

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XX. NO. 2.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, JANUARY 17, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 458.

The Tide of Affairs.

SENATORIAL ELECTIONS.

Numerous senatorial elections are now occurring, and in many instances there is dissatisfaction with the results on the part of the people. Apparently the sentiment toward popular elections of senators is growing more and more pronounced. Even politicians are coming to wish that this reform might be accomplished. Whether true or not people feel that legislatures are practically bought for senatorial purposes.

THE LEXOW COMMITTEE.

The now famous Lexow committee has finished its work of investigation into the conduct of the police force of New York, and the people begin to realize the extent of the corruption that exists in that city. The demand now is that prosecutions should be begun and the offenders brought to justice. It is also demanded that further investigation be inaugurated in other departments of the city government.

THE CURRENCY.

It looks as if the Cleveland-Carlisle currency bill would have hard sledding in this congress. It is unsatisfactory to many Democrats, and is likely to be opposed by the Republicans, for political reasons if for no other reasons. Senator Teller made a strong silver speech last week, urging that there is no use in attempting financial legislation without hearing silver. He said that neither of the great parties, nor the Populist party, would alone settle the currency question. It would have to come from the aroused sentiment of the whole people.

TWO FRIENDS OF THE FARMER.

It was unfortunate that Congressman Hatch of Missouri was defeated last fall. He has been a constant, persistent, and consistent friend of the farmer, and has done more for them in congress than any other one man. It is now reported that Senator Washburn, of Minnesota, who has been leading the anti-option fight in the senate, is in danger of defeat by Governor Nelson, who has recently announced his candidacy.

Legislation.

Report of Permanent Legislative Committee at State Grange.

WORTHY MASTER AND PATRONS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE: The State Legislative Committee offer the following report for your consideration:

I. TAXATION.

At a recent meeting of the Farmers' National Congress, held in Parkersburg, W. Va., a paper was read on "Farmers and Taxation," by a delegate from the state of New York.

This paper "pointed out that farm land paid much more than its just share of taxes," and "the discussion brought out the fact that there was no similarity or uniformity in assessment in the various states."

This fact shows the necessity for all farmers' organizations and associations taking up and thoroughly discussing the taxation question in all its phases, but especially as related to the taxation of farm property; for as National Master Brigham well says in his annual address, "The farmers realize as never before that self help is their only hope."

From quite an extended correspondence with Masters of State Granges on taxation of farm property in their state, the fact is further emphasized by a large majority of the replies received from State Masters, that in their opinion farm property in many states of the Union does bear an unjust proportion of the burden of taxation as compared with other forms of property; and the ostensible reason given for this fact is that farm property lies open to view where it can readily be seen and assessed, while in many cases personal property largely escapes taxation.

After some deliberation and examination of the Michigan tax law of 1893, it is our opinion that if its provisions are faithfully and conscientiously carried out by all supervisors and assessing officers, it will in the main give an equitable distribution of the burden of taxation; excepting certain

classes of property doing business in the state along lines of railroad, such as the Pullman Car Company, Blue Line Freight, etc.

But in order to make the tax law of 1893 efficient, we recommend that section 18 of said tax law be so amended as to put all parties under oath when their property is listed and assessed, and where in section 18 of the tax law it says the supervisor "may in his discretion put any party under oath, instead thereof insert the supervisor "shall" put all parties under oath when taking their assessment.

II. PURE FOOD AND DAIRY LAW.

In view of the fact that there is a growing interest in dairying at the present time throughout our state, and as the present pure food and dairy law seems not sufficiently stringent for the proper protection of the dairy interests, we recommend that the present law be so amended and strengthened by legislative enactments as will fully protect the dairy interest of our state against all other imitations of pure butter and cheese, and all adulterations of dairy products.

And we would give the pure food and dairy commissioner more ample police powers, if needed, so he can take samples of any article of food found upon the market and examine the same as to its composition or constituent elements; and also for the protection of consumers, empower him to inspect all butter and cheese factories in the state as to their processes, methods of work and cleanliness.

We hereby ask the associations in the state to secure such legislative enactments as will protect the industry of electric cooking is now in its infancy, and we must not neglect the pure butter, margarine, butterine and filled cheese, or any other method of imitating or adulterating dairy products.

We favor the passage of the Grout bill now pending in the U. S. congress, and designated as House Bill No. 7125, and entitled a bill "To make oleomargarine and all other imitations of dairy products, subject to the laws of the state into which they are transported."

III. STATE GRAIN INSPECTION LAW.

We favor the enactment of a state grain inspection law which shall by a practical method protect the grain growers of the state against the system now in practise whereby different grades of grain are mixed and manipulated, thereby lowering the grade and in consequence thereof the price paid the producer is less oftentimes by several cents per bushel than he is justly entitled to receive. Such a grain inspection law is now in force in the state of Missouri and in some other western states, and we are informed gives practical results to the grain growers in those states. We believe such a law would tend to enhance the value of Michigan grain in the markets outside the state, as their grade has suffered from the system of mixing and grading now practised. In line with such a grain inspection law we hereby heartily endorse the following resolution, passed by the Farmers' National Congress at its recent session:

"Resolved, That all grain and seeds to be put upon the market shall be graded according to quality by a sample of a legal half bushel, and that no smaller quantity shall be a lawful sample, from which such grade shall be determined, and that the Congress memorialize the legislatures of the various states to enact laws to secure that end."

IV. STATE INSTITUTIONS.

We feel that the Patrons of Michigan are greatly indebted to the editor of the VISITOR for the clear knowledge he has given us the past summer of our State institutions.

We may say with the VISITOR, from one point of view, Michigan has provided admirably for her unfortunates, and the cost to the State is not perhaps greater than the cost in many other states, but from the point of view of the mass of self-supporting taxpayers, who are called upon to support them, it is undoubtedly true that the standard maintained is greatly in excess of what they can afford for themselves.

To criticise in any way the great state

educational institutions has been hitherto deemed little short of sacrilege, but we believe the growing exactions of some of these institutions demand our serious attention.

The promise has always been that as the number of students increased in such schools the relative expense would be diminished. This has been the theoretical principle maintained by both school boards and heads of the several institutions, but in practice the cost per capita to the student and to the state for instruction has constantly increased.

We may as well, therefore, abandon the hope to economize through the enlargement of these State institutions, and ask at the hands of our legislators careful inquiry into the causes which have engendered such lavish increase in the expenses of these institutions, while ordinary business enterprises of all kinds have been so managed as to steadily and persistently reduce expenses and cost of product.

Certainly justice demands this since for the great majority the primary schools are the only ones they can or do attend.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. K. CAMPBELL,
GEO. McDOUGALL,
HENRY D. PLATT,

Committee.

Farmers' Institutes.

The following is that part of the report of the permanent committee on education of the State Grange which relates to farmers' institutes. We shall publish the remainder of the report

Farmers' institutes are long and recognized as a most valuable means of education. For twenty years the influence of these gatherings has quickened the thought and elevated the purposes of Michigan farmers. The continuance of these institutes held at state expense for the benefit of its agricultural interests and the education of its farmers is assured. The only questions are: How many shall be held? How shall they be arranged and conducted to insure the greatest results from the money invested?

OTHER STATES.

We last year called your attention to "the fact that although Michigan was among the first to establish this system of instruction, it has failed to hold its place at the front, several states surpassing it both as to the number of institutes and the amount appropriated therefor." The unfavorable comparison is rendered more emphatic by the progressive system, liberal appropriations, and careful, systematic management in other states. This year Michigan, with about \$2,000 available for this purpose, holds nine long institutes. New York appropriates \$15,000 annually, and holds from 125 to 150 institutes. Wisconsin holds 100 this winter with a fund of \$12,000. Ohio expends a little over \$10,000 on 150 institutes. Indiana with \$5,000 holds an institute in every county in the state.

IN MICHIGAN.

We would not in the least belittle the work of the past along this line in our own state. Splendid results from the efforts and means expended have been realized. But we believe the time has come for a broader, more liberal, more economical because better conducted, system. The importance of our agricultural interests as the basis of all material prosperity, and the position of our state at the very front in educational progress in other lines, demand such an advance. Nor is this demand the mere imaginings of theorists. No complete record of applications for institutes has been kept, but the number has been more than double those granted. The only reason a much larger number was not received is the well known fact of the uselessness of such application.

OUR SYSTEM NEEDS REVISION.

1. Our institute system needs revision. At present it has no responsible head, no "central management". The arrangement

and control of institutes are very properly in the hands of the state board of agriculture. But this board has charge of other and more important matters in the Agricultural College and Experiment Station. The first step should be the appointment by the board of a superintendent or director of institutes, with full authority to arrange places and dates, secure speakers, etc. Such an officer has been found to be a necessity in every state which has a satisfactory institute system. Much expense and much valuable time can be saved by a careful and judicious management of preliminaries, possible only to one who has made a study of the same. If our institute system is to be enlarged and improved, no more economical investment can be made than by providing for such an officer. In Ohio the secretary of the state board of agriculture has this authority, and this might be a wise plan in our own state if the duties of the office will permit; or the chairman of the board committee on institutes might be empowered to perform this work.

TOO FEW BENEFITED.

2. Our institutes benefit too small a number. Either we have too many at state expense, or not enough. Their object is the enlightenment and elevation of the whole body of farmers. The instruction given is supposed to be within the comprehension of all who attend them, that they may be inspired to greater efforts and helped to greater success. Their great value is in the uplift given those who are able to be present. It is the only means of special instruction the state can offer to the great majority of farmers, upon whose success as a class so much of the public welfare depends. But under the present system only a small per cent of our farmers are able to attend. Let the system be extended so that the great majority may, by due effort on their part, be benefited, or cease holding at public expense these meetings for all, but within reach of so few.

OUR RECOMMENDATION.

We therefore advocate that the state appropriate annually the sum of five thousand dollars, or such an amount as will be sufficient to hold a two day institute in every county in the state where the agricultural interests are sufficiently important to demand it.

We believe that the greatest good will result where local interest is the greatest, and that such interest will be increased by some form of local organization. And we suggest that the law require the formation of county institute societies, under whose auspices the institutes shall be held, and who shall provide local speakers to occupy about one half the time of the institute, and for local expenses.

And now in conclusion we ask that you take as the war cry—the shibboleth of this advance, our motto—"A farmers' institute in every agricultural county." Let us erect this standard next week in every county here represented and by it stand until victorious.

J. WEBSTER HUTCHINS,
MARY SHERWOOD HINDS,
KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD,

Committee.

City Corruption.

Dr. Parkhurst, who has accomplished such a great work in bringing to light the corrupt practices in the city of New York, has returned from a rest among the Swiss mountains. He is again after the criminal element of New York, and his vigorous and energetic measures promise such a cleaning out of the rottenness as that city has not known in many a day. His efforts seem to have been a stimulus to the civic federation in Chicago, which has just taken steps toward crushing out in that city the gambling element. Gambling rooms have been raided, and a number of their tables and devices to catch the unwary have been destroyed in the street. Our centers of population seem to breed all sorts of corruption. There is more to be feared from the corruption in cities than in anything else which threatens the liberty of the republic.

Farm and Fireside.

Field and Stock.

Spraying vs. the Birds.

R. M. KELLOGG.

A large elm tree reaches up to the windows of our Ionia sanctum, and we have spent an hour watching little birds hopping along through its branches, scanning every piece of bark and crevice in search of eggs and the larvæ of insects. Every minute or so their sharp little eyes would make a "find," and they enjoy a feast.

Several years ago the robins and other birds were very thick on our farm and wasted our berries until they stirred up our wicked heart, and the shot gun was brought out and used too freely.

It has required several years to work up courage to make a public confession of having committed so heinous a crime, and we would hardly do it now, were it not for the conviction that while the slaughter then was in a sort of retail way, it is now becoming wholesale and universal.

BIRDS DISAPPEARING.

