

# GRANGE VISITOR

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

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WHOLE NO. 463.

### Taxation in Pennsylvania.

In an address to the subordinate Granges of Pennsylvania, Hon. Leonard Rhone, the state master, enumerates the chief features of a tax bill which is before the legislature of that state. It was prepared by a tax conference composed of representatives of the various interests of the state, including the farmers, and seems to be satisfactory to all concerned. After stating the provisions of the bill, Brother Rhone goes on to say:

"The increase of revenues to the state from all these sources would exceed one million, four hundred thousand dollars over what is collected from present laws, and with the rapid increase of electric railways and other corporate property would, no doubt, in less than a year increase the state revenues over two hundred thousand dollars more without levying a burdensome tax upon any of the corporate industries; an equal amount being diverted to the local government will leave the amount of the state revenues unchanged. It has been asked, 'What will the farmers get out of this revenue measure, that influenced its representatives in the conference to agree to this bill?' In reply, we would say that it will turn over to the counties the entire tax on moneyed capital, mercantile licenses, tax on private banks and brokers, auctioneers' licenses, tax and fees of county offices on writs, wills, and deeds, etc., which will increase the county revenues from these new resources for the counties one million, five hundred thousand dollars, and it will turn over to the townships, boroughs, and cities taxes on horses and cattle, licenses for billiards, theatres, circuses, eating houses, etc., amounting to upwards of five hundred thousand dollars more. The new sources of revenue for townships and counties thus aggregating upwards of two million dollars, thereby lowering the tax on real estate, the homes and farms of the people two million dollars, without robbing any other industry, and in this the manufacturers' and building associations would be benefited as much as the farmers.

"The farmers of the state are certainly entitled to as much consideration at the hands of the legislature as the other great industries, especially when we take into consideration that fifty per cent of the wealth is employed in this industry, and at this time absolutely needs the fostering care of the government, as its investments are not earning over two per cent and those engaged in the pursuit not earning over twenty-five cents a day for their labor."

### Taxation.

As a Topic for Discussion in Grange.

One of these is the subject of taxation, which is of intense and growing interest to farmers at the present time. The era of high prices in farm products in this country has passed; low prices are with us, and with us to stay, for a time at least. Farm values have greatly declined, and farm products have steadily decreased in value, and some of these values are now below the cost of production. But on the other hand, the rate of taxation in nearly every section of the country has increased, and the burden falls most heavily on the farmer, because of the full extent to which his property, both personal and real is taxed; while corporations in most states, and the personal property of the wealthy class are very lightly taxed, if taxed at all. Primarily taxation is for personal protection, and the protection of property, which includes the support of government. Why then should corporations be exempt from taxation, wholly or in part, any more than other kinds of property? Or why should so large a proportion of the property of the rich be untaxed? Both of these classes of property call for and receive a very large proportion of the protection afforded by law. This much in regard to equality of taxation.

### RETRENCHMENT IN PUBLIC EXPENDITURES.

Can the rate of taxation be reduced? Retrenchment in public expenditures is a positive demand of the times! Official sal-

aries in county, state and nation are, many of them, exorbitant, and entirely out of proportion to the present income of laboring and producing classes, and should be scaled down to meet the prevailing low prices of the times. There is no sense in the people taxing themselves to support a horde of office seekers and political heeblers in idleness and luxury. There should be a concerted movement in all parts of the country for radical reform in this direction. While reforms may be of slow growth, they come about as fast as public opinion demands them; and public opinion is created by investigation and deliberate discussion among the people. In preparing this part of the subject for discussion, the Lecturer should call upon the State Lecturer for a list of all the salaried officers, with the amount of salary and fees attached to each. County auditors or county clerks could give the desired information in regard to county officers. A comparison of salaries, and also rates of taxation in 1870, 1880, 1890, and 1894, would be of much value in the discussion. Out of this general discussion in subordinate and Pomona Granges should be evolved some definite plans for action, which should be presented at the next session of the State Grange, where, with more mature discussion and deliberation, well defined measures could be formulated to secure the objects sought. In some states the Grange has already taken hold of this question, and by persistent effort the farmers have secured a more equal and just distribution of the burdens of taxation. In other states this question is well under way in discussion, and the Grange is preparing to take definite action in the matter, while in still others there has been no systematic investigation and discussion of the question, and the people have no well defined ideas in regard to the matter. The general impression prevails among nearly all classes, that many of the existing conditions in regard to taxation are wrong, but just what to do and how to do it is an unsettled problem. But if the farmers in every state will take up this question and discuss it in an intelligent, systematic way, tangible results can be obtained. We must first, however, get down to the bed-rock of the matter, and be united as to just what we will work for, in our several states; then by concert of action we can rely upon securing a reasonable degree of justice, which is ours by right. I have made the foregoing suggestions in regard to taxation because I deem it one of the most important questions which can be brought before the Grange for discussion and action. It comes directly home to every member of the Order.

Alpha Messer.

### County Roads vs. Present System.

Part of a paper read by Hon. Reuben Goodrich at the farmers' institute of Grand Traverse county.

The topic which is assigned me is one in which I take a deep, unbounded interest, but have felt my ardor cooled a little at times at the indifference of the farming element, which I sincerely believe are to be the principal beneficiaries in the proposed system of good roads. You all know my positive preferences as to road structure. I would first have our general highway law amended, so as to require all highway taxes paid in money, thus doing away with the voluminous road warrant, requiring a pathmaster to wear out two or three pairs of new boots a year warning out men with teams and tools to perform their allotted highway labor, when he will meet a few of them at the allotted time and place with, in many cases, poor teams, poor tools, and poor help, to kill time as best they can in trading horses and rehearsing old, worn out stories until they have each killed eight hours of time and secured the vital object of their mission, "the pathmaster's receipt," regardless of the amount of work performed. I would much prefer 25 cents in money for the construction of roads than the average day's labor as performed. Therefore, if your efforts can reach no further, you will have accomplished an important benefit to the state if you can be the instrument of procuring that amendment, as by so doing we would, in the state at large, be enabled to produce better results by assessing in the aggregate

one-half the amount of highway taxes now being assessed.

### ADOPT THE COUNTY SYSTEM.

But I would go much further. I would adopt the county system thus enabling the people to mark out and establish a few leading lines of road through the entire county, and as fast as practicable, improve those roads with the end, first, to establish easy grades, even at the expense of a slight increase of distance; next, to drain off water on or under the surface, so far as necessary, and prepare for gravelling where good gravel can be procured, and at other points use the field or granite stone suitably crushed, and begin the construction of roads substantially on the Macadam plan. With a proper system that can be established under our county road law we can construct each year a number of miles of such permanent highway and not increase the highway tax beyond what we have been collecting annually for the past 20 to 40 years.

### SNOW BLOCKADES.

In winters like the present, with our heavy snow falls, and as the country becomes more thoroughly denuded of forests, the county system will be of untold value to the locality where established, in removing the snow blockade, thus assuring the community traversed by county roads, regular and uninterrupted traffic to and from our principal business towns and stations. This would go a long way towards compensating the taxpayers for the necessary outlay of constructing county roads.

### MY HOPE.

I have now been in the active harness of road construction for 55 years, have devoted much time and money over and beyond my assessed taxes (which I have paid cheerfully) to that class of improvements. I shall not be with you many years longer to worry the good people upon this subject, but would esteem it a source of much pleasure in my declining years to realize that the county of Grand Traverse (if no other) had adopted the present county road law and made substantial progress in that good work.

### Michigan School for the Blind.

"The object of the school is to educate the blind, and afford them instruction in such useful arts and trades as may be found to be best adapted, and such as will best enable them to maintain themselves. Pupils are educated in the branches usually taught in the common schools, and also in vocal and instrumental music; in addition, mechanical trades are taught; the physical and moral training receive careful and conscientious attention.

"The advantages of the school are not limited to the wholly blind; the statute wisely includes among those to be admitted partially blind persons whose defective sight prevent them receiving instruction in the common schools.

"The present law fixes the ages between ten and twenty-one; in its discretion the board may admit persons under or over the ages named. In this connection the board is of the opinion that the law should be so amended that the minimum age should not be above five years, and, if it might be, some provision of law should permit the board to acquire possession of the child at even an earlier age. Harsh as it may seem, such early removal to the school would, it is believed, inure to the benefit of the child."

The appropriations asked for are \$22,000 for each of two years, for current expenses, and \$2,500 for plumbing.

Average number of inmates 1893, 68; 1894, 63; per capita cost to state, \$317.35.

### Michigan School for the Deaf.

This school costs about \$60,000 per year for current expenses. \$65,500 per year are asked for expenses during the next two years, and about \$23,000 for building and repairs—a total annual cost of \$77,000.

"This leaves the enormous number of 465 deaf children of school age in Michigan, who are not going to any school, and shows conclusively that the reason why this school has not grown during the past

ten years is not that deafness is decreasing faster than the population increases, but something else.

"The pity of it is that provision for these children should have been made a little at a time, during the past ten years; that many of them should now be finishing their education, instead of waiting at home for a chance to begin it; that the estimates for the next two years, now out of our hands, were made under the impression that there were not nearly so many to provide for; and that even if these estimates were yet to be made, the state, in the present hard times and with the great demands on her made by the Lapeer school and the new Northern Hospital for the Insane, could hardly make the necessary provision now.

"What we will do about it is a question demanding very serious thought. The present board of trustees will give it all that its importance demands, and if any way out of the dilemma can be found, they will find it. In the meantime those who have children here may feel that they are the favored few, and that a place for a child in this school for some time to come, will be easily lost and very hard to regain."

### Needed Improvements in Our Presidential Election-System.

The present basis for an electoral proportion by states has its merits, and need not be exchanged for a numerical poll of the whole union; but, in either case, we should sweep out, once and for all, this dangerous and superfluous electoral college, and set each state to devoting the month which follows the November vote to its own official registry of state results. We should abolish the present intervention of a house of representatives, or reduce it to the remote contingency of a tie between the candidates, trusting, as in state elections, to the rule that a popularity shall elect, once and for all. The house of representatives, and the congress, to revise results and formally announce the choice, should be the incoming and newly chosen, and not the outgoing, one; and all concurring opportunity for mischief between a congress and an administration already delegated to retirement—all such opportunity as embarrassed and paralyzed the country so greatly in 1860 if not in 1876—should be reduced to a minimum. With a month gained by the abolition of electoral colleges, it would not be difficult for a newly chosen congress to enter upon its functions at New Year's; and for the new executive in alternate congresses to be installed then or soon after, following the coming example of the states. An adjournment of congress, long enough to give a new president time to make up his administration and formulate a policy, might perhaps be provided; but the United States is scarcely a representative government at all, if public agents elected to meet existing conditions must invariably begin their work under later ones, at the same time that they are liable to stand long in the way after they have been superseded. — James Schouler in Forum.

### Punctuation Marks.

From Shuman's "Steps Into Journalism."

Custom has determined the chief use of each. The comma indicates the point where an explanatory sentence is begun or ended; the semicolon marks the separation of two incomplete or interdependent sentences; the colon stands where the preceding sentence or part of a sentence ends with expectancy that is to be satisfied with what immediately follows; the period or full-point indicates that the sentence is closed; the parentheses that one clause of a sentence, usually explanatory, is within another sentence. \* \* \* The perplexing question of where to use the comma will be almost solved when once you realize that commas, in the majority of cases, go in pairs—though the necessary substitution of a period often obscures the fact, and that parentheses could be substituted for them.

The Grange offers the best opportunity of any institution or body in this country for the intellectual and social development of the yeoman of this great nation.



## Field and Stock.

### Cattle Feeding.

Will it pay the Farmers of Michigan to Prepare for Cattle Feeding in the future?

W. E. BOYDEN.

It may not be wholly out of place to give this matter a few moments thought. In looking over the future farm operations likely to be pursued by the farmers of Michigan, none seems to warrant an easy and speedy road to great riches. But having our farms, we must sell, rent, or work them, as there are plenty of expenses accruing from a farm in the way of taxes, repairing, fences, and farm buildings, destroying noxious weeds, etc. As a rule, good live stock, of good to prime quality, well fattened, finds ready sale at fair prices. Only last fall sheep and lambs went to the feeding pens at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound; today they are worth from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to  $5\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound at the farmers' yards. Of course it has taken time, care, and feed to make them good enough to fetch top prices. It now looks to me that many will attempt sheep feeding next winter, with what results time alone will tell. It has proved true, as a rule, that when the masses rush one way, he who sensibly goes the other comes out ahead.

GET READY NOW.

Any farmer wishing to feed cattle next winter may profitably give the matter some thought as early as now. If he raises his own feeders, they should now be put ahead into strong and thrifty condition, so they will be in proper shape to make good use of the first six to ten weeks at pasture. Perhaps, many times, feeders can be bought cheaper than they can be grown, but many times it is difficult to buy just the right sort. And surely no farmer in Michigan should think of growing other than those that will, when fed, make prime to extra. We see many farmers continue right along growing wheat, which has come down in price at least 600 per cent since war time prices. Then wheat was in active demand at \$3 to \$3.25 a bushel, now about fifty cents is top price. Has there been any such come down in the price of cattle? The American people have, as a rule, a strong liking for beef as one of the staple articles of food. There has not been a day since 1892 that prime to extra steers would not fetch  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to 7 cents on foot in Chicago. Do not these prices offer at least as much show of profit as does 50 cent wheat, seven dollar hay, ten cent wool and other like farm products? Any farmer feeding up all coarse grain and fodder must be robbing his farm considerably less than does the farmer who rakes over his barn yard that he may get a few more pounds of straw to sell. The time is coming when one must render an account for this wholesale robbing of his soil.

