; over \$60,000 per mile, nearly three times the amount they could be built and equipped for at the present time, and yet these corporations claim the right to tax the business of the country to pay interest on bonds and dividend on stock on seven billions of fiction, and the people are paying on this fictitious valuation a tax of over three hundred million dollars, one hundred millions of which is sent out of the country to pay its foreign owners. We deem this matter of such importance that we incorporate herein the whole of our last year's report upon this subject:

LAST YEAR'S REPORT ON OVER-CAPITALIZATION OF RAILROAD CORPORATIONS.

The method of capitalization of railroad property which has prevailed for the last fifty years, and still continues in this country, is such a gross injustice to the people who are compelled to pay interest and dividends upon inflated capital, that it is surprising that politicians and legislatures should have allowed it to exist so long, or should longer allow it to continue. When individuals or copartnerships so conduct their business that their liabilities exceed their assets, they are compelled either to make an assignment for the benefit of their creditors, or be closed out by attaching process of the court.

When a purely private corporation so conducts its business that its liabilities exceed its assets, a receiver is appointed by the court and its property sold for the liquidation of its debts.

But when a railroad corporation, to whom the state has surrendered a part of its right of eminent domain, sees fit to hypothecate its property for thrice its value, it is allowed to continue in business, and tax the people and industry of the district through which it runs to whatever extent necessary to pay the interest on its bonds, and dividends to the holder of its fictitious stock.

There are one hundred and sixty-seven thousand miles of railroad constructed in the United States, capitalized at sixty thousand dollars per mile, aggregating ten billions of assumed capital, upon which the people of the United States are paying dividends over and above the expense of operations and repairs. If this enormous tax upon the people to pay interest and dividends upon capital at thrice its value was retained and redistributed in this country, it would be less disastrous to our business interests and less oppressive in its effects.

But unfortunately one-third of this capital is owned abroad, and one-third of the interest and dividend is sent out of the country to enrich foreign capital.

Over one hundred millions, and nearer one hundred and fifty million dollars per year are thus drawn from the earnings of American labor with no return. Were it not for this constant outflow of gold or its equivalent in American products, for which nothing is returned, and the average annual balance of trade with foreign countries in our favor, would yield a sufficient increase in our circulating medium to meet all the demands of an increasing trade and commerce, without recourse to fiat money, bank notes, or the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

A number of individuals organize a company under the provisions of the general railroad law, designating the terminal points and the general direction the road is to run. They then proceed to make the survey, entering upon the private property of citizens with or without permission of the owner.

Under the right of eminent domain, which the state has surrendered to them, they proceed to condemn the right of way through grounds or buildings, regardless of the wishes or interests of the owner. Having thus secured the right of way, their franchise is established and the construction of the road is begun. The next thing to do is to issue bonds for its construction and equipment.

These bonds, for the purpose of attracting European capital, are made payable, principal and interest, in gold. The amount of bonds to be issued is based upon the credit they hope for, and not upon the estimated cost of the road. If they think that their franchise can float \$25,000 per mile they will issue bonds to that amount and stock to an equal or greater amount. Having constructed and equipped the road at a cost of from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per mile with the proceeds of the sale of their bonds, the difference of \$10,000 per mile the corporations proceed to add to their princely private fortunes, leaving the bonds as a perpetual charge upon the patrons of the road. Not being personally responsible to the purchasers of the bonds for either principal or interest, the corporations, if they choose, might here abandon the road to the holders of the bonds, content with the profit of \$10,000 per mile thus acquired.

But they still have twenty-five thousand dollars per mile in stocks upon which they may draw semi-annual dividends of from three to five per cent, if the necessities of the people will give business enough to the road to earn it.

So they proceed to charge their passengers all the law will permit, and tax their freight all the traffic will bear. Thus the producers and consumers whose products and supplies are handled by the road are forced to pay interest upon a fictitious capital of thirty-five thousand dollars per mile for all time. This is a fair epitome of railroad building in the United States, and the manner in which the vast fortunes of the railroad kings are acquired.