Who has not noticed the disappearance of the little birds from our fields and berry bushes? Surely our little friends are leaving us and not only they, but many of our insect friends who daily feast on the insects that destroy the products of our labor. The diligent and untiring search of these little birds in the old elm set us to thinking that whether or not we were not poisoning more of our friends than enemies. Surely it is that there is a rapid increase in noxious insects, and the time is already here when the chances for a paying crop hang very largely on the thoroughness with which we spread the deadly poison over the foliage of trees, vines, bushes, and plants. Nothing escapes. Everything has its enemies. It cannot be denied that the precious little songsters who so delight us are eating the poisoned insects and picking it up on foliage and bark, and are rapidly being sent "where the good birdies go," and we turn longingly to the chemists and inquire if something cannot be produced that will kill the insects and spare us our feathered friends, for we cannot spray everywhere. Who is prepared to say the clover insects, scale, and weevil, and a long list of injurious insects, once unknown to us, but now so general, are not the direct result of this wholesale distribution of poison?

We cannot stop spraying now. The whole country is being denuded of these little "soul charmers," and what they formerly so gladly and freely did for us (so much better than we can possibly do) we must now do for ourselves.

Cannot our experiment stations inaugurate a series of extensive experiments that shall result in the simple production of some insect exterminator that shall accomplish this result and restore the equilibrium of birds and carnivorous insects which shall hold in check the borers as well as root and leaf eating bugs?

Ionia.

Care of Stock.

I. N. COWDREY.

Away back in the year 1857, when I was a little boy, we moved to this, then a new county, just organized, from the state of Ohio. We, generally speaking, had very poor conveniences for the care and comfort of our stock, and even for ourselves, for that matter. I remember well how the stock had to lie out in the cold snow during the winter, with but little hay and no grain to feed them, often having to cut down trees for them to browse, by wading around through the deep snow. We sometimes cut marsh hay for them to eat, and this being of the coarsest kind, and not properly cured, was, at best, very poor feed. O, those were hard days that can never be forgotten, and how we longed, as well as the cattle, to get a first glimpse of the leek in the spring. In those days winter set in earlier and lasted longer in the spring than it does now.

Well, those times have all given way to better times, with large warm stables, with plenty of feed, with many conveniences we never dreamed of then. Yet, we have some farmers who do not stable their stock, even in these enlightened times, but let them lie out doors with no protection, save, perhaps, a straw stack, or the warm side of a rail fence. Happily, however, this class of farmers is becoming quite scarce.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Then we have another class, and I am sorry to say they are in the majority, and I sometimes think they are almost, if not fully as cruel, perhaps, not conscious of it, as the first class mentioned, who stable their stock during the cold nights, and turn them out day times, even if it be down to zero, and let the poor things stand out all day shivering in the cold and snow, with no place to drink except from a frozen brook or pond, in many instances having to go far down an icy lane, if they go at all, to drink from a hole cut in the ice. These are the farmers who run out of feed, and will surely be seen early next spring going from place to place getting a little hay,

straw, or cornstalks, to help them out until the grass gets just big enough to live on.

How many times have I heard farmers say, at times when they were in town, and the weather cold and stormy, "I must go home and put in my cattle, for they have been out ever since early this morning."

Cattle suffer more by being out day times, for the reason they had a warm place to stay at night. Brother farmers, this does not pay. I know from experience. I have been through all these different ways of caring for stock. It requires just so much food to keep up the animal heat. After this is supplied, the extra feed goes to make milk or put on flesh. The stock kept cold, even though kept from the wind, requires more food. You know the saying, that a cold winter requires a lot of food; not so if your stable is warm. Two dollars worth of tar paper will save many dollars in one cold winter.

I have in the past put my cows in the stable in the evening, their teats all drawn up by the cold, and when I would go to milk get a few little streams of cold milk, and then would have to wait some time before the milk would begin to flow. O, I guess more of you have been guilty besides me.

EXERCISE.

But, some say that stock must have exercise; and to get it must be turned out every day. Now, Mr. Farmer, how would you like to be compelled to stand out all day shivering up close beside the house for exercise, just because you were in the house all night? If you will notice, the way a cow exercises after being turned out on a cold day is to get on the warmest side of any object she can find, and there stand shivering, drawing herself up in the smallest bunch she can, to avoid the piercing wind.

I have only one cow now, but what is good for one is good for a dozen. She does not get out of her stall at all. Water is carried to her fresh from the well, all she wants to drink. She stays there perfectly contented, lies down and gets up when she wants to. Has all she wants to eat, but none to waste. Her food consists of hay occasionally, a bundle of oats every other day, three pecks of mangels every day, and all the sweet corn on the stalk she can eat three times a day. This may seem to some extravagant feeding, but she gives enough more milk to well pay for the outlay. I bought her fresh the first of last May. She gave then about 21 quarts of milk a day. She went through all that terrible dry time last summer without the least shrinkage in her milk, and now, on cold stormy days she stays in her comfortable stall, without the least idea of a cold storm raging outside, perfectly clean from all dirt, dry and comfortable, giving 18 quarts of milk a day after being milked for nearly nine months.

KEEP IN THE BARN.

This need not be confined to one cow, but is applicable to any number. I used to keep five or six cows, and kept them in the stable with the exception of turning them out to water. I now think this a mistake. Better have a well in the barn, so they can be watered in the stalls. However, I think it would be very cruel to have them fastened in the stanchions all the time. But if you have double stalls five or six feet wide, with two cows to each stall, tied with a rope so they can have some liberty, your cows will enjoy it and lie there chewing their cud, even though the weather outside be a howling blizzard. By doing as above you will have done your duty to your stock, you will rest better yourself at night, you will not have to doctor for the "hollow horn" or "wolf in the tail."

Ithaca.

Agriculture of the United States.

Observations of a French Author.

I have received from the author, Monsieur E. Lavasseur, member of the *Société Nationale d'Agriculture* of France, member of the institute and many other learned societies, a volume of about five hundred pages, treating statistically and philosophically of the present aspects of American agriculture.

His observation has been extensive, his grouping of the main facts and features of our agriculture comprehensive, and his deductions remarkably accurate. The distinguishing aspects of our rural economy are clearly seen and truly portrayed.

MANY ASSOCIATIONS.

One of the first peculiarities noticed is the ambition and determination of the small farmers to acquire land, to build a home, to attain a higher plane of living, a better farm equipment, oftentimes entertaining extravagant ideas, and assuming risks of indebtedness. He partakes of the tendency of the American in other industries to economize in expensive labor, obtain large production easily, and make a fortune quickly. Therefore he rarely fertilizes his soil, and is recklessly prodigal with his minor products, burning his straw, wasting his coarse flax fibre, and destroying his forests. He disregards the margins

of profit, and has a contempt for small economies. He remarks that Americans are very jealous of their individual liberty, and very much inclined to group themselves in associations, and notes the existence of state agricultural societies, state bureaus, boards of agriculture, with county and township societies, auxiliary to those of states, organizations in aid of special industries, and for improvement of breeds of domestic animals; such educational organizations as farmers' institutes, experiment stations, and the more general associations, as Granges, the farmers' alliance, agricultural congresses to oppose the exactions of intermediaries in trade of monopolists and the inequities and abuses of transportation charges, as well as to encourage union and secure co-operation in enterprises for the amelioration of agricultural conditions.

INFLUENCE OF THE GRADE.

Referring to the extent and influence of the Patrons of Husbandry, he credits to this body the creation of the Inter-State Commerce Commission and the reduction of railroad tariffs. While interdicting political or religious discussion, it recently demanded for the agricultural laborer the same protection accorded to the artisan or factory operative, protested against the donation of public lands to foreigners and corporations, and favored the increase of agricultural colleges and experiment stations, and governmental prohibition of speculation injuriously affecting the products of farms. He also refers in detail to the more radical measures proposed by other organizations.

IMPLEMENTS.

He gives much attention to agricultural implements and machines, traces minutely the progress of invention; refers to the early development of the reaper, which attracted European attention at the London exhibition in 1851, where it had nothing to fear from the English who had more than ten years of precedence in this line of invention. Up to the time of the war of the rebellion, farmers in New England thought their land too rough and rocky for such machinery, which has been in use in some parts of the South scarcely two years, though in the West it has had an enormous extension and universal use for thirty years. The progress of invention is traced to the exhibition of 1876 at Philadelphia and on to that of Chicago, where the complicated and ingenious combined harvester, capable of cutting per week 38 acres of grain in a day, at \$45 per acre, side of the latest improved way from \$15 purposes, such as harvesters of \$40, and potatoes, hulling rice, peculiar talent have been shown for harvesters much as \$125 per week, cultivating. He also refers to the production of agricultural implements, in the elastic and resisting fiber of their hickory and other woods, and that while in appearance delicate and frail, they are characterized by strength and nice adaptation to their uses, a fact which accounts for an annual exportation amounting to millions of dollars. Especial reference is made to the variety and excellence of American windmills. He notes the obvious fact of wasteful neglect in the winter care of farm implements and machines. This perfection of implements, he holds, makes good tillage possible, which benefits the workman, the farmer, and the farm, and contributes prominently to the progress and profits of American agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

A concise yet full account of our means of agricultural education—colleges and experiment stations—is given, with the opinion that these institutions, the great agricultural associations, farmers' institutes, the Chautauqua movement, and that of university extension, contribute greatly to the increase of theoretic and practical knowledge of agriculture.

FARM WAGES.

Of farm wages, he says that the American farm laborer is still opposed to the introduction of machines, fearing diminution of work and reduction of wages; yet, as elsewhere, farm wages have increased. In 1892 wages, without board, averaged \$18.60 per month (in the Middle States \$23.62), and the American worker, in farm or factory, enjoyed generally a larger salary, and his scale of living and relative independence were greater than that of the European laborer. He gives, as a fair comparison, an estimate of 120 francs per month for the farm laborer in the Middle States, 80 francs as the mean wages of the "ouvriers" of France in summer, without board, and 16 francs for the laborer in India, also without board.

The example of the United States, he avers, as that of other countries, proves that wages are not necessarily a mere function of subsistence. Agricultural wages have been stationary, according to official statistics, for the past ten years, yet the prices of farm products have very materially diminished, and wages have the benefit of the difference. The cost of alimentary supplies, of fruits especially, is lower in California than in other states, yet wages of farm labor are higher. It is de-

sirable, doubtless, that American farmers should have good remuneration for their products; yet it is not more important, he asks, to the laborers, and still more to a democratic republic, that the laborer should receive wages that permit his maintenance on a high level?

PUBLIC LANDS.

A chapter upon the public domain traces the colonization and settlement of the different regions, reviews the land laws from the organization of the government, and enlarges upon the "homestead" idea, recognizing in these various laws for alienating the public lands the double thought of occupying productively the soil and constituting a democratic society based upon petite culture. He shows the prodigality of the government in alienating the heritage of the American people and giving large tracts to those powerful associations, the railroads, as well as to citizens and foreign immigrants, over-supplying the land markets and reducing land values.

MORTGAGES.

He considers in much detail the question of indebtedness and mortgages, shows the extent of debts based on lands, recognizes the fact that it is a necessary condition of the prevalent furor for land speculation, as well as of the strong desire for home-making. The first class contribute to the mobility of landed property, which is greater in this than in any other country; the second increases by its operations the national wealth. In a country where land is more abundant than money, it is advantageous to the nation and to the individual to make it easy for the laboring man to acquire land, and to him the mortgage becomes an instrument of credit, a better, and perhaps the only guarantee he can furnish for deferred payments. In this sense the mortgage is a condition indispensable to the progress of colonization and cultivation in America.

He states that the alienations of public lands, under the homestead law, have amounted to 135 millions of acres in 25 years, and that the total alienations since 1869 have been 295 million acres. During 12 years past:

| Years. | Millions acres. | Years. | Millions acres. |
|--------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|
| 1882 | 14.0 | 1888 | 24.1 |
| 1883 | 13.0 | 1889 | 17.0 |
| 1884 | 26.8 | 1890 | 12.7 |
| 1885 | 20.1 | 1891 | 10.3 |
| 1886 | 21.0 | 1892 | 13.6 |
| 1887 | 25.1 | 1893 | 11.7 |

J. R. D.—In Country Gentleman.

Famous Farmer Boys.

There are some people foolish enough to laugh at the homely virtues of home life. But it is well sometimes to look at the list of great men who have been chosen by the people for the great offices of the nation, and were early in life familiar with wooded hills and cultivated fields!

