

GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XX. NO. 10.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, MAY 16, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 466.

Free Delivery of Rural Mails.

F. A. AKINS, SECRETARY OHIO STATE GRANGE.

Foreigners say of us that the great American question is, Will it pay? At present the American farmer is asking, Who pays? Statistics answer the farm owner pays about sixty-five per cent of the taxes. We must have taxes or we have no government, and concerning taxes Adam Smith in his political economy gives the following rule: "The subjects of every state ought to contribute toward the support of the government in proportion to the revenues they respectively enjoy under the protection of the state; and we may add are entitled to the protection of the state, at least equally with those who are paying less. Should we then ask for the free delivery of rural mails?"

Some of us have ere this taken an oath to support the constitution of the United States. What are its objects? "To form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." And we submit that each one of these six specific objects will be directly furthered and aided by the measure which we urge.

In this connection farmers should remember two things, first, that they pay the taxes. If this measure will prove an expense to the government we will have to bear our share of the burden. Second, we have the votes. If this measure is right and just, let us ask it. It has been well said by a prominent member of our Order that as a class we are too much afraid of demanding our just rights. But it is idle for us to imagine that these reforms which we do demand will ever be brought about by the mere passage of resolutions in our Granges. They are all right and proper, but they must be supplemented by earnest work.

NATIONAL GRANGE ACTION.

The National Grange has taken action in this matter. On page 98 Journal of Proceedings, 25th sess. (Springfield) we find the following:

Resolved, That we are in favor of the proposition of extending our Free Delivery Postal System into our rural districts, and we hereby commend the action of our Postmaster General Wanamaker in his efforts to secure the same, and we hereby ask all our congressmen to make the necessary appropriation to enable him to carry out this project. (Adopted.)

Brother Messer further reported for the committee the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the National Grange urge upon the postmaster-general a better free delivery of mail in the rural districts by establishing distributing post offices in each school district, or otherwise, as may secure a prompt and safe delivery of the mail to the people of the rural districts. (Page 130.)

We often proclaim our belief that "all citizens shall be equal before the law." Our interstate commerce law was passed to prevent discriminations between persons and places. Why carry one citizen's letter right to his desk and leave that of another several miles away?

The city business man has all the benefits of this special service. The farmer business man has none. Why should the machinery of the government be used so largely for the benefit of the favored few? At present only cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants have free delivery. This is not a new thing which we are asking. Past National Lecturer Whitehead tells us:

"Mounted post men were sent through the farming parts of England more than a hundred years ago, and their pace was so exactly calculated that farmers' boys knew just when to expect them at a turn in the pike, and the practice is still carried on. Boxes, strong and safe, are placed on the highways for mail deposits. The carriers hand the farmer his letters right at his door. Shall we lag far behind others in this? If the United States cannot devise better methods for the farmers than those in use in England, we ought at least to imitate them. Or, we can go to countries less commercial and less thrifty to find better exemplars than the present system of rural posts.

In India there is a post runner who, with a sack on his back, prods his way with

a spiked stick through jungles, while his clamorous bells frighten off reptiles and wild beasts and warn farmers of his coming. There is not a person in the vast Indian empire whose mail is not delivered at his door. What India can do I have faith to believe America can do.

In Japan the physical character of the country and the placid temper of the people make the swift runner satisfactory to the people throughout rural parts. Even in China there is better rural service than we have. A runner hurries from station to station, a bell or bugle announcing his approach. Messengers are ready to receive and deliver the mail all around among the farms.

But again the practical brother asks, Will it pay? Let the facts reply.

IT PAYS EXPENSES.

"It does pay. Our last congress appropriated \$10,000 to make a preliminary test. Forty-six country post offices in thirty states, and covering as many of the varied conditions of our great country as possible, were selected for the trial. Of these, all but seven at the end of several months showed an increase over former receipts and usual gain of enough to pay the entire cost of the new service and leave a profit besides. Seven did not quite reach the cost. The increase of gross receipts in thirty-nine offices amounted to \$6,213.49. Deducting what rightly belonged to natural increase and the net balance to the credit of the free delivery service amounted to \$850.50. This success is a wonderful showing when it is considered that in the establishment of the free delivery system the patrons of the office stopped paying box rent, and the loss on box rents was therefore taken from the gross receipts. The forty-six free delivery offices aggregated 285 months of free delivery service, at a total cost for carriers of \$4,420.69, and a net profit as before said of \$850.50.

An entire year of these offices aggregating 552 months would at the above rate have resulted in a net earning of \$3,812.54, and this profit is on an appropriation of only \$10,000. With an appropriation of \$200,000 for a year on these figures, or a basis of estimate, the net earnings, or profit to the government, would reach \$76,250.80. How many farmers are now paying \$2 or more a year for a postoffice box miles away from their farms? Based on the above figures of actual practice, for only 20 to 40 cents a year for each inhabitant, the mail can be brought to each door. How many farmers would gladly give that in a hurried season to have their mail brought a single time? The cost of the extra carriers amounts to from \$100 to \$200 each per year. Unlike city carriers, those in the villages and in the country will not generally be required to give all their time. The cost has been found to average \$107 per year for each hour's service per day."

"Farmers and farmers' organizations are giving this new forward step their hearty support. Closely following it will surely come the postal telegraph and telephone, managed by government for all the people, with telephone in each rural home to the postal telegraph station, and through it to the whole world. The not distant future will bring the postal savings bank, and all will bring the tide once more to the farm; will make it pay; make it brighter, more social, more intelligent, and therefore more patriotic on right lines, and be great factors in maintaining our republic as given us by the fathers.

I believe we should support the measure in the interests of our Order, in the interests of agriculture, and through it for the benefit of all our people. It is right in line with all our past efforts, and of our "Declaration of purposes;" that "we shall advance the cause of education among ourselves, and for our children, by all just means within our power;" and "to enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits."

Sandusky, Ohio.

The VISITOR has helped the Grange in securing legislation. Are you going to help the VISITOR increase its circulation this summer?

Pure Food for the People.

The *Merchant Sentinel* of Cincinnati, O., the organ of the grocers, in a recent issue has a long and bitter article against the Ohio pure food laws and their enforcement. It begins by extolling the honesty of the retail grocers of the state, which is all very kind and proper. Then it comes down to business as follows:

The Ohio food laws have been incompetent from their earliest conception, and have been unfairly enforced from their origin. These laws heap upon the shoulders of unoffending retail distributors of goods loads too heavy for them to bear. These men, innocent of any intentional wrong, acting in every intent and purpose up to their highest conception of honesty and integrity, are dragged before the tribunals of our state, and fined for the errors and omissions of those over whom they have no control. These laws, incompetent as they have been and still are, have been placed in the hands of officials still more incompetent, and their application to the needs and necessities of reform tending to the purifying of food products, has been anything but in keeping with the theory relating to such provisions. The practical enforcement of these laws has become a class persecution, run for revenue, which has been patiently borne by the merchants of the state of Ohio, constantly hoping for some release from our legislative bodies until it has been impossible for them to endure it any longer, and patience ceasing to be a virtue, these men stand ready to demand at the hands of the courts, and later at the hands of their legislative representatives, a justice which has not heretofore been meted to them either in the formation or prosecution of the present laws.

As to the methods of fighting the laws, the *Merchant Sentinel* says:

The Cincinnati Retail Grocers' Association some weeks ago passed a resolution, under which it offered to the grocers belonging to the association protection—this protection being the carrying of all such cases to a higher court as appear upon the face to be persecutions for revenue, instead of prosecutions for improvement, and all expenses, including the fines, were to be paid by the organization.

The *Ohio Farmer* has for years stood stoutly up for two rights in the sale of foods, medicines—indeed of all commodities: First, the right of each buyer to know that he gets what he pays for. Second, the right of all honest producers to be protected by law against the ruinous competition of those who fraudulently sell adulterated goods for pure. For these two rights we shall continue to stand up. Therefore we support our present pure food laws devised to maintain these rights. Therefore we do and shall protest against repeal and against any amendment except such as shall make them more stringent and far reaching. Therefore, too, we have stood by Dr. McNeal, the dairy and food commissioner, and his assistants, and shall do so as long as they work honestly and fearlessly, as in the past, to enforce the laws and drive out fraudulent commodities.

Let us dwell for a moment upon the two "rights" referred to above. First, the right of each buyer to get what he pays for. Government secures this in quantity by establishing sealed weights and measures and requiring their use in all sales. In quality it requires it in commercial fertilizers by requiring on each package a statement of analysis, and prescribing heavy penalties for false analyses. Government is at last beginning to treat our stomachs and health as well as it does our fields and crops, by requiring a statement of contents on food packages. If a package of "coffee" is half chicory or bran, then the label should show that fact. If a can of "maple syrup" is half glucose or even cane syrup, then the label should state the fact. If a box of prepared "pepper" is chiefly ground cocoon shells with enough cayenne pepper mixed to make it "go up the nose," then the label should show this. And so on to the end of the long chapter of "prepared" foods and medicines, where fraud is easy because the sight and taste and smell of buyers have not the exact powers of the chemist's re-agents and retorts. The

same power of government which visits condign punishment upon the buyer if he pays for his purchase with counterfeit money should punish the seller as severely if he "passes" counterfeit goods in exchange for pure money. This is mere justice. Why are we so slow to see it in this "free" country?

So, too, in regard to the rights of all honest producers. The farmers of the land have been terribly injured financially by the manufacture and sale of imitations, counterfeits, forgeries of their own real and true products; bogus butter, cheese, lard, maple syrup, vinegar, shoddy wool, etc., sold for pure products. It is plain that laws which, either by omission or commission, permit this injustice toward the great farming class, constitute "class legislation" of the most offensive, unjust, and demoralizing kind.

Now, as far as the retail grocers of Cincinnati, or any other town or city, are concerned, let us not mince matters. They buy of manufacturers, wholesalers, or jobbers exactly what they want to buy. They know or can know exactly what they handle. If they will pay the price and take the margin of profits that belongs to pure goods, they can get them. They can buy under guarantee of purity with written indemnity bond. Many of them, however, prefer to handle adulterated goods because the margin of profit is larger. A recent writer in *Harper's Magazine* estimates that \$1,500,000 was stolen from consumers and the honest producers of the United States in 1894, through the adulteration of foods. Such enormous profits of iniquity are shared by the retailers. These profits blunt the conscience and bribe the will. "Hence these tears." Hence they cry, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians," and "By this means we get our gain."

As to "class legislation," the honest producers and those who wish to know just what they buy outnumber, ten to one, those who profit by concealment, deception, fraud. Shall our laws protect the ten in their rights or shelter the one in his iniquity?

To their credit be it said, the largest and best retail grocers of Cleveland—the Southworths, the Chandlers, the Rudds, the O'Briens, and others—favor wise pure food laws. We believe the same is true in many cities and towns, in spite of the bribes offered in the way of larger margins by manufacturers of adulterated goods. And still a strenuous effort is made in the next legislature (as in the last) to repeal or cripple our pure food laws. Let farmers, all honest producers and all consumers who wish to get just what they pay for in every purchase, watch the nominations and the elections to our legislature with zealous care. Let no man go thither who is not known to stand squarely and openly for the two rights we have named above.—*Ohio Farmer*.

A Protest.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR: I have read Mr. Breck's article in the VISITOR on the butter question, and immediately sat down and wrote our member protesting against any legislation so vicious and unjust in principle. When the legislature provides that oleomargarine and butterine shall be sold for just what they are, they have done the right thing. Mr. Breck says the cow preempted the yellow color. Well, she preempted the white color a good deal more, and when butter makers stop artificially coloring their product for the purpose of deceiving people into believing that it is a better article than it really is, it will be time enough for them to throw stones at the artificial product. There is too much rotten, rancid, stinking, genuine butter doctored up and colored to suit the market for the butter makers to be allowed by law a monopoly of the business. If a law is enacted prohibiting coloring artificial butter yellow, it should include the genuine article also, or there will be no right or justice in it. F. HODGMAN.

The Grange counts in the Michigan legislature. Members listen respectfully to what the Grange asks of them, and they vote pretty satisfactorily, too.

Field and Stock.

Can Sheep Raising be Made Profitable With Present Prices of Wool and Mutton?

HERBERT W. MUMFORD.

The successful farmer or stock breeder of today must do what most other men do not do, or be able to do better and more economically those things which his neighbor attempts to do. We can easily understand that the most profit to the farmer or stock breeder comes from his being able to do well what other men have failed in doing—some operation which requires superior skill and intelligent, painstaking, and devoted effort.

The time has long since passed when, to use a common expression, there is a "snap" in any branch of farming. We have but to look about us now and reflect upon the past to see that more thought and intelligence enter into the farmer's plans and work now than ten years ago. If a farmer sees a neighbor making a certain practice return to him a sure profit he is apt to study his methods and attempt similar tasks himself, sometimes with varying success. So we cannot write down for a certainty that any branch of farming, be it dairying, sheep raising, or swine husbandry, will not be overdone, or will always be profitable. Such talk must ever be largely at random. All we can say is that skillful and painstaking care applied to almost any branch of farming usually brings with it a certain amount of profit. However, one must vary his farming practices to conform to existing conditions.

YES.

For the months just past farmers have been depreciating the value of sheep as a money making animal on the farm. We sometimes wonder if all have stopped and figured just how much loss would have come to them from keeping what few sheep their farms could comfortably accommodate. We cannot expect to develop a gold mine in any business at present, but must, as best we may, be content with moderate profits. Perhaps the best way to approach this subject is to definitely and at once answer our question and say that sheep raising can be made profitable with present prices of wool and mutton. This is not a difficult question to answer at present, with prime fat sheep selling at 4½ cents in Buffalo and lambs at 5½ cents, and wool at from 8 to 13 cents net. Yet we shall always find men, however profitable a farming operation may be, who will assert that it is unprofitable.

So we can understand why it is sometimes difficult to answer this, as with many other similar questions, in such a manner that it shall be applicable under all conditions with all men in varying circumstances. A certain degree of careful forethought and judicious management are always necessary if we expect our farming operations to prove profitable.

AND HERE IS WHY.

Now that we have answered the question, rather than give an array of figures we will briefly mention a few features of sheep raising which may suggest to some one methods which may prove useful.

The question as to what kind or breed of sheep is most profitable to keep, is one which is asked perhaps more often than any other connected with sheep farming.

We believe there is no breed at the present time which is the best under all circumstances and conditions. The writer is of the opinion that seldom, if ever, can this point be settled by one unacquainted with the individual circumstances in the case. If this were not so, one could safely settle on some breed as the best for the farmer to raise.

The now unpopular Merinos have yet some qualities which recommend them above all others to the farmer who has certain special objects in view. The breed of sheep to be selected to secure the largest profits will depend upon the proposed subsequent management and final disposal of the overplus stock.

PURE BREDS VS. GRADES.

