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BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.



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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.
To whom all communications should be addressed, at Schoolcraft, Mich.
Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

To Contributors.
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RATES OF ADVERTISING:
Acceptable advertisements inserted at the rate of \$1.00 per square, for each insertion.
A Liberal discount will be made on standing advertisements of three months or more.

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By order of the State Grange at its late session, Masters no longer receive a copy of the VISITOR free.— Secretaries, or other persons, sending ten or more names, with pay for the same, will receive an extra copy free. Sample numbers furnished on application.

Don't Stop my Paper.

Don't stop my paper, printer,
Don't strike my name off yet;
You know the times are stringent,
And dollars hard to get;
But tug a little harder
Is what I mean to do,
And scrape the dimes together,
Enough for me and you.

I can't afford to drop it;
I find that it doesn't pay
To do without a paper,
However others may.
I hate to ask my neighbors
To give me theirs on loan;
They don't just say, but mean it,
Why don't you have your own?

You can't tell how we miss it,
If it, by any fate,
Should happen not to reach us,
Or comes a little late;
Then all is in a hubbub
Then things go all awry,
And, printer, if you are married,
You know the reason why.

I cannot do without it,
It is no use to try,
For other people take it,
And, printer, so must I,
I, too, must keep me posted,
And know what is going on,
Or feel, and be accounted,
A foggy simpleton.

Then, take it kindly, printer,
If pay be somewhat slow,
For cash is not so plenty,
And wants not few, you know.
But I must have my paper,
Cost what it may to me;
I'd rather dock my sugar
And go without my tea.

So, printer, don't you stop it,
Unless you want my frown,
For here's the year's subscription,
And credit it right down
And send the paper promptly
And regularly on,
And let it bring us weekly
Its welcome benison.

Exec'ive Com. Department.

GILEAD, Mich., Jan. 20, 1879.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:
It has been my good fortune to visit many Granges and to meet many members of the Order at various points in this State at different times during the last five years. In all places we are met with this question, "Well! how is the Grange prospering?" In all its varied forms the earnest Grange worker is called upon to answer this question. The Brothers and Sister are naturally anxious to learn what is being done in other places. This is not called idle curiosity. What is being done by the Granges of the land is a subject of vast importance to the future of the farmer. The student of history, as well as the careful observer of passing events, is furnished with evidence on all hands that no great results are accomplished without earnest, honest, steady effort. The Grange movement is no exception to the rule. In traveling around, we find in all cases where the members have gone to work unitedly with a will and determination, and meet often, it is proving a success equal the expectation of the most sanguine. They are strong with faith in the Order.

One year ago I met the Patrons of Wayne Co. and noted with satisfaction the tendency in that section of the State at that time. On the third of the present month I again visited the same County to fill an old engagement with Moughagon Grange, near Trenton. The night was bitterly cold, but the comfortable hall was well filled with an attentive and happy audience. The close attention given to an hour and a half of Grange talk was evidence of interest in the work. After this came the

installation of the officers. I believe the example of this Grange in many respects might be emulated with profit by some others. The officers elect were *all on hand* for installation. The Grange always meets once a week. Nearly all the members take the VISITOR. They own a good organ. There are several young lady members who can play it well, and what is of equal importance they seemed willing to do so upon the occasion required. They have made it interesting to the young men and women, and they were present in full force, neatly attired, cheerful and happy. They seemed to be proud of themselves, proud of their calling, and each other, and proud of the Order.

Master Vreland is the right man in the right place. He is pleasant, cheerful and dignified. Secretary Henry is active and enthusiastic. I have met with many other Granges with a larger membership, and just as good in other respects, but none that seemed to me to have a more just appreciation of what the Grange is, and what it ought to be than this one. Old men like myself whose active duties are largely with the past, feel the importance of enlisting the young. In this, as in many other things, they have been successful.

Just before visiting Wayne County I read of the death of our esteemed friend and co-laborer in the Grange, Capt. G. C. Gordon of Redford, Wayne Co. I first met him in the State Grange at Grand Rapids. I have since met him in the work many times. I was a guest at his house when I visited Redford Grange one year ago. He brought culture, talent, enthusiasm and tireless industry to the Grange work. The Grange has lost one of its most useful members. A gallant soldier, a good citizen and a faithful Patron has been called to his last long home in the prime of middle life. He leaves young sons who may buckle on the armor he laid off, and be prepared to fill his place.

On the 8th I met with the Patrons and citizens of Baldwin, Jackson Co. I was a guest of Bro. Howe at his luxurious home one mile east of the village. They have material for a good, strong Grange, but for several reasons it has not all been enlisted. I talked Grange in the Church at Baldwin, to a very attentive audience, but did not feel confident of results. To the faithful few belonging to that Grange, permit me to urge you to "hold the fort." Meet often, take the VISITOR, work diligently, and time will crown your labor with success. I intended to speak of others, but must defer to a more convenient time.
C. G. LUCE.

Dormant Granges.

BERRIEN CENTER, Jan. 20, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:
The last annual meeting of Berrien County Grange, No. 7, closed its labors Jan. 15, to meet at Buchanan the last Tuesday in May, the 27th, at which meeting the officers will be publicly installed by J. J. Woodman, Master of the State Grange. The session just closed has been one of the most successful ever held since our organization. Under the head of reports from Subordinate Granges 17 gave intelligent and encouraging reports. Various subjects were ably discussed, among which, the question of weak and dormant Granges received the most earnest attention and resulted in the adoption of the following: Resolved, that it is the sense of this Grange that we appoint a committee of Brothers and Sisters to visit weak and dormant Granges. The Committee was appointed, and start on their missions early next month. The Committee is composed of the most energetic members of our Co. Grange,

and is ten in number. The programme will be on the good old Methodist plan of revivals, to go prepared to hold meetings with the Grange visited until it is in good working order. T. M.

Progressive Ideas.

The watchword of the day is, "cut down the taxes!" The cost of maintaining the town, city or State administration, schools and churches, the public and, private charities now absorbs a large share of the profits of industry, and the shrewdest employment of capital. There must be a change in this, a radical reform. The way to reduce taxation is to place none but honest, law loving, fearless, competent men in office, and when you have once put such men in places of trust keep them there, keep those men in office who regard the good of the people, and an economical administration of affairs as their first and paramount duty, men whose purpose is to save the people's money instead of making all the expense they can for the filling of their own pockets. Reduce the number of officers to the lowest possible number, and pay a fixed salary.

Make fewer laws, render them *plainer* to every one, and do not change those laws. Provide against favoritism, and decree that all public work, so far as practicable, shall be done by the lowest responsible bidder, under good and sufficient bonds for the faithful performance of such work.

Discourage litigation, the bringing in of petty suits that only support constables, justices and lawyers, while they work ruin to the contestants, and burden the people with costs.