FERTILITY.

This question of keeping up the fertility of our soil is one that we must all give heed to. Of course there are plenty of commercial fertilizers that the manufacturers and dealers are only too glad to exchange for the farmer's cash, but from some experiments tried I would say go slow on commercial fertilizers until you are sure by actual tests on your own soil that they will pay. Then here comes in a point in favor of cattle feeding, that of manure. For droppings of cattle grain fed are rich in plant food, and the sooner drawn to the field after being made, the better. It seems to me that from present indications good beef cattle will be wanted at such prices that properly bred, grown and fed will return to the farmers of Michigan a fair profit over cost of production. From this then I will answer the question in the affirmative.

Buy or breed good specimens of any of our improved beef breeds, keep them going ever in the direction of prime finished cattle and I feel sure that you will have found a profitable home market for your hay and coarse grain. If unable to decide what breed to select, look about and see what other good feeders are using. If I mistake not, you will find a breed called Short Horn that have, to say the least, done well. Try them.

Delhi Mills.

### How I Market My Wool.

J. H. TAFT.

After several years experience in washing my grade Merinos, I concluded it was an inhuman practice, for two reasons: First, The injury to the sheep in the method of washing, as very few men handle sheep at this time as they would want to be handled themselves; Second, the idea of expecting the sheep to carry their winter clothing, their fleece, until the river or washing water becomes warm enough to wash in without great shock to man as well as animal, which is the last of May or first of June before washed sheep shearing is generally done.

The sheep get very thin in flesh, especially a ewe that is raising a lamb, panting and lolling from the effects of the hot sun during the day and the heavy coat of

wool; nature comes to their relief in a measure, by the wool shedding off from their legs and a portion of the bellies generally. After shearing, the hot June sun is almost as much of a torture on their newly shorn backs as it was with their heavy coats on, as it often scorches the skin so that you will notice it peel. The flies are soon on hand, to be followed by drouth and short pasture, so that really our brook washed sheep do not have any peace until fall, and still we wonder why our sheep do not keep fat.

I DO NOT WASH SHEEP.

With an improved flock of sheep I have improved my method of handling my wool to the benefit of the sheep as well as myself and my pocket book. Since breeding Hampshires I have discarded washing before shearing, the same as I have threshing beans with a flail,—it is a way of the past. The first clip of unwashed wool I sold at home, standing a discount on account of its being unwashed, the buyer acknowledging that the unwashed Hampshire wool would cleanse away less than some washed grade Merino wool in the same lot. However, I sold it and delivered it 15 miles away. It was wool, not live stock, but it shrank 7 pounds on less than 1000 pounds according to the scales at the other end of the 15 miles, and we thought we weighed it very closely at home. I said then that I would not encourage such outrageous practices or quit raising wool and I have shipped my wool since. It has been carted many a 15 miles by rail and some of my clips have weighed 2500 pounds and weighed over the same scales here and I have the first shipment to shrink 7 pounds.

SHIPPING.

I shear during a warm spell in April before I turn on grass, sack my wool as fast as shorn, and ship immediately to Boston, then it is out of my way and it is where a dozen buyers can see it to one at home; and before you have your washed wool shorn I have the returns for my wool. Some may say why not ship to Chicago? I have always shipped to Boston, while some have tried the Chicago wool commission firms to their sorrow.

I ship to Hecht, Liebman & Co., who have given me good satisfaction. I also have shipped for my brother breeders for several years, who have been well pleased with their returns.

Do not wash your sheep, brother farmers; shear early and send your wool to some good commission firm and you as well as the sheep will be better pleased.

Mendon.

### Sacaline.

This new forage plant which is being widely advertised the present season is a native of the island of Saghalin off the east coast of Siberia. It has not yet been grown in field culture in this country, and only to a limited extent abroad, so that there is little basis on which to judge of its merits for feeding purposes. It has been known heretofore chiefly as an ornamental plant in parks and gardens, and is totally different in character from all our grasses and clovers. It is said that stock of all kinds eat the leaves readily, but whether the stems also prove palatable, and whether the plant can be profitably made into hay we do not yet know. Sacaline is propagated both by seeds and by underground shoots. Although native of a moist climate, and apparently thriving best in somewhat damp situations, it seems, nevertheless, well adapted to withstand dry weather. At the Iowa Experiment Station it has been grown in a small way as an ornamental plant for the past eleven years and has passed through severe drouths without injury. At this station it has been grown but one year and further trial is needed to determine its value here. A caution should be given to those intending planting it as to its danger of becoming a weed; for like the Johnson grass and quack grass its roots when once established may prove difficult to eradicate.—Michigan Experiment Station.

### A Million Dollars.

For Forestry in New York.

The report of the New York assembly committee of 1894 on public lands and forestry, on the investigation of Adirondack land and tax titles, under resolution of the last assembly, will be presented to the legislature to-night.

The committee spent considerable time in the Adirondack region in order to obtain information as to the effect of the cutting of the timber on state lands, and the denudation of lands still in private ownership. The committee found a unanimity of sentiment among all having an acquaintance with the great Adirondack watershed as to the importance of the preservation of the forests.

The state owns but a small portion of the lands within the boundaries of the Adirondack park, and the committee suggests that the state purchase more lands so as to make its holdings as compact as possible. At least \$1,000,000 should be immediately expended in enlarging the state's holdings.

The report discusses at length the various

statutory provisions, and the errors, technical or otherwise, which have given rise to legislation, and defeated the state's title to lands in the Adirondack park. The committee calls attention to the great extent of litigation arising out of the erroneous assessing of lands, and suggests that taxes on lands should be assessed against the land itself, and not against the supposed owner. *Farmers' Union League Advocate.*

### Wide Tires for Wagons.

We sent to a number of farmers a few questions relative to the value and use of wide tires on farm wagons. We print below the questions and the answers received. We also print the law referred to in the questions.

All persons who shall use only lumber wagons on the public highways of this state with rims not less than three inches in width, for hauling loads not exceeding 800 pounds in weight \* \* \* shall receive a rebate of one-fourth of their assessed highway tax in each year: *Provided, however, such rebate shall not exceed in any one year three days road tax to any one person.*—Howell, 1859.

The questions were: Would the universal use of wide tired wagons for heavy loads greatly improve our highways and lessen the cost of maintaining them? If so, what means would you suggest for inducing the people to use wide tires? Do the farmers in your vicinity take advantage of the law allowing a partial rebate of highway tax to users of wide tires?

The following are the replies received:

1. Emphatically yes. 2. Simply to keep before the users of wagons the advantages of wide vs. narrow tires. All new wagons around here have wide tires and many old ones are being changed to wide instead of narrow ones. 3. Yes, they all appreciate the law and take advantage as it provides.

GEO. M. BUCKNELL.

Centerville.

I have no doubt the general use of wide tires would be beneficial to our highways, but as a wagon with broad tires runs considerably harder than the narrow one on our common dirt roads, I don't think it possible to induce the people generally to use them. In regard to the rebate of highway tax to users of wide tire, I don't think there are any in this locality who take advantage of it. There are very few wide tires used here, except on farm trucks, and they are seldom used on the road.

H. BRADSHAW.

North Branch.

I think that our roads would be better if wide tired wagons were used in hauling heavy loads. I think if every farmer could get one-fourth off on road work there would be more wide tires used; because they are much better on the farm. A number of years ago we had a law that gave one-fourth off on road labor, but it did not last long. Now we work full time. There is no rebate in my township at present on highway tax. A great many farmers use wide tires. I am a farmer and have used wide tires for about eight years on my farm and to haul my produce to market. I hardly know what course to pursue to induce people to use them more on the road.

C. M. FULLER.

Bancraft.

The law is still in force. Brother Fuller.—Ed.

In my opinion the use of wide tired wagons on highways for heavy loads would reduce the expenses one-half in keeping them, the highways, in repair. The farmers do not get any rebate in highway taxes on account of the use of wide tired wagons because in certain seasons of the year it is not practicable to use them for heavy loads, as the wagon itself, with the mud its tires would accumulate would be a load. That has been my experience; therefore we can not make the required affidavit to entitle us to any rebate in our highway tax. The law as it now stands is not operative, and I would advise its repeal. All farmers in our vicinity understand the value of wide tires on their farms and highways and are rapidly adopting their use when practicable, and that is at all times when not muddy, and a premium in the shape of rebate on highway tax in my opinion is not necessary.

REUBEN STRAIT.

Stony Point.

There is no doubt but the use of wide tired wagons on the roads would greatly improve their condition, but the universal ignorance of the overseers of the highways has more to do with the present condition of the roads than the narrow tired wagons that are in use. If the road bed is put in perfect condition, a narrow tire can be used as well as a wide one. In the first place every road bed should be thoroughly drained by using tile of sufficient size to carry off the water and leave the road hard and dry. A great many think that by filling up a mud hole with dirt they are doing a good job in repairing the road, when the fact is they are only patching it up without removing the cause. I have in mind a piece of road about twenty rods long that was almost impassable except in the winter when it

was frozen. For five years the dirt was drawn on that piece of road on wagons, to be carried out on wagon wheels. A ditch was dug which drained it so there was no water standing on the sides of the road, and it is now as good as any dirt road. I think the roads could be drained almost as cheaply as for the people to universally use the wide tired wagons, as the majority of farmers would have to purchase new wagons or wheels with wide tires. I never heard of anyone getting a rebate of highway tax for the use of the wide tires.

JOHN PASSMORE.

Flushing.

1. I took your letter to the Grange and we had a good discussion on wide and narrow tired wagons. We took a vote and it was decided by a good majority that the universal use of wide tired wagons would greatly improve our highways. 2. I don't know what means to suggest for inducing the people to use them. 3. No.

F. P. DEAN.

Brighton.

Some ten years ago a law was passed giving a reduction in highway tax where only a four-inch tire was used or nothing less than four-inch. Very few wagons of this width of tire were bought in this community. 2, 2½, 3, and 3½ are quite common, but none are liked in a muddy time. The men who do the most teaming—who are on the road no matter what its condition is, nearly all use narrow tires. They claim that in a muddy time the narrow tire draws the easiest. The team that follows a narrow tire in muddy, or freezing and thawing time has a hard time of it. Judging by the past I have no faith in producing good roads by the enactment of any law on the subject of wide tires. One difficulty with our present road law is that it gives too much discretion in regard to the amount of the assessed valuation for a day's work. The aggregate valuation has shrunk nearly one-third and with it the highway labor has shrunk one-third. I claim that the interests of the city, village, and country are mutual. Every city and village has roads that are feeders. I believe justice demands that they should be taxed to help keep them in repair. Over one-third of the assessed valuation of Washtenaw county is in the corporate limits of its cities and villages, and what is true of Washtenaw is more or less true of every other county in the state, and they pay nothing towards the support of our road except where they have adopted the county system.

E. A. NORDMAN.

I have brought the question up at the Grange meetings, but could not get any suggestions as to what means to induce the people to use the wide tires. There has never been any advantage taken of rebate of highway tax. There are about two-thirds of the people in this vicinity that use wide tired wagons, and I know that if some means could be devised so that all would use them, the cost of keeping up our highways would be much less. But there ought to be some law to compel the toll roads to give a rebate on toll. We have toll roads reaching out from the city of Grand Rapids on every side for eight or ten miles, and no reduction is made between narrow or wide tired wagons. I think if there was more of a rebate made from our highway tax to users of wide tired wagons that it might be more of an inducement to take advantage of the law and still get about as much work done. If people would only take an interest in the improvement of our highways. I would like to hear through the VISITOR the minds of others on this subject, as I am an advocate of good roads.

Cascade

M. H. FOSTER.

Yes, in some of the districts. In the district in which I live, we have not taken advantage of the law, for the very good reason that we don't have the 4-inch tire as required by the law, as we understand that 4-inch is what the law says. If 4-inch is law, I would suggest that 3-inch is wide enough. Almost all farmers already own wagons that have from 3 to 3½ inch tires. I know of no 4-inch tire wagon. I noticed today where I drew clay and gravel on the highway in front of my house, that a buggy with two persons in it cut deeper than a 3 1-4-inch tire did with a good two horse load of manure. Some years ago I took all my road fences away and cleaned up the fence rows. I plow out, always, filling up the unsightly ditches and keeping down all noxious weeds. I keep the center of the road a little full so as to turn the water from the roadbed. I also harrow much so as to fill up all of the low places. I allow no mudholes along my farm. My neighbors give me the credit of having the best roads to be found anywhere in the county. I plow, plant, sow up to the very wagon rut, so as to keep level and clean. Seed down to clover and mow up to the very rut. I let the public drive into the crop if they wish to. I say nothing. People appreciate the good road and so don't destroy my crops. DAVID HANDSHAW.

Mendon.

(Continued to page 5.)