This discussion rather anticipates another. Does it pay the average farmer to keep thoroughbred sheep? Decidedly, no. For instance, suppose we expect to sell our surplus stock in the general mutton market. We can secure nearly as good results for the feeding pen from high grade animals as from pedigree, and at almost half the cost. We do not wish to be understood by this that it does not always pay to use a pure bred sire. On the contrary, we believe it always does. The very fact that we are attempting to produce the flesh forming or fat producing tendency in our young stock by the cross of the Down-Merino, now so common, is strong argument enough that we should select an animal to head our flocks which not only has an individual tendency in that direction, but in addition to this is prepotent, that is, having been bred to the uniform mutton type for so long a period

he is able to a large degree to transmit this tendency to the offspring.

In conclusion we might say that the sheep, of all domestic animals, has been sadly abused and neglected. There has been, and I regret to say, is yet a mistaken impression among some few otherwise intelligent farmers that sheep do not need any care; that they can rustle for themselves and thrive without extra care or attention. It may be, and doubtless is true, that the sheep is capable of picking up its living (if we may be allowed the expression) about the farm with as little care as any of our farm animals. While we should bear in mind that none will more quickly respond to good care and abundant food, and that there is but little profit in keeping sheep in a half starved condition, no matter of what breed.

Moscow.

Swine Notes.

A. H. WARREN.

Now that the new born pig has appeared, it depends upon your care and management whether he will be a source of profit or loss.

Change the pigs' bedding at least once a week, and oftener if they get damp or dusty.

Be careful and not feed the sow too rich food for a few days after farrowing; it is liable to produce scours, which if not soon checked, will seriously affect the future development of the youngster.

This is the time of the year when a general cleaning up of all the pens and yards should take place, and the refuse hauled out to raise more corn to feed more hogs. After thoroughly cleaning sprinkle air slacked lime in and all around the pens.

As soon as the pigs are old enough to drink, which is about three or four weeks old, prepare a place separate from the sow for them. Don't compel them to crawl under the fence, of that would be liable to injure their backs, but drive two stakes close enough together to keep out the sow, and place inside the enclosure a clean, shallow trough. Tempt them at first with a little warmed milk, and they will learn to drink younger than you expected.

Ovid.

A Grange Sheep Shearing.

Our enterprising farmers of Grattan, Cannon, and Oakfield held their annual sheep shearing festival April 18. Although the attendance was not quite as large as usual, yet they made up what was lacking in numbers with enthusiasm. They all seemed hopeful for the future sheep industry, and resolved to hang onto their sheep, aiming to raise their standard of perfection in both the weight and quality of fleeces and carcass.

We think the readers of the VISITOR will have to acknowledge that we have as first class sheep in Kent county as can be found anywhere, when they come to read the records as furnished us by the secretary, Mr. E. Nash of the association, which is as follows:

Owner.	Breed.	Age.	Sex.	Weight of fleece.	No. days' growth.	Weight of carcass.
H. J. Watkins	Lincoln	1	Ram	10½	378	200
Wm. Donovan	"	1	"	10½	378	240
J. U. Broecker	Leicester	1	"	10½	378	164
J. U. Broecker	"	1	"	10½	378	164
J. G. Cowan	Shropshire	1	Ewe	11½	378	164
Geo. Ashley	Merino	1	Ram	10½	378	123
Wm. Hartwell	"	1	"	10½	378	133

All sheep registered.

The above being a Grange move, though they were not all Grangers that belong to it, was quite a social affair. The ladies went too, meeting at Grange hall for a visit and to prepare dinner. The men went to J. R. Randall's barn, close by, for the shearing.

AUNT KATE.

How To Get Good Roads.

Paper read at Centerville farmers' institute by B. A. Goodrich of Wasepi.

Economy is the watchword of the day, and if there ever has been a time during the three decades when it should be practiced we have arrived at that time. Now true economy is not always indicated by the small amount of money or labor that we have put into an enterprise, but it is in having it so manipulated as to get the greatest possible returns from the amount invested.

We all understand that good roads are economical in a great many different ways. I need not enumerate the advantages, nor the benefits that all classes of people derive from them; we all admire them; we all want them. The question of good roads is being agitated throughout the length and breadth of the land; the result will be in time we shall have a more uniform and a better system of maintaining our public highways.

The first thing I would do would be to wipe from our statutes the present law of a highway labor tax. Perhaps it was the best thing to do 60 years ago to divide the township up into small districts and then get out the neighbors and have a good time visiting.

I have been told that in those days after they had told a few good stories every man tried to see which could do the most work, but I can't remember back that far.

OUR PRESENT SYSTEM.

One of the worst features of our present system is that where our worst roads are the property adjacent is invariably the poorest, the valuation is low, and of course the road work must be assessed at the same ratio, always bringing the least labor where the most is needed. A chain is no stronger than the weakest link. To a certain extent this is true of our roads, and then again, our soil is so varying in its nature, it often happens that a sandy strip of road is but a short distance from a clay hill. Both could be greatly improved by cutting down that clay hill, but they are in different road districts, perhaps in different townships; and there they are in but very little better condition than they were 25 or 50 years ago. We hear people talk about getting out of the old ruts, but the wagon ruts seem to be the hardest ones to get out of.

We have in our state what we might call a local option law, giving each township the privilege of voting a money tax, and the experience that I have had in looking after the interest of the highways in our township, (the most of the time for the past fourteen years) has convinced me that it would be a great improvement over our present system. I am confident that 50 cents on an average will do more work than one dollar as assessed now.

The soil and lay of the land in some districts is such that they are easily kept in fair condition, but if our work was done with a money tax, it could be placed where it was needed most. But while we are satisfied that a township money tax would be an economical way of making and maintaining our public roads, we are also satisfied that it does not reach far enough. I don't think any one can deny that the general public would be benefited by a system of state roads, but the question arises at once, where is the money to come from. Ordinary taxation is already too high to be pleasant. The special assessment plan might be justified by an increase in land values, but it would be too burdensome; and we believe the general public is benefited more than the adjacent property holders and ought to bear their share of the expense.

HARD TIMES A BAR TO IMPROVEMENT.

But it would be folly to think for a moment of offering any question to the people for their approval during the present financial stringency that would involve a direct tax. There are some good arguments in favor of a succession or inheritance tax, levied on all large estates. If this principle of taxation could be adopted for this purpose, we think the question of good roads in all of the older and more populous states would be solved and the poor man would be relieved.

There are laws already in operation on this same principle in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania. In the two latter states the tax is only imposed on collateral, not direct succession; but last year the revenue from this small proportion was over \$2,000,000.

Let us wake up on this road question and get out of the old ruts.

Wasepi.

The Swedish Farmer.

Read before Hamilton Grange by Augustus Holm.

The farmers in Sweden live in villages, and as a consequence they have a greater opportunity for social life than the American farmers. Dancing parties are much more frequent; socials, evening parties, etc., are often enjoyed by young people as well as by the old, probably much because wages are lower, and their time is not so expensive to those who depend on wages for their existence. The summer, however is a busy time, and Sundays and Saturday nights are then the only times for much social enjoyment.

FEW FARM HORSES.

But the social life is not the only advantage of living in villages. A neighbor is always at hand when help is needed. Public roads, except those leading between the villages, are not needed, thus saving much work on the roads. Also another not less important advantage of village life is the cultivation of the habit of walking, the best and healthiest exercise on earth. It was said here in the Grange sometime ago that the Americans, ladies especially, had forgotten how to walk, and were always complaining of weak backs as a consequence of too little of that exercise. The people of Sweden walk much and are, as a rule, sturdy, healthy people and live a long life. This does away with the necessity of horses and carriages. In fact horses are little used on a farm, except in a few localities, for the cows and oxen are the chief animals used on the farm. The cows are used there for working throughout all the country. Although it may seem strange to you, it has been proven by actual test time and again that the cow can be used for working and still give as much milk; requiring only a trifle extra food. This is quite an economy in farming.

IMPLEMENTS.

There are such implements in Sweden as

the reaper, mower, drill, threshing machines, and the like, but they are yet too expensive to come into the hands of the common farmer, consequently much of the work on the farm is done by hand. The farmers are progressing, however, and improvements are fast becoming a necessity.

Although the work is hard, it is not unpleasant to get through haying and harvest, which together last about two months. On account of their living in villages they sometimes have five or six miles to go to the meadows, which are mostly natural meadows. Generally about the same number of men and women go, the men to cut the hay and the women to rake it. The days are long, but the hay requires a long time to cure, owing to the fact that, since in the high latitude the sun never rises so high in the sky, the days are not so hot.

MEN AND WOMEN IN THE FIELDS.

The laborers are out in the field about four o'clock in the morning, have five meals a day, and generally sleep about two hours at noon, and quit work at nine in the evening. In the harvest field as well as hay field the women accompany the men to gather and bind the grain as they cut it. When the grain is dry it is drawn into the barn to be flailed out during the winter, if the farmer has not a threshing machine, which is in about half the farms not the case. After the harvest comes the potato digging, for potatoes are their principal product, and it often takes a month to finish this work.

Their work is hard, often 18 hours a day, but when the summer is over and the winter is coming, it is faced by them with a contentment seldom seen on the face of any man except the farmer. For, when he has the barn full of hay and grain for the stock, and also grain for food for his family, the shelves in the pantry filled with homemade cheese and jars packed with butter, the back room upstairs filled with wool and flax for his wife to spin while he threshes the grain (oats, rye, barley), then he expects a long winter of joy and contentment around the fireplace. Christmas especially is a time of excellent enjoyment.

WOMAN'S PRIVILEGES.

This may make you think that the woman is regarded as a slave, but she is not quite. There, as well as here, is a chance for improvement, and the time is nearing, though slowly, to equality of rights. That she works in the fields simply means that her housework is light and simple, and requires but little labor. For an instance, they don't bake twice a week, but about once a month, and for every day they use less dishes, thus saving a large amount of dish washing. The woman is allowed to hold several minor public offices, and when she owns real estate she can vote, there being equal to man, because the voters are classified according to the amount of property that they own, having one vote for a certain amount of property.

THE SCENERY.

The scenery in Sweden is indeed beautiful and picturesque, during the summer, and many tourists come from the south, Germany and France, and other countries, and go through there enjoying the scenes of the little villages inserted between the hills and lakes, surrounded by beautiful groves of beach, maple, and birch, from which can be heard the songs of the nightingale and the calls of the cuckoo. Between the hills and meadows and close to the villages they see the waving fields of rye and oats. As they go farther north the day begins to be endless, so to speak, and the nights give way to twilight, until in the extreme north they see the midnight sun, a sight probably equaling the sights of Wyoming and California; remaining above the horizon about three weeks at Hamarfest in Norway. But on this journey they pass Stockholm, which is called the Venice of the north, being built on 365 islands.

The Study of Forestry.

It is hard for those of us who are accustomed to the wasteful extravagance of American forest destruction to realize the care and attention paid to the growth and culture of forest trees in lands where their preservation is regarded as a duty. Even in little Switzerland, which we are apt to think of as nothing but mountains and forests, the same careful scientific methods of culture are adhered to. A school of forestry at Zurich turns out a number of thoroughly educated foresters each year. There are about three hundred branch experiment stations and several large experimental reservations. The age, rapidity of growth, and best conditions of culture for every variety of tree, are made the subject of the most careful research in these stations, and volumes of carefully prepared statistics are published each year for the guidance of other students of forestry. The value of forests on temperature and rain fall of a district has also been proved beyond a doubt. How long will it be before our great nation appreciates the value of such work, and establishes schools for the scientific study of the subject?—*The Western Rural.*

WOMAN'S WORK.

Woman's Work.

Grange Fresh Air Outing.

The coming of birds and flowers with the bright, glad days of spring reminds us that it is quite time we began to plan for someone to share for a little time the joys of our country homes with us.

Those of us who entered into the work last year will not need to be reminded, but will only be glad to welcome to our homes perhaps the very children and girls who came to us last summer. Those who wanted to and failed last year because there was no one to respond to the offered hospitality can be assured that they will not be disappointed in like manner this year. Those who did not enter into the work at all last year can have the experience of those who did, and it was certainly rich in blessings.

Arrangements have been made in Detroit whereby every application *over seal of the Grange* will receive careful attention, and if you will write to Miss Mary Brady, 414 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, stating explicitly your wants, she will attend to your requests and reply to you at once. If you want children, boys or girls, young girls, or mothers with babies, arrangements have been made through the various philanthropic organizations of the city with Miss Brady as secretary, to attend to the sending of them out. They will be made ready to go, attended to the train, transportation furnished, and when they are to return Miss Brady must be notified and will see that they are met on their arrival and cared for. Miss Emma Field, secretary of the organized charities of Grand Rapids, who aided us so beautifully in the work last year, will gladly respond to all demands from that part of the state.

Sisters of the woman's work committee, this is our work, and it is time we began to apply for it. Canvass your Granges and see how many you can provide for, and write at once to the parties named above, as it all takes time and the days slip by so rapidly. Remember they are only sent as ordered, and your order must be accompanied by the seal of the Grange. You pay no transportation either way, but must meet them and take them again to the train. They are expected to remain two weeks, unless you make special arrangements otherwise. You can name your own time as to their coming. We know you will give them a hearty welcome and good cheer all the time they stay under your roof. Let us set about our plans at once.

Yours for the work.

MARY A. MAYO.

A Neighborhood Club.

There is a club that I've been waiting an opportunity to tell the VISITOR about. At the outset it was named the Winchell Club after the late Alexander B. Winchell, as the aim was to study geology, but recently it has been making excursions into other fields. Its members are the boys and girls of a certain neighborhood, with some of the boys' and girls' parents. Not long ago it was necessary to protect its popularity by limiting the membership to thirty. There would be a Winchell Club in every district school if I could tell half the good times and really fine things this club has had.

ITS OBJECT.

Its object is to lead its members to see what can be found among the common looking stones of the road sides, gravel pits, and fields, besides learning anywhere and everywhere, from anybody or nobody but one's self or books, all one can about rarer stones and minerals, and any of the other wonders in Nature's laboratories. It means to be sharp-eyed everywhere. Most of the boys have collections nicely started, each specimen neatly labelled. Besides what they find for themselves, for small sums they are able to obtain specimens from a distance through exchanges and houses that keep them for sale. Every such addition means a fresh expedition into dictionary, cyclopedia, and stray geologies that they find stowed away or bring from the school library in order to learn all they can of them. Best of all, often, are the old magazine files for helps at our meetings. Then the newspapers are constantly bringing in items for roll call and sometimes valuable longer articles. The poets contribute gems indeed for our programs,—for instance, Holmes' "Nautilus," who will forget it? It is surprising in how many places one stumbles unexpectedly on some interesting collection when one has eyes himself for such things.

