

# THE Grange Visitor

ISSUED

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

Michigan State



COMMITTEE OF THE

Grange, P. of H.

VOL. 1.

SCHOOLCRAFT, JULY, 1875.

No. 4.

## Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—J. J. WOODMAN,	- - -	Paw Paw.
O.—P. W. ADAMS,	- - -	Tecumseh.
L.—C. L. WHITNEY,	- - -	Muskegon.
S.—H. FLEMING,	- - -	Pontiac.
A. S.—W. H. MATTISON,	- - -	Ionia.
C.—A. M. FITCH,	- - -	Albion.
SEC.—J. T. COBB,	- - -	Schoolcraft.
T.—S. F. BROWN,	- - -	"
G. K.—A. E. STRONG,	- - -	Vicksburg.
CARR.—MRS. N. CHILSON,	- - -	Battle Creek.
POMONA—MRS. N. R. ADAMS,	- - -	Grand Rapids.
FLORA—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN,	- - -	Paw Paw.
L. A. S.—MRS. W. H. MATTISON,	- - -	Ionia.

## Executive Committee.

NATHANIEL CHILSON,	Chairman and State
Purchasing Agent,	Battle Creek.
SAMUEL LANGDON,	- - - Bowen Station.
ALONZO SESSIONS,	- - - Ionia.
J. WEBSTER CHILDS,	- - - Ypsilanti.
F. M. HOLLOWAY,	- - - Hillsdale.
GEO. W. WOODWARD,	- - - Shelby, Oceana Co.
W. A. WALES,	- - - Disco, Macomb Co.
J. J. WOODMAN,	J. T. COBB, - - - Ex. Officio.

## Deputies.

C. L. WHITNEY,	Gen. Deputy,	Muskegon.
THOS. MARS,	for Berrien Co.,	P. O. Berrien Cr.
EDSON PACKARD,	Gratiot "	" Forest Hill.
P. W. ADAMS,	Lehiwa "	" Tecumseh.
RICH'D MOORE,	Clinton "	" St. Johns.
E. J. HODGES,	Hillsdale "	" Jonesville.
JAS. ANDERSON,	Sauilac "	" Farmers.

THE VISITOR will be issued monthly by direction of the Executive Committee. Each Grange will receive a copy through the Master or Secretary, and it should be read in open Grange for the information of members, at the first meeting after it is received.

Members desiring THE VISITOR sent them for one year, can have it for 50 cents, and in clubs of ten or more, for 40 cents each.

We shall adhere to Grange principles, and require the money with the order.

The last page will be devoted to advertisements, of interest to Patrons, at the following rates:

One column 1 month,	.....	\$12.00
Half " " "	.....	7.00
Quarter " " "	.....	4.00
One-eighth " " "	.....	2.50

On advertisements ordered for three months, a discount of ten per cent. will be made.

On advertisements ordered for six months, a discount of twenty per cent. will be made.

On advertisements ordered for 12 months, a discount of thirty per cent. will be made.

Send money in registered letter, by postoffice money order, or draft, and direct all communications to J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.

Grange No. 599 was organized in Saginaw County by C. L. Whitney and dispensation issued July 17th, 1875.

From the Patron's Helper.

## WHAT IS A PATRON'S GENERAL DUTY?

A Patron's general duty is to sustain the Order in and out of the Grange. Whatever imperfections there may be in its laws or the conduct of those administering the laws, they are the proper subjects of criticism only in the Grange; and when changes are desired or thought necessary, the law making power is the only one that should be resorted to, to affect them. A majority of Subordinate Granges can secure all needed reforms or changes in the laws of the State and National Granges by taking the proper course. The authors of the plan of the Order never pretended that it was perfect in every respect, yet it was accepted and acted upon as the best that was ever presented to the farming class for the purposes designed. Imperfect as it was, in many respects, the need for such an organization caused it to be seized and acted upon to effect the perfect union and co-operation which was to overcome the many evils under which the farming class was suffering. Crude as the organization was in many of its details, those who took hold of it in good faith and determination, were astonished that so much could be accomplished to secure a just return for toils that were before denied them. Wonderful results followed, and more are destined to follow, even under the workings of the first and crude efforts of the self-sacrificing men who presented to the farmer a way by which it was possible to cure all their ills. Its laws, in every essential particular, remain about the same, but there is a cry for changes, and some very radical ones—some good, but some impracticable if we expect to make it an efficient working Order. It must be a law-abiding Order, however, and a proper respect, at least, if not an abiding confidence, must be placed in those who are entrusted with the execution of those laws, if we expect to continue to derive the benefits it has conferred so liberally. Can changes be effected, or a proper respect retained for the Order, either in or out of it, when representations are made publicly by members of the Orders, whether true or false, that those to whom is especially entrusted the power of making the laws, are foolish, corrupt and altogether unfit to represent the Order? Certainly not.—There is but one proper way to effect

such an object, which is through the Order itself, and not by declarations and charges, and unjust insinuations in the public press.

If it is designed to amend the Constitution or By-Laws of the National Grange, the most effective way is through the subordinate Granges instructing the State Granges to represent to the National Grange the necessity therefor. If a sufficient number of subordinate Granges, through their representatives, show that a majority is in favor of any change, the State Granges must so represent to the National Grange. A serious and united effort of this kind always has its influence with the law making power, and cannot be disregarded without good and satisfactory reasons being given. Any other plan to secure changes in our laws is not very likely to be successful, and any one who attempts to alter them in any other way than a legitimate one will do more harm than good. There is too much complaint by some of our brethren through the public press, and even by some of our Granges, in regard to many things done by the powers that be, in every department of the Order; so much, indeed, that those who are honestly and earnestly striving to do all in their power that is expected of them, find their power to do good very much crippled. What inducements have they to remain in their positions, where the greatest self-sacrifice has to be made, except the hope of doing good to their fellow-men? It is ungenerous as well as unbrotherly, to be always complaining or throwing out contemptible insinuations. Can we not find more, much more, to approve than to condemn? Let the subordinate Granges do their duty, and all will go along as merry as a marriage bell.