Make liquor sellers give bonds that they will faithfully observe the law which forbids selling drink to drunkards and minors. Punish crime more severely and make, if it is possible, the convicted pay the costs of every suit, and make the fine a standing debt against him till paid, not even exempting his personal property, and make the punishment include labor during the period of imprisonment so that they may in a measure repay the public for the act of keeping them.

Change the school laws so that all persons who desire for their children a "higher education" may do so at their own rather than at the public expense.

Many good remedies might be given for the above remedies, but, they seem to be apparent on their face,—propositions that need no support or argument.
T.

The Interest Question.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

"Vermont Farmer" seems to endorse the old exploded doctrine of all Shylocks, that the law making power has no more right to say what he shall get for his money than for his wool. The law does not grow wool but it coins money, and money being the creature of law, its use should be regulated by law, and being as necessary for the transaction of business as flour is to sustain life, its use should be restricted the same as the miller is as to the amount of toll. Would Vermont allow the miller to take half the grist for grinding, which they could do by combination if there was no law to prevent? If any man makes money on borrowed capital at 10 per cent. his business is not legitimate, for he is robbing somebody by charging enormous profits. As to money leaving the State if interest is reduced, the quicker it goes the better for borrowers who must become bankrupt if they continue to pay 10 per cent. but there is no danger. Real estate west is all covered up with mortgages, and even in this State large sums are lying idle for want of good security.
H. H. TAYLOR.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW

PROF. KEDZIE AND THE OIL MONOPOLY.

A writer in the last number of the *Visitor* who signs himself "Amen," has given some interesting and valuable information in relation to the oil monopoly in this State. That such a combination as the one referred to does exist there seems to be no doubt, and it is the duty of the Legislature now in session to thoroughly investigate the whole subject, and if possible apply the remedy. On this point there can be no difference of opinion.

The farmers of Michigan and especially the members of the Order, should, however, be slow to severely criticize and condemn the action of public officials "elected by their own votes," and largely representing their own interests. It will be remembered that previous to the passage of the "oil law" in this State previous to 1875, we could scarcely take up a newspaper without reading of accidents and shocking deaths caused by lamp explosions and the use of explosive oil. Is there a man or a woman in the whole State who has not heard of these accidents?

In view of these facts the Legislature of 1875, in which were 61 farmers, (50 in the House and 11 in the Senate), was appealed to by the people to provide protection for the people by prohibiting the sale and use of unsafe oil for illuminating purposes. In the absence of proof to the contrary, it is reasonable to infer that the Legislature acted in good faith in passing the law, whatever the results which have come from it may have been.

The writer copies an article from the *Grand Rapids Eagle*, which deals mainly in facts; and all that is said in regard to the oil monopoly, which is controlled by the Standard Oil Company, is probably true. That the special test for Michigan oil required by our State may have operated so as to give this company, in combination with the oil dealers of this State an opportunity to run up a corner in that grade of oil may also be true; but the following from the extract, aimed at the integrity of one of our best and most useful citizens, whose integrity has heretofore been unquestioned, and whose influence and labor as a scientist and educator has been so long devoted to the welfare of the State and the interest of agriculture, will find but few endorsers among the farmers of Michigan.

"There are chemists in the State ready to put up a job on petroleum or Clawson wheat for a consideration, and the Standard Oil Company has the means to employ them and secure faithful work.

That this shaft was aimed at Professor Kedzie of the Agricultural College, by the writer, there can be no doubt; but I cannot think that the correspondent of the *Visitor*, who copied the article can endorse it. It is not my present purpose to attempt to vindicate the acts of Mr. Kedzie by an array of evidence, but simply to state a few facts and leave the readers to form their own convictions.

When the Legislature convened in 1875, Brother Kedzie then a member of the State Board of Health, was called upon, not only as a practical chemist, but as a sworn officer of the State, for information relating to the composition of coal oil, and what test

or standard he could recommend for oil, which was not only safe to use, but valuable for illuminating purposes. He furnished the information, and in his report stated that the Standard Oil Company was sending out oils for illuminating purposes that were as "dangerous as gunpowder," and for this he was threatened with prosecution for damages by that company, and would have been prosecuted had he not demonstrated by actual test the truth of what he had stated, and now because it is thought that the oil dealers have combined, and are taking advantage of the law and run up a corner on oil, as boards of trade and speculators do on all farm products, that Brother Kedzie is responsible and has sold his influence to aid the ring "to put up a job on oil." But the "unkindest cut of all" is the insinuation that he was bought up to put up a job on Clawson wheat. As that "job" was in the interest of the farmers, it must be inferred that the farmers bought him. If so, who did it? Was it the Grange? There are those who would no doubt delight to have it so understood, but I am certain that our correspondent of the *Visitor* is not one of them.

Dr. Kedzie's analysis of Clawson wheat, and his report upon the same, raised the value of that wheat, from a low grade, with prices to correspond, and placed it among the choice white wheats of the State. The benefits resulting to the wheat growers of the State from this "job" have been great. And I am told that one of the most extensive millers in the State, who once cried down this wheat has become a convert to Brother Kedzie and sowed 70 acres of this wheat upon his own farm last fall.

People are too much in the habit of condemning the acts of public officers upon a mere imaginary pretence, having neither evidence nor plausible reason for doing so. This habit is becoming so general that it is a serious question whether a man who has any regard for his reputation for integrity can safely accept an office which involves responsibilities. A man whose whole life and character, as a neighbor, business man, and a citizen has been without a blemish, may be called to a position of public trust and under his oath of office, perform every duty honestly and conscientiously, yet not be able to please everybody, and it only remains for some unprincipled demagogue, to make a charge of corruption for personal or political ends, or utter the breath of slander, and there are those who seem ready to take it up and reiterate it with additions every time it is repeated, and the reputation of an honest and high minded man is ruined. This habit of repeating slander, and condemning without evidence, is demoralizing in its influence, and tends to keep honest men out of office, and to put rogues in.

We have too little confidence in each other, and in mankind generally. The want of this is felt in the work of our Order. Confidence in the veracity of mankind, is the foundation and support of all society, all organizations, and the only hope for the perpetuity of a Republican form of government. The knowledge we receive from the historian, the traveler, the naturalist, and scientist, generally is based upon this principle. Even in the most common events of life, we are compelled to proceed upon the confidence we place in others. And yet, how often do we hear the remark "that every man has his price," showing a total want of confidence in humanity, and demonstrating the truth of the proverb, "that from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

Agricultural Education.

The following from the Editorial columns of the *Scientific Farmer*, published at Boston, Mass., will be read with interest, and endorsed by every progressive farmer and friend of practical education in Michigan. Lewis Sturtevant, the Editor, is well known to the farmers of America; and from his able pen they have received many lessons of value on practical and scientific farming. The high reputation which our Agricultural College has acquired, not only as a school where farmers' sons may obtain at a moderate cost, a thorough, practical, and scientific education, calculated to fit them for the duties of useful business life; but as the source from which emanates many new and radical ideas relating to the farm and the household, is not only creditable to our State, but highly complimentary to its agriculture, and the growing intelligence of its agriculturists. The compliment paid to our College and its able professors and the report of Prof. Beal, by the writer are well deserved.

