

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XX. NO. 5.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, MARCH 7, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 461.

Committee on Agriculture.

Michigan State Grange, 1894.

F. B. Mumford, second chairman of committee on agriculture, submitted the following report; which was received and acted upon in sections:

TO THE WORTHY MASTER AND MEMBERS OF THE STATE GRANGE OF MICHIGAN— Your committee appointed to consider the resolutions presented to this body on the subjects of farmers' institutes, free rural mail delivery, good roads, and the appointment of a tax statistician, beg to submit the following:

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

We commend the work of the state board of agriculture in its earnest efforts to advance the agricultural interests of our state by means of farmers' institutes, and the State Grange of Michigan, representing as it does every portion of this great commonwealth, is heartily in favor of an extension of this work so that its benefits may become available to a larger number of our farming community. To this end we desire to call especial attention to Sec. 2 of the report of the standing committee on education, which provides for an appropriation of \$5,000 annually, 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 further recommend that this sum be placed at the disposal of the board of agriculture, and that every subordinate Grange in the state demand the passage of the above appropriation from their member in the legislature.

Recommendation concurred in.

FREE RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

It has been stated by high officials that the extension of free rural mail delivery is impracticable and is not demanded by the rural population. We deny the statement that there is no demand for the delivery of mail to farmers, and we protest against the recent report of the postmaster general, which thus attempts to summarily dispose of the further extension of the free delivery system to farmers. The State Grange of Michigan heartily endorses every effort already made on the part of our government officials to extend the postal service, and demand as our right that further experiments be conducted along this line, to the ultimate end that every farmer may be permitted to enjoy the same postal facilities now exclusively enjoyed by the inhabitants of our cities.

Recommendation concurred in.

TAX STATISTICIAN.

After careful consideration of the valuable suggestions relative to taxation made in Worthy Master Horton's report, and after an earnest but unsuccessful search after reliable statistics of taxation, we are forced to admit that our great state with its vast interests that should contribute equally to the public revenue of the state and its component counties, townships, cities, and villages, has no gathered statistics relative to taxation on properties liable thereto, and has no means for procuring and recording such data. What wonder is it that successive legislatures find themselves without information to guide them in their deliberations upon this all important question?

The suggestion of legislation to supply the defect comes none too soon, and we are convinced that the attendant expense would be an unimportant matter in comparison to the advantages that would result from its adoption in increased revenues, from lessened rates of taxation. We are convinced that an expert and impartial investigation of this subject is demanded, and that it should not be spasmodic but should be continuous and so give opportunity for comparisons of different periods and under such changes in the law as may be adopted from time to time. This we believe would best be accomplished by the appointment of a state tax commissioner who should be thoroughly acquainted with the theory and operations of the tax laws and a competent accountant. We recommend the appointment of such an officer and that he be given sufficient authority and resources to enable him to secure and present the facts necessary to a proper understanding of the actual relation between

various classes of property and the contributions of each to the state, county, and local revenues.

We further advise that this State Grange earnestly request the governor to recommend the necessary legislation.

Recommendation concurred in.

GOOD ROADS.

We are in favor of any practicable and economical method of road improvement which will give us a reasonable system applicable to our conditions.

Respectfully submitted, F. B. MUMFORD, H. J. HALL, BARBARA DAVIES, ISAAC S. POUND, W. L. KANE, JEROME DILLS, A. W. HAYDON, MRS. CORA MARTIN.

Report adopted.

The Asylums for the Insane.

Notes from the Biennial Reports of the Asylums. MICHIGAN ASYLUM.

"During most of the past biennial period the asylum has been filled to the limit of beds, and patients have only been taken as vacancies occurred. For a brief time after the opening of the new cottage for women all females were taken, but male patients have been obliged to wait in turn for admission. On July 1, 1892, there were present in the asylum 1,047 patients. During the period 556 have been admitted, and 449 discharged, leaving under treatment June 30, 1894, 1154 persons. The entire number cared for, 1,603, exceeds the total number treated in the previous period by 151, and is the largest that the asylum has provided for in any like space of time. The weekly rate of maintenance has remained at \$5.36.

The following letter illustrates the Michigan method of control of asylums. The letter is from the chairman of the state board of corrections and charities to the superintendent of the asylum at Kalamazoo.

STATE BOARD OF CORRECTIONS AND CHARITIES, Lansing, Oct. 5, 1894.

Wm. M. EDWARDS, M. D., Medical Superintendent Michigan Asylum for the Insane, Kalamazoo, Mich.: Dear Sir: Your committee to the state board of corrections and charities, submitting for its consideration and opinion the proposed appropriations for your institution for the years 1895 and 1896 was duly received. We visited the Michigan Asylum as required, and with your board of trustees investigated the condition and needs of the same. We have carefully considered the appropriation proposed, and respectfully submit herewith our opinion of the same. Such opinion has been governed largely by the following resolution: "Whereas, in the present condition of business, citizens, and especially those who are dependent on constant employment, must find it difficult to meet their taxes; Resolved, That this board, while recognizing the desire to increase the efficiency of the institutions of the state, feels that its recommendations should be made in view of these circumstances, and that special appropriations should contemplate only what is absolutely necessary." A detached building for 100 male patients, \$30,000. In the opinion of this board the number of patients is larger now in the Michigan asylum for the insane than it should be. Provision is proposed for 350 patients at the upper peninsula asylum. The redistricting of the state, as provided by the act establishing such new institution, (Sec. 12, Act 210, laws 1893), will relieve the northern Michigan asylum at Traverse City, so as to provide for the average increase for the next two years. While we recognize that hall "M" is unsuitable as a permanent place for the care of patients, still, in view of the large appropriations asked and required at other points, and for the foregoing reasons we cannot approve this item.

For additional fire protection.....\$11,000. Approved. Physician's house at the colony.....\$4,000.

The purpose of this house to provide a building for the resident physician other than the cottage now occupied by him in common with the insane is commendable. The plan of the cottage secures convenience with little effort at show; the cost of construction is not exorbitant. But, in consideration of the times and of the large appropriations asked, we are of the opinion that quarters for a resident physician should, for the present, continue in the colony houses, and this appropriation not be made. Horse barn and shed for wagons, farm implements, and for storage of hay, \$2,500. In the opinion of this board all this can be secured at a cost of \$2,000, and the item is approved at such amount.

Extraordinary repairs and renewals, \$4,500. Approved.

Yours respectfully,

GEORGE D. GILLESPIE,

L. C. STORRS, Secretary. Chairman.

In 1893-4, two years, this asylum cost the state \$493,309.87.

"The total number of admissions to this asylum since it was opened for the reception of patients is 6,279. Of this number, 1,359 recovered, 1,399 were discharged improved, 1,215 discharged unimproved, 1,152 died, and 1,154 remain. The number admitted during the biennial period, 556, is 73 in excess of the number admitted during the previous period."

EASTERN MICHIGAN ASYLUM.

"During the biennial period 562 patients were admitted, of whom 110 had been in police stations and jails, 13 in penal and reformatory institutions, 70 under treatment in other asylums, 109 formerly under treatment in this institution, 21 inmates of poorhouse; 80 under treatment in general

hospitals and charitable institutions.

Of the whole number admitted 49 were homicidal, 65 suicidal, 43 homicidal and suicidal, 149 dangerous, 33 suicidal and dangerous.

Eighty of those admitted had been under treatment in this asylum once previously, 18 twice previously, and 11 more than twice previously.

Thirty-one had sustained one previous attack, 7 two previous attacks, 3 three previous attacks, and 4 four or more previous attacks.

Of those discharged 7 (of whom there were 6 men and one woman) have been transferred to the asylum for dangerous and criminal insane at Ionia."

"The need for an addition to the staff of physicians is pressing, and the trustees would urge upon the legislature the importance of amending this law, increasing the appropriation for officers' salaries from ten to twelve thousand dollars per year."

Cost to state for two years, \$298,626.37.

THE CRANK PROBLEM.

Dr. Burr in his report says: "There have been admitted during the last biennial period 19 patients suffering from the form of disease known as paranoia. It may be truthfully said that the world has entered upon an era of cranks and crankism. The public has become accustomed to glaring headlines and full page newspaper accounts of homicidal acts directed against distinguished individuals. A sudden act of homicide is committed, and the public is momentarily shocked. The editor finds in the circumstance a convenient text from which to preach to physicians a sermon upon their duty as conservators of life, and to officials the obligations incumbent upon them to take care of the crank; but though officers of the law may have their duty to do impracticable things pointed out in dogmatic fashion, and though from the pulpit and press denunciation of the miscarriage of justice is made, the public soon lapses into indifference. The crank problem remains unsolved and history repeats itself. What shall be done with the crank? It would seem that the fallacy of the belief in the "harmless" character of his insanity has been clearly demonstrated and emphasized in too many soul stirring episodes to be longer entertained. Too long indulged in his whims and conceits, sent upon fools' errands, encouraged in vagaries, disappointed and thwarted in aims which he has marked out for himself, irritability has ensued. The "harmless crank" has become a homicidal insane person.

"What should be done with the crank? He should be sequestered and cared for away from his family and home. Outside of asylums such persons menace the safety of society. Of 15 cases of paranoia to which I have had occasion to refer recently, one had threatened the judge of probate with a shotgun; another, in a fit of jealous rage, had assaulted his wife and daughter with a sled stake; a third came to the asylum with a revolver in her possession which she had intended to use against her fancied persecutors; a fourth made a pilgrimage to Washington to obtain from the attorney general of the United States redress for grievances. One had made such violent demonstrations toward his wife that she dared not remain alone with him. Another assaulted a railroad president because a bit of advice respecting "nickel-plating rails" was not followed, and because he had failed to receive a desired position on the road. Another threatened to blow up the city hall with dynamite. One had threatened to do violence to her friends; another to shoot and burn, another had beaten his wife because of the belief that she was conspiring with the priest against him. The twelfth had paraded about dressed in a fantastic suit and carrying a two-edged sword,—this because of desire to appear correctly in the biblical character which he supposed himself to represent.

The public should learn to protect itself from persons of this description. Let officials act where relatives having no appreciation of the needs of the patient fail to act. Let the belief in "harmless insanity" disappear, and let the public awaken to a sense of its responsibility to care for the crank—the individual sane on all subjects

but one—the delusion tyrannized paranoiac."

NORTHERN MICHIGAN ASYLUM.

"We would particularly call attention to the fact that the medical staff is too small for the best care and treatment of a thousand patients, and that until the law is amended increasing the appropriation for the salaries of officers there is no way by which it can be enlarged. We would respectfully urge the legislature to amend the statute providing for officers' salaries to \$12,000 per year. We wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not urge this amendment that the salaries of existing officers may be increased, but that additional members to the staff may be employed. It is true, however, that physicians accepting positions in our institutions must have increased salary after a period of service if they are to be long retained. It is well known that the junior medical officers after one, two, three, or more years of experience resign to enter private practice, because it affords to them much greater opportunities for financial success than a further continuation of hospital work."

"During the two years ending June 30, 1894, eleven (non-residents) were admitted at state expense (transferred from county) and twenty-one at private expense. Of the 378 patients admitted 23 had been confined in county houses, 104 had been confined in jails, 29 had been treated in other asylums, 57 were said to have been destructive, 56 had attempted or threatened suicide, 141 were homicidal or had made homicidal assaults, 6 had been treated in hospital and 64 had been confined or restrained at home.

Doubtless the reason so many of these patients had been confined in jails was due to the fact that, previous to the completion of the cottages, the counties had no other means to care for them; 143 of the number admitted during the period were received since Feb. 1, 1894.

Of the 378 patients admitted only 70 suffered from the simple, curable forms of insanity. As in former periods, the admission of degenerate, incurable patients was largely in the majority. In a public hospital where no selection is or can be made of patients admitted, and where no cases presenting signs of constitutional or acquired defect in mental organization are ever discharged cured, the rate of recovery on the whole number under treatment will necessarily be small; but if we examine the rate of recovery of patients classed in Group I of our classification, we shall find that this is large, not less than 70 per cent of the entire number.

The net increase of patients for each biennial period since the opening of the asylum has been as follows:

From 1886 to 1888,	148
" 1888 " 1890,	131
" 1890 " 1892,	123
" 1892 " 1894,	150

Total for 8 years, 552

On June 30, 1894, there were 690 patients under treatment at state expense, 246 at county; and 24 at private expense.

Scarlet Clover.

Will some one please answer through the GRANGE VISITOR, can scarlet clover be depended upon for a forage and hay crop in Michigan, and is it liable to be attacked by insects or other plagues? We saw it highly recommended in a Missouri paper, and would like to know more about it. Since our red clover is most a failure in our part of Michigan, anything definite will be kindly received. AUNT KATE.

From A Granger.

Cheshire County, N. H., Nov. 7, '94. Mr. O. W. INGERSOLL,

Dear Sir: I would like your color card of Rubber Paints, also your price list. We are going to paint our Grange hall and being on the committee I propose to use your paints, having used them and always found them to give the best of satisfaction.

Yours in faith,

5w1 A. TWITCHELL.
See Adv. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints.

Field and Stock.

Growing Peppermint.

BY A MINT GROWER.

In answer to some questions as to the growing of peppermint, I would say first that up to within a few years peppermint was grown altogether on upland, and of course the better the land, and the better state of cultivation the land was under, the better the crop of mint, if properly cared for. At that time, oil of peppermint was sometimes sold as high as four or five dollars a pound. But dry land is not the natural home of the peppermint, and during the past few years people have been very rapidly discovering the fact that they can produce the very finest quality of oil and a much larger yield per acre from some of the muck deposits or swamp lands with which Michigan is so abundantly supplied. For this reason the mint business has been transferred from the upland to the lowland, and the mint industry on the lowlands of Michigan has increased until it is estimated that Michigan produces over two-thirds of the peppermint oil of the world.

THE KIND OF MUCK LAND DESIRABLE FOR PEPPERMINT.

I wish to say right here that it is not to be supposed that all muck lands will grow peppermint. For while Michigan has a vast amount of muck land, it varies all the way from the very best muck in the world, to that which is utterly worthless for any farm purposes. There is as much difference in muck as there is in dry land. When people began raising mint on low land and thus increased the yield per acre, they naturally enough increased the acreage, and the increase in oil produced seemed to be greater than the increase in demand, for the price began to fall and upland growers found that they could not make it pay to grow mint at one dollar and fifty cents per pound, so they went out of the business. Then the McKinley law raised the tariff on peppermint oil until it entirely shut out the cheap oil from Japan, and oil of peppermint went up to two dollars and thirty-five cents per pound, and there was a good profit in it on our low lands at that price. But the price could not remain there, for Michigan increased the acreage so rapidly and the tariff was again reduced until the past season oil of peppermint went down to one dollar and fifty cents per pound. (I am giving some average prices paid to growers.)

DOES MINT GROWING PAY?

I would say that I do not believe there is any profit in it to the average small grower at present prices and it seems to be the general opinion among buyers, that it will go down next season to one dollar and twenty-five or one dollar a pound, unless Japan should be unable to furnish their usual amount on account of war troubles. Does it take time in the busy season? Yes, the mint season begins early and the crop requires the closest of attention until harvested; that is if one expects to produce a fine quality of oil. And let me say right here that no one should go into the mint business unless he is prepared to make it a business and give it the closest of attention possible, and produce a fine quality of strictly pure oil, for a mint farmer cannot run his crop through a fanning mill and clean it as you do wheat. I do not think it advisable for anyone engaged in general farming and owning some muck, to plant mint as a side issue, and the reason is this: I have known of quite a number of farmers doing this and almost invariably they have made a failure of it, and that in the time of high prices too.