A trio of our boys went to a farm house on an errand, and in a boyish tour of investigation discovered that the old lady of the house was a geologist too, in her way, and showed them specimens new to them. A collector came to town with an exhibit of casts of fossil remains of modern and extinct life. He was plied with questions galore, his rooms became the trying

place of Winchellites, while at home at night the kitchen was the stage whereon were cast many an addition to our amateurs' collections. An ex-miner was heard of and what an evening we had with him! Born at Cornwall, Eng., with tin, iron, and lead mines as familiar to him as corn fields to farm boys, with a budget of beautiful ores, and with an experience of his own in a caved in mine,—all this, and his only stipulation was that we ask questions!

ITS METHODS.

Someone had a friend who had been a student at the State Mining School, and we had him with his photographs and specimens, and studious acquaintance with copper mining. Then another friend had a collection of rare shells from far away, and our mollusk meeting with her opened a new vista of research. Visits to a college museum near by have been exceedingly helpful, and finally came the great treat of an evening on "Fossils" with the teacher of geology there.

Don't think me presumptuous if I say these boys and girls listened with the utmost attention to a long talk on the "Nebular Theory" from a specialist in astronomy, and again another evening went over the field of evolution with him, asking very bright questions that they never could have asked a year ago.

But some of our best programs have been from our own members on such topics as salt, coal, or crystals. One of the club drew a chart showing the geological ages, a father of one member has made a blackboard for ever so many club uses; one mother leads the singing, and by parodies has concocted several admirable geology songs, while another mother is an adept at games, charades, and conundrums, and as something of this sort with simple refreshments is on every program, she is invaluable.

Many a neighborhood might do as well, although this club seems to have some special advantages. There is a divinely planted affinity for Nature in every soul, and when one awakes to it in himself he is always astonished to find it developed to a greater or less degree in so many others.

J. B.

Vacation for Farmers' Wives.

HELEN A. BARNARD.

Patrons, the subject assigned me is one that I have often thought upon. Many a farmer would willingly spare ten, fifteen, or twenty dollars that his weary wife might take a well-earned vacation away from home. She will do double duty in order to get ready, starting from home completely tired out with overwork; when she reaches her destination it takes her a week to get rested enough to enjoy herself. Now why not take half of the set time in a vacation at home? If she can be spared for two or three weeks to go abroad, why not take a vacation in her own home again I ask. As dear to the farmer's wife as any heart is "Home, sweet Home." To them "there is no place like home" more than to any other class. Let her rest from all care, roam over woodland and meadow at her pleasure, inhale the fresh air, bask in the sunshine, and grow strong in mind and body. Let her ride, walk, read, write, or think, untrammelled with care; when rested she will be ready to take the remainder of her vacation from home with greater pleasure. It will cost no more with her taking her vacation at home than at a distance. As a class farmers' wives take care upon themselves. They find it hard work to lay aside their care and rest even for a day. Now the human system will bear just so much; when the point is reached there will be granted a vacation, whether asked for or not. Better take one before for their families' sake.

It is pleasant to take a vacation from home, to mingle with other minds in the various walks of life, to behold the varied scenes of town and city, but if one is worn and weary she often finds "the straw that broke the camel's back," finds herself prostrate away from home; in such a case what she sought for is not obtained. It is a duty we owe our families that we keep ourselves young and fresh for our families' sake. Labor is not all there is of life. Labor is sweet as well as beneficial to all, but rest is needful, and if we would enjoy health or wealth it must be secured. The Grange is a wonderful rest to all who attend its meetings expecting the benefit to be derived from the same. The Pomona is a blessing in this respect. Once in three months to lay busy care aside and enjoy a change for a couple of days. We often find change is rest even if we are just as busy as when at home. The farmer's wife should take a good vacation at least once a year, at home or abroad.

Kalkaska.

Peaches on the Brain.

Read at Grange and Teachers' Association in Hesperia, by Mrs. Mary A. Robertson of Hesperia.

In olden times people used to be troubled with love on the brain, but now its peaches. Love is good, but peaches are better, for the simple reason that they can be eaten. When the young man of today proposes to his sweetheart, she does not ask in

sweetest tones, "How much do you love me?" but says instead, "How many acres of land have you and how many peach trees growing thereon?" The girl in these latter days of the nineteenth century has an eye for business. She knows that love is all right in its place, but it does not fill the stomach and pocket-book like peaches.

I do not know exactly what part of the brain peaches are on, whether it is the cerebrum or cerebellum. Either one is bad enough, for it is the craziest craze that has ever attacked this noble state of Michigan.

It is so contagious that those who are not already stricken with this dread disease will be sooner or later. Rich and poor, great and small, all have it, only some more severely than others. Crazy quilts, creameries, life insurance companies, and fox hunting are nothing in comparison to "peaches on the brain." The American farmer is bound to ride some hobby. Some of these are very expensive, but just as soon as he gets down from one he mounts another and away he goes.

The Spartans were noted for courage, but the American farmer bears away the palm even from them. His foes are more numerous than those of Xerxes' army, yet he never fails to meet them, and often goes single-handed into the fray. Patiently he drudges from year to year, raising hay and grain, sheep and cattle. He takes his produce to market (and he has to take a goodly amount to bring him fifty dollars these times.) He drives through snow and sleet, faces the bitter wind on days when the thermometer is thirty degrees below zero. He sells his produce, receives the meagre sum, pockets it, and starts home again through the freezing cold, and pays the money to the creamery agent without a murmur; or invests it in several hundred peach trees. The creamery fails to give him any returns, and the fine variety of peaches he expected to sell in order to fill his slender purse turns out to be early clingstones that he did not order and nobody wants. However, they make splendid pig feed, though rather expensive.

But as I said before, the farmer not lacking courage, always rises to the occasion, except when his over-wrought wife wants a clothes-wringer or another wash tub, then his courage departs instantly. Two whole wash tubs! Great Caesar's ghost! Who ever heard of such a thing as a woman washing in two tubs! Preposterous! She can wring clothes a good deal better by hand than she can with a five dollar wringer—it's cheaper anyway, and five big dollars will go quite a ways toward buying a hundred peach trees. So the trees are bought and paid for, and the wife goes on in her old way, twisting her poor slender wrists nearly off wringing his heavy shirts. If she could only get the money that is due her for her last year's milk she could buy a wringer and several other needful articles, but now she will have to wait until the peaches grow before her dream of happiness is realized.

But to be serious, what is the farmer going to do, and what shall he raise to bring him recompense for his labor? Times are not improving, and the prospect for the future is not bright. Even the president, in his late message, has asked for united action by all parties to meet the emergency that confronts the government. The president seems to be at sea and is willing that everyone should lend a helping hand to tow him in. The farmer is also at sea, with grain at present prices and western and Russian wheat to compete with, he is adrift in a storm and is compelled to look for some haven of safety, and the harbor of refuge he sees in the distance is "peaches", and he steers in that direction. But he must be thoroughly acquainted with the coast, he must be a brave and skillful navigator in order to face the dangers he will meet on the voyage.

Of all the states in the Union, Michigan takes the lead as a fruit-growing state. She has every variety of soil, every diversity of climate. Prof. Winchell says, in talking of the peculiar character of the climate of Michigan, that both in summer and winter it is better adapted to the interests of agriculture and horticulture and probably also to the comfort and health of its citizens than is the climate of any other northwestern state. The marked peculiarity of the climate of Michigan is attributed to the influence of the great lakes by which the state is nearly surrounded. Michigan fruit commands the highest price in the Chicago market on account of its beauty, size, and delicious flavor. Last summer, when the first boat load of peaches was sent from St. Joseph to Chicago, great rejoicing went up throughout the city. The stars and stripes were unfurled and the porters marched from the wharf to South Water Street, each carrying a basket of peaches. Michigan peaches took the lead and were bound to be in line.

More fruit trees will be set out in Michigan next spring than in any former season, peach trees being more in demand than any other kind. Michigan abounds in arable lands, and what we call openings or plains now will in a few years be dotted here and there with comfortable homes

and blooming orchards, because these lands can be easily tilled and can be made to raise splendid crops of peaches. The pine stump lands are also being utilized. A Grand Rapids lawyer has bought 1300 acres of this land near Diamond Lake. He had the soil examined and they told him that peaches could be raised on that soil as well as at any place in Michigan. He has nearly two hundred acres cleared and will put peach trees out as fast as the ground is in readiness.

(Continued next issue.)

How to "get in" at Washington.

"In the first season, your friends will pick up the hungry club-man, an occasional senator's wife, and some of the other people who have social ambitions; but the last-named must be encouraged only as they seem likely to assist and not to drag down. In the second season the hungry club-man will be an early visitor, and there will be perhaps a few more senators' wives, a sprinkling from Washington's 'old families,' and possibly the wife of a well-known diplomat whose calling circle is not very limited. In this second season let them give a tea. It is comparatively cheap, and it will be a good test of their social progress. If some of the desirable people actually come, let them spread the news abroad that "next season" they will give a ball. And when the next season comes, have the announcements of that coming ball appear at brief intervals in the society columns, and spread the news around that it is to be a 'terrapin and champagne' affair. That will be a warning to the people who love creature comforts to make their calls early in the season.

"In the first three or four years your friends must be satisfied with what is known as the 'official' set—the wives of congressmen and department officials, with here and there a stray diplomat, and as a background a group of social strugglers. After that they may hope to become established by degrees as a part of the permanent 'society' of Washington. They can talk about 'old families' and sniff at office-holders, because the old office-holders who helped them along will be gone, and the new ones cannot do them much good. And in ten years they will have shaken off the atmosphere of tea and coffee or the memory of the dry-goods counter, and they will have hard work recalling that they have not spent all their lives in the 'smart set.'

"And for this ten years of devotion," I asked, "What will be their reward?"

"The gratification of an ambition. Whether it is a worthy ambition or not, every woman must determine for herself—and for her husband."—George Grantham Bain, in *May Lippincott's*.

The Juveniles

The Day of Small Things.

One little grain in the sandy bars;
One little flower in a field of flowers;
One little star in a heaven of stars;
One little hour in a year of hours.
What if it makes or what if it mars?
But the bar is built of little grains;
And the little flowers make the meadows gay;
And the little stars light the heavenly plains;
And the little hours of each little day
Give to us all that life contains.

—Ez.

Our Summer Companions.

How sweetly the birds sing to us these beautiful summer days! They have all got back from their winter homes in the south, and now they are busy making their nests, laying their eggs or caring for their little ones. The robins are very fond of company, it seems, for they most always make their nests in trees near the houses, and sometimes we find them busily at work making a nest in some sheltered nook about the eaves of the buildings.

A pair of robins made a nest not very far from the house this spring. The female seemed to have charge of the work as it went along, but both were very busy. First, they gathered up the mud, and this was placed in such a way as to make a strong foundation for the nest. The mud was full of long stalks of grass and roots, and was very compact.

Then when the outside was built up to the liking of Dame Robin, they gathered soft grasses, hair, and other downy material for the inside of the nest. Sometimes her mate would not bring the right kind of grass, and then Dame Robin would seize it in her beak and throw it away in disgust. Now and then he would sing sweetly to her, but it made no difference; the nest must be made to suit her fancy.

After the nest was done, the mother bird soon laid four handsome blue eggs, and now she is very busy taking care of them. The other morning we looked out of the window just as her mate flew up to the nest with a big worm in his beak. No sooner had Madam Robin eaten this than off he flew in search of another.

The robins are very fond of cherries and strawberries, but they are rather pleasant companions about the lawn.—*Our Little People*.

THE GRANGE VISITOR

CHARLOTTE, MICH.

The Official Organ of the Michigan State Grange.

Published on the First and Third Thursdays of Each Month

EDITOR:

KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD, LANSING, MICH.

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

MANAGERS AND PRINTERS:

PERRY & MCGRATH, CHARLOTTE, MICH.

To whom all subscriptions and advertising should be sent.

TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months.

In Clubs of 20 more 40 Cents per Year each.

Subscriptions payable in advance, and discontinued at expiration, unless renewed.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft. Do not send stamps.

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

Entered at the Postoffice at Charlotte, Mich., as Second Class matter.

NEXT ISSUE JUNE 6.

OUR WORK.

The following has been approved by the State Grange as a fair statement of the objects the Grange of Michigan has in view, and the special lines along which it proposes to work.

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.

The VISITOR is your paper. Do you support it?

Is your boy coming to the Agricultural College this fall? If not, why not?

The Grange is built to live, because it is built on a solid foundation—education.

The Grange of the Dominion of Canada is alive. We have the last proceedings.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me." This is a good motto for the Grange charity work.

Do you get the bulletins of the Michigan experiment station? Do you read the books of the Farm Home Reading Circle? Do you read the GRANGE VISITOR all through? If you don't, why don't you?

What's the use of living always in the future? Tomorrow I'll read that book; next day I'll take that interesting trip; next year I hope to do better Grange work. Why not today? Tomorrow never comes.

If people would spend half as much time in telling their legislators what they want as they do in decrying the legislature, we would have better laws. Have you written that letter to your senator and representative?

All our readers will be interested in Prof. Cook's article on California agriculture, which appears in this issue. Prof. Cook has so many friends on Michigan farms that anything from his pen is always welcome.

SECRETARIES.

Please do not forget our recent request for items of news from you. Quite a number of secretaries have responded, and the notes sent are just what we want. Notice the short items in this and the last previous issues; they are what we want from every Grange in the state. Let us make the Grange news column the most interesting column in the VISITOR.

FREE RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

The interesting article in this issue by the Worthy Secretary of the Ohio State Grange, on the above topic, leads us to inquire, why should not the farmers have free delivery of rural mails if they want it? Who's to hinder? Who runs this government, anyway? Who are the people? Why should the farmers stand at the gate

of our capitol, ever knocking timidly for entrance?

This question has been discussed for years, among farmers, and farmers' organizations have repeatedly declared themselves in favor of it. Yet we do not have it—do not seem any nearer having it than we did a number of years ago. It looks to us as if we were doing more talking than working. This is a question of such manifest justice, and the results would make so much for intelligence and prosperity, that we believe no congressman could refuse to accede to the wishes of his constituents if presented to him in the proper manner. We sincerely hope that the National Grange will see fit to make of this a leading question, and that the State Granges will be called upon to use every honest means to influence their congressmen to vote for it. Let us decide that we all want free delivery of rural mails, and then let us have it.

THE DAIRY AND FOOD COMMISSIONER.

The dairymen and farmers are asking for the passage of certain pure food laws. If the legislature shall accede to these requests, our laws against fraudulent dairy and food products will be moderately satisfactory. But the legislature will not perform its plain and simple duty in this matter unless it shall enact a law with provisions in it in the main similar to those of the Johnson bill (Senate file 248). This gives the dairy and food commissioner a deputy, a chemist, power to inspect, and a sufficient appropriation to enable him to enforce the laws. The appropriation asked for, in addition to salaries, is \$8,000 per year. It does not seem possible that this work can be done any more economically than this.

And now, what's the use in having pure food laws, and what's the sense in passing new pure food laws, so long as they all remain a dead letter for lack of means to enforce them? The present dairy and food commissioner law is a farce. You are paying a man a salary of \$1,200 a year, and giving him just enough money in addition to pay for a few analyses, hire a clerk part of the time, and get out a report. This is sheer nonsense. You are paying \$2,500 to \$3,000 a year, and getting little or nothing in return.