**WOMAN'S WORK.**

**Songs of Seven.**

*Seven Times Seven—Longing For Home.*  
 A song of a boat:  
 There was once a boat on a billow:  
 Lightly she rocked to her port remote.  
 And the foam was white in her wake like snow,  
 And her frail mast bowed when the breeze would blow,  
 And bent like a wand of willow.  
 I shaded mine eyes one day when a boat  
 Went courtesying over the billow:  
 I marked her course till a dancing mote  
 She faded out on the moonlit foam,  
 And I stayed behind in the dear loved home:  
 And my thoughts all day were about the boat  
 And my dreams upon the pillow.  
 I pray you hear my song of a boat,  
 For it is but short:  
 My boat, you shall find none fairer afloat,  
 In river or port.  
 Long I looked out for the lad she bore,  
 On the open, desolate sea,  
 And I think he sailed to the heavenly shore,  
 For he came not back to me—  
 Ah me!  
 A song of a nest:  
 There was once a nest in a hollow:  
 Down in the mosses and knot grass pressed,  
 Soft and warm and full to the brim,  
 Vetches leaned over it purple and dim,  
 With buttercup buds to follow.  
 I pray you hear my song of a nest,  
 For it is not long:  
 You shall never light in a summer's quest  
 The bushes among the trees,  
 Shall never light on a prouder sitter,  
 A fairer nestful, nor ever know  
 A softer sound than their tender twitter,  
 That wind-like did come and go.  
 I had a nestful once of my own,  
 Ah happy, happy I!  
 Right dearly I loved them, but when they were grown,  
 They spread out their wings to fly—  
 O, one after one they flew away.  
 Far up to the heavenly blue,  
 To the better country, the upper day,  
 And I wish I was going too.  
 I pray you what is a nest to me,  
 My empty nest!  
 And what is the shore where I stood to see  
 My boat sail down to the west?  
 Can I call that home where I anchor yet,  
 Though my good man has sailed?  
 Can I call that home where my nest was set,  
 Now all its hope hath failed?  
 Nay, but the port where my sailor went,  
 And the land where my nestlings be:  
 There is the home where my thoughts are sent,  
 The only home for me—  
 Ah me!  
 —JEAN INGELOW.

**Parental Influence.**

It was a beautiful, bright little lad who came into the pleasant sitting room of a farm home. He had just arrived at the dignity of knee trousers, blouse waist, broad collar and tie. We were busy at our writing and he had evidently been admonished not to disturb the lady. He drew his little chair to the stove, put his feet on the fender, and began chewing something. We carefully watched him and saw him take an old tin tobacco box from one of the little pockets, take out something and put it in his mouth, then more and more, until his little cheek stood out far beyond the natural size. Every few moments the little fellow would try to spit into the hearth of the stove. Upon close investigation we found he was chewing pieces of calico that he had cut up and put into his old tobacco box. Of course it was all plain, and when we began to quietly talk to him about it he replied with such a self satisfied air, "Well, my pa does."

The girl was perhaps ten years old. She was very busy picking out from an old Ladies' Magazine a crochet pattern. The father had just finished his morning's chores and came in for a little visit. As soon as he came into the room the little daughter laid down her work, and with such a smiling, gracious manner she arose and placed a chair at the fireside for her father. "Thank you, daughter," and the tenderest smile, were the manly thanks he gave her. In a few moments the grandmother came into the room. Then the father quickly rose up, carefully placed his mother a chair, and said, "Mother, I think this is not a good place for you; the wind blows in a little, and I feel a slight draft, and I think you had better sit on that side of the stove." "Thank you, my son." We could but think of the infectious spirit that had shown itself in the little boy who said "My pa does."

Dear friends, these beautiful little human lives that the great Master has intrusted to our care are the most sensitive of all His wonderful handiwork. How are we shaping and training them? What influence are our own lives having upon them? Do we understand our children? Do we know them, and do they know us?

Said a woman to me, "One of the saddest disappointments of my whole life came to me when I was a girl of thirteen. My mother thought I had told her a falsehood, and when I had tried my best to tell my mother I had not, and to explain the situation, she sent me away from her. I longed to run into her arms, to climb into her lap, to have her cuddle me close to her, and to explain what seemed to her to be a lie, but she sent me away from her. I ran out of the house, full of rage, disappointment, and grief. I was bewildered. I must go somewhere. Where could I go when my mother refused to see me? I had no sisters, I knew my father was away. I ran for a creek that flowed through the back fields on the farm, and on its banks I cried myself asleep, and there my father found me, feverish and sick. And from that time until my mother died I never got over it. She meant to do right, but she did not understand me. She never held my confidence after that. I loved my mother, and when

other girls of my age would go to their mothers and whisper their little secrets into mother's ears and down into her heart, how I envied them.

"Thank you, I have had a lovely visit. I have enjoyed every hour I have been here, and I shall enjoy it all over again when I get home and can tell mamma all about it." "Do you always tell your mamma all you say and do and all that is said to you and about everywhere you go?" "Certainly I do." "And don't she ever laugh at you, or tell, or anything?" "Never. No one must ever tell me anything that I cannot tell her. I love her so, and she understands and helps me, and we have such lovely talks and the sweetest secrets, mamma and I—good bye, I am in a hurry to get home and tell her about this charming visit," and the bright-faced young woman, strong and safe in mother's love and confidence, turned to the safest of all girl shelters, the heart of home, mother.  
 —MARY A. MAYO.

**Reforms in the Household.**

Part of a paper read at farmers' institute at Decatur, by Mrs. Jennie Buskirk of Paw Paw.  
 The great advance in the education of woman, the opening to her of many useful occupations and new avenues to her ambition and influence, manifest though they are in every department of thought or labor, do not or cannot change her sphere. However widely her influence may radiate, its central part is the household—the home. If bake oven and crane supplanted by gasoline stove and range; carrying water from a spring a half mile in the rear of the house versus dipping it from a tank in your kitchen; fire of logs in one corner of the room replaced by furnace or steam; benches and stools for soft easy chairs and couches,—if these things have affected health and happiness, then certainly there has been a vast reformation. If not, it is only change we have, not reform.

**WORK.**

A glance in the average household would lead one to infer that reform had reached a point beyond which nothing more could be desired. But work is work, and however splendid the surroundings, dust will accumulate, and cobwebs will gather, and moth and rust will corrupt. And if anyone has a notion that a household can be arranged on any plan by which either physical or mental labor can be dispensed with, they are laboring under a delusion. But it does not necessarily follow that to be a housekeeper one need be a drudge, or that the work may not be a delight instead of a burden, if proper efforts are made to discover the methods of doing it.

There are no specific rules that can be laid down for all to work from, for different conditions exist in different households, and new conditions must be met and mastered every day. There is a certain routine of work that must be followed in a well kept house, and no matter how great the executive ability, it cannot be done and out of the way hardly a day ahead.

**DRESS.**

By far the greater worry and weariness of life comes from what is denominated dress, and it is often the one sole animating thought of many women, habituated in them through the centuries that have come and gone by the narrow groove in which they were obliged to tread until the present decade. While the change that has been wrought by woman for woman, allowing her to take part in public life; allowing her to have plenty of brain work and stand shoulder to shoulder with man is not a household reform in itself, it certainly has reformed woman from a mere household drudge or society butterfly to a thinking, active being. Every woman should aim to make herself look as well as possible. An indifference and inattention to dress is a defect of character. But the style that is becoming today should be the style tomorrow, next week and next year if we choose to wear it. The tendency for constant change should be checked, it makes a slave of woman and paupers of many families. The idea that a woman should not appear in the same costume but once or twice without being sneered at is preposterous.

The present day society woman is a slave to fads and fancies, bound by the endless changes of fashion wrought by what is supposed to be the elite of society.

**FADS.**

If fashion dictates a style that is unbecoming to us we should surely avoid it. With good sense we can look well and not strictly copy our neighbors. And let me say right here that the best educated and most refined ladies do not go to extremes. It is those who have no thought deeper than frivolity and fashion. You will see many a genuine lady don the large sleeves and full, heavy skirts that are dictated by fashion today. But you will not see her obstruct the passageway of other people by putting two or three yards into one sleeve or wear out all her strength in car-

rying a skirt five or six yards in width. She may dress her hair in the approved teapot handle style, but she will not make the handle protrude so far that one sitting on the row behind her will be in danger of losing an eye thereby.

**FUN.**

But, while we try to avoid the evil for ourselves, we must take care that we do not make a greater error in regard to our own children. We must not be afraid of a little fun in our own homes. Not only the kind of fun that we at our age enjoy, but some that they themselves want. Young people must have it. Old people need it. Innocent games in your own home are much to be preferred to the pool room and its inmates. A social dance in your own parlor in the gas light is much better than your daughters on the streets in the dark. If this was more generally practiced it would prove a wonderful antidote for dyspepsia and the blues, and would lessen the necessity of temperance cranks to a minimum.

**THE KITCHEN.**

If we are to discuss the art of cooking we must lead the way to the kitchen. The hardest part of woman's work is performed here. And, ladies, you should remember that a kitchen is not intended to be a thing of beauty, but of utility; not a woman's prison, but her workshop. Your modern kitchen, in my estimation, should be a room at least twelve by fourteen feet, with plenty of windows and doors for light and ventilation; with a good painted floor that will not fill the mop with splinters the first or second year it is laid. Have a wood and gasoline stove. No kitchen is complete without both. While your range may cook some things better for you than oil, it will not compare with oil for heating water or bricks for a sick member of the family, or preparing a cup of tea for an unexpected guest or a Sunday night lunch. Have a pump of soft and a tank of hard water in the room, a woodbox that opens into both woodbox and kitchen, a good work table so constructed as to contain flour bin, sugar drawers, salt drawers, meal chest, moulding and meat board, cooking knives and forks, tea, coffee, spices, in fact everything needed in the culinary line. Then and then only you are ready for work in a business-like manner. In no age has there been more necessity for farmers' wives to study domestic economy than in this present gold-bug reign. Everybody has a desire for good health, and it is a better inheritance than houses of gold, and this great blessing rests almost entirely with the cooking of our food. Plenty of good, wholesome food, well served, is preferable to a table loaded beyond all sense and reason with pastry knickknacks which not only ruin the stomachs of the victims and wear out one's life with work, but also increase the demand for stepmothers and undertakers as well. One of the most hopeful signs of reform in our time is the increasing demand and attention given to cooking as an art and the establishment of cooking schools and classes in many of the educational institutions.

**The Work in the Home Laundry.**

The first thing to be done after the soiled clothes are gathered together should be the careful sorting of them, writes Frances E. Lanigan in the April Ladies' Home Journal. The soiled table linen, which should always be kept by itself in either bag or basket, should be the first to receive attention. The table-cloths, napkins, carving-cloths, doilies, etc., should be examined before being placed in water. If they are stained with either fruit or coffee, briskly-boiling water poured over the stained portions will remove the stains. The linen may then be immersed in hot water and washed carefully with any one of the good laundry soaps; if the water be at all hard a little ammonia may be added. As each piece is washed it should be wrung out tightly and placed in a clean tub. When all have been washed boiling water should be poured over them. When cool enough to handle they should be wrung out of the suds into clear water, and from the clear water into another to which a little bluing has been added. Personally, I do not approve of starching table linen, but any housekeeper who desires to have her linen starched, should impress upon her maids that they shall use very thin boiled starch for the purpose. If the table linen is hung evenly upon the clothes-line, after being shaken free from creases, brought in and folded down while quite damp, and ironed quite dry on the right side, with very hot irons and a very vigorous hand, it will shine and look like new. Both cloths and napkins should be folded with the selvages together. If they are marked, they should be ironed and folded so that the monogram, initial or name may be on the outside. Carving cloths and doilies that are fringed, should have the fringe well shaken and combed out. Celluloid combs may be bought for this purpose. When laundering very finely-embroidered linen a strong suds of some good soap and lukewarm water should be made and the pieces

washed carefully. The washboard must not be used. Rinse immediately in lukewarm water and then in water slightly blued, and hang out to dry. When half dry they should be laid out smoothly on a clean cloth over a piece of double-faced white Canton flannel, and pressed on the wrong side with a hot iron.

After the table linen has received attention the bed linen may be treated in the same fashion, and then the rest of the clothes in due order.

**Recipes.**

**LESSON 3.**

*Scalloped Eggs.* Boil 6 eggs 20 minutes. Make 1 pt. of white sauce and season to taste. Moisten 1 cup of cracker crumbs in ¼ cup of melted butter. Chop fine 1 cup of any cold meat. Chop the whites of the eggs fine. Put a layer of buttered crumbs in a buttered scallop dish, then a layer of chopped whites, white sauce, meat, and yolks rubbed fine, and so on till all the material is used, having the crumbs on top. Bake till the crumbs are brown.

*Omelet.* Beat the yolks of two eggs till light-colored and thick, add 2 tbs. of milk, 1 saltsp. of salt, and ¼ saltsp. of pepper. Beat the whites till stiff and dry. Cut and fold them lightly into the yolks till just covered. Have a clean, smooth, omelet pan. When hot rub around the edges with 1 tsp. of butter on a knife; let the butter run all over the pan and when bubbling turn in the omelet and spread it evenly on the pan. Lift the pan from the hottest part of the stove and cook carefully until slightly brown underneath. Put it into the oven to dry (not brown) on top. Fold over and serve at once.

*Creamed Potatoes.* Cut raw potatoes into the desired shapes, and cook in boiling salted water till soft. Make one cup of white sauce with one cup of hot milk, 1 tbs. of butter, and one tbs. of flour. Season with salt and pepper, and parsley if desired, and pour over the potatoes. Let stand for ten minutes and serve.

*Molasses Ginger Bread.* 1 cup of molasses, 1 pt. of flour, 1½ tbs. butter, 1½ tsp. of soda dissolved in ½ cup of cold coffee, 1 tsp. of cinnamon, ½ tsp. of cloves, ½ tsp. of allspice. Mix the butter with the molasses, add the spices and coffee in which the soda has been dissolved, then the flour, and bake in sheets.—Miss Margaret M. Still.