In closing I would say that at the present time the bottom seems to be knocked out of the mint business, and it looks now as if the small growers and those who are not growing mint on the very best of land, and under the most favorable circumstances possible, must either grow mint at a loss or go out of the business.

Deatur.

Care of Young Calves.

L. N. COWDREY.

About a week before the cow is to become a mother, if it is in the winter time or liable to be cold or disagreeable weather, I aim to have a warm shed of some kind in which to keep the cow away from the other stock, so everything will be quiet, or if it is in warm weather, I have a small yard which answers the same purpose.

After the calf is born, I let it remain with the cow for a few days, or until the milk becomes good for use, in the meantime milking the cow of what milk the calf does not take. I then separate the calf from the cow by putting it in a pen close by its mother so she can see it. It is never allowed to be turned with her after this, but is taught to drink. The mother and calf soon become used to the situation, and in a few days can be separated for good without any fuss. The calf, at first, will no doubt refuse to drink, but

I pay no attention to this, for it won't be long before it will begin to manifest an interest in you, by coming up to you when you go in the pen where it is. I aim to have some fresh milk just drawn from the cow which I keep before its nose so it can smell it. It soon becomes interested, and I manage to keep the milk under its nose so it can get a taste of it, and the work is done.

LATER FEEDING.

Calves are often taught to drink in this way without giving them the finger. I have tried taking away as soon as born, but always had more or less trouble in teaching them to drink. I think they know more when they are a few days old, and can be managed better. At least this has been my experience. By the time the calf is two weeks old it has nothing but skimmed milk, with the addition of a little shorts, to supply the place of the cream that has been removed as nearly as possible. Great care should be used not to give too large a quantity of shorts, or the calf will become scoured. A teaspoonful is enough at first, and increase very carefully until the calf can have as large a quantity as is desirable to feed. A box containing some oats should be kept where the calf can get it at any time. Also some bright clover hay should be kept constantly before it. If it is astonishing how soon a young calf will learn to eat hay. All this tends to strengthen its stomach so it will be capable of containing more solid food. It also will, to some degree, prevent scouring. The calf should, under no circumstances, be turned out on fresh grass in the spring, unless it be a fall calf, until well along in the summer. Calves seem to do better by keeping them in a clean dry place, with hay and oats.

Ithaca.

How to Grow a Good Apple Orchard.

THOS. A. DURKIN.

First, top dress your ground heavily with barnyard manure. Plough in the fall and crossplough it the next spring. The first ploughing should be at least ten inches deep. Second, be sure and buy first class trees, not over two years old; and the trees should calibre 5-8 to 3-4 of an inch at the collar to be first-class trees of that age. If the orchard is planted in the spring the trees should be grafted, by making a hole in the ground, or cut a barrel in two, fill it partly full of water, mix in earth until it becomes quite thick, then submerge the roots of the trees and give them a good coat of the grout. Before planting the roots should be cut back, especially the tap or large sized roots, so it is only the fibres that give life to the tree. The top should be pruned, cutting back the limbs to two or three eyes and the leader five to six eyes. The holes should be deep enough to allow two or three inches of a top dressing of rich soil to go in the bottom of the holes; they should be wide enough to allow the roots a space of two or three inches on all sides, and the old method of pounding the earth around the roots should not be forgotten. Be sure and specify that crotch trees are not in the deal; they are an eye-sore in the field and dear at any price. Grain crops should never be planted between the orchard rows. Late cultivation enforces late growths and the wood is not in shape to stand the winters. Corn, peas, beans, or potatoes are very good crops to plant in the orchard, as their season is short and late cultivation is not required.

VARIETIES

In planting apple orchards for profit not over five varieties should be planted. Northern Spy, Red Astrachan, Shiawasse, Hubbardson's Nonesuch, and Wagner. The above five varieties give a good selection for summer, autumn, and winter, and all are good varieties for Michigan. The most essential part of all is the pruning after the orchard is planted. To have well formed trees the orchard should be pruned every year, and all cross branches and surplus wood removed. If this is done for ten or twelve years, but little pruning will be required in after years. How many orchards do we see throughout the state where the surplus wood is allowed to grow until the trees become quite old? The owner finally makes up his mind to trim, when it is almost death to the trees; if the same orchard had been gone over every year there would not be a scar left to show where the cut was made. The man who expects to plant an orchard for profit must not be led into any wild scheme of buying new varieties from tree agents, but will buy from some old and reliable firm who offer the best trees for the least money.

Agricultural College.

Dipping Sheep.

HERBERT W. MUMFORD.

The shearing season of the coarse wool breeds of sheep will soon be at hand. As sheep can be more economically dipped soon after their fleeces are taken off, a few words in reference to this subject may be of interest to those of your readers who are still keeping sheep.

It is sometimes argued that when the

sheep are shorn, the ticks will be destroyed in one way or another by the sheep themselves. While this is true to some extent, yet we find that, especially in the case of ewes with young lambs by their sides, when the ewes are shorn the ticks take refuge in the longer wool of the lambs, and are a source of great discomfort and annoyance. Unless something is done to kill the ticks, they are sure to stunt the growth to a considerable extent. When we remember that during the first year of a sheep's life we should get the growth and development of a carcass, we can understand how necessary it is to adopt some method to rid our sheep and lambs of these pests. Thorough dipping with Cooper's Dipping Powder is certain death not only to the ticks, but also lice and other parasites which may be present in the flock.

HAND DIPPING.

If one has only a small flock, hand dipping does very well, but if a large number are to be dipped, it is more convenient, and more thorough work can be done, by using the swimming bath, in which from one to three sheep may be dipped at a time. It is no small amount of work and expense to construct a swimming bath dipping tank, with suitable appliances, but the benefits derived from the practice of regular and systematic dipping will, in most cases, warrant the expenditure.

In our section several farmers have each shared the expense in building a somewhat elaborate, and certainly a very convenient and economical arrangement for dipping sheep. We have no doubt such a plan would work well elsewhere.

Moscow.

Wasted Moments.

O. L. BECKWITH.

The "struggle for life and the life of others" occupies the most of the farmer's time in the way of planning the business of the farm and looking after its various needs. But after this is done there yet remain a few scattered moments that can be improved or wasted as we see fit to use them. And the manner in which they are used will tell both in the farmer and his family and by the looks of the farm and its buildings.

We can call to mind some farmers who if they wish to do a piece of work always have to repair some implement that they wish to use before it can be done. But the lucky farmer is the one who improves the spare moments and is ready for the work when the work is ready to be done.

A great part of farm work can be done without much concentration of the mind, and so far as the mind is concerned the time is left to spare moments. At work of this kind the person whose mind is growing is the one who is thinking while at work of some new idea suggested to him, either by some book or conversation, or better yet by his own observation. In the place of the story or some idle gossip which we tell our neighbor when we meet him, would we not save some spare moments to ourselves and to him by telling him something which he could think about while at work?

I remember hearing the story of a boy who found a gold dollar in the dusty road, and during the whole of his life he always went with his eyes in the dust looking for more gold. He found a good many dollars but never saw anything but the dirt. We farmers do this same thing when we waste these spare moments by overwork or doing nothing to improve our minds.

Thanks to the Grange and all other organizations which furnish food for the mind in the spare moments and help us to do our work easier and better, and help to improve the farmer's family.

Victor.

Horsemen Read This.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR:—The Iowa State coach and Draft Horse Association at its last meeting held in this city, appointed a committee and made me its chairman, to formulate a standard by which to judge coach, carriage, and draft horses upon a system of measurements and a scale of points. If any of the readers of your excellent paper have a model coach, carriage, or draft horse, and will send me a card with their address, to box 507 Des Moines, Iowa, I will be pleased to send them a formula calling for measurements, and a scale of points for them to fill out, and send me to help in formulating the desired standard. It is time that horse judging at fairs and elsewhere be done upon scientific rules and methods, rather than upon the whim of some ignoramus who looks wise and says nothing.

Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 1895.

N. J. HARRIS.

The Future of Wheat.

What Oliver Dalrymple has to predict in regard to the future of wheat will be generally regarded as well worth considering by those interested in the subject, for he is one of the greatest growers of that cereal in the world, and gives the matter upon which he talks a great deal of study. In a recent letter to a trade paper of Cincinnati he declares, without reserve or con-

dition, that the day of high-priced wheat has gone by, except as a world-wide failure of the crop may force it to an advanced figure until a good harvest replenishes the supply. He thinks that when wheat struck fifty cents in Chicago last year it touched bed-rock, because it practically reached the same price per pound as oats, corn, and barley, "thus going into the great food bin of the world which absorbs ten bushels for live stock where only one is consumed when eaten by the human family." He adds that whenever wheat goes to forty cents in the country west of the Mississippi, being superior to any other grain for animal food, it will go to market on foot as corn has done for the last quarter of a century. Mr. Dalrymple holds that there is no reason why, with intelligent farming, the cost of cultivation should not be greatly reduced and a living profit afforded even at fifty cents a bushel.—*De- troit Free Press.*

Potato Farming.

[The following is the major portion of an article read at the Vermontville Farmers' institute by W. E. Ames of that place. Mr. Ames is a potato specialist and a very successful grower.]

With due respect to the prevailing opinions of the day this paper is designed to assist those who may be after the practical side of potato raising.

A careful analysis of the potato shows conclusively that in its construction it has several elements which I classify as follows: 1, great expectations; 2, hard work; 3, potato bugs; 4, a backbone of which each joint has become separate; 5, disappointment. This last element seems to be the one found most frequently of late years. I have heard from good authority that potatoes contain starch; they probably obtain this by absorption from the grower, as I have frequently noticed that we have had very little left at the end of a hard day's work. However, to be brief as possible, I would say that all potato growing is from necessity more or less experimental. Long experience and careful observation will give certain unwritten methods of producing potatoes under any and all circumstances I believe; and right here I would like to impress the minds of those who are interested in growing potatoes, whether for their own use or for market, that these rules or methods of raising potatoes are most of them only applicable to a certain variety. Here is the main stumbling block of all theoretical potato growers.

A summary of results attained by experiment stations in all the so called potato states in the Union shows that increase of seed from one eye to a whole large potato gives a corresponding increase in the yield and that the half potato is the most profitable to plant considering the cost of seed. Also the largest yield is obtained from planting in drills. I might say that a majority of the stations favor a whole potato.

AMOUNT OF SEED.

I would say in regard to the planting of the whole large potato that any such proposition is untenable and can be proven so on any farm in the United States. I say this with the confidence of twelve years' experience in testing hundreds of varieties for the market and especially for seed purposes. You will find that any general rule laid down for growing potatoes "must be a modification of the practical methods of producing successfully certain standard varieties." If these experiments of the various stations favor the planting of the whole potato it simply proves this one thing, that certain varieties of potatoes, planted on certain kinds of soil, at a certain distance apart, will give those results, and they prove nothing more. The theory of planting half potatoes will give better results to the general grower than any of their condensed reports so far. My own experience in this line shows that for the reason that the eyes on the stem end of some varieties of potatoes do not grow and that on other varieties all have an equal vitality, that from some potatoes we get several sprouts from one eye, and last but not least by any means is the fact that we can get at least thirty potatoes from the one eye of some varieties and that three eyes of other varieties will only give an average of from seven to nine. Also that the distance apart that potatoes should be planted depends on the vigor of the vines and the setting power of the variety. Also that some potatoes will naturally give the best results in drills if properly cared for, and that others can be raised most profitably in hills. Also from the last and most weighty of all reasons is the fact that according to the Scriptures there is a time to plant even potatoes successfully, and that time is entirely and absolutely fixed by the habit of growth, setting powers, and time of setting its crop, and the duration of the life of the particular variety under consideration.

For these reasons I am positive when I say that it is impossible to lay down the fixed rule for the amount of seed and the certain distance to be planted and the time of planting that the public is waiting for.

(Continued in our next issue.)

WOMAN'S WORK.

Songs of Seven.

Seven Times Five—Widowhood.

I sleep and rest, my heart makes moan
Before I am well awake;
"Let me bleed! O let me alone,
Since I must not break!"

For children wake, though fathers sleep
With a stone at foot and at head:
O sleepless God, forever keep,
Keep both living and dead!

I lift mine eyes, and what to see
But a world happy and fair!
I have not wished to mourn with me—
Comfort is not there.

O what anear but golden brooms,
And a waste of costly rills?
O what afar but the fine glooms
On the rare blue hills!

I shall not die, but live forlorn—
How bitter it is to part!
O to meet thee, my love, once more?
O my heart, my heart!

No more to hear, no more to see!
Oh that an echo might wake
And waft one note of thy psalm to me
Ere my heart-strings break!

I should know it how faint see'er,
While an entering angel tread;
O once to feel thy spirit anear;
I could be content!

Or once between the gates of gold,
While an entering angel tread,
But once—these sitting to behold
On the hills of God!

JEAN INGELOW.

Our First Work.

Immediate Work for the Woman's Work Committee.

It is a real source of gratification to receive the many helpful suggestions that have come to us from the various subordinate committees in the state. A very helpful letter came to us a few days ago with this suggestion: "I have been canvassing the question of the necessity of increasing the circulation of the GRANGE VISITOR, and I believe we could double our present subscription if the women who belong to the Grange would only take it themselves and each one try to add one new name to her own." I believe, with this sister, it can be done. Sisters, will you not do this?

"WHAT SHALL WE DO?"

Many postals come to us from chairmen of these newly appointed committees asking, "What shall we do?" We feel that the first work, that nearest at hand, the most practical, and of the greatest necessity, is to aid the VISITOR.

Surely there is not one of us but can pay the fifty cents per year—even in these close times. Have these committees begun to plan for their entertainments in order that the VISITOR may go out as a missionary?

VISITING BLANKS.

We are a little late in getting out our school visiting blanks, but a letter from Prof. Pattengill, our superintendent of public instruction, informs us that they will soon be printed and ready for use.

CLINTON COUNTY.

We have just returned from a very pleasant trip through the county of Clinton. The plan and arrangements for the work were in the hands of J. W. Ernest, the county deputy. The plans were well matured and the arrangements were all that could be desired. We left the railroad at Lansing, where we were met by Brother Dills, a ten-mile ride brought us to his comfortable farm home, where we rested until time for the evening meeting at DeWitt Grange. Sister Estella Dills is master of this Grange and presides with grace and dignity. The hall was filled with Patrons and invited guests. Our next point was Olive Grange, a wide-awake, enterprising Grange.

The next day we were privileged to attend the farmers' institute of Clinton county, held at the county seat, St. Johns. At the home of Brother and Sister Jewett we received royal hospitality. They are ardent Patrons, going five miles to attend the Grange. Here we found four generations under the same roof. And in the beautiful baby was centered not only tenderest love and fond hopes, but all that was sweet and beautiful from the venerable great grandmother to the charming young mother.

Brother and Sister Ernest kindly took us this long trip of twenty-two miles and landed us at Essex Grange, Maple Rapids. Here we found one of the finest, best equipped halls in the state; few home parlors are more comfortable. One of the best furnishings was the Patrons—three and four deep around the hall. It was a closed meeting. They have one hundred and thirty-five members in good standing. All old members were special guests. Many of them showed their appreciation of the hospitality extended by paying up back dues and promising future allegiance. A most beautiful spirit pervaded the meeting. A feast in the large dining room below completed the evening's entertainment. Brother Bert Cowles, a young man, wields the master's gavel.