It is thus that the American people are taxed to pay annual interest at more than five per cent on more than five billions of fictitious capital, a tax equal to half the entire expenditure of the government, and more than four dollars per head for every man, woman and child in the republic. This ought not to be permitted or endured. We are willing and desirous that the tariff rates of railroads should be sufficiently high to afford better wages to their employes, especially the trainmen, whose dangerous

occupation entitles them to better remuneration.

We are willing that the management should be paid for their experience and ability even to the princely salary they now receive; and we are willing that the railroad corporations should have a fair remuneration for the use of the capital actually entering into the cost of the road, equal to, or even greater, than the average earned by capital invested in other business. But we are not willing to be overtaxed to the amount of three hundred million dollars a year, or any other sum to gratify the insatiable greed of railroad corporations.

Having pointed out the evils of over-capitalization of railroads, we may be asked to suggest a

REMEDY.

What would you do to avoid the continuance of this unjust taxation by railroad corporations to pay interest and dividends on fictitious capital already issued?

And what would you do to prevent the continuance of fictitious capitalization? To avoid the continuance of this unjust taxation we would empower and make it the duty of the commissioners of railroads in the several states, or the Inter-State Commerce Commission of the United States to ascertain the present value of every railroad; by which we mean what it would cost to build and equip the road at the present time equal in all respects to its present condition.

We would also have the commissioners make an inventory of the bonds outstanding against the road and the face value of the stock issued, and if the two exceeded by fifty per cent the value of the road, declare it insolvent, have a receiver appointed by the courts to take charge and sell it in liquidation of its liabilities.

To prevent in the future such fictitious capitalization, we would empower the commissioners to supervise the issuing of stock and bonds, and to limit the face value of the stock to the estimated cost of the road and its proper equipment; and the amount of the bonded debt to one-half the capital stock. And when the net earnings of a road over the cost of repairs and running expenses, including a fair salary to its officers, exceeded six per cent per annum upon the capital stock and bonds, compel a lowering of the tariff schedules to the extent of such excess.

THE SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST LAW.

This law, which seems to be ample in its provisions to prevent the formation of trusts and combines detrimental to the interests of the people, for want of execution has failed to accomplish the object desired. We recognize the fact that it is much easier to enact laws forbidding wrongful conduct and fix penalties for their violation, than it is to procure proofs that will secure conviction in our courts. If the law is at fault in this respect it should be so amended as to give ample power to the department of justice to secure any existing evidence of its violation and then it should be energetically enforced.

We ask an early passage of the Washburn Anti-Force Law, that it may be put into force before the next harvest is ready for the market. We also ask the enactment of a pure food law that will prevent the sale of genuine of any counterfeit or adulteration of farm or food products. We favor such a change in our naturalization laws as shall refuse the right of the ballot to future foreign immigrants who cannot speak and read the English language. We also favor the extension of the elective franchise to every woman twenty-one years old and a citizen of this State, who can read and write the English language.

THE TAX LAW.

We protest against any amendment of the tax laws, that will prevent the assessment for taxation of real estate mortgages or other personal property or choses in action.

- J. G. RAMSDALL, Chairman. R. H. TAYLOR, H. H. DRESSER, H. H. HINDS, F. W. REDFERN, H. D. PLATT, G. B. HORTON, THOMAS MARS, JENNIE BUELL, Ex officio.

AN INNOVATION IN CREAM MAN-AGEMENT.

The following is some editorial correspondence in the Rural New Yorker from Ellerslie, the home of Vice President Morton's Guernsey herd:

Leaving the barn we walked into the dairy house, a neat building with every facility for the work. A small steam engine furnishes the power, it has a De Laval separator, revolving churn, apparatus for cooling and aerating, butter-workers, etc., with an abundant supply of water, hot and cold, and a cooling room with abundance of ice.

"Are you using the accumulator now?" said the Rural.

"No. We do not think that the accumulator is perfect yet. We gave it a trial, as you remember, being present, and on that occasion it did its work well, taking out all the fat. But we could not rely on it—sometimes it would leave seven per cent of the fat in the milk, so we gave it up. But we make sweet cream butter all the same—our patrons like it best."