W. D. W.

## THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

A few sore heads in the Order are exclaiming against the National Grange as an expensive nuisance, and direct their puny shafts at the head of the Order with a silly view to its destruction. Suppose they could succeed to raise a popular clamor against it and overthrow it? How long would it be till they would try the same thing with the State Grange? That too would be an expensive luxury, and must be abolished. Next would go the County Grange, then the Subordinate Grange. Silly disorganizers! Fit tools for our worst enemies. Grange, means a farm. Take away

the master of that farm, and what is the consequence? In our system, a Subordinate Grange is a small district; a County Grange is a larger one; a State Grange, still larger. But there are many States, and these make a National Grange. Here is system, utility, symmetry, beauty, consistency and propriety.—*Monthly Talk*.

### ECONOMY.

This is the watch-word now among the American people, and especially farmers, who have to bear the burdens of excessive taxation and mismanagement generally. These burdens fall principally upon farmers, is not denied; and if it were, it is susceptible of proof that the surplus products of the farm are looked to by government, banker, manufacturer, and man of commerce as the lever by which business affairs are to be maintained, obligations liquidated, and National as well as individual prosperity advanced. "How is the crop?" is the universal cry from every quarter at all times. Anything, therefore, which tends to increase "the crop" by which an increased surplus is secured, is to the interest of every individual. If the farming classes should raise one-third more one year than another, and consume the extra third in such a manner that the surplus of one year would not be greater than that of the other, then no one would be benefitted. Hence the other trades are principally interested in the *surplus*, and not so much in the crop itself. Of course, the greater the crop the greater the surplus is likely to be. But is it *this surplus* to which business men look to make trade easy. To obtain this surplus in exchange, therefore, is the lever which moves commerce and manufactures. It is therefore but natural that the farming classes should be encouraged to economy—extreme economy when crops are light, as also to have offered to them ideas, information and inventions by which their lands may be made to yield more per acre.

The *surplus*, however, is the main-spring, and whether it be obtained by severe economy in the use of home products on the farm, or by an increased yield, of the crop, does not matter so much to any save the farmer, *provided the surplus* is secured to move business. Heretofore economy in consuming home products, and in utilizing brains and muscle, so as to produce more, has been the only means advised or resorted to that this surplus might be increased, and made to answer the purposes of trade. There is nothing known to man in the present degree of civilization which could shed any light as to how farmers might produce more and consume less of their own products, or how lands could be made more fertile with the same labor and capital, that has not been furnished the agricultural classes. When crops are short, there is no degree of economy in feeding stock or family that does not meet with entire approbation from all classes of citizens, no matter how much the necessity is to be regretted. This is all very well, because it is natural. But taxes and combinations and corrup-

ruption have forced upon farmers the necessity of extreme economy in *every* particular. They are forced to economize in the consumption of food which they produce, as also to make two blades of grass grow where only one grew before. In addition to this, they (through organization) have perceived another means of economizing. They propose to make their *surplus* products conduce more to their comfort, so as to induce economy in others, as well as themselves, by exchanging that surplus for other values by means of agents under their own control.

This mode of economy, however, does not meet with so much general approbation, for the reason that it implies the practicable application of a principle, which means that farmers do not intend in future to support idle consumers—human grasshoppers. It means that they propose to extend the sphere of economy, and let it apply, not only to produce more or less expense, but also to buy more or less expense. Here the shoe pinches. This latter plan of economy will disturb the equilibrium of those who wholly or in part have been accustomed to live upon the fat of the land and others' products, by their wits ends, without contributing their *pro rata* share of labor and capital towards increasing the general wealth.—*Monthly Talk*.

### TO MAKE YOUR GRANGE INTERESTING.

There are many ways in which this may be done, but it is not the intention to mention all of them here, nor the most of them. And, indeed, we may fail to mention any of the most successful ones. We only propose to mention a few of such as may occur to us as we write this, late at night, jaded by a day's mental toil and constant writing. The truth is, we are so pressed with this kind of labor that it seems impossible for us to take the necessary time for healthy relaxation and recuperative vigor. But to our subject.

Well, one of the first requisites is, that you be there, and there promptly on time. It is not interesting to few, not quite a quorum, who were there on time, to have to wait for the tardy ones to come straggling in one at a time. Neither is this economy, tho' that is one of our cardinal principles. Promptness is a valuable commodity in every sphere and station in life.—Let every member, as far as possible, be promptly on time at the Grange room.

Be sure to have a kindly word of greeting for every one you meet. It makes all feel better and more cheerful. Let the Master promptly call to order at the minute, then go right along with the work without the loss of a minute, not with a rush, but calmly and steadily until it is through, and then close in due form.

Don't neglect the singing in opening or closing. Have an organ to assist, if you can. Encourage and cultivate a taste for good music, vocal and instrumental. This adds greatly to the interest and pleasure of the Grange,

Always have some interesting topic

of discussion under the proper order of business. The subject should be selected at the meeting preceding the one at which it is to be discussed. Never take up time in discussing frivolous, nonsensical subjects. There is no scarcity of important subjects of interest, that may be profitable to all. But don't wrangle about choosing a subject. A good way is to have a judicious committee to select and report subjects. But ordinarily this will not be necessary in an enterprising or intelligent Grange, for questions sufficient will arise naturally in the course of business to consume more time than they can devote to discussion.