**The Juveniles.**

**Who Likes The Rain.**

"I," said the duck—"I call it fun,  
 For I have my little red rubbers on;  
 They make a cunning, three-toed track  
 In the soft, cool mud. Quack! Quack!"  
 "I," cried the dandelion—"I!  
 My roots are thirsty, my buds are dry;  
 And she lifted her little yellow head  
 Out of her green grassy bed."  
 "I hope 'twill pour! I hope 'twill pour!"  
 Croaked the tree-toad at his gray bark door;  
 "For with a broad leaf for a roof  
 I am perfectly weather-proof."  
 Sang the brook: "I laugh at every drop,  
 And wish they never need to stop  
 Till a big river I grow to be,  
 And could find my way to the sea."  
 —Sel.

**The Force of Habit.**

There was once a horse that used to pull around a sweep which lifted dirt from the depths of the earth. He was kept at the business for nearly twenty years, until he became old, blind, and too stiff in the joints for further use. So he was turned into a pasture, or left to crop the grass without anyone to disturb or bother him.

The funny thing about the old horse was that every morning, after grazing awhile; he would start on a tramp, going round and round in a circle, just as he had been accustomed to do for so many years. He would keep it up for hours, and people often stopped to look and wonder what had got into the head of the venerable animal to make him walk around in such a solemn way when there was no earthly need of it. It was the force of habit.

The boy who forms bad or good habits in his youth, will be led by them when he becomes old, and will be miserable or happy accordingly.—Ex.

**Puzzles.**

[All readers of THE GRANGE VISITOR are invited to contribute and send solutions to this department. Address all communications to Thomas A. Millar, 50, 12th street, Detroit, Mich.]

Solutions, Mch 7. Nos. 37, 38, 39 Iron, Fire, Infant. Solver, Matron.

43—SQUARE.  
 1. To shut with violence. 2. To approve. 3. Related. 4. To repair. KENT G.  
 Elkin, N.C.

44—CROSSWORD.  
 In home, not in farm;  
 In hay, not in corn;  
 In rose, not in bud;  
 In old, not in tub;  
 In laugh, not in fun;  
 In dance, not in run  
 My whole brings me joy.  
 He's my dear little boy.  
 Kalkaska, Mich. Sissy.

45—DIAMOND.  
 1. A letter. 2. An animal. 3. A fruit. 4. A male name. 5. A letter. MATRON.  
 Canisteo, N. Y.

Solutions to this issue must not reach us later than April 16.

**THE MAIL.**

See prizes for solvers in last issue. Let all compete. Tangled Clover, conducted by E. R. Briggs, W. Bethel, Me. Send for free sample copy. Kent G., where is your department? Mrs. F. (Kalkaska) send you copy of this paper containing your puzzle, viz: 44.



# THE GRANGE VISITOR

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## OUR WORK.

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

### OUR OBJECT

is the Organization of the Farmers for their own Improvement, Financially, Socially, Mentally, Morally.

We believe that this improvement can in large measure be brought about:

1. (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.

(b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.

2. (a.) By frequent social gatherings, and the mingling together of farmers with farmers, and of farmers with people of other occupations.

(b.) By striving for a purer manhood, a nobler womanhood, and a universal brotherhood.

3. (a.) By studying and promoting the improvement of our district schools.

(b.) By patronizing and aiding the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations in their legitimate work of scientific investigation, practical experiment, and education for rural pursuits.

(c.) By maintaining and attending farmers' institutes; reading in the Reading Circle; establishing and using circulating libraries; buying more and better magazines and papers for the home.

4. (a.) By diffusing a knowledge of our civil institutions, and teaching the high duties of citizenship.

(b.) By demanding the enforcement of existing statutes, and by discussing, advocating, and trying to secure such other state and national laws as shall tend to the general justice, progress and morality.

Spring!

Read our "Real Love Story" in this issue of the VISITOR.

Be sure that all the seed you sow is good seed—oats, corn, words, deeds, thoughts, aspirations.

We are indebted to D. W. Working, pastmaster of the Colorado State Grange, for copies of "Agricultural Statistics of Colorado."

Our article this issue in the series of articles on agriculture is by Prof. S. M. Tracy, professor of agriculture in the Mississippi agricultural college. Perhaps some of our readers do not fully appreciate the value of these articles.

We want to urge upon our readers the necessity of securing more new subscribers for the VISITOR. The paper is just as much your paper as it ever was, and you have to bear the brunt of its failure if it fails. We recognize the hard times, but we know what earnest effort will do, also.

Mark Twain, in his lecture on "The Babes in the Woods," never mentions the babes. Our love story in this issue deals with love, but not the kind that makes the hearts of young people first thump, then thunder, then go on extraordinary. It is intended for you. Read, reflect, act and report.

The last report of the state commissioner of labor does honor to the farmers of Michigan by giving portraits of several of the most prominent, and of farm buildings. The frontispiece is a very good portrait of Worthy Master Geo. B. Horton, and a few pages later is a view of his splendid farm home.

The farmers are asking but very small appropriations of this legislature, compared with their numbers and wealth. And they are not asking anything selfishly. Farmers' institutes benefit the farmers by education—a form of education not attainable in any other way. Pure food is of as much interest to laboring men as to farmers. Tax reform is of moment to all citizens. So that what seems like "farmer legislation," small as it is, is really legislation for the good of all.

### WIDE TIRES.

We have a very interesting set of letters in this issue on wide tires for wagons. We hope the discussion will be kept up by our readers.

### ONE REASON.

We hear frequent complaints about the slow methods of our legislature. We think we can partly explain one reason for this delay. We have observed that this expression is not uncommon in the legislative halls: "Well, I've been trying for two weeks to get my committee together." We do not know why the chairman couldn't get his committee together, but we know that he should be able to do it, if the members tend to business.

### THOSE LETTERS.

Patrons, have you written your members of the legislature favoring the farmers' institute bill, or the pure food bill, or the tax statistician bill, or against the township unit bill? If you have not, you have neglected a plain duty. Ask any man who has been or is in the legislature, and he'll tell you that personal letters are worth more than resolutions and petitions, by far.

The next two or three weeks are the most important of the session so far as legislation for farmers is concerned. Do not, we beg of you, neglect to let your legislators know, from you personally or by letters, that you want him to vote for the measures the Grange advocates.

### GAINING FRIENDS.

In the course of the public discussion of the mortgage tax law before the House committee both sides to the controversy gave statistics to prove their assertions. At these points either Mr. Willey, who introduced the tax statistician bill, or Mr. J. T. Campbell, who is one of its strongest friends, would ask, "Are those statistics official and accurate?" In almost every case the speaker would have to reply that he could not say that they are. Then would come the rejoinder, "Well, that only shows the need of a tax statistician." Thus the discussion made many friends for the tax statistician bill. And if an amendment is made to it, as is likely to be the case, providing that the office shall be established for two or four years, the chances for the passage of the bill in the House are very bright, indeed. Granges should not delay in sending in their petitions favorable to this bill.

### TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

The measure providing an appropriation for travelling libraries is now a law. These libraries will not be ready for use until June or July, and in the meantime the plan will be more fully explained in our columns.

Mrs. Spencer, the state librarian, deserves great praise for her intelligent conception of the value of this plan in New York state, for urging its introduction into Michigan, and for her persistent advocacy of it in the legislature. Mrs. Spencer wishes us to say that these libraries will not pander to a taste for trashy reading, and that although there will be a good sprinkling of fiction, it will be of a standard character. These travelling libraries will be of the utmost value to Granges which cannot afford to purchase libraries, and even to those which already have good libraries. The Grange has reason to congratulate Mrs. Spencer.

### IN DEFENSE OF THE LEGISLATURE.

In conversation, the other day, with a prominent member of the legislature, the gentleman gave vent to his pent up feelings something in this wise: "I have been hoping that some paper would come to the rescue of the legislature and defend the members from a great deal of unjust criticism that is heaped upon them. Take the matter of appropriations. We are charged with being extravagant and wasteful, yet few people know the pressure that is brought to bear for high appropriations. Almost all of the state institutions are asking for larger sums than two years ago, and all insist that the amounts named are absolutely necessary. Prominent citizens from the locality of the institution come to us and say: 'Yes, we know it is hard times, but cut somewhere else; don't touch us, we need all we ask for.' Another strange thing is that the committees which visit these institutions almost invariably become the ardent attorneys of the institution, so far as appropriations are concerned.

"I know that our ways and means committee feel that the depression makes it necessary to economize in public expenditures, just as the people have to economize in private expenses. But you see how hard it is for us to do it."

And the legislator, much relieved by his talk, hurried to committee to wrestle with appropriations *ad infinitum*. We believe that what he said is true, and so far as our observation goes, we agree with all he said.

### PLATFORM AND BENCH.

Previous to the recent election, the attitude of candidates for justice of the Michigan supreme court with relation to the silver question was discussed pro and con. One prominent political paper, basing its remarks upon the utterance of a leading politician, asserted that a man's beliefs with regard to silver have nothing whatever to do with his fitness for the supreme justiceship. Very good! Truly spoken! But suppose we follow the logic a little further and ask some questions of the astute political leader, on this wise: Why should a governor or any other elective state officer be chosen because he thinks he has well digested views as to a "foreign policy?" Why should a sheriff or any other county officer be selected because he has succeeded in determining the width of the gulf that separates the respective policies of the Democratic and Republican parties concerning the Nicaragua canal, as expressed in the platform of 1892? Why should it be demanded of a candidate for town clerk that he have certain definite views as to the tariff?

The only possible answer to these queries is that all these methods are necessary to maintain party organization. Not good government, in town, county, and state, except incidentally, but party organization, explains why national platforms are dragged into local elections. Such procedure can be defended on no other ground.

We wonder if the politician and his printed mouthpiece care to follow to its logical end the statement that a man's views on the silver question do not enter into his qualifications for justice of the supreme court.

### MODERN SCIENTIFIC ETIQUETTE.

Modern science has exerted almost a revolutionary influence in practical affairs, in education, in morals. But there is one realm into which it has not as yet been suffered to intrude—this is the world of etiquette. Dame Fashion still dictates to her subjects balloon sleeves and coats with trains, and she is obeyed graciously as in the days before electricity and the telephone.

But if the Dame wants to be "up to date," *fin de siècle*, and really honest, withal, she should issue an official note to the heads of her bureaus, instructing them in the duties of hostess and guest. The meat of such a document would come to about this: "You will not say 'please pass the butter,' but 'kindly pass the oleo.' You will not offer a guest pepper, but will say, 'wont you have some rice flour, rice hulls, roasted cocoanut shells, cayenne pepper, and a little pepper?' Your Boston baked beans you will not season with vinegar, but with water and acetic acid. The hostess will not offer the second cup of coffee, but will remark that possibly a trifle more of mixture of chicory, pea shells, rye, and clay coffee berries, might be acceptable. Your husband will not expect the 'jelly that mother made', but will refrain from sarcastic remarks when mouldy starch paste and salicylic acid is placed before him. If your mustard is two-thirds wheat flour you must not mind. You may wish to say that these beautiful canned peaches are—not Crawfords exactly—but sliced turnips soaked and flavored. It will be especially appetizing if you suggest that possibly "these canned pears were the remnants of a Chicago commission house!"

Yes, if etiquette wants to be real modern, the issuance of such instructions is imperative.

### A Real Love Story.

In Two Parts.

PART I.

The undersigned have felt a little modest about making appeals to the subscribers of THE VISITOR, and for this reason

have kept out of print in a hope that the excellent suggestions of Worthy Master Horton, Editor Butterfield, and especially of Sister Mary A. Mayo would be much more effective than anything we might say. The trouble with all such appeals is that the few only are influenced to act, while the many pass them by as of no particular importance. As we explained upon assuming the business management in January last, the VISITOR has not been paying expenses. Its circulation has fallen off a great deal in recent years, and this cuts off its advertising patronage. Thus it is severely crippled in its only means of existence. No newspaper, so full of reading and in which there is so little plate matter, can be self-sustaining on our present number of subscribers, but double that circulation, with the added advertising this would bring, and you have a paper that ought to clear at least \$1,000 every year. Inasmuch, then, as the VISITOR is your paper, brother and sister Patrons, are we asking too much when we urge you (and by "you" we mean every subscriber to the VISITOR) to do a little hustling in behalf of your paper. How can you do this? The easiest thing in the world. Tell your good, substantial, broad-gauge friend, be he farmer, mechanic, merchant or professional man or woman, yes, or even politician, that the VISITOR is the organ of an intelligent order which is unselfishly working for the best interests of the toiling masses, and that it is their duty to lend a little support to so good an enterprise and to prevent its failure. You will be surprised at the number of subscribers you can get in a single day.

In union there is strength, and the very fact of an organization of farmers has done a great deal to influence legislation for the general good. Why should not every man who claims to be a friend of the farmer, and particularly the farmers themselves, be anxious to cast in so small a mite as fifty cents for the cause, especially when they get a paper worth a dollar in return. Try a personal canvass. Another plan is for every Grange to get up some kind of an entertainment, the proceeds of which shall go toward putting the VISITOR into the hands of those most likely, after receiving it a year gratis, to become permanent subscribers. Perhaps you can think up some better plan of encouraging subscriptions, but remember this, if you make any great success of this movement *you must all work together*. There is no better time to canvass for the VISITOR than at present. The state legislature is in session and important matters affecting the interests of farmers are being disposed of every day. The views of the editor, who resides at Lansing and has an especial care for legislation, will be worth in the next few weeks more than a year's subscription. One thing further. In your zeal for the paper do not plunge a dagger into it by asking us to furnish it for less than fifty cents a year when, as we have stated, it is not on a paying basis at present at that price. May we not expect *you* to send at least *one new subscriber* this month? If you can do more it will be work done in a grand cause.

Yours faithfully,

PERRY & McGRATH,  
Business Managers.

PART II.