"The Michigan Agricultural College is one of the oldest of these special institutions for the farmer, and occupies a front rank. It has been fortunate in securing for teachers men who win the interest of the common farmer, as well as of the student, and who appear by their acts to deem it not unessential for the workings of an Agricultural College that professors shall do outwork which shall gain them the sympathy of the great outside public. Thus we have Professor Stockbridge in Massachusetts, Professor Beal at Michigan, and a few other names we could mention, teachers in the great outside world, and benefactors to agriculture, and builders up of a reputation which reacts for the benefit of the college and for the advantage of the students whom it is their more immediate duty to teach. Whenever these professors mingle the most with the outside world, we find a reaction upon themselves which is educational, as removing them from dead issues, and bringing before them the live issues of the day. Professor Beal is none the less an accurate and scientific man because he investigates through the methods and trainings of science, the germination of seeds as a question affecting the farmer. Indeed, it appears as if our technical schools were having a tendency in the direction of removing that reproach to science, that it concerns itself too closely with definitions and identifications, and ignores the practical uses of what it investigates.

Now Professor Beal has met with the farmer, has argued with him, has been contradicted by him in convention, and has had to argue for views which seemed to him, perhaps, too clear to require argument; has seen the farmer's failings, and wherein he requires a broadening of view, and wherein a recalling from the region of fancy to that of fact; and is prepared thus to meet in his teachings those difficulties which he has found to exist. He has learned that the farming interest requires, the most of any occupation, an accuracy of observation, and a correctness of reasoning from facts. Hence when we find him laying stress upon object teaching, upon mind teaching, rather than upon how to recite the most accurately from a book; when we find this teaching founded upon objects and observations which shall apply and be of use in after life, we not only recognize the good sense of the course, and the wisdom which seeks material of use for illustration instead of other worthless objects for the farmer's practice, but we feel as if Professor Beal had been directed in this course by his experience gained from his association with the farmer.

We have just received advance sheets of Professor Beal's report to the President of the Michigan State Agricultural College, in which he details the work in the department over which he presides, for the past year, which we have read with interest. We find that he commences with the freshman class, by teaching them how to observe; for some weeks, he says, "but little use was made of the microscopes or text books. In nearly all cases specimens were examined and a need was felt for definitions and names before these were given"; and, "It is astonishing to notice how much is discovered by so many good eyes, yet it is sometimes equally surprising to see that some simple prominent points are overlooked by all." In the teaching of horticulture,

"no use was made of text books," but daily lectures, and the value of individual observation and experimenting was so prominently set forth that the students took up experimenting on their own account, and selected of their own accord such a list as is given below:—

One is crossing the flowers of wheat for new varieties; one crosses wild and cultivated crab-apples; two cross corn; two or three cross different sorts of lilacs; one observes the duration of flowers of several kinds; one crosses tomatoes; one observes the peculiarities in the germination of seeds; one monstrosities among flowers and plants; another layers of apples; one studies parasitic plants; another tries to discover how nature sows wild oats; one studies the nodding of the heads of wheat; another the depth of the roots of barley and oats; another sows seeds and raises plants of clover, the parent plant of which bore many leaves which had four leaflets; another plants "buggy" peas and those not buggy for comparison; another digs up stools of chess to find the old kernels from which the plants grew.

In this report, lists of the thorough questioning periodically given are furnished, by which is evidenced the scientific—towards uses and applications—nature of the teaching. The value of such work as is here given, in truly educating the public as well as the student, can scarcely be estimated too highly; for the farmer, from the nature of his pursuit, is more isolated in his daily life than the mechanic or the trader, and is removed to a greater extent from the daily stimulation of recognized contact with competitors, and therefore requires more the exercise of that thought which can of itself stimulate a quiet and contemplative life to the utmost towards advancement and victory in a competition as great, even if less immediately felt, in the farmer's pursuit as in others.

This report of Professor Beal deals much in experiments of his own, and carried out under his direction; but it is the teaching aspect that we are now considering. Here we have a just recognition of that fact that experiment is at the basis of an agricultural education, and that this resource is as available to the professor of chemistry; that the study of botany and horticulture can be practical and stimulate the action of the hand as well as the action of the brain; and that in this co-education of the mind and muscle, progress in the farmer's struggle for a competence and a living can ensue. It is just such work, and just such means as these in vogue at this college, in one department at least, which is to truly educate the farmer, and which shall remove this crudeness which at present exists, and this fog that hangs over the agricultural public, and obscures the interpretations of the majority of so-called experiments. It is but rarely that we find an experiment in agriculture reported that will bear our test. What is this test? Any experiment which will prove, by the same logic applied to its interpretation, two opposite and discordant propositions as well as either one, is fallacious, misleading, incorrect and injurious. Any one series of experiments which will prove that phosphoric acid is better than potash in a given application of manures, and that no manure is better than either, and that the less is more than the greater, and as well the greater is more than the less, is an illustration of what we mean; and such experiments we can find monthly in our press, can find advocated by men of more influence than knowledge, and can even find held up for support by some professors in their teachings. Professor Beal evidently believes nothing in such a course, but believes, in not only himself, but in teaching others, to follow out causes and effects in Nature, so as to be able to interpret results correctly, and so definitely that these results may be safely applied and used as guides for practice.

The friends of agricultural education have much to do. They must clearly appreciate what the calling of agriculture requires, and then must not only support by their commendations those who are working in this cause, but must as well discourage all effort in a false direction, and all talk and work in the direction which is contrary to the laws of Nature and the interpretations of the best of science. They must ask for science, but not science alone. Science in its applied form, the close observation of effects, and the accurate formulating of causes, and the logical reasoning which shall connect a given cause with its outcoming effect,—this is

agricultural education in its beginning. In its ending, we shall have the greatest success in any given applications that the means of the experimenter or farmer shall admit of. So mote it be!"

Incorporation of Granges.

We reprint for the benefit of those interested an article from the Master's Department of the April number of the VISITOR, 1876. We frequently receive articles of association from a wrong impression about the requirements to incorporate.

Every subordinate Grange that owns a hall or other property of value should incorporate under the General Law of the State, in order to secure to each member of the Grange his just rights, and equal proportion of his investment in the common stock, or property belonging to the Grange. The title to real estate, is vested in the person or persons, or corporation named in the article of conveyance. Hence if a Grange owns a hall, it should have a title to the plat of land upon which it stands; and if not incorporated, the title must be vested in some individual, or committee selected by the Grange for that purpose, which is not always satisfactory to the Grange, or safe for those who have invested their money.