Thus we have two good reasons for asking the legislature to pass the Johnson bill or its equivalent; 1. If these pure food laws are worth having they are worth enforcing. 2. The present dairy and food commissioner law is an entirely inadequate means for their enforcement. No man, with the meagre resources of the dairy and food commissioner under the law of 1893, can do anything of value in enforcing the laws he is charged with enforcing.

Therefore, gentlemen of the legislature, we ask you to pass this bill; and we expect you to pass it.

A CUP OF COLD WATER.

The noble charity work of Sister Mayo and her colleagues of the woman's work committee deserves the cordial aid of every Grange woman in Michigan. The work will be carried on along the lines laid down last year, and in a more fully organized way. The details are explained by Sister Mayo on page three of this issue.

The VISITOR is in most hearty accord with the work, and purposes to aid all it can. We believe that the work is deserving just as Grange work. Through the work done last summer scores of prominent people in Detroit learned for the first time the true purposes of the Grange. And when the Grange once secures the recognition of such people its power for usefulness will be increased many fold. It will tend to draw the city people and country people into closer sympathy and to a better understanding. Just for the benefit it will be to the Grange, this work is worthy attention.

But the higher motives furnish ampler argument for our support of this charity work. To help those who are in want, to cheer those who despond, to give a breathing spell to those who stifle in tenements, to lend woods and fields to feet that are weary with hot stone walks,—these are your privileges, Patrons, and they justify the pleas of those who ask you to respond.

There are many in such circumstances that, in justice to their own, it would not

be practicable for them to entertain these aliens to the freedom of the country. But in many of our Grange homes, a little more labor, a few more smiles, a few more kind words, would be all that is necessary, and surely such coin is free enough. It enriches him who receives and him who gives. The labor incurred in entertaining these women and children is as the giving of a cup of cold water to the passer by, when compared to the blessings of health and happiness bestowed.

COLORING BUTTER.

Mr. Breck, in our last issue, stated so fully the argument for the prohibition of coloring oleomargarine, that we can add nothing. But prompted by Mr. Hodgman's "Protest" in this issue, we venture to repeat, in a little different form, the various points of this controversy.

1. Butter is colored, not to deceive, but to please the eye of the purchaser. Of two samples of winter butter, from the same factory, one colored and the other not colored, which would Mr. Hodgman choose? The average man would pay several cents more for the colored butter, though knowing it to be colored. Butter color does not purify "rotten" butter, nor sweeten "rancid" butter, nor deodorize "stinking" butter. Bad butter carries its own ear marks; color does not hide inferiority. If color does cover up defects in butter, why do not people call for uncolored butter, that they may thereby be assured of its wholesomeness?

2. The friends of oleomargarine claim the same privilege for their product—that it is colored to please the eye. No one could logically deny the producers or consumers of oleomargarine that privilege, if it were not true that this coloring enables the retailers of bogus butter to sell their products as and for butter: the dairymen might not like the competition, but they could not well complain of that. The whole question, then, becomes one of fact—does the coloring of oleomargarine aid the retailers in selling it for genuine butter? The dairymen, on whom the burden of proof rested, adduce facts and figures for their side, and these facts and figures are not as yet successfully disputed. It will be seen, therefore, that our defense of the anti-color proposition rests upon the fact that because of the yellow color of oleomargarine it is sold to people who want, ask for, and pay for, butter. There can be no honest argument over the logic of our position. The opponents of the color clause must now show that the coloring of oleomargarine does not aid in its being sold for butter, or else remain silent.

3. It is claimed by some that if the coloring of butter were prohibited by law, the dairy industry would be ultimately benefited. Whether this be a true theory or not, it is perfectly impracticable in Michigan for the manifest reason that it would discriminate most seriously against Michigan butter. Michigan uncolored butter could not compete fairly with imported colored butter, nor could it be exported with advantage to other states. Moreover, to prohibit the coloring of butter would not prevent oleomargarine from being sold as butter, for if white butter were the rule, bogus butter would not be colored yellow.

4. Beyond all this, there are two good reasons why Michigan should prohibit the coloring of oleomargarine yellow. One is that twenty-two states have done it, and the other is that the United States supreme court has held that it is a perfectly proper and just thing to do.

Binder Twine.

A favorable deal for binder twine has been consummated and full details of prices and conditions will be mailed to all Grange secretaries. Based upon the general satisfaction that followed last year's twine purchase there should be at least five times as much taken this year as last.

GEO. B. HORTON.

Arizona is generally regarded as a barren, rocky, mountainous region, or sandy plains, where only sage brush grows. Yet the forests of that territory cover an area larger than the state of Massachusetts, the growth being principally pine, and where trees grow to a height of more than 150 feet. There are to be found also the cottonwood alder, manzanita, maple, mesquite, wild cherry, and ironwood, which last, brittle and taking beautiful polish, when dry can scarcely be cut, and creates a furnace heat like coke.—Forest Leaves.

Beneath the Dome.

We have not space in this issue to discuss the fate of most of the measures that have been disposed of during the past two weeks. Both houses have been working hard. As an instance, the Senate, in committee of the whole one afternoon, disposed of 36 bills. The date set for adjournment is May 31, but it is generally understood that no work will be done after midnight of May 28. Hence there are but seven or eight more working days.

Senator Jewell has worked heroically and persistently for the repeal of the special charter of the Michigan Central railroad company, but was finally defeated, lacking three votes of the number required. When it is remembered that the chief reason for the passage of this bill is to bring this road under the operation of the two cent fare law, it seems rather peculiar that there should be serious opposition to the bill.

The appropriation for the Agricultural College with the dairy building left out, has passed both houses.

Representative Place's free text book bill was amended so as to make it optional, thus virtually taking the "starch out of it," but even in that form it failed of passage in the House, securing but 49 votes out of a needed 51.

As to Grange measures. The township unit school bill came up in the Senate on the day our last issue went to press. Senator Chittenden made as good a defense of the measure as could be made, but the farmers were "agin' him," and the bill received but three favorable votes. It was the petitions from the Granges that did it—the Senators voted as they knew their constituents wanted them to vote.

The farmers' institute bill has passed the Senate and is probably a law. This is the first of the measures, advocated by the Grange in this legislature, which has become a law, and the Grange deserves the credit for it.

Pure food legislation is in a somewhat unsatisfactory condition. The Redfern bill has passed both houses. It will be remembered that this bill was so cut up in the House as to weaken it very much. Still it is a gain, and its passage is welcomed. The Hoyt anti-color bill will not pass the House unless you write your representative to-day that he must vote for it. This bill is of great importance.

It is understood that the Johnson bill, providing \$12,000 a year for the dairy and food commissioner, will be reported favorably by the Senate committee on finance and appropriations. This is the key-note of all pure food legislation. What's the use of pure food laws if they are not enforced, and how can they be enforced without money? If you have not written to your senator and representative about this bill, do so at once. It is of the utmost importance, and we can have it if we all say we want it. The governor is known to be in favor of a fair appropriation for the use of the commissioner, and this will aid the bill. But your representatives must be made to feel that you want it.

The tax statistician bill has passed the Senate, with a few minor amendments that will doubtless be concurred in by the House. This is triumph number two for the Grange. This bill would never have passed but for Grange petitions. We hope that a first-class man will be appointed, and that the people of the state will get from this measure what the Grange designed should come as a result of the work of a state tax statistician.

In our next issue we will endeavor to give the votes of your senators and representatives on all measures advocated by the Grange.

Puzzles.

All readers of the GRANGE VISITOR are invited to contribute and send solutions to this department. Address all communications to Thos. A. Millar, 506 12th street, Detroit, Mich.

52—BEHEADMENTS.

Behead a lady and leave a parent; again and leave an embankment; again and leave a verb; again and leave a letter. Elkin, S. C. KENT GLASBY.

53—DIAMOND.

1. A letter. 2. An elastic fluid. 3. Enchantment or sorcery. 4. To do wrong. 5. A letter. Canistota, N. Y. MATRON.

54—CROSSWORD.

In log, not in tree; In bear, not in see; In hate, not in love; In hand, not in glove; In hug, not in kiss; In the, not in this; In her, not in me. WHOLE what I love to be. Pontiac, Mich. N. E. T.

PRIZES FOR SOLVING.

To the person who solves the most puzzles commencing March 21 and ending with the issue of May 16 we will give "A Rogue's Life," for the next best list we will give a novel. Solutions must reach us by June 3. Open to all.

THE MAIL BAG.

Let all compete for prizes, solutions can be sent in all at once or from time to time.

More Grange News.

These notes arrived too late to appear on page 8, so we print them here. Secretaries, please let us hear from you.

Ypsilanti Grange held an open meeting Saturday afternoon, May 4, and the program arranged by our worthy lecturer, Miss Flora Buell, proved to be very interesting. Miss C. Havens, a teacher in the Ypsilanti high school, read a paper on "Trees," which was full of instruction. Mrs. John K. Campbell, of Fraternity Grange, also read a paper on "Birds." Mrs. Campbell kindly gave me the paper for publication in the VISITOR. Professor Austin George, of the State Normal School, addressed the Grange on the subject of "Concentration—Science as a basis." The address was very instructive and greatly appreciated by those present. Professor Perry, superintendent of the Ann Arbor city schools, also addressed the Grange in a general way, speaking of the methods of teaching now being adopted, and the system of observation that was entering into the foundation of an education. The worthy lecturer did a wise thing in thus bringing the teachers and farmers together, and giving the citizens a better chance to know more about the plans and work of our high schools. It is very evident that the Grange can be made a great source of information in regard to matters that are of the utmost importance to everyone.

A. R. GRAVES, Secretary.

Fraternity Grange No. 52 does not find it difficult to keep up an interest in Grange work. The following questions have lately been discussed: 1. Is a woman represented in her husband satisfactory to woman? Sister M. N. Russell opened the discussion by a first class paper. The question was most emphatically decided in the negative.

No. 2. Resolved, that we as a Grange do not approve of the "junket system" as practiced by the members of the present legislature, whereby they as a body visit our state institutions.

No. 3. What are the advantages of a creamery over a private dairy?

No. 4. Which pays best, taking milk to creamery or to cheese factory?

No. 5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of drilling field corn? Which is the best self binder and mower on the market today?

Flora is to preside at a May Day meeting this month.

M. E. B.

Newberg Centre Grange No. 695 passed appropriate resolutions regarding the death of their sister, Harriet Babcock, a charter member, who died April 7.

Rockford Grange No. 110 is moving slowly along the track. Three new applications now in and hopes of more. Some of the faithful feel like complaining that more of the members do not make a greater effort to attend the meetings. We realize that any Grange must be just what its members make it, and therefore if the majority of the members continually absent themselves, the Grange cannot expect to do much good work.

I think it was the issue of Feb. 20 or thereabouts that you published an article sent by Mr. Zebulon Young and myself concerning the fraudulent action of one Dr. Kinney. Well, Mr. Young has had him arrested and he has had an examination and been held for trial at the May term of the Kent county circuit court.

E. R. KEECH, Sec'y.

Just a word from DeWitt Grange. Saturday night, May 4, the third and fourth degrees were conferred upon a class of 12. The evening was one of the most pleasant ever witnessed in DeWitt Grange. Members from different Granges were present, also the masters of four different Granges. Several officers of Capitol Grange were in attendance, among them, master, overseer, lecturer, secretary, etc.

Nearly all expressed themselves as well pleased with the working of DeWitt Grange. George Heck, overseer of Capitol Grange, gave a recitation which was much enjoyed by all.

Supper was served to 110 Patrons, besides a large number of children.

Five new members are to be initiated at our next meeting. Eighteen new members have been added to DeWitt Grange this year; three old members reinstated, making altogether twenty-one increase.

C. L. P.

Can "Cornucopia" have a little corner in your valuable paper in which to rise and explain how it is with us horny-handed Grangers of Ronald Grange No. 192, Ionia county? Never in her palmy days since her organization, twenty years ago, has our Grange ever enjoyed greater prosperity than now; or been in better working order. Last Saturday evening we closed one of the most interesting and exciting contests we have ever had. We had programs on each side and one joint one. The net results to date in figures are as follows: Thirty-five new members added, twenty-

five old ones re-instated, and forty subscribers for the VISITOR. How is that "for high?" But this is far from being all the good we have received. The impetus given by the earnest, active work done has raised the *esprits de corps* to a high grade, and I am glad to say the best of good humor and feeling have been maintained and a generous emulation and enthusiasm pervaded the entire Grange.

We propose to start another contest right away. We find them eminently useful in working in the young men members and in getting all to take some part.

To size us up, we now number not far from one hundred and fifty members, have a hall and fixtures worth \$1500, a library of over two hundred volumes, and a snug surplus in our treasury.

We have regular meetings once in two weeks, but lately have been compelled to hold four special ones in order to initiate our new members.

We have abiding faith in the exalted principles enunciated by the founders of our Order, and illustrated in the lives of such men as J. J. Woodman, Cyrus G. Luce, and Col. J. H. Brigham. We firmly pledge Faith, Hope, and Charity, and shall keep all with Fidelity.

"CORNUCOPIA."

Clinton Pomona.

Clinton county Pomona Grange met with Bath Grange May 8, 1895. The attendance was unusually large considering the busy time. This meeting was one of the best ever held in Clinton county. The master of Bath Grange, Mrs. Lindsey, gave a hearty welcome to Pomona. But as actions speak louder than words, we did not need to be told we were welcome. Bath Grange is not very strong in numbers, but what it lacks in quantity it makes up in quality. Several questions were discussed, interspersed with music and recitations.

A new feature in Grange work was taken up. Hereafter at Pomona meetings the members of Pomona are to respond when the roll is called with remarks, quotations from different authors, or quotations from the Bible, just as they choose. We think it will be very nice when all get the run of it. Subscriptions to the GRANGE VISITOR were brought up and several of Bath Grange promised to take the VISITOR. Why is it that more Patrons do not take the VISITOR? We often take 50 cents, the price of the VISITOR, and purchase a trashy book that we never care to look at the second time, when we could with the same money purchase the VISITOR a whole year and have it bright, fresh, and full of good tidings twice a month. We sincerely hope it will continue to live, as no paper finds a warmer welcome in our home than the "G. V."

I would suggest that each Grange appoint a member to take subscriptions for the VISITOR, also, a correspondent from each Grange, so we may know more about what our sister Granges are doing. I assure you the Grange News is always eagerly looked after whenever the paper comes.

MRS. C. L. PEARCE, Lecturer.

Calhoun County Grange.

Thursday, May 9, the Pomona Grange of Calhoun county assembled at the home of Brother and Sister Mayo. Though the work of preparing the fields for the planting of the corn was very pressing, the Patrons came from near and far, and they thronged the house and pretty lawn. Long tables were spread in the shade, as a picnic dinner was the order of the day, while ice cream and cake were served just as they adjourned.