If you "love" the Grange let your works be reported to the VISITOR this month. Let it be known as the "April contest" and in our first May number we will give a report of the contest with the names of all contestants and number of names sent in by each. State, when remitting, that your names are to count in the "April contest." What is your pay? Only "Love," love for the cause. Is not that sufficient? Are you all ready? Go! P. & M.

THE END.

### Institutes.

The bill before the legislature, known as the Farmers' Institute Bill, appropriating annually \$10,000 for the purpose of defraying expenses of Farmers' Institutes, is one that ought to pass. The *Courier* believes thoroughly in education, and these institutes are educators, and well worth all they cost.

The only safety for a nation, founded as this one is, on the voice of the people, is in the enlightenment of the people. So every dollar expended for the purpose, is a stone laid in the foundation of the republic. By all means pass the Farmers' Institute Bill. —*Ann Arbor Courier*.



**Binder Twine.**

Hold your orders for the Grange contract.

Many inquiries are made relative to state contract for binder twine. In answer we are warranted in saying that arrangements are nearly completed for supplying the Patrons of the state with sisal standard and manilla twine. Notice with full details will now very soon be given out to all subordinate Grange secretaries. The deal last year was so universally satisfactory to our members that a great increase of business is confidently expected for this year. Granges can safely prepare to concentrate orders from the members, and thus be prepared to forward to contract firm promptly when the time comes. We hope all Granges will stand by the contract made, for we want the credit and benefit of all the trade we can give to aid us in future deals.

**OTHER CONTRACTS.**

Copy for a trade circular, in which will be enumerated the conditions of deals with several firms, and different lines of goods are now being prepared, and as soon as the new list of Grange secretaries is complete will be nearly ready for distribution.

GEO. B. HORTON.

**The Grange and Legislation.**

The earnest efforts of the Grange in Michigan to influence legislation now pending along specific lines, has caused people to know that farmers are awakening to the necessities of asking for what they want, and of using the accepted methods of the day in working to have such wishes granted.

The Grange is truly on deck at Lansing, and through the resolutions and petitions from the subordinate Granges of the state, voicing the sentiment of the members of the order relative to various measures, and the receipt of which is daily noticed by the House and Senate, give all the members of those bodies to understand that the Grange is a live reality in Michigan, and that the thousands of enterprising and thinking farmers who gather at Grange meetings and discuss the various questions of state are thereby becoming not only thinkers but actors as well. All those farmers who are looking passively on cannot easily fail to see their duty. Organization is today an absolute necessity, and the accepted and adopted organization should have all the elements and powers of systematic concentration of forces, with provisions for ample means to not only declare, but to execute. Let me ask the passive farmer, who has thus far stood aloof from organization what the result would be on legislative matters at this time if all farmers, or even a good majority thereof were active workers in the Grange, which is the only farmers' organization that has formulated a positive plan through which to influence legislation. All know that such united voice, for or against, would be as law, and if the Grange shall fail now, in any of the measures it seeks to influence, it will be because of more farmers not being members, so that from greater numbers their votes at the polls would carry a greater power for the defeat or victory of candidates on different party tickets. It is true that the Grange forms a good fair representation of the farmers of the state, and the conclusions of the organization are in line with nearly all farmers' ideas, but it is members within its fold that count after all. Brother farmer, do not longer neglect this greatest of all your public duties. Come into the Grange and be counted, assist with your voice, and the small contributions of money so essential in keeping in executive motion that power which will see that the farmers' rights are not sacrificed in the selfish scramble of other interests for advantage.

Keep an eye on your representative at Lansing.

Many matters of interest to farmers and especially the measures selected by the executive committee of the State Grange have progressed to that point where good work and votes will count for success. If your representative in the House or Senate does not represent us in these matters he deserves to be marked and well remembered if he asks for your votes in future years. That you may know where they stand, keep a record of their votes.

**WRITE PERSONAL LETTERS.**

Our petitions have gone in by the hundreds, but if our members would write letters direct to their representatives in the House and Senate it would encourage them to greater activity to secure such results as we desire: To institute a system of tax reform by the appointment of a tax statistician; To protect the producers of honest food products and the entire consuming population of our state against the frauds and deceptions of the unscrupulous manufacturers of bogus articles, by strengthening our food laws; To encourage and inculcate a higher order of agricultural edu-

cation among our farmers by providing for a greater number of farmers' institutes; are each and all worthy of our best support. Let us unitedly and tenaciously work for and insist that each shall become law.

Write personal letters, so that your representative may surely know where you stand and then carefully watch his action and votes.

GEO. B. HORTON.

**Organize and Support a Pomona Grange.**

The order of Patrons of Husbandry was founded for a grand purpose and while at the time of its first inception its promoters considered it mostly from the standpoint of an optional aid to general improvement and progress along agricultural lines, conditions have so changed that at the present time organization such as the Grange provides is no longer a question of privilege, but an actual necessity; and to aid in such organization is obligatory upon every farmer of our country. This fact greatly intensifies the importance of the questions before us. Individual effort is now by force of circumstances merged into associated effort in all branches of business and work, and no man can do that which is best for his profession or class, and incidentally himself and family, by staying outside of organization and insisting in "padding his own canoe." The Grange stands today as the true and the tried farmer's organization, and will in the future more than in the past serve to ameliorate and remove unfavorable and oppressive conditions, and to assist in gaining those things which are of general benefit to agriculture and the farmer. To make it serve these purposes best we must plan and act wisely. We must observe the rules that govern great bodies successfully, i. e., discipline, system, and business application. The founders of the Grange started to build upon the democratic foundation, the people, and organized the subordinate Grange. The subordinate Granges united and formed the State Grange, and the State Granges united and formed the National Grange. When the Order had settled down to actual work it was demonstrated that an important link had been left out of the chain of Granges. State Granges could meet but once each year, and but few of the members in a great state could attend. A county organization seemed desirable and essential. The National Grange wisely considered the matter, and provided for the county or Pomona Grange. This branch of the order is now of the greatest importance to the growth and preservation of the Order. No county can expect to do good, progressive work without an active, well-attended county Grange. In counties where such organizations exist they should be strengthened by more energetic efforts in their behalf on the part of all the Patrons of the county, and in counties where none exists no time should be lost in preparing to organize one. A Pomona Grange is organized upon the application of four subordinate Granges of the county. Every county that has the required four subordinate Granges can apply at any time, and they fall far short of availing themselves of the opportunities offered by the Order if they do not. In counties where less than four subordinate Granges exist it should be the determined work of the members to secure that number, and apply for a charter at once. There is no such potent power as the Pomona Grange when well managed, in encouraging and supporting the subordinate Granges of the county and in popularizing and creating a sentiment favorable to the Order among farmers in general. It brings together the best and most progressive Grange workers from the different parts of the county and the extended acquaintance and conference that follows stimulates the weak and encourages the strong. Methods of Grange procedure are exchanged, and thereby new and progressive plans are suggested. The county Grange if true to its mission will have a paternal care for all the subordinate Granges of the county, and whenever one seems to languish, special effort should be made to encourage and build it up. An active and strong Pomona Grange in every county should be one of the results of this year's work.

GEO. B. HORTON.

**Beneath the Dome.**

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

The mortgage tax law was discussed in the House week before last. Brothers Robert Hewitt, of Lansing, and C. C. McDermid, of Calhoun county, were the chief defenders of the present law. When the question came to a vote in the House committee of the whole, the bill to repeal the existing law was defeated, but by such a narrow margin that the question may be brought up again.

The Redfern pure food bill has been cut in two—one part will be known as the pure food bill, the other as the dairy and food

commissioner bill. The former provides for certain amendments to the existing laws, especially in regard to cheese and the coloring of butter. The latter bill gives the commissioner more money and more power to carry out the laws. These bills will be pushed from now on.

Senator Eaton's bill to give local option to townships, cities and villages, was defeated in the senate. The temperance sentiment beat it.

Mr. Aplin's liquor bill, known as the bill for a uniform \$400 license, is the special order for the afternoon of April 11. The bill is one evidently dictated by the liquor interests. Several of its provisions were beaten in the session of two years ago, and will be in this session if we mistake not. The existing law specifies that sureties on liquor bonds must reside in the township, city, or village; may appear on but one bond, and must not be engaged in the liquor business. The Aplin bill allows sureties to be secured within the county, and omits the other two requirements. Also, instead of closing on all election days and holidays, they would be required to close on election days only until the polls close, and only on Christmas and Thanksgiving days. There are various other changes, all of which seem to be in the interest of the liquor men. Are we ready to grant any concessions to the saloon element?

The House has passed a resolution to offer a constitutional amendment to the people, making the pay of legislators \$750 per year, and 5 cents a mile, with \$5 per day for extra sessions of not over 20 days. The State Grange has favored the proposition, at \$500 per year, but we fear the extra \$250 will not make votes for it, if it comes to the people. We are inclined to think that the principle of the measure may be desirable to incorporate into the constitution. There will be time for discussion later.

Mr. Ferguson has a bill to tax wholesale cigarette dealers \$200 and retail dealers \$100. It prohibits the sale of deleterious substances in cigarettes, of pictures and lithographs in the wrappers, and the sale to minors under 16 years of age.

**Wide Tires for Wagons.**

(Continued from page 2.)

I think the universal use of wide tired wagons would improve our highways considerably. I believe there would be fewer deep holes and the roads would be a great deal smoother. As to suggesting any means to induce people to use the wide tires, I don't know as I can. It would seem that some of our highways should be better drained. Do not know of any asking for the rebate of highway tax for using wide tired wagons.

U. S. BARNABY.

North Star.

I have never known an instance of a farmer asking a rebate on tax because of using wide tires. The law has generally been regarded as a dead letter so far as farmers are concerned. Exclusive use of wide tires on the roads would not have so great a tendency to create deep ruts in muddy seasons, but I cannot conceive how their use could greatly improve our highways. As to inducing people to use these wide tires, I know neither means or object. Wide tires are being used every day, they are for sale everywhere in the market with narrow tires. Most farmers have used them and buy which they prefer. I keep a wide tired wagon for farm use and a narrow tire for the roads. Many others do the same. Narrow tires are generally preferred for road use. Perhaps half the wagons in use are wide tired wagons.

T. A. JOHNSON.

Atma.

In regard to the wide tired wagon I have used one on the farm for twenty-two years. Fourteen years ago I had all my lumber wagons made over into four inch tires and have used them ever since. I consider them a great benefit to both farm and road. I can draw fully one-third more on a wide tire than on a narrow tire, and it is less work for the team. If all farmers would use the wide tire wagon it would not cost one-quarter what it does now to keep the roads in repair. I would exempt the four-inch tire from one-half of the road tax, the six-inch tire from all road tax. I believe there ought to be a law passed to compel people to use the wide tired wagon. Yes, most men here take advantage of the partial rebate of highway tax to users of wide tired wagons.

S. E. WOODWORTH.

Battle Creek.

I am certain that the use of the wide tire would greatly improve our highways and lessen the cost of keeping them in repair. I favor the plan of putting a discriminating tax on the narrow tire, and believe when fairly understood would meet with general favor. I think many of the farmers take advantage of the law allowing

one-fourth rebate. More good would have resulted I think, if the rebate had been one-half or even more. The justice of this position I claim is sustained by the fact that those who use the wide tire benefit the roads, hence should shoulder the burden of keeping up repairs. W. M. GODSMARK.

Beafield.

**State Association of Farmers Clubs.**

The convention of delegates from the various farmer's clubs met in the Senate Chamber, Lansing, on February 1st. The convention was called to order by A. C. Bird, of the Highland and Hartland Club, at 3 p. m. Upon motion A. C. Bird was elected temporary chairman, and L. H. Ives, of the Ingham county Club, temporary secretary. After considerable discussion it was unanimously voted to proceed to the organization of a State Association.

Upon motion the chairman appointed a committee on constitution and by-laws, consisting of Wm. Ball, Lymington; A. N. Kimmis, Oakland; E. L. Lockwood, Monroe; and C. E. Clark, Genesee; and a committee on permanent organization and order of business consisting of A. Templeton, Ingham; B. F. Peckham, Jackson; and F. M. Shepard, Shiawassee.

It was voted that members of farmers clubs present belonging to clubs not otherwise represented be allowed to represent their respective clubs.

The convention then had the pleasure of listening to speeches by Pres. Gorton, Profs. Kedzie and Smith, and Sec'y. Butterfield of the Agricultural College, Robt. Gibbons, of the Farmer, and others.

The convention having been invited to visit the college in a body and see the dairy school in operation unanimously voted to devote the forenoon of February 2d to this visit.

The committee on permanent organizations then reported, recommending that the temporary officers be made permanent and providing an order of business. Report adopted.

**EVENING SESSION.**

Address of Welcome—Mayor A. O. Bement; Response, B. F. Peckham.

The committee on constitution and by-laws not being ready to report, an hour was given to the discussion of the different methods of work of the various clubs.

The committee on constitution having completed its work then made their report, which was followed by the adoption of the following constitution and by-laws. But few changes were made in them as reported by the committee.

**Constitution and By-laws of The Michigan State Association of Farmers' Clubs.****PREAMBLE.**

We, the delegates from various Farmers' Clubs of Michigan in convention assembled, realizing the importance and efficacy of organization in the promotion of ideas and the advancement of measures of general interest and benefit to the agriculturists of this state; believing that the social, moral, intellectual and financial condition of the farmer is advanced by local organization of farmers' clubs; and that the organization of other local clubs will be promoted by a central or state association of clubs already in existence, and believing that such an organization would be a valuable means for the interchange of ideas and securing of ends which may be deemed of general benefit to the farmers of this state, do hereby adopt the following constitution and by-laws for the government of such an association:

**CONSTITUTION.**

ARTICLE I.—Name—This organization shall be known as the Michigan State Association of Farmers' Clubs.