Then the printed reports found in the proceedings of the State Grange afford a number of appropriate and important subjects for you to discuss. Then the various articles in this circular not only ought to be read for information, but taken up and discussed. This will impress the subjects on the minds of the members.

We do not propose to give much trash in this circular, but try to fill it with matter of much real interest to you. And it will be a matter of interest to us to know what you think of it, and whether your views are favorable or unfavorable. Speak out or write to us and tell us what you think of it, and how we can make it better. In all your discussions and correspondence let a spirit of kindness and fraternal regard, as far as possible, prevail. Kind words are always better than harsh ones.

A commodious, conveniently and tastefully arranged Grange hall goes a great way in making a Grange interesting. We know that all cannot have this all at once; it takes time. But persevering effort will accomplish it. Many have them now. All may have them soon, with the proper effort. Furnish the hall, and the sisters will do the ornamentation with the greatest pleasure. Only give them a fair chance.—*Mo Circular*.

The *Son of the Soil* gives the following important information to those who desire to purchase sugar and molasses at New Orleans: "There is no sugar and molasses now in the hands of producers; therefore, as is usual, the price has advanced so that purchases cannot be made here that will be satisfactory to buyer or consumer among the members of our Order.—Patrons must learn the importance of making purchases at the proper season—that is, during the grinding season, October and November—if they wish the lowest rates." During these months they can save from twenty-five to thirty three and a third per cent, over prices after the grinding season has passed."

The Executive Committee of the Ohio State Grange have not, as yet, authorized the business agent to open ware or sample rooms. So far he has been filling all orders direct from the factory or store, and recommending the granges as far as practicable to send their orders direct. The probable amount of purchases by the agency for the past three months will foot up \$300,000 at a saving of from 20 to 30 per cent.

## Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW.

### POMONA GRANGES AND REPRESENTATION IN THE STATE GRANGE.

An impression seems to prevail among some of the members of the Order, "that Pomona Granges were instituted by the National Grange, to provide for a privileged class, who may assume control over the subordinate Granges, and even elect the delegates to represent them in the State Grange."

While it is not my purpose to encourage the organization of Pomona Granges, but to leave the matter wholly to the members of the subordinate Granges, to act as their good judgment and wise discretion may dictate, yet it is my duty as far as possible, to remove any wrong impression that may exist in the minds of any members of the Order, in regard to their origin or object.

So far from the above being correct, the exact opposite is the substantial truth. The founders of the Order, in their wisdom, provided for subordinate Granges in the Fourth Degree, State Granges in the Fifth, and a National Grange in the Sixth Degree. Each subordinate Grange were entitled to two representatives in the State Grange, and each State Grange to two representatives in the National Grange. The idea did not seem to occur to these men, benefactors of mankind, that the subordinate Granges in any State, could ever become so numerous, as to render the State Grange too large, under this basis of representation, to be accommodated in any ordinary hall, or to do business; and that the actual and necessary expenses of the delegates would absorb the entire funds of the State Grange, under the financial system provided by them. As Granges multiplied and the Order increased in numbers, and the business interests began to develop, it became evident that Granges must co-operate in business matters, and that an organization for that purpose must be provided. Accordingly, County and District Councils, (frequently called County Granges,) were formed to supply the want. These Councils (or Granges) were not authorized by the Constitution of the Order, and could not be operated under the laws and usages of the Order; nevertheless they answered the purpose, and have accomplished much good, and should not be abandoned, unless a better and more perfect organization can be substituted. But the subordinate Granges through their representatives, demanded "that County and District Granges should be recognized by the Order; and that Fourth Degree members, elected as delegates to represent the subordinate Granges therein, should be entitled to receive instructions in the Fifth Degree;" also, "that the number of delegates, from the subordinate to the State Grange, be reduced." In obedience to these instructions, the National Grange of 1874, submitted amendments to the Constitution, covering the very points demanded. These amendments were

*ratified by the votes of the delegates of the subordinate Granges in the several State Granges, and thus became a part of the National Constitution. Through the wisdom and foresight of the National Grange, that body assumed no control over Pomona Granges, further than to recognize them as legal organizations of the Order, and permit them to be organized and operated under its Constitution, Rules and Usages, leaving the whole subject of their organization and government wholly under the control of the State and subordinate Granges.*

Pomona Granges need not be organized, unless the subordinate Granges desire them. They pay no dues to either State or National Grange, and have no representation in either.—They do not elect the delegates to represent the subordinate Granges in the State Grange. It is their mission to furnish a medium through which all the subordinate Granges in a County or District may co-operate for their own mutual benefit, "encourage, strengthen and aid the subordinate Granges represented therein," and to bring the lessons of the Fifth Degree within reach of those who have proved themselves worthy, and the subordinate Granges may promote, for their untiring zeal and faithful work in the Order.

A subordinate Grange not clear on the books of the State Grange, cannot take part in the organization of a Pomona Grange; and a list of the delinquent Granges in the County or District making application for a Pomona Grange, will be furnished the organizing Deputy.

#### REPRESENTATION IN THE STATE GRANGE.

The State Grange at its last session, in accordance with the amended Constitution, enacted the following By-Law:

#### ART. III.—MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. The membership of the Michigan State Grange shall consist of the Masters of the Subordinate Granges of the State, who shall be chosen in proportion to one for every five Subordinate Granges in the county, or major part thereof, and their wives who are Matrons. The election of these members to be held in a manner to be determined upon by the Executive Committee of the State Grange.