The *Kansas City Times* says: "Nearly three fourths of our best men came from the tillers of the soil. For example, Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, Hamlin, Greeley, Tilden, Cleveland, Harrison, Hayes, Blaine, and many others almost as conspicuous in current events or living memory. Among journalists, Henry Watterson spent his early life in rural Kentucky, and Murat Halstead was born and lived on a farm in Ohio. W. H. Vanderbilt was born in a small New Jersey town, and early engaged in the business of ship chandlery. Jay Gould spent his early years on his father's farm in New York state. Whittier and Howells spent their youth in villages, the former dividing his time between farm work and studies. Follow out this list for yourself, and see how long it will become."

Farming as a Business.

The life of a farmer has often been called a life of drudgery. There is no occupation that has a larger ratio of inspiring labor to one whose tastes are in harmony with rural life. The weak point in American farming has been the lack of appreciation of the equipments necessary to a successful career. Too many men have been willing to be thieves of the soil's resources that they might swell their bank accounts. To the young man or woman, fairly well educated, who will add some technical knowledge of our special schools of agriculture to their requirements, there is no more promising field of enterprise than farming; but to insure that satisfaction in its prosecution which makes any occupation enjoyable, business spirit must be put into it and toil must be sweetened by an appreciation of the attributes which make rural life attractive.—Chas. W. Garfield in *American Cheese Maker*.

The world is full of wrecks. "What might have been" is the inscription over many a doorway. And the secret of the failure usually is that this man would not pay the price. The law is inexorable; yet it is not unkind unless we disobey it. Obedience to the law brings an immediate reward in a realization of growth, and an ultimate reward in a large measure of attainment.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Songs of Seven.

Seven Times Two—Romance.
 You Bells in the steeple, ring, ring, out your changes,
 How many so ever they be,
 And let the brown meadow-lark's note as he ranges
 Come over, come over to me.
 Yet bird's clearest carol by fall or by swelling
 No magical sense conveys,
 And bells have forgotten their old art of telling
 The fortune of future days.
 "Turn again, turn again," once they rang cheerily,
 While a boy listened alone;
 Made his heart yearn again, musing so wearily
 All by himself on a stone.
 Poor bells, I forgive you; your good days are over,
 And mine, they are yet to be;
 No listening, no longing shall aught, aught discover:
 You leave the story to me.
 The foxglove shoots out of the green matted heather,
 Preparing her hoods of snow;
 She was idle, and slept till the sunshiny weather:
 O, children, take long to grow.
 I wish, and I wish that the spring would grow faster,
 Nor long summer bide so late;
 And I could grow on like the foxglove and aster,
 For some things are ill to wait.
 I wait for the day when dear hearts shall discover,
 While dear hands are laid on my head;
 "The child is a woman, the book may close over,
 For all the lessons are said."
 I wait for my story—the birds cannot sing it,
 Not one, as he sits on the tree;
 The bells cannot ring it, but long years, O bring it!
 Such as I wish it to be.
 —JEAN INGELWOLD.

The Beautiful in Farm Life.

There is some danger that farmers may become so intent on making their lands pay a money return that they will lose sight of much that is beautiful in country life. It is not all of life to be able to say at the end of the year that there is a good margin on the right side of the farm account. This is all right, of course; we are on the farm as a business. We ought to use our best effort to make it pay. But it will not do to make money the sole object of our labor. This is especially true if we have children. To bend every energy from daylight to dark, from week's end to week's end, and from one year's beginning to another, to the getting of money, is demoralizing to the farmer, to his wife, and doubly so to his children. Life's beginning is a most important era. If to the young it be clouded by the gloom of a home where the only object in living is to get money, the shadow hardly ever lifts. The whole life will be tinged with the memory of those early days upon the farm.

That is one great reason why so many leave the farm. Their lives in the old home were a ceaseless grind, unrelieved by anything which touched the tender side of nature. What, then, should we do to remedy this? Suppose the house is old and you are not able to build another. Beautify it as much as you can. Set out trees around it, clear away weeds, tumble down fences, and all unsightly objects. Let grass grow green and fresh about it. Plant flowers in pleasant places. And so all over the farm. It will cost only a little time to make it look beautiful. Inside, make the house homelike. Have books and papers; music if you can afford it; at eventide let there be an ingathering of all the children. Read aloud to them, and have them read also. Be one of them, and have a share in all that interests them. Study nature with them.

How many know the names and habits of the birds which flit about in the summer? Who of us can tell the names of the flowers which spring up everywhere on the farm? This may seem to some farmers all "nonsense". From such a decision I most earnestly appeal. The little lives entrusted to us are the most precious of all God's gifts to us. It lies in our power to dwarf them or unfold and reach heights of success we ourselves may never attain. We have no right to entail upon our children the heritage which many parents do when they teach them to hate farm life. There is no place on earth which is nearer to nature's heart than the farm. We ought to love it and teach our children to love it, too. Farm life pays if it leads him who follows it one step higher than he was at first. No matter whether he die rich in money or not, if at last our friends can say of us that we loved nature's God and pointed the way up to Him.
 —Coleman's Rural World.

Cultivate Flowers.

While the residents of the country live in the midst of nature's adornments, they should not permit these to repress the cultivation of those things that minister to our higher tastes.

Within a few years the use of flowers has grown enormously. Every occasion from the cradle to the grave is marked by evidence of this kind. Very often the relations between two persons are such that flowers are the only thing that may be sent with propriety. They may represent large value to be sure, but a value that is entirely lost with their rapid fading. The same money put into an article whose value would not be so fleeting would never be sent by a cultivated man or accepted by a refined and right-minded woman. It may

be laid down as a general rule that it is always in good form to send flowers to any one with whom pleasant, friendly, and social relations exist. On the other hand, it may be said with truth that flowers are rarely other than acceptable.—*Ladies' Home Journal.*

How My College Training Helped Me In The Kitchen.

If any of you have been left motherless for a season you have surely realized the almost absolute necessity of knowing something of household economy. I certainly realized the fact this summer when mother left for an extended visit to the western coast, and left me, in part, house-keeper. Then it was that I was impressed with the true worth of the work we performed in the kitchen laboratory, under the supervision of Mrs. Kedzie; and also of the lectures on household economy, delivered by her in the classroom each morning.

To bake good bread and pastry, to prepare a delicate dish of any kind, or, in general, to cook an edible meal, is an art that is acquired by experience and study, just as much as to become an expert musician demands practice and special application to that art.

We learned that to be a good cook requires "much tasting and no wasting," and Shakespeare says: "The best cooks are those that lick the most;" so our tasting may surely be forgiven us. We were taught how to make the best yeast, bake the best bread, and the best mode of putting together the constituents of a cake or any other form of pastry. Under our instructor's direction, we flavored the soups and fried the doughnuts and prepared the vegetables for the table.

We learned not only how to set the table nicely, but also how to be waiters. When we served in this capacity we were stationed where we could best see when any particular thing was desired, and attended to this want as quickly and as quietly as possible. We brought to the table the different courses as they were to be served, and it was not long ere we discovered that waiting upon the table was also an art acquired by experience.

Good food, properly prepared, is conducive to the health and good spirits of every individual, and here in our own college, in the kitchen laboratory, is just the place to acquire a knowledge of household economy.
 —Grace Secrest in *Kansas Industrialist.*

Electricity in the Kitchen.

A Survey of What Has Been Practically Accomplished Thus Far.

Electric cooking is now coming into a commercial stage. We must, of course, in electric heating, allow for all the waste in converting the coal at the central station into heat and the heat into steam and the steam into current, and the incidental heat losses of line transmission. But let us suppose we are waiting for a simple breakfast, and score down the items rolled up on our accounts current by Chloe, in the kitchen, while she is converting the raw material of the butcher and grocer into a manufactured product that will meet the approbation of our palates.

First let us suppose she is operating the coal range. Item: one bundle of kindling to start her fire, 2 cents; item: one half of daily coal output (one ton per month), 10 cents; total, 12 cents. Let us thrust out of view for the present why she uses so much coal, remembering only the cardinal and imperious fact that she gets away with one ton of coal in one month to operate her range, for which our good cash falls with a cold, dull plunk into the pockets of the coal barons. Now let us use electric utensils for the same work. We are having chops, soft boiled eggs, griddle cakes and coffee—a simple, wholesome and frugal diet if Chloe can cut down the heat tariff. We will first heat two quarts of water, which will fix matters for the coffee and the eggs; item: 4 amperes at 110 volts, ten minutes, 1-3 cents. Item: Chops, 7 amperes at 110 volts for ten minutes, 2 cents. Item: 15 griddle cakes, 5 amperes at 110 volts for ten minutes, 1-3 cents, making the aggregate cost for heat 4-2-3 cents, at the end of which time off goes the current and the current and the expense stops.

The figures here used are based on the use of the coffeepot, boiler and griddle, electric utensils, and are substantially correct. Their import is simply this, that there are two sides which must be considered in the matter of electric heating.

There are wastes, of course, but where in human experience are there not?—but they are offset by corresponding wastes under any other system of heating. Our kitchen range sends much of its heat up the chimney; that is a necessary waste for which Chloe is not to blame. But the range fire takes time to get under way; it requires kindling, or something which is tantamount in outlay thereto; it must be maintained practically all day (and sometimes all night), and then Chloe drops in with her personal equation as uncontrollable as characteristic, and for easy management keeps a roaring fire all day and keeps

the janitor busy at the coal bin. So that we must look at the matter as a question of all day or all week efficiency, or rather inefficiency, and here is where electric heating gets in its fine work. It does all its work quickly and well. The key is turned, when, presto! things begin to sizzle, so that its wastes are active only while the cooking operations are in full blast.

It is common for some people to cry down gas as an expensive fuel. For some purposes it is. But with Chloe at the throttle it can discount coal by a liberal margin, and electricity can follow as a close second, while in the matter of convenience the latter stands head and shoulders above all other methods. Other incidental offsets might be noted, such as the centralization of the heat at the exact spot where it is wanted. No wastes in heating up a brooding-gag outfit, such as a range, where a small one will do as well. The oven described will furnish for 9 cents the heat necessary to send to the table a five-pound roast of beef in thirty-five minutes, or a twelve-pound turkey in forty-five minutes; that is to say, the current is flowing for those periods; the actual baking or roasting goes on longer, because, after the oven is heated to 300 degrees or more, as required, the current may be cut off and the process of cooking will continue until the roast is done.

It is not safe to turn electric heating down. Give it a chance, by all means, and in spite of the numerous losses with which it is charged it may after all prove a good domestic handmaiden.—*Electrical Review.*

The Pay of Journalists.

In New York City, the salaries are higher than anywhere else, partly because of the superior standard of proficiency, and partly because the cost of living is greater there than in any other large city. One editor-in-chief has the same salary as the president of the United States, \$50,000 per year, and others from \$10,000 to \$12,000, or more than members of the cabinet. Managing editors are paid from \$100 to \$150 per week, or a better compensation than that of senators and representatives in congress. Editorial writers get from \$50 to \$75 as a rule, and in cases of rare ability as much as the average salary of a managing editor. City editors receive from \$60 to \$75 per week, and in a few instances \$100. The pay of news editors is about equal to that of city editors. Literary, theatrical, and musical critics average \$50 per week. Copy readers are paid from \$40 to \$45 per week. Reporters earn all the way from \$15 to \$60 per week, with an average of \$40, and space-writers of particular talent have been known to make as much as \$125 per week, though the limitation of topics and the pressure of competition usually keep their incomes down around those of the best paid reporters. There are some writers for syndicates of newspapers, men with names that have a certain value, who earn from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per year; and there are others of first-class technical capacity in various lines whose salaries occasionally reach \$5,000. The pay of all classes of journalists averages 10 per cent lower in Brooklyn than in New York City.—*Captain Henry King in January Forum.*

The Nicaragua Canal.

One of the first questions to secure a hearing upon the reassembling of congress in December, was that of the status of the much-buffeted Nicaragua canal project. The canal has a staunch and patriotic defender in Senator Morgan. To speak in general terms, and not to enter here upon the discussion of details, it would seem a clear proposition that the political and financial authority and control of the United States government ought to dominate the affairs of the Nicaragua canal. It is true that Nicaragua is not a portion of the United States; and yet in a very important sense any deep-water channel across Central America would constitute a most essential part of our national coast line. England's interest in the Suez canal on account of her hold upon India has a very shadowy validity in the nature of things, when compared with the propriety of a full control by the United States of the Nicaragua canal. For, after all, India is a great Asiatic empire pertaining in no way to the integrity of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and probably destined in the early future to resume the autonomy which British conquest has suspended. The control of the Nicaragua canal might better be compared with that of the Irish Channel as forming an essential route between parts of one sovereign state.—*From "The Progress of the World" in January Review of Reviews.*

A man ought to be more than his business. He should count for something in the community by reason of his sound judgment, his weight of character, his public spirit.—*Wisconsin Journal of Education.*

Without ability to express thought education is weak.—*Miss Lathrop, Grand Rapids.*

The Juveniles.