The next day was spent at Brother Cowles' home where we found Brother Austin Cowles laid up with a broken leg, the result of an accident returning from the county Grange at Bengal. A whole sleigh load accidentally tipped over, and Austin will now have plenty of time to rest

preparatory to summer's work. He was the happiest young fellow we ever saw with a broken bone.

Keystone was our next appointment. Here is a large Grange composed almost entirely of young people. They are zealous, earnest workers. A ride of seven miles that night took us to the beautiful home of Sister Botsford in St. Johns. And next day closed the week by setting face homeward.

MARY A. MAYO.

Cultivated Deformities.

KATE E. WARD.

The writer had the privilege of hearing a lecture by Dr. J. H. Kellogg of the Battle Creek Sanitarium recently on the "Cultivated deformities of American women," illustrated by stereopticon views, and the idea that some of the thoughts given would be of interest to readers of the VISITOR is the excuse for this article.

The lecture is a startling exposure of the results of tight clothing and incorrect methods of breathing and posture, and merits a wide hearing. Dr. Kellogg has chosen a striking subject and illustrates it with even more striking views, but, as he says, he found out long ago that it is impossible to cure certain evils without striking hard blows against them, and he knew of no question that is deeper than some of the errors that are responsible for the deformities of the American woman.

WOMEN NOT NECESSARILY WEAK.

The idea has grown that women are naturally weak, physically and mentally. In regard to the latter, the fact has been shown that women have larger brains in proportion to the size of their bodies than men, and, as to the former, the muscles and those parts of the body which depend on the brain for activity are found to be one third larger than in men. They ought, therefore, to be stronger than men, and they are not weaker, except where their weakness it cultivated. The neglect of proper development is responsible for the number of deformities that are more common with American women than those of almost any other nationality. The perfect health and strength of savage women and those of other countries where the corset has never been worn was cited. Dr. Kellogg has travelled over both continents with the object of noting the comparative health and strength of the people of different countries, and he declares that it is a common thing in Germany, Austria, Italy, and other parts of the old country to see women walking with ease, bearing on their heads great weights of one hundred or one hundred and fifty pounds for a distance of three and four miles without even stopping to rest. In some parts of Germany the law requires that a duty must be paid on every load of produce if it is on a vehicle, but it goes in free if borne on the heads of women; so this accounts for the custom, doubtless, in that country. It is a common thing in England to see the woman working by the side of her husband in many of the trades, as, for instance, nail making and even at the forge. At the time he visited Birmingham the men were trying to have a law passed against woman's work as the latter could work so many more hours than the men were not able to compete with them. The doctor who lived in the district told him that he was seldom called in sickness by these women, notwithstanding their unfavorable conditions and surroundings. Very different from the American woman, whose multiform weaknesses have given rise to the toast, "Woman—God's best gift to man and the chief support of the doctors."

When Stanley was travelling in Africa he asked for a strong body guard, and was astonished to find they had furnished him one composed entirely of women, as being the strongest and most enduring. In Patagonia and New Guinea it is the same. The Mexican women are the peers of their husbands in strength; the Indian women the same, and so on.

Views of the Venus de Milo and other perfect forms were shown, contrasted with those of the average fashionable woman.

LARGE AND SMALL WAISTS.

Special attention was called to the difference in size of the waists, and position in sitting and standing. The waist of the Venus de Milo measures 47.6 of her height. There is no reason why women should have small waists. They are neither natural nor beautiful. They are "cultivated deformities." A large waist indicates large lungs and large vital organs, which are almost a guarantee of long life. Dr. Kellogg has frequently taken measurements to learn if little girls' waists are as small in proportion as women's. At one time he measured the waists of all the little girls in a certain school of from ten to twelve and fourteen years of age and found not one girl measured less than twenty-four inches. When our best artists desire to portray an ideal form, they do not want a corseted form; the wasp waist is not considered by them a type of beauty.

RESULTS OF TIGHT CLOTHING.

The doctor showed illustrations of the

results of tight clothing, not necessarily tight lacing, but of snug clothes, skirts hung from the hips, etc. Stomach pushed down out of place, floating kidney, displaced liver, and intestines pressed down to make room for these disarranged organs were a few of the results. Men and women should breathe alike, but they never will, until women allow themselves room enough to breathe in. The majority of women do not know what a good, full, deep breath is, the upper part of the lungs being all that are filled with air. Quoting from Dr. Kellogg, the method of correct breathing is thus: "In natural breathing the action is chiefly at the waist, although the entire trunk wall and every organ within the trunk participates in the movement. The action begins with expansion, first at the sides and then at the front, then a slight elevation of the upper chest, and, in forced respiration, a slight drawing in of the lower abdomen at the same time." If the lungs do not receive the oxygen intended for their use, nature's requirements are not fulfilled and disease, sooner or later, is the result. That wonderful little engine, the heart, pumping the blood with such mighty force, sends it to receive the oxygen which is to make it fit for its journey through all the ramifications of the human system, only to find the lungs handicapped through no fault of their own, but by the being for whom all this wonderful work is intended. The blood is, therefore, but partly ready for its vivifying work. No wonder the head aches, the brain is sluggish, and the body diseased generally. Dr. Kellogg has large opportunity for knowing of these things and he says that this condition of affairs is the rule and not the exception.

A description of the correct posture in setting and standing will be given another time as this article is already longer, I fear, than space allows.

Lansing.

Keeping Out of the Ruts.

In the first place, dear sisters, let us get out of the ruts, and the battle is half won.

The ruts have become so deep by constant travel in the same paths of thought and action that it will require something of an effort to get out of them, and when once out the road will seem so strange that we may be in danger of slipping back.

How many farmers' wives, especially if there is a large family to do and think for, can sit down to read in the evening without feeling almost guilty of wasting time when there are so many stitches to be taken? I used to feel so, but having once made up my mind that it was not only right, but a duty that I owed to myself, to have some time out of each day for reading, study, or writing, or to visit and play with the children, and so keep up an acquaintance with them, I resolved that the evenings should be mine, and though that was years ago, and I have kept to that resolution, I find that I get just as much work done as before, while both body and mind are rested and refreshed, and ready to take up the routine of work the next day. Our husbands, brothers, and sons always have this time for reading, and why should not we?

DON'T SHUT YOURSELF UP AT HOME.

Another rut to be avoided is the habit of always staying at home, especially after reaching the age of gray hairs, and falling into the routine of household cares and worries when the heart should be kept young and the mind active by mingling with the outside world, and especially with the young people, sharing and sympathizing with their pursuits and pleasures.

As most of the readers of the GRANGE VISITOR are doubtless members of the Grange, I would say, let us be sure to avoid that very deep rut of excuses for non-attendance, but by our presence at every meeting, working for the good of the Order, do our part toward maintaining the enthusiasm in the good work that should be the sacred duty of each member, and thereby receive a ten-fold benefit ourselves.

The Grange deserves our blessing for its work in lifting the farmer's wife out of the old ruts of monotonous drudgery, and teaching her the possibilities of her nature, and let us not desert the good cause. I know, for I have tried it for nearly twenty years, that work can be so planned that it need not suffer by our absence at our meetings, and that we come back to it with the renewed energy and strength for the few hours, vacation.

So let us resolve with the first of the New Year to let nothing short of illness keep us from our place of meeting on "Grange day."

Battle Creek.

One Hour of Home Reading.

One hour of thoughtful reading each day will furnish food for meditation for all your leisure hours. Persist in this practice until it becomes a ruling habit. Read and study the lives of good men until you have discovered the secret of their goodness and greatness. Read and study history

until you know and appreciate the people, understand and measure the leaders, and thus are able to comprehend the causes that made the nation help or hinder the world's progress. Read and study literature until you make your own the ideas of the author, see the pictures he paints, understand the characters he portrays, and can think out their legitimate conclusions the ideas expressed. In science, verify statements read by observation or by experiment, if possible. Do not feel satisfied with understanding the words of the author. Master the thought, welcome the enthusiasm he inspires, and think out the ideas your study suggests. Study and respect the opinions of others, but in the end stand by your own conclusions.—W. W. Stetson, Lecturer Maine State Grange.

The Juveniles.

The Chestnut Boys.

In a warm little bed in a green little house Mother Nature had tucked three baby boys safely away for a long sleep. The house was not like the ones we live in, for it had only one tiny room with no windows, and the door was fastened so tightly that no one could get in or out. For many many bright, sunny days the little boys were sleeping, and all this time they were growing a little larger and a little larger, just as you all are growing.

But by and by the days began to grow cooler. The green leaves put on their autumn dresses of red and yellow and came rustling down from the tree to play with the wind. Then the babies stirred in their little bed, for the wind was busy painting brown their green house, and he whistled so loudly at his work that they heard him in their dreams. Close behind the Wind came his friend, Jack Frost, a roguish little fellow. Gently he knocked at the door of the house, and softly he whispered, "Come out little boys, come out and play with me." But Mother Nature only tucked her babies more snugly into bed and answered, "No, not yet, dear little ones; sleep a little longer."

Then Jack Frost went away to play with the red and yellow leaves, but soon he came flying back calling, "Come out for a frolic with me, boys, come out for a frolic!" And again Mother Nature answered, "Not yet, not yet, my children."

Again came Jack Frost and knocked very loudly at the door. "Come out! come out," he called. And the little brothers cried, "Yes, yes, dear mother, let us go and play with Jack Frost and the Wind."

Then the mother smiled a little sadly, and answered, "Yes, for you have grown to be big boys now, and it is time for you to go." So she unfastened the door and opened it wide, and out the three hurried. But they soon found that the big world was not at all like their warm, soft, little house. The wind blew and whistled around them and made them shiver, and Jack Frost was a rough play fellow though he meant to be kind, and they soon grew weary and called to their mother, "Dear Mother Nature, we are tired; put us to sleep again."

Then the mother spread over them where they lay on the ground, a warm covering of "red and yellow and faded brown." By and by she heard their sleepy voices again, "Kind mother, we are cold." Then Mother Nature sent a soft, white covering of snow and wrapped them in it so nicely that they had hardly time to murmur "Thank you, good mother," before they were fast asleep. And there they will stay till the warm sun and the gentle breezes and the soft rain wake them in the sweet springtime.

Can you guess who the little brothers were in their snug, warm house? They were the Chestnut boys, and the brown burr is their little house.—Helen Louise Towne in Kindergarten Magazine.

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 Feb. 7, L. dow, cover, careful, CCarness. 32, Coal. 33, John Cabot.

SOLVERS.

Completes: Columbia, Kent Glasby, Matron, Topsy.

37, 38—Crosswords.

In pig, not in sty;
In run, not in fly;
In for, not in to;
In Ann, not in Lou;
WHOLE is very hard.

In chaff, not in wheat;
In milk, not in meat;
In clover, not in hay;
In June, not in May;
ALL is good in cold day.

Pontiac.

N. E. T.

39—Crossword.

In silver, not in metal;
In pan, not in kettle;
In father, not in stop;
In anchor, not in prop;
In stand, not in fall;
In stoop, not in crawl;
TOTAL is an infant small.

Sand Beach.

Granger.

Open to all until March 5.

LETTER BOX.

Prize winners for the best batch of puzzles will be announced in our next number.

THE GRANGE VISITOR

CHARLOTTE, MICH.

The Official Organ of the Michigan State Grange.

Published on the First and Third Thursdays of Each Month

EDITOR:

KEYNON 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 MARCH 21.

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:

- (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.
- (b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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.

Does it pay to raise horses for glue?—
Hon. H. R. Pattengill.

The greatest force in the world is moral force. It rules the earth ultimately.

The Grange, in order to make itself felt in legislation, must pull together and pull hard.

I want the farmers first to have a good time, and then make some money if they can.—*Hon. Chas. W. Garfield.*

We were forced to omit "Beneath the dome" this issue on account of pressure of other matter.

Why do the boys leave the farm? For opportunity. Can't you show them the opportunities of farming? You don't, do you? You grumble half the time about farming, don't you?

The Grange ought to prepare farmers for the legislature and congress. It does prepare them, too, to be worthy of sitting in these bodies. The Grange trains men for better lives and greater influence.

Isn't it strange that while farmers and laborers compose four-fifths the people of the country, they do nine-tenths of the complaining about how the government is run? Does the one-fifth run things? If so, why?

We had an editorial in type favoring the proposed amendment to the constitution raising the salary of the attorney general to \$3,500. But yesterday afternoon the House passed a resolution affecting all the salaries. Hence we cannot discuss this question in this issue.

We give in this issue some interesting figures from the report of the commissioner of labor. Mrs. Ward favors the ladies with a strong article, and page two is as practical as usual. Our Grange news is abundant, and altogether we have got out a pretty good paper this issue. Haven't we?

The Grange Opposes the Township Unit System.

There can be no mistaking the temper of the Granges of Michigan regarding the proposed township unit school system. On no other subject, save that of a prohibitory amendment, have so many petitions been forwarded to this legislature. Both houses have been flooded with them. And unanimously the petitions are in opposition to the township plan. This unanimity

means but one thing—and that is that at the present time the farmers are bitterly opposed to any change in the system of school districts in this state.

This feeling among the Granges was emphasized at the recent meeting of the State Grange committee in Lansing. Hon. H. R. Pattengill, superintendent of public instruction, was given a hearing of an hour and a half before the committee. He was closely questioned, and explained the nature of the bill and gave his opinion of the advantages that would accrue under its workings. Yet at the close of the hearing, Master Horton voiced the views of the majority of the committee when he said, "We are still opposed to the measure, Sugar-coat it as you will, we cannot swallow it."

It looks now as if the bill would have "hard sledding" in this legislature.

Circulating Libraries.

The State Grange at its last session adopted the following report of Agnes D. Ladd of the committee on education:

Believing a circulating branch of the state library, as outlined to the Grange by the state librarian, would equalize the benefits by placing the same in a position accessible to all communities, and that by offering literature of a high standard, especially to the young, will elevate them in mental and moral culture; and as a bill is to be presented at the convening of the next session of the legislature, by the state librarian providing for the same; therefore

Resolved, that this committee unanimously approve the plan and recommend that the Grange sanction and endorse the same, and, at the proper time, all Granges labor to secure favorable legislative action.

The bill providing for this system of circulating libraries in this state has been noted in the VISITOR. It has passed the senate, and has, as we believe, received favorable consideration at the hands of the house committee to whom it was referred.

We sincerely hope this bill will pass, for we believe that every Grange in Michigan will receive great benefit from it. Many Granges who are not able to purchase extensive libraries, can, if this bill passes, secure for their temporary use the best books written on any line of knowledge that may be mentioned. Patrons can do no better service to themselves than to drop a card to their representative in the House expressing approval of this bill.

The Essential Thing.

As will be seen in another column the executive committee of the State Grange have taken a strong stand in favor of the enactment of proper pure food laws in this state. It is to be hoped that Patrons will take up the fight and simply demand of their legislators a vote in favor of the bills recommended by the committee. It is no time for hesitation. The manufacturers of these adulterated goods are alert and will spare no labor to defeat these righteous measures. The only way to circumvent them is by fighting them—and fighting to the finish.

Whatever specific enactments may be deemed best, our friends in the legislature must not forget that the essential feature of any satisfactory pure food law must contain provisions that will enable the commissioner to enforce the law. In his last report the commissioner endeavored to show that he had neither sufficient power nor sufficient funds to carry out properly the provisions of existing statutes. It is therefore absolutely necessary that any law passed on this subject shall grant to the commissioner requisite authority and an ample amount of money. It would be wiser to let the existing statutes remain and merely increase the powers of the commissioner and appropriate a larger sum for his use, than to revise the laws, making them never so complete, and then fail to give him means to enforce them. Let us not lose sight of the essential provisions of an adequate pure food law.