The Executive Committee of the State Grange will, at their next meeting, determine how such representatives shall be chosen.

"Subordinate Granges that are more than two quarters in arrear for dues to the State Grange, are not entitled to representation therein," neither can they take part in the election of representatives to the State Grange. All delinquent Granges will be notified, and I trust will settle their dues with the State Grange, before the election.

Under the amended Constitution of the National Grange, subordinate Granges may confer more than one degree at a meeting, provided, the degrees are conferred on different candidates.

The National offices of the Order have been removed from Washington to Louisville, Kentucky, and all communications to the Secretary of the National Grange, should be directed there. The offices were closed in Washington on the 17th, and will not be in working order before the 5th of August.

### TRIALS, PENALTIES, AND APPEALS.

"If a member commits an offence against the Order, or any member thereof, charges may be preferred against him by any member of his Grange, and after a fair trial, if found guilty, he may be suspended or expelled by a majority vote."

"A member cannot be tried for acts done before he became a member.—The proper time to pass upon such acts is at his election to membership."

"A member who has been tried by his Grange has the right of appeal to the State Grange."—Digest Rulings of the National Grange.

Charges having been preferred against a member of the Grange, they should be referred to the "Grievance Committee," or if no such committee is provided for by the by-laws of the Grange, to a special committee, to be appointed for that purpose. The committee should proceed to investigate the charge or charges, and if the evidence in the case be of such a nature as to justify a trial by the Grange, they should report that fact to the Grange, together with a "Bill of findings," which should state definitely, the time, place, and nature of each offense charged. The Grange should by resolution fix upon a time and place of trial; and the Secretary of the Grange should serve a notice of the same, together with the "Bill of Findings," under the official seal of the Grange, upon the accused, at least ten days before the day of trial. If, upon the day of trial the accused asks for further time, and can show good cause for such request, it should be granted.

The trial should be conducted similar to a court of justice, the Master of the Grange sitting as judge, and all the members—except near relatives of the accused, and council—as jurors. Any member of the Order in good standing may be employed as counsel on either side. The trial should commence at a regular meeting of the Grange, but may be adjourned from time to time as circumstances may require, and special meetings called for that purpose. Persons not members of the order, may be allowed to testify, and may do so either by deposition or in person; but if permitted to testify in person, they should not be allowed to remain in the room only while giving their testimony; and all signals and private usages of the order should be dispensed with while such persons are present.

When the evidence in the case is all in, and the Grange prepared to take the case and decide upon a verdict, the accused, counsel, and all persons not entitled to vote upon the question, should retire. The Grange should then proceed to vote, either by the voting sign, or by ballot, as a majority of the Grange may direct, upon each charge separately, and if the accused is found guilty upon either of the charges, the Grange must, by resolution, fix the penalty, a copy of which, signed by the Master and Secretary, under the seal of the Grange, should be served upon the accused. The penalty should be either expulsion, suspension, or reprimand. If the accused is found guilty

of violating obligations, the penalty must be expulsion. If the accused feels that injustice has been done him by his Grange, he may appeal to the State Grange. The appeal should be in writing, and should state the charge made, and the penalty inflicted; and the grounds upon which the appeal is taken. This should be sent to the Master of the State Grange, and a copy to the Secretary of the subordinate Grange, within thirty days after receiving notice of the verdict of the Grange.

The Master of the State Grange will keep a record of all appeals, and present the same, in their order, to the State Grange at its next session for review and final decision.

All "members of a subordinate Grange must be tried by the subordinate Grange to which they belong;" "Masters of subordinate Granges and their wives who are Matrons, are members of the State Grange," and "must be tried by the State Grange."

In preferring charges against members of the Order, and in the trial of cases much discretion and caution should be exercised, that no injustice be done the offending member. "To err is human," and "justice should be tempered with mercy." The act must be willful to incur the full penalty of the law. The object of a trial should be to obtain facts, and arrive at just conclusions by which the integrity of the order may be maintained, the rights of members protected, and the erring saved if possible. All evidence of a hearsay nature should be excluded, and all personal and partisan feelings laid aside. Order is nature's first law," and the object of law in the Grange is to preserve order, unity, and harmony, and to protect the rights and good name of the members and the Fraternity from the vile expressions of the wilfully malicious and unprincipled; and while every principle of justice, and the very life of the Order demands that the law should be held supreme, and obedience required, yet in the execution of the laws, "Charity" should be exercised, and due allowance made for the weakness of human nature.

The Executive Committee of the National Grange was in session on the 30th June, at Washington. No decision had been arrived at in regard to the location of its business headquarters. Several propositions, looking to an improvement in the business interests of the Order, were referred. The sum of \$500 was voted in aid of the patrons of Colorado who may be suffering from the ravages of the grasshoppers. Dr. Worrell, representing the co-operative societies of England, was introduced, and submitted a proposition for fraternal co-operation.—Messrs. D. T. Chase and J. T. Jones were appointed a committee to take the subject under consideration.

**GENERAL NOTICE.**—The New York World has taken charge of the Patrons of Husbandry. Advice or reproof furnished gratuitously to members and officers in every department of the organization.

## Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the No. of their Grange.

The following communication explains itself:

NATIONAL GRANGE OF P. OF H.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 12, 75.

J. T. Cobb:

WORTHY BRO.—The National offices of our Order having been located at Louisville, Ky., you are hereby informed that all materials in this office will be packed and business closed here on Saturday, the 17th inst., after which date all communications intended for the Secretary must be addressed to Louisville, Kentucky.

You will please notify the Deputies in your jurisdiction of the change.