After a Grange has become incorporated, the title to all the property owned by the Grange should be vested in the Grange; then every member in good standing becomes a stock-holder, or joint owner in all the property of the Grange. "An incorporated Grange can sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, and may purchase, take, receive, own and hold real and personal estate, and the same or any part thereof, grant, sell, mortgage, lease, and convey at pleasure." The property of the Grange will be liable for the debts of the Grange, and the members will be individually liable to the amount of their interest in the property.

An incorporated Grange, "may create a capital stock" for business purposes "and divide the same into convenient shares, and all such rules and regulations in respect to the same; and the management thereof and for the collection of assessments and calls upon such shares as may be expedient."

HOW TO INCORPORATE.

1st. The Grange should at a regular meeting resolve that at a subsequent meeting, the question of incorporating the Grange will be considered, and voted upon. General notice should be given, and all members requested to be present, and take part in the discussion, so that all may understand, and learn the benefits of incorporating. A Resolution should be adopted to incorporate, and the Master and Secretary instructed to procure blank forms from the Secretary of the State Grange for that purpose.

2d. The blanks in the form should be filled, and the names and places of residence of the thirteen or more members who are to become the incorporators, inserted. The blank Charter should be filled out so as to correspond with the Charter of the Grange.

3d. The thirteen or more incorporators whose names have been inserted, should all go before a Notary Public, or Justice of the Peace, sign and acknowledge the same under the same date.

4th. The articles of incorporation should be recorded in the office of the County Clerk of the County in which the place of meeting and business office of the corporation is located; also in the roll book of the Grange, and the original articles deposited with the Master of the Grange for safe keeping.

5th. Other members of the Grange whose names are not upon the original articles of association, should now sign the same upon the roll book; and will thus be entitled to vote at the first meeting of the Corporation, for the election of officers and adoption of By-Laws.

6th. At the first meeting of the Incorporated Grange, provided for in the Articles of Association, which should be at the first regular meeting of the Grange, due notice of the same having been given—the incorporators, and all who have signed the articles on the roll book, should proceed to elect the officers of the Grange to be the officers of the Corporation, during the unexpired term of their offices, or until the next annual meeting, as provided in the By-Laws, will be the officers of the Incorporated Grange. At this meeting the

By-Laws of the Grange should be adopted as the By-Laws of the Corporation. 7th. The Secretary of the Subordinate Grange shall, within ten days after the incorporation of such Grange, certify to the fact and date of such incorporation, and forward such certificate to the Secretary of the State Grange.

Communications.

How to Make A Grange Interesting.

BY PROF. W. J. BEAL.

I hear a good deal of inquiry in regard to some plan by which the meetings of the Grange may be made more interesting. For want of some good plan, or members to carry out a good plan, some Granges have become reduced in numbers or have become dormant. To be interested in the meetings, every member must have some object in view and something to do. Some will volunteer but the majority must be assigned work by some who make the plans.

Having lately been elected Lecturer of Capitol Grange, with the aid of some of the other officers, I have devised the following plan of operations for the year. Several meetings will be omitted during the year; some during harvest time, others at irregular intervals on account of bad weather. I asked each member to hand me a slip of paper on which should be written three topics or more which he would like brought up in the Grange sometime during the year. I had a long list to select from to add to those furnished by the members. I spent a little time in arranging these for each week of the year. I have tried to introduce a great variety of exercises and something of a variety for each meeting, that each member may be interested in something. I sent for some small books which gave instructions for amusing a company—books containing dialogues, pantomimes, tableaux, etc., etc. We shall have four papers at about equal intervals during the year. There will be some debates, lectures, accounts of visits to farms, reading, declarations, songs, etc. In many cases we have tried to get topics suitable for the season of the year. Every member will be called on several times during the year to do something. Each, so far as practicable, may have his or her choice of work. We expect to have a programme made out three to six weeks or more ahead, all the time. This will be printed on small strips for distribution. In case of bad weather or a small attendance, so the programme is not wholly or only in part carried out for any one week, the subjects will not be shoved along a week, but if used at all they will be moved ahead a month or more. By this process every member, whether he attends all the time or a third of the time, will know just what to expect at each meeting.

Of course all Granges may not wish to use the same plan, but at the request of many members of the Order from various granges, I will send these topics from time to time for printing in the VISITOR. The editor can omit the names of persons chosen for each topic if he prefers. We shall be glad to hear from other Granges, especially from those which think they are meeting with good success in interesting all the members, young and old, male and female. I send a programme for six weeks beginning with February 15th:

- FEB. 15TH, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.
 "The Model Farm Horse"—N. GILLET.
 "Food for Horses,"—A. D. FELTON.
 "Shoeing Horses,"—GEO. WHITE.
 "Care of Horses,"—C. A. TAYLOR.
 "The Old Fashioned Farmer,"—MR. APPLETON.
 "Declaration,"—J. G. BARRGERS.
 "Reading,"—MRS. S. A. TOOKER.

- FEB. 22D, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.
 "Co-operation,"—G. M. TOWAR.
 "Our Store, its plans and needs," GOODNOE & CORNBRIGHT.
 "Fidelity to those who give us good terms in trade,"—O. LOWELL, J. SWIFT, H. EVERETT.
 "Short Essay,"—MRS. M. T. FOOTE.
 "A Story,"—E. M. HILL.
 "Watering Stock in puddles, ponds, wells, brooks, by snow and no water,"—ARTHUR GLADDEN.

- MARCH 1ST, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.
 "How to advise the young,"—MRS. MARIAM REEVE, MRS. G. M. TOWAR, MRS. G. S. WILLIAMS.
 "Tableaux,"—MRS. A. N. GILLET, GEO. AND LYDIA GRAHAM.
 "How to get up a paper,"—MRS. H. SWIFT.
 "Dialogue,"—EUGENE S. THOMPSON and others.

- MARCH 8TH, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.
 "The best and the proper amount of education for girls for self-support,"—MRS. LIZZIE TURNER, MRS. L. M. HOLBROOK.
 "Reading,"—MRS. SUTLIF.
 "Our district schools, their needs and good points,"—JOHN HOLBROOK, J. BEAL.
 "Reading,"—L. H. CRITCHETT.
 "Declaration,"—PERRY FOWAR.

- MARCH 15TH, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.
 "More stock and dairy versus more wheat,"—ALBERT BAKER, DANIEL SMITH.
 "Raising Quinces,"—PROF. W. J. BEAL.
 "Telling a Story,"—M. T. FOOTE.
 "Essay,"—MISS HILBERT.
 "Sweeping Carpets,"—MRS. L. M. HOLBROOK.

- MARCH 22D, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.
 "A paper,"—EUGENE S. THOMPSON.
 "Discussion,"—W. WEST, JAMES TOBIAS.
 "Sowing grass and clover seed,"—THOS. REEVE, O. GRINNELL.
 "Sewing patches, rips, and buttons,"—MRS. C. GOODNOE.

Better Late Than Never.