Questions That Should Be Answered.

If a competent tax statistician were appointed he ought to be able to discover answers to all of the following thirty or more questions. Only three of them, those indicated by stars, can be properly answered today, from any data at hand. Yet, in order to intelligently formulate a fair and equitable tax law, all these facts

should be known and considered. Otherwise any tax law must be largely guess work as to results, and must necessarily prove unsatisfactory.

What is the aggregate amount of taxes assessed? state? county? drain? municipal? What per cent of the aggregate of taxes is the state tax? county? township? municipal? drain or other special? What per cent of the aggregate of taxes is upon real estate in cities and villages? What per cent of the aggregate of taxes is upon real estate in townships? What per cent of the aggregate of taxes is upon personal property in cities and villages? What is the aggregate of taxes upon personal property in townships? What is the aggregate value of the property of corporations? What is the aggregate of taxes upon property of corporations? What is the value of the property subject to specific taxes? What would be the amount of taxes assessable upon such properties? What amount of specific taxes is paid? Is more or less being derived from specific taxes on property subject thereto than would be paid by such properties under the general tax laws? What is the relative and assessed value of township real estate & city and village? personal property in cities and villages? personal property in townships? What is the aggregate value of mining properties? What taxes are paid by mining properties? What specific taxes were paid by mining properties under specific tax laws? What proportion of all taxes is paid upon real estate? personal property? What is the loss by delinquent taxes on real estate? and what is the cause of and remedy for such loss?

Some Reasons Why the Farmers' Institute Bill Should Pass.

1. The Grange urges it. At the last session of the State Grange, December 11-14, 1894, delegates from Berrien, Ionia, Newaygo, and Grand Traverse counties presented resolutions asking the legislature for an appropriation for farmers' institutes, the three first naming \$10,000 per year as the sum needed. The permanent committee on education, which had given the subject much study, reported as follows:

"We 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."

This was referred to the committee on agriculture, who reported upon the subject as follows:

"We commend the work of the state board of agriculture in its earnest efforts to advance the agricultural interests of our state by means of farmers' institutes, and the State Grange of Michigan, representing as it does every portion of this great commonwealth, is heartily in favor of an extension of this work so that its benefits may become available to a larger number of our farming community. To this end we desire to call especial attention to Sec. 2 of the report of the standing committee on education, which provides for an appropriation of \$5,000 annually, 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."

The report was adopted, and a subsequent general discussion of the subject evoked much enthusiasm.

2. Farmers generally demand it. This paper has contained numerous letters from farmers all over this state, favoring a larger appropriation for these institutes. In almost every case \$10,000 was the sum recommended. At every farmers' institute held this past winter a resolution favoring this bill has passed unanimously. In one or two counties the farmers, of their own accord, have organized in a preliminary way, so as to be ready to meet the requirements of the bill,—Gratiot and Clinton counties may be named in this connection. Every winter the number of petitions sent in for institutes is more than double what can be filled. Already, applications are in for institutes for next winter.

3. It must be remembered that this movement originated with the farmers themselves, not with the college professors nor with the board of agriculture. The Grange position relative to economy in state expenditures is well known, yet the Grange believes sufficiently in the benefits that will accrue from this measure to urge its adoption. The bill is acceptable to the board of agriculture, but it was drawn at the request of the State Grange, and in ac-

cordance with its recommendations. No member of the board, and no professor at the College, will receive an iota of pecuniary gain from the passage of this bill. Indeed their work will be much increased, without extra compensation. The bill is by the farmers and for the farmers—and the farmers want it.

4. The governor "heartily recommends" it. See the message, under title "Farmers' Institutes." The measure was deemed of sufficient moment to be incorporated in that document.

5. It is a matter of justice to the people of the state. At present only a few communities can avail themselves of College help at institutes. Under this bill every county in the state is entitled to such aid or its equivalent.

6. The sum named, \$5,000, is in accord with careful estimates, based largely on past experience, made by the secretary of the board of agriculture, and is considered conservative calculation as to the amount required. If the amount is cut down, the people themselves must be the sufferers, not the board or the College.

7. Other agricultural states are much ahead of us in this feature of education. Minnesota spends \$10,000 per year for institutes; Wisconsin, \$12,000, and holds 100 institutes per year; Indiana, \$5,000, and holds an annual institute in every county; Ohio, \$10,000, and holds 150 institutes yearly; New York, \$15,000, and 150 institutes—and the originator of the system in that state writes us that: "The legislature could do no more unpopular thing than to refuse to grant this annual appropriation for farmers' institutes." Missouri gives \$8,000 a year. These figures were obtained from headquarters, have before appeared in these columns, and are correct. Are not these reasons sufficient argument for the early passage of this bill.

The Grange and Legislation.

ADDRESSED TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE MEMBERS OF THE GRANGE IN MICHIGAN:

In accordance with the action of the State Grange, as expressed at its meetings, the executive committee have carefully considered and authorize the following, as expressive of the views and desires of the Order, relative to the subjects hereinafter mentioned, and in consideration of which bills are now pending before the legislature at Lansing.

Opposition to the Township Unit School System.

Whereas, A bill has been introduced in the senate known as bill No. 354, entitled "A bill to provide for the establishment of township school districts within the state," and

Whereas, We, the executive committee of the Michigan State Grange, now in session in Lansing, have carefully considered all the provisions of said bill in its last revised form, we most respectfully request, in behalf of a very large proportion of the farmers of the state, that the bill do not pass, and for the following reasons:

1. It is a centralization of power dangerous to the best interests of the people, and in opposition to the trend of public thought and opinion at the present time.

2. It is a theory that when applied does not accomplish the end sought for the benefit of people in country districts, and is fraught with opportunities for jobs and schemes.

3. It plunges the management of our district schools into the field of partisan politics, whereas it is now entirely removed from the contentions incident to party changes.

4. It will cost a large sum of money to establish the system, and when fixed will be expensive to maintain.

5. It would in its operation tend to depreciate the value of all farm lands situated in the outlying sections of the township, and the magnitude of the great injustice is shown by considering that in the ordinary township there are twenty outside and twelve interior sections of land.

6. It is condemned in states where it has been adopted by a large majority of the people whom the promoters of the system were so anxious to benefit, and is endorsed mainly by theorists, most of whom are non-taxpayers and seekers of jobs.

7. Some states have after a trial of the system returned to the old district plan, which proves that the benefits proposed did not follow.

8. To obviate the objections made to former propositions on this question, wherein villages might out-vote country districts to get new and expensive school buildings, the bill now pending proposes to deprive the people of a vote on the question, and to fix the system upon the township by securing the signatures of a majority of the

qualified electors of the township to a petition, and people living in incorporated villages and cities are barred from signing. The facts are that most townships contain burghs and villages, while but few are incorporated. By this method the movement could be made secretly and unknown to very many interested people, and the power of friendship and favors shown could be used to secure signatures.

This disfranchisement is in opposition to our system of government, and should not be tolerated.

9. In cases where residents of villages and cities are barred from signing petitions to establish the system, they are permitted to vote in all elections for officers and appropriating money.

10. A very large majority of the people whom the plan proposes to benefit are strongly opposed and are not asking for the change.

11. We believe in letting well enough alone. Our country district school system stands up even with any state in the Union, and our children are as proficient and as well advanced in their studies. Michigan is at the head, as proven by a competitive examination of all the school systems of this and other countries by a committee of competent judges, and attested by the valuable medal now to be seen in the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, at Lansing.

In Favor of the Elimination of Fraud and Deception in the Manufacture and Sale of Food Products.

Whereas, The unregulated manufacture and sale of adulterated food products is an injustice to the manufacturers and producers of pure and genuine articles:

1. By being disposed of fraudulently to the consumer as and for the pure or genuine article, and 2. By forcing said pure or genuine products into unfair competition with spurious, adulterated and imitation articles, thereby lowering the price of the former; and

Whereas, The unregulated manufacture and sale of the same enables the manufacturer and seller to obtain exorbitant prices therefor by perpetrating the most flagrant frauds and deception upon the consumers thereof; and

Whereas, It is a matter of the most common notoriety and of daily occurrence in every part of our state that such fraud and deception is in fact freely and willfully practised; therefore

Resolved, That as representatives of the Michigan State Grange we are unanimously in favor of the adoption of such laws as will prevent fraud and deception in the manufacture and sale of all food products within the state. To this end we are in favor of the spirit and intent of House Bill No. 31, as introduced by Mr. Redfern, but recommend the following amendments thereto:

1. By substituting what is known as the Massachusetts law so far as it relates to the manufacture and sale of butter and substitutes therefor. The same being embraced in House Bill No. 146, introduced by Mr. Hoyt, which law has stood the tests applied by the court of last resort.

2. By substituting the principles of the laws now in force in the states of New York, Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota, in relation to the manufacture, sale and branding of cheese, but we recommend the passage of Sec. 13 of the Redfern Bill, which prohibits the manufacture and sale of "Filled Cheese" within the state.

3. That we favor such amount of appropriation as will make the provisions of this law effective.

In Favor of More Farmers' Institutes.

Whereas, Agriculture is of greater importance to material prosperity than all other productive interests; and

Whereas, The success of all other interests and lines of legitimate business depends upon the success of agriculture. Therefore,

Resolved, That it is the plain duty of states and the nation to strengthen this main support to the prosperity of all the people by favorable legislation, and the encouragement of such lines of education as will tend to aid the farmer, the horticulturist, and the pomologist, in his every day labors, in combating insect pests, preventing disease among farm live stock, diversifying crops, market problems, and the many other complex questions that effect his success.

Resolved, That in behalf of the farmers of Michigan, we most earnestly pray for the passage of the bill now pending before the legislature which provides for the appropriation of \$5,000 per annum to be used in conducting agricultural institutes in various parts of the state.

In Favor of a Comparative Compilation of all Kinds of Property in the State, and the Relative Amount of Taxes Paid by Each.

The Michigan State Grange, and the Order throughout the state, in harmony with all people, are deeply interested in the subject of taxation and a just and equitable distribution of the public expense.

We therefore favor and urge the passage of the bill introduced by Mr. Wildey

in the house, which authorizes the appointment of a "tax statistician," but we believe the ends sought will be more fully realized by so amending the bill that the governor of the state instead of a commission (as the bill now provides,) shall appoint the tax statistician. We respectfully urge such amendment.

We believe in the object of this bill and earnestly request its passage by your honorable body, for the following reasons:

1. Equity and justice in the tax law of the state is promised and guaranteed by the constitution of our state, to all the people.

2. Complaints are common and come from all parts of the state and from all classes of people and property owners, that great wrongs exist and are constantly practised in the distribution and payment of taxes to support the state, and such conditions as are known and come to light often prove these allegations to be true.

3. It is a question of so grave and great importance to the people that an investigation of facts seem fully warranted.

4. There is not in existence in, any of the departments of state, such collection and compilation of matters of fact based upon exact existing conditions relating to taxation as the bill proposes, and in the absence of such data for handy reference, the citizen and legislator are left entirely upon their own individual resources for information of the kind proposed if desired.

5. It is a matter that interests and affects every property owner in the state, and such compilation of data as the bill proposes will be of vast importance in influencing and forming the basis for future legislation on the tax question.

6. We believe that no measure before your honorable body will meet with more hearty approval by an almost unanimous constituency than this bill.

For its passage your petitioners will most earnestly hope and labor.

TO PATRONS.

Patrons of Michigan, we urge upon you prompt and united action on these questions. Write personal letters to your representatives and see that your subordinate Grange takes early action. Remember that the good name of the Grange is at stake. We have taken positive position on these questions and with unanimous and quick support, our representatives will surely be with us.

APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE GRANGE. Lansing Feb. 27, 1895.

An Overflow.

A Fine Batch of Grange News.

Grange News has come in so rapidly that we have not had room for it in our usual columns, and are forced to occupy considerable space on this page in order that it shall appear at all. We are glad to have so much to use.

BARRY COUNTY POMONA.

met with Johnstown Grange, Friday, Feb. 15 with a large number in attendance. The forenoon meeting was conducted in the fifth degree, with many suggestions for the good of the Order. About one hundred partook of dinner. The afternoon session at 2 o'clock was public. It was opened with music by Mills' band, followed by address of welcome by Brother C. W. More in a very able and appropriate manner. In response to the address of welcome Brother R. C. Norton, master of county Grange, paid a high tribute of praise to the Grange and its usefulness to the farmer, picturing to the many outside of our gates who had been invited to come to the Grange its advantages to the farmer, his wife, sons, and daughters; its value as an educator, socially, morally, and intellectually, and urging all to join the Grange. The Mills band then favored us with another piece of music, followed with a song by Brother and Sister Bird. A recitation by Sister Sibyl Stanton, entitled "The old log house," was so ably rendered that many an eye was dim with tears. Miss Mable Bowman favored us with instrumental music, after which the question as to the schools and their exhibit at our county fair was taken up and was very ably discussed by both members and outsiders, aided by several school teachers who had dismissed school for the day to attend the meeting. On motion to take a vote on the advisability of the schools of Barry county making a display at our county fair next fall it was by rising vote unanimously passed, and it was asked that suitable room be provided for the schools of the county. After music by the band and a recitation by Miss Georgie Chandler from Prairieville, the question, "Shall our present school system be changed?" was discussed at some length and the proposed change was unfavorably received. The bill which is before the present legislature is one which for years has been discussed by the Michigan State Grange and nowhere meets with the favor of those whom it would affect. After discussion the measure was by vote unanimously protested against and the secretary of county Grange was instructed to notify the senator and representative from our district that Barry county Grange and

members of subordinate Granges looked upon the bill as a very undesirable one to them and petition that they use their influence to defeat the measure. After a day of hard work from the labors of the field the Grange closed in due form to meet with Glass Creek Grange Friday, May 24, 1895. GEORGE R. BOWSER, Reporter.

OTTAWA GRANGE NO. 30

meets on the third Thursday of every month alternate with the third Saturday following. The third Thursday in January we had installation of officers, Brother Mansor Smith acting as installing officer. We have a program every meeting, only as it is crowded out with business. It consists of recitations, select readings, quotations from authors and a question.

Western Pomona Grange held their meeting with us January 24 and 25; had a very interesting time. We have but a very few young people in our Grange at the present time and no music, which makes our meetings a little dull just now; but we are hoping for better times to come.

MRS. R. MARTIN, Lecturer.

EASTPORT GRANGE NO. 470.

We hold our meetings every two weeks; usually have a program. We have taken in no new members for some time, but there is a good prospect ahead.

Thursday, Feb. 17, was our regular meeting. Brother T. H. Stebbins, our delegate to the State Grange, was present with us, installed our officers and gave us a short talk on some of the different subjects brought up at the State Grange; after which we sat down to a nice supper, nicely served by our sisters.

A BROTHER.

SYLVAN GRANGE

is holding regular and interesting meetings the first and third Saturdays of each month. The suggestion was made by our worthy lecturer a few weeks ago that we hold a membership contest between the married and single members of the Order, the contest to begin after the first meeting in February and close with the first meeting in March. At our meeting Saturday night, Feb. 16, eleven new names were brought in, nine by the single members and two by the married, and still there are more to follow. Our married brothers are beginning to inquire into the price of oysters, although we have almost two weeks yet to work, and may succeed in landing the bill on the shoulders of the single ones yet.

Our members have never taken hold of the work with as much vim before. We do not wonder that the harvest bids fair to be a rich one.

County deputy work will have to be abandoned for the present here owing to the great amount of beautiful snow with which we are surrounded, and in some places nearly buried.