Any delay in answering your communications prior to August 5th must be attributed to the interruption of business by the removal.

Yours, fraternally,

O. H. KELLEY,

Sec'y of National Grange.

In the advertisement of A. J. Thompson & Co. please notice change of place of business from 49 West Lake St., Chicago, to 192 South Water St.

We think this Commission House, having such good references, should be well sustained by the Patrons of this State who have need of the services of a Commission House in that city. Give this firm a fair trial and we think you will continue to do business with them.

We receive orders for supplies from Secretaries every week with the kind assurance that the money would be sent with the order if the writer only knew the price. Our experience in this business does not justify a compliance with such requests. While the money is generally sent with the order as promised, there were so many instances last year where this little matter forgotten that we this year determined to adhere inflexibly to the rule that the pay must accompany the order. Our price list of all supplies kept at this office, appears in every number of the GRANGE VISITOR, and if a file is kept as it should be, by every Secretary, no one need have occasion to order any goods without knowing the price.

As orders on the Treasurers of Subordinate Granges issued from this office to Masters, in payment for attendance at the January session of the State Grange are paid, we hope such orders will be promptly returned to us. When Granges have any surplus funds in their treasury, we advise that by vote of the Grange at a regular meeting, the treasurer be instructed to pay the order held by the Master at once, and return it to me. When so returned the amount of the order is entered to the

credit of the Grange and the order placed on file. By adopting this course the Master gets his money that he paid out in advance—the Grange is no worse off, and the business as a whole is in better shape.

We were officially notified on the 6th instant, that Blackberry Grange No. 573, had, at a regular meeting "voted to change its name from Blackberry to that of Thetford."

We presume that the Grange in its action was governed by No. 9 of "decisions, etc.," as found in Patr's Parliamentary Guide, p. 20.

The National Grange, at its last session, adopted amendments and additions to the "Guide," and this decision permitting Granges to change their name was stricken out, and "A Grange cannot change its name or number after its charter has been issued," adopted in lieu thereof.

The charter of No. 573 is complete and in this office, not having been forwarded, as under the ruling of Master Woodman the grange is not yet entitled to its charter. (See last paragraph in Master's Dep. of May number of Circular.) I therefore conclude that the name of Grange No. 573 must remain Blackberry.

Treasurers' Quarterly Reports are not to be sent to the Treasurer of the State Grange, but are to be made to this office, with the amount of fees and dues.

Blanks for the incorporation of subordinate granges are furnished on application for ten cents each.

Blank applications for the organization of Pomona Granges, also, blank application for membership in Pomona Granges are furnished without charge.

For list of supplies kept in this office, and price, see last page of VISITOR.

In our stock of supplies is found hard-wood ballot boxes—price \$1.25; charges prepaid to the office of delivery.

A full year's supply of blanks for quarterly reports were sent to every Grange Secretary in March last. If from any cause they were not received or have been mislaid or lost, we shall promptly send another supply when applied for by secretaries.

While we should be glad to be able to say that all Secretaries had made their quarterly reports for the quarter ending June 30th, yet considering the busy season of the year, we are not disposed to complain. We find on our files 315 reports have been made prior to the 20th inst. We believe this is a better showing than we could have made at the same time in any previous quarter.

In the next issue of the VISITOR we shall give a list of all Granges delinquent either in reports or dues.

The credentials of the Masters of Grange Nos. 97, 167, 173, 206, 316, 423, 439 and 459 are on file in our office, but we have not received from these Masters an account of time spent and distance travelled attending Session of State Grange, and we are therefore unable to send them the orders to which they are entitled. Will these Masters please send us their claims at once.

We would call attention to the advertisement in this number, of Bro. A. C. Glidden, nurseryman, near Paw Paw. No one sending him an order will have occasion to complain of unfair dealing.

We find as the *VISITOR* is made up and ready for the press, that a communication from Bro. Langdon is not in type. We regret the oversight. It shall appear in the next issue.

### DECISIONS

*Adopted by the National Grange, at its Eighth Annual Session.*

1. A candidate should be allowed to withdraw at any time before a ballot is taken.
2. When a person who is ineligible on account of occupation has been admitted, he is a member until expelled for good cause.
3. If a member who has received one or more degrees in a Grange, moves into the jurisdiction of another Grange, he may if he desires, receive a dimit from his Grange and join the one nearest him, taking the same position as in his old Grange, and is entitled to advancement.
4. When a new Grange is organized and includes in its jurisdiction a member of another Grange, such member is not obliged to withdraw from his old Grange and join the new one.
5. A dimit can be given at any regular meeting. It is not necessary that the application therefor lie over.
6. A dimit simply disconnects the member from a subordinate Grange, leaving him still a member of the Order. A withdrawal severs wholly his connection with the Order.
7. Any member of the Order holding a dimit is subject to trial before the Grange in whose jurisdiction he resides.
8. A suspended member cannot be admitted to the meetings of a Grange.
9. If a Master of a Grange is absent the highest ranking officer present acts as Master, and fills all vacancies by appointment.
10. All officers of a Grange must be installed before assuming the position and duties of the office.

Home Grange, in Hancock county, Illinois, has passed some very urgent resolutions in regard to the collection of statistics as to products, stock, etc. If the Order fails to provide an efficient system to secure reliable statistics, such as are absolutely needed by the members, one-half the original design of its organization will fail to be accomplished. We must have full and reliable statistics.

## Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

### GRANGE DECORATION.

In the April number we spoke of seeds to plant to secure flowers, etc., for ornamentation of the Grange hall. We trust that every Grange in the State has the enjoyment of beautiful bouquets of flowers upon the officers' desks and elsewhere during the meetings. Their presence and "study invariably elevate, never degrade."—Cut the flowers, for most varieties improve by cutting. If you wish fine pansies, verbenas, stocks, phlox, etc., cut many bouquets from them. To the cut flowers add green, as asparagus, parsley, carrot, ferns, etc., and thus form ornaments such as only those who live at Nature's door can have.

Now is the time to prepare for the future decoration of your Grange room. Just before the wheat, oats, rye, and the grasses are ripe, gather a few bundles of each and dry them in some chamber or out-building away from the sun and damp weather. Cut thus before ripe, they have a better color, and do not shell or break as easy as when fully ripe. If hung up, let the heads hang down. When dry, keep from moisture, and make up into forms of beauty in the decoration of your place of meeting.

A little later, cut a few fine, tall stalks of corn, when mature, but before the leaves turn yellow. Dry with the ears on, in the shade, and you can make a beautiful background for your Chief Patroness, C., and improve the appearance of many an ugly corner of your habitation.

Gather flowers and grasses for permanent bouquets. Everlasting ought to be picked before it is fully ripe.—Hang heads down in a dry, dark place to dry. When dry, put into a chest or trunk, away from the mice, until wanted. Choice grasses, found everywhere in field and garden, should be picked at the proper stage, just before ripe, and dried as flowers—these will be found very useful in forming bouquets and wreaths.

Ferns, gathered soon and pressed between newspapers until thoroughly dry, make up beautifully into mottoes and borders of other decorations.—Dried grasses and mosses, and pressed ferns, make very pretty materials for hanging baskets, bucket bouquets and similar decorations.

Autumn leaves, properly dried, are very useful to supplement the materials named, and to add to evergreen trimming.

There should be a committee appointed in each Grange to see to the work of collecting and preparing materials to be used in making our halls pleasant and attractive. Let us attend to this before too late.

In a future number we will suggest forms and plans for decoration.

### REGALIA, ETC.

The great variety of material used in regalia, and the worthlessness of some of it, lead us to say a word, hoping

thereby to secure uniformity, utility and harmony in the regalia of the Order.

The materials should be well selected, the articles suitably made and decorated, and then properly worn. In selecting materials for any Grange decoration or regalia, remember that straw-color, red (scarlet or crimson), and green, are true Grange colors. Straw-color is the favorite color of Ceres, the goddess of agriculture. In the ripening grain we have the various shades and tints of the different hues of this color. The green belongs to Flora, and is the great groundwork and background in which she sets her diamonds and pearls. The rich crimson and deep scarlet reds Pomona uses to decorate her bounties for man.—These are nature's colors: they tell of the fields, the orchard, and the garden.

The best material in color, durability and cheapness, for Husbandman's regalia, is the genuine nankeen, natural color, not dyed. This has not been colored, and will not fade when washed. It is rarely to be found at any of the places of trade in the State. They have something they call nankeen, but it usually is either the twilled or the imitation. Both colored and poor at best. We have known merchants to ask 28 cents for this poor imitation, when the real can be had of the Lowe Manufacturing Co., Washington, D. C., for 22 cents a yard. If you have not their circular, send for it, either to them or to Secretary Cobb.

Many Granges think the sample regalia sent to them the thing to be copied, but this is only intended as a pattern as to form or style. Get the genuine nankeen, and the true scarlet or crimson braid (three yards for 65 cents.)

In making, use two thicknesses. It makes the sash stiffer than the cambric will, and then it can the better be washed and done up. Make each sash just two yards long, and cut the pouch by the pattern. In width make the sash four inches. This may vary a half inch either way. Fold your cloth and then cut to the best advantage, a little more or less than four inches, but try to have all the same width.

For the ladies' regalia, get a good article of bleached cotton, at least 16 cts. per yard at Grange prices, and same braid as above. The sash may be a trifle, say half an inch, narrower than the gentlemen's.

Let a committee of ladies be selected by the Grange to cut out the whole of the regalia, and all assist in making, or hire some good seamstress to make it up under the committee's direction. "*If this is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well.*" should be in the minds, and the hearts too, of all in every effort made.

See that the thread used is of proper shade, and the braid well put on.—Strings of braid or strong tape should be put upon the pouch to tie with, also upon the Matron's apron to tie around the waist, saving time and pins.

When the sashes for the Husbandmen are done, try one on a medium-sized man, and see that they cross to set the belt, then tack the upper edges with thread just at the point of crossing. This is the only place that needs fastening, and will always set well when well made, if so fastened. Sew a button on the front or upper piece in the center of crossing. Thus fastened, the sash can easily be folded or packed in

packet or basket. The Matron's sash may be similarly fastened, or may be tied under the arm.

If the genuine nankeen cannot be had, get the twilled rather than any imitation.

In putting on the jewels, use ribbon or silk velvet of a good rich green color, in preference to any other. If the green is a little larger than the jewel, it does no harm. The pouch and apron should be worn square in front, and the sash over the right and under the left shoulder. The imprint of the plow upon the pouch is essential. The type can be had of the Lane Manufacturing Co. at 80 cents, and a dozen Granges may use it for all time. Get some neat printer to put it on, but don't let him use any cut but yours, nor yours for any other than Grange work.

If you want jewels, you can get them where you get material above named; also wreaths of flowers for the lady officers, etc. The best sets we have seen and the cheapest flowers come from the Lane Manufacturing Co., Washington, D. C.

Several neighboring Granges could send together and save in freight, and together own the plow-cut.