ART. II.—Objects—The objects of this Association shall be as set forth in the preamble.

ART. III.—Officers—The officers of the Association shall be a president, vice-president, secretary and six directors, whose duties shall be such as usually devolve upon such officers, except that if occasion requires the secretary shall also perform the duties of treasurer.

ART. IV.—The annual meeting of the Association shall be held in Lansing on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of February in each year.

ART. V.—The officers of this Association shall be elected at the annual meeting by ballot, a majority of all votes cast being necessary for an election. The president, vice-president and secretary shall be elected for one year, and one director for one year, two directors for two years, and two directors for three years, and hereafter two directors shall be elected annually for three years. And no officer shall be eligible for re-election except the secretary, who may be re-elected by a three-fourths votes of all the delegates present.

ART. VI.—Any Farmers' Club in the State of Michigan may become a member of this Association by certifying to the secretary of this Association its desire to be so enrolled, and paying an annual membership fee of \$1.

**BY-LAWS.**

1. The officers of this Association shall constitute an executive committee, the duty of which shall be to prepare a program for the annual meeting and to perform such other duties as may properly devolve upon an executive committee.

2. Each Club shall be entitled to send two delegates to the meetings of the Association.

3. The officers of this Association shall assume the duties of their respective offices immediately upon their election.

4. The faculty of the Agricultural College shall be admitted to all the privileges of the floor but shall not be entitled to vote.

Amendments—The constitution or by-laws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Association, provided the proposed amendments shall be published in the Michigan Farmer and GRANGE VISITOR over the signature of the secretary at least four weeks before the annual meeting. Such amendments shall require a two-thirds vote.

**Deafness Cannot Be Cured**

by local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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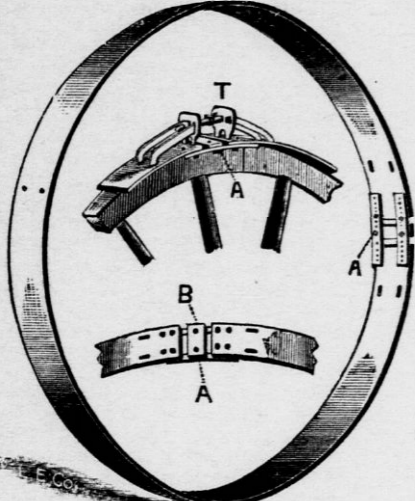
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Will you back those that fight them?  
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**Duroc Jersey Hogs are** **Practical Prolific Profitable** **Shropshire Sheep.**  
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Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost, than any other incubator. Send 6c. for illus. Catalogue. Circulars Free.  
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**\$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.  
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**GRAPE VINES.**  
Largest Stock in the World. Small Fruits. Introducing of unrivalled new Red Jacket Gooseberry & Bay Currant. Catalogue Free. Geo. S. Jonsely, Fredonia, N. Y.

**CANCER NO KNIFE.** Tumors and skin diseases scientifically treated and cured. Book free. Have cancer a specialty for the last twenty years. Address Dr. L. H. Grangley, 20 Shillito Place, Cincinnati, O.

**Farming in Mississippi.**

PROF. S. M. TRACY.  
The agricultural possibilities of any locality depend on the success with which leguminous crops can be grown, more than upon any other single factor. In Mississippi the cultivated legumes, red clover, cow peas, alfalfa, melilotus, lespedeza, and the vetches grow as they can never do in the north, and have practically solved the fertilizer problem for all time to come. Some one or more of these crops are adapted to every condition of soil and season, and there is no time during the year when we may not have some of them in active growth. Clover, alfalfa, and melilotus are used when we wish permanent meadows or pastures, the lespedeza is one of the best of summer growers, a crop of cow peas can be grown in any two months between May and October, while from October to May the vetches make a rank growth. With such a supply of plants for green manuring the addition of a comparatively small amount of commercial fertilizers enables us to grow almost any crop which may be desired.

**COTTON.**  
Mississippi has grown cotton so largely that many regard the state as being fit for nothing else, while, as a matter of fact, there are few crops which can be grown in Michigan which cannot be grown to still better advantage here. Winter wheat is as sure a crop on our black lands as it is in Michigan or Wisconsin, from twenty to twenty-five bushels being a common crop. Oats may be sown at any time from October to March; rye and barley make excellent winter pastures, and with oats, vetches, and alfalfa, give a continuous supply of fresh feed during our coldest winters. One of the great advantages which the Mississippi farmer has is in the fact that the winter is rarely so cold or the ground so frozen as to interrupt work in the field. There is not a month in which more or less planting is not done, and not a month in which we may not have some crop to harvest.

**CORN.**  
Cotton has always been the most important crop in the state, and will probably continue so for many years to come; not because it is the most profitable, but because it is the one which we are in the habit of growing. At present prices, five cents per pound, it is just about as profitable as is wheat at fifty cents per bushel, and we shall probably continue to grow it as long as northern farmers persist in growing wheat. Until within a few years we grew little besides cotton, depending on northern growers for almost our entire supplies of meat, corn, and even hay; but within the last five years conditions have changed greatly, and we are now raising a much larger proportion of our supplies at home. The corn crop of 1894 was the largest ever grown in the state, by more than 10,000,000 bushels, and during the past winter we have shipped a large amount from here to Illinois and Missouri.

**COMPARED WITH MICHIGAN.**  
The home supply of meat, sorghum, mules, hay, and other crops has kept pace with the increase in the corn crop so that, although our cotton crop has decreased in value, living expenses have decreased still more, and we are in a better condition today than we were five years ago, and much less in debt. During the last six years I have made it a point to talk with country clerks whenever I had an opportunity, and they invariably told me that the number of farm mortgages has decreased from fifteen to twenty-five per cent yearly, showing that the farmer is rapidly becoming his own master. The report of the last census shows the average per capita indebtedness of the people of the United States to be \$114.13; of Michigan \$80.09; while the total debts of the people in Mississippi amount to only \$19.66 each, which is a smaller indebtedness than has any other state in the whole Union. The same report gives the average value per acre of farm products in the United States as \$6.88; of Michigan as \$8.48; and of Mississippi as \$10.41. The average value of land in Michigan is given as \$43.72 per acre, while in Mississippi

it is valued at only \$9.50. With these low priced lands and high acre values of crops, farming gives a much better return on the capital invested here than in the north, as \$1,000 will buy 105 acres here, while it will buy only 23 acres in Michigan.

**AS A HOME.**  
Immigration is now coming into the state more rapidly than ever before, and nearly all of the immigrants are of the very best class of people—native Americans who are coming here to make homes for themselves and their children. The old war prejudices have entirely passed away, and the northern immigrant finds a warm welcome wherever he may go, be he Methodist or Episcopalian, Republican, Democrat, or Populist. The old federal soldiers will find their best friends and neighbors among the old confederates. Many Michigan people have recently settled here, and among them are at least five graduates of the Agricultural College, all of whom are well pleased with their locations. A large part of the Michigan immigrants have settled along the Gulf coast, at Ocean Springs, Biloxi, Bay St. Louis, and other points, though there are some in nearly every town in the southern part of the state.

I know of no place in the whole country where a farmer with even moderate means can make a pleasant home and a comfortable living more easily and quickly than here. Come and examine the country for yourself.  
*Agricultural College, Miss.*

**Transportation.**

Extracts from report of committee on Transportation, Michigan State Grange.  
We find a law in our statute books which has been enforced against the Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, and which would, if enforced against other roads, largely benefit farmers and others in close contact with and dependent on them, by giving common rates of two, or two and one-half cents per mile, but we also find no effort being made to enforce this law against these other roads; we therefore recommend that steps be taken immediately to secure the enforcement of this law if practicable, and if any further legislation is needed to secure this result, we demand its passage in the interest and welfare of the people.

While we admit the necessity and great worth of railways, we must concede that the rivers and great lakes as a means of public highway, a means of traffic and travel, are of incomparable value to us all. The entrances and clearances at all the lake ports, during 1889, were 27,700,000 tons, while the entrances and clearances at all the sea ports of our country were but 26,983,315 tons. Entrances and clearances at Liverpool and London, 33,000,000. The average rate of carrying a ton of coal from Buffalo to Duluth, 1,000 miles, is 30c per ton, and it has been carried at 10c per ton, or one-tenth of a mill per mile; about one-hundredth of the usual rate by rail per mile. The usual price for a barrel of flour from Duluth to Buffalo is 10 cents, and a bushel of wheat has been carried from Chicago to Buffalo for 1 cent.

**DEEP WATERWAYS.**

The improvement of our waterways by opening of a deep channel to the sea, by the Great Lakes, a Niagara Canal, and the St. Lawrence river, or the enlargement and improvement of the Erie Canal, and the Hudson river, to the port of New York, would be of lasting and inestimable benefit to the farmers of the great northwest and contiguous country, by increasing the prices of the products of their labor, while at the same time it would decrease the price of necessities of life to the consumers, in the populous manufacturing centers of our country, and of Europe. There is at present work being pushed on a great canal to connect the waters of Lake Michigan with the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, yet the treacherous condition of the river will make it forever impossible to place the products of our farms, mines and forests, profitably upon the markets of the world by a southern course.

**A HELP TO MICHIGAN.**  
What we, as citizens of Michigan,

could greatly profit by, would be the ability to load our Michigan products, in Michigan boats, manned by Michigan sailors, who could deliver them direct in the great consuming centers of the old world, and stop that great drain upon our profits, by the transfer companies and the middle-men of our sea ports.

These deep waterway improvements have been deemed practicable and possible, by eminent civil engineers, and it is the sense of your committee that the Grange, National and State, should take steps necessary to bring about a concert of action between themselves, the shipping interests, mining, lumbermen, chambers of commerce, and other organized bodies, by which concerted and continued agitation and study of this great subject could be had, until the opening of a deep waterway channel to the sea shall be brought about.

**GEO. D. MOORE,**  
Chairman.

**Influence of Forests upon the Climate of the Surrounding Country.**

Local air currents are set up by the difference in temperature of the air within and without the forest, analogously to those of a lake or pond, cooler currents coming from the forest during the day in the lower strata and warmer currents during the night in the upper strata. The latter currents being warmer and moister, can be of influence on the temperature and moisture conditions of a neighboring field by moderating temperature extremes and increasing the humidity of the air.

This local circulation is the one most important difference between forest and other vegetation. How far away from the forest this circulation becomes sensible is not ascertained. In winter time, when the temperature differences become small, no such circulation is noticeable.

The general air current in the lower portions are cut off entirely by the forest, which acts as a windbreak. This influence can of course be experienced only on the leeward side. How far this protection reaches it is difficult to estimate, but it certainly reaches farther than that of a mere windbreak, since by the friction of the air moving over the crowns a retardation must be experienced that would be noticeable for a considerable distance beyond the mere windbreak effect. Deforestation on a large scale would permit uninterrupted sweep of the winds, a change more detrimental where the configuration of the ground does not fulfill a similar function—in large plains more than in hilly and mountainous regions, and at the seashore more than in the interior.

Favorable influences upon moisture conditions of the air are most noticeable in localities where much water is stored in underground with overlying strata which are apt to dry when our summer drought prevails. Here the forest growth is able to draw water from greater depths and by transpiration return it to the atmosphere, thereby reducing the dryness and possibly inducing precipitation. In most climates this action would be less effective or of no use. Hence in regions with oceanic climates and moist sea winds like England and the west coasts of Europe or of the northern United States, deforestation from a climatic point of view may make no appreciable difference, such as it would make in continental climates like the interior of our country, the Rocky Mountains, and southern California.

Whether large or small areas of forest and open fields alternating, or what percentage of forest is most favorable can not as yet be discussed, since we are not clearly informed even as to the manner and amount of influence which forest cover exercises. In general we may expect that an alternation of large forested and unforesting areas, in regions which on account of their geographic situation have a dry and rigorous climate, is more beneficial than large uninterrupted forest areas, which would fail to set up that local circulation which is brought about by difference in temperature and permits an exchange of the forest climate to the neighboring field.—*B. E. Fernow.*

**Tuberculosis.**  
Bulletin Mass. Exp. Station.

From a careful study of this subject as presented in the foregoing pages it seems that certain conclusions can be drawn which bear important relations to the introduction, spread, propagation, and results of tuberculosis in this particular herd, and which, perhaps, may be with propriety applied in a general way to the extensive and alarming prevalence of the disease among cattle in Massachusetts.

1. That it is unsafe to purchase animals to add to a healthy herd from a herd in which tuberculosis has existed.
2. That poor sanitary surroundings, especially imperfect ventilation and insufficient light, are favorable to the rapid spread of tuberculosis among cattle.
3. That it is much better to dispose of excrement outside of stables than in cellars underneath them.
4. That infected stables bear close relation to the propagation of the disease.
5. That even by the use of cases of this disease by physical examination is impossible.
6. That the diagnosis in most strong disinfecting fluids it is very difficult, if not impossible, to rid an

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## A STUDY IN SCARLET.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

### PART ONE.

(Being a reprint from the reminiscences of John H. Watson, M. D., late of the army medical department.)

#### CHAPTER IV.

It was 1 o'clock when we left 3 Lauriston Gardens. Sherlock Holmes led me to the nearest telegraph office, whence he dispatched a long telegram. He then hailed a cab and ordered the driver to take us to the address given us by Lestrade.

"There is nothing like first hand evidence," he remarked. "As a matter of fact, my mind is entirely made up on the case, but still we may as well learn all that is to be learned."