J. T. Cobb, Esq.—Dear Sir: Having been a constant reader of the VISITOR ever since its first attempt to stand up for the rights of the Patrons, I have failed to see a single communication from Courtland Grange. I hope none will think from the above, that there is not the necessary talent in our Grange, for we have several members who are capable of writing a long and interesting article upon many subjects. Courtland Grange, No. 563, was organized by Brother A. L. Alger, Jan. 9th, 1875, and soon had seventy-five members. During these four years we have had our share of the trials of Grange life. Many have joined since our organization, but at the present time we have but eighty members. Some have removed and taken demits, and we have been compelled to drop several for non-payment of dues. We have a few yet who are in arrears and have not been present at a meeting for over one year. Judgment will soon be passed upon them, then the chaff will all be blown out.

For some time we rented a hall but as we enjoyed but few privileges, we decided to build, and in a few weeks we occupied a good substantial hall 24x56. It is painted inside and out, has a good wall underneath, sheds for teams, and best of all we are out of debt. So you may safely say Courtland Grange has a permanent house and will live in spite of the sneers and jeers of the many who have plotted against us.

We also have a store-room and keep groceries and such necessities as can be conveniently handled. At the present time it is conducted by our worthy brother Edward Hunting, who, (as others before him have done) does his utmost to please all, and all appear satisfied that the store is a success, and are not willing to have it discontinued.

Our Union Grange is doing considerable good. To be fully understood an explanation is perhaps necessary. The following Granges, viz: Cannon No. 39, Austerlitz No. 64, Rockford No. 110, White Swan No. 423, Courtland No. 563 and Griswold No. 564, united and formed themselves into a Union of Granges for mutual benefit. Meetings are held at the several Granges in rotation, thereby giving each Grange an equal benefit. We meet the last Saturday in each month except during the busy season of the year. The officers are Treasurer and Secretary, who are chosen by the Union Grange. The remaining officers are the officers of the Grange in which the Union is held. The order of business is nearly the same as that adopted by the subordinate Granges. Essayists are appointed for each meeting, subjects given out for discussion, select pieces read, etc.

The only way to fully realize the good that is accomplished is to be present at one of these social gatherings. One who has ever attended one of our Union meetings will not fail to observe the unity of action, the friendly greetings and in short, all seems to be harmonious. In one sense they might be called revival meetings. There is certainly a marked tendency in that direction that may be easily seen. Those who have become somewhat indifferent will come to a Union meeting when they would hardly think of attending the meetings at their own hall. If Granges that are strong would visit those dormant Granges in their locality, aid them in bringing back those brothers and sisters who are about to desert them, there would be less opportunity for the Worthy Secretary of the State Grange to complain of Secretaries concerning their monthly reports. Brother Cobb has many duties to perform and it would be

much easier if Secretaries would be more prompt. I fear I have written too much already so I will close. Wishing the GRANGE VISITOR success, I remain Fraternally Yours, WM. G. TEFFT, Overseer 563.

CORTLAND, Feb. 7th, 1879.

The Farmer's Institute at Howell.

Prof. Ingersoll sends us the following report from Howell: The third of the series of Farmers' Institutes was held at Howell Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 20, 21. E. B. Winans, Judge of Probate, presided. As regards attendance and enthusiasm, this ranks among the best of the Institutes yet held. The court house was filled with intelligent farmers and a goodly number of their wives. Judge Winans in his opening address referred to the rapid growth of intelligence and culture among the farmers of Michigan, and expressed the hope that the present meeting would prove useful as a means of aiding the farmers present to attain a better knowledge of many subjects connected with their work.

During the first evening session papers were read by F. N. Munson of Howell, on "Farming as an Educator"; by Theodore Welker of Marion, on "Bee Culture," and R. G. Baird, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, gave an interesting lecture on "Conditions of Progressive Agriculture."

The Flint Globe says of this lecture that "it was an earnest plea for the bringing of cultivated, educated brain force to bear upon the work of the farm. It was an urgent appeal for an intellectual expansion of the farmer's mind, commensurate with the importance of his work among the industries of the complex system of our modern life."

At the afternoon session on Tuesday Prof. Cook lectured on the "Destruction of Injurious Insects," and Prof. Ingersoll on "Milk Fever in Dairy Cows." George B. Wilkinson read a paper on "Improvement in Waste Places," and James Harger, a paper on "Education of the Farmer."

In the afternoon papers were read by Mrs. C. Gordon and B. F. Batchler, the former entitled "The Foundation Stone," the latter "Theory and Practice as Applied to Farming." Prof. Ingersoll lectured on "Beef, and Beef Breeds of Cattle," Prof. Cook on "Parasites," and Wm. Ball, of Hamburg, read an excellent paper on "Sheep Raising and Wool-growing."

In the evening W. Asa Rowe of Mason read an admirable paper on "Our Michigan Swamp Lands," and Mrs. W. K. Sexton one entitled "The Farmer: his Position and Duty."

After the reading of these papers an hour was spent in general discussion of various subjects that had been treated of in the papers above mentioned. In this discussion the Hessian fly, with suggestions in regard to the best methods of preventing his destructive ravages, occupied a prominent place.

As a class, lawyers are distinguished for their diffuse style. They are seldom laconic or epigrammatic in their methods of expression, but use words in speaking and writing as if they didn't cost a cent. One of the "profession" out in Kansas lost a young hog, and the verbosity of the fraternity is well illustrated by the description of the strayed animal which "Lex" sent to the village paper. The opening sentence will be sufficient for our present purpose:

A cardinal (or as some call it brindle) and white colored young hog (or as some call it shoat) nearly 7 months old, marked as follows: A small amount of cardinal (or as some call it brindle) color on his face (or as some call it snout) near his nostrils, extending over his neck on his back, connecting on each side with the white on the under, or ground, side of the shoat, or young hog, and running thence in a direct line east by south-east to a point two and a quarter inches west of the central point of the extreme southerly exposure of the shoat, or young hog, and thence in a westerly direction up the northern boundary of the animal aforesaid to a point about midway between his appetite and his tail, then bearing two degrees and three minutes to the east, and thence due north to the point of beginning, giving him a general appearance which might be (but is not) described as, or like, a pail of swill had been carelessly thrown upon him, and ran down a little farther on some legs than others.—*Kalamazoo Telegraph.*

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEB. 15, 1879.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the Number of their Grange.

PETITIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

As stated in the last VISITOR, petitions for various purposes had been sent out to the subordinate Granges of the State. Since mailing 500 of each of the kinds then sent, we have received two from the Secretary of the National Grange, which he was instructed by the National Grange at its last session to prepare and send to the Secretaries of State Granges to be by them distributed to the subordinate Granges of their several States. With these we have sent some of the petitions before distributed of a revised or improved make, and we have also added two new petitions.