The Wind and the Sun.

The blustering wind was stalking up and down an open field one day, rejoicing aloud in his great strength. "Oh, I am strong, indeed!" he roared. "I breathe, and the grasses bow down before me. I wave my hand and the reeds and the bushes bend or snap. I can break even the stout tree branches merely by taking hold of them. Oh, yes, I am strong. Who is stronger?"

As he stopped and his rough, roaring tones died away a gentle voice said: "I am strong, too. Perhaps stronger than you; who knows?"

"Who is that," roared the wind. "It is I, the sun," said the same mild voice. "You strong!" said the wind. "You, with your soft ways and gentle smiles! Can you move the mighty windmills? Can you with a few touches raise the wild waves upon the ocean? Can you break the strong oak, the king of the forest?"

"I am strong," said the sun again. "I can do many things that you can not do. Shall we try our strength? Yonder comes a traveller wearing a heavy cloak. Let us see which of us can force him to lay it aside and agree that the one who does it shall be called the stronger."

The wind could not help giving a pleased whistle at this easy task, for he thought that he should probably get the traveller's cloak off by one strong gust.

"You may make the first trial," said the sun.

Away went the wind. He met the traveller near the middle of the field and began to tug at the cloak. It flapped about a little and the traveller fastened it more securely. The wind tugged again and howled fiercely. The traveller took the edges of the cloak in his hands and wrapped it closely about him. Again the wind puffed and pulled and tugged. The bottom of the cloak fluttered, but the man only held it more and more closely about him. "Who would have thought there was such a wind today?" said the traveller, as he struggled on.

The wind kept trying for some time, but without success; and he was quite ready to give up when the sun claimed his turn.

"I don't see how you can do anything at all," said the wind, "for my angriest howls and my roughest pulls have only made him hold his cloak the more tightly."

"I had not meant to try that way," said the sun. "Anger and roughness are not what I shall use." Then the sun smiled down upon the traveller. Not a sound was heard, but softly, steadily, silently, the sun kept shining. The traveller who had been using all his strength to keep his cloak about him, now found the air quiet again, and walked on more easily. Soon he loosened his hold of the cloak. The sun kept on shining softly, steadily and silently and the traveller began to think his cloak too thick, so he unfastened it and threw it open. Still the sun kept on shining, softly, steadily, silently.

At last the traveller said, "How strange! A little while ago I could not hold my cloak too closely, and now I am glad to throw it off entirely." So saying, he took off his heavy cloak and sat down under a tree to cool himself in the shade.

And the wind saw and acknowledged that the genial sun was indeed powerful and had won the title of "the stronger;" for without noise, without bluster, without anger, the sun had succeeded in making the traveller take off his cloak when the wind had found it impossible.—*Retold by Emilie Poulsson in the "Child's World."*

Puzzles.

[All readers of THE GRANGE VISITOR are invited to contribute and send solutions to this department. Address all communications relating to puzzles to Thomas A. Miller, 500 12th Street, Detroit, Michigan.]

Solutions to puzzles December 20, 1894. No. 23, Zebra, 24, Day-light, 25, pender.

SOLVERS.
 Complete, Oliver Omega. Incomplete, Grace Bank, and Dexter.

28.—*Crossword.*
 In man, not in bay.
 In heart, not in tray.
 In May, not in June.
 In yesterday, and in tune,
 Find something good to eat.

Grand Rapids. 29.—*Half Square.* M. P.

1. An animal. 2. Scent. 3. Spoil. 4. Oldest. 5. A letter.
Gagetown. GEORGE.

30.—*Square.*

1. To pull. 2. A liquid. 3. Good to eat. 4. Paradise.
 Answers must reach us by February 15, 1895.

PRIZE CONTEST.

For the largest and best batch of new puzzles received by us before March 1 we will give "Allan's Wife," by Haggard.

MAIL BAG.

All readers of this paper are invited to compete for prizes as offered above. We hope you will make a success of it, so let all compete.
 OLIVER OMEGA (N. O. La.) thanks for list. Can't you send some medium sized forms for this department? Try and see if you can't get all the N. O. puzzlers interested in this department.
 NANCY LEE.

According to the report of the Agricultural Department the adulteration of food, drinks and drugs of the country amount to 15 per cent. The annual expenditure for these things is estimated at \$6,760,000,000, and 15 per cent of that shows the consumers are paying over \$1,000,000,000 a year for the privilege of injuring their health. It is worse than robbery.—*Detroit Journal.*

THE GRANGE VISITOR

CHARLOTTE, MICH.

The Official Organ of the Michigan State Grange.

Published on the First and Third Thursdays of Each Month

EDITOR:

KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD, LANSING, MICH.

To whom all exchanges and all articles for publication should be sent.

MANAGERS AND PRINTERS:

PERRY & McGRATH, CHARLOTTE, MICH.

To whom all subscriptions and advertising should be sent.

TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months. In Clubs of 20 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 Charlotte, Mich., as Second Class matter.

NEXT ISSUE FEBRUARY 7.

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 proposes to work. We hope every Grange in the state will work earnestly in all 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.

A Word From The New Managers.

The undersigned, with this issue, assume the business management and publication, for the State Grange, of the VISITOR for the term of two years. It is a fact known to members of the Grange that the VISITOR for some time has not been paying expenses. No one can assume all the labor incident to getting out a newspaper in which they have no pecuniary interest, without a guarantee from those in whose interest the paper is run, and such a guarantee we have. "The laborer is worthy of his hire," and we have a contract guaranteeing our pay whether the paper is prosperous or not. But the point we wish to impress upon each member of the grange in this state, and upon friends of the cause in other states, and upon farmers and the friends of farmers everywhere, is this: We propose to use our very best efforts to make the VISITOR self-supporting, the same as though it were our own property. With this assurance on our part what may we not reasonably expect from you? You number 3,500, we number only a single firm. It is your paper, the official organ of the representative men of the best class of people on earth—the very backbone of our nation. Are you going to let your own paper run behind? The writer has had thirty years of active farm life and has been a member of the Grange for twenty years. He believes with the utmost confidence that the 3,500 present subscribers will rally as one man to the support of their paper. See to it that your subscriptions do not expire. If you haven't anything yourself to advertise, try and get someone else to do so. It is the best advertising medium for price charged of any paper published. The price of the VISITOR will remain as heretofore, 50 cents a year, strictly cash in advance. To clubs of twenty-five or more, sent at one time, 40 cents. Let us be generous, each to the other. Send in your cash promptly and we will guarantee that your VISITOR for 1895 will be better than ever. Be sure to look at the date after your name on the label—it indicates the time to which you have paid. We send this copy of the VISITOR to many whose time has recently expired. If we do not hear from you before our next issue your name will be dropped, as it is absolutely essential that this small price be paid in advance. Are you willing to co-operate with us in our efforts to make the year 1895 an auspicious one for the Grange and for its organ—the VISITOR? Let us all join together

"For the cause that needs assistance,
For the wrongs that need resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that we can do."

Are you all ready?

Fraternally and Faithfully Yours,
PERRY & McGRATH.

Special Notice.

Hereafter please direct all subscriptions, advertising, and other business, to GRANGE VISITOR, Charlotte, Mich.; and direct all matter intended for publication to K. L. Butterfield, Lansing, Mich.

What are you living for?

The farmer who labors for money alone is to be pitied.

A bill has been introduced in the legislature providing for "the vacation of cemeteries." We didn't know before that cemeteries ever took a vacation!

The work of the Grange consists in subserving the best interests of the farmer, financially, socially, mentally, morally. Will you join in the work?

We love to say that if a poor man is good he is just as good as a rich man. Do we also feel that if a rich man is good he is just as good as a poor man?

If the training of children received as much scientific attention from parents as is given to the rearing of fancy stock and the training of trotting horses, we would be a healthier, better, wiser, and happier people.

The Grange is broad. It tries to reach out toward every side of a man's nature. It's too broad for some people who can't see around the edge of a silver dollar, and for other people who want nothing but an office.

Anarchy does not consist in carrying a red flag. The essence of anarchy is the disobedience and disregard of law. The anarchist does not need to have an unpronounceable name and possess wild eyes and talk like a lunatic. He may be "one of our leading citizens," and his offense may consist in participating in mob law or in defying the plain intent of the law. But he has anarchy, and he should be sent to the patriotic hospital for the treatment of anarchy. It's a contagious disease and needs heroic treatment.

A Tribute.

In an article quoted from the *Country Gentleman*, printed on page two, is a tribute to the Grange that is of especial value because it comes from an intelligent and unbiased source. We commend the entire article to our readers, and we especially call the attention of readers not members of the Grange to what is said of the Patrons of Husbandry. It's true, every word of it.

Harvest.

If you have fitted the land, and sown good seed, your Grange harvest is at hand. Now is the feast of ingathering. Are you to attend the feast, in your Grange? The next three months will measure your work for the year probably, at least the cream of it. But doubtless you don't need urging. You are probably awake, eager for action, and are planning for a successful winter's work. Here's hoping you may plan wisely and execute successfully.

Are You Neglectful?

Have you begun the Farm Home Reading Circle yet? This course is for you. So are the long winter evenings for you. Put the two together and you have—what? opportunity, opportunity to learn; to progress, to grow. No young farmer can afford to miss this course, and some older ones might profit by reading in it. Take it up alone, or form small circles and then read separately and come together to discuss what you have been reading. Lecturers, use the F. H. R. C. books on your programs, by having reports and discussions on certain assigned chapters in various books.

Two Splendid Articles.

We want to call attention to two articles of especial value that appear in this issue. One is by Mr. C. B. Collingwood of Lansing, on "Agriculture in the desert." Mr. Collingwood is a graduate of the Michigan Agricultural College, has spent a number of years in the southwest as a chemist in the experiment stations, and as will be observed is a writer of great vigor and interest. This article is the first of a number that have been promised us by prominent graduates of our Agricultural College. The other article is on the "Injurious effects of weeds," and is written by Mr. L. H. Dewey, a botanist in the department of agriculture at Washington. Mr. Dewey is also a graduate of the M. A. C., and has

already acquired a national reputation in certain lines of work. The article on weeds is an entertaining and thorough discussion of the many phases of a question too seldom discussed in farm papers and at farmers' gatherings.

We are very fortunate in having articles of such high merit as these, and we hope they will be fully appreciated.

A Word to Patrons.

The VISITOR is still your paper. It is still owned by the State Grange. It will continue to be conducted on Grange lines. It is to be even better as a Grange paper than it has been in the past few years.

The VISITOR therefore claims your support in subscribing for the paper and in securing new subscribers, in and out of the Grange, because,

1. It is your paper. You own it and are responsible for it.
2. No Patron can afford to live without reading a good Grange paper.
3. The VISITOR the best Grange paper in the country.
4. It needs your support. You would be surprised to know how many Patrons there are that neglect to support the VISITOR, who are absolutely indifferent to its fate. As a matter of fact the Grange of Michigan would soon be a sickly affair if the VISITOR should cease publication. Therefore please renew now if your time is out, and get all the subscribers you can, "for the good of the Order."

For Investigation.

We have an article in this issue, of intense interest to friends of temperance; it is, "Local option in Hillsdale county." The question, Does local option work? is answered, together with replies to various other queries. On the whole, the letters are very favorable to local option.

The VISITOR believes most thoroughly in temperance, believes in temperance legislation, believes that the question is of vast importance, believes that the liquor men are awake and that the temperance people are nearly asleep. And we have wondered if nothing more can be done for temperance than is being done today in Michigan.

In matters of this kind it is always well to have facts at hand before anything else is done. And it would seem as if it would be a wise measure for the legislature to authorize the appointment of a commission, who should investigate the statistics of liquor selling in all its phases and results, in Michigan; the relation of liquor to crime, insanity, etc.; and the various methods in vogue in the world for liquor control. What does the Grange think of this means of getting at the facts in this question, and of stirring the people to the real condition of things?