"You amaze me, Holmes," said I. "Surely you are not as sure as you pretend to be of all those particulars which you gave."

"There's no room for a mistake," he answered. "The very first thing which I observed on arriving there was that a cab had made two ruts with its wheels close to the curb. Now up to last night we had no rain for a week, so that those wheels, which left such a deep impression, must have been there during the night. There were the marks of the horse's hoofs, too, the outline of one of which was far more clearly cut than that of the other three, showing that that was a new shoe. Since the cab was there after the rain began and was not there at any time during the morning—I have Gregson's word for that—it follows that it must have been there during the night, and, therefore, that it brought those two individuals to the house."

"That seems simple enough," said I; "but how about the other man's height?"

"Why, the height of a man in nine cases out of ten can be told from the length of his stride. It is a simple calculation enough, though there is no use my boring you with figures. I had this fellow's stride both on the clay outside and on the dust within. Then I had a way of checking my calculation. When a man writes on a wall, his instinct leads him to write about the level of his own eyes. Now that writing was just over six feet from the ground. It was child's play."

"And his age?" I asked.

"Well, if a man can stride  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet without the slightest effort, he can't be quite in the sere and yellow. That was the breadth of a puddle on the garden walk which he had evidently walked across. Patent leather boots had gone around, and square toes had hopped over. There is no mystery about it at all. I am simply applying to ordinary life a few of those precepts of observation and deduction which I advocated in that article. Is there anything else that puzzles you?"

"The finger nails and the Trichinopoly," I suggested.

"The writing on the wall was done with a man's forefinger dipped in blood. My glass allowed me to observe that the plaster was slightly scratched in doing it, which would not have been the case if the man's nail had been trimmed. I gathered up some scattered ash from the floor. It was dark in color and flaky, such an ash as is only made by a Trichinopoly. I have made a study of cigar ashes—in fact, I have written a monograph upon the subject. I flatter myself that I can distinguish at a glance the ash of any known brand either of cigar or of tobacco. It is just in such details that the skilled detective differs from the Gregson and Lestrade type."

"And the florid face?" I asked.

"Ah, that was a more daring shot, though I have no doubt that I was right. You must not ask me that at the present state of the affair."

I passed my hand over my brow. "My head is in a whirl," I remarked. "The more one thinks of it the more mysterious it grows. How came these two men—if there were two men—into an empty house? What has become of the cabman who drove them? How could one man compel another to take poison? Where did the blood come from? What was the object of the murderer, since robbery had no part in it? How came the woman's ring there? Above all, why should the second man write up the German word 'Rauche' before decamping? I confess I cannot see any possible way of reconciling all these facts."

My companion smiled approvingly.

"You sum up the difficulties of the situation succinctly and well," he said. "There is much that is still obscure, though I have quite made up my mind on the main facts. As to poor Lestrade's discovery, it was simply a blind intended to put the police upon a wrong track by suggesting socialism and secret societies. It was not done by a German."

The 'a,' if you noticed, was printed somewhat after the German fashion. Now, a real German invariably prints in the Latin character, so that we may safely say that this was not written by one, but by a clumsy imitator, who overdid his part. It was simply a ruse to divert inquiry into a wrong channel. I'm not going to tell you much more of the case, doctor. You know a conjurer gets no credit when once he has explained his trick, and if I show you too much of my method of working you will come to the conclusion that I am a very ordinary individual, after all."

"I shall never do that," I answered. "You have brought detection as near an exact science as it will ever be brought in this world."

My companion flushed up with pleasure at my words and the earnest way in which I uttered them. I had already observed that he was sensitive to flattery on the score of his art as any girl could be of her beauty.

"I'll tell you one other thing," he said. "Patent leathers and square toes came in the same cab, and they walked down the pathway together as friendly as possible—arm in arm in all probability. When they got inside, they walked up and down the room, or rather patent leathers stood still while square toes walked up and down. I could read all that in the dust, and I could read that, as he walked, he grew more and more excited. That is shown by the increased length of his strides. He was talking all the while and working himself up, no doubt, into a fury. Then the tragedy occurred. I've told you all I know myself now, for the rest is mere surmise and conjecture. We have a good working basis, however, on which to start. We must hurry up, for I want to go to Halle's concert to hear Norman Neruda this afternoon."

This conversation had occurred while our cab had been threading its way through a long succession of dingy streets and dreary byways. In the dingiest and dreariest of them our driver suddenly came to a stand. "That's Audley court in there," he said, pointing to a narrow slit in the line of dead colored brick. "You'll find me here when you come back."

Audley court was not an attractive locality. The narrow passage led us into a quadrangle paved with flags and lined by sordid dwellings. We picked our way among groups of dirty children and through lines of discolored linen until we came to 46, the door of which was decorated with a small slip of brass, on which the name Rance was engraved. On inquiry we found that the constable was in bed, and we were shown into a little front parlor to await his coming.

He appeared presently, looking a little irritable at being disturbed in his slumbers. "I made my report at the office," he said.

Holmes took a half sovereign from his pocket and played with it pensively. "We thought that we should like to hear it all from your own lips," he said. "I shall be most happy to tell you anything I can," the constable answered, with his eyes upon the little golden disk.

"Just let us hear it all in your way, as it occurred."

Rance sat down on the horsehair sofa and knitted his brows, as though determined not to omit anything in his narrative.

"I'll tell it ye from the beginnin'," he said. "My time is from 10 at night to 6 in the mornin'. At 11 there was a fight at the White Hart; but, bar that, all was quiet enough on the beat. At 1 o'clock it began to rain, and I met Harry Murcher, him who has the Holland grove beat, and we stood together at the corner of Henrietta street a-talkin. Presently, maybe about 2 or a little after, I thought I would take a look around and see that all was right down the Brixton road. It was precious dirty and lonely. Not a soul did I meet all the way down, though a cab or two went past me. I was a-strollin' down, thinkin between ourselves how uncommon handy a four of hot gin would be, when suddenly a glint of a light caught my eye in that same house. Now I knew that them two houses in Lauriston gardens was empty on account of him that owns them, who won't have the drain seed to, though the very last tenant that lived in one of them died o' typhoid fever. I was knocked all in a heap, therefore, at seein a light in the window, and I suspected as somethin was wrong. When I got to the door—"

"You stopped and then walked back to the garden gate," my companion interrupted. "What did you do that for?"

Rance gave a violent jump and stared at Sherlock Holmes with the utmost amazement upon his features.

"Why, that's true, sir," he said, "though how you come to know it heaven only knows! Ye see, when I got to the door, it was so still and so lonesome that I thought I'd be none the worse for some one with me. I ain't afraid of anythin on this side o' the grave, but

I thought that maybe it was him that died o' the typhoid inspecin the drains what killed him. The thought gave me a kind o' turn, and I walked back to the gate to see if I could see Murcher's lantern, but there wasn't no sign of him nor of any one else."

"There was no one in the street?"

"Not a livin' soul, sir, nor so much as a dog. Then I pulled myself together and went back and pushed the door open. All was quiet inside, so I went into the room where the light was a-burnin. There was a candle flickerin on the mantelpiece, a red wax one, and by its light I saw—"

"Yes, I know all that you saw. You walked around the room several times, and you knelt down by the body, and then you walked through and tried the kitchen door, and then—"

John Rance sprang to his feet with a frightened face and suspicion in his eyes. "Where was you hid to see all that?" he cried. "It seems to me that you knows a deal more than you should."

Holmes laughed and threw his card across the table to the constable. "Don't get arresting me for the murder," he said. "I am one of the hounds and not the w. Mr. Gregson or Mr. Lestrade will answer for that. Go on, though. What did you do next?"

Rance resumed his seat, without, however, losing his mystified expression. "I went back to the gate and sounded my whistle. That brought Murcher and two more to the spot."

"Was the street empty then?"

"Well, it was, as far as anybody that could be of any good goes."

"What do you mean?"

The constable's features broadened into a grin. "I've seen many a drunk chap in my time," he said, "but never any one so cryin' drunk as that cove. He was at the gate when I came out a-leanin up agin the railin's and a-singin at the pitch of his lungs about Columbine's new fangled banner or some such stuff. He couldn't stand, far less help."

"What sort of a man was he?" asked Sherlock Holmes.

John Rance appeared to be somewhat irritated at this digression. "He was an uncommon drunk sort o' man," he said. "He'd ha' found hisself in the station if we hadn't been so took up."

"His face, his dress. Didn't you notice them?" Holmes broke in impatiently.

"I should think I did notice them, seeing that I had to prop him up, me and Murcher between us. He was a long chap, with a red face, the lower part muffled round—"

"That will do!" cried Holmes.

"What became of him?"

"We'd enough to do without lookin after him," the policeman said in an aggrieved voice. "I'll wager he found his way home all right."

"How was he dressed?"

"A brown overcoat."

"Had he a whip in his hand?"

"A whip—no."

"He must have left it behind," muttered my companion. "You didn't happen to see or hear a cab after that?"

"No."

"There's a half sovereign for you," my companion said, standing up and taking his hat. "I am afraid, Rance, that you will never rise in the force. That head of yours should be for use as well as ornament. You might have gained your sergeant's stripes last night. The man whom you held in your hands is the man who holds the clew of this mystery and whom we are seeking. There is no use of arguing about it now. I tell you that it is so. Come along, doctor."

We started off for the cab together, leaving our informant incredulous, but obviously uncomfortable.

"The blundering fool!" Holmes said bitterly as we drove back to our lodgings. "Just to think of his having such an incomparable bit of good luck and not taking advantage of it."

"I am rather in the dark still. It is true that the description of this man tallies with your idea of the second party in this mystery. But why should he come back to the house after leaving it? That is not the way of criminals."

"The ring, man, the ring. That was what he came back for. If we have no other way of catching him, we can always bait our line with the ring. I shall have him, doctor. I'll lay you two to one that I have him. I must thank you for it all. I might not have gone but for you and so have missed the finest study I ever came across. A study in scarlet, eh? Why shouldn't we use a little art jargon? There's the scarlet thread of murder running through the colorless skein of life, and our duty is to unravel it and isolate it and expose every inch of it. And now for lunch and then for Norman Neruda. Her attack and her bowing are splendid. What's that little thing of Chopin's she plays so magnificently, Tra-la-la lira-lira-lay."

Leaning back in the cab, this amateur bloodhound caroled away like a

lark, while I meditated upon the many sidedness of the human mind.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

### Weeds.

Some Requisites for Preventing the Introduction of Weeds and a few Rules for Their Extermination.

1. The right kind of a man who will carefully observe and study the kinds of weeds and their habits, fighting each to the best advantage, i. e., method.

2. See that all seeds purchased or grown at home for seed are clean.

3. See that threshing machines, hay ricks, grain bags from other farms are well cleaned before use on the farm.

4. Cook or grind screenings and burn chaff when certain weeds are suspected.

5. Send seeds to the Agricultural College for information, unless they are known to be harmless.

6. Strive to prevent weeds from ripening seeds.

7. Make the soil very rich, as most weeds will then give way to field crops.

8. Modify the rotation of crops with reference to killing the weeds.

9. Make a specialty of hoed or cultivated crops.

10. Make soiling crops a prominent feature in certain fields.

11. Smother weeds with quick growing and thickly seeded crops, like red clover or rye.

12. Keep some crops growing on the land from early spring till late autumn—double cropping; i. e., two cultivated crops in one year for barn and cellar, instead of one for use and one of weeds.

13. Cultivate thoroughly after a crop is removed.

14. Clear up and avoid leaving any vacant or out of the way places for breeding ground.

15. Where practicable, remove fences and cultivate to the gutters of the highway.

16. Keep some sheep.

17. When once begun, continue the work, giving no quarter to weeds.

18. Where hand labor is employed, it is far less expensive and much easier to keep weeds down by raking or hoeing once a week than by going over the ground less frequently.

The habits of a weed determine to a great extent the best mode of fighting it. Certain remedies suggest themselves for creeping perennials like quack grass and toad flax, while different treatment is best for narrow dock; and still a different mode of attack may be adopted for crab grass and purslane.

Weeds are annuals, as pigweeds, crab grass, purslane; biennials, as bull thistles and mullins; perennials, like quack grass, Canada thistles, ox-eye daisy.

Will it pay? The annual cost of successfully fighting a weedy farm of 100 acres in Ontario has been found to be about \$75. Good cultivation pays a greater profit than slipshod culture.—Dr. Beal.

### Ideas.

Original and Otherwise.

Another season of active work on the farm will soon begin, and plans should accordingly be made to keep ahead of the work and crowd it instead of being pushed by it. There is a great deal of difference in the two ways—often all the difference between success and failure. The man who allows his work to crowd him from early spring to late autumn seldom does his work in the best way, but hurries through according to the old saying, with "a lick and a promise." Corn and potatoes wont grow on promises,—they require cultivation, plenty of it, and just on time. On the other hand, the promise of a diet of paris green to the bugs will not interfere with their appetite for potato vines. All the time the promised feast is delayed, the bugs, following the great law of nature, will proceed to multiply and replenish the prospective death losses from the paris green that is promised. The cul-

tivator should remember that the longer the feast is delayed, the larger the company that must be provided for. Bugs are like weeds in that they thrive best under a persistent and determined system of neglect, and the number of bugs that is raised to maturity and green old age is always in inverse ratio to the number of potatoes harvested. Cause and effect. "Pigeon grass" and kindred weeds will thrive in the cornfield through drouth, and both the early and the latter rain, but since it was decreed that Adam should live by the sweat of his brow it has been necessary to cultivate corn if satisfactory returns are expected.

Farms of 1000 acres can be cultivated at less per acre than can the forty acre farm, but the former will not produce as much per acre as the latter by any means, so that what is gained in one direction is lost in another.