R. H. TAYLOR.

NOTES FROM THE MASTER.

Ogden Grange, Lenawee county, was re-organized Saturday evening, Feb. 9. Forty members, old and new.

Farmers about Cadmus and Blissfield, both of Lenawee county, are canvassing their respective neighborhoods for proposed new Grange organizations. Dates for meetings have been fixed, March 1 and 5.

Jacob Rosensteil will canvass Monroe county for places to plant new Granges.

Jason Woodman, state lecturer, is making a thorough canvass of the north part of Jackson county, also Eaton and Ingham counties. Much Grange interest is manifested.

West Benton Grange was organized in Eaton county by Jason Woodman Feb. 11. More to follow.

Fraternity Grange, Washtenaw county, completed instructing a class of thirteen Feb. 13. An oyster supper and the presence of the master of the State Grange were features of the occasion.

Secretaries and masters of Granges should see that all blank resolutions and petitions are properly presented to their Granges for action. Legislation cannot be influenced by being mum. A small detachment may cause the defeat of the whole army by failure to come to the rescue just at the appointed time.

GEO. B. HORTON.

AN ANNIVERSARY.

South Jefferson Grange No. 182 celebrated its twenty-first anniversary on January 24. Invitations were sent to one hundred twenty-five ex-members of such Grange, many of whom reside in neighboring states. On account of the icy condition of the roads many were unable to be present who would otherwise have attended, but dinner was served to all that the hall would accommodate. The exercises began with the installation of the officers

of the Grange in the forenoon. Dinner over, the afternoon exercises opened by a selection by the choir, and all declared that the work of the choir was second to none ever listened to in any Grange hall. A speech had been placed on the program from State Master George B. Horton, who was expected to be present but was forced to be absent by circumstances not under his control. The time was then allotted to Rev. John Warner, who was a charter member of this Grange, and he made one of the finest speeches ever heard in the Grange. Mrs. Andrew L. Davis had been selected by the members to give a brief history of the Grange which was in part as follows: We have come together after a lapse of many years to renew former acquaintances, and social friendship, and enjoy a day of social pleasure. It is twenty-one years and one month today since Mr. Cahill, a state deputy from one of the western counties, called together forty-two residents of this vicinity, and in the school house which stands close by formed our Grange, Lorenzo Rainer being its first master and Andrew L. Davis its first secretary.

With no hall or home of our own in which to meet we accepted the generous offer of Brother Rainer and located in the log house on his farm as the best that was possible for him to do for us, and the only thing possible for us to do and entered as earnestly upon our privileges and duties as we understood them as though we had been the possessors of a palatial hall. We took most energetically to trade and exchange till that old log house was little else than a mercantile concern of the most extensive pattern, filled with its hundred customers. But after 5 years of increasing business a spirit of higher aspirations asserted itself and by resolution mercantile pursuits were largely laid aside and literary work was the order of the organization. So radical a change in the program discouraged many and our Grange became almost dormant. Finally a resolution was passed reinstating the old order of business, a committee was selected to canvass the meeting for the necessary funds for a new hall, the site selected, a building committee appointed, the timber donated, and the timber was moving toward the spot where is erected the South Jefferson Grange hall, and through the push, energy, and perseverance of the "ladies' aid society" which was organized as an adjunct of the Grange, the hall has been completed, papered, lighted, and many other necessities provided.

The saddest of our history is the thought that death has not spared our circle, and it has been our painful duty to follow twenty-four of our brightest and most progressive members to the silent grave.

MARY A. DAVIS, Secretary.

DANBY GRANGE AND SALARIES.

At a recent discussion of this topic one was in favor of paying the salaried officers what their clerks receive and then compel them to pay their clerks from their own salary. Another thought that the salaries should be more equally divided, but the majority were not in favor of raising them.

EDD. STOCKWELL, Secretary.

QUINCY GRANGE

has a fine, new hall completed and furnished. We think it the best finished and most convenient one within our knowledge.

We are also receiving good additions to membership. Initiated six candidates in fourth degree at last meeting.

We are discussing "Laws and usages of the Order," and state legislation, and making our wants known. We will meet with Butler Grange soon and hold joint literary program and debates. Later they will return the visit.

A. B. RAINSFORD, Secretary.

MONTCALM GRANGE.

On Jan. 26 Montcalm Grange No. 318 discussed the farmers' institute bill, and all seemed in favor of the bill, at least there was no opposition.

Montcalm Grange has been recruiting wonderfully in the last few months. We have initiation at nearly every meeting, but am sorry to say there has not as yet been very much of an awakening to the necessity of subscribing to the GRANGE VISITOR, but feel in hope that as our new members become better acquainted with our work they will feel the need of our official organ. Yours fraternally,

MRS. C. H. THOMPSON, Secretary.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

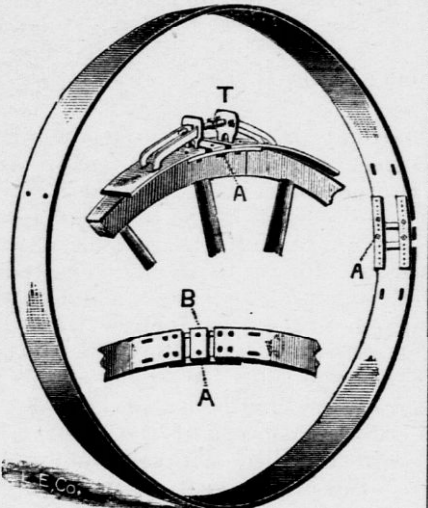
WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKER, KENNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

A. H. WARREN,
Ovid, Mich.
Breeder of IMPROVED
Chester White Swine
and Lincoln Sheep. If you want a nice fat pig, and at prices that will astonish you, just let me hear from you stating what you want. I have pigs that will suit.

ARE YOU OPOSED TO TRUSTS?
Will you back those that fight them?
EVERY FARMER SAYS YES.
Then buy your
Harrows and Cultivators
of the manufacturer that has spent thousands of dollars fighting combines.
THE WHIPPLE HARROW CO.
ST. JOHNS, MICH.

WHIPPLE'S SUPPLEMENTARY
Adjustable Wide Tire
FOR FARM WAGONS.



\$10.00 buys a complete set (including the tightener T) of STEEL TIRES 4 1/2 inches wide, warranted to carry 4,000 lbs., that can be put on the wheels of any farm wagon over the narrow tire, and can be attached or detached by one man in twenty minutes. In ordering give diameter of wheels. Address
E. E. WHIPPLE,
ST. JOHNS, MICH.

Duroc Jersey PRACTICAL PROLIFIC ROFIBILE Hogs are ORKERS
Shropshire Sheep.
Herbert W. Mumford, Moscow, Mich.
HILLSDALE CO., MICH.

We are sold out of males fit for service, but are offering a CHOICE LOT OF YOUNG SOWS at reasonable rates.
Write for description and prices. Look up our advertisement in previous issues of the VISITOR.

Hillsdale County Herd
Poland China Swine.
Choice stock for sale at reasonable prices, and guaranteed as represented.
JNO. BOWDITCH,
HILLSDALE, Mich.

The Peoples' Savings Bank
OF LANSING, MICHIGAN.
Capital . . . \$150,000 00
COR. WASH. AND MICH. AVENUES, LANSING.
FRANKLIN ST., NORTH LANSING.
OFFICES.
W. J. BEAL, President;
A. A. WILBER, Vice President;
C. H. OSBAND, Cashier.

We transact a general banking business. In our savings department we receive deposits of one dollar or over and pay interest thereon if left three months or longer at 4 per cent.
In our commercial department we receive accounts of merchants and business men. We issue interest bearing certificates of deposit. If you have any banking business come and see us.

INCUBATORS
We warrant The Reliable
To Hatch 80 per cent. Star Hatching
Durable, Correct in Principle, Leader
at World's Fair. Sets in steady for
new 112 page Poultry Guide and Catalogue
Reliable Incubator and Brooder Co., Quincy, Ill.

\$20.00 A No. 1 FARM HARNESS
Made of first-class stock and warranted, and all Hand-Made. We retail all our harness at wholesale prices and ship anywhere on approval and guarantee satisfaction.
Write for Catalogue.
HAND MADE HARNESS CO.
STANTON, MICH.

HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM
WITH THE MODEL EXCELSIOR INCUBATOR.
Thousands in Successful Operation.
SIMPLE, PERFECT, and SELF-REGULATING.
Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost, than any other incubator.
Send for free Circulars.
GEO. H. STANTON, 114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

CANCER
TUMORS and SKIN DISEASES scientifically treated and cured. NO KNIFE. Book free. Have a special for the last twenty-five years. Address Dr. L. H. Gratigny, 80 Shiloh Place, Cincinnati, O.

GRAPE VINES.
Largest Stock in the World. Small Fruits. Introduce of unrivalled new Lead Black Grosbeak & Ray Carat. Catalogue free. Geo. S. J. Casslyn, Fredonia, N. Y.

College and Station.

Agricultural Labor.

Important and Interesting Statistics Taken from Advance Sheets of the Forthcoming Report of the Commissioner of Labor.
The annual report of the commissioner of labor treats largely on farm industries and farm labor, both out-door and domestic.
The schedules prepared for this work contained thirty questions, which were classified as to
1. Residence, nativity, and social condition.
2. Relative to work.
3. Relative to wages.
4. Relative cost of living.
5. Relative to homes.
6. Relative to immigration, etc.
7. Relative to membership in fraternal organizations and insurance.

NATIVITY.
In all, there were 5,600 male laborers canvassed, the answers showing that of this number, 3,219 or 57 per cent were American born, German, English, Canadian, and Irish being next in their order, the four named being only 31 per cent of the whole. There are twenty-two other nationalities represented, but the aggregation only foot up 12 per cent. Regarding this feature of the report, the statistics are very interesting to the student of political economy.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

Average age of the 5,600 in years.....	30 6
Married.....	2468
Single.....	2964
Widowed.....	148
Not answering.....	20
Families who have children.....	1963
Families who have no children.....	534
Number of adults.....	5247
Number of children.....	5088
Average number of children in families.....	2 6
Total number supported by the 5,600.....	13156

AS TO WAGES.

Number of the 5,600 who work by the day.....	1158
Number who work by the month.....	4412
Average wages by the day.....	\$0 92
Average wages by the month.....	\$17 84
Number who receive extras:	
House rent.....	1180
Fuel.....	1029
Cow pasture.....	878
Team work.....	1080
Garden.....	1251

INCREASE AND DECREASE OF WAGES.

Number of the 5,600 who say wages have decreased in past five years.....	3395
Number who report decrease in past year.....	3568
Average per cent of decrease in five years.....	15 7
Average per cent of decrease in past year.....	13

Only five per cent of those canvassed report an increase in either period and very light at that. Very few report that wages have remained the same.

EARNINGS.

The 5,600 report their total earnings last year.....	\$1,018,388 00
An average for each.....	181 85
Number who reported money saved last year.....	2537
Amount saved.....	\$196,891 00
Average for each person.....	77 67
Number who say they can earn more than enough to support their families.....	2984

This includes a large per cent of unmarried men who support a mother or sisters and brothers. About one half of those canvassed say they cannot earn enough to support their families.

PAYMENT OF WAGES.
Of the number canvassed, 40 per cent say they get their pay on demand, 35 per cent say they are paid monthly, the other 25 per cent report that wages are paid at periods varying from yearly to daily.

LOSS OF TIME.

Number who lost no time last year.....	1522
Number who lost time last year.....	4078

Forty per cent say that work is scarce in winter, while sixty per cent report they find no scarcity. Of those who lost time, forty per cent say it was from "lack of work," while sixty per cent give various other causes, from "sickness" to "indisposition."

With low wages and so great a loss of time, it is wonderful how these men are found self supporting, often laying up money.

COST OF LIVING.
Less than five per cent of those canvassed report the cost of living as increasing in past year or past five years, while 35 per cent report a decrease of 14 per cent in five years, and 30 per cent say living has decreased over 10 per cent in the past year. Many of those canvassed report "no change," but it is evident that there has been a decrease averaging about fifteen per cent.

AS TO TIMES.
Of the whole number canvassed, 81 per cent say that times were much worse than they were five years ago, while the same number report that they are still worse

than they were one year ago. Very few (less than two per cent) report any improvement in the two periods. From these answers it must be recognized that "times" are bad for this class of laborers and not growing better.

OWNERSHIP OF HOMES.
It is found that but 1,005 of the 5,600 canvassed own their homes and that one half of these are encumbered. The rate of interest paid averages only six per cent, but with taxes, insurance, and repairs it is evident that the average farm laborer rather rent a home than to own even a humble one. Those who rent houses only pay an average of \$2.59 per month, which is certainly a low rent for almost any kind of a house.

RELATIVE TO IMMIGRATION.
Of the 5,600 canvassed 3,466 say that immigration injures their occupation, while 1,529 say that it does not, and 650 give no answer. This indicates that 62 per cent consider immigration detrimental to their interests, while 27 per cent think it is not. About 11 per cent are indifferent to this question. A large per cent of those who most emphatically denounce foreign immigration were foreign born. In this respect the immigrant very quickly assimilates with his American condition and is most thoroughly Americanized.

Of the foreigners, 250 give wages in their native land by the day at an average of \$0.55, and 937 say that the average wages by the month at their old homes was \$10.15. In answer to the question "Are conditions better here than in your native land for saving money?" 1,099 say they are, while 337 think not. As regards to saving their earnings, 588 say that laboring men are as saving here as in their native land, while 845 say they are not. It should be borne in mind that these questions were asked and answers given when all classes of labor were passing through the most serious depression this country ever saw.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSURANCE.
Only 828 of the 5,600 canvassed report as belonging to fraternal organizations, and of these, only 576 carry life insurance in said organizations. This insurance aggregates \$726,140, an average of \$1,246.67 each. In addition to this, 249 report a sick benefit averaging \$3.09 per week. Of the entire 5,600 only 43 report carrying any other life insurance, the aggregate being an average of only \$1,234 each.

It will be seen that but a small per cent of farm laborers in Michigan belong to any fraternal organization and a still smaller per cent avail themselves of the opportunity to carry life insurance in these societies, while a much less number have life insurance. There are several causes which lead to this phase of their social and economic condition. The language of the commissioner on this important subject is worthy of serious consideration.

"As compared with other classes of labor, those who work on the farm do not connect themselves with fraternal organizations. This is obvious for several reasons, mainly the distances from lodges and the long work hours farmers are often subject to. Another important item shown by the above is that farm laborers are less inclined to carry life insurance, either in fraternal organizations or otherwise, than other classes of citizens.

Congress Has Closed.
WASHINGTON, March 5.—After the regular associated report of the senate closed in the morning that body passed a number of bills that were not objected to. These include the following: Authorizing the Dyersburg and Mississippi Railway and Improvement company to bridge the Ohio river, Tennessee; for the relief of John W. Kennedy; for the relief of Basil Moreland, and granting a pension of \$20 a month to Mrs. Mary E. Wise, widow of Lieutenant Colonel E. O. Wise. On motion of Platt of Connecticut the house bill was passed amending the copyright law by limiting the severity of the penalty imposed on newspapers for unintentionally violating the law in reproducing copyrighted photographs, etc. The senate at 4:05 o'clock a. m. took a recess until 9 o'clock with an understanding that no business was to be transacted until 11 o'clock, except in connection with the conference reports.
Only Three Senators Present.
Only three senators—Manderson, Pettigrew and Mitchell of Wisconsin—were at their desks when the vice president tapped

for order at 9 o'clock. Observing the silliness of the attendance Mander-on commented on the fact that "the other side seemed to be in a dismal minority" and a recess was taken for fifteen minutes. There were perhaps at this time a hundred people in the galleries, the usual crowd of a closing session not yet having taken possession of the Capitol. The octogenarian, Morrill, and the silver-haired Sherman, neither of whom had remained throughout the night, came in shortly after. At 9:45 the vice president announced his signature to the deficiency bill. This was the last of the appropriation bills, and thus all of the great measures for carrying on the government were either at the executive mansion or on their way there.