"What methods do you pursue?" "That makes quite an interesting story. We had quite a hard time in getting down to our present successful plan, and very much of our success is due to the skill and patience of our butter maker, Mr. L. E. Benedict. He has a decided taste for investigation, which was given full scope in the matter, and

we finally came out all right. When the evening milking is about one-quarter done the separator is started and the milk, warm from the cows, is run through it. In a few minutes after the milking is done the cream is all separated. It is at once aerated and cooled with an Evans & Heuling machine (cooler and aerator), getting it down to about 40. It is then put into the cooling room and held at that temperature until the next morning. The morning milk goes through the same process and as soon as it is cooled the night and morning creams are mixed together and churned."

"At what temperature do you churn?"

"At from 36 to 39 degrees."

"Thirty-six to thirty-nine!—why that is revolutionary. How long, pray, does it take to complete the churning process with the cream at that low temperature?"

"You will be surprised when I tell you that it takes only from twenty to thirty minutes. When we began to churn sweet cream we started in with the cream at a temperature of 62 degrees. But that was not satisfactory. In spite of our most careful painstaking work the Babcock tester applied to the buttermilk showed that we were losing about two per cent of our butter fat. We then began a gradual reduction of the temperature, testing the buttermilk carefully all the time. The indications were favorable—we were on the right track. When we had got down to 36 to 39 degrees, we found we were practically getting all the fat, but the buttermilk showing only about one-twentieth of one per cent. As you say, this low temperature churning seems to set aside many preconceived opinions and theories, but it works perfectly with us."

DISEASES OF CATTLE.

A report on Diseases of Cattle, prepared under the direction of Dr. P. E. Salmon, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is about ready to issue from the press. It contains nineteen chapters and, like the horse book, is made of articles prepared by the leading members of the veterinary profession in this country, including many of those who contributed to the report on Diseases of the Horse. Among those contributing to the present volume are Drs. Murray, Harbaugh, Lowe, Law, Trumbower, Salmon, and Smith, and Prof. W. A. Henry of Wisconsin. Among the contributions there are also articles by the late Drs. William Dickson and V. T. Atkinson.

Dr. Law's contributions cover diseases of the urinary organs and the generative organs, also diseases following parturition, and the diseases of young calves. Drs. Salmon and Smith have a report on infectious diseases, which Prof. Henry is represented by an article upon the feeding and management of cattle. Other chapters treat of the administering of medicines, of diseases of the digestive organs, poisons and poisoning, diseases of the heart and blood vessels, non-contagious diseases of the organs of respiration and diseases of the nervous system, bone diseases and accidents, surgical operations, tumors, diseases of the skin, of the foot, and of the eye and ear. The general design of the work is to fill the same place with reference to cattle that the report on the Diseases of the Horse does in regard to horses. The volume consists of 496 pages and contains 44 full-page illustrations.

TEACHING BOTANY.

The aim of the first course of twelve weeks in botany as taught at the Michigan Agricultural College is, as stated by Dr. Beal:

1. To induce students to become accurate and self-reliant observers.
2. To acquire a knowledge of the gross anatomy of plants.
3. To become familiar with the leading technical terms used in describing flowering plants.
4. To gain an insight of plant morphology.
5. To make some careful drawings.
6. To practice describing plants.
7. To learn by observation a few of the ways in which the flowers of plants are fertilized.

Let the Croakers Croak The Extractor-Separator "Gets There Just the Same"

PHILADELPHIA, DEC. 15, 1892.

VERMONT FARM MACHINE CO.,
Bellows Falls, Vermont.

DEAR SIRS—We have used four of your No. 1 U. S. Extractor-Separators constantly since early last spring; part of the time as Cream Separators and part of the time as Butter Extractors.

We received the same price from the commission men for the Extractor butter as for the ripened or sour cream butter.

The last of August and early September we ran through these four machines 42,000 quarts of milk, dry measure, per day, 2½ pounds to the quart, which is 105,000 pounds of milk in a single day.