In making banners, the best we have seen have been of green ground-work, with golden fringe and emblems and ornaments of crimson fruit and flowers. Sheaves of grain, fruit and flowers, the sickle, plow, and other implements and emblems of the Order are appropriate. The letters *E. P.*, or the words for which they stand, *Esto Perpetua*, and the initials of or the words, Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity, on the four sides of a diamond, square, or quadrefoil, are appropriate.

We shall be glad to answer any questions addressed to us upon the matter, and will write some more at another time.

#### PROFESSIONAL POLITICIANS.— WHAT THE FARMERS WILL FIND.

The farmers, who are establishing granges—from the word *grange*, which signifies a farm, with the buildings, stables, etc.—throughout the Western country, appear to be very earnest in their determination to wage war on the great railroad corporations, and compel them to reduce their freights. They say that two bushels of wheat are consumed now in getting one to market.

We do not undertake to say at precisely what rates freights can be transported. That is a question of fact and of detail. But we have long been convinced that in the rapid growth of the gigantic corporations there lay danger to the independence and liberty of the people. We hail with satisfaction the rise of an opposing influence and organization.

The farmers will find themselves woefully in error, however, if they suppose that in their new movement they will find it easy to steer clear of the baneful influence of the professional politicians.

These men have no principles of their own; no convictions, resulting from intelligence and conscience. They

travel only by the weather-vane, which they watch closely, and whenever they see it point, they say to themselves, from that quarter the favoring breezes blow, and govern themselves accordingly.

The farmers will find these wily fellows insinuating themselves into their movement, and trying by cunning and sophistry to obtain control of it. Once in their hands, whatever strength it may possess will be in the market, for sale to the highest bidder.

Let the farmers look out, and lead and manage their organization themselves—persistently turning the cold shoulder to all obtrusive, professional politicians.

WHEN a man has a distinct end in view, and a clearly defined object that he labors to accomplish, he can work with far better effect than if his purposes are undetermined. When furthermore, he has well studied plans for work and settled methods, he attains the proposed objects with comparative ease.

Now, what are the objects proposed by the Patrons of Husbandry? What are they working up to? They are three-fold: First, social improvement, enlarged acquaintance, happier homes and neighborhoods, and the general cultivation of the minds and hearts of the members. Secondly, works of charity and kindness from man to man. Thirdly, co-operation in business, and through co-operation large savings.

Along with these three principal things come many other benefits incidentally, and in their accomplishment there is such a welding together of hearts, such an aggregation of real strength, as the world has never seen before enlisted in a like cause.

It is a grand association, this Order of the Patrons of Husbandry. It has great responsibilities before it, and it has great responsibilities upon it. It is equal to the work. It represents one of the mighty movements of the age, one of its revolutions, that spring from deep-seated principles in human life, and it will be far-reaching in its consequences. It is in the hands, not of brilliant statesmen, not of cultured scholars, not of adventurous business men, but of the sturdy and staid yeomanry of the land, the bone and sinew of the nation, men whose shoulders are broad, whose backs are strong, whose heads are cool.—*The Patron's Helper*.

The excitement and uneasiness regarding moneys held by the National Grange is, in our opinion, uncalled for and extremely unjust to the gentlemen who are its officers. Their standing and reputation, which is now becoming national, is a strong guaranty for their actions. No one doubts the necessity of a National Grange, and that it must have funds to perform its work. If the accumulations are too great, it is easily remedied by reduction of fees, or by distribution among the subordinate Granges, which, in fact, is now being done. Let us have more confidence in those of our own household. We must appreciate the facts that perfect harmony and united work are essential to our success.—

Our enemies would delight in seeing us torn asunder by strife. We shall surely disappoint them on this point.—*Cincinnati Gr. Bulletin*.

#### State Agent's Department.

N. CHILSON, - - - BATTLE CREEK.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

—A meeting of the members of the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange will be held at the Potter House, in the city of Battle Creek, on Friday, Aug. 6th, at 9 o'clock A. M. It is hoped the members of said committee will all be present.

N. CHILSON, Chairman.

#### PATRONS' HARVEST GATHERING—

Now that the harvest has ended a day of recreation is needed. The following announcement may be timely and in order for the occasion. A meeting of the Patrons of Husbandry for Calhoun and adjoining counties will be held at Goguac Lake, 1½ miles south of the city of Battle Creek, on Thursday, Aug. 5th, 1875, where the following distinguished speakers may be heard upon the aims and objects of the organization: Hon. Henry Chamberlain, of Berrien Co.; Hon. J. W. Childs, of Washtenaw Co.; Hon. C. G. Luce, of Branch Co., and others are expected.

Every effort is being made to make this the largest meeting of the kind ever held in the State, and no pains will be spared to guarantee comfort to visitors.

Reduced rates on Michigan Central, Chicago and Lake Huron R. R's will be granted from all stations where 20 or more passengers desire to attend the meeting.

As this is to be a Basket Pic Nic let all come prepared to supply the inner man with food for the day. Let everybody come.

By order of Committee.

There is so much good sound sense in the following article from the *Monthly Talk*, that we beg leave to offer it to our brothers and sisters in this State in place of any contribution of our own for this No. of the *VISITOR*:

#### WORDS OF WARNING.

"It is a valuable political maxim that 'the price of Liberty is eternal vigilance.'" To the farmers in their great movement for helping themselves and combining for their own interests, eternal vigilance is the only guarantee of ultimate success. Human nature is the same always—men are always looking for some new thing, and make a hobby of it while it is fresh; but when the new wears off they become lukewarm, careless and indifferent, and are on the lookout for some other new thing.

Now, we ask our sensible men—our thinking men (and there are thousands of such men among us)—to consider this matter well; make it a subject for discussion in your Granges; spur up the lukewarm brethren, encourage them and make them feel that an old thing may continue to be just as good,

or better than a new; make them feel that the Grange organization is the only one that has ever combined the farmers together for their own interests; make them see that the pleasures of the social meetings of Patrons are far more desirable for old and young than any that has ever preceded them; make them to see that an era of good feeling and neighborly friendship has been brought about; hold up before their eyes how great have been the financial benefits already secured, and how much greater they may be in the future; do not let them forget that the Grange has reduced the price of sewing machines one-half, and of every kind of agricultural implements very largely; that neighborhoods have been able to save a great deal of money by ordering their family supplies through our agents. In a word, rouse up the sleeping enthusiasm and go to work to make the Grange what it ought to be. A Grange feast once in three months, at least, ought to bring together for social enjoyment every member, and public picnics, with good Grange speaking, ought to be encouraged.

Our agency system ought also to engage the thoughts of our members far more than it does. Here is our great power, if we only stand up to and support it as we ought to. Many of our brethren are careless about this matter; some allow the merchants to make tools of them, and actually help them to fight the business arrangements of the Order. How very wrong this is.

One single example: The merchants were selling coffee at three pounds for one dollar. Our agency sent and got coffee and sold at three and three-fourth pounds for one dollar. Immediately the merchants put their coffee at four pounds for one dollar, and many of the Patrons not only bought of them but talked of our agency being undersold, when they knew that our agency alone had brought the prices down. Now, brethren, if you are true Patrons, use your brains and reflect about these things. We cannot succeed unless you all stand up to your business agencies, and we do hope that in future there will be no shirking.

If any of our agencies do not do their duty, go to work and arrest them. If every Grange in the State would concentrate their orders, through their country or local agents, and buy all their family supplies and farm tools through our State agency, the amount would be so enormous that wholesale merchants and manufacturers would be glad to fill every order at the lowest possible wholesale rates; the power of the Grange would be at once acknowledged, and the fight against the farmers would stop forever. Have we not got enough good men in every Grange who can see this without any further arrangement, and at once put it in force.

Oh, farmers! do not give up the fight when you are so near to victory; make one grand effort, all together, to throw off the old-time habit of getting all your ideas from the doctors, the lawyers and merchants. Think for yourselves, act for your-

selves, and reap the just reward of your labors.

## WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

It is to be regretted that Patrons will permit themselves to encourage the publication of reading matter, the effect of which is to undermine the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. There are papers published which, to draw circulation from farmers, have introduced a "Patrons of Husbandry Department," and employed, perhaps, a member of the Order to conduct it, claiming that their paper is in sympathy with the Order and asking support from Patrons, while their Patron's department is replete with stabs and innuendoes directed against the organization, under the plea of directing attention to and correcting the supposed abuses in our organization, and in some of the men whom we have trusted. As a consequence, many of our officials, as well as others allied to us, have been assailed publicly, and under such a guise as one might infer that not only were there some irregularities in high places in the Order, but that, perhaps, it *might* be more extensive if all the facts could reach the light of day.

That we have selfish and unscrupulous men in our Order, is certain; since so large a number of men as the Order contains, could not be gathered together without having some bad ones amongst them, and that all of those implicated by charge or innuendoes are blameless, we cannot assert. But every true Patron understands that our Order is a secret organization, and that any irregularities within are *made public only* by violating a solemn vow, and that any one breaking a covenant with his God, could hardly be true to man. Hence, any evil report *made public* concerning our officials, bears the impress of untruth somewhere. If not with regard to the officials, certainly and under all circumstances with regard to the public informer. Our local, State and National representatives are not public officials; our irregularities within the gates must be corrected within the gates, and any person or paper making known any real or supposed irregularities to the public, or seeking to correct the matter through the public press, is really, if not wilfully, attempting to undermine the organization, though he may claim to be a Patron.

The public have nothing to do with our weak brethren, or our purposes, so long as it is not an injured party, and to do the Order justice should confine its criticisms to this extent. Beyond this it meddles with that concerning which it is ignorant and not an interested party. If a Patron has reason to believe that irregularities exist with regard to any

member, his duty is, *within the gates*, to endeavor to have the matter corrected. If he has not enough interest in the Order to do this, he should either rest satisfied with things as they are, or quietly withdraw from the Order. We have all the machinery for investigation within the Order, and it is our duty to investigate (from the highest to the lowest the actions of those entrusted with representative powers; but if we do not, we should at least not encourage the promulgation of public innuendoes and charges against them.

With reference to this subject, the Patron's duty is identical with that of a mason or odd fellow, from whose quiet way of disposing of their irregularities we might take some useful lessons. To admit that we have not the machinery to correct abuses within ourselves, would be to admit that our chosen representatives cannot be trusted; and since they are selected as the best material amongst us, if they are not to be trusted what must we think of the average Patron? When we once admit that every charge or irregularity cannot be made right within ourselves, we admit that, concerning the farming classes, which is much more humiliating than any charge ever made by the enemies of the Order.—*The Monthly Talk.*

The Indiana business agent reports sales for the week ending June 21st: 23 cultivators, 16 farm drills, 22 reapers and mowers, 61 double shovel plows, 16 bags coffee, 18 barrels sugar, 12 horse rakes, 2 corn shellers, 28 washing machines, 9 pumps, 1 combined sheller and feed grinder, 1 large horse-power, 26 kegs of nails, 47 sewing machines; also boots, shoes, dry goods, harness, etc. Total sales for the week, \$11,243.71.

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For reference please address Hon. J. J. Woodman, Master of Mich. State Grange, or any of the business men of Paw Paw.

Fraternally, &c., A. C. GLIDDEN,  
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