Compensation to Employees.
At 11:40, with only twenty minutes remaining, a joint resolution was passed as to compensation to employees. A messenger dashed away with it in a race to get to the White House and secure the president's signature within the twenty minutes. The thanks of the senate were expressed in a resolution offered by Mander-on for the courtesy and impartiality with which Harris had served as president pro tem. of the senate. Harris then took the chair and returned his thanks for the flattering resolution. At 12 o'clock the vice president announced the senate adjourned sine die. There was no demonstration and no applause. Senator began bidding their adieus. The appearance of the chamber and the weary looks of worn out senators was evidence that the end had come.

Proceedings in the House.
At 8 o'clock, when the house reconvened in its final session after a four hours' recess, eleven members were on the floor. The speaker was at his post. All looked tired and worn out. In the public gallery opposite the speaker's gallery lounged a half dozen belated visitors who had remained there all night, and in the private gallery a solitary female held the fort. She looked bedraggled, but was evidently determined to sit it out. Otherwise the hall was deserted. Baker had the honor of passing the first bill of the final session. It was a bill to pay a war claim of Margaret Kennedy, amounting to \$4,000. The husband of the beneficiary had been a well known figure about the Capitol for years. Every morning he was to be found at one of the doors with his pockets full of apples, doling them out to members and appealing for votes for his bill.

Dockery Keeps Close Watch.
Dockery was in the watch tower looking after Uncle Sam's strong-box, but he allowed several bills to go through by unanimous consent. One by one members arrived and the galleries began to fill. At 9 o'clock Chairman Sayers of the appropriations committee entered the hall. Although he has been almost constantly at work for forty-eight hours, he was buoyant and light of step—overjoyed that the last appropriation bill had passed. Grosvenor of Ohio caused the first flurry by a sharp speech, contending that the Republicans were the true friends of bi-metalism. The repeal of the Sherman act, two years ago, he said, had accomplished more than any other influence to bring about the hopeful condition for silver we now observe the world over. He predicted great results from the proposed monetary conference.

The clock was not turned back and both houses came to a close simultaneously at noon.
NEARLY \$500,000,000.

Appropriations Made by Congress This Session Foots Up \$498,952,524.
WASHINGTON, Mar. 5.—The following figures show approximately the total appropriations made during the present session of congress. Agricultural, \$3,303,700; army, \$23,252,608; diplomatic and consular, \$1,575,073; district of Columbia, \$5,916,533; fortifications, \$1,904,557; Indian, \$9,976,948; military academy, \$424,261; general deficiency, \$3,600,000; sundry civil, \$47,140,000; urgent deficiency bills passed early in the session, \$2,357,321; legislative, executive and judicial, \$21,900,000; naval, \$29,100,000; permanent annual, \$113,073,953; miscellaneous, \$50,000,000. Total, \$498,952,524.
These figures are exact, except in the cases of the general deficiency, sundry civil, legislative, executive and judicial, naval and miscellaneous, and these are very close to the exact amounts except possibly on the general deficiency bill and miscellaneous. The figures on the general deficiency are given as the bill passed the house and will be found to be not far from correct.

Hard Work for Enrolling Clerks.
WASHINGTON, March 5.—The last of the great appropriation bills were sent to the president shortly after 10 o'clock for his signature and with their departure a great sigh of relief went up from the enrolling office. There were five bills on which the enrolling clerks were engaged all night, the deficiency, sundry civil, diplomatic, Indian and naval. The final agreements on all of these were reached during the night and each one was turned over to Chairman Pearson of the committee on enrolled bills as soon as the amendments had been drafted by the proper officials. Besides the appropriation bills about thirty-five bills of minor importance had to be engrossed and enrolled.

Hundreds of Millions Involved.
WASHINGTON, March 5.—The case of the Bate Refrigerator company against Francis Sulzberger & Co., upon which the question of American patents expires when foreign patents have been previously issued, was decided in an exhaustive opinion by Justice Harlan. It is estimated that not less than \$600,000,000 of capital hinges upon the decision, which determines the status of many valuable patents. The court held that the invention for which Bate received a patent was previously patented in a foreign country and that the United States patent did expire with the foreign patents. The decision is against the electric and other patents involved in the decision of this suit.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

Officers National Grange.
Master—J. H. Brigham..... Delta, Ohio
Overseer—E. W. Davis..... Santa Rosa, Cal.
Lecturer—Alpha Messe..... Rochester, Vt.
Steward—M. B. Hunt..... Fruit, Maine
Ass't Steward—A. M. Belcher..... Rhode Island
Chaplain—S. L. Wilson..... Mississippi
Treasurer—Mrs. E. M. McDowell..... New York
Secretary—John Trimble..... Washington, D. C.
Gate Keeper—W. E. Harbaugh..... Missouri
Ceres—Mrs. M. S. Rhone..... Pennsylvania
Pomona—Mrs. Mary Reardon..... Kansas
Flora—Mrs. Annie L. Bull..... Minnesota
Lady Ass't Stew'd—Mrs. Amanda Horton, Mich.

Executive Committee.
Leonard Rhone..... Center Hall, Pennsylvania
R. R. Hutchinson..... Virginia
J. J. Woodman..... Paw Paw, Michigan

Officers Michigan State Grange.
Master—G. B. Horton..... Fruit Ridge
Overseer—M. T. Cole..... Palmyra
Lecturer—Jason Woodman..... Paw Paw
Steward—George L. Carlisle..... Kalkaska
Assistant Steward—J. H. Martin, Box 42, Grand Rapids.
Chaplain—Mary A. Mayo..... Battle Creek
Treasurer—E. A. Strong..... Vicksburg
Secretary—Jennie Buell..... Ann Arbor
Gate Keeper—William Robert..... Hesperia
Ceres—Mrs. Mary Robertson..... Hesperia
Flora—Mrs. Estella Buell..... Union City
Pomona—Mrs. Julia McDure..... Shelby
L. A. Steward—Mrs. J. H. Martin, Grand Rapids

Executive Committee.
J. G. Ramstell, Chairman..... Traverse City
H. D. Platt..... Ypsilanti
C. G. Luce..... Coldwater
W. E. Wright..... Coldwater
Perry Mayo..... Battle Creek
W. F. Taylor..... Battle Creek
F. W. Balfour..... Maple Rapids
G. B. Horton..... Ex Officio
Jennie Buell..... Ann Arbor

Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange.
Mrs. Mary A. Mayo..... Battle Creek
Mrs. Mary Sherwood Hinds..... Stanton
Mrs. Belle Boyce..... Baroda

General Deputy Lecturers.
Mary A. Mayo..... Battle Creek
Hon. J. J. Woodman..... Paw Paw
Hon. C. G. Luce..... Coldwater
Hon. Perry Mayo..... Battle Creek
Hon. Thomas Mars..... Berrien
Jason Woodman..... Paw Paw
E. A. Palmer..... Kalkaska
Judge J. G. Ramstell..... Traverse City
D. D. Buell..... Union City

County Deputies.
D. H. Stebbins..... Atwood, Antrim Co.
L. C. Root..... Allegan, Allegan Co.
R. B. Reynolds..... Inland, Benzie
George Bowser..... Dowling, Barry
James D. Studley..... Union City, Branch
R. V. Clark..... Buchanan, Berrien
J. W. Ennest..... St. Johns, Clinton
Mary A. Mayo..... Battle Creek, Calhoun
E. E. Ward..... Charlevoix, Charlevoix
Abram Miller..... Dowagiac, Cass
F. H. Osborn..... Eaton Rapids, Eaton
W. H. Boyce..... North Star, Gratiot
E. W. Turner..... Flushing, Genesee
E. O. Ladd..... Old Mission, Grand Traverse
Mrs. E. D. Nokes..... Wheatland, Hillsdale
R. A. Brown..... Sand Beach, Huron
D. H. English..... Chandler, Ionia
F. W. Havens..... Fitchburg, Ingham
J. Weston Hutchins..... Hanover, Jackson
Robert Dockery..... Rockford, Kent
Geo. L. Carlisle..... Kalkaska, Kalkaska
Hiram Bradshaw..... North Branch, Lapeer
Fred Dean..... Brighton, Leelanau
E. W. Allis..... Adrian, Lenawee
Jacob Rosenstiel.....
..... Rigas, Monroe, and Lenawee
D. R. Van Amberg..... Bear Lake, Manistee
Jesse E. Williams..... Big Rapids, Mecosta
J. S. Lawson..... Discus, Macomb
Will G. Parish..... Rockford, Muskegon
T. F. Rogers..... Ravenna, Muskegon
W. W. Carter..... Ashland, Newaygo
A. J. Crosby..... Ypsilanti, Oakland
Robert Alvarado..... Fitchburg, Otsego
R. H. Taylor..... Shelby, Oceana
D. Murlin..... Vernon, Shiawassee
A. W. Canfield..... Avoca, St. Clair
Wm. B. Langley..... Centerville, St. Joseph
Robert Treby..... Birch Run, Saginaw
Helen A. Fiske..... Carsonville, Sanilac
Henry Hurd..... Lawrence, Van Buren
John A. McDougal..... Ypsilanti, Washtenaw
R. C. Norris..... Cadillac, Wexford

Revised List of Grange Supplies

Kept in the office of Sec'y of the MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE and sent out post-paid on receipt of cash order, over the Seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.
Porcelain ballot marbles, per hundred..... \$0 75
Secretary's ballot..... 85
Secretary's record..... 35
Treasurer's orders, bound, per hundred..... 35
Secretary's receipts for dues, per hundred..... 35
Treasurer's receipts for dues, per hundred..... 35
Applications for membership, per hundred..... 50
Withdrawal cards, per dozen..... 25
Dements, in envelopes, per dozen..... 25
By-laws of the State Grange, single copies, 10¢ per dozen..... 75
"Glad Echoes," with music, single copies, 25¢ per dozen..... 3 00
Grange Melodies, single copy, 40¢ per doz. 4 00
Opening Song Card, 2¢ each; 75¢ per doz. 100 1 35
Rituals, 7th edition (with combined degrees), 25¢ each; per dozen..... 2 75
Rituals, 5th degree, set of nine..... 1 80
Rituals, Juvenile, single copy..... 15
Notice to delinquent members, per 100..... 40
American Manual of Parliamentary Law..... 50
Digest of Laws and Rulings..... 25
Roll books..... 15
Sample packages co-operative literature..... 15
Kelley's History of the Grange..... 75
Write for prices on gold pins, badges, working tools, staff mountings, seals, ballot boxes and any other Grange supplies. Address MISS JESSIE BULL, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Water-Cleaned Seeds
Never Fail! Why?
Because the light seed is all washed out and what is left must grow. One trial will convince you. Catalogue and Garden Guide FREE.
Heman Glass, Seed Grower, Rochester, N. Y.

Grange Seed House.

For ten years I have supplied Patrons of Husbandry with Seeds under a contract with the

NEW YORK STATE GRANGE,
and am now supplying Patrons in several States on the same terms as those in New York. My discounts to Patrons are 10 to 33 1/2 per cent, from the regular catalog prices.

All Seeds Fresh and True to Name, and Carefully Tested.

Glass' Illustrated Catalog and SPECIAL PRICE LIST to Patrons sent FREE on application.

Address
HEMAN GLASS,
Seed Grower,
462 ROCHESTER, N. Y.

PATRONS'

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS have sold Ingersoll Paint to the Order P. of H. since its organization. House Paints and Cheap Paints for Barns and Outbuildings, 10,000 Farmers testify to their merits. Grange Halls, Churches, School Houses, Dwellings, all over the land, some of them painted 15 years ago, still looking well, prove them the most durable.

PAINT WORKS.

MICHIGAN PATRONS "Buy direct from Factory" at full wholesale Prices and save all Middlemen's Profits.
O. W. INGERSOLL, Prop.
Oldest Paint House in America.
241-243 Plymouth St., Brooklyn.

Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints
Indestructible Cottage and Barn Paints
Sample Color Cards, "Confidential" Grange Discounts, Estimates and full particulars MAILED FREE. Write at once.

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

Part I is a reprint of the reminiscences of John H. Watson, M. D., of the medical department of the British army. CHAPTER I—Dr. Watson returns to London on leave of absence. He is introduced to Sherlock Holmes, a consulting detective, and they take lodging apartments together.

CHAPTER II.

We met next day as he had arranged and inspected the rooms at 221b Baker street, of which he had spoken at our meeting. They consisted of a couple of comfortable bedrooms and a single large, airy sitting room, cheerfully furnished and illuminated by two broad windows. So desirable in every way were the apartments, and so moderate did the terms seem when divided between us that the bargain was concluded upon the spot, and we at once entered into possession. That very evening I moved my things round from the hotel, and on the following morning Sherlock Holmes followed me with several boxes and portmanteaus. For a day or two we were busily employed in unpacking and laying out our property to the best advantage. That done, we gradually began to settle down and to accommodate ourselves to our new surroundings.

Holmes was certainly not a difficult man to live with. He was quiet in his ways, and his habits were regular. It was rare for him to be up after 10 at night, and he had invariably breakfasted and gone out before I rose in the morning. Sometimes he spent his day at the chemical laboratory, sometimes in the dissecting rooms, and occasionally in long walks, which appeared to take him into the lowest portions of the city. Nothing could exceed his energy when the working fit was upon him, but now and again a reaction would seize him, and for days on end he would lie upon the sofa in the sitting room, hardly uttering a word or moving a muscle from morning to night. On these occasions I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic had not the temperance and cleanliness of his whole life forbidden such a notion.

As the weeks went by my interest in him and my curiosity as to his aims in life gradually deepened and increased. His very person and appearance were such as to strike the attention of the most casual observer. In height he was rather over 6 feet, and so excessively lean that he seemed to be considerably taller. His eyes were sharp and piercing, save during those intervals of torpor to which I have alluded, and his thin, hawklike nose gave his whole expression an air of alertness and decision. His chin, too, had the prominence and squareness which mark the man of determination. His hands were invariably blotted with ink and stained with chemicals, yet he was possessed of extraordinary delicacy of touch, as I frequently had occasion to observe when I watched him manipulating his fragile philosophical instruments.

The reader may set me down as a hopeless busybody when I confess how much this man stimulated my curiosity and how often I endeavored to break through the reticence which he showed on all that concerned himself. Before pronouncing judgment, however, be it remembered how objectless was my life and how little there was to engage my attention. My health forbade me from venturing out unless the weather was exceptionally genial, and I had no friends who would call upon me and break the monotony of my daily existence. Under these circumstances I eagerly hailed the little mystery which he brought around my companion and spent much of my time in endeavoring to unravel it.

He was not studying medicine. He had himself, in reply to a question, confirmed Stamford's opinion upon that point. Neither did he appear to have pursued any course of reading which might fit him for a degree in science or any other recognized portal which would give him an entrance into the learned world. Yet his zeal for certain studies was remarkable, and within eccentric limits his knowledge was so extraordinarily ample and minute that his observations have fairly astounded me. Surely no man would work so hard to attain such precise information unless he had some definite end in view. Desultory readers are seldom remarkable for the exactness of their learning. No man burdens his mind with small matters unless he has some very good reason for doing so.