For Immediate Action.

In another column we give the full text of the farmers' institute bill. Mr. Linderman is strongly in favor of this measure and will push it in the house. The Board of Agriculture believe in it, the governor endorsed its idea in his message, and the State Grange passed upon exactly the points incorporated in the bill. It is a simple and conservative measure.

Now for action. Every Grange in Michigan should immediately pass resolutions favoring this bill and forward a copy of them to your own representative, and a copy to Hon. A. T. Linderman, Lansing, Mich. Get up petitions also, signed by leading farmers who are not Patrons, and send to your representative and senator.

And last but not least have your leading members write personal letters to the same parties.

Now Patrons, don't delay a moment. Bring the matter up at your next meeting, and act. The farmers are very modest in their request for farmers' institutes, and if you do your duty there is no reason why Michigan can not have an institute system that will be a credit to her intelligent farming population.

Don't delay because you think it will pass without opposition. There are, unfortunately, legislators who oppose anything

progressive. What the intelligent legislator wants to know is that the people want this measure, and will vote for it.

Pour in your resolutions and petitions and letters.

Beneath the Dome.

In this column we design to mention and discuss those measures introduced into the legislature that we believe will be of most importance and interest to our readers. If any of our readers desire to have the provisions of any bill that we do not mention and will let us know their wishes, we will endeavor to get the information.

The first week of the session of the legislature, Representative Kempf of Ann Arbor introduced a resolution designating that the legislature should decide who of their employes should receive extra pay, and the amount of the same. We have before mentioned the absurd practice of voting extra pay at the close of the session. This resolution ought to pass. In our judgment the clerk of the house and the secretary of the senate deserve more than three dollars a day. But their pay should be fixed at the beginning of the session.

We had not expected that the legislature would take our sensible advice, and cut down the number of messengers, janitors, etc. They have not done so, at any rate, and there is even an increase. Of course the pressure for office is tremendous,—persons away from the capital have no idea of it. But that's a poor excuse after all. The whole system of legislative employment and expenses might be overhauled with profit.

Another investigation that could be inaugurated would be one looking into the system of employment in the capital, including number employed in each department, nature of work, hours of labor, salaries paid, comparison of salaries for similar employment in business houses, etc. It would be better to begin here than to begin with the janitors, who nevertheless get about twice what they could be employed for.

Representative Foster of Lansing has a constitutional amendment proposed, concerning the salaries of state officials. He would make the following changes:

| | | |
|--|---------|------------|
| Secretary of State..... | \$800 | to \$2,500 |
| Treasurer..... | \$1,000 | " \$2,000 |
| Auditor General..... | \$2,500 | |
| now out of the constitution and fixed by statute at..... | | \$3,000 |
| Land Commissioner..... | \$800 | " \$2,000 |
| Attorney General..... | \$800 | " \$2,500 |
| Superintendent of Public Instruction..... | \$1,000 | " \$2,000 |

This meets our ideas pretty closely except that we would put the superintendent's salary at \$2,500. Another proposition is to take the whole salary question out of the constitution. We do not favor this at all. We shall treat this subject at more length at a later date.

Representative Hilton has an important bill compelling railroads to sell 500 mile books for \$10.00. These books are good to bearer, and thus transferable, and good till used up. All restrictions are done away with, and the book becomes in all respects a first-class ticket.

Hon. Franklin Wells and Hon. C. J. Monroe have been appointed members of the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Wells has been on the board 22 years, and the College is fortunate in still possessing his thorough knowledge of the college and his sympathy with its aims. Mr. Monroe attended the college and though he did not graduate, he has kept in touch with its work. He is a broad man of great business ability, and will add much strength to the board.

Representative Chamberlain, the "tall pine of Gogebic," has a proposed constitutional amendment providing that members of the legislature be elected for four years, and half chosen at each biennial election. He also proposes to fix a "lump sum" as pay for legislators. We doubt if the first proposition would bring about any great good, for now each legislature is composed of a working force of old members. We endorse the latter proposition however. We believe it is more sensible, and might tend to shorter sessions. At least the people would be better satisfied to have it that way.

Representative Linderman of Muskegon county has introduced a bill providing an appropriation for farmers' institutes. The bill is drawn in harmony with the action of the last State Grange on this subject, and with the recommendations of the governor in his recent message. We give the text of the bill in full.

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE TO HOLD INSTITUTES AND TO ESTABLISH COURSES OF READING AND LECTURES FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF CITIZENS OF THIS STATE IN THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF AGRICULTURE AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.

SEC. 1. The people of the state of Michigan enact: That the State Board of Agriculture is hereby authorized to hold institutes and to maintain courses of reading and lectures for the instruction of citizens of this state in the various branches of agriculture. The said board shall formulate such rules and regulations as it shall deem proper to carry on the work contemplated in this act, and may employ an agent or agents to perform such duties in connection therewith as it shall deem best.

SEC. 2. When twenty or more persons, residents of any county in this state, organize themselves into a society to be called the ——— county farmers' institute society for the purpose of teaching better methods of farming, fruit culture, stock raising and all the branches of busi-

ness connected with the industry of agriculture and adopt a constitution and by-laws agreeable to rules and regulations furnished by the State Board of Agriculture; and when such society shall have elected such proper officers and performed such other acts as may be required by the rules of said board, such society shall be deemed an institute society in the meaning of this act; Provided, that not more than one such institute society in any county shall be authorized by this act; and, Provided further that any existing organization approved by the State Board of Agriculture shall be considered a legally organized Institute Society under the terms of this act.

SEC. 3. In each county where an Institute Society shall be organized under the provisions of this act, the State Board of Agriculture shall hold one annual institute, two days in length, at such place in the county and at such time as the said Board may deem expedient; and shall furnish at least two speakers or lecturers with all expenses paid to be present at all sessions of the institute. The County Institute Society shall provide a suitable hall for the institute, furnish fuel and lights and pay other local expenses and shall provide speakers who shall occupy one half the time of the institute that is given to set addresses.

SEC. 4. If the funds appropriated by this act will permit, the said board of agriculture shall hold a number of four day institutes, at such places and times as said board may determine, at which the primary object shall be to furnish a school of instruction in practical agriculture.

SEC. 5. The State Board of Agriculture shall maintain the course of reading known as the Farm Home Reading circle, and may expend, from the moneys appropriated by this act, a sum not to exceed two hundred dollars for each of the two years for which the appropriation is made, for the maintenance and extension of said course.

SEC. 6. For the purposes mentioned in the preceding sections, the said Board of Agriculture may use said sum as it shall deem proper, not exceeding five thousand dollars in the year ending June 30, eighteen hundred ninety-six and five thousand dollars in the year ending June 30, 1897, and such amounts are hereby appropriated from the general funds of this state, which said sum shall be annually included in the state taxes apportioned by the auditor general on all the taxable property of the state, to be levied, assessed and collected as are other state taxes, and when so assessed and collected to be paid into the general fund to reimburse said fund for the appropriations made by this act.

Another bill that we have not room to discuss in this issue is the pure food bill, introduced by Representative Redfern, of Clinton. It is one of the most important questions that this session will be called upon to decide.

Senator McLaughlin, of Detroit, has a caucus bill that is reported as very stringent in its provisions. We shall look it up for our readers later.

Grange Visitor Entertainment.

We are sure that all our readers will be glad to see that the paper is still the GRANGE VISITOR, our paper, and every column bristling with some of the principles that are the foundation stones of our Order. We are also sure that those in whose hands its welfare was placed, have done the wisest, the best. They have done their part, will we do ours?

OUR PART.

What is our part? Our part is to take the paper. It must be in every Grange family in the state, and not only that, but it must go out to those outside the Order as a Grange missionary. How shall the paper be placed in every Patron's family? There are two ways to do this. 1st, by each family subscribing and paying for it themselves; 2nd, when they cannot be induced to do this, or where they deem it a better method, by taking sufficient money from each subordinate Grange treasury to place it in every Grange family represented in their Grange.

A CHANCE FOR WORK.

How shall it find its way outside the Order? Those who feel able can send one or even two copies to friends or relatives who they think would appreciate it; by canvassing for it the same as other newspaper agents; and by each Grange raising means to send it out on its mission of knowledge and good will to all farmers. Right here is work for our woman's work committees. We would most earnestly, yet kindly and graciously, urge that this be the first work entered upon by the newly appointed committees. You ask how shall it be done? This is not possible for us to dictate, nor would we wish to. Each Grange knows its own resources better than any one can tell them.

HOW TO DO IT.

We know some Granges that possess musical ability sufficient to only announce that a concert will be given at their hall and they can for two hours sing to a crowded house. With a small admittance fee they can clear ten or fifteen dollars. Another Grange has dramatic talent, another social talent, and the variety of these socials is marvelous; some serve a blue tea, some coffee and doughnuts, some a regular meal at regular prices, and some an oyster supper at a little larger price. The skill and ingenuity of three bright women acting as a woman's work committee who shall have charge of this work for the coming year are sufficient to warrant a success.

OUR FIRST BUSINESS.

We have scores of letters asking "What would you have us to do? We have been appointed, now just say the word and we will take up any line of work." What better work for the Order can we assume than to make our paper self-sustaining, and it can be done by increasing its circulation. So we earnestly entreat you to set about this at once. Give an entertainment of some kind, let it be known just what it is for; let it be what you can do best, and with the proceeds scatter the paper as Grange seed. There is plenty of fallow soil—there is not a farmer's family in our whole state but needs the light and knowledge that its pages contain.

MARY A. MAYO.

Hustling For Institutes.

Editor GRANGE VISITOR:—My special purpose in writing you at this time, is to report progressive action in our county as to the question of farmers' institutes. Last Saturday afternoon I attended installation services at Twelve Corner's Grange, and I had my "little banner" with me, with "A farmers' institute in every county" inscribed thereon; and the large hall full of Patrons took a deep interest in my report of the interest this question created at the State Grange, and a resolution was unanimously passed by a standing vote that "we urge our members of the legislature to grant the appropriation asked for by the State Grange and recommended by the Governor."

In the evening I was at Pearl Grange where installation was had and initiation and a harvest feast following, with about one hundred Patrons present, and my "little banner" was there and the same resolution in regard to the appropriation was passed. Tuesday and Wednesday of this week we held our annual meeting of Berrien county Grange and I and my "little banner" were there and got the same endorsement. And I propose to keep the "little banner" on the outer wall until an appropriation is granted sufficient "to hold farmers' institutes in every county."

Let the VISITOR pass the word down the line and let Patrons be stirring until the legislature hears from every subordinate and county Grange in the state.

Fraternally,
W. L. KANE.

Topics for February.

A meeting with the poets. One or two poets should be selected for the meeting, and the exercises should consist of several recitations from poems of authors selected and each member should give a quotation from the same author. A short list of American poets is given, others can be added; Whittier, Holmes, Longfellow, Saxe, Carleton, Poe, Lowell, Bryant, Aldrich, and Riley.

Potato culture, best home and market varieties; fertilization, cultivation.

Strawberry culture; preparation of ground; best varieties; cultivation.

What has science done to aid the farmer?

How closely should the farmer and his family conform to the rules of society in matters of dress and general appearance?

Can and should the United States produce the sugar which is consumed by its population?

What can the Grange do to promote the interests of agriculture in this country?

To what extent is the farmer justified in voting for village improvements?

Construction of farm houses; sanitary arrangements.

Construction of barns. Are basements desirable?

What can we do to make our homes more attractive?

How shall we conduct our Grange meetings so as to make them of interest and profit to all the members?

To what extent should a farmer become a politician?

What can we do in winter months to advance the spring's work on our farms?

What small fruits can and should be raised on our farms?

Fifty years of progress in the United States compared with the progress in other countries during the same time.

Incidents in the life of Washington, with songs and recitations of a patriotic nature. All members in costume of "ye olden tyme."

Washington as a citizen, soldier, statesman and farmer.

Association of Farmers' Clubs.