PROGRAM.

Prayer by chaplain. Singing, "America." "Shall we prohibit hunting on our farms?" by C. P. Chidester, Perry Mayo, and Silas Woodworth. It was decided after a thorough discussion to enforce the law in the protection of the birds, and against trespassing. Two excellent papers were presented by Mrs. Bessie Adams and Nellie Mayo on "The necessary equipments of the schoolroom." A very delightful recitation was given by Mrs. Clara Talmadge.

The subject, "Noted women of America, and what they have done for the country," was assigned to Mrs. Wm. Simons and Mrs. Mayo. Sister Mayo changed her topic, making it read the "Unnoted women of America and what they have done for the country." Mrs. Ada Mead read "Her little Royal Highness," from the pen of Robert J. Burdette, it being a most beautiful tribute to his wife. The culture of the potato was a subject assigned to Brother Frank Minges, a young man who gave an excellent talk upon the same, as to hilling or level culture, time of planting and cultivating. The quantity of seed to the hill and the cutting of potatoes for seed was demonstrated by Mrs. C. C. Poorman, who with knife in hand cleverly cut the seed, giving scientific reasons for the same, based as all true science is upon common sense. It was worthy of note to see this cultured lady

teaching farmers how to cut seed potatoes and do it right.

"Cutting and curing of the hay crop," L. E. Smith. After singing "Bringing in the Sheaves," the Grange closed. Calhoun county Grange is especially favored in its officers. Brother Eugene Talmadge as master and Brother Alson Mead as lecturer can hardly have superiors.

Some Comments.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR: While reading the article of Mr. Ansterburg on Merinos I agreed with him that many farmers are like sheep, as liable to follow some leader into a bare fallow as into clover; but it was always thus. In regard to his question, Will any sheep pay during the next ten years as well as other stock, I answer in the affirmative, and mention the king of sheep, the Lincoln. Were I the owner of a fine flock of Merinos, I would select a part, ten or twenty, and breed them straight. Then I would top cross with a Lincoln on the rest of the flock. If the time ever came that Merinos were valuable again, I should be in position to sell my grades for a good price for mutton, and go on breeding the pure Merino. Were I not breeding a stud flock of Lincolns, I should purchase a flock of Merino ewes and cross a Lincoln on them, for I believe the cross is the best general purpose sheep on earth. Still, I am well pleased with the Lincoln now that my flock is established, but it came rather tough to pay \$40 to \$50 for ewes and \$30 for ewe lambs to start a flock. The Lincolns are remarkable shearers for long wools; Lady Garry No. 87 is nine years old this spring, has twin lambs that will weigh 35 pounds each, and April 12 she sheared 11½ pounds, 369 days growth; in the past four years she has raised eight large lambs, and sheared 53½ pounds. Lord Stanley's last two fleeces weighed 40½ pounds and such lambs as I have from him; they are like yearlings.

I would make this change in the poultry house described by Mr. Evens. Have no studding; cut the boards 5½ feet long, nail to sill and plate, break joints in double boarding, and I would use tar paper between. The platform below the roosts is just what is needed, but if a person did not want to clean his roosts often, he can sprinkle with zenoleum (put up by the A. H. Jenner Co., 89 Shelby St., Detroit.) I would guarantee no lice would breed in the manure, and it disinfects any manure pile so there is no smell. I dipped my fowls last year for the first time and this year intend to dip at least three times in zenoleum, for within 30 days after dipping last year they doubled on their eggs. After the fowls are dipped take a force pump and sprinkle the hen house with what is left.

Another thing in building a poultry house—always place the bottom of windows on the sill. Could you see my fowls crowd up to the windows in a cold, sunshiny winter's morning, to get the heat reflected by the glass, it would do away with high windows.

Yours for progress,

H. A. DANIELLS.

Elva.

A Field Meeting

Of the Michigan Academy of Sciences.

In organizing this society, which held its first regular meeting at Lansing, December 26 and 27, 1894, it was agreed that a summer meeting, perhaps in a different location each year, would be profitable, although at such time no formal papers need be presented. The members and their friends, including all others interested, will convene as early as practicable at the Park Hotel, Orion, Oakland county, on Decoration Day, Thursday, May 30. After some consultation small parties will be formed to search for natural objects of most interest to them, whether it be algae, fungi, mosses, the higher plants; whether birds, reptiles, fishes, shell-fish, insects, crustacea; or geology, archaeology, or the microbes affecting the sanitary condition of the neighborhood. Very likely one or more somewhat informal meetings will be held later in the day for the comparison of trophies and comments on the same.

Such a gathering should be of especial value to the young naturalist, for there he can by association with those of experience acquire in a short time practical knowledge concerning methods of investigation, names of plants, animals, or fossils, where to search for "specimens" and how to prepare and preserve them. He will be likely to gain an enthusiasm for natural history which may endure for the rest of his life. Teachers, especially, and members of local societies of a kindred nature are cordially invited to attend this meeting or send delegates to make the acquaintance of its members. If persons can spend more than one day at Orion all the better. At this resort are marshes, bogs, streams, hills in variety, pretty lakes, with small boats to reach the islands.

Orion is a station on the Detroit and Ray City division of the Michigan Central railroad.

WM. J. BEAL, Agricultural College.

Chn. Committee of arrangements for this meeting.

Olive Branch Club.

Mr. and Mrs. William Jones were the hosts who "welcomed the coming," and "gave speed to the departing guests" on Saturday, April 27. The guest which did ample justice to their generous hospitality was the Olive Branch Farmers' Club, and the occasion its regular monthly meeting. Roll call brought out many exceedingly appropriate quotations. The literary and musical program was up to its usual standard. Mr. J. Divine read a well written and compact paper on "Our currency," the trend of which seemed to be in favor of gold. Said the essayist: "The free and unlimited coinage of silver would be a great calamity. The supply of silver governs its value; not so with gold, millions of which is coined each year, yet its value remains the same. Importers do business on a gold basis. R. K. Divine, our crop reporter, in his usual report said the prospects for the growing wheat crop were not encouraging, the prices were rising slightly, and exhorted farmers to watch the cattle market prices, and if possible take advantage of the advance in the price of meats. Wool he feared would be lower this year than last.

The question, "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 and be legal tender for debts both public and private," was opened by Rev. Geo. M. Lyon in a speech which for transparent reasoning, forcible language, and aptness in putting things, was a model. Mr. Lyon should be called upon to deliver his speech before every Farmers' Club and Grange in the state. So said all who heard it. Said he: "The financial question is the supreme question of the hour, and will be till it is settled. We want facts which are of more consequence than theory. The subject should be considered from the standpoint of intelligent, loyal citizenship, rather than partisanship. We should be more anxious to get at the truth than to win the argument for our side, like lyceum debaters. The next presidential election will either save or assassinate this government." Money was defined as anything having the stamp of the government. Nearly all the members had something to say on the question, among those most exhaustive being by D. M. Gamer, who gave a history of the financial question from the beginning, and made some telling points in criticism of the policy of the government on the financial question; and R. K. Divine, who said "Men are more in demand by the times than anything else; Greenbacks saved this nation in 1861 to 1865, and could save it in 1896." The nearly unanimous opinion was that there should be no discrimination in favor of one metal or against the other, and that the government should do in the present emergency as it did in the troublesome times of the war, save the credit of the country by issuing greenbacks instead of impoverishing the nation by giving premiums of millions of dollars to the gold bugs as is now being done.

An invitation from the Oakland county Pomona Grange was accepted with thanks to join them in a union meeting at Mr. R. K. Divine's, June 22. The question for conversation at the next meeting is, "Are we pleased with our present legislative methods? If not, what is the remedy?" Mr. Harrison Walters invited the club to meet at his home the fourth Saturday in May, which invitation was accepted.

D. B. MILLAR, Cor. Sec.

The spasmodic efforts of the Michigan legislature to pass measures which will be of benefit to the farmers would be amusing if the effects were not so serious and far reaching. The Redfern pure food bill aimed at bogus butters and artificial jellies has been amended, cut down, and remodelled so often that should it finally become a law it will be of very little value to the agricultural classes. The clause prohibiting the coloring of artificial butter and jellies to resemble the genuine was cut out in the house committee of the whole. The portion referring to jellies was reinserted when it came up before the house for passage, but not that dealing with butter substitutes. Possibly this defect will be remedied before the matter is finally disposed of. It ought to be.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucuous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best blood purifiers acting directly on the mucuous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by druggists, price 75c.

Mr. O. W. Ingersoll—Dear Sir, we painted the outside of farm hous with your paint some 12 or 14 years ago and found it very satisfactory. Will you please send me another sample card as I desire to order again. Respectfully,
WM. H. WAY.

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

Shropshire Sheep. Duroc Jersey Swine. 400 acres planted to them!

Write for prices on what you want to HERBERT W. MUMFORD, Hillsdale County, Moscow, Mich.

On Top Good beef is there now. Merinos will not stay below long. We have right stock at right prices. Call or write W. E. BOYDEN, Delhi Mills, Mich.

I Want To Marry a woman that can read well. I am a bachelor, age 47, farmer, worth \$3,000, have no debts, and I have tobacco. Ladies, write and state your age, height, weight, color of eyes and hair, and occupation. Address Box 302, Kalamazoo, Mich. 9w2.

WOVEN WIRE FENCE Horse high, built strong. Makes it yourself for 13 to 20 cents. 50 styles. A man and boy can make it in 15 minutes. KITSELMAN BROS., Ridgeville, Ind.

CANCER TUMORS AND SKIN DISEASES. NO KNIFE. Book free. Have cases a specialty for the last twenty-five years. Address Dr. L. H. Gratigny, 80 Shillito Place, Cincinnati, O.

\$20.00 A No. 1 FARM HARNESS. Made of first-class harness, warranted, and all hand-made. Write for catalogue. STANTON, MICH.

WEAK POINTS IN WIRE FENCES. Ist. too low! If less than 5 ft. animals reach, jump or tumble over. 2nd. Planks on a bridge, and should be close. 3rd. Cheap horizontal wires. No matter how large, a moderate strain stretches them until useless. 4th. The lack of a reliable, automatic tension device. End springs, ratchets, etc., can only affect near by panels. You can learn the remedy by addressing PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

THE ARENA. If it is not cheapness but ideas and worth you are seeking for your Home Circle reading, for your boys and girls, it is THE ARENA you want. The Arena is the one and only magazine in America which gives you a university education should give, and all facts and opinions on both sides of every question of human interest. Order your copies of the Arena at once.

THE ARENA PUBLISHING CO., Boston, Mass. It has attracted to its pages all the great wits, poets, reformers, thinkers, scientists, philosophers, story writers, and sociologists of our time. It publishes the most advanced thought on social science, politics, religion, theology, literature, criticism, fiction, art, labor, land, money, the woman's movement, suffrage, scientific investigation, psychology, psychic phenomena—everything of interest in the thought of our day. It not sweeps the soil of the everyday world and brings golden thoughts to land. It is unique in American periodical literature. It opens a new world to thousands. It will do so for you. Send ten cents for sample copy with our prospectus for 1895. Price per annum, \$5.00. 50c a copy.

THE ARENA PUBLISHING CO., Boston, Mass. Revised List of Grange Supplies. Kept in the office of Sec'y of the MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE. And sent out post-paid on receipt of cash order, over the Seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

Table listing Grange supplies: Porcelain ballot marbles, Secretary's ledger, Secretary's record, Treasurer's orders, Secretary's receipts, Applications for membership, Withdrawal cards, Demits, By-laws, Glad Echoes, Grange Melodies, Opening Song Card, Rituals, Notice to delinquent members, American Manual of Parliamentary Law, Digest of Laws and Rulings, Roll books, Sample package co-operative literature, Kelley's History of the Grange.

California Agriculture. PROF. A. J. COOK. The contrast between the methods and work of the farm in southern California and Michigan is as striking as that between the climate and scenery. The entire year here is like late May and early June in Michigan, with never a night too warm to sleep and rarely a day that is uncomfortable in the shade. The sea breezes are as regular as the flow of the tides from which they so lately parted company. Thus here the extremes which vary Michigan climate are entirely unknown. You expect rains monthly; we have them monthly from November to May. The contrast in scenery is no less marked. Your rolling landscape, adorned with grand forests, is replaced with lovely valleys, and girt round with high mountains, and beautified with scattering live oaks which occasionally form dense groves. September and October become very dusty here, but scarcely more so than in Michigan at times of severe drouths, and as the dust is certainly and surely limited at both ends, I doubt if it brings more discomfort than with you. The grand mountains ever in sight, and snow capped for most of the year, are a welcome background to the fertile valleys, and become very dear to our people.

THE PEOPLE. The farmers here are as a class far more cultured than in Michigan, or in any other state so far as I have observed. Dr. E. W. Hilgard says no rural country in the world can boast of the culture and refinement which graces the rich valleys between Los Angeles and Redlands. I believe this is true. We have a very fine horticultural club here at Claremont. More than half the members are college graduates from such institutions as Yale, Cornell, Amherst, etc.

I have never attended such farmers' institutes as we have here in respect to the ability and knowledge shown in discussions. Often a dozen are on their feet at once, and each able to speak with authority. I believe we shall eclipse even Wisconsin and Minnesota in the strength and influence of our farmers' institutes. We aim to make the institute permanent and semi-annual in each county, and hope to have auxiliary farmers' clubs in each neighborhood.

THE CROPS. The work in southern California is not so varied as in Michigan. We have few exogenous trees with annual rings because we have no settled rest period in growth, so the farmer has no rest period. The orchards are cultivated every month, and this is the every day work, with no variation except at picking time. The citrus fruits are in the harvest season from January to June with the oranges, and every month with the lemon. So we see that monotony is far more characteristic of farm work here than in Michigan. With the citrus fruits the monotony has its pleasant side, as the receipts come in each month of the year. Orcharding is the main occupation here and so the population is more dense, and the country is city like. Every ten acres, as a rule, has its separate owner. This social aspect of the city, with the peculiar advantages of country life. But there are large areas of grain crops grown, principally barley. This is not irrigated. The grain is sown in November and December and harvested in April, May, and June. Much Alfalfa is grown, which is often irrigated, when as many as seven crops may be cut in a year, each as heavy as a good cutting of red clover in the east. Last year Alfalfa sold for \$12 per ton. To quote "Old Squeers," "Here was richness." Beets and vegetables grow luxuriantly. The large acreage to furnish the celebrated Chino sugar factory which is in sight of this place is produced with no irrigation, and the beets are said to be exceptionally rich in sugar. Two crops of potatoes and corn are grown in a season, and peas and strawberries are brought to our doors every month in the year, and plentifully for nine months. Thus the monotony has its pleasant side.

IRRIGATION. The greatest difference between methods of culture here and in Michigan has relation to irrigation.