His ignorance was as remarkable as his knowledge. Of contemporary literature, philosophy and politics he appeared to know next to nothing. Upon my quoting Thomas Carlyle he inquired in the naivest way who he might be and what he had done. My surprise reached a climax, however, when I found incidentally that he was ignorant of the Copernican theory and of the composition of the solar system. That any civilized human being in this nineteenth century should not be aware that the

earth traveled round the sun appeared to be to me such an extraordinary fact that I could hardly realize it.

"You appear to be astonished," he said, smiling at my expression of surprise. "Now that I do know it I shall do my best to forget it."

"To forget it?"
"You see," he explained, "I consider that a man's brain originally is like a little empty attic, and you have to stock it with such furniture as you choose. A fool takes in all the lumber of every sort that he comes across, so that the knowledge which might be useful to him gets crowded out, or at best is jumbled up with a lot of other things, so that he has a difficulty in laying his hands upon it. Now, the skillful workman is very careful indeed as to what he takes into his brain attic. He will have nothing but the tools which may help him in doing his work, but of these he has a large assortment, and all in the most perfect order. It is a mistake to think that that little room has elastic walls and can distend to any extent. Depend upon it, there comes a time when for every addition of knowledge you forget something that you knew before. It is of the highest importance, therefore, not to have useless facts elbowing out the useful ones."

"But the solar system?" I protested.
"What the deuce is it to me?" he interrupted impatiently. "You say that we go round the sun. If we went round the moon, it would not make a pennyworth of difference to me or to my work."

I was on the point of asking him what that work might be, but something in his manner showed me that the question would be an unwelcome one. I pondered over our short conversation, however, and endeavored to draw my deductions from it. He said that he would acquire no knowledge which did not bear upon his object. Therefore all the knowledge which he possessed was such as would be useful to him. I enumerated in my own mind all the various points upon which he had shown me that he was exceptionally well informed. I even took a pencil and jotted them down. I could not help smiling at the document when I had completed it. It ran in this way:

- SHERLOCK HOLMES—HIS LIMITS.
1. Knowledge of Literature.—Nil.
 2. Knowledge of Philosophy.—Nil.
 3. Knowledge of Astronomy.—Nil.
 4. Knowledge of Politics.—Feeble.
 5. Knowledge of Botany.—Variable. Well up in belladonna, opium and poisons generally. Knows nothing of practical gardening.
 6. Knowledge of Geology.—Practical, but limited. Tells at a glance different soils from each other. After walks has shown me spashes upon his trousers, and told me by their color and consistency in what part of London he had received them.
 7. Knowledge of Chemistry.—Profound.
 8. Knowledge of Anatomy.—Accurate, but unsystematic.
 9. Knowledge of Sensational Literature.—Immense. He appears to know every detail of every horror perpetrated in the century.
 10. Plays the violin well.
 11. Is an expert single stick player, boxer and swordsman.
 12. Has a good practical knowledge of British law.

When I had got so far in my list, I threw it into the fire in despair. "If I can only find what the fellow is driving at by reconciling all these accomplishments and discovering a calling which needs them all," I said to myself, "I may as well give up the attempt at once."

I see that I have alluded above to his powers upon the violin. These were very remarkable, but as eccentric as all his other accomplishments. That he could play pieces, and difficult pieces, I knew well, because at my request he has played me some of Mendelssohn's "Lieder" and other favorites.

When left to himself, however, he would seldom produce any music or attempt any recognized air. Leaning back in his armchair of an evening, he would close his eyes and scrape carelessly at the fiddle, which was thrown across his knee. Sometimes the chords were sonorous and melancholy. Occasionally they were fantastic and cheerful. Clearly they reflected the thoughts which possessed him, but whether the music aided those thoughts or whether the playing was simply the result of a whim or fancy was more than I could determine. I might have rebelled against these exasperating solos had it not been that he usually terminated them by playing in quick succession a whole series of my favorite airs as a slight compensation for the trial upon my patience.

During the first week or so we had no callers, and I had begun to think that my companion was as friendless a man as I was myself. Presently, however, I found that he had many acquaintances and those in the most different classes of society. There was one little, sallow,

rat faced, dark eyed fellow who was introduced to me as Mr. Lestrade, and who came three or four times in a single week. One morning a young girl called, fashionably dressed, and staid for half an hour or more. The same afternoon brought a gray headed, seedy visitor, looking like a Jew peddler, who appeared to me to be much excited, and who was closely followed by a slipshod elderly woman. On another occasion an old white haired gentleman had an interview with my companion, and on another a railway porter in his velvet uniform. When any of these nondescript individuals put in an appearance, Sherlock Holmes used to beg for the use of the sitting room, and I would retire to my bedroom. He always apologized to me for putting me to this inconvenience. "I have to use this room as a place of business," he said, "and these people are my clients." Again I had an opportunity of asking him a point blank question, and again my delicacy prevented me from forcing another man to confide in me. I imagined at the time that he had some strong reason for not alluding to it, but he soon dispelled the idea by coming round to the subject of his own accord.

It was upon the 4th of March, as I have good reason to remember, that I rose somewhat earlier than usual and found that Sherlock Holmes had not yet finished his breakfast. The landlady had become so accustomed to my late habits that my place had not been laid nor my coffee prepared. With the unreasoning petulance of mankind I rang the bell and gave a curt intimation that I was ready. Then I picked up a magazine from the table and attempted to while away the time with it, while my companion munched silently at his toast. One of the articles had a pencil mark at the heading, and I naturally began to run my eye through it.

Its somewhat ambitious title was "The Book of Life," and it attempted to show how much an observant man might learn by an accurate and systematic examination of all that came in his way. It struck me as being a remarkable mixture of shrewdness and of absurdity. The reasoning was close and intense, but the deductions appeared to me to be far-fetched and exaggerated. The writer claimed by a momentary expression, a twitch of a muscle or a glance of an eye to fathom a man's inmost thoughts. Deceit, according to him, was an impossibility in the case of one trained to observation and analysis. His conclusions were as infallible as so many propositions of Euclid. So startling would his results appear to the uninitiated that until they learned the processes by which he had arrived at them they might well consider him as a necromancer.

"From a drop of water," said the writer, "a logician could infer the possibility of an Atlantic or a Niagara without having seen or heard of one or the other. So all life is a great chain, the nature of which is known whenever we are shown a single link of it. Like all other arts, the science of deduction and analysis is one which can only be acquired by long and patient study, nor is life long enough to allow any mortal to attain the highest possible perfection in it. Before turning to those moral and mental aspects of the matter which present the greatest difficulties let the inquirer begin by mastering more elementary problems. Let him, on meeting a fellow mortal, learn at a glance to distinguish the history of the man and the trade or profession to which he belongs. Puerile as such an exercise may seem, it sharpens the faculties of observation and teaches one where to look and what to look for. By a man's finger nails, by his boot, by his trouser knees, by the callouses of his forefinger and thumb, by his expression, by his shirt cuffs—by each of these things a man's calling is plainly revealed. That all united should fail to enlighten the competent inquirer in any case is almost inconceivable."

"What ineffable twaddle!" I cried, slapping the magazine down on my table. "I never read such rubbish in my life."

"What is it?" asked Sherlock Holmes.
"Why, this article," I said, pointing at it with my egg spoon as I sat down to my breakfast. "I see that you have read it, since you have marked it. I don't deny that it is smartly written. It irritates me, though. It is evidently the theory of some armchair lounge who evolves all these neat little paradoxes in the seclusion of his own study. It is not practical. I should like to see him clapped down in a third class carriage on the Underground and asked to give the trades of all his fellow travelers. I would lay a thousand to one against him."

"You would lose your money," Sherlock Holmes remarked calmly. "As for the article, I wrote it myself."

"You?"
"Yes, I have a turn both for observation and for deduction. The theories which I have expressed there, and which

appear to you to be so chimerical, are really extremely practical, so practical that I depend upon them for my bread and cheese."

"And how?" I asked involuntarily.
"Well, I have a trade of my own. I suppose I am the only one in the world. I am a consulting detective, if you can understand what that is. Here in London we have lots of government detectives and lots of private ones. When these fellows are at fault, they come to me, and I manage to put them on the right scent. They lay all the evidence before me, and I am generally able, by the help of my knowledge of the history of crime, to set them straight. There is a strong family resemblance about misdeeds, and if you have all the details of a thousand at your finger ends it is odd if you can't unravel the thousand and first. Lestrade is a well known detective. He got himself into a fog recently over a forgery case, and that was what brought him here."

"And these other people?"
"They are mostly sent out by private inquiry agencies. They are all people who are in trouble about something and want a little enlightening. I listen to their story, they listen to my comments, and then I pocket my fee."

"But do you mean to say," I said, "that without leaving your room you can unravel some knot which other men can make nothing of, although they have seen every detail for themselves?"

"Quite so. I have a kind of intuition that way. Now and again a case turns up which is a little more complex. Then I have to bustle about and see things with my own eyes. You see, I have a lot of special knowledge which I apply to the problem and which facilitates matters wonderfully. Those rules of deduction laid down in that article which aroused your scorn are invaluable to me in practical work. Observation with me is second nature. You appeared to be surprised when I told you, on our first meeting, that you had come from Afghanistan."

"You were told, no doubt."
"Nothing of the sort. I knew you came from Afghanistan. From long habit the train of thought ran so swiftly through my mind that I arrived at the conclusion without being conscious of intermediate steps. There were such steps, however. The train of reasoning ran: 'Here is a gentleman of a military type, but with the air of a military man, clearly an army doctor, then. He has just come from the tropics, for his face is dark, and that is not the natural tint of his skin, for his wrists are fair. He has undergone hardship and sickness, as his haggard face says clearly. His left arm has been injured. He holds it in a stiff and unnatural manner. Where in the tropics could an English army doctor have seen much hardship and got his arm wounded? Clearly in Afghanistan.' The whole train of thought did not occupy a second. I then remarked that you came from Afghanistan, and you were astonished."

"It is simple enough as you explain it," I said, smiling. "You remind me of Edgar Allan Poe's Dupin. I had no idea that such individuals did exist outside of stories."

Sherlock Holmes rose and lit his pipe. "No doubt you think that you are complimenting me in comparing me to Dupin," he observed. "Now, in my opinion, Dupin was a very inferior fellow. That trick of his of breaking in on his friends' thoughts with an apropos remark after a quarter of an hour's silence is really very showy and superficial. He had some analytical genius, no doubt, but he was by no means such a phenomenon as Poe appeared to imagine."

"Have you read Gaboriau's works?" I asked. "Does Lecoq come up to your idea of a detective?"

Sherlock Holmes sniffed sardonically. "Lecoq was a miserable bungler," he said in an angry voice. "He had only one thing to recommend him, and that was his energy. That book made me positively ill. The question was how to identify an unknown prisoner. I could have done it in 24 hours. Lecoq took six months or so. It might be made a textbook for detectives to teach them what to avoid."

I felt rather indignant at having two characters whom I had admired treated in this cavalier style. I walked over to the window and stood looking out into the busy street. "This fellow may be very clever," I said to myself, "but he is certainly very conceited."

"There are no crimes and no criminals in these days," he said querulously. "What is the use of having brains in our profession? I know well that I have it in me to make my name famous. No man lives or has ever lived who has brought the same amount of study and of natural talent to the detection of crime which I have done. And what is the result? There is no crime to detect, or at most some bungling villainy, with a motive so transparent that even a Scotland Yard official can see through it."

I was still annoyed at his bumptious style of conversation. I thought it best to change the topic.

"I wonder what that fellow is looking for?" I asked, pointing to a stalwart, plainly dressed individual who was walking slowly down the other side of the street, looking anxiously at the numbers. He had a large blue envelope in his hand and was evidently the bearer of a message.

"You mean the retired sergeant of marines," said Sherlock Holmes.
"Brag and bounce!" thought I to myself. "He knows that I cannot verify his guess."

The thought had hardly passed through my mind when the man whom we were watching caught sight of the number on our door and ran rapidly across the roadway. We heard a loud knock, a deep voice below and heavy steps ascending the stairs.

"For Mr. Sherlock Holmes," he said, stepping into the room and handing my friend the letter.

Here was an opportunity of taking the conceit out of him. He little thought of this when he made that random shot. "May I ask, my lad," I said blandly, "what your trade may be?"

"Commissionnaire, sir," he said gruffly. "Uniform away for repairs."

"And you were?" I asked, with a slightly malicious glance at my companion.
"A sergeant, sir, Royal Marine Light infantry, sir. No answer? Right, sir."

He clicked his heels together, raised his hand in a salute and was gone.

(To be continued.)

Grange News.

In accordance with instructions received from the Lowell District Council, I send you the following resolution, which was passed by the Council at its last meeting:

Resolved, By the Lowell District Council, that we are not in favor of our legislature passing a law to protect the rabbits.

The next meeting of the Council will be held at Keene Grange hall on Saturday, March 2, 1895, and the program will be of a patriotic nature. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

D. H. ENGLISH, Secretary.

Inland Grange No. 503 is quite prosperous. During the fall we held a contest followed by a feast furnished by the defeated side. The result of the contest was more interest, new members, and subscribers to the VISITOR. Our worthy master, R. B. Reynolds, having been elected county clerk, was obliged to move to the county seat, so our Grange gave him a surprise on Christmas. Meeting at Grange hall, we went in a body to his residence. All carried well-filled baskets, and a large willow easy-chair was left as a token of our esteem and of his faithfulness in the Grange, of which he was a charter member, and of which only three remain, these three having been Grangers twenty years. Just before dinner was served two of our Grangers, Edward L. Vaughan and Rosa A. Bates were united in marriage by Rev. L. Kinney, grandfather of the bride. Rev. D. A. Green, our pastor, was also present. It was, altogether, quite an important day in our history. At our last meeting in December the following officers were elected:

Master, I. D. Johnson; overseer, A. L. Kimble; lecturer, L. M. Dexter; steward, H. A. Slarrow; assistant steward, Chester Lewis; chaplain, Mrs. A. L. Kimble; treasurer, Nellie Reynolds; secretary, Rosa A. Vaughan; gatekeeper, G. C. Kenny; Ceres, Mrs. Flora Wilson; Pomona, Emma Slarrow; Flora, Mary Johnson.

At our last meeting an oyster supper and degree work took up the time. We expect to entertain the Pomona Grange in March.

LECTURER.

Orion Grange No. 259, on Feb. 13, was the scene of a most joyous event, it was the 21st anniversary of its organization. It was a most happy day for the few remaining charter members. A goodly number of these old members have been beckoned over the river.

In spite of the roads and the inclemency of the weather, the hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. Dinner came at 12:00, and at 2:00 o'clock a fine program was carried out—songs, recitations, and a brief history of the

Grange by the oldest charter member, Brother Hiram Andrews. He gave a brief outline of the Grange and its struggles through infancy, and today with its many members, is no more a youth in swaddling clothes.

A vote of thanks was extended to the charter members for their pluck, energy, and perseverance in bringing our Grange to where it stands today, about second place in the state, and as far as work is concerned we need not hesitate in giving it about first place.

Everybody went their way rejoicing, proclaiming, long live Orion Grange, and may its good work spread.

JNO. GREENSHIELDS, Sec'y.

Grattan Grange No. 170, discussed at its last meeting, February 7, the township unit school system, and passed a resolution not to adopt it. We then instructed our Secretary to forward the resolution to our state representatives at Lansing.

At a meeting of the Grange held January 24, we passed a resolution favoring an appropriation for farmers' institutes, and at our next meeting, February 21, we hope to take action on the pure food bill. This bill is of vital importance to everybody, or should be. Wholesale food and wholesale laws are what the people need most just now, and we hope they see the point.