In my ideal farming community, no farm would contain over forty acres and often half that amount would be amply sufficient. The curse and menace of our republican institutions is concentration. The large farm necessitates one landlord and many dependents. In seasons of prosperity and good crops the landlord pockets the profits; in seasons of depression and failure the dependents bear the brunt of the loss. Being dependent on the will of another, a great incentive to industry and improvement is taken away.

Divide the 1000 acres up into 40 acre tracts and put a man on each tract. Twenty-five families are within calling distance, hence there is no loneliness that comes from isolation. Each of the twenty-five men has personal interest in his work and in the improvement of his possessions. It is safe to predict that in ten years the value of the 1000 acres would be nearly doubled. The twenty-five men would be better citizens, for each will have an interest in the preservation of law and order. It is certain there would be no strikes there, and there would be happiness, prosperity, and contentment, far above what would be found under the best of landlords. Above all, every man would be free,—a consummation devoutly to be wished."

If the laws restricted the possession of land to forty acres for each voter, in the older sections of the country, it would be better for the country, and would bring a far greater measure of happiness to a larger number. Land values would double, and happy homes, the bulwark of any land, would multiply. "When every rood of ground maintains its man," there are fewer idle men to create disturbances, and more law abiding citizens to maintain order. I would that the signs of the times pointed in that direction, but, alas for us, they don't.

APPOLLOS S. LONG.

Eaton Rapids.

### Tuberculosis.

(Continued from page 6.)

old stable of the germs of tuberculosis.

7. That in tuberculin we have an exceedingly delicate and reliable test for tuberculosis.

8. That tuberculin indicates the existence of tuberculosis in the lungs and other parts of the body, when objective symptoms are absent and when no germs can be discovered by microscopical examination of the mucous from the nostrils.

9. That its use is not followed by any ill effects of a serious or permanent nature.

10. That in tuberculin we have the only means by which we can eradicate tuberculosis from among our cattle.

11. That our old stabled and unsanitary stables, thoroughly infected with the germs of tuberculosis make the complete eradication and suppression of this disease well nigh impossible.



Notices of Meetings.

Montcalm Grange will initiate a class of seventeen in the fourth degree and have the feast, customary with that degree, in the forenoon of April 6.

The Allegan county Pomona Grange will meet in Moline Grange hall, Thursday, April 18, at 10 a. m.

Address of welcome, Mrs. Volney Orton; response, Mrs. N. A. Dibble; recitation, Mrs. A. Bragg; "Culture and profit of the gooseberry," Brother Frank Chamberlain; paper, Mrs. Laura Jewett; recitation, Brother Congdon; paper, "National Banks," Hon. E. N. Bates; select reading, Estella Tanner. Music by the Moline Grange choir.

Grange News.

DeWitt Grange is doing nicely. We have initiated one new member this year. Saturday night March 23 was a rainy night so we had no meeting.

Clinton county Pomona Grange met with Keystone Grange March 13. Keystone Grange owns a large two-story building. The upper hall is used for Grange meetings, the lower hall is fitted for church services and the Methodists rent it for church.

In the evening the young people gave a drama entitled "The Fatal Glass." The hall was crowded to its utmost extent. The actors did splendidly.

A WORD FROM SHERWOOD.

With the enclosed list of subscribers for the VISITOR, we send their communication from Sherwood Grange No. 96, that the fraternity may know that, although the list has gone forth that Sherwood Grange is dead, yet she liveth just the same and is in good health, if we except lagrippe that has its clutches fastened on some of our number.

We have just closed the most successful literary works we have ever engaged in. Brother Russell and Brother Swain chose sides for a contest. Number of points to be 300; the side to reach that number first, to be considered the winning side and were to be treated to an oyster supper by the losing side.

Last night the contest closed having scored over 300 points in six meetings. Does that look as though we were dead? Not much! During the contest the very best of feeling has been maintained and perfect harmony has prevailed.

By-the-way, Brother Editor and readers, let me say that our Grange has always been noted for the good nature of its members and the unity that has existed among them. Never to my knowledge has there been a single instance of estrangement between any of its members in the twenty years of its existence.

Our hall is not so commodious as we could wish, to entertain a large gathering, but our hearts are large and willing, and when we get that much-talked-of kitchen built, we will hold forth a hospitable greeting as of yore.

And now, Brother Editor, let me whisper that on Saturday evening, March 30, we will have a prize supper, Brother Russell's side having won the contest. We expect Brother Swain and his allies to furnish a bountiful repast, and wait upon us in grand style. You may be assured that you will receive a hearty welcome if you will happen around at that time. In our mind's eye we see that waste-basket and we forbear.

Fraternally, Sec'y Of No. 96.

OBITUARY.

Again Dewitt Grange is called to mourn the loss of a worthy brother. David Scott, the oldest continuous resident of Clinton, died March 17. He was born in New York State in 1817, and died at Knoxville, Tennessee, where he had gone to spend the winter

with friends. He was well and favorably known throughout Clinton county, having lived within its borders 61 years. His father's family was the first white family to settle in what is now Clinton county.

Mr. Scott has seen the mighty forests give way to cultivated fields, comfortable homes, churches, and school houses now occupy the place where once stood the Indian wigwam. He was a member of the F. & A. M. No. 272, member of the O. S., also a charter member of Dewitt Grange No. 459. He always enjoyed attending the Grange. His funeral was held in Dewitt and was largely attended. The Masons and Grange attended in a body.

Mrs. C. L. PEARCE.

Olive Branch Club.

The Olive Branch farmers' club met with Mr. Brainerd Phillips, March 23, and as usual had a most enjoyable and interesting meeting. After dinner the usual literary and musical program was rendered, after which the question, "Should the citizens of this commonwealth vote in favor of the pending amendment to the state constitution in reference to raising the salary of certain state officers," was discussed. Nearly all of the forty or thereabouts present spoke, and most of the speeches would have done credit to a deliberative body. Among those deserving of special mention was the speech of Mr. K. K. Diome, who, owing to his experience at Lansing, was able to enlighten us on many points not generally understood. Among other sentiments uttered were the following: "A high order of patriotism should make any citizen who is qualified willing to save his state, even without salary, as some of the fathers did." "If the salary is too small why is it that so many, when aware of the amount of remuneration to be received, are tumbling over each other in their scramble for the offices?"

The unanimous conclusion to which the club arrived was expressed in the adoption by a rising vote of the following, presented by E. J. Bigelow: "Resolved, that it is the sense of this club that any increase of salary of state officers or any appropriation other than the sixth mill tax for the Michigan University would be an unjust burden on the tax payers of Michigan, so long as the present financial depression continues."

The club holds its next meeting with Mr. William Jones, April 28, when the following question will be discussed: "Resolved, that it is the duty of the government to issue money directly to the people, and that gold and silver should be of equal value as a circulating medium, and for the payment of debts." Rev. Geo. M. Lyon will open the discussion.

If every farming community could get together for the discussion of such questions as are for their interests, so many would not wear the placard "For sale" or "To rent," to the temptation of the politician.

D. B. MILLAR, Cor. Sec.

Waked Up At Last.

It is now over a year since the Corn Publishing Company of this city began the issuance of its financial series, the most famous of which is "Cohn's Financial School." This publication is having the most phenomenal sale of any romance with or without a purpose since Harriett Martineau's famous series and Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

The amazing-popular demand for this publication shows that the American people are indeed pupils in the school of finance. Never before in the history of the country were the voters, learned and unlearned, rich and poor, so eager to know the real facts and bottom truth about our monetary system. The times are woefully out of joint, and the question is: "What can we do to be saved from going over the brink of bankruptcy?" There is a general determination to restore silver to its old and legitimate place as a money metal. Just what has to be done and undone to secure restoration is the great question of the hour. It cannot be answered by drawing upon the sophisms of the theorists, and least of all by vilification.

The Inter Ocean.

A Standard Magazine.

In an article entitled "A Last Tribute" Ex-speaker Reed in the North American Review for April, turns the Republican search light of criticism on the most important measures of the fifty-third congress, and expresses his opinion of them, dealing particularly with the question of financial legislation. Senator Davis' article in the March number is answered in the April number by Senator Gray of Delaware, who eloquently upholds the foreign policy of the present administration. Senator Gray's article is entitled "Two Years of American Diplomacy."

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Book Reviews.

THE EMANCIPATION OF LABOR.

In spite of the exciting events of last summer's strike, most of us who are not laborers living in the cities, have perhaps forgotten that the labor question still exists as the most serious problem of the day. Mr. Clement J. Strang has written a little book that it would be well to read, with the title

above. It can be secured of Wesley Emery, Lansing, Mich. Price 10cts.

The New Economics.

We hear so much nowadays of the New Economics that some definitive writing on the subject is both valuable and timely. In the April Arena Prof. Frank Parsons begins the publication of a very important series of articles outlining the scope of the New Political Economy, and showing wherein it differs upon social and ethical grounds from the orthodox economics of the Manchester school. Prof. Frank Parsons is one of the most able and thoroughly equipped writers on law and economics in the country today. He has devoted his life to the study of law and economics, and he is recognized as one of the most scholarly and authoritative writers on law in the United States. His text books are familiar to students all over the country. He is one of the law lecturers in the Boston University.

FARMING CORPORATIONS.

"Farming Corporations," bound in cloth, 255 pages. Price, \$1.00, postpaid. W. Aldrich & Co., 120 Broadway, N. Y. City. This is one of the most unique books we have ever read. It gives the means to form large corporations, whose members are the farmers, and to some extent those of whom farmers buy and sell. The book is very interesting, but it seems to us so like an "iridescent dream," that we must say to Mr. Aldrich—Try it.

One Fare For Round Trip Excursions to Southern Cities.

For homeseekers to points in the southern states, the C. & W. M., and D. L. & N. lines will sell tickets on April 2 and 30 at one way fare for round trip. Tickets good twenty days. Ask agents for full particulars or address: GEO. DEHAVEN, G. P. A., Grand Rapids.

Property Owners—Important!

DALLAS TEXAS, 3-12, '95. Brother Farmers: Some twenty years ago I used considerable Ingersoll's mixed paints on my buildings, and have not found it necessary to repaint until this time. I consider this a remarkable record for durability and publish it for the benefit of property owners who want a good paint. Fraternally, NATHAN A. MOUTREUR. See adv. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paint.

A Chance To Make Money.

I am out of debt, and thanks to the dish washer business for it. In the past five weeks I have made over \$500, and I am so thankful that I feel like telling everybody, so they can be benefited by my experience. Anybody can sell dish washers because everybody wants one, especially when it can be got so cheap. I believe that in two years from now every family will have one. You can get full particulars by addressing the Iron City Dish Washer Co., E. E. Pittsburgh, Pa., and you can't help but make money in this business. I believe that I can clear over \$2,000 the coming year and I am not going to let such an opportunity pass without improvement. We can't expect to succeed without trying.

The World Moves Too Fast.

That is what a farmer told us at the Chicago fair when he saw the wonderful array of farm and vegetable crops. Think of an oat yielding 200 bushels per acre on 100 acres. (We learn the Salzer Seed Company offer \$300 for a suitable name for this oat wonder), a wheat 112 bushels on two and one half acres, potatoes 1,000 bushels, and grass and clover hay six tons per acre. Truly agriculture moves, and you will be rich and happy if you sow such seed. Where can I get them? Only one place in this world, and that is from the Farm Seed Specialist.

If You Will Cut This Out and Send It with 5c. postage, to the John A. Salzer Seed Company, La Crosse, Wis., you will get a sample of Grass and Clover Mixture and their mammoth catalog free.

Stanford university has secured the valuable private library of the late Professor Hildebrand of the Leipzig, Germany, university. The schooner Laura Nelson of Norfolk, Va., was wrecked at Nags Head, N. C., the crew of thirteen men being rescued. Koyama Rokunseki, the Japanese who attempted to assassinate Li Hung Chang, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life.

Six stores and residences and a number of barns were burned at Woneoc, Wis., entailing a loss of \$10,000.

Price of beef is predicted to increase at Chicago considerably owing to scarcity of supply.

Henry Miller died of smallpox at Jeffersonville, Ind., without water, medicine or any attendance.

Prairie fires which have been raging in western Nebraska for three days have destroyed a number of ranches.

C. P. Anderson of Batavia, Ills., arose from his sick bed and committed suicide by cutting his throat.

The smallpox record for the winter in United States cities shows Milwaukee, Wis., to have suffered the most.

The land office at Marquette, Mich., has decided fifty of the eighty contests between the settlers and the Portage Lake Canal company. But two were decided in favor of the company, which will appeal.

Rev. Dr. Rainsford, the well known Episcopal clergyman, has been chosen president of the New York Cricket association.

In a collision between turbulent strikers and gen d'armes at Renaud, east Flanders, one striker was killed and six wounded.

The Utah constitutional convention spent most of last week debating the woman suffrage question. The feminine voter will probably be in the state constitution.

Rubinstein had probably traveled more than other any virtuoso. In his time he made many fortunes and gave them away to the poor in Russia. During the famine which raged among the Russian peasants a few years ago he journeyed to Vienna, Moscow and St. Petersburg to play for charity. The price of seats rose to unheard of figures, but every penny of the money went to the starving farmers. It is said that in the course of 28 years the sum which he thus disposed of amounted to \$250,000.

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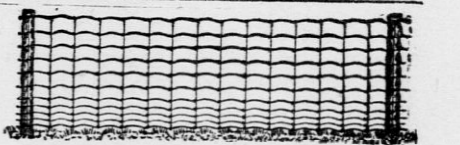
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