The water comes to each orchard or garden in ditches or pipes, and so the pomologist and gardener are independent of the rain fall. Last year was one of unprecedented drouth in southern California. Yet, thanks to irrigation, the fruit crop was, in many cases, excessive. It must be said, however, that when the orchards now set are in full bearing, years of such drouth as we suffered last season, will be seriously short of water. I think the time will come when Michigan will follow in the steps of California, and utilize much of the water of her streams that now runs to waste. The cash returns, I think, are more certain and larger here than in Michigan agriculture. The fact of irrigation makes the first true. Full bearing orange trees have produced a crop that has sold for \$1,000 an acre. With prices as they have ranged this year, orchardists have realized half that amount from orchards not yet in full bearing. Three or four hundred dollars per acre is not exceptional, I think, when the orchards are in full bearing. This explains why good fruit land with water right sells for from three to five hundred dollars per acre. I think lemons and olives are thought by many to be as profitable as oranges, while some think peaches and some other deciduous fruits are hardly less so. Last year a good crop of Alfalfa was a gold mine to its possessor. Claremont, California.

State Roads in Massachusetts. Starting in June, 1892, a Temporary Commission was appointed to examine into the condition of the roads, and to draft a bill providing for the improvement of the highways of the Commonwealth. The law suggested by the Commission was, with some changes, passed in June, 1893, but, before any petitions for construction of state highways were submitted to the general court, an act was introduced and, passed June 20, 1894, increasing the powers of the commission, and permitting the selection of any town, or the mayor and aldermen of any city, as well as county commissioners, to petition the highway commission for taking roads as state highways. In place of submitting to the legislature a separate bill for the construction of each road, it was voted that the appropriation be used by the highway commission, without further legislation, in building state highways.

The \$300,000 has been pretty evenly divided among fourteen counties. Before deciding which of the many petitions should be granted, an official visit was paid to each locality, and full information as to the value of the proposed improvement collected. While this method has distributed the work in small sections of roads, thus increasing the expense per mile, the advantage to the people at large will be greater, for the reason that each portion of the state highway constructed is intended to be an object lesson to those living near by. County commissioners and other officials will watch the work as it progresses, and follow out the same lines in building county and other roads which are not intended for state highways. The plan is to build, section by section, such roads as will connect the great centers of trade, and join with through roads in other states, so that both local and interstate communication will be benefited. Under date of January, 1895, the Massachusetts highway commission has rendered a report which covers the work of the past year, and this publication should be consulted by those who are considering legislation.

The provisions of our law will permit contracts for the construction to be let to municipalities or to private corporations, but the former arrangement is preferred, as it is more effectual in teaching the people the art of road building, and protects the state against cheapening the work by the importation of foreign laborers, an element which is apt to be objectionable. A resident engineer is appointed by the commission, and it is his duty to be in attendance, and keep a correct account of all items to be paid for by the state. Wherever the traffic was of sufficient proportions to warrant it the roads have been broadened. The advantage to owners derived from the construction of the way is, as a rule, so much greater than the injury to them by widening the road that, in a large majority of cases, the town officials have been able to procure releases without any cost. Thirty-eight sections have been contracted for, and only eight of them are to have a width of eighteen feet of hardened surface, all others being fifteen feet wide. As the primary object is to get length of way, the commissioners are considering the advisability of building single-track roads in the thinly settled districts. These would not be over nine feet wide, with here and there portions of double width as convenient passing points for carriages. A mile and a half of such roads can be built for less than the cost of a mile of fifteen feet width, and the advantage of getting produce to market is not lessened, provided such construction is confined to localities where the average traffic is from six to eight vehicles an hour. There is need of legislation to regulate the care of, and responsibility for, sidewalks on state highways. These being of purely local advantage should be under the supervision of the town, the wheelways alone being constructed and kept in order by the state. Progress has been made in the laboratory work on the road building stones of the state. Experiments of this kind are carried on at Harvard university in the Lawrence scientific school, whose dean, Prof. N. S. Shaler, is a member of the highway commission. The chief aim of these inquiries has been to determine the qualities which constitute fitness for road making. This will be of value to the commission in enabling them to utilize the road material near at hand, and thus lessen the cost of construction. As this phase of the work progresses, maps are made showing the location of all deposits suitable for road building. A number of towns have already appropriated money to build their streets in the same careful manner as those constructed by the state, and others have purchased road machinery with the intention of extending the work on roads other than state highways. Careful consideration has been given to the plan of planting shade trees along the highways. With this end in view, experts have been consulted concerning the best varieties for the purpose, and the wayside trees have been examined so as to determine the species well adapted to the climate and soil of Massachusetts. As the estimated expense of procuring and planting these trees is not less than one-half a million dollars, the commission has rightly made this question secondary to road building, but in the meantime they are collecting such data as will enable them to work with profit on the adornment of the roads after the construction is well in hand. The American and English elms have the advantage of fairly rapid growth, with shade falling above ground, and the leaves falling from them give but little obstruction to the gutters. They have the disadvantage of being subject to the attacks of insects, so that the cost of protecting them from these pests would be considerable. Maples grow well and are beautiful, though they often shade the road too much. It is the custom in parts of Europe to plant the roadside with trees which yield profitable crops. In France and Germany, for example, cherry trees abound. In these countries the yield of the wayside trees belongs to the neighboring land owners, but in some cases to the community, and their product is well guarded by law. There will be more or less experimenting on the part of the commission before they decide upon the species to be planted. The law provides for the beginning of this work in the spring of 1895, and from that time it will be carried on slowly, so as to give us the benefit of experience.—Albert A. Pope.

The following is a full text of preamble and resolutions adopted by the State Grange at the convention at Harrisburg, Pa., in December, 1894: Whereas, Floods of increasing

severely and frequently, due mostly to the removal of large bodies of timber from the high water sheds of the state, are, year after year, sweeping away our bridges and fences, destroying our roads, and thus impeding travel and traffic and washing away the soil or covering fertile lands with sand and gravel and imposing enormous costs upon the townships and counties, and

Whereas, These lands are passing under control of associations (frequently composed of citizens of other states), so that Pennsylvanians may be deprived of outlying grounds in their own state, and

Whereas, Forest fires, caused by ignorance, carelessness, or crime, yearly work untold damage to our young timber, destroy the soil, endanger buildings, and even sacrifice human life, and

Whereas, The land owner has thus been deprived of the protection for which he has paid, and has often lost control of his property to such an extent that he is unable to guard it against trespassers; Therefore, be it Resolved, That we, Patrons of Husbandry, citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, land owners and food producers, representing the largest interests of the state, do urge upon our legislators the immediate pressing necessity of enacting such laws as will restrict these calamities and grievances, and restrain these depredators, whether in field or in forest, and we further request that they, by legal enactment, do set apart and ordain as public forest reservations, after due purchase, such portions of the natural timber producing mountains as have neither agricultural nor mineral value, to restore the timber needed by our industries, to furnish, husband, guard, and hold in check the water needed by our valleys, and these reservations shall remain the property of the people forever.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

- Officers National Grange. Master—J. H. Brigham. Delta, Ohio. Treasurer—E. W. Davis. Santa Rosa, Cal. Lecturer—Alpha Messinger. Rochester, Vt. Steward—M. B. Hunt. Palmyra, Maine. Ass't Steward—A. M. Belcher. Rhode Island. Chaplain—S. L. Wilson. Mississippi. Treasurer—Mrs. E. M. McDowell. New York. Secretary—John Trimble. Washington, D. C. Gate Keeper—W. E. Harbaugh. Missouri. Ceres—Mrs. M. S. Rhone. Pennsylvania. Pomona—Mrs. Mary Reed. Kansas. Flora—Mrs. Annie L. Bull. Minnesota. Lady Ass't Steward—Mrs. Amanda Horton. Mich.
- Executive Committee. Leonard Rhone. Center Hall, Pennsylvania. R. R. Hutchinson. Virginia. J. J. Woodman. Paw Paw, Michigan.
- Officers Michigan State Grange. Master—G. B. Horton. Fruit Ridge. Overseer—M. T. Cole. Lecturer—Jason Woodman. Paw Paw. Steward—George L. Carlisle. Kalkaska. Assistant Steward—J. B. Martin. Box 442. Grand Rapids.
- Chaplain—Mary A. Mayo. Battle Creek. Treasurer—E. A. Strong. Vicksburg. Secretary—Jennie Buell. Ann Arbor. Gate Keeper—William Robertson. Hesperia. Ceres—Mrs. Mary Robertson. Union City. Flora—Mrs. Estella Buell. Union City. Pomona—Mrs. Julia McLeure. Shelby. L. A. Steward—Mrs. J. H. Martin. Grand Rapids.
- Executive Committee. J. G. Ramsdell. Chairman. Traverse City. H. D. Platt. Ypsilanti. C. G. Luce. Coldwater. W. E. Wright. Coldwater. Perry Mayo. Battle Creek. W. F. Taylor. Shelby. F. W. Roedter. Maple Rapids. G. B. Horton. Kalkaska. Jennie Buell. Ex Officio. Ann Arbor.
- Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange. Mrs. Mary A. Mayo. Battle Creek. Mrs. Mary Wood. Hinds. Stanton. Mrs. Belle Boyce. Baroda.
- General Deputy Lecturers. Mary A. Mayo. Battle Creek. Hon. J. J. Woodman. Paw Paw. Hon. C. G. Luce. Coldwater. Hon. Perry Mayo. Battle Creek. Hon. Thomas Mars. Berrien Center. Jason Woodman. Paw Paw. A. E. Palmer. Kalkaska. Judge J. G. Ramsdell. Traverse City. D. D. Buell. Union City.
- County Deputies. D. H. Stebbins. Atwood, Antrim Co. L. C. Root. Allegan, Allegan Co. R. B. Reynolds. Inland, Benzie. George Bowser. Dowling, Barry. James D. Studley. Union City, Branch. R. V. Clark. Buchanan, Berrien. J. W. Ernest. St. Johns, Clinton. Mary A. Mayo. Battle Creek, Calhoun. E. B. Ward. Ypsilanti, Oakland. Abram Miller. Dowagiac, Cass. F. H. Osborn. Eaton Rapids, Eaton. W. H. Bovee. North Star, Gratiot. B. Turner. Flushing, Genesee. E. O. Ladd. Old Mission, Grand Traverse. Mrs. E. D. Nokes. Wheatland, Hillsdale. R. A. Brown. Sand Beach, Huron. D. H. English. Chandler, Ionia. F. W. Havens. Flat Rock, Leelanau. J. Weston Hutchinson. Hanover, Jackson. Robert Dockery. Rockford, Kent. Geo. L. Carlisle. Kalkaska, Kalkaska. Hiram Bradshaw. North Branch, Lapeer. Fred Dean. Brighton, Livingston. E. W. Allis. Adrian, Lenawee. Jacob Rosenstiel. Biga, Monroe, and Lenawee. George H. Lester. Crystal, Montcalm. D. R. Van Amburg. Bear Lake, Manistee. Jesse E. Williams. Big Rapids, Mecosta. J. S. Lawson. D'Arcy, Macomb. Will G. Parish. Flat Rock, Monroe. T. F. Rogers. Ravenna, Muskegon. W. W. Carter. Ashland, Newaygo. A. J. Crosby. Apsilanti, Oakland. Robert Alward. Hudsonville, Ottawa. R. H. Taylor. Shelby, Oceana. D. Murlin. Vernon, Shiawassee. W. G. Gardner. Avoca, St. Clair. Wm. B. Langley. Centerville, St. Joseph. Robert Treby. Birch Run, Saginaw. M. C. Kerr. Carsonville, Sanilac. Helen Fiske. Lawrence, Van Buren. Henry Hurd. Plymoung, Wayne. John A. McDougal. Ypsilanti, Washtenaw. R. C. Norris. Cadillac, Wexford.

PATRONS'

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

PAINT

MICHIGAN PATRONS—'Buy direct from factory' at full wholesale prices and save all middlemen's profits.

O. W. INGERSOLL, PROP.
Oldest Paint House in America.
241-243 Plymouth St., Brooklyn.

WORKS.

Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints

Indestructible Cottage and Barn Paints

Sample Color Cards, "Confidential" Grange Discounts, Estimates and full particulars MAILED FREE. Write at once.

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.)

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

Part I is a reprint of the reminiscences of John H. Watson, M. D., of the medical department of the British army. CHAPTER I.—Dr. Watson returns to London on leave of absence. He is introduced to Sherlock Holmes, a consulting detective, and they take lodging apartments together. II, III, and IV.—Sherlock Holmes makes some interesting statements as to the marvels of observation. He is consulted concerning a mysterious murder in an empty house at the Lauriston Gardens. A wedding ring is found by the body of the dead man, but the motive for the crime cannot be learned. V.—Sherlock Holmes advertises the ring as one found near the place. It brought a reply and a claimant for the ring in the person of an old woman, who said it belonged to her daughter. Holmes follows, and she proves to be a man in disguise who gives him the slip. VI and VII.—Another murder, and through the skill of Holmes a cabman named Jefferson Hope is arrested for both crimes. Meantime the Scotland yard detectives have been working on fruitless

CHAPTER VII.

The intelligence with which Lestrade greeted us was so momentous and so unexpected that we were all three fairly dumfounded. Gregson sprang out of his chair and upset the remainder of his whisky and water. I stared in silence at Sherlock Holmes, whose lips were compressed and his brows drawn down over his eyes.

"Stangerson, too!" he muttered. "The plot thickens."

"It was quite thick enough before," grumbled Lestrade, taking a chair. "I seem to have dropped into a sort of council of war."

"Are you—are you sure of this piece of intelligence?" stammered Gregson.

"I have just come from his room," said Lestrade. "I was the first to discover what had occurred."

"We have been hearing Gregson's view of the matter," Holmes observed. "Would you mind letting us know what you have seen and done?"

"I have no objection," Lestrade answered, seating himself. "I freely confess that I was of the opinion that Stangerson was concerned in the death of Drebbler. This fresh development has shown me that I was completely mistaken. Full of the one idea, I set myself to find out what had become of the secretary. They had been seen together at Euston station about half past 8 on the evening of the 3d. At 2 in the morning Drebbler had been found in the Brixton road. The question which confronted me was to find out how Stangerson had been employed between 8:30 and the time of the crime and what had become of him afterward. I telegraphed to Liverpool giving a description of the man and warning them to keep a watch upon the American boats. I then set to work calling upon all the hotels and lodging houses in the vicinity of Euston. You see, I argued that if Drebbler and his companion had become separated the natural course for the latter would be to put up somewhere in the vicinity for the night and then to hang about the station again next morning."

"They would be likely to agree on some meeting place beforehand," remarked Holmes.

"So it proved. I spent the whole of yesterday evening in making inquiries entirely without avail. This morning I began very early, and at 8 o'clock I reached Halliday's Private hotel in Little George street. On my inquiry as to whether a Mr. Stangerson was living there they at once answered me in the affirmative.

"No doubt you are the gentleman he was expecting," they said. "He has been waiting for a gentleman for two days."