AUNT KATE.

At the last meeting of the Ashland Grange the question of free passes was discussed with much interest. The sentiment was with but a single exception opposed to the measure.

Our Grange is in good condition, and has started out in the work of the new year with a determination to succeed. Our officers are all young in years, but old in the work. Trent Grange is to visit us at our next meeting when a feast will be given and a good time enjoyed.

CARRIE L. CARTER, Lecturer.

One new Grange in Eaton county. The West Benton Grange was organized Feb. 11th, with 26 charter members. The officers are: Geo. Lock, Master; A. F. Claffin, Overseer; P. F. Hines, Lecturer; Mrs. Lona Barrick, Secretary.

This Grange is composed of extra good timber, and will be a material aid here in the Grange work. Brother Joseph Shaw aided me materially in getting it started, so also did Brother A. D. Saxton, of Eaton Rapids.

Fraternally Yours, JASON WOODMAN.

Last Saturday we held an open meeting, to which all the old Grangers and their families were invited, also the presiding minister and the neighboring teachers. We discussed free text books, and district libraries, both of which the Grange favored. We had an all day's meeting, enjoyed by all. We expect several additions in the near future. While our Grange is few in numbers, I do not know of a society in which a better spirit prevails. No aspirants for office—all willing to fill whatever place the Order may ask them. No rivalry, no jealousy, no envy. We enjoy ourselves so well together that it is a standing joke that the janitor has to push Sister Royce out when it is time to go home.

Mrs. J. H. ROYCE.

CLINTON COUNTY POMONA GRANGE met with Bengal Grange February 6. While the thermometer was at zero, over ninety were present, and all seemed to have a good time. Soon after 11 o'clock W. M. Brunson called the Grange to order. The roll of Granges being called, members from seven different Granges were present.

At precisely 12 o'clock dinner was announced, and such a dinner! Well, the Bengal ladies are at the head of the column so far. At 1:30 o'clock the Master again called them to order and a real intellectual feast was had. A good program was nicely rendered, with some fine recitations by the young people.

The question box brought out some fine questions. One was, What effect does the Grange have upon the schools? Commissioner Winston, who has just become a Patron, responded to it.

Also, Should not all of our farmers attend the farmers' institute, February 13 and 14, at St. Johns?

This question was responded to by L. C. Clark of Elsie Grange. Also a third question, Should a Grange take a vote to only pay 50 cents dues in one year, and attempt to live in that way? Response by D. S. Pike of South Riley Grange. A fine discussion of all the above questions was had and all seemed to enjoy it.

Then at 5:30 o'clock supper was announced, to which all did full justice. Let me here say that the fine horses of the Patrons were well remembered, as Bengal has some very good warm sheds.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

Leonidas Grange, No. 266, celebrated its twenty-first birthday by giving a banquet to its charter members February 13.

Brother Graham, master of the Grange, fittingly welcomed all, hoping there would be union and reunion among the farmers until everyone would be included in one strong bond of organization.

The dinner was sumptuous and was enjoyed by about seventy people, twenty-four of whom were charter members.

Brother Graham, acting as toastmaster, called for a toast on "The Grange," which was responded to by Brother Dell Coney, singing his words to the tune of "America," beginning,

The union of our might, Which is the farmer's right, Comes through the Grange, Planned, when the need they saw, That they together draw If they would have a law Themselves to help,

and ending,

Bound by fidelity, Shaping reality, For us to-day Shows seven old brothers here, Shows seven old sisters near, Noted for holding dear Its loyalty.

To founders of this home, May there a blessing come That doeth good, Blessings that never cease, Causing a large increase Of constancy and peace, In hearts sincere.

Sister Addison next responded to the subject, "Charter Members." This included some early history of the Grange, which was organized with about sixty members, only nine of whom are dead.

Brother William M. Watkins toasted "The First Master, J. C. Kinne," in a very amusing and affecting manner. Brother Watkins did not know why he was chosen to tell about Brother Kinne, unless it was because of his very short acquaintance with the man, which acquaintance had been lasting only seventy years.

Brother Kinne, in turn, gave some appropriate remarks about "Andrew Clime," the first secretary.

The topics "Initiation" and "Feasts" were taken by Sister Ella Lewis and Sister Bennett, respectively, both bringing out the beauty and necessity of these Grange attributes, in their quiet and convincing ways.

The meeting was then put into the hands of the lecturer and the following program was presented: A paper, Special thoughts on organization, D. B. Purdy; select reading, Farming with pen and ink, C. P. Montfort; cornet solo, C. H. Addison, Edith Kinne, accompanist; discussion, "Is prison labor a benefit to the farmer?" remarks by visitors; closing address, Sara Covey; music, Grange Choir.

The anniversary exceeded the expectations of its planners. At least ten members will be added as a result of the day, and all were satisfied with a full satisfaction.

SARA COVEY, COR.

OBITUARY.

Danby Grange, No. 185, has once more been called to mourn the loss of a member by death. Sister Minnie Culver departed this life Dec. 31, after a somewhat protracted illness, in the 45th year of her age. She was one of our most efficient members. The Grange unanimously extend their sympathy to Brother Culver in his late bereavement. Appropriate resolutions were passed by the Grange.

Burns Grange No. 160, passed suitable resolutions in memory of Brother E. S. Burnett, of Bancroft, who died February 2. Brother Burnett had been in apparently rugged health up to a few days before his death, and had presided at the farmers' institute in January. His call came suddenly. E. S. Burnett was a man of strong parts. He believed in the work of the Grange and was identified with all of its best work. Two years ago he was a member of the State Grange committee which succeeded in securing the formation of a reading circle for farmers and their families. He stood by Burns Grange in all its ups and downs. A strong manly man has finished his course.

Three years ago January 7, the Olive Branch farmers' club was born at the residence of John L. Wilson, but like many another great undertaking its birth was not witnessed by a throng of people. Almost the entire day was consumed in the preparation of the constitution and bylaws over which meeting E. J. Bigelow presided. The deliberations were unusually interesting. This club is now in its fourth year of existence, has proved a success and of benefit in many ways. It has been the means of helping many of its members to greater freedom of expression, who before lacked the confidence to speak in public, and some of the best papers it has been my pleasure to listen to, have been read before this assembly. We now have a membership of 50 enrolled upon our books. Eight new names have been added during the past year.

The year which has just elapsed has been in some very striking particulars one of the most notable in our history. To all of us, 1894 has brought its compliment of joys and sorrows. To each of us the new year lies beyond, a period of time the happenings of which no one can anticipate. We look back upon the year gone by and learn the lessons it has taught. We can sum up the causes of our failures, the results of our successes, and from these formulate rules for action in 1895. It is my sincere hope that at this time of reflection upon work accomplished and yet to be done, the assistance of the O. B. F. C. will be given its due amount of credit and be counted upon us an aid in future. It should be our aim to improve in our various departments wherever possible, and to meet the wishes, requests, and suggestions of our members when likely to prove beneficial to all.

Notices of Meetings.

The next meeting of Kent County Pomona Grange will be held with Cannon Grange, March 13, at 10:00 o'clock a. m. Morning session will be devoted to the business of the Grange. The afternoon session will be opened with a song by the choir of Cannon Grange; address of welcome, Master of Cannon Grange; Brother Will Thomas.

The program as arranged for the meeting at Courtland will be carried out, and will members please respond without further notice: Recitation, Sister Jennie Howard; oration, Brother Fred Davis; song, Sister Cora Thomas; recitation, Sister Wesley Hartwell. The public are cordially invited to meet with us.

Mrs. Wm. T. Adams, Lecturer.

A Pomona Grange meeting will be held with Charlotte Grange Wednesday March 6. Program:

Morning Session: business, dinner at 12 m. Afternoon Session: Music, Quotations, Selection (a reading or recitation) by an Eaton Rapids sister; Paper, Lecturer; Discussion of bills before the Legislature of special interest to farmers. Music will intersperse all exercises under the direction of sister Lou Pray. Come early and bring your baskets. All 4th degree members are especially urged to be present. OLIVIA J. CARPENTER, Lecturer.

262 BUS. DANVERS' YELLOW ONIONS.

Were grown by John L. Rath, East Saginaw, from one pound of seed. This tremendous yield, at the rate of 1,048 bushels per acre, Mr. Rath says was only possible because he used Salzer's seeds. We understand that Mr. Salzer's seeds are the earliest in the world, especially his beets, carrots, cabbage, cucumbers, onions, peas, corn, radishes, tomatoes, etc., and that he sells to market gardeners and farmers at lowest wholesale prices.

If You Will Cut This Out and Send It with \$1 money order to the John A. Salzer Seed Company, La Crosse, Wis., you will get free thirty-five packages earliest vegetable seeds and their wonderful catalog, or for 13 cents in stamps a package above Prize Danvers Onions and their catalog free.

R. M. KELLOGG's new pamphlet "Great Them" (a crop of Small Fruit and How to Grow Them) makes a veritable

REVOLUTION IN STRAWBERRY GROWING.

introducing new methods and new ideas. Showing how to grow the largest crops with least work. Every farmer who has an abundance of fruit all summer. It will be sent free to all readers of the Visitor if they send their address on a postal card to

461 R. M. KELLOGG, Ionia, Mich.

SALZER'S SEEDS. Over 200,000 pleased Farmers, Market Gardeners and Citizens attest to the superiority of SALZER'S SEEDS. We are the only seedmen in America making a specialty of Farm seeds, and are the largest growers of Oats, Wheat, Potatoes, Grasses, Clovers, etc., in the world! 1,000,000 ROSES. Plants and Small Fruits. VEGETABLES. Splendid assortment of tested, heavy yielding sorts. 25 Pkgs. Earliest Vegetables, postpaid, \$1.10. Pkg. Flower Seeds, 25c. Mammoth Seed Book, 144 pages, free for 5 cents postage! JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO. LA CROSSE WIS.

COLE'S Illustrated FREE Garden Annual SEEDS. The Best and latest NOVELTIES in BEANS, CORN, LETTUCE, MELON, TOMATO & SEED POTATOES. PANSIES, etc. Save money in buying from us. Complete list, \$2 Extra with orders. Address: COLE'S Seed Store, Pella, Iowa

WOVEN WIRE FENCE. Why pay 60 to 80c. a rod for fence when you can make the best Woven wire fence, earth horse high, built strong, pig and chicken tight, for \$13 to 20c. A ROD? A man and boy can make from 40 to 60 Rods a day. Over 10 different styles. Free Catalog. Address: MITCHELL & BROS., Ridgely, Indiana.

Complete Fertilizers for potatoes, fruits, and all vegetables require (to secure the largest yield and best quality) At Least 10% Actual Potash. Results of experiments prove this conclusively. How and why, is told in our pamphlets. They are sent free. It will cost you nothing to read them, and they will save you dollars. GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau Street, New York.

Home Grown Seed. Our farmer friends, you know you greatly lessen your risks when you buy seed directly from the grower. We raise Seeds of the best earliest and latest market Beets, the best Cucumbers, the best of the earliest and latest Dwarf and decidedly the best of all the Wrinkled Peas, the best Dwarf and decidedly the best of the Marrowfats, the best early and late Squashes, the best market Carrot, the earliest Red and the very best of all the Yellow Onions. We offer these and numerous other varieties, including several valuable new Vegetables, in our Vegetable and Flower Seed Catalogue for 1895. Sent free. J. J. H. GREGORY & SON, Marblehead, Mass.

Is a book containing illustrations, prices and descriptions of 30,000 articles in common use, a book that will show you at a glance if you are paying too much for the goods you are now buying,

WORTH ANYTHING TO YOU? Is it worth the 15 CENTS in stamps required to pay postage or express charges on a copy?

THE BUYERS GUIDE AND CATALOGUE (issued every March and September) is the book we are talking about; you are not safe without a copy of the latest edition in the house.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., 111 to 116 Michigan Ave., Chicago

ACME PULVERIZING HARROW, CLOD CRUSHER AND LEVELER. Is adapted to all soils and all work for which a Harrow is needed. Flat crushing spurs pulverize lumps, level and smooth the ground, break up clods, and the curved cutters cultivate, lift and turn the soil while at the same time of the soil. The backward slant of the cutters prevents tearing up rubbish, and reduces the draft. Made entirely of cast steel and wrought iron, and therefore practically indestructible. CHEAPEST RIDING HARROW ON EARTH. Sent on trial to responsible farmers, to be returned at my expense, if not satisfactory. DUANE H. NASH, Sole Mfr., MILLINGTON, N. J., and 30 South Canal Street, CHICAGO.

\$17 SPRAYING OUTFIT COMPLETE \$5.50. Automatic Mower, Barrel Attachment. 60,000 in use. Endorsed by the leading Entomologist of the U.S. A valuable illustrated Book (worth \$5.00) given to each purchaser. Satisfaction Guaranteed, or Money Refunded. Ill. Catalogue and Treatise on Spraying, Free. Our Agents are making from \$5 to \$20 per day. For particulars and P. C. LEWIS & CO., terms, address Box 107 Catskill, N. Y.

CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, HARNESS and Bicycles, at Factory Prices. Work guaranteed and 20 to 40 per cent saved. Our goods received the highest awards at the World's Fair. Our 1895 Mammoth Illustrated Catalogue is free to all. It shows all the latest styles and improvements and reduced prices. 200 pages and is the largest and most complete catalogue ever issued. Send for it. It's free. Alliance Carriage Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

50c Trial Sets Of Choice Seeds, Plants and Fruits. By mail postpaid, safe arrival and satisfaction guaranteed. Order by the letters and the numbers from this advertisement NOW, as these introductory sets, not in catalogue, an Elegant Annual of 168 pages, which will be sent free with first order. If none of these sets suit you and you want anything in our line send for CATALOGUE FREE. About 60 pages devoted to VEGETABLE and FLOWER SEEDS, 70 to PLANTS and the balance to the CREAM OF THE FRUITS. FRUIT TREES, Etc.—Mail Size. Set 103—8 Peach, 4 sorts. 50c 104—8 Apple, 4 sorts. 50c 105—8 Pear, 4 sorts. 50c 106—8 Cherry, 4 sorts. 50c 107—8 Grape, 4 sorts. 50c 108—8 Concord, 4 sorts. 50c 109—8 Currant, 4 sorts. 50c 110—8 Raspberry, 4 sorts. 50c 111—8 Strawberry, 4 sorts. 50c 112—1 each Japan Chestnut & Walnut. 50c 113—20 Blackberries, 4 sorts. 50c One-half each of any two sets 50c, any 3 sets \$2.00. EVERYTHING OF THE BEST FOR ORCHARD, VINEYARD, LAWN, GARDEN, GREENHOUSE AND CONSERVATORY. MILLIONS OF TREES, SHRUBS, VINES, ROSES, ETC. 41st YEAR. 1,000 ACRES. 29 GREENHOUSES. THE STORRS & HARRISON CO., Box 88 Painesville, O.

SEED POTATOES. Carman No. 1, Rural New Yorker No. 1, American Wonder, —AND— Other Leading Varieties. Send For Free Catalog —To—

W. I. Towne ROCKFORD, MICH. An All-Round "Deal." "IDEAL" DEALERS all deal in "IDEAL" DEAL Buggies, because a good deal of their trade prefer a good deal to a miss-deal. Consequently they buy "Deal" vehicles. Ask for catalogue showing the "Ideal" and other popular buggies and carriages in various poses. The prices are such as to make riding cheaper than walking. J. J. DEAL & SON, Jonesville, Mich.