We are a little surprised to learn that in some places no interest is taken in the several matters to which these petitions relate. Some persons seem to think that the Legislature will do what it has a mind to, any way, or leave matters undone—that petitioning is of no use. We incline to the opinion that this is a mistaken view of the matter. The members of the Legislature are from the people and very many of them if not all, really wish for some good to result from their labors. And very many of them also know that all the good sense, good judgment and intelligence in the State has not gone to Lansing to winter in the new Capitol.

While some members may think the people, intent on their own individual affairs, know nothing, and care nothing about legislation, yet others know full well that there are thousands of men over the State who look over the work of each day and intelligently criticise that work.

Members of the Legislature will regard the wishes of their constituents. They have interests in common with them, and they will soon return to their ranks. Therefore, do not suppose for a moment that you have no influence and that signing petitions is of no consequence. If not absolutely necessary, it is desirable that the people who elect men to make laws, should freely express their wishes by petition or otherwise, for such legislation as they deem will promote the public good.

We have been asked to get up petitions in relation to other matters, but have declined. To circulate what have already been sent out from this office, will be quite a tax on some of the more patriotic brothers, and if the work already undertaken is well done, we shall look for more valuable results than would be likely to follow if the field of reformatory measures was enlarged.

We hope some one in every neighborhood will so fully comprehend the importance of what is asked for by petition, that the work will not only be done, but be well done, which means that it shall be done soon. Circulate the petitions and forward them when a good long list of names has been secured, to your Senator or Representative, at Lansing. Don't return them to me as some have done. That is a waste of postage and compels me to hunt up the name of your Representative and then forward the petition to him.

THE VISITOR.

Subscriptions to the VISITOR came in through January at the rate of 60 each day, and we were inclined to the opinion that we should have more paying subscribers than last year, but with February there has been a falling off of more than half, and we feel impelled to call the attention of some Masters and Secretaries to this matter. In looking over our mailing book we find many places when Brothers have neglected to renew, while on the next page perhaps all old subscribers have renewed and new ones added to the list of last year.

This is owing to the fact that in one case there has been some work done by some Brother who realizes that the many wait for some one to hurry them up and look after all these matters, and he has given the needed attention promptly, while in the other case, this whole matter has been left to take care of itself. When business is left to take care of itself all experience proves that it will not succeed. Somebody must look after renewals to the VISITOR in every Grange or some who want it will not take it this year. Shall this work be done?

DAY & TAYLOR AND THE PLASTER BUSINESS.

We learn from Day & Taylor that the plaster business opens very good this winter, and the further fact that the other manufacturers of plaster persevere in their hostility to the "Grange Plaster Mill."

Well, the old truth remains true and always will. "that some folks can't learn anything and can't forget anything." And if this don't apply to the opposition it is because they are better acquainted with Day & Taylor and the Patrons of Michigan than we are.

They have a legal right to still believe that they can seduce the Patrons of this State, by lower prices, to abandon Day & Taylor and by so doing break them down and then have the whole business in their own hands again.

It was long ago said that "to know a man you must both winter and summer with him." Our five years' acquaintance with these Patrons seems to us, equal to "summering and wintering," and if it is, we are confident the stand taken by them will be maintained. The existing contract made with Day & Taylor by the Executive Committee of the State Grange in September, 1877, will not expire until September, 1879, and by that contract D. & T. agreed to furnish the Patrons of Michigan, land plaster of the very best quality in prime condition in cars at Grandville, for \$2 00 per ton. They have expended in good faith, a large amount of money to place the business in such shape as to carry out that contract to the letter on their part. And if the past is a criterion by which to judge of the future, the Patrons of Michigan who use plaster will nearly all of them buy this year plaster manufactured by Day & Taylor, refusing all offers made by other manufacturers, agents or dealers, no matter at what price. Duty and interest alike demand that we should be faithful to our friends. And Patrons should not forget that Day & Taylor have been true to us at all times and under all circumstances. They have rejected every offer of the opposition, and we should be unworthy the name of Patron did we not maintain our consistency and give them an undivided support.

SECRETARY'S ELECTION REPORTS.

Secretaries of subordinate Granges learn some things well, and discharge many duties well, far better than in the earlier days of the Order, but there is one duty that requiring attention but once a year, and that so unimportant in the matter of time, that it seems quite impossible to impress the importance of it on the minds of our Bro. Secretaries so as to have it done in good season, and even a call through the VISITOR twice a month, fails to secure the needed attention. We append the Nos. of Granges from which we have as yet received no report of Master and Secretary elect for 1879. The publication of the proceedings of the State Grange were delayed last year for want of these reports, and seem likely to be this year.

With these figures will not some member of these Granges take an interest in this matter and send us at once by postal card, the names of the Master and Secretary, and their post-office address:

3	22	26	47	50	51	52	54	61	63	72	77	82							
94	95	102	103	115	135	143	144	145	157	160	168	174	179	180	183	186	194	197	199
208	209	250	260	261	264	265	268	276	287	288	297	307	309	310	315	317	328	338	359
367	370	385	394	403	421	425	429	436	441	448	449	453	456	457	460	470	478	482	492
499	503	514	518	522	523	528	529	553	560	562	565	568	681	582	592	593	600	614	616
619	623	635																	

Bro. John Wells, of Flat Rock, Michigan, writes a favorable report of the condition of Flat Rock Grange, and as a dealer in agricultural implements, complains that the General Agent of the Buckeye Cultivator declares that no granger shall handle that implement, which simply shows that the General Agent has something to learn. If a Granger can't sell, of course other Grangers can do as they please about buying. Some manufacturers have learned that the custom and ready pay of a Granger is desirable, while others, more stupid, have that fact to learn yet.

Proceedings of Berrien Co. Grange.

The fine weather, good sleighing, together with the ample accommodations afforded by the large two-story hall and the well known hospitality of Berrien Center Grange brought out a large attendance, at the recent meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 11 o'clock by Worthy Master Thos. Mars, and the regular order of business was taken up. Reports from seventeen of the Subordinate Granges of Berrien County were given. The reports showed a growing interest and encouraging prospects. Bro. Cory of Cass Co. gave an interesting account of Cass Co. Grange.

The meeting adjourned at 1 o'clock P. M. when the immense quantity of good things prepared by the Sisters were partially appropriated and heartily appreciated by the great co-operative family. The afternoon session was devoted to suggestions and speeches recommending practical co-operation. Bro. Thos. Mason spoke at length, giving practical advice in regard to the packing of all kinds of fruits and country produce for the city markets. He advised Subordinate Granges to join together, and carefully grade and pack their products, and ship in large quantities to the best market. He gave an account of the difficulties attending his position at Chicago, and the opposition encountered from a certain class of houses on South Water St. who had tried to crush him at the start, and to give the "green Granger" but a short lease of life in Chicago.

He was under great obligations to his friends in Michigan, and to the Patrons of Berrien and other Counties for their continued support; his friends need not fear of killing him with kindness, as the larger quantities of fruit or produce received, honestly packed, the better he could sell it.

Bro. Mason submitted a detailed report showing the amount of business

done from the time of opening, May 20, 1878, to Jan. 1st, 1879.

Amount of gross sales,	\$25,658.17
Commission,	2,284.70
Expenses,	2,400.00

Total number of packages received, 27,676; of these packages, 11,248 were barrels of apples; 5,339 baskets of fruit; and 7,725 cases of berries; the balance of the packages consisted of almost every variety of farm product from sacks of wool to bundles of egg plant.

As Bro. Mason is personally known to most of the Patrons of Berrien County, having been associated with the Co. Grange as Lecturer, and having been largely engaged in fruit growing during many years, (which business he still retains), his enterprise at Chicago has been looked upon with much favor. His remarks and statements were listened to with much interest, and a disposition was shown to maintain a representative house at Chicago which can be relied upon to sell our products, or purchase our supplies. The Lecturer, S. J. Bainard, urged all Patrons to support the Chicago house.

Brother Dickson of Cass Co. responded to a call and make a stirring speech commendatory of our County Organization.

The evening session was held in the Fifth Degree, and was devoted to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and the initiation of eight new members, making the number of members 241. The report of the financial committee showed the Grange in a prosperous condition, with stock in both Berrien County co-operative stores and funds to aid outside enterprises.

The election of officers resulted in the choice of Thos. Mars, Master; Freeman Franklin, Overseer; S. J. Barnard, Lecturer; Samuel Mars, Steward; Ass't Steward, David Schroop; Chaplin, F. R. Harding; Treas. C. F. Howe; Sec'y, Chas. House; Gate Keeper, John Cowen; Pomona, Mrs. Thos. Mars; Ceres, Mrs. C. F. Howe; Flora, Mrs. Higby; Stewardess, Mrs. C. A. Spencer.

The election of Mr. Mars to the office of Master for the third term is a well deserved compliment. Bro. M. has been indefatigable in work for "the good of the Order," and is one of the best presiding officers in the State.

All of those who chose to stay all night found the accommodations ample and the fare such as could be found only in a community of such well-to-do Patrons. A large number assembled the second day. No regular order of business was prescribed, but much business connected with the County organization was considered. The co-operative stores in Berrien County were doing business on a correct system, and were in a flourishing condition.

A committee composed of several Brothers and Sisters was appointed to visit weak and desponding Granges for the purpose of strengthening and cheering the few Granges in Berrien County that retain but a feeble hold of the plow. Brother Henry Feather delivered a telling half-hour speech. He had shipped large quantities of fruit and produce to commission men during many years. He had watched the "deal" closely, but had generally found himself cornered in the end. He "struck from the shoulder" at the heads of the grasping commercial boards, who gamble with the bread of the world and return to the producer what they please. He had shipped entirely to Bro. Mason during the past season, and was satisfied with the sales and the returns. Several other Brothers expressed themselves as being well pleased with the results of their shipments to Bro. Mason.

The County Grange brings together the Patrons from all parts of the County. All Fourth Degree members are eligible, and all business is transacted in the Fourth Degree. The only fears for the future of the County Grange may be in becoming so cumbersome in "swinging around the circle" that some of the weaker Granges may be unable to carry so heavy a load. The great and good family will, however, be able to care for itself either at home or abroad. The Berrien Co. Grange proved themselves able to carry the whole County in an easy and graceful manner. An invitation from Buchanan Grange to hold the next meeting at Buchanan was adopted. The meeting will commence the second Tuesday in April. W. M. Woodman of the State Grange will be present.

Yours fraternally,
W. A. BROWN.
Stevensville, Jan. 22, 1879.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

The papers of the Order of P. of H. are invaluable. The Grange periodicals of the day are not only indices of the organization itself, but an easy medium through which its cooperative efforts are exerted. These papers are certainly improving in character and the circulation increasing—a proof of the growing strength of the Order they represent.

Every true churchman will take and read a church periodical, increasing his knowledge and strengthening his zeal. So ought every Patron of the most ancient of arts to take and read one or more of the publications devoted to his vocation and advocating the principles of his organization.

THE GRANGE VISITOR of Michigan commends itself to every Patron, nay, to every farmer of our beloved State. While we have the reading of several Grange papers, weekly and monthly, we prize the VISITOR most, as reliable, devoted to its objects, careful of the measures used, liberal and progressive.

It has very few advertisements and those valuable to every patron. Add to these the great amount of solid reading and the wonder is how it can be afforded so cheaply. Twenty four numbers, each eight four column pages for 50 cents, equal to a 12mo. book of 800 pages, or an 8vo. volume of 600 pages of reading matter. Many strangers have been loth to believe it could be afforded at that price, and all who have taken it will not do without it. With it the sick and decrepit Patron can have twenty four meetings with the order, at home. The unaffiliated Patron, miles from a Grange, can also meet brothers and sisters and discuss with them the topics of the day.

We have yet to learn of a member losing his or her interest in the order while a reader of the VISITOR, or of a Grange losing interest and becoming dormant whose members read the Grange papers. Said one: "The sign of caution it has raised has saved me many times my dues to the order." "One advertisement in the VISITOR saved me all the order has cost me," were the words of another.

It has been supposed that none but active Patrons could take the VISITOR. This is a mistake. Let every unaffiliated Patron take the GRANGE VISITOR and read it. It will warm the cold heart and arouse the drowsy mind and bring him back to Patronly ways.

Let every farmer take and read the VISITOR. It will awaken in him a higher manhood and a desire to enter the gate of our temple and learn in our inner courts.

Reader, is there a Patron in your Grange who does not take the VISITOR? Show him a paper and try to get him to take and read it. Have you indifferent, irregular members in your Grange. See that they have the VISITOR if the Grange treasury pay the cost, for you will not only have a fuller exchequer in the end, but more and better members by so doing. Have you a good farmer neighbor yet without the gate, lend him a paper now and then and see what fruit the seed will bring forth.

Let every Grange bring this matter before its members at once and enable those who take the VISITOR to get the back numbers of this year, to begin with the year.

Officers must remember that this is part of their duty and he who gets ten subscriptions is entitled to a copy

free. Read what other Granges have done in this matter (taking it for every family) and go and do likewise. County and District Granges should also push this matter wherever they go, especially among the inactive Granges. Awaken them all by any means, and thus advance the good work.

Wake Up!

There are said to be dormant Granges, but as the Grange is just what its members make it and partakes of their character, we contend that there are dormant, that is sleeping members. What! sleeping Patrons of Husbandry? Yes! and to all such, far or near—affiliated or unaffiliated, we earnestly say *Wake up!* Because you are farmers, tillers of the soil. God's Husbandry developing the primal source of all wealth. Yours is the most ancient—useful and honorable occupation known or given to man; yours is the business that furnishes the material upon which all other vocations depend; as is your advancement and success as a class will be the prosperity of other branches of business and the general happiness of the world.

"As speeds the plow so prospers the world." God will hold every farmer responsible for the use he makes of his talents, and every farmer has ten. Are you, kind reader, using yours in making the earth fruitful and productive, in making the waste places thereof bud and blossom as a merry garden?

To every Patron, God has given means to fully employ and readily use his ten talents. Why, then, are any sleeping? *Wake up, brother!* Gird your armor on!

The Power is with the Farmer.

With the grandest of callings and the most important position in the world's economy, the farming class exceeds all others in numbers. True, and in Republican America when the majority rules, upon the farmers' shoulders must rest the responsibility of our own and our nation's welfare, and the future prosperity of her industries and the virtue and happiness of her future citizens are to-day being wrought principally in the humble homes of her farmers.

Dare you sleep, fellow tiller of the soil, when so much depends upon your vocation, when a world must be led—when manufacturers must be supplied with raw material to clothe the people, when commerce awaits your industry, and a nation needs true men and virtuous women—and your class must supply the world. What is any class however great in numbers without intelligence? Lacking that higher mental power and cultivation, farmers have long been a weak class. Wanting in social and political influence, the agriculturists—largest in number, have ever been subject to the power of other vocations. Let us awaken then to use our own gifts, cultivate our minds, enlarge our capabilities, assert our rights and go and labor diligently, not only in the physical, but in God's great intellectual, social and moral vineyard. To do this, we must mass our forces, unite our efforts in short, use ORGANIZATION.

VICK'S Monthly for January has some beautiful designs for the decoration of walls. Directions for making and putting up, accompany the designs. This number is worth what the whole year will cost you. Send \$1.00 with three cent stamp for it, or \$1.50 for VISITOR and Monthly to C. L. Whitney, Muskogon.

Ingham County Grange No. 14.

We are in receipt of a handsome programme of Ingham County Grange Farmers' Institute, with invitation to attend. We sent our thanks to Prof. Beal, and said to him that we wished that every Grange in the State had one, for the workers like to see how others work and enjoy a good thing, come whence it will. Those who don't know how to work would perhaps learn by it, and those who went work ought to be ashamed at seeing others advancing while they sit idle wasting time.

This Institute and Grange takes place on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21st and 22d, at the Court House in Mason. Friday forenoon will take place the installation of the officers of Ingham County Grange—Hon. J. Webster Childs and State Lecturer Whitney officiating.

On Friday afternoon will be the "Master's annual address," by Prof. W. J. Beal. "Our Common Schools and how to improve them," by J. Lee Clark. "Country Life," by Mrs. O. B. Stillman. "The Seeds we Sow," by W. W. Raymond.

The Friday evening session will be given to a good time by the members of the Order—feasts, music, speeches, and a good time generally.

Saturday forenoon exercises will consist of the following: "The Patent Gate," by Prof. R. C. Carpenter. "How to make Farming a success," by R. J. Bullen. "Are we True Patrons?" by Mrs. R. Tooker. "Essentials to Productive Farming," by A. L. Sturges. "The Condition of Farmers," by Wm. Cook.

Saturday afternoon session will give "Recollections of Michigan Swamp Lands," by W. Asa Rowe. "Farmers' Daughters," by Mrs. E. M. Moores. "Practical Education necessary for the farm," by Henry Bickert. "Beef Breeds of Cattle," by Prof. C. L. Ingersoll.

On the first page of the four page programme, we find a handsome title page. On the second page the programme is as we have given it, omitting the music, &c. On the third page is an earnest invitation to Brothers, stating the importance of these meetings, and inviting all the Brothers to come. Now we are a little out of humor with this page because our wives, daughters and sisters are not invited. Is it no place for them? But we excuse the matter, thinking some old bachelor got up this part of it, for it says each will provide his own good things. We hope the ladies will go just the same, yes, even more, and go for the printer who made the mistake. It may be they have another addressed especially to the ladies. All right, but how it looks. On the fourth, last outside page is, first, a full list of officers of the State Grange, and then a full list of the officers of Ingham County Grange.

We wish there could be a large turn-out to this meeting, especially of the neighboring patrons who have no County Grange to attend.

SOME of the largest and most enterprising Granges in the State, see that every family connected with the Grange has the VISITOR to read. A good example, follow it, even to voting funds from the Treasury to accomplish it.

SOME Granges, boast of money in the Treasury, but endure very dingy and unpleasant halls. Query, could they not increase the Treasury by spending a little in making the Grange home attractive? Aesthetical culture should not be over looked.

A MONTH in law is a lunar month, because people who go to law are lunatics.

Appointments of State Lecturer.

On Monday, Feb. 17th instant, will lecture in the evening to Springport Grange, No. 45, Jackson Co. Public meeting Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 18th, 19th and 20th inst., at Lansing State Pomological Society. Friday 21st, at Mason, Ingham County Grange, No. 14, installation and institute—public meeting. Expect to go to Lapeer County the following week; arrangements not completed. Make arrangements for my services to save your expense and no time and labor. Address me at Lansing, Feb. 17th to 22.

C. L. WHITNEY,
Lect. and G. Deputy.

Communications.

Essay Read by Fred. C. Wood, Lecturer of Fenton Grange, No. 126, Jan. 1879.

Worthy Secretary:

For to-night I can think of nothing better than to pen a few of my ideas regarding the different reasons which I find men have had for joining our Order and how they made out with their plans. First comes Bro. A., a hot headed politician, who thought he saw in the movement a chance to become a leader of a great political party. Thinking this, he was very earnest in the organization of his Grange, leaving no stone unturned in his efforts to perfect the same, but alas! the Grange refused to have anything to do with politics, so after one year he leaves for fields more green and pastures new, and we find him actively seeking a nomination at the hands of some political party, while still upon the books of the Grange stands the fact that he has proven false to his sacred obligation and recreant to the trust reposed in him by those who made him a leader in that reform which all know is needed and in which he has proved to be one of the greatest stumbling blocks.

Then there is Brother B., a very radical youth, indeed, a farm laborer who having none of the possessions of the farmer, and consequently none of the interests of the farmer, thinks that he alone knows the royal road to wealth and fame for the poor farmer, is full of plans for his welfare and very laborious in the cause so long as everything goes by his rule, but cross him once and the fire flies. He has an axe to grind; turn the grindstone slowly. Give him a chance to work for the Order at good wages and everything is serene, but if he can't have the lion's share in the management and profits he will take a withdrawal card and leave the Order, and he is not missed. The spot where he used to sit is hardly noticeable. The brothers and sisters have crowded so close together that the gap is quite filled up.

Then there is Brother C. He expected that through joining the Grange he was going to be made a rich man. He deals in stock, you know. He was going to buy all the sheep and cattle the Brother Patrons had to dispose of at a low rate, turn them over through his markets so that he could make a fortune. He, too, became disgusted when he found that the Order was not for the advancement of individuals but classes. When he found out that he had got to pay the mere pittance of thirty cents each quarter, his back was broke. He could not see the ten