"Where is he now?" I asked.

"He is up stairs in bed. He wished to be called at 9."

"It seemed to me that my sudden appearance might shake his nerves and lead him to say something unguarded. The boots volunteered to show me the room. It was on the second floor, and there was a small corridor leading up to it. The boots pointed out the door to me and was about to go down stairs again when I saw something that made me feel sickish, in spite of my 20 years' experience. From under the door there curled a little red ribbon of blood, which had meandered across the passage and formed a little pool along the skirting at the other side. I gave a cry, which brought the boots back. He nearly fainted when he saw it. The door was locked on the inside, but we put our shoulders to it and knocked it in. The window of the room was open, and beside the window, all huddled up, lay the body of a man in his nightdress. He was quite dead and had been for some time, for his limbs were rigid and cold. When we turned him over, the boots recognized him at once as being

the same gentleman who had engaged the room under the name of Joseph Stangerson. The cause of death was a deep stab in the left side, which must have penetrated the heart. And now comes the strangest part of the affair. What do you suppose was above the murdered man?"

"I felt a creeping of the flesh and a presentiment of coming horror, even before Sherlock Holmes answered.

"The word 'Rache,' written in letters of blood," he said.

"That was it," said Lestrade in an awestruck voice, and we were all silent for awhile.

There was something so methodical and so incomprehensible about the deeds of this unknown assassin that it imparted a fresh ghastliness to his crimes. My nerves, which were steady enough on the field of battle, tingled as I thought of it.

"The man was seen," continued Lestrade. "A milkboy, passing on his way to the dairy, happened to walk down the lane which leads from the mews at the back of the hotel. He noticed that a ladder, which usually lay there, was raised against one of the windows of the second floor, which was wide open. After passing he looked back and saw a man descend the ladder. He came down so quietly and openly that the boy imagined him to be some carpenter or joiner at work in the hotel. He took no particular notice of him beyond thinking in his own mind that it was early for him to be at work. He has an impression that the man was tall, had a reddish face and was dressed in a long brownish coat. He must have staid in the room some little time after the murder, for we found blood stained water in the basin, where he had washed his hands, and marks on the sheets where he had deliberately wiped his knife."

"I glanced at Holmes on hearing the description of the murderer, which tallied so exactly with his own. There was, however, no trace of exultation or satisfaction upon his face.

"Did you find nothing in the room which could furnish a clue to the murderer?" he asked.

"Nothing. Stangerson had Drebbler's purse in his pocket, but it seems that this was usual, as he did all the paying. There was eighty odd pounds in it, but nothing had been taken. Whatever the motives of these extraordinary crimes, robbery is certainly not one of them. There were no papers or memoranda in the murdered man's pocket, except a single telegram, dated from Cleveland about a month ago and containing the words, 'J. H. is in Europe.' There was no name appended to this message."

"And there was nothing else?" Holmes asked.

"Nothing of any importance. The man's novel, with which he had read himself to sleep, was lying upon the bed, and his pipe was on a chair beside him. There was a glass of water on the table, and on the window sill a small chip ointment box containing a couple of pills."

Sherlock Holmes sprang from his chair with an exclamation of delight.

"The last link," he cried exultantly. "My case is complete."

The two detectives stared at him in amazement.

"I have now in my hands," my companion said confidently, "all the threads which have formed such a tangle. There are, of course, details to be filled in, but I am as certain of all the main facts, from the time that Drebbler parted from Stangerson at the station up to the discovery of the body of the latter, as if I had seen them with my own eyes. I will give you a proof of my knowledge. Could you lay your hand upon those pills?"

"I have them," said Lestrade, producing a small white box. "I took them, and the purse, and the telegram, intending to have them put in a place of safety at the police station. It was the merest chance, my taking these pills, for I am bound to say that I do not attach any importance to them."

"Give them here," said Holmes.

"Now, doctor," turning to me, "are those ordinary pills?"

They certainly were not. They were of a pearly gray color, small, round and almost transparent against the light. "From their lightness and transparency I should imagine that they are soluble in water," I remarked.

"Precisely so," answered Holmes.

"Now, would you mind going down and fetching that poor little devil of a terrier which has been bad so long, and which the landlady wanted you to put out of its pain yesterday?"

I went down stairs and carried the dog up stairs in my arms. Its labored breathing and glazing eye showed that it was not far from its end. Indeed its snow white muzzle proclaimed that it had already exceeded the usual term of canine existence. I placed it upon a cushion on the rug.

"I will now cut one of these pills in

two," said Holmes, and drawing his penknife he suited the action to the word. "One half we return into the box for the future purposes. The other half I will place in this wineglass, in which is a teaspoonful of water. You perceive that our friend, the doctor, is right, and that it readily dissolves."

"This may be very interesting," said Lestrade in the injured tone of one who suspects that he is being laughed at. "I cannot see, however, what it has to do with the death of Mr. Joseph Stangerson."

"Patience, my friend, patience! You will find in time that it has everything to do with it. I shall now add a little milk to make the mixture palatable, and on presenting it to the dog we find that he laps it up readily enough."

As he spoke he turned the contents of the wineglass into a saucer and placed it in front of the terrier, who speedily licked it dry. Sherlock Holmes' earnest demeanor had so far convinced us that we all sat in silence, watching the animal intently and expecting some startling effect. None such appeared, however. The dog continued to lie stretched upon the cushion, breathing in a labored way, but apparently neither the better nor the worse for its draft.

Holmes had taken out his watch, and as minute followed minute without result an expression of the utmost chagrin and disappointment appeared upon his features. He gnawed his lip, drummed his fingers upon the table and showed every other symptom of acute impatience. So great was his emotion that I felt sincerely sorry for him, while the two detectives smiled derisively, by no means displeased at this check which he had met.

"It can't be a coincidence," he cried, at last springing from his chair and pacing wildly up and down the room. "It is impossible that it should be a mere coincidence. The very pills which I suspected in the case of Drebbler are actually found after the death of Stangerson. And yet they are inert. What can it mean? Surely my whole chain of reasoning cannot have been false. It is impossible! And yet this wretched dog is none the worse. Ah, I have it! I have it!" With a perfect shriek of delight he rushed to the box, cut the other pill in two, dissolved it, added milk and presented it to the terrier. The unfortunate creature's tongue seemed hardly to have been moistened in it before it gave a convulsive shiver in every limb and lay as rigid and lifeless as if it had been struck by lightning.

Sherlock Holmes drew a long breath and wiped the perspiration from his forehead. "I should have more faith," he said. "I ought to know by this time that when a fact appears to be opposed to a long train of deductions it invariably proves to be capable of bearing some other interpretation. Of the two pills in that box one was the most deadly poison, and the other was entirely harmless. I ought to have known that before ever I saw the box at all."

This last statement appeared to me to be so startling that I could hardly believe that he was in his sober senses. There was the dead dog, however, to prove that his conjecture had been correct. It seemed to me that the mists in my own mind were gradually clearing away, and I began to have a dim, vague perception of the truth.

"All this seems strange to you," continued Holmes, "because you failed at the beginning of the inquiry to grasp the importance of the single real clue which was presented to you. I had the good fortune to seize upon that, and everything which has occurred since then has served to confirm my original supposition and indeed was the logical sequence of it. Hence things which have perplexed you and made the case more obscure have served to enlighten me and to strengthen my conclusions. It is a mistake to confound strangeness with mystery. The most commonplace crime is often the most mysterious because it presents no new or special features from which deductions may be drawn. This murder would have been infinitely more difficult to unravel had the body of the victim been simply found lying in the roadway without any of those outre and sensational accompaniments which have rendered it remarkable. These strange details, far from making the case more difficult, have really had the effect of making it less so."

Mr. Gregson, who had listened to this address with considerable impatience, could contain himself no longer. "Look here, Mr. Sherlock Holmes," he said. "we are all ready to acknowledge that you are a smart man, and that you have your own methods of working. We want something more than mere theory and preaching now, though. It is a case of taking the man. I have made my case out, and it seems I was wrong. Young Charpentier could not have been engaged in this second affair. Lestrade went after his man, Stangerson, and it appears that he was wrong too. You have thrown out hints here and hints

there and seem to know more than we do, but the time has come when we feel that we have a right to ask you straight how much you do know of the business. Can you name the man who did it?"

"I cannot help feeling that Gregson is right, sir," remarked Lestrade. "We have both tried, and we have both failed. You have remarked more than once since I have been in the room that you had all the evidence which you require. Surely you will not withhold it any longer."

"Any delay in arresting the assassin," I observed, "might give him time to perpetrate some fresh atrocity."

Thus pressed by us all, Holmes showed signs of irresolution. He continued to walk up and down the room with his head sunk on his chest and his brows drawn down, as was his habit when lost in thought.

"There will be no more murders," he said at last, stopping abruptly and facing us. "You can put that consideration out of the question. You have asked me if I know the name of the assassin. I do. The mere knowing of his name is a small thing, however, compared with the power of laying our hands upon him. This I expect very shortly to do. I have good hopes of managing it through my own arrangements, but it is a thing which needs delicate handling, for we have a shrewd and desperate man to deal with, who is supported, as I have had occasion to prove, by another, who is as clever as himself. As long as this man has no idea that any one can have a clew there is some chance of securing him, but if he had the slightest suspicion he would change his name and vanish in an instant among the 4,000,000 inhabitants of this great city. Without meaning to hurt either of your feelings I am bound to say that I consider these men to be more than a match for the official force, and that is why I have not asked your assistance. If I fail, I shall of course incur all the blame due to this omission, but that I am prepared for. At present I am ready to promise that the instant that I can communicate with you without endangering my own combinations I shall do so."

Gregson and Lestrade seemed to be far from satisfied by this assurance or by the depreciating allusion to the detective police. The former had flushed up to the roots of his flaxen hair, while the other's beady eyes glistened with curiosity and resentment. Neither of them had time to speak, however, before there was a tap at the door and the spokesman of the street arabs, young Wiggins, introduced his insignificant and unsavory person.

"Please, sir," he said, touching his forelock, "I have the cab down stairs."

"Good boy," said Holmes blandly. "Why don't you introduce this pattern at Scotland Yard?" he continued, taking a pair of steel handcuffs from a drawer. "See how beautifully the springs work. They fasten in an instant."

"The old pattern is good enough," remarked Lestrade, "if we can find the man to put them on."

"Very good, very good," said Holmes, smiling. "The cabman may as well help me with my boxes. Just ask him to step up, Wiggins."

I was surprised to find my companion speaking as though he were about to set out on a journey, since he had not said anything to me about it. There was a small portmanteau in the room, and this he pulled out and began to strap. He was busily engaged at it when the cabman entered the room.

"Just give me a help with this buckle, cabman," he said, kneeling over his task and never turning his head.

The fellow came forward with a somewhat sullen, defiant air and put down his hands to assist. At that instant there was a sharp click, the jangling of metal, and Sherlock Holmes sprang to his feet again.

"Gentlemen," he cried, with flashing eyes, "let me introduce you to Mr. Jefferson Hope, the murderer of Enoch Drebbler and of Joseph Stangerson."

The whole thing occurred in a moment, so quickly that I had no time to realize it. I have a vivid recollection of that instant of Holmes' triumphant expression and the ring of his voice, of the cabman's dazed, savage face as he glared at the glittering handcuffs, which had appeared as if by magic upon his wrists. For a second or two we might have been a group of statues. Then, with an inarticulate roar of fury, the prisoner wrenched himself free from Holmes' grasp and hurled himself through the window. Woodwork and glass gave way before him, but before he got quite through Gregson, Lestrade and Holmes sprang upon him like so many staghounds. He was dragged back into the room, and then commenced a terrific conflict. So powerful and so fierce was he that the four of us were shaken off again and again. He appeared to have the convulsive strength of a man in an epileptic fit.

His face and hands were terribly mangled by the passage through the glass,

out loss of blood had no effect in diminishing his resistance. It was not until Lestrade succeeded in getting his hand inside his neck cloth and half strangling him that we made him realize that his struggles were of no avail, and even then we felt no security until we had pinned his feet as well as his hands. That done, we rose to our feet breathless and panting.

"We have his cab," said Sherlock Holmes. "It will serve to take him to Scotland Yard. And now, gentlemen," he continued, with a pleasant smile, "we have reached the end of our little mystery. You are very welcome to put any questions that you like to me now, and there is no danger that I will refuse to answer them."

(To be continued.)

Weather Crop Service.

The object of this circular is to briefly describe the weather crop service of the weather bureau and the system by which it is conducted.

The national weather bureau and the state weather services throughout the country collect and publish in bulletin form, from week to week during the season of planting, cultivating, and harvesting of crops, prevailing weather conditions and their effects upon farming operations and crops. Both state and national bulletins are issued on Tuesday, the national bulletin treating of the general weather and crop conditions of the whole country, while state bulletins give detailed information concerning the weather and its effects upon the varied staples of the several states.

All state weather services are branches of the national bureau, and the general plan of work in the several states is practically identical. The national weather bureau furnishes, through the various local weather services, to weather crop correspondents, a suitable blank for rendering reports in the form of postal cards, bearing the government frank, which admits of their transmission through the mails without postage. These card forms provide for a brief statement of the weather and crop conditions of the week, and also for a record of temperature and rainfall for each day, but the temperature and rainfall data can only be supplied by those who are provided with thermometers and rain gauges. Very valuable reports, however, can be rendered by those who have not these instruments, as an intelligent and accurate statement of the general conditions, as observed by the correspondents, affords valuable information to the state weather service official in the preparation of his weekly bulletin.

The card reports are mailed by the special correspondents to the central station of the state weather service, the official in charge furnishing the necessary instructions as to time of mailing. Upon receipt of the reports at the central station of the state service they are carefully summarized and used in the preparation of the state bulletin, in which the reports of the correspondents are, whenever practicable, printed in full. The bulletins are sent to cooperating correspondents in exchange for their reports and are published in newspapers and given conspicuous display in commercial exchanges, postoffices, and other prominent places for the benefit of the public.

The national weather crop bulletin, besides giving a brief telegraphic summary from each state weather service center, contains a series of four charts, showing respectively for each week, (1) lines of maximum and minimum temperatures, (2) departures from normal temperature, (3) departures from normal rainfall, and (4) the actual rainfall. Meteorological tables also accompany the charts, showing the detailed data for the several weather bureau stations from which the charts are constructed. The records of observation at weather bureau stations for the most part cover periods closely approximating a quarter of a cen-

tury. From these records temperature and rainfall normals for each day in the year have been computed, with which current data telegraphed weekly from the several stations are compared, enabling the bureau to construct the charts above referred to, showing in graphic manner how the prevailing weather conditions of the current season throughout the United States compare with the average for a long series of years.

The weather crop service, which was begun as an experiment in a very limited way in 1887, has grown in importance and efficiency from year to year until at this time it is regarded as second only to the work of issuing daily weather forecasts.

MARK W. HARRINGTON,
Chief of bureau.

Notices of Meetings.

LENAAWEE POMONA.

The next regular meeting of Lena-wee county Pomona Grange will be held at Working Grange hall in Riga, June 6, 1895. All fourth degree members are invited to be present.

P. H. DOWLING, Lecturer.

BARRY POMONA.

The next meeting of Barry county Grange No. 26 will be held at Glass Creek Grange hall Friday May 24 at 10:30 a. m. All members are requested to be present.

LECTURER.

ST. JOSEPH POMONA.

St. Joseph county Pomona will hold its regular meeting with Centreville Grange the first Thursday in June. All members are requested to be present.

Program.

Essay, "Powers of organization," D. B. Purdy; essay, "Foundation," Mrs. H. Cook; essay, "How can we reorganize dormant Granges?" Sister Culbertson; essay, Brother Dean; reading, Sister Maggie Brannan.

Mrs. HENRY COOK, Sec.

BRANCH POMONA.

Branch county Pomona Grange will meet with Quincy Grange on Tuesday, June 6, 1895. A good program has been arranged for the meeting, consisting of papers and discussions on the following topics:

- "A gold standard, a silver standard or both, which shall we have?" paper by W. A. Lott, of Butler Grange.
- "The power of the American farmer," Clarence L. Olds, Batavia, Grange.
- Solo, Mrs. R. F. Boley, Quincy Grange.
- "The influence that neighbors have over each other," paper by Mrs. John Button, Batavia Grange.
- "To what extent should the science of local government be taught in our common schools?" paper by E. A. Greenamyce.
- Each of the above subjects will be open for discussion. Quincy Grange will furnish vocal and instrumental music, with recitations and declamations to suit the occasion. Also Brothers and Sister Mortimer Olds, of Batavia, will be with us to assist in instrumental music. A good time is assured to all who come.

WALLACE E. WRIGHT, Lecturer.

Grange News.

Paris Grange No. 19 mourn the loss of a worthy member, A. C. Barkley, who died April 10, 1895, of Pneumonia. Although a recent member, by his promptness and the interest he took in Grange work, he had endeared himself to all.

Brighton Grange has had a contest this winter. Brothers H. Dean and W. Bidwell were the chief opponents, and the former, together with his side, by superior work had a supper of maple sugar free for their labor. The new subscriptions I recently sent you also seven new members which we expect to initiate on May 4 are fruits of the contest.

Five patrons of Keene Grange purchased \$78 worth of fruit trees of Greening Bros., just received and all first class. I have remitted price and all is satisfactory. Twice as many have been bought of local agents; so much for wind and lack of sense in members. Why we can't get Patrons to subscribe for VISITOR is past telling. Secretary and lecturer are all the officers of the Grange who take it; those who should be foremost in the work are not in it. However, extracts are read from it at our Grange meetings, and perhaps the leaven may work. Our last year's contest seems to have paralyzed us, and the old guard of Keene Grange is nearly extinct.

On May 2d the May meeting of the VanBuren county Grange was held at Lawrence. The day was fine and members were out in full force, nearly every Grange in the county being represented. The morning was taken up with business and reports from subordinate Granges. The death of Mrs. Durkee of Bangor and a member of the Pomona, was reported.

During the afternoon the following program was given.

Paper, C. B. Charles of Bangor, "The Farmer as a Politician." Paper, George Rich, of Waverly, "The Rural School Teacher." Paper, Mrs. A. H. Smith of Paw Paw, "Labor." Paper,

Mrs. C. Lurkins of Decatur, "A Purpose in Life." Recitation, Miss Crawford of Lawrence.

All the papers were fine, and the only trouble found in discussing them was lack of time, however all were fully appreciated, and the members felt that more had been gained by the brain than had been lost by the brawn in attending the session.

Mrs. JENNIE BUSKIRK, Sec'y.

The woman's work committee of Lakeer Grange No. 246 gave an entertainment the night before Easter by the children of the Grangers, consisting of recitations and songs, followed by a supper at which eggs in various ways and colors figured prominently. The proceeds went towards some new furnishings for the Grange hall. The house was full and we had a pleasant time. One old member has been re-instated during the past month. Brother John G. Gates, a charter member, and our chaplain since 1876, has died. We mourn his loss sincerely.

Hopkins Grange No. 390 is in a prosperous condition, three new members having been admitted during the last quarter. We now own our hall and grounds, having just finished paying for them. During the past winter the Grange voluntarily assisted at the bedside of our sick brother, Wm. Edgell, who passed away March 18, furnishing watchers each alternate night for ten weeks. At our last meeting Bradley Grange came over in a body and assisted with the program, a part of which was furnished by themselves, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all. The principal topic of discussion for the evening was "Which produces the most crime, poverty, wealth, or ignorance?"

Hamilton Grange meets every Saturday night. We have an average attendance of about fifty. April 20 the question, Resolved, that the United States should annex Canada, Mexico, and Hawaii, was discussed, and the prevailing opinion seemed to be that the United States had more territory now than they could well govern if thickly populated, and should not extend it. We have for over a year successfully tried various games for the young people during recesses. Last Saturday not less than four were participated in by about 25 young people and enjoyed by all. Two new members were initiated and one reinstated at our last meeting.

Imagine if you can the volley of words that has been hurled at us since that article appeared in the last VISITOR wherein we were made to say that in our literary contest we had scored 300 points at six meetings. Just add another cipher to that, please, and make it read 3,000, and I venture to say it will make my peace with the brothers and sisters as no words of mine can do.

If we are not intruding we would like to tell you how our contest, of which we all feel so proud, was conducted. Our schedule of points was as follows:

Original committed to memory.....	100
Essay.....	75
Song.....	40
Five minutes' talk.....	50
Instrumental music.....	25
Recitation.....	50
Select reading.....	10
Quotation.....	5
Application for membership.....	100
Reinstatement.....	50
Subscriptions to GRANGE VISITOR.....	50

You see you were remembered by that list of subscribers we sent you, while it helped to close up the contest, it added to your list. The chief contestants made no program but left it optional with each one to do whatever he desired to do, and to the credit of No. 96 they nearly all entered into the contest with a zest, to make as many points as possible at every meeting and the consequence was that No. 96 fairly outdid herself, bringing those to the front that have sat idly by and let a few do all the work.

We have no fear now but that our lecturer can find enough material to make out a good program at every meeting.

March 30 we had our contest supper, which was largely attended and was a most enjoyable affair. We intend to organize another contest that the fires of intellect that have burned so fiercely shall not smoulder and die.

Mrs. H. M. TRAVERS,
Sec'y No. 96.

INGHAM COUNTY POMONA.

Ingham Pomona Grange met with Alaiedou Grange Friday evening and Saturday, April 26-27. Friday evening Mr. Sobenikoff, a Siberian student of our Agricultural College spoke to a crowded hall on methods of Siberian agriculture. Mr. Yebina, a Japanese student of the College, gave some account of Japanese agriculture. These observing and intelligent foreigners remained throughout Saturday, and seemed to enjoy their first Grange meeting, asking questions about the Grange and its work. Why not form Granges in Japan?

Saturday forenoon but few were present, but this and the afternoon session were very profitable. W. A. Olds gave a practical talk on tomato culture, in which he is experienced. Mr. U. P. Hedrick of the College, who is a great lover of flowers, presented the ideal "Country Dooryard." J. R. Potter of White Oak told how to save manure. But we noticed that the farmers who needed his talk were not present. No doubt they are the ones who say most about hard times.

After a splendid dinner E. A. Holden, master of Capitol Grange, read a paper on "The American Farmer of the Future, Tenant or Yeoman?" He takes a hopeful view of the situation, and thinks that we are in no danger of becoming a nation of landlords and tenants. Mr. G. C. Lawrence of Okemo read a good paper on "A Success-

ion of Small Fruits throughout the year." He urged farmers to have their own fruit gardens.

The meeting as a whole was interesting and profitable.

HILSDALE POMONA.

The May meeting of the Hillsdale Pomona was held at Moscow, on the 2d. On account of the hurrying times the attendance was not large, but the life and enthusiasm of those present went a long way in making up the deficiency in numbers, and was full of hope for the future. The afternoon was taken up until a late hour with literary exercises. They covered much ground, too much to report. Bro. Moore, our worthy lecturer, read and commented on "Mortimer Whitehead's," "What are the possibilities of the Grange?" and how easy it was for us all to see how in the dim but not distant future, the Grange may wag the world, and to feel the need of getting on a hustle.

Bro. Waldo Smith got a leverage on trusts, monopolies, combines, syndicates and the government in general, and gave it a long and heavy twist, sufficient to satisfy all demands. He concluded that we are all going to the dogs, which may be a solemn fact, as he uncovered some powerful symptoms.

We send the VISITOR a specimen of our exercises in the form of an essay by Sister Lucy Conklin, of a literary nature, and one of a more practical nature by Bro. Mumford, on sheep raising. We feel proud of our boys and girls of the Grange and what the Grange is doing to bring them to the front. The Grange has become one of educators of Hillsdale county. Long may it waver. Our next meeting will be held at Lickly's Corners on the first Thursday of June.

WM. KIRBY.

The Festival.

Don't forget the great festival at Ann Arbor May 17 and 18. All railroad tickets for the festival are good to return to and including Monday, the 20th of May.

Some Good Stories.

The complete novel in the May issue of Lippincott's is "The Lady of Las Cruces," by Christian Reid. It gives a later (and the last) episode in the life of that beautiful and gifted Mexican who was the heroine of "The Picture of Las Cruces," in the magazine for February, 1894.

"Martha's Headstone," by Edith Brower, is a strong and touching story, with an uncommon motif. "Odds on the Gun," is a stirring anecdote of South Africa, the first of sundry surprising adventures of a war correspondent which will be offered.

"The Heart of the Fire Spirit," by the late Lieut. Alvin F. Sydenham, sets forth one of the many devices of the Indian medicine-man. William T. Nichols solves the mystery of "The Ghost of Rhodes House."

In "Effacing the Frontier," William Trowbridge Larned casts a good deal of light on the condition and prospects of the west. Our army, he thinks will soon be no longer needed to keep the red men in order, and may profitably be stationed in Chicago and other cities to meet the growing danger from anarchists and strikers.

The May Forum.

The leading article in the Forum for May is a noteworthy study of the career and character of Prince Bismarck, entitled "Bismarck: the Strongest Personality since Napoleon," by Col. Theodore A. Dodge, the well-known military writer, who has lately returned from a long sojourn in Europe, where he made a fresh study of the historical events covered by the Iron Chancellor's remarkable career. "Why Canadians Do Not Favor Annexation," by the Hon. Jno. George Bourinot, Clerk of the Canadian House of Commons, is a very striking comparison of the Canadian and the American systems of government, to show why union with the Republic does not commend itself to the influential classes in Canada. "Have We Equality of Opportunity?" by Col. Carroll D. Wright, is an article showing that wider opportunities have come to all classes of society, to the rich as well as to the poor, and that we are making progress toward a greater equality of opportunity. Mr. Ainsworth R. Spofford, Librarian of Congress, writes about "The Government as a Great Publisher," describing the valuable work and vast output of the Government Printing Office at Washington—the largest institution of its kind in the world. President David Starr Jordan, of Leland Stanford Junior University, in "Pettifogging Law-Schools and an Untrained Bar," severely criticises the American law-schools, their impotence and incompetency arising, he thinks, from their having been separated from the university, because of the popular desire to reach this profession by short-cuts.

Other articles in the May Forum are "The Rebound from Agnosticism," by President J. G. Schurman, of Cornell University, reviewing the Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour's new book entitled "The Foundations of Belief," and Professor A. B. Hart's (of Harvard) review of the fourth volume of McMaster's "History of the People of the United States." The number closes with a brief review of the general business and financial condition, enumerating some "Indications of Business Improvement."

Book Reviews.

A hand book on Tuberculosis among cattle, with considerations of the relation of the disease to the health and life of the human family, and of the facts concerning the use of Tuberculin as a diagnostic test. Compiled by Henry L. Shumway. With six illustrations. 16mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.00. Address, ROBERTS BROTHERS, Boston.

Worn-Out Lands

quickly restored to fertility by the use of fertilizers containing
A High Per Cent. of Potash.

Full description of how and why in our pamphlets.

They are sent free. It will cost you nothing to read them, and they will save you dollars.
GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau Street, New York.

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

WORTH ANYTHING TO YOU?

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

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

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,

111 to 116 Michigan Ave., Chicago

ACME PULVERIZING HARROW,



CLOD CRUSHER AND LEVELER.
Is adapted to all soils and all work for which a Harrow is needed. Flat crushing spurs pulverize lumps, level and smooth the ground, while at the same time curved coulters cultivate, lift and turn the entire surface of the soil. The backward slant of the coulters prevents tearing up rubbish, and reduces the draft.
Made entirely of cast steel and wrought iron, and therefore practically indestructible.
CHEAPEST RIDING HARROW ON EARTH.
Sells for about the same as an ordinary drag—85 and upwards.
M. E.—I deliver free on board at distributing points. I am responsible for the quality of my goods, and I am not satisfied until they are returned to my expense, if not satisfactory. AGENTS WANTED at my expense, if not satisfactory. WANTED AGENTS.
DUANE H. NASH, Sole Mfr., MILLINGTON, N. J., and 30 South Canal Street, CHICAGO.

CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, HARNESS

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

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR SHEEP.

Good care makes good sheep, good sheep makes good wool and good wool deserves a good market. Just here is where we can help you.
We sell direct to manufacturers. Charge a very small commission. Make full and prompt returns. Secure highest market price.



We have testimonials from hundreds of consignors. If you are interested, write us. Liberal advances made when desired. Sacks free to shippers.
If you wish to know about our reliability, ask any responsible business house in Chicago or banks.

SILBERMAN BROTHERS,
208-214 Michigan St.,
Established 1866. CHICAGO, ILLS.

Michigan Tours.

If you think you can steal away for a week or two in August, after harvest, and want to know where to go, send to Geo DeHaven, Grand Rapids, for a copy of "Michigan Tours This Year." You ought to take a vacation, and you ought to go cheap. This tells you where and how.

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 that 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 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 \$1,000 the coming year and I am not going to let such an opportunity pass without improvement. We can't expect to succeed without trying.
Mrs. B.

SUMMER BOARDERS PAY THEIR WAY

Handsomely. If you live in a pleasant place away from dust and smoke you can easily get a fat share of this money. Thousands of farmers are doing it every year. Write for our little book that tells you how.
LOEB & THOMAS,
45-47-49 Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

THE Grand Trunk Railway OF CANADA

are offering a trip to the Knights Templar and Christian Endeavor
To Boston, Mass.

IN JULY AND AUGUST

—Taking in—
The Thousand Islands,
St. Lawrence River and The Rapids,
Montreal,
Quebec,
White Mountains,
And The Eastern Seacoast.

For information apply to
D. S. WAGSTAFF,
District Passenger Agent,
Detroit Mich.