The Michigan State Association of Farmers' Clubs will be held in the capitol building in Lansing February 5 and 6, 1895. The following is the program:

- Afternoon session, February 5, 1 o'clock. Appointment of committees; general business meeting.
- Evening session, February 5, 7:30 o'clock. Address of welcome by Governor Rich; response, by Angus Templeton, vice president of the Ingham county Farmers' Club; president's annual address, Hon. Wm. Ball, Webster Farmers' Club; discussion of the president's address, opened by Hon. M. E. Rumsey of Leslie and Wm. F. Johnson, of Milford F. C.; paper, "Benefits of the Farmers' Club to the farmer's family," Mrs. R. F. Johnstone, "Beatrice," Detroit; address, "The value of organization," Hon. C. A. Gower, Lansing; discussion, opened by Hon. C. W. Young, Paw Paw and Antwerp F. C., E. J. Cook, Maple River F. C.
- Morning session, February 6, 8 o'clock. Reports of committees; election of officers; address, "The proper relation of the state association to the legislature," Hon. A. N. Kimmis, Jr., Argonaut F. C.; discussion opened by Hoyt, Saline, F. C. H. D. Wetherby, Liberty, F. C.; address, "Do the graduates of the agricultural college become practical farmers?" Hon. Daniel Strange; discussion, opened by B. F. Peckham, Parma, F. C., Byron Thompson, Stockbridge, F. C.
- Afternoon session, February 6, 1:30 o'clock. address, "Needed reforms in state legislation," Hon. J. P. Campbell, Mason; discussion opened by Kenyon L. Butterfield, Lansing, J. T. Daniels, Essex F. C. address, "What shall be done with the tramp," Col. L. H. Ives, Ingham county F. C.; discussion, opened by F. J. Goodrich, Concord F. C., George Cowden, Oxford F. C.

State Issues.

ALBERT DEYO.

You asked me some time ago to give my views upon the question: "Is it possible to elect a state legislature upon state issues?"

It was the intention of the founders of our government that the several states comprising in the aggregate the nation, should have delegated to them each in its separate capacity the right, by legislation, to regulate their own domestic affairs, with certain restrictions placed thereon by the constitution of the United States, such as forbidding a state to enter into a treaty, alliance or confederation; grant letters of marque or reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold or silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder; laws impairing the obligation of contracts; grant any title of nobility; or deny the right of citizens of the United States to vote on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Also the general government reserved the right of laying and collecting an excise duty on articles imported from a foreign country; to control and regulate the postoffices and mail routes; to own and control the public lands not ceded to the states or otherwise disposed of.

WORK FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

The only act that the legislature of a state performs of a national character, is the election of United States senators under rules prescribed by the constitution. With this exception, the legislature of a state is elected wholly upon state issues. Everything pertaining to the government and well being of a state—its financial, its moral, its educational welfare, depend largely upon wise and judicious laws enacted by the legislature. It has within its province the power to encourage and stimulate the material prosperity and well being of a state; to suppress and punish crime; to regulate and control even to its annihilation, the greatest of all evils—the liquor traffic; to protect the people from imposition in allowing the sale of adulterated food; the passage of laws governing our great cities and municipal corporations; the fostering care of our charitable, benevolent, and educational institutions, the pride of our great commonwealth; the substantial improvement of roads and highways; laws looking to the protection of the widow and orphan; woman suffrage; regulating the right of franchise to foreigners; guarding and caring for the educational system of the state, from the country school to our grand university and normal school with their world wide fame. The tax laws need a thorough overhauling; a more thorough compulsory educational system is needed. These and many others are "state issues" and in the election of a legislature, the qualification of its members upon these issues should be paramount to all other considerations. What we need is intelligent, conservative legislation, looking to the interest of all the people regardless of party or party lines. The people of Michigan expect and have a right to demand of the present legislature the consideration of "state issues" and state issues only.

A CONDITION NOT A THEORY.

"It is a condition and not a theory that confronts" the legislature at Lansing this winter. So far as party is concerned it is practically a unit, which fact places greater responsibilities upon it than if the parties were nearly evenly divided. There perhaps was never a legislature assembled in the state that possessed greater opportunities for giving us good and wholesome legislation upon "state issues," and none that ever assumed greater responsibilities in meriting the expression of confidence imposed upon it by the people of the state, than the present one. It is not the quantity but the quality of the work done that gives character to a legislative session. What is needed is a short, crisp, business session, confined to such state issues as may be required, then adjourn, and the people will say, "Well done, good and faithful servants."

Morenci.

Masters and Secretaries.

We have waited a little in order that the Granges throughout the state shall have elected and installed their new masters before presenting to them our request. We feel sure by the time this issue will have reached them they will be in working order. We hardly feel that we need but call your attention to the appointing of your committees on woman's work. The work effected through these committees this last year was most satisfactory. We know it has been rather an innovation, something out of the ordinary, but no longer is it an experiment. The woman's work in the Granges of Michigan has come to stay. Your state committee is powerless without the subordinate committees. Masters, will you name them? There is much that is planned, much that is needed to be done. Shall we do it?

We have as our associates the coming year the same staunch workers as we had

last. Sister Hinds, with her large heart and fertile brain, we are glad to tell you has regained her health and strength, and is ready and anxious for the work. Sister Royce, with her years of experience as one of the best teachers in the state, stands ready to use brain and pen for the good of the Order. Will the secretary of each Grange forward to me the name of the chairman of the woman's work committee as soon as appointed, with the postoffice address?
BATTLE CREEK.
MARY A. MAYO.

F · H · R · C

MOTTO—"Begin; keep at it."

More Good Words.

The following are among letters received from readers of the Farm Home Reading Circle:

I gladly avail myself of the opportunity of expressing my satisfaction with the Farm Home Reading Circle, and will gladly give my influence in its favor. In this reading course there is much to aid the farmer in the pursuit of farming as a livelihood and in it too is an element of happiness.

If the whole family engage in the course the younger ones will become enthusiastic, not only in the reading, but also in the varied operations on the farm, for the reason that they will understand many of the whys and wherefores that before were to them labor without reason.

The younger members of the family will enjoy the reading and the evenings will find them at home pleasantly occupied rather than running aimlessly about the neighborhood, sometimes in good and sometimes in questionable society. I wish every farmer's family in the state would take up this course and read with the definite purpose of passing the examinations, and at the end of the course receiving a diploma.

It is not necessary to plead the cost of books for they are not costly, and every family can save enough for books if they will plan for that and deny themselves some of the things they buy that are of transient worth.

There are three of us to read, so we have a "circle" of our own. We are reading the books of the first year, and hope to finish the first year's reading by the time the year is out. We seldom find time for reading during the day, except occasionally a stormy day. If each read separately of course some time could be found by each in the daytime, but we read evenings, taking turns in reading. One will read one evening what we consider a lesson long enough for profit. The next evening another will ask some questions on the previous lesson to bring out a synopsis of that reading, and will then read another lesson of sufficient length; and the next evening another will ask the questions and do the reading, and so on—and we find it entertaining as well as instructive. We never read Saturday evening, for that is the night of the meeting of the Bengal Grange and some of the family usually attend. Some times our readings are interfered with by visitors, or when the evenings are short and the farm work pressing and bodily fatigue too great for reading, it is deemed wise to let the reading go by, though with much regret. Hoping these few lines will help some one or more to decide to take up the Farm Home Reading course, I am Truly Yours,
E. N. STEWARD.

Fowler.

From what I know of the course think it very good; don't see what we can get better. Most of my knowledge is gained by experience, which is costly and slow but sure. Now I am reading haphazard like. What I have done toward the circle is as follows: I have partially read Stewart on "Feeding animals," and Beal on "Grasses of North America," both very good. Have gained much from them; they are reliable, not like my neighbor, who said when I cut up my corn, "No Frank it's not too green," but when I husked it, I found out my mistake.

Time for reading—that's about the best way I can spend my time. Why? Because its progressive and profitable all around. I am 28 years old and interested in anything toward progression. Would be pleased to hear more about the circle.
FRANK E. RAUGH.

Niles.

\$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.

Agriculture in the Desert.

C. B. COLLINGWOOD.

Some one in writing on the snakes in Ireland commenced by saying "There are no snakes in Ireland." Perhaps you expect me to say that there is no agriculture in the desert. But the truth is that it is there in a very lively form and bids fair to be a most important factor in the economic wealth of this country.

West of the Rockies and east of the Sierras there is a vast extent of country nearly one third the area of the United States which is to all intents and purposes a desert. Here we have a million square miles, only a fraction of which will ever come under cultivation; but if one percent of this should be reclaimed it would be a territory larger than the state of Massachusetts and capable of producing the most astonishing crops. At present this whole region supports about one and one quarter millions of people, one fifth of our population. One per cent brought under irrigation and intense cultivation would undoubtedly support a population of seven millions of people. How large an area will be subdued is a question which only the future can answer.

HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY.

This frontier country has had a peculiar history, which might be divided into three periods. First, the buffalo and the Indians reigned supreme. The buffalo are gone and the Indians reduced to an unimportant factor. Second, the period of mines and mining. Third, while the mining is still an important feature comes the agricultural period. For every Indian that has been killed it has cost a good many thousand dollars; for each dollar in gold which has been dug it has cost something over two dollars and one half. What will be the agricultural record?

It is about this time of year that the irrigation promoter places his enticing advertisements regarding a sure road to wealth. He tells you of a veritable paradise which needs only a minimum of industry and money to make one everlastingly rich and happy. Our winds are cold and piercing, and the agent tells us of a dry, bracing climate where living is easy and dying is difficult, and many are looking toward this promised land.

DRAWBACKS.

What are the drawbacks to this earthly paradise? First the country can be cultivated only by the use of water, and the water supply is exceedingly limited. Irrigation is expensive and can only be accomplished by corporations which invest a large amount of capital. These corporations are doing business for what there is in it, and in order to get it out often sell two or three times as much land as they have water with which to supply it. The difference between the amount of water which a company guarantees to supply and what they actually deliver can only be determined by personal inspection.

Second as to the quality of the water and its effect on the soil. In many parts of this region the water contains so large an amount of salty material that its continued use will produce the most serious results. These results are shown in the so called alkali soils, which contain an amount of salty matter harmful to plant growth. In all of this region the rainfall is insufficient to work the salts out of the soil and the added amount of salt supplied in the water accumulates by evaporation near the surface and becomes a serious menace to plant growth. There are other questions which one should consider, but these two, the amount of water to be furnished and its character and effect on the soil, must be carefully studied by one who would buy land in a country whose conditions are entirely novel to him.

There are portions of this desert where good land with ample water can be purchased and it is here that irrigation is a success. On such farms larger and better crops can be grown than anywhere else in the world. The hay crop is made largely from alfalfa, four or five crops of which can be cut in one season, giving a total of seven to nine tons of hay per acre. All the grains except corn make a good crop; as a rule sorghum grows and yields better than corn. Fruits of all kind flourish according to the

latitude, but from the oranges of Yenna to the apples of Montana irrigated fruits are a success.

CARE NEEDED.

This is the bright side of agriculture in the desert where the water is abundant and of good quality and the soil is adapted to irrigation. No one, however, should invest money in desert agriculture until he has spent at least one year in studying the peculiar conditions of such a region. One can often buy for speculation purposes and be successful on a short acquaintance, but if he is to live there and make farming a business he will make a great mistake to buy an irrigated farm before he thoroughly understands the conditions. In the rain belt you can bring up a poor farm by rotation and manuring, but to bring up a desert farm without water is a hopeless task.

I have devoted most of this sketch to the drawbacks of desert farming because I believe there are many who have been blinded by misleading and lying advertisements and are preparing to invest money without sufficient investigation.

Irrigation has a great future, but there are many who will pay a big price for their experience. The farmers of Michigan can well afford to let their less happily located neighbors of the semi-arid region press on to the unconquered desert.

Lansing.

How Local Option Works in Hillsdale County.

None are better informed as to the workings of prohibition in Hillsdale county, than officials whose duty it is to enforce the law, and those who come in contact with it. I send to the VISITOR a report in brief of an interview with Guy M. Chester, prosecuting attorney; Spencer D. Bishop, ex-prosecuting attorney, whose term of office extended under the workings of both high license and prohibition; Rev. G. S. Bradley, secretary of county law and order league, and chairman of prosecuting committee, whose report in writing I send in full; W. H. Gier, justice of the peace, before whom a large per cent of the liquor cases come; and A. F. Dwight, a lawyer of considerable practice and prominence. With the exception of Mr. Chester, all were together when interviewed, waiting for convening of court.