I have used centrifugal Separators of different kinds for over eight years, and I have never seen any other machine that could do as much work as well and with as little care as these.

We stored our surplus butter in September and October when butter was selling for 24 cents. We sold it recently for 34 and 35 cents.

At the present time we are selling our tub butter for 33 and 35 cents, and our prints for 35 and 38 cents per pound.

The great advantage of your machine over all others is the easy adjustment of its bearings, and greater wearing qualities, its endurance under very severe and continuous work, which is one of, if not the most important point in Separators.

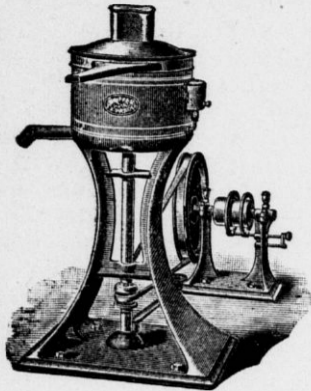
They were often tested when doing the most work and the skimmed milk showed less than one-tenth of one per cent of fat.

One man ran the four machines without help. I am satisfied one man can run six or eight of these machines, they need so little attention.

EUGENE A. SAVAGE, Foreman,
No. 624 Race street, Philadelphia, Pa. FARMERS' CREAMERY CO.

SEND FOR PAMPHLET FULL OF TESTIMONIALS OF THE SAME SORT.

THESE MACHINES ARE MADE IN TWO FACTORY SIZES AND THREE DAIRY SIZES VERMONT FARM MACHINE CO., BELLOWS FALLS, VT.



Did You Ever Think

- 1st. That ten cents worth of Salt will season about thirty dollars worth of food.
- 2d. That the best Salt costs but a trifle compared to the cost of the food it will season.
- 3d. That Salt is used in almost every article of food.
- 4th. That pure Salt add its fine flavor to all food seasoned with it.
- 5th. That impure Salt imparts a bad flavor to food seasoned with it.
- 6th. That a fine Steak may be ruined in flavor by the use of poor Salt.
- 7th. That the best cooks will have the best Salt.
- 8th. That everybody should keep their Salt where it cannot come in contact with foul odors
- 9th. That a cotton bag is no protection to Salt against the foul odors so common in grocery stores.

The Diamond Crystal Salt Co. make the purity of their Salt their greatest aim and by means of a process which they have perfected after years of experience, they are now producing an article which is so nearly free from impurity that it is practically pure.

In this respect it is far superior to any other Salt, as the analysis printed on every box proves. The purest Salt, however, will absorb foul odors, and other impurities from the air if they come in contact with it. Therefore the Diamond Crystal Salt Co. put their Table Salt in an air tight box which prevents it from becoming tainted. This box is made of wood pulp which is sweet and clean and has a removable cover which prevents waste and more than compensates for the slight extra cost.

Diamond Crystal Salt is made and packed the same day. It does not lie exposed for weeks to be drained and cured like other Salt, and thus become impure as is frequently the case. Diamond Crystal is not only pure, it is also beautiful in appearance and soft and velvety to the touch which distinguishes it from other Salt. Try it, test it fully and you will use no other!

Hundreds of people visit our works at Saint Clair, Mich., every year and admire the process which turns out such beautiful Salt simply by the application of steam heat without the use of chemicals, lime, butter, or any of the many substances generally used.

DIAMOND CRYSTAL SALT

Is practically free from lime, magnesia and other impurities. Its FLAVOR is delicious, its STRENGTH unrivaled, its PURITY unequalled. It is refined for BEST TABLE and HOUSEHOLD purposes. It is cheap enough for everybody.

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT!

MICHIGAN STOCK BREEDERS.

All those who wish to purchase pure-bred stock of any description, will find it to their advantage to correspond with some of the following well-known breeders.

SHROPSHIRE SHEEP

We are prepared to furnish Choice Imported, or Home-bred Ewes and Rams at prices as reasonable as any Reliable Breeder can sell. If you wish to start a Flock it will pay you to write us for prices, or better come and see for yourself.

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