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GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XIX, NO. 2.

LANSING, MICHIGAN, JANUARY 18, 1894.

WHOLE NO. 434.

ANOTHER SCORING.

Secretary Morton was interviewed by the Washington, D. C., *Evening Star*, in regard to the action of the National Grange requesting his resignation. Mr. Morton is reported as saying:

"The Grange is an independent body. There can be no objection to that or any other independent body attending to the purposes for which it was created. It is subject to criticism whenever it devotes itself to any other purposes. And only to those Granges and Granges who have been instituted for other than agricultural advancement can any of the language used in the remarks at Chicago on the 16th of last October be applied. The gentlemen who applied and fitted these remarks to themselves have no cause for self congratulation. What would they think if farmers who formerly belonged to the Grange should pass a series of resolutions inquiring what became of more than \$200,000 that the National Grange alleged some years since it held in the form of government bonds for the benefit of the Order? Of course, it is understood that the reply to such a resolution would be that it had been returned to the State Granges in each case, and then the question would be: What did the State Granges do with it? How much of the \$200,000 ever reached the original donors or contributors of that sum?"

These charges Bro. J. J. Woodman denies in a communication to the *Star*, very emphatically. After showing that Mr. Morton's attempt at hedging on his remarks at Chicago is unavailing, and showing, by figures from the books of the National Grange, that Mr. Morton's allegations concerning the supposed \$200,000 squandered by the Grange are false, he closes by thus paying his respects to the Honorable Secretary:

"The charge or intimation that any State Grange squandered or misapplied this fund has never before, to my knowledge, been made. I will state, for the honorable Secretary's special benefit, that it was not intended that this donation be returned to the original donors or contributors. It would have received less than ten cents each; and if any one claiming to have formerly belonged to the Grange in Nebraska is solicitous about that ten cents, I am certain that the State Grange of Nebraska will refund it to him with interest, upon proper application, provided that a receipt in full payment for the same will be given to the State Grange. It will be seen that the amount of National Grange funds returned to the State Granges was \$54,811.36, instead of \$200,000, as Mr. Morton states it. As all the financial transactions of the National Grange are in its published proceedings, consequently accessible to every one desiring information from them, it is difficult to understand how any sane man could make charges against a great brotherhood of agriculturists, which he ought to have known and could have known were false in every particular, and to so distort figures as to make an intimation of financial corruption appear \$145,188.64 more than the actual amount involved, except through 'profound ignorance,' or a willful intention to misrepresent."

PATRONS OF MICHIGAN.

Another year's work is before us. Once more we are to consider plans through which we hope to build up and make stronger the Order in our state. There are thousands of farmers with their families who should be encouraged to join with us in our efforts to advance our class to their proper sphere in intelligence, usefulness, and influence. The National Grange and most of the State Granges have recently met, and never in the history of Grange work has there been more general interest displayed. The petitions, memorials and resolutions presented were numerous and the discussions thereon were spirited and earnest, fully showing that farmers are reading, observing, and thinking upon all the questions of the day. Never was there a time when farmers see more clearly the importance of organization.

UNITED EFFORT NEEDED.

The Granges of Michigan have but to make one united effort and their strength will be greatly increased. Shall we do it? This question should be taken home by every Grange and every member. Yes, fellow Patrons, let us make a strong pull all together. Let us begin at once. Time is precious. The winter will soon be gone and field labors will again demand our attention. For the next three months the meetings of every Subordinate Grange and especially every Pomona Grange in the state, should devote a good portion of their time to actual work preparatory and in execution of plans for a general Grange extension. The members should resolve themselves into a committee of the whole to go into the field and talk and act Grange principles. Let your light shine out bright and clear and many will be attracted thereto.

SOME ARE SLEEPY AND INACTIVE.

The trouble, and the only trouble, with

every sleepy or dormant Grange in the state is the don't care and helpless attitude of the members relative to Grange work. The condition, usefulness and prosperity of every Grange is wholly in the hands and keeping of its own members. If a Grange is healthy and useful, its own members put it in that condition. If a Grange is dormant and nearly useless, its own members are wholly responsible. The members make or ruin every Grange in proportion to their united efforts for or against.

No power within reach can keep a good live Grange unless its members are willing to unitedly work for success.

The State Grange is anxious to see every Grange in Michigan increase its membership and to see many new Granges organized. It will do all in its power to bring about this result. It cannot do this alone, it can only help you to make your success greater. Let us make a strong pull all together.

GEO. B. HORTON.

FROM THE NATIONAL LECTURER.

To proclaim the truths and principles which underlie the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and to keep them constantly before the minds of the people, has been, and now is, the work of the Lecturer of the National Grange. That this work has been well and nobly done in the years that have passed, the records will show, but with all the achievements of the past, with an unbroken record of progress on every page of its history, the grand mission of the Grange in educating the farmers has only just begun; and as I see the magnitude of the work before me and as its possibilities are opened up to my vision, I should feel like shrinking from the task because of my inability to meet the requirements of the position, did I not feel assured of the hearty cooperation and support of the Lecturers, Masters, and other officers of the Subordinate, Pomona, and State Granges throughout the land. With such support, and the cooperation of the entire membership of the Order, I feel inspired to go forward in the work with the firm belief that our united efforts will be crowned with abundant success. Individually we can do but little in advancing the interests and battling for the rights of the tillers of the soil, but collectively, with entire harmony of thought and action, we can meet and conquer all opposing forces, and show to the world that the American farmers are moving gradually forward in asserting their rights and improving their condition in all the lines which relate to their social, educational, political and material advancement.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

It is the desire of the Lecturer of the National Grange to keep in touch with the membership of the Order in all parts of the country, and to this end correspondence is solicited from the officers and members of State, Pomona, and Subordinate Granges—more especially the Lecturers—upon all subjects which relate to the welfare of the Order and the interests of the rural population. The Lecturer may not be able to answer all of these letters, but the writers may rest assured that all communications will receive careful consideration, and that all suggestions for the good of the Order will be most gladly received.

WE MUST USE THE PRESS.

It should be our plan to use the newspaper press of the country, so far as may be deemed practicable, in keeping the objects and aims of the Order, together with such facts as may be of general interest, constantly before the people; and in this connection I wish to suggest that the local press in all parts of the country can be utilized for the good of the Order by the lecturers and correspondents of Subordinate Granges to a much greater degree than in the past, by furnishing more short, sharp, spicy items relating to Grange meetings, progress, prospects, etc. The papers of the country, especially the agricultural papers, are nearly all very friendly to the Order, and would gladly print all such matter that could be furnished them, and we make the advance in Grange work which we so fondly anticipate we must not neglect any means within our reach to accomplish the object sought.

Such bulletins relating to Grange work will, from time to time, be sent from this office as the exigencies of the Order may demand, and the funds at the disposal of the Lecturer will admit. Seeking God's blessings upon our efforts, may we labor together for the uplifting of humanity, and the dawn of a better day for the prosperity and happiness of the American farmer.

Yours fraternally,
ALPHA MESSER,
Lecturer National Grange.

MORTON HEDGES.

Secretary Morton says that "only to those Grangers and Granges who have been instituted for other than agricultural advancement can any of the language used in the remarks at Chicago be applied."

This construction may be the proper one, it may be what the Secretary intended to say at Chicago. But here is what he did say:

"American farmers have foes to contend with, they are not the natural foes—not the weevil of the wheat, not the murrain in cattle nor the cholera in swine, nor the drouth, nor the chinch-bug. The most insidious and destructive foe to the farmer is the 'professional farmer,' who, as a 'promoter' of granges and alliances, for political purposes, farms the farmer. It is true that American farm life is isolated and that in the newer sections there is too little of social pleasure and festivity, but my hope for the future of the farmer is not based on gregariousness. He will not succeed better by forming granges and alliances, which generally seek to attend to some other business than farming, and frequently propose to run railroads and banks and even propose to establish new systems of coinage for the government, than he will by individual investigations of economic questions."

To see this looks like "hedging" on the part of Mr. Morton.

A CONTRAST.

In the early days of the Grange, and many years before the formation of the many newer farmer organizations, the Grange took a great interest in the Agricultural Department, and centered much strength and influence in favor of methods of widening its field of usefulness and of increasing its means of support, appropriate with the rank of agriculture in other countries; while an earnest struggle was entered to raise its standard of individuality to an equal with other departments of government. And all other causes combined were not equal to the influence of the Grange and its membership in changing it from a neglected corner auxiliary of the Department of Interior, cooped in the Patent Office building, to the exalted position now enjoyed, with its chief sitting at the royal communion table of government advisers.

THE FIRST SECRETARY.

The first incumbent of this high position by word and pen, lost no opportunity of acknowledging his appreciation of the aid and support of farmers and their organizations; and, as a member of the Grange, took every opportunity within his reach of associating with the members in their meetings, and pointing the way which his mind conceived that would bring the Department and its auxiliaries, the experiment stations, with the tillers of the soil, into the closest and most reciprocal relations of work and study, ever holding up the farmer as an equal in citizenship with his associates in other callings in life.

MR. RUSK'S CHARACTERISTICS.

This important position was next filled by one who came from the farm and the farmers' organizations, retaining through his life, though raised to many positions of public responsibility, his strong affiliation to the intelligent tillers of the soil, and his broad views of their relations as citizens and their duty in the times, can be well taken from his pen as found in the *North American Review*, where he well knew they would be read by some of the most intelligent of people, by great thinkers and writers, as well as people high in national rank at home and abroad.

Secretary Rusk said: "To every patriotic man, the first suggestion from passing events or changing conditions of affairs of his country, is duty. It will be unnecessary for me to call attention here to the wide spread movement among the farmers of the country toward more active participation in public

affairs or to emphasize the causes to which this movement owes its present activity.

* * * I am of those who believe that the farmer in politics has come to stay. More, I am of those who believe that, in spite of possible, nay, inevitable blunders on the part of men comparatively untried in the conduct of public affairs, the presence and influence of the farmer in politics, will ultimately prove beneficial to the country at large. * * * On the other hand capital need fear no illegitimate onslaught on the rights of property at the hands of men who own their own homes, who till their own acres, and who owe their living to the proper administration of the little capital they possess. In the face, then, of this movement, it behooves every thoughtful American citizen who loves his country to ask himself the question, What is the duty of the hour?"

These men but echo the sentiment and expressions of scores of writers and speakers for the past twenty-five years, persons who have been in the best positions to know whereof they speak, and including men of the highest rank in every calling.

THE PRESENT INCUMBENT.

But what shall we say of the expression of the present Secretary of Agriculture, as quoted in the *Western Rural* from his address before the Farmers' Congress in Chicago? Did he suppose himself among those who did not know the work of farmers' organizations? Or was he catering for the approval of the disaffected and the anti-organizationist when he said, "We all understand that, so far, Granges and Alliance organizations have been found to attend to something else rather than farming; that they have been 'worked,' to use the parlance of the day, by journeymen farmers, who have for political purposes, farmed the farmers." And again, "Everybody except the members themselves, understood perfectly well that the Grange and Alliance organizations of farmers throughout the country have been controlled by demagogues and politicians, who, for political purposes have condescended to join their ranks and teach them what they ought to say and do."

Brother Patron, and neighbor farmer, compare these views and consider the fact, that in the course of political events, men from some other calling or profession in life are so frequently selected through personal favoritism, or a reward of political influence, to fill the exalted positions and perform the official duties of a department for the benefit of, and representative of, a great industry of the people, and in variance with their judgment and wishes and to the exclusion of those better qualified and deserving from among the representative members of their own ranks, and by life and occupation identified with the Department, its industry and its people.

Question: What will you say? Is there no necessity for support of association, organization, and education?

Then, of duty, aid and assistance—are you contributing your rightful share?
Ypsilanti. A. J. CROSBY, JR.

A HANDSOME TRIBUTE.

The Antrim county bar recently passed resolutions in token of their appreciation of Judge Ramsdell's services as judge of thirteenth circuit. Among other things the resolutions said:

"He was one who was ever watchful of the welfare of the people, who practiced economy and frugality in the conducting of his courts without the sacrifice of efficiency; one who has ever judged righteously between man and his brother and the stranger that is with him." In sitting in judgment between the rich and poor, he considered not the poor man's needs or the rich man's wealth. Unbiased and unprejudiced he performed his duties and he lays aside the judicial ermine unstained and unsullied.

"The journal of this court and the records of a higher court bear witness of his sound judgment, his high ability, and his eminent qualifications; and while he leaves the bench, he still retains the greatest respect and esteem of each member of the bar association of Antrim county, who feel that they are parting with a tried and trusty friend.

"However ably his successor may fill his place upon the bench, we cannot help feeling the loss of him whose years of service in this court has made it seem that there could be no court without his presence; who has ever met the irritating and vexatious incidents of the position with fortitude and patience; whose dignity and position have ever been marked with fitness and stability, yet clothed in most considerate kindness. And should he ever return to again occupy the bench which he has so long and so ably graced, the members of this association will gladly welcome him."

Field and Stock.

THE FARMER'S FRUIT GARDEN.

R. M. KELLOGG.

The farmer's fruit garden can and should be made the source of more real pleasure and enjoyment to the family than any other field on the farm. Beginning the fore part of June he should have his table liberally supplied with strawberries (and cream) until about the 25th of June, when strawberries and raspberries come together for a few days, and the latter holds the diet till blackberries in August, and these will lap over on the early grapes, and the feast of these may be carried on till past midwinter.

Oh, we have no time! We farmers have something else to attend to! Bosh! The work that occupies your attention is not worth half as much to you in cold dollars and cents.

A fruit diet means cooler blood, better digestion, better brain power to manage your business with. Besides its all free! You can beat the doctor out of enough to pay all expenses for work and plants. There is not an eminent physician in the country who will not admit that a very large share of the ailments of the people will yield more readily to fruits and fruit acids than any chemicals he can prescribe. As a matter of food it is cheaper than hog and hominy.

Let us estimate for a family of six, making abundant provision for canning, so we can have fruit the year round and donations to the preacher and less enterprising neighbors.

VARIETIES.

Select the place where the rows will be as long as possible, so the cultivating can be done with a horse. Let us have three rows of strawberries, 50 Warfields and 50 Haverlands. These are pistillates, very early, well tested, and succeed almost everywhere and the most productive varieties known. They must have a fertilizer (male plant) set next them, and to get a good variety and seasonable we set 25 Bederwood and 25 Wilson by the Warfields, 25 Jessie and 25 Dayton with the Haverlands. Now we want a row of very late berries which we will mulch heavily with straw and chaff when it has frozen in the fall, and allow it to remain till the others are well in bloom and then rake off enough to let them come up through it; they will fruit fully two weeks after the others are gone. For this row set fifty Gandy, 25 Enhance, 25 Bubach, and a dozen Parker Earle. The Dew is the largest berry in the world and we want a dozen to surprise our friends with. Make rows four feet apart and set eighteen inches apart in the row.

The patch is 150 feet long and twelve feet wide. If you give good fair cultivation and have procured strong, vigorous plants from new beds that are free from exhaustion, no family of six can begin to eat the fruit. If you go to some old run out beds for plants, set at least two or three times as many. New plants from an old bed are old plants with new roots. They are always low in fruiting vigor.

RASPBERRIES.

For raspberries, make two long rows; one red, the other black. For reds, set 25 Hansells, 25 Cuthberts. Blacks take 12 Johnson Sweet, 12 Palmer, 12 Older, and 12 Gregg—the earliest and latest, as well as best.

BLACKBERRIES.

Twenty-five Western Triumph or Snyder for early, and 25 Taylor Prolific for late. Add 25 Victoria and Cherry currants and ten Downing or Houghton gooseberries. If you have a snug corner and plenty of straw to keep down the weeds and grass you can put them in anywhere. Treat all suckers as weeds.

FOR GRAPES.

Set 6 Wordens, 6 Concord, and 6 Agawams; the latter can be kept past midwinter. Of course there is a long list of other varieties to choose from, but these are old and tried and rarely fail.

The children can pick and sell enough, after family supplies are taken, to buy school books, shoes, and strings.

I submit that it is downright cruelty to deprive a family of such a luxury when it can be had so easily.

How much would it cost to buy this fruit? Well, about seventy-five to a hundred dollars, but to buy fruit means for the farmer to go without. How has it been in the past?

tonia.

HORSES AND BARB WIRE.

A. W. HAYDON.

They must have herded their stock in Christ's time or he would surely have given some general guidance as to fences, as he did for other exasperating conditions in life. Nothing so interferes with a man's enjoying his religion as poor fences. Nothing so "stirreth up wrath;" or to translate into more suggestive modern phrase, "makes a man so hot," as to have

his stock break into his crops, without it is to have his neighbor's stock break in. If they should do this repeatedly, nothing lays bare so quickly the difficulties of that command about "loving thy neighbor as thyself." Nothing so increases the chances of future punishment as a combination of unruly stock and poor fences. If you would "be wise unto salvation," my brother Patrons, keep good fences, if you try to keep stock, especially horses.

If you are good Grangers and are mindful of the precept, "Whatever we do let us strive to do well," let me advise you to use barb wire. If not, to let it alone. Properly put up, in connection with some other kind of fence, it is safe, cheap, and perfectly effective. In a pasture surrounded with it the stock must remain until called for. Like the woman who consoled herself on the burial of her husband with the reflection that she "would at least know where he was nights," so you can go to sleep with a mind free from care and anxiety. If you have dreams they will be blissful ones of "green pastures" and "cool waters" and "cattle feeding on a thousand hills," and not of a wild stampede of a million horses through your standing grain; nor will you be disturbed by little Boy Blue blowing his horn to call "the sheep from the meadow, the cows from the corn." Sweet security—you know where they are nights.

"We learn wisdom by experience," is an old saying, but to be wholly true it must be our own experience, not that of some one else; so it is doubtful if others will profit by the conclusions of the writer after using barb wire for many years.

SHOULD BE TIGHT.

To be sure and safe for horses it should be high enough so they will not try to jump over, far enough from the ground so they will not stick their feet through, and near enough to the ground so they will not crawl under.

To stop all kinds of stock use panels or rail fence at the bottom, and two barb wires above, securely fastened to posts firmly set three rods apart. This work must be well done or horses' tails will become tangled in the wire and they will run off with a whole string of it. The lower wire may be fastened to the top rails and should not be over three or three and one-half feet from the ground, the other wire twelve to fifteen inches above. Patent smooth wire fence can now be had at small cost, which would be better and sure to command a healthy respect if a strand or two of barb wire were used near the top.

My garments exhaled the sweet perfume of carbolic acid for years before I learned how to use barb wire. But I have never had a horse injured upon wire properly put up, neither have I had serious loss even in the days of my carelessness, except the trouble and expense of doctoring up the victims. For reinforcing an old rail fence, so you can put your trust in it, there is nothing like it.

Decatur.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

C. M. FELLOWS.

The present low price of wool, and correspondingly low price of sheep, is giving anxious solicitude as to the future of the sheep industry of our country. Many seem inclined to neglect or abandon this industry entirely, and the sales of sheep and want of care are already telling upon the flocks. As a people we are not stable enough in our habits or principles of farming. If any product brings a high price, each one makes a rush to secure or produce that commodity. We all acknowledge the force of that true business principle to "buy when a thing is low and sell when it is high," yet we are slow to put this principle into practice, but the reverse rather. I am not an old man, yet I can remember two very low depressions in the sheep market. I have not the exact dates, but think it was about 1846 to 1850 that thousands of sheep were slaughtered in Michigan just for their tallow and pelts. A company in Saline fixed a vat in their slaughter house where the carcasses were thrown in and steamed until the tallow was separated, the carcass was then thrown to the hogs. Whole flocks were thus destroyed. Only a few years passed, however, when sheep advanced in price and everybody wanted sheep. Breeders in Vermont had been wise enough to preserve and not destroy their flocks and a lively trade at once sprang up with that state, and men in Michigan paid fabulous prices for sheep fitted up to sell. Yet some of these purchasers laid the foundation for some noble flocks.

THE SAME STORY.

But reaction came and another depression followed, yet the industry did not suffer so badly as before. At the beginning of the war wool and sheep were very low, but advanced with all other products as the war continued, and again receded at the close of the war.

In 1876, I made my first purchases in Vermont, paying six to ten dollars per head for sheep accepted for registration. Sheep steadily advanced in price until 1883, when

I paid from \$30 to \$100 per head for ewes, and prices accordingly for rams. During these years I could hardly get sheep from Vermont fast enough to supply the demand, even at these prices. Since 1883 sheep have steadily declined until now "they are a drug on the market." But if "history repeats itself," and we believe it will, there is "a better day coming," and the man who holds fast to a good flock of sheep will reap his full reward by and by. And the man who is wise enough to purchase now will soon be at the bat, for the sheep will have their innings again.

Manchester.

SWINE NOTES.

A. H. WARREN.

No matter how good the breed, if proper care and feed be withheld the pig will degenerate.

There is nothing lost in looking at the hogs while they are feeding, as there may be disorders that can be detected then better than at any other time.

Hogs of the same size should be kept together, for if all sizes are grouped together, the larger and stouter will get more than their share of feed, and in sleeping they are liable to overlay the smaller and weaker ones, thus injuring them.

As the breeding is now about done for the spring litters the best of care should be given the sows, which means a variety of feeds, such as will give bone and muscle, always avoiding a continual corn diet, as good vigor and development are necessary to get good offspring.

Pigs need a great deal more care when they are small than they do afterwards, although it is a mistake to neglect them at any age. Still the small ones need especial care, as we can not expect them to give a liberal return for feed consumed, if they are put in cold and damp quarters.

Uniformity in a herd of hogs is gratifying to the eye and mind and shows the skill of the breeder or feeder.

The high prices asked by some noted breeders for improved sires are often a hindrance to many farmers in the road to success, but as the sire is considered one-half of the herd don't stop for a few extra dollars on a superior animal, as the first progeny will more than compensate for the extra amount paid.

Crowd the fall pigs as fast as possible, for spring will soon be here and with it usually the highest prices of the year.

A pig that is stunted by overfeeding is no better than the one stunted by underfeeding, and should have no place in the breeding pen. Inbreeding in hogs should not be tolerated, except by the skilled breeders, and then they do it at a great risk.

The profitable hog is the one that is ready to turn off at from seven to ten months of age, weighing from 200 to 300 pounds.

To the beginner: Start with a few hogs, increase your herd by judicial selection as you gain experience, stick to them through thick and thin, and my word for it you will never regret your investment.

Ovid.

CATTLE NOTES.

Scrub breeding and scrub feeding make the poorest kind of cattle.

While you can lower a thoroughbred animal to the level of a scrub by starving, you can never raise a scrub to the level of a good thoroughbred by any system of feeding. This is a rule which cannot be made to work both ways.

Every branch of live stock industry has enjoyed its "boom," with the exception of cattle. It now looks as though their turn was coming.

Good beef cattle are bringing a fair price. A choice steer, weighing 1,130 pounds, sold at 4½ cents per pound in the Detroit yards recently.

The difference between a good feeder and a poor one often means the difference between profit and loss.

Too many farmers forget that their live stock are simply machines to convert their fodder and grain into fat or milk. If we feed just enough to keep the machine running, we waste our fuel, but if we push them to their full capacity, the greater will be our profits.

Breed your cows now for fall calves. If your stables are warm they pay better for several reasons: First, You have more time to care for them during the winter months. Second, Dairy products bring a higher price at that time of year. Third, The calves are ready to pick their own liv-

ing as soon as grass comes. Fourth, Your cows will be nearly dry and you will have no calves to feed during your most hurrying season.

The state of Michigan is undergoing a dairy craze just now and it will probably last some time, but the owners of good beef cattle should take a second thought before sacrificing their herds. Beef will bring the highest price of any of our farm products within two years.

FARMER.

SEEDS.

The Western Mich. Farmers' Club calls attention to the allusion made in Cleveland's message as to the cutting off of free samples of seeds. After a great deal of correspondence I have the promise of 400 packages for distribution in Newaygo county, and, judging from the applications I am receiving for them, they are appreciated. But with a man as Secretary of Agriculture who knows little and cares little about the farmer, the farmer cannot expect that his interests will be consulted. I hope that every Grange in this state and every farmer organization will petition their senators and congressmen to oppose the cutting off of the appropriation for the distribution of seeds as recommended in Mr. Cleveland's message. He says our agricultural colleges should make the experiments and advise the farmers what seeds are best for them, while we all know that the distribution of these seeds has given our farmers some of the very best varieties they now have, and which they never would have had in any other way. I believe they desire them, and I know they are entitled to them, and, if they assert their rights, will have them.

GEO. E. HILTON.

OUR ROAD LAW.

I am sorry to see our State Grange, with some subordinate organizations, attacking the county road system, which if carried into operation in any county would benefit the country people and the Granges in far greater proportion than which their tax would be as to the total cost, as the county town would pay at least half the tax.

In our county (Grand Traverse) the county town would pay 45% of the entire cost of construction of county roads, and do it cheerfully, upon the basis of mutual benefits. Yet our county road laws at a special election last August were knocked out by 106 negative majority by the votes of country towns which would have received greatest benefits, caused partially from lack of a full understanding of the workings of the law, and materially through the Grange organizations.

If the road taxes we have paid in Michigan, for the past fifty years, had been properly expended and paid in cash, we might today have thousands of miles of excellent macadamized roads to boast of. Will we travel in the same rut for the next fifty years?

REUBEN GOODRICH.

ECONOMY NEEDED.

GRANGE VISITOR—One thing seems certain, and that is all mining, lumbering and manufacturing will be decreased in amount and will be done at less outlay in money for labor performed. More people must get their living at first hands. They must feed their own Jersey cow for milk and butter, feed their own fowls for eggs and meat, fat their own pig, raise their own cabbage and beans, and wear their old clothes twice as long as formerly. By living in that manner a small amount of cash will suffice. The only way to get money into the hands of the people is to pay it out either for wages or for material for use. If the labor will not bring money to buy beans, the labor must raise the beans. If labor will not command money to buy butter and milk, labor must provide feed for the cow. The nearer the whole population is to the source of all the supplies needed to support life the less money will do. In view of the condition of the labor market, it does seem that there should be calls for many pieces of land such as could be used by people of small means to provide a living from.

Mt. Pleasant.

C. M. C. COOK.

IMPURE CLOVER SEED.

EDITOR VISITOR—I think that some means should be adopted to secure a better grade of clover seed than is now supplied to the farmer by the trade. I find by examination that some specimens of seed sold us by dealers in the southern part of the state contain but a small quantity of pure seed, the rest being weeds or grass such as grow wild in the locality where the seed is raised. This is becoming a very fruitful source of evil and is fast seeding our land down to weeds and foul grass.

E. B. WARD.

Charlevoix.

A weekly VISITOR is what everybody wants.

Woman's Work.

A NEW YEAR'S REVERIE.

The Old Year is dead! Lo, a New Year appears!
For the New we have smiles, for the Old only tears!
Farewell Ninety-three! While thy death we deplore,
We hail the glad advent of young Ninety-Four.

In sadness and silence, with locks that are sear,
We gather to bury the late Old Year;
Beside his pale form, while enraptured in his shroud,
Stand the young and the old, the poor and the proud.

How vast and how varied, who now through the tomb!
Some faces are bright, and some darkened with gloom!
Antithesis strange of our lives here befall,
Orange blossoms today, and tomorrow the pall!

A pendulum's swing, 'twixt a smile and a tear
Now buoyant with hope, now cast down with fear,
Is life's checkered scene in this brief world of ours;
Green spring, warm summer, ripe autumn, dead flowers!

How many who started with the year's young life,
Have finished their course and thus ended the strife!
In th' grave of the past we'll bury our sorrow,
And hope brighter days will yet dawn on the morrow.

A bird on the wing may thus carry a seed
That yet may perchance a whole continent feed:
So let us live while the years come and go,
With this thought in view, "We shall reap as we sow."

Let th' words that we speak and the deeds that we do,
Be both prudent and fair, kind, honest and true;
Then for the future we'll have little to fear,
That the present will be a *Happy New Year*.

I. COLLIER.

Battle Creek, Mich., Jan. 1, 1894.

WOMAN'S WORK.

We feel assured that by this time the Granges of the state have elected their officers for the year 1894, and most of them are installed.

It has pleased our State Master to again place us on the state committee on woman's work, and we now appeal to you Masters to name at once your local committee on woman's work. The county committee of Pomona Granges will lend a hand to the committees of Subordinate Granges.

It is very necessary that these committees be appointed at once, and we should much like if the secretary of each Grange will forward to us the name of the chairman of such committee, with their post-office address.

We have as our collaborators, Mrs. Mary Sherwood Hinds of Stanton, and Mrs. Belle Royce of Baroda, Berrien county, both eager, earnest workers in Grange fields.

Mrs. Hinds is also a member of the permanent committee on education, and will materially aid in that line.

Mrs. Royce will have charge of the southern part of the state, Mrs. Hinds the northern, and we do our best to look out for the interests of the central portion.

Mrs. Hinds of Stanton is too well known by the Patrons of the state to need any formal introduction. Suffice it to say her fertile mind and ready hand will greatly aid us in the work.

Mrs. Royce is a stranger to many, but she brings to the aid of the committee years of work along educational lines. Her anxiety to help in the work is only limited by opportunity. She is a lady of broad thought and earnest purpose for the right, and will be found a leader for all counties who are fortunate enough to reside in her jurisdiction.

Masters, please do not neglect to appoint your committees, and secretaries at once forward us the name and address of the chairman.

Any and all communications sent to us will be gladly received and command our immediate attention.

Yours for the work,
MARY A. MAYO.

LEAVES FROM OLD OAKS.

OLD OAKS FARM,

Jan. 1, 1894.—"No more before nor behind
I look in hope or fear,
But grateful take the good I find,
The best of now and here."

Jan. 3.—The papers come in with increasing tales of want and workless thousands. Poverty is a new problem to us. Perhaps, in the end, the balance will yet be made good and the visible losses we mourn will come back in treasures that "neither moth nor rust doth corrupt." A spasm of straitened circumstances we may exchange for quicker thought for those who must always live so; some lopped-off luxuries may vacate for deeper love; a few comforts give way for condolences to those who need them, and out of a nation's poverty may spring a patience and the power that makes the world akin.

Jan. 6.—We all went to Grange last night, even to Ichabod, who had come home unexpectedly. There was a full attendance. Our election coming so early in December, and the officers being installed at a special meeting, we start in well with the new year.

Mrs. Gray rode with us and we slipped in a good visit by the means. As Maude T. does not return to school until today, she was present and gave her usual prompt, vigorous help at the organ when asked to do so. The new dress she was making when I called is a beauty. It just matches her hair; even the silk trimming catches the "gold gleams" among the brown, and a knot of schrimp pink ribbon at her throat brought out the tint of her cheeks. Brother Hilarius called her a "brown study" in it. It is made of hop-sacking and severely plain, skirt without trimming, round waist with sleeves only slightly exaggerated at the top, a plain V, that

hooks over the closing of the waist, is edged with China silk ruffles, cut bias and made double, an inch wide and secured between the lining and outside by two rows of stitching; the high collar, sleeves at the wrists and edges of the narrow belt are all likewise finished with very narrow frills of silk and stitching.

A paper by Mr. Grotzinger on "The coming farmer," followed by discussion, occupied most of the evening. The foreigner and his methods, he said, are to possess in time the farms of this land, smaller farming, closer confinement, more system in making every foot of soil produce to its utmost, more work under glass and reduced expenses must come.

That started the ball. Mr. Dreg was on the defensive and others joined him. We have, they claimed, the coming farmer in training; he is going to learn to use more machinery, to water his garden by the turn of a faucet, to weed with an implement, dig potatoes ditto, irrigate his fields, and be master of broader situations.

Mrs. Gay reminded the speakers that the future master must be fitted for such mastery and he would need vaster sums of money than farming at present would guarantee.

Mr. T. urged a better understanding of farming from a business point of view. At which, Thos. B. was on his feet in an instant and said *that*, he believed, was the keynote of success, namely, to run a farm as a business, just as mines and mills and manufactories are run.

Some one suggested that too many farms are already run as our mills and mines are being run (?) today; after which we drifted into the usual habit of commending the agricultural press, of extolling the Grange, of patting farmers' clubs in general on the back, of advocating the making of homes beautiful to keep the children on the farm, and of exalting the Agricultural College to the pinnacle of practical utility to the future farmer.

And then our Hil delivered his favorite argument. He said: "All this is fine, first-class—theory! But it isn't a rule that works. The homes, beautiful within and without, filled with books, papers, pictures, and company, in accord with our idea of agricultural progress, are *not* the ones that keep the boys and girls on the farm. These homes become 'empty nests,' while the farmer who takes only his local paper is the man who sees his family settling down to his own calling about him. There are the C. boys, you all know them, both Agricultural College graduates; one is a lawyer, the other an insurance agent. *Ne* more ideal farm home exists than theirs. Hon. B., eloquent pleader for the future farmer, has no son on the farm. Our neighbor writer for agricultural papers sent his sons to the college, and one is now a teacher of agricultural education in another state, it is true, but not an actual, unsalaried farmer, while Hon. G. was for years a member of the State Board of Agriculture, but kept his boys away from a college of any sort, and now has not only his boys, but all his girls, in homes of their own on farms near his. You all know plenty of such cases. I tell you, there's a screw loose somewhere in the application of our principles!"

No reply was made to this. I had hoped Ichabod would speak. He wrote so often of his rhetorical at the college last fall, I felt sure he could quite distinguish himself on this subject, as he would be perfectly at home on it, for, though of course he doesn't expect to be a farmer, I thought he would at least urge the idea that coming farmers must look to the wide field of scientific research and the boundless wealth of beauty in all her forms that his noble calling would throw open to him, and not merely count his returns in sordid cents. But he sat dumb as an oyster, and I was disappointed.

At the close of the discussion, the Lecturer said: "We have with us our esteemed friend, Mr. Ichabod Restley, at present teacher in the Dobson district, who has kindly consented to favor us with one of his own productions, an 'Essay on Man.' Ichabod looked more glum than common, and I was disheartened. He slowly came forward, adjusted the light, addressed the Grange and, with great difficulty, drew a huge manuscript from his pocket, then turned and solemnly took his seat, showing on his back as he did so two great, white letters, 'S. A.'"

A "library social" was announced for next Friday evening.

Jan. 9.—Sister Pris' long domestic letter today contained the two recipes I liked so well when with her, viz.: Common tea cake—Two eggs in cup filled up with sweet milk, one cup sugar, one and a half cups flour, two teaspoonfuls baking powder. For layers or loaf.

Brown bread—Two cups sour milk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls brown sugar or molasses, one teaspoonful each of soda and salt, three cups graham flour. Mix all at once very lightly; bake one hour.

I have both ready for tea with excellent results.

RUTH L. RESTLEY.

We want your renewal.

WORDS OF PRAISE.

Miss E. L. Shaw contributes the following to a Battle Creek daily:

The special woman's edition of the GRANGE VISITOR, for December, is worthy of notice as an exceptionally well edited and interesting number of a paper which is always good. This particular issue, as its name implies, is a woman's number throughout, made up of contributions from many well known women writers of Michigan, and edited by that indefatigable worker for the advancement of all women, Mrs. Mary A. Mayo, superintendent of woman's work in the State Grange—her of the large heart and the unstinting hand, who has made the getting out of this special number a labor of love. When Mrs. Mayo, as the head of the state committee, with some misgivings as to the success of the project, asked the women of the press of Michigan for articles more or less in the interest of women's life in the rural districts, she was met half way, and with such hearty appreciation and cordiality that her hands were soon filled, and her "special edition" submerged in "copy." Hers was then the task to select, arrange and edit this mass of matter, a task which has been ably done. The regular semi-monthly edition of the GRANGE VISITOR is always elevating in tone, and is the worthy organ of a most worthy organization, the Michigan State Grange.

We desire that you renew promptly.

EQUAL RIGHTS PRACTICALLY DEMONSTRATED.

MRS. LUKE C. COLBURN.

[Written for the Woman's Edition.]

In this land of immense distances, of grand, wild scenery, and snow-capped mountains, of beautiful moonlight, deepest shadows, and Italian skies, women vote. Yes, we vote! Not only are we granted the privilege of casting a ballot, but the state constitution says there shall be no distinction of sex in office-holding. Then, too, both sexes must be able to read this same constitution and be residents of the state one year before the right of suffrage is theirs.

For twenty-three years the state of Wyoming has granted this blessed privilege to woman. She has figured in every law, be it good or bad. Yet has she not been an active member of every legislature from Moses till today? And does it seem hardly reasonable for any rational thinker to believe that if every woman qualified for voting, did have the right of suffrage, that it would materially better the condition of this country, or in any great measure benefit woman? She is too nearly akin to man, and the better educated she becomes, the more she reasons like him. Therefore the best informed and thinking women, like our best men of today, will not be in politics, and the affairs of state will be no better than now.

COMPLICATES ELECTIONS.

One bright, progressive woman told me that here it simply complicated elections, making them more expensive, and the results were no better than if she had remained away from the polls.

Another said, "Oh! if women would only confine her political efforts to school management, how much better it would be!"

And a very common remark is, "Yes, I vote. It's my duty, you know, when the privilege is given me."

It has been the observation of the older residents here that in the case of the foreigner, the wife invariably votes the same ticket as her husband. And in but a very small percentage of the families is there any difference of opinions. Where there is any, however, it does not cause family jars, as we have often heard predicted in the east.

To test the strength of this statement, I'll relate a little incident that happened in territorial days, when a woman was elected Justice of the Peace. She performed her duties with dignity, and fined the ones who were brought before her for being overly intoxicated. One day the husband was brought before the magistrate, charged with drunkenness. He was treated like his brothers—fined.

FEW WOMEN IN OFFICE.

There are but a very few women in political office. To be sure many of the county Superintendents of Schools are women, but the salary is small, only about six hundred dollars per year, and any man qualified for the position can earn a much better salary at some other occupation. It is not an enviable position at best. Long journeys over hot plains, over hills, through valleys, and across rivers, and a two hundred mile journey has been made ere the round of the schools has been completed.

As among men, so are there office seekers among the women, for what money there is in the position, regardless of fitness for the task. But the educated, progressive woman does not seek office. We have one brilliant example of where the

office sought the woman. This is the case of the Secretary of the Board of Regents of the University. She performs her duties with a spirit of manly pride and broad thought, is a refined, cultured, educated woman.

Our circuit court stenographer (a Michigan girl) is equally as brilliant an example; eminently qualified, reticent, dignified; and every lawyer and judge of this state acknowledges her superior ability for her work.

Therefore after a residence here of two years, and many suggestions from older and wiser heads, this conclusion is reached, we, as a nation, are not yet ready for woman's vote. The woman is not prepared for voting, and when she is prepared she will have enough sense to see that her ballot is not needed. But if she insist that she must vote, there is but one reason why she should—she is a human being endowed with reasoning powers. If she demands the right she should be given it at the sacrifice of all her privileges.

Laramie, Wyoming.

We hope you won't forget to renew.

A SUFFRAGE LETTER.

[Written for Woman's Edition.]
BUZZARDSVILLE STATION,
October 10, 1893.

MY DEAR OLD FRIEND, SAMANTHA JANE—I once more take my pen in hand to write you a few lines, to let you know that I am well and hope you are enjoying the same blessing, and that I am still your friend, although you and I do not think alike on a variety of subjects. And this is one of the many things I cannot understand, why women do not see matters more alike. As I said before, when writing you a letter, of course you would not be expected to understand about some of the great political problems just now being solved—tariff-revision, and repeal, conditional or otherwise. But living as you do in an intelligent community, you must have at least read something of what the law makers and law givers of Michigan have done for the women of our state. Why they should require of women more than they do of men, I do not understand,—and, Samantha, this is one of the queer things that to me is inconsistent and wrong. You will pardon me if I quote a few lines from a woman's paper, the "Union Signal" (White Ribbon), printed in Chicago. It is from an argument against woman suffrage in Washington, delivered at Chautauqua, August 9, 1892. Says Dr. Buckley of New York, "If women are entitled to vote, all the Roman Catholic women of the country will be entitled to the right. What will become of our public schools, under these circumstances, in all of the cities and towns where there is a large Catholic population? All the colored women of the south will have a vote, and there are millions of them. All the foreigners will have the right to vote as soon as they are naturalized. All your domestics and servant girls will have the right to vote."

Now, Samantha, when I can be convinced that Catholic women, colored women, foreign women, or servant girls, are any worse than men who are Catholics, colored, foreigners, or domestic servants, or who are sometimes white, and Protestant, and American, then I will say no more in defense of woman suffrage, in Washington or elsewhere. There are differences in women as there are differences in men. What a difference between the poet of peace, Whittier, and the product of beer and passion, John L. Sullivan, and yet both exercise the ballot, and engage in government making. And does political power make one less gentle or the other less animal? Was Elizabeth Fry degraded by being constantly, as it were, in contact with crime? Political power would not have made her less a philanthropist or minister of mercy.

But I fear, Samantha, you will tire of my subject. But there is one thing more I want you to remember. It is this, it is about these men who so strongly oppose the right of franchise to us women, and are not willing to lend a hand to help roll the "woman suffrage car," if it does make out to get there, will take great credit to themselves and talk long and loud of what they said, and how they knew all the time it was sure to come. Of course if there is an inch gained or a point made by the patient, prayerful effort of women, men will be as much benefited as women. Of course there is plenty of work for all, but more especially does our Order give an opportunity to women. It has for its object the prosperity of its members and the world at large. Here the women occupy the same platform in common with the men, and might by united effort be a power for good, not only in the Order, but in all the avocations of life. Let us each look forward and not back, up and not down; and above all, in this great cause, lend a hand.

Yours for progress and right,
E. SMITH.

It only costs 50 cents to renew.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

Published on the first and third Thursdays of every month.

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

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

Office, Room 19, Old State Building.

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.
To insure insertion all notices should be mailed no later than the Saturday preceding issue.

Entered at the Postoffice at Lansing, Mich., as Second Class Matter.

NEXT ISSUE FEBRUARY 1.

OUR WORK.

The following has been approved by the State Grange as a fair statement of the objects the Grange of Michigan has in view and the special lines along which it purposes to work. We hope every Grange in the state will work earnestly in all of these departments, so that by a more united effort we shall rapidly increase our numbers, extend our influence, and attain more and more completely those ends which we seek.

OUR OBJECT

is the Organization of the Farmers for their own Improvement,

Financially,

Socially,

Mentally,

Morally.

WE BELIEVE

that this Improvement Can in Large Measure be Brought About:

1. (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.
- (b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.
2. (a.) By frequent social gatherings, and the mingling together of farmers with farmers, and of farmers with people of other occupations.
- (b.) By striving for a purer manhood, a nobler womanhood, and a universal brotherhood.
3. (a.) By studying and promoting the improvement of our district schools.
- (b.) By patronizing and aiding the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations in their legitimate work of scientific investigation, practical experiment, and education for rural pursuits.
- (c.) By maintaining and attending farmers' institutes; reading in the Reading Circle; establishing and using circulating libraries; buying more and better magazines and papers for the home.
4. (a.) By diffusing a knowledge of our civil institutions and teaching the high duties of citizenship.
- (b.) By demanding the enforcement of existing statutes, and by discussing, advocating, and trying to secure such other state and national laws as shall tend to the general justice, progress, and morality.

Renew now.

How is that big VISITOR list coming on?

We shall resume "The Tide of Affairs" as soon as time and space permit.

Secretaries, please be prompt in sending in renewals for the VISITOR, from your Grange.

May it not be possible to stop prize fights in Michigan? A little "mill" is just as bad as a big one.

You will notice that we have changed and enlarged "Postal Jottings" and now have a "Grange News" column.

How many Granges are soliciting contributions for the miners? Clothing is not now needed, but food can be used in Dickinson county.

You will be interested in "Leaves from Old Oaks," on page three, from the pen of "Miss Restly," who wrote for the VISITOR some years ago.

We have a practical farm page this week and hope to maintain the standard the year through. Do you know of any other farm paper in Michigan with proportionally as much original farm matter as the VISITOR?

If lecturers will frequently tell us what they are doing, their plans, results, and any little items, they may be able to help some brother lecturer. We shall be glad to have just such material for the Lecturers' Department.

RENEW.

Do not forget to renew. It is very important that you do it now. Is your time out? Look and see. You will do us a very great favor by renewing promptly. There is such a demand for VISITORS that unless you renew soon you are liable to miss a copy.

DO NOT NEGLECT.

Do not neglect the VISITOR campaign. If you do not secure the names soon it will be too late. We know it will take work, but we must rely on you for it. We cannot urge too strongly the need of getting your very best agent at work now at once, securing new names for the VISITOR list. Some Granges are appropriating money from the treasury to send eight or ten copies of the VISITOR to families outside the Order. That is a good plan and will help in gaining new members. Do not neglect the VISITOR.

NECESSARIES OF LIFE.

The economic definition of necessities is, we believe, that they consist of food, shelter, and clothing. But the term is a relative one and in these days has a different meaning to different people. To the very poor the old definition is complete. To the rich man much more needs to be added of material things. To the scholar books are necessary. And as we progress and our lives grow more complex the necessities of life increase.

There is still another way of approaching the subject. Man has a threefold nature, physical, mental, moral or spiritual. The economic definition quoted provides only for the first. In a sense, all that is absolutely necessary is that life be sustained. Yet it is not all of life to live. If man's mental and moral natures remain undeveloped he is better dead. He but cumbereth the ground. So we believe that there are necessities of life that pertain to the full development of man's grand powers.

What practical bearing has all this talk? Much, everyway. We too commonly regard travel, books, friends, schools, churches, as semi-luxuries. They are necessities. People deprived of them die in those parts of their nature which are most important. In this sense good schools are absolutely necessary, and they should be supported as such. Books are necessary. People think they can get along without them, but they can't if they view life aright. First class papers and magazines are necessary. Many try to do without them, but never without hurt. Society is necessary, for man is not a hermit. And so we might enumerate many things that, while they are often regarded as something that can be done without, are really, in the right view of life, necessary to man's best living.

The Grange is broad enough to appreciate this view, and advocates the full and complete development of man's powers.

THE SENATORSHIP.

The Detroit *Tribune* strongly advocates Gen. Alger for the United States senate. We have nothing to do with the question of who shall have the office, but there is a sentence used by the *Tribune* in its editorial on the subject that opens a legitimate field for us to discuss. "The *Tribune* has a candidate for the senatorship this year * * * and it will advocate the election of members of the legislature favorable to his choice."

The *Tribune* evidently believes in electing legislators to elect a senator. It announces its purpose of pursuing a policy that will choose men, not primarily to make laws, but to favor a certain man for office. We don't blame the *Tribune* particularly, that's the way it is done, that's practical politics; and we don't especially blame the gentlemen who desire the senatorship, for using such methods. Success depends on it. It was the method pursued last winter, it will be the plan followed this year, and probably twenty-five years from now it will be just as much in vogue as now. But that doesn't make it right. It is an entire perversion of our governmental system. Of course good legislators may be secured under this method, but it stands to reason that when a man is asked, "will you vote for A as senator?" instead of "how will you vote on questions of tax-

ation, liquor control, public expenditure, good roads?" that many inferior men will be chosen. The chief business of the legislature is legislation, not election of senators. But in politics the greater duty is subordinated to the lesser. Men are elected to vote for senator and incidentally to make laws; they should be elected to make laws and incidentally to vote for senator.

There are two ways of reducing the evil. One is to pass such election laws as shall effectually prohibit any man from contributing large sums to campaign expenses. Such a law of itself would be a good thing for other reasons. And just as long as wealthy men, with political aspirations, give heavily of money for the campaign, just so long will they be able to dictate the personnel of the legislatures to their own satisfaction. The other way to mitigate the wrong is to elect senators directly by the people. This would be the more effective, but is a reform of so difficult a nature that some other means must be utilized for the present.

In the meantime we leave it with the voters to decide whether they shall demand some reform on these lines.

OUR WORK.

"We believe in the wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping."

It is beautiful to think of the meadows fragrant with the freshly cut hay, the full uddered kine lowing in the lane, the soft evening breezes wafting to your ears, over hill and dale, the tinkling of sheep bells. Very beautiful, and very true, these pictures and others, for nowhere is there better opportunity for nature worship than on our farms. But the sentimentalist, as soon as he takes the plow handles, strikes the rocks of necessity, and his swelling phrases turn to suppressed mutterings.

For farming is a business. Men farm for money. They plow, not for poets' delight, but for dollars. They swing the cradle (we use "cradle" for poetry's sake), not for the rhythmic motion, but for bread. Some people forget this, apparently, when talking of and to farmers. But the farmer doesn't forget it. Waving fields of grain are much more beautiful to him with wheat quoted at one dollar a bushel than when it is fifty cents. The bleating of lambs, as they skip on the hillside, arouses much more pleasant emotions, when wool is 30 cents a pound, than when it is 15 cents.

Any man who farms must look first to the dollar and cent side of it. And the Grange, if it does its work thoroughly, will take notice of the business side of farming. And the Grange does notice it. We believe that the business of farming should be improved. Farming ought to be fairly remunerative for the efforts put forth; and the Grange proposes to help make it so. We believe that certain aids in this endeavor can come from outside, from legislation, and from experiment. The rest will have to come from the farmer himself, who must make a wider study of his business.

How can the farmer make this study? By reading, by experimenting for himself, and especially by discussion with other farmers. Here is where the Grange can exert a practical influence. Lecturer's hour should frequently be occupied with the topics of crop cultivation, stock raising, markets, etc. It would indeed be a fine thing if the State Grange could have a very able committee who should keep these questions stirred up, and should themselves make a special study of the conditions confronting Michigan agriculture. But the Grange can now do very effective work in the way of discussions and talks, and it must do this class of work if it does its full duty.

TWO CRITICISMS.

In another column we print two letters, each commenting on what was our "platform," and which now goes by the title of "Our Work."

"Not a Farmer" suggests that it is inconsistent to seek a universal brotherhood, and to urge that farmers mingle with people of other occupations, and at the same time to exclude from membership in the Grange all but farmers.

In the first place farmers have the same advantage in organizing that other occupations have. Bar associations, press clubs, medical societies, printers' unions, are not

likely to admit farmers. In other words, from the standpoint of self interest, the farmers are entitled to an exclusive organization.

Now, as to mingling with people of other occupations, we believe this is advantageous to both parties. But it does not necessarily imply that other people than farmers must be admitted to the Grange. The Grange stands for a set of purposes of special interest to farmers, and in order to meet with other people we do not need to allow those of indifferent or antagonistic interests within the gates. Indeed, we believe that, being organized, we can secure better facilities for the acquaintance we desire and can discover to our city friends much more effectively the needs and capabilities of the farmer.

The same argument applies to the brotherhood query. Brotherhood, like charity, begins near the hearthstone. The first step is that a man shall learn the needs of those associated with him. It is not much of a rural brotherhood that tries to save lawyers from future punishment, much as the work may be needed, but neglects the minds and hearts of the farmers. And then, as before, being thus organized and educated as farmers surely are in the Grange, we believe they will acquire a broader outlook, will appreciate as never before the great world problems; and in turn the busy and sometimes unthinking urban dwellers will sympathize, as they never would have done except the matter had been called to their attention by a farmers' organization, with the struggles and aspirations of the farmers.

As our correspondent suggests, the subject grows broader and deeper; but we have perhaps said enough to indicate our position. If he will note our editorial page during the next four or five months, he will find as a complete explanation of "Our Work" as we are able to make.

Mr. F. Hodgman intimates that "Our Work" expresses editorial rather than Grange sentiment. That is not so. The editor originally drafted the platform, but it was quite remodeled from suggestions obtained from our leading Patrons and was unanimously approved by the Executive committee. It has also had the approval of our National Master. We must very briefly notice some other points made by our friend Mr. Hodgman.

Because the Grange antagonized a certain measure concerning our district schools, it does not indicate antagonism to the schools. But if Mr. Hodgman will carefully review the proceedings of the last State Grange, he will not even assert that the Grange occupies a neutral, not to say a negative position on this subject. We have a permanent committee on Education, one member of which will make it her special work to study the district schools, and to work with the Superintendent of Public Instruction in their behalf. The plan is so comprehensive that one committee in each subordinate Grange will make this work a large part of its business during the year. The plan worked well last year and much good was done.

When the circulation of the VISITOR is touched it bears on a tender spot. But we think our correspondent exaggerates the condition. We never have claimed that more than one-fifth, or at most one-fourth of the Grange families do not take the VISITOR, which comes under his "agricultural papers." We are after that one-fifth, of course. And while we can't prove that most of the Patrons do take agricultural papers and other standard reading, we are willing to assert that three-fourths of them do, and "challenge proof to the contrary."

As to roads. We must say that we regret the action of the last State Grange, on this subject. But we believe, knowing something of the personal opinions of our leading Patrons, that the present law has many friends in the Grange, while we further believe that when the law is fully understood, it will either be amended in points to which there may be valid objections, or receive the entire approval of the Grange.

In conclusion we want to say that if all the conditions aimed at by "Our Work" existed, we might perhaps need no Grange. The Grange has a mission, in our opinion.

It does exist for its own sake, but because it has a work to do. And its work will not be done until all farmers are prosperous and thrifty; until they "measure up" in all respects with any men that tread the earth; until our schools and colleges give to the farmer the training he most needs as farmer and citizen; until the man on the farm receives his rights, appreciates his opportunities, and stands on the pinnacle of his capabilities.

We shall be glad if any of our readers, not Patrons, will criticize or inquire in any way they can. We believe in the Grange, and believe that when fully understood it will draw the support of thousands of farmers, and the sympathy and appreciation of thousands not farmers. And if we can by any explanations help this condition along, we shall be much gratified.

FROM THE MASTER.

MASTER'S OFFICE, FRUIT RIDGE, MICH., January 1, 1894.

The usual process followed by counties in selecting suitable persons to be appointed as county deputies, is so uncertain and consumes so much valuable time, that I have thought it to be for the best interests of the Order to recommitment all who served last year, to act until new names were recommended, and in case of failure on the part of any county to make such recommendation, the extension of time should cover the whole year. This is not intended in any way to interfere with the rights of counties in choosing whom they want for local deputies and counties should proceed as usual to make such selections as the best interests of the Order will warrant, and forward the names to me. My experience in the year past has demonstrated the fact that the county deputies have the real welfare of the Grange resting upon their shoulders to as great an extent as any other class of Grange workers, and from their knowledge of their own people in their respective counties they can do more in organizing and reorganizing than any other persons. This being true it is very important that active, willing workers who really have the interests of the Grange at heart, be selected. There are many in the field who did nobly last year. They should be continued. If the county deputy is qualified to speak in public fairly well, so much the better, and in such cases an exchange of lecture work between adjacent counties would be profitable in several ways. It would be educating new speakers for the field, and would extend the usefulness of many of our active members.

I have just issued and sent out to all deputies, special circulars asking their assistance in certain lines of Grange extension work. I sincerely hope that all local deputies will respond to the call and that all Patrons will lend assistance for the purpose of strengthening our lines and increasing our membership.

GEO. B. HORTON.

The Lecture Field.

HOW TO BOOM THE GRANGE.

- 1. Keep bringing the young people to the front.
2. Work for the best interest of the Grange and you will soon find that it is working for you.
3. See that the Visitor is read in every family in your neighborhood, then remember to send in the news items frequently.
4. Use the local papers constantly to advertise meetings and to keep the objects and work of the Grange before the people.
5. Hold occasional open meetings and personally invite your neighbors to take part with you.
6. Begin a Grange library and museum, then add to it each month.
7. Don't give up until the best people in your community join you.
8. Be sure that every member has something doing.
9. Open and close your Grange on time.
10. Remember the Declaration of Purposes and "Our Work."

A. J. C.

F. H. R. C.

Motto—"Begin; keep at it."

EXPENSES.

There are no expenses connected with the course except the purchase of books.

The expenses of correspondence, postage and printing are paid by a legislative appropriation. The publishers have in nearly every instance given the circle very favorable prices on all books. All orders must be accompanied with the quoted price. Money may be sent by express money order, postal note, postoffice money order or New York draft. All orders should be made payable to the secretary. Address all communications to

F. B. MUMFORD, Secretary, Agricultural College, Mich.

DIPLOMAS.

Anyone completing a book may obtain a blank from the secretary, upon which the reader will make a report on the principal

subjects treated in the book. If the report is deemed satisfactory the reader will receive a certificate. A certificate will also be given on the completion of each class. Any three of the classes constitute a course, and on the completion of the work in three of the classes, the reader will be entitled to a suitable diploma. It is recommended that a class be taken up as a year's work; in this way the course will be completed in three years. The reports are not required, and anyone may read without sending in reports or taking examinations of any kind.

THE COURSE.

We expect to print this course each issue for a time. Books will be sent when chosen as premiums, the same as any other books in our list. Those who may order from us should however send their names and addresses to the Secretary of the circle, stating that they have secured books of us and wish to take the course. Otherwise they will get no credit for their reading. We do not care to handle the books except as premiums. If you want to buy outright, send to F. B. Mumford, Agricultural College, Mich.

CLASS I. SOILS AND CROPS.

- 1. First Principles of Agriculture.—Mills & Shaw. (pp. 1-116) \$0 50
2. Soils and Crops.—Morroe & Hunt. 75
3. Talks on Manures.—Harris. 1 16
4. Silos and Silage.—Cook. 15
5. Land Drainage.—Miles. 67

CLASS II. LIVE STOCK.

- 1. First Principles of Agriculture.—Mills & Shaw. (pp. 116-250) 50
2. Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine.—Curtis. 1 75
3. Stock Breeding.—Miles. 1 13
4. Feeding Animals.—Stewart. 1 47
5. Dairyman's Manual.—Stewart. 1 32
6. Shepherd's Manual.—Stewart. 1 00
7. Harris on the Pig.—Harris. 1 34
8. Horse Breeding.—Stewart. 1 46

CLASS III. GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

- 1. Practical Fruit Growing.—Maynard. 30
2. How the Garden Pays.—Greiner. 1 18
3. Ornamental Gardening.—Long. 1 34
4. Insects and Insecticides.—Weed. 91
5. Gardening for Pleasure.—Henderson. 1 34
6. Winter Greenhouses.—Johnson. 1 25
7. Propagation of Plants.—Fuller. 1 00
8. Home Floriculture.—Reeford. 1 13

CLASS IV. HOME MAKING.

- 1. Helps for Home Makers. 60
2. Anna Maria's Housekeeping. 60
3. How to Win.—Willard. 75
4. The New Womanhood.—J. C. Fernald. 95
5. How the Other Half Lives.—Riss. 1 25

CLASS V. POLITICAL SCIENCE.

- 1. Elements of Political Economy.—Ely. 1 00
2. Political Economy.—Walker. 1 20
3. American Commonwealth.—Bryce. (2 vols.) 2 70

* Any one Elective.

NOTICE.

The State and National proceedings will be sent promptly to those Granges whose Secretaries have reported names and post-office addresses of their Master, Secretary, and Lecturer for 1894. Has your Secretary done this?

Can any one secure a copy of the proceedings of the second session of the State Grange and send me? It is very much needed and will be thankfully received.

JENNIE BUELL, Secretary.

Ann Arbor, Box 137.

OF INTEREST TO THE GRANGES OF MICHIGAN.

While the Order in the past few years has been doing a good work, and untold benefits to the members have been the result, we have let go one very important feature of cooperation, that of buying and selling together, and in various ways of acting together for mutual financial benefit. Conditions have very materially changed since the Grange first made an effort to benefit its members in this particular line. Then the Grange was compelled to act the part of a merchant and dealer and invest its own money in trade enterprises. Naturally enough, with combined opposition, inexperience and the uneducated condition of the farmers in thus working together, these new departures were nearly all failures. These ventures, although disastrous in the first sense, were of great benefit in another way. The seed was sown and from that time commenced a new education.

AS IT USED TO BE.

Previously the farmers knew no market for buying or selling past his nearest local village. Where his produce was consumed and from what countries his wants were supplied, with first costs, intervening profits, cost of transportation, etc., were a blank to him.

No mercantile dealers or manufacturers outside of his local town sought his trade. He took whatever price was offered for his produce and paid the price asked for supplies he wanted in return.

In those days the farmer's sphere was narrow, and in sublime ignorance of the great world of traffic outside that bought and sold for him, he plodded along, not realizing that a new light was about to dawn upon him and that the line fences were to be let down.

TIME HAS WROUGHT A CHANGE.

And today the farmer's market in which to buy and sell is as broad as the world. He may now have opportunities and advantages in this line equal to those of any other class of people. If he lacks enterprise and courage to act let him make no

complaints. Manufacturers, wholesale and specialty dealers are numerous who seek the farmers' trade. The mails bring us daily illustrated trade catalogues, soliciting pamphlets, circulars and personal letters, all asking for trade. We have but to make our selections from the list, make trade contracts, and concentrate our purchases to get substantial advantages. New York, Pennsylvania, and all of the New England states have these trade contracts, and of such benefit have they been to the Order that in all of those states the Grange has prospered as it never did before. Granges in every township, with from one to five hundred membership, is the rule in those states.

THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE ALIVE TO THE SITUATION.

At its last session our State Grange carefully considered this feature of cooperation, and placed the matter in the hands of the Executive committee with instructions to proceed at once with investigations and making contracts. It will necessarily take some time to get started right, with the right kind of contracts, and to select the best houses with which to deal. With such men as Brothers Thomas Mars, H. D. Platt, and Perry Mayo, as a sub-committee to give special attention to this matter, we feel assured that in the near future we can commence to report closed contracts. There is such a wide range of articles for which contracts will be sought that new additions to the list will continually be made. The contracts will aim to cover not only the lines of groceries, boots and shoes, and housekeeping supplies, but the long list of specialties that farmers need from time to time, and among which may be named fruit trees and nursery stock, garden and field seeds, phosphates, binding twine, fodder twine, sewing machines, washing machines, farm wagons, harness, etc.

The Patrons of Michigan may feel assured that the State Grange will do all in its power to carry out the principles set forth in Article 3 of the Declaration of Purposes.

GEO. B. HORTON.

TWO CRITICISMS.

MR. EDITOR—In late numbers of the GRANGE VISITOR you give prominence to "Our Platform."

You state "our object" to be "the organization of the farmers for their own improvement," and as a means to that end you give what "we believe." Your Grange (as it is commonly understood) is for farmers only, but in 2a of your creed you propose to have farmers mingle "with people of other occupations," and in 2b you seek a "universal brotherhood." Are you not a little inconsistent in all this, and are you doing as you would be done by?

Your Grange is a close communion affair, and one who spends a good part of his time in a store, or an office, or a shop, is proscribed. He is not allowed to join and yet you seek to be his brother.

You want farmers to mingle with people of other occupations, presumably for the farmers' own good, but the good that farmers have is locked up behind closed doors with pass words, signs, and grips standing sentinels. Isn't that a sort of a dog in the manger way of doing things?

It is as it should be that farmers should mingle with people of other occupations, trades and professions, and get what profit they can. It is all right to labor for a universal brotherhood, but to be consistent, ought not farmers to be willing to admit others to their meetings so that others might profit by mingling with them?

And how can you truthfully say that you believe in a universal brotherhood when none but farmers are admitted to your fraternity?

I never had more pleasure or profit in the same length of time than when attending a farmers' institute, and even there the main talk was not by the common, every day, practical farmers, but by professionals, each in some special line; men who were no more "the horny handed sons of toil" than the most dainty dude in the land. What would these institutes have amounted to if farmers alone had conducted them?

Those of us who belong to the proscribed classes have no wish to be where we are not wanted, but we could profit by mingling with farmers, as you hope they may, by mingling with others, but you seem to be willing to receive, though not to give, and how can there be a universal brotherhood if the universal is limited to farmers alone?

You want books, magazines, and papers to be more common. Very few farmers write books, or for the magazines, or for the papers, and would not those who do be better prepared to write in a manner more pleasant and profitable to the farmer if they were permitted to attend their meetings?

The subject grows wider and deeper the further I go and this must do for a starter.

Yours, "NOT A FARMER."

EDITOR OF THE GRANGE VISITOR—I notice in the VISITOR your platform and

invitation for criticism. With most of the platform I can most heartily agree, but on the whole it strikes me as representing the editor rather than the Grange, or at least in some points it does. For instance, what evidence have we that the Grange has any desire for the improvement of our district schools. Has it ever proposed or advocated a single practical measure for that purpose? If so, what measure, and where and when? If there is any such measure, I am ignorant of it and wish to be enlightened. On the contrary, are they not on record as opposed to practical measures proposed by others for their improvement. As I understand it, the Grange not only offers nothing itself for the improvement of our common schools, but opposes the efforts of others for that purpose. If I am wrong I would be glad to be set right.

Again, as to buying more and better papers and magazines for the home. Good land! They do not half support the VISITOR, to say nothing of any other paper or magazine. I do not believe that over one-fourth of the members of the Grange take any agricultural paper or magazine whatever and I challenge proof to the contrary. It is a good thing to read in the editor's platform, but I fear it has no existence as an active, living principle of the Grange. If there is any such thing tucked away in the declaration of principles it lies there dormant.

Now as to another thing not in the platform. The VISITOR has been a consistent advocate of good roads, but in that it does not represent the Grange. The Grange as a society not only offers nothing itself for the improvement of our road system, but it actively opposes everything proposed by others. If I am wrong in this will some one please point out an instance to the contrary in evidence?

F. HODGMAN.

Climax.

WELL TO KNOW.

A writer in the Outlook for Dec. 23, 1893, writes of the vote on equal suffrage lately taken in Colorado. She gives the attitudes of the various classes of citizens toward the question. The farmers, she says, were largely in favor of the extension of the franchise. They saw nothing revolutionary in the law itself, nor in its tendencies. They found nothing novel in the principle, because the Grange, she adds, "admitted women on full equality with men over twenty-seven years ago."

The Educational Library is a little book valuable for every woman to own, that was published last fall by the educational club of this city. Although the "woman's law" has been declared unconstitutional, the parliamentary rules and other matter given in this leaflet will amply repay every Grange woman for securing a copy. The price is five cents, the publisher Miss E. Cora DePuy, Ann Arbor, Mich. When you have read it you will discover that even our gentlemen friends are not above dismally mixing parliamentary regulations sometimes, and also, that you can recognize when they are right, as you may not have been able to do before.

Ann Arbor.

J. B.

NOBLE HELP.

Sylvan Grange No. 393, Cranston, Oceana county, raised eighteen and a fourth barrels of flour and forwarded it to the destitute miners of the upper peninsula. Many outside the Grange contributed to the donation, for which they will please accept the thanks of the Grange. Much credit is due Brothers A. B. White, E. D. White, A. Brady, and Master Taylor for their time and efforts spent in behalf of the sufferers.

GEO. C. MYERS, Secretary.

CROPS FOR 1893.

The following is an estimate of the product and value of the leading crops for the year 1893, made by the United States Department of Agriculture:

Table with 4 columns: Crop, Yield, Bushels, Value. Includes Corn, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Barley, Buckwheat, Potatoes, Hay, Tobacco.

\$100 REWARD, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials. Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

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MICHIGAN PATRONS - Buy direct from "Factory" at full Wholesale Prices and save all Middlemen's Profits.
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Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints
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Sample Color Cards, "Confidential" Grange Discounts, Est mates and full particulars MAILED FREE. Write at once.

MICHIGAN STOCK BREEDERS.

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

H. H. HINDS

Stanton, Montcalm Co
Breeder of
**Shorthorn Cattle
American Merino
and Shropshire Sheep**

BLACK MEADOW FARM.

Standard-bred Trotters
Shorthorn Cattle
Write for
Shropshire Sheep
Catalog. Berkshire Pigs
F. A. BAKER, Detroit.
69 Buhl Block.

Oakland Poultry Yards.

300 Fine Chickens at hard times prices. Barded Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, R. C. W. and S. C. B. Leghorns, Golden Wyandottes, Buff Leghorns, Indian Games, and Bronze Turkeys. Will sell in any quantity to suit purchasers.
MILLER BROS.,
Beddow, Mich.

COLBY STOCK FARM.

Rambouillet Sheep, Galloway Cattle, and Percheron Horses. All stock pure bred and registered. Two Percheron Stallions for sale at a bargain. Spring Rye for Seed.
Address, L. F. HOAG, COLBY, MICH.,
or L. B. TOWNSEND, IONIA, MICH.

M. H. WALWORTH

HILLSDALE, MICH
BREEDER OF
ESSEX, VICTORIA AND SUFFOLK SWINE
OF THE BEST
Also American Merino Sheep of choice quality

SHROPSHIRE HALL STOCK FARM

Has now on sale 50 Registered yearling Rams, 25 Registered yearling Ewes, also imported Ewes and Rams, 1894 importation to arrive in July.
L. S. DUNHAM,
Concord, Mich.

SHROPSHIRE FORD '93

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References: ex-Gov. Winans and C. S. Gregory, Banker, Dexter, Mich.
Choice Yearling Ram and Ewe Lambs for sale Terms reasonable. We pay half of freight or express.
VALENTINE BROS.,
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Ovid, Mich.
Breeder of IMPROVED
CHESTER WHITE SWINE
And Lincoln Sheep. A choice lot of stock for sale at farmers' prices. Breeding stock all recorded. Reduced prices on fall Pigs. Write, or come and look me over.

MERINO SHEEP

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WHITE BRONZE TURKEYS
bred from prize winners, of the Dark Bronze, at the Indiana and Michigan State Fairs, also at the Tri-State Fair at Toledo, you can get them of
C. M. FELLOWS, Saline, Mich.

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Specialist in castrating colts without use of ropes, cords, clamps, or fire irons. Write for circular.

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Brooders only \$5. Best and cheapest for raising chicks; 40 first premiums; 3,000 testimonials; send for catalogue.
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That's the great reason why you should know about our salt. It requires the best to produce the best. The good farmer realizes this with his seed; shall the butter maker be less wise? Our salt is as carefully made as your butter-made expressly for dairy work; and bright dairymen everywhere find their butter better made and their labor better paid when they use

Diamond Crystal Dairy Salt.

No matter what brand you have used, just give this a fair trial. It is first in flavor, first in grain, and first in purity. Whether for dairy or table use, you will find it to your advantage to be acquainted with the salt that's all salt. Write us.
DIAMOND CRYSTAL SALT CO.,
St. Clair, Mich.

College and Station.

The Professors at the Michigan Agricultural College have kindly consented to answer all important questions asked of them through the VISITOR.

VALUE OF GOOD SEEDS.

There is not the slightest doubt of the advantage of sowing seed of the first quality. Light grades of wheat or of any other grain are light because they contain a percentage more or less great of small and shriveled grains. These do not have the vitality that full sized, plump grains have, and many of them fail to germinate, or they produce but weak plants. Under favorable circumstances such seed may do well. When the conditions are all that could be wished for, the yield depends chiefly upon the number of plants in a given area, other things being equal; and since a bushel of given weight will contain a greater number of small or partially shriveled grains than of plump and heavy grains, it is evident that they will fall thicker on the ground, and when nearly all grow will produce a thicker stand than from the same weight of heavy seed. The theory which some farmers still hold, that a bushel is a bushel when used for seed, no matter what its quality, is not only fallacious, but is disastrous to those who put it into practice. It is chiefly owing to a lack of care in selection of the seed that we hear of varieties "running out," and it is only by selection and good culture that any variety can be brought to its highest standard.—*Report Kansas Board of Agriculture.*

MAIZE EXPERIMENTS.

[Bulletin Pennsylvania Station.]

1. The ensilage of maize may considerably increase the digestibility of the crude fiber of the green material.
2. This result is only obtained when the loss by fermentation is so large that the crude fiber is attacked and is at the cost of a decreased digestibility of every other important ingredient.
3. The albuminoids are especially affected by ensilage, a considerable proportion of them being converted into less valuable forms and the digestibility of the remainder being reduced sometimes nearly or quite to zero.
4. Such silage may be considerably more digestible than poorly cured fodder, except as to the albuminoids.
5. Field curing seems in every case to decrease the digestibility of the fresh substance.
6. When the processes are successfully conducted and the losses small, ensilage and field-curing both decrease the digestibility of the fresh material somewhat, and to about the same extent.

THE BABCOCK MILK TEST.

Precautions in Using it.

[Bulletin Illinois Station.]

1. An acid having 1.82 sp. gr. should be used with milk at 60° to 70° F. If the acid is stronger, cool the milk to a lower temperature. Somewhat weaker acid can probably be made to work all right by warming the milk.
2. When measuring the acid into the test bottles, hold the bottle at an angle that will cause the

acid to follow the inside walls to the bottom of the bottle, and not drop through the milk in the center of the bottle. If properly poured into the test bottle there will be a distinct layer of milk and acid with little or no black color between them.

3. Thoroughly mix the milk and acid as soon as measured into the test bottle. A better separation of fat is obtained by mixing at once than by allowing the two liquids to stand unmixed in the bottle until enough tests have been measured out to fill the centrifuge.

4. After five minutes whirling of the test bottles in the centrifuge, add hot water until the test bottle is filled up to the neck only; run the centrifuge one minute, then fill the neck of the test bottle with hot water and run the centrifuge another minute. Adding the necessary hot water in two portions is often a great help in getting a clear separation of fat. When the test bottles are taken from the centrifuge they are put into water at 140° to 160° F., and the per cent of fat read at that temperature.

5. Too low results will be obtained if the centrifuge does not have sufficient speed. The machines have to be watched, as constant use wears some of them so that the speed designed by the manufacturer is not obtained.

6. When testing skim milks or buttermilks which have a very small per cent of fat (two-tenths of one per cent or less), the reading of the per cent of fat should be made immediately on taking the test bottle from the centrifuge. If this is not done and the test bottle cools before taking the reading, the contraction of the liquid in the bottle will often leave the fat spread over the inside surface of the measuring tube so that it is not seen but has the appearance of being only a dirty tube. If read when taken from the machine, the small globules of fat can be seen and estimated.

BERRIES ON THE FARM.

[Bulletin Cornell Station.]

1. Black raspberries can be made a profitable farm crop when grown for evaporating purposes and gathered by the aid of the berry harvester, regardless of proximity to markets. An average yield with good culture is about 75 to 80 bushels per acre.
2. An average yield of red raspberries is about 70 bushels per acre. An average yield of blackberries is about 100 bushels per acre.
3. Majority of growers find low summer pinching of blackberries best for most varieties.
4. Growers are about equally divided in opinion as to whether red raspberries should be pinched back at all in summer. If pinched, it should be done low and early. The canes should be made to branch low.
5. Evaporating red raspberries has not yet proved profitable.
6. There seems to be no immediate prospect that blackberries can be profitably grown for evaporating purposes.
7. Berry canes which made their entire growth after July 6, stood the winter as well or better than those which grew through the whole season.
8. Removing all young canes from a plantation bearing its last

crop of fruit materially increases the yield.

9. Raspberries and blackberries can be successfully grown under glass, but require artificial pollination and a comparatively high temperature.

10. Under ordinary conditions, thinning the fruit of raspberries and blackberries, other than that done by the spring pruning, does not pay.

11. Cutting off the bearing canes early in spring does not induce autumn fruiting of raspberries.

12. Frequent spraying with water throughout the blossoming period did not interfere with pollination and subsequent fruit production.

13. The only remedy for red-rust is to dig up and burn at once every plant found to be affected. Cut away and burn all canes affected with anthracnose pits and spray the plantation with Bordeaux mixture. Root-galls weaken the plants causing them to appear as if suffering from poor soil. Removing the plants and burning the roots is the only remedy.

A DAIRY BULLETIN.

Bulletin No. 5 of the Bureau of Animal Industry, now in press, will be ready for distribution, it is expected, by the middle of January. It consists of a report on the Dairy Industry of Denmark, by Prof. C. C. Georgeson, of the Agricultural College of Kansas. A preliminary report containing many interesting facts relating to the conditions of agriculture in Denmark, the importance of the dairy industry, increase in Danish butter exports, with some particulars as to the methods employed on some of the farms, and including a very interesting account of the Milk Supply Company of Copenhagen, was issued by the Department last spring. The present report consists of 133 pages, covering the same subjects as the preliminary report, only in greater detail as to methods of dairying, treatment of the butter, packing for market, together with detailed reports on several of the principal dairy farms, and the cooperative creameries. Prof. Georgeson also treats of dairy bacteriology, the construction of ice houses, and devotes several pages to a description of the dairy cattle in common use in that country, and the improvement which has taken place in them as the result of more careful breeding for dairy purposes. Applications for copies of this report should be addressed to the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

HORR KEEPS IT UP IN THE TRIBUNE.

While the American people have never seen a time during which they did not have a large array of burning public questions to discuss, there certainly never has been an epoch, since the Revolution, excepting that of 1861, which has given rise to more striking issues than the present. The Tribune discusses the Silver, Tariff, and Elections questions and admirably. That great paper fills a field of its own, and does it well. Readers can subscribe both for the Tribune and for this paper, if they desire; and the two make an excellent political outfit. The Tribune's market reports are superb. Our metropolitan contemporary deals with national questions with remarkable force, ability and courage. For 50 years it has been a fighter and is no less so now than it ever was. It hits with a good hard stick and seldom misses the mark. It believes that agitation, discussion, and thorough exploring of public questions are the only path, which leads to a wise and patriotic solution of them; and Roswell G. Horr's ably prepared and exhaustive articles in the Tribune, on the Tariff, Silver, Labor, Wages, etc., will help any citizen to decide rightly on the issues of the day. It illustrates the news of the day profusely. The Tribune's prospectus in another column tells the story more fully. Republicans in this county will do well to subscribe for the Tribune this year in combination with this paper. An illustrated premium list will be sent by the Tribune, free, to applicants. Sample copies are also free.

Fly paper is gradually being withdrawn from circulation.—Pittsburg Chronicle.

"ACME" PULVERIZING HARROW, CLOD CRUSHER AND LEVELER

Is adapted to all soils and all work for which a Harrow is needed.

Flat crushing spurs pulverize lumps, level and smooth the ground, while at the same time curved coulters cultivate, cut, lift and turn the entire surface of the soil. The backward slant of the coulters prevents tearing up rubbish and reduces the draft.

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J. C. GOULD, Agt., Paw Paw, Mich.

What is this



Non-pull-out

anyhow



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A postal will bring you a watch case opener.

Keystone Watch Case Co., PHILADELPHIA.

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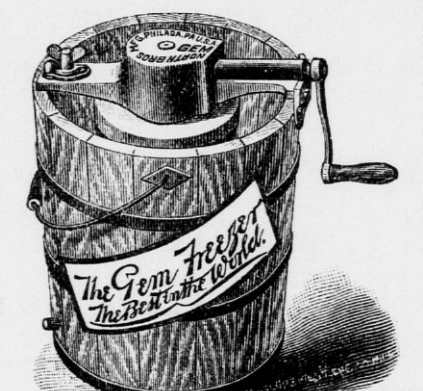
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