Q. Is the prohibitory law difficult to enforce?

A. S. D. Bishop.—It is no more difficult to enforce than any other law against crime, if the officials are equally inclined to enforce it.

Q. What as to expense to the county?

A. S. D. Bishop.—Its enforcement need be of no expense to the county. Revenue from fines can be made to pay all expenses.

Q. What as to revenue from license?

A. W. H. Gier.—That of course is lost to the county.

Q. Is it true as was reported, that a certain prosecution last summer for violation of the liquor law cost the county \$500?

A. G. M. Chester.—It might have cost at the outside \$250. S. D. Bishop.—Figure it as high as you can and you can't make it cost over \$200. S. F. Dwight.—It is an exaggeration as all such stories are, got up by the saloonists and their sympathizers for a purpose. There is no use chasing down these lies; while you are chasing down one they will spring a dozen more on you. W. H. Gier.—It is not true that the same individual can make the same expense the second time. The next time he will go to Ionia instead of boarding out his time at the county's expense.

Q. Are there any less arrests under prohibition for drunkenness and crimes committed while under the influence of liquor, than under high license? A. G. M. Chester.—I think there are less. S. D. Bishop.—There is no way of finding out but by going to the records, excepting by what we see. We see less.

Q. Does prohibition sentiment interfere with getting a jury? A. G. M. Chester.—If the jurymen has been an active prohibitionist he is rejected as prejudiced. But there is not so much trouble in this way as there was.

While these questions were freely

discussed there was no difference in views expressed, though it is but fair to say that G. M. Chester was more reserved and less positive, and it is said by those who should know, that he is not in sympathy with the prohibitory features of the law, and would of choice make no arrests under it. As far as my observations go, the law is a success, or might be if the officials were disposed to make it so. I have lived less than three miles from the city of Hillsdale since the prohibitory law went into effect. The yells and drunkard songs are heard no more on the highway late at night. The brewery that stands just in the edge of the city, an evildoer and disgrace, depreciating the value of property all around it, is closed up and its bitter fumes have vanished. The haunts around saloons where the worst element congregated and where it was disagreeable for women to pass at any time, and absolutely dangerous without a guard after dark, are now to all appearances as quiet and safe as any place in the city.

The revenue of \$7,500 for license collected, lost to the county, when spread over its assessed valuation, almost drops out of sight, and at best is blood money. The law works great inconvenience to drinkers. I know of some old "soaks" when the law went into effect who got up and went to places more agreeable to their taste,—our compliments to Lenawee county.

The law is hated by the saloonist and he sits uneasy under it. If he dares to sell at all, it is at continual hazard, an outlaw and criminal, with high fines and the penitentiary just before him. Let us keep the law and spread it all over the state.

Hillsdale.

MR. BRADLEY'S LETTER.

Wm. Kirby, Dear Sir:—Having placed in my hands several questions asked by the GRANGE VISITOR, I will try to answer them as well as I am able.

1. "What is loss of revenue under local option?"

In 1888, the first year of high license, there were fifteen saloons in Hillsdale county, that paid a tax of \$7,500, one half of which went to the general county fund, the other to the cities which contained the saloons. Of course, this revenue under local option is lost. This answers the above question, but there is another side to the picture, as open, unrestricted sale of liquor results in a vast amount of crime in the county, increasing the taxes, resulting in endless brawls, and peaceful demoralization. Statistics everywhere go to show that nothing is gained from high license—that saloons are not regulated, the saloon keepers break every phase of the law, selling on the Sabbath, selling after hours, selling to drunkards and to minors—to anybody that has the money for it.

2. "How does the number of arrests for drunkenness and crime due to that compare with number under license?"

The following statements will show something in this direction:

| | |
|---|----|
| For 1888, the first year of high license. | |
| Whole No. of cases | 16 |
| " " convictions | 1 |
| " " discharged | 6 |
| The remaining ones are untried to this day. | |
| Whole No. cases under local option of 1892, the first year of local option. | 18 |
| Whole No. of convictions | 7 |
| " " acquitted by the jury | 2 |
| " " discharged by the justice court. | 1 |
| formation of examination in justice court. | 1 |
| No. remaining cases undisposed of | 1 |
| Whole No. of parties arrested for being drunk in 1888 | 41 |
| Whole No. arrested for same in 1892 | 4 |

From the above it will be easily seen which law was best enforced, and which tended most to regulate and restrict the sales. It will be noticed that there were only four arrests for drunkenness in 1892, simply because the drunkenness did not appear.

3. "Has the cost of jail and county house been less under local option?" Also cost of prosecution for crimes committed under influence of liquor?

This is a question quite difficult to answer directly. We have tried to sift out from the records of the county the cost of liquor suits separately, but cannot do it, from the fact that when a check for cost is presented to the treasurer, it is not always made clear what is the exact cause. For example, there might be an "assault and battery," all due to liquor, but it does not so come to the treasurer; so in a murder case, &c.

Under high license very few fines

came into the treasury, but under local option the fines are much larger, and when the law is properly enforced, I have no doubt but it would pay all its own outlay.

Let me quote from a letter received from a prominent lawyer in VanBuren county, O. W. Rowland. He says: "No other criminal statute is better enforced. Of course it is violated, so are all statutes enacted for the punishment of crime, but the violations are growing fewer in number."

Lincoln H. Titus, prosecuting attorney of VanBuren county, says under date of April 23, 1894: "To say that liquor is not sold in this county would be nonsense, for there is, and people will get drunk; but drunkenness is way down, the reports of whisky men to the contrary notwithstanding. I am in a position to know what I speak, to I say to you and all others that she number of drunks and assault and battery cases brought before the court since local option was enforced up to the handle has dropped off over 50 per cent."

"You ask how it compares with other cases on the calendar? It is the only law that is self-sustaining. In a matter of dollars and cents we get enough out of the fines and costs to pay the other fellows' board who go to jail and the cost of their suits." What can be done in VanBuren county can and ought to be done in Hillsdale county. We hope to reach that point.

4. "Number of arrests for violation of local option law, also under license."

I have covered this in what I have already said, but will add: "We have six parties just put under arrest, with six more all ready for arrest."

5. "Prosecutions for same; convictions; cost as compared with same under license."

It will be observed that this question runs into some of the others. On the 14th of May, 1894, our people voted on local option the second time and it was carried. Since that time, up to within a few days of the present, there were only two or three cases, one confirmed by the supreme court, and the man spent 90 days in jail. The other case went through the circuit court all right, but has been carried to the higher court on some technicality in the proceedings.

One man before convicted came up and paid his fine of \$250. We confidently expect the higher court's decision in our favor, and this will bring us in probably \$250 more. If so, this will probably more than pay all costs of court. The exact cost I am not able to give for reasons before stated, viz: liquor suits are not kept entirely distinct from other violations of law. We had a lawyer attempt to get at exact costs during the pending of the local option question, but he gave it up, saying he could not separate the items. I wish I could give you more exact figures on this point, but I am satisfied it would show most forcibly in favor of local option.

6. "Methods of evading the law."

These are endless. Every trick possible by the lawyers for the saloon men is resorted to, every technicality is magnified into the largest proportions, cases are carried to the supreme court until it would seem as though that court must become perfectly disgusted. In the Neyhart case carried up, the attorney for defense acknowledges that he has no hope of saving his client, but that client has money, so the case goes up, probably to stave off result as long as possible.

Again, there is any amount of perjury among witnesses and jurors. Perjury is notorious in liquor suits. In some cases attempts have been made to get main witnesses to leave the county. Liquor has been shipped in here in barrels and hogsheds, labeled "hams" etc. Some is shipped to a station several miles away and drawn across the country after dark. In one instance lately reported to me, a man is bottling in his barn—a man comes in, stamps his heel on the floor and lo! a bottle is let down from above—no person appearing as salesman. Drinkers usually call for "ginger ale" when they wish beer, or "shorts" when they wish whiskey. In one case I was told that there was a counter, but no bottles appeared behind it, nor could anything be seen if one were

to step behind the bar—simply passed up through a trap door, when wanted, etc., etc.

7. "Probable decrease of liquor consumed."

With regard to this we have no means to determine the facts, for under local option everything is concealed as far as possible. The presumption is that a much less amount is consumed. A large number of people will not purchase liquor if they must "sneak" around to secure it; with open saloons they will walk right in and drink. A person came to Hillsdale some months ago and met the saloon keeper near his back door and said, "How is business?" The reply was, "Bad, bad, local option has knocked us in the head." A saloon man whom we have in jail awaiting his trial, told me this forenoon that if we had waited two days longer he would have left town, as he could not make it pay enough to support his family. These little things suggest that local option is not the happiest state of things for their business. The arrests recently made, and several others in prospect, will send consternation into the ranks of the saloonists and their friends, for we hope to get two convictions out of each case—one for keeping a place where liquor is sold, the other for selling. I think we have a good law at present, but it needs some changes to secure the best results. One is a "search and seizure" clause. To treat a man with liquor should subject the man who treats to the penalty of "giving away" liquor now in the law. I am inclined to think that this might be carried as the law now stands. At any rate I would like to see it tried on. My letter is already very long, and I have not answered all the questions as minutely as I could wish. When court records are made more exact, then we can find out better; until then many desirable data cannot be obtained.

Yours for temperance,
REV. G. S. BRADLEY.

Hillsdale.

HOW GRAN! BECAME A SMOKER.

An Incident That Caused the General to Be Overwhelmed With Cigars.

"My father," said Colonel Grant, "tried to smoke while at West Point, but only because it was against the regulations, and then he didn't succeed very well at it. He really got the habit from smoking light cigars and cigarettes during the Mexican war, but it wasn't a fixed habit. When he left the army and lived in the country, he smoked a pipe—not incessantly. I don't think that he was very fond of tobacco then, and really there was always a popular misconception of the amount of his smoking. But he went on as a light smoker, a casual smoker, until the day of the fall of Fort Donelson. Then the gunboats having been worsted somewhat, and Admiral Foote having been wounded, he sent ashore for my father to come and see him. Father went aboard, and the admiral, as is customary, had his cigars passed. My father took one and was smoking it when he went ashore. There he was met by a staff officer, who told him that there was a sortie, and the right wing had been struck and smashed in. Then my father started for the scene of operations. He let his cigar go out naturally, but held it between his fingers. He rode hither and yon, giving orders and directions, still with the cigar stump in his hand.

"The result of his exertions was that Fort Donelson fell after he sent his message of 'unconditional surrender,' and 'I propose to move immediately upon your works.' With the message was sent all over the country the news that Grant was smoking throughout the battle when he only had carried this stump from Foote's flagship. But the cigars began to come in from all over the Union. He had 11,000 cigars on hand in a very short time. He gave away all he could, but he was so surrounded with cigars that he got to smoking them regularly, but he never smoked as much as he seemed to smoke. He would light a cigar after breakfast and let it go out, and then light it again, and then again let it go out and light it, so that the one cigar would last until lunchtime."—From an Interview With Colonel Frederick D. Grant About His Father in McClure's Magazine.

Supposing a Case.

Manager—This new play, I expect, will be a big success. In the first act you appear as a beggarly clerk in a dry goods establishment, kicked about by your employers and the floorwalker and contemned by the customers. Then three years elapse between the first and second acts and—

Actor—You wouldn't mind paying my salary in advance for those three years? I'm awfully short.

Manager—I ought to have said 'are supposed to elapse.' You can suppose you got your three years' salary in advance.—Boston Transcript.

Notices of Meetings

GRATIOT POMONA.

The next session of Gratiot county Pomona Grange will be held with Arcadia Grange Saturday, February 9. All fourth degree members are invited to be present at the business meeting in the forenoon to aid with their counsel in laying out the field for lecture work. Afternoon and evening sessions public.

E. FRANKLIN, Lecturer.

KENT POMONA.

The next Kent County Pomona Grange will be held with Courtland Grange February 6, commencing at 10 o'clock a. m. Morning session will be devoted to business of the Grange; and will the officers who were not installed at Rockford please be in time to be installed at the morning session. Program for the afternoon is as follows: song, Courtland Grange Choir; address of welcome, Master Courtland Grange, W. H. Myers, Jr.; response, Master Pomona Grange; song, Brother and Sister Mortimer Austin; "An our system of farming be changed so as to secure more rest for the farmer?" Brothers James Martin and M. A. Norton; recitation, Sister Mertie Preston; farmers' grievances, Brother H. C. Denison, Sister E. R. Keech; select reading, Sister P. C. Giles; song, Brother and Sister George Hunting; Farmers' blessings, Sisters Robert Dockeray and James Martin, Brother M. H. Foster; recitation, Brother George Davis; song, Courtland Grange; Progress of the world, Brothers E. R. Keech and Arthur Elsie, Sisters M. H. Foster, Martha Berry and Sarah Andrus. All present are invited to take part in the discussions and contribute with songs, speeches or recitations to make our meeting pleasant and profitable. An evening session will be held if there are any who wish to take the fifth degree. Carriages will meet the train at Rockford to take all to the Grange who prefer to go that way. Please write Brother Robert Dockeray, Rockford, that they may know how many conveyances will be required.

Mrs. Wm. T. Adams, Lecturer.

Grange News.

OBITUARY.

Died, John Danville, a worthy member of Pomona Grange No. 21.

Brother Nathan Winslow, an old and honored member of Williamson Grange No. 115, recently passed away. The Grange mourns his loss keenly and extends sympathy to the bereaved family.

Sister Julia Bailey Remington died in Ionia, Nov. 4, 1894. In her death Kent county Grange has lost one of her most loved and cherished members. She was prominent in Grange work in Kent county till she moved to Ionia, where she has lived for the last few years. She was a charter member of South Lowell Grange, in which Grange she ably filled the office of lecturer for several years. She was elected to various offices in Kent county Grange and was for two years Pomona of the State Grange. When a delegate to the State Grange she was chairman of the committee on education, and those who listened to her able report, will be pained to know that her voice is forever stilled. She was above the average in intelligence and education.

How comforting the thought
"That she is safe with Him who hath the power
Of pain and sin and death,
Forever with her God and Savior blest,
To rest, sweetly rest."

HILLSDALE POMONA GRANGE.

The January meeting for installing officers of Hillsdale Pomona Grange was held on the 3rd at Adams Grange hall. We were favored with the presence of Bro. Horton, master of the State Grange, who officiated, and brothers Davis, Walworth and Travis, delegates to the State Grange.

I think we never had a more practical and profitable talk on the Grange and Grange work than that given by Brother Horton after installation. Of course much of that which referred to field, degree and unwritten work of the Order is not reportable. He looked beyond mere forms and ceremonies which so often are little understood and lightly appreciated, to the spirit and substance within, and all that was weird and mystical vanished and the realistic was complete. We were at once at the old homestead in the fatherland, around which clustered the affections of childhood and lifelong associations, a place by these made sacred and on which no one had a right to trespass. There was the gate and path and sty over the hedge and we were in the fields among the flocks and the herds.

We were reminded that no one could become proficient without drill. What drill in the manual of arms was to the soldier, drill in the ritual is to the Patron. And it was only by this drill that the real excellence and beauties of the Grange could be brought out. It was the life of the Grange and always becomes attractive when rightly used. Strong Granges are always proficient in it, and it has tided many a weak Grange over dangerous places. Unlike farmers' clubs and similar organizations the Grange through a more perfect organization has become a concentration of

power. This is manifest by the anxiety of papers to get the reports from National and State Granges.

Through the advantages gained by the Grange, farmers now are subject to political preferment and are just as apt to be struck with lightning as any other class.

The best results from open meetings are to be secured by inviting those who would be likely to become useful members rather than opening it indiscriminately to the public.

We should stand by our state representatives who advocate Grange principles and not neglect to endorse by resolution in our Subordinate Granges and forward petitions sent to us for that purpose. Let us not forget this admonition.

The next meeting of Pomona will be at Brother Walworth's residence three miles east of the city of Hillsdale, on the first Thursday of February.

WM. KIRBY.

WOODMAN GRANGE.

Woodman Grange, No. 610, held a closed installation on Saturday evening, Jan. 5, with Brother Kirk as installing officer. Worthy Master Charles Adams and Worthy Lecturer Wm. G. Adams were re-elected for another year. After installation we all sat down to a bountiful repast, the best the ladies of our Grange knew how to prepare, of which all partook with the heartiest enjoyment. Under the head of suggestions for the good of the Order, the new Worthy Master, Overseer, and Lecturer all delivered short addresses, after which the Worthy Chaplain, who was delegate from our Grange to the State Grange, gave us a detailed report of his visit, and the proceedings of the State Grange, lasting one hour and fifteen minutes, to which all paid the closest attention. He gave us some stirring words, words of cheer and advice, and entreated us on the beginning of this new year to be more earnest Patrons than we have ever been before.

There was a time during the last summer and autumn months when the outlook for Woodman Grange was very dark indeed, but our Grange ship has passed over the shoals, and, though there was a time when it seemed as though we could feel her keel grating on the bottom, we are now gliding into deeper water and everything is smooth and fair before us, and the prospect now is, that in one year from today we will have one of the most flourishing Granges in VanBuren county.

WM. G. ADAMS, Lecturer.

HURON POMONA.

Huron county Pomona Grange held its annual meeting with Colfax Grange Dec. 13, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: W. M., Duncan McKenzie; O., Joseph Donaldson; L., W. D. Burhans; S., R. Nugent; A. S., Geo. Pangman; Ch., H. L. Watson; Treas., John Nugent; Sec., Mrs. R. Nugent; G. L., Albert Pangman; Ceres., Mrs. S. S. Donaldson; Pomona, Mrs. Hunt; Flora, Mrs. McKenzie; L. A. S., Angie Eccles. There were three subordinate Granges represented. Although Colfax Grange did not report favorably, there were enough of their members present to entertain Pomona in good style as the tables at dinner and supper proved. Verona Mills and Wadsworth Granges were well represented and reported favorably. We were sorry our meeting happened to be while the State Grange was in session for it deprived us of having our delegates with us to give us a report of that session, but if every Granger would read the Visitor, they could get quite a report. I hope for the benefit of the Grange in Huron county that every Granger may read the Worthy Master's address, and say amen to that part of it that says "we want no cliques nor clans in the Grange." The shoe pinches tight enough during these hard times. If the Grange lives through it, it is worth sticking to and we are determined to have it do so in Huron county if possible. We have decided to hold a county picnic in June, and have appointed the following committee to formulate a plan: John Hunt, W. D. Burhans, Lester D. McKenzie, John Nugent, J. F. Wager and D. Buchanan. The evening

session was given over to the worthy lecturer. Sister Hunt read an essay on "Woman's influence in the home and surroundings." It was a good production. Recitations were given by Brother Hunt and Sister Murry, and songs by Sister Lizzie Donaldson, Brother Bigler and Brother Richard Pangman. Reading by Sister Williams. The lecturer furnished some good questions. Altogether the program was very interesting and instructive, and everyone present seemed to enjoy themselves immensely.

SEC.

A SURPRISE.

On the evening of Jan. 2, 1895, a number of W. S. Williams' many friends gathered at his home, and a very enjoyable evening ensued.

It was a surprise for him and his new wife, and complete in every respect. The spacious parlors rang with merry laughter, as all took part in the games of younger days.

At eleven o'clock supper was announced and all repaired to the dining room, where the tables loaded with "goodies" were in waiting to refresh the "Band of Grangers," after which the games were resumed until the late hours compelled them to bid Mr. and Mrs. Williams good night.

G. A. W.

Kent county Grange held a regular meeting at Rockford on Jan. 9. The forenoon session was devoted to the regular order of business including the annual report of the overseer and secretary. About fifty partook of the bountiful dinner which the ladies of Rockford Grange prepared.

The afternoon session was open to the public, and about 75 Patrons and friends were present, when Brother Robert Dockeray, past master of the Pomona Grange, installed the officers for the ensuing year. Music, recitations, readings, and discussions filled up the time. Resolutions on the death of Sister Julia Remington were passed.

Committees from each Grange representative district in the county, consisting of at least six members, are to be appointed to visit the different Granges, in their own or other districts and report at each meeting of the county Grange. It was suggested that each Grange have a Grange calendar hanging in their hall upon which are the dates of the different Grange meetings throughout the county.

The next meeting will be held at Courtland on Feb. 6, 1895.

SECRETARY.

Liberty Grange, No. 391, has voted \$2.00 for the Visitor to be sent to persons outside the Order.

E. F.

January 3, Brother George McDougall installed the officers of Fraternity Grange and gave the report of the State Grange. Sister McDougall reported the social features of the State Grange. Our next meeting is an "application" meeting.

J. K. C.

HILLSDALE POMONA.

Hillsdale Pomona Grange held its December meeting at the G. A. R. hall, Hillsdale, on the 6th. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master, R. Strait; Overseer, M. Walworth; Lecturer, N. I. Moore; Steward, C. G. Perrin; Asst. Steward, S. E. Haughey; Chaplain, W. Kirby; Treasurer, A. Edwards; Secretary, W. Hunker; Gatekeeper, C. St. John; Ceres, Mrs. M. E. Phillips; Pomona, Mrs. E. Walworth; Flora, Mrs. H. Hunker; Lady Asst. Steward, Mrs. C. Haughey.

The Secretary's report showed a membership of over ninety. If our Treasurer's report was correspondingly favorable we would consider ourselves fortunate. But alas, alas; the hard times have made themselves felt even in Pomona. But yet we have legislation to look after, and we cannot afford to neglect it. The repeal of a single law passed by our last legislature would save to almost any rural community the cost of sending our accredited delegate to the State Grange. Brethren and members of Pomona, turn out in mass to our installation and please come prepared to replenish our treasury.

The delegates of our county were instructed to use their influence to secure the repeal of the law in

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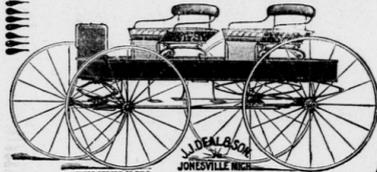
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reference to peddlers and hucksters passed by our last legislature.

The meeting for the installing of officers was held at Adams Grange hall on Thursday, January 3.

WM. KIRBY.

FRATERNITY GRANGE.

There has been an unusual amount of interest in the meetings of Fraternity Grange, No. 52, since the county meeting in October. Our Worthy Master is always present, and has a good word for each attendant. Our Worthy Lecturer has a way of making us believe that he really expects just the work he has planned for us at the previous meeting. He has not yet acquired the habit of forgetting. An extra meeting was held the second week in November, the occasion being a lecture from Sister Mayo. I believe that all went home with more love for our Order, more faith in our work as farmers, and more anxious to hear her again.

At our regular meeting the next week (an open one), Mr. Gibbons of the Michigan Farmer was present and gave us a very instructive paper on the present way of grading wheat in Michigan, which our Grange asked to have published. Every farmer would do well to read his article and then petition the legislature for better laws. An open meeting was held November 27, for a general discussion of the temperance question. All seemed anxious for a prohibitory law in Michigan, and will be glad of the opportunity to cast a vote to that effect. Rev. Hill of the M. E. was present, also Mr. Norton of Vermont, who gave an interesting account of the working of that law in his state. He counseled patience and perseverance, and promised success in the end.

Mrs. JENNIE FLETCHER.

Branch county Pomona Grange, No. 22, held their annual meeting at Coldwater Grange hall, Jan. 10,

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1895. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Master, D. D. Buell; Overseer, W. A. Lott; Lecturer, W. E. Wright; Steward, E. A. Brown; Asst. Steward, R. C. Ostrom; Chaplain, C. C. Sears; Treasurer, S. E. Lee; Sec'y, Sister I. A. Martin; Gate Keeper, I. E. Corless; Pomona, Sister Minnie Russell; Flora, Sister Flora Sperebeck; Ceres, Sister Nettie Allen; Lady Asst. Steward, Sister J. F. Button.

During the year 1894, 123 applications for membership were received; ninety of this number have been initiated in the 5th degree, making a membership of 192. Our retiring master, A. L. Smith, installed the officers. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for a farmers' institute to be held at Coldwater this winter, consisting of Brothers W. E. Wright, A. L. Smith, and W. S. Mowry, Sister D. D. Buell, and Sister E. A. Horton. The next meeting will be held with Girard Grange, Feb. 14.

Mrs. I. A. MARTIN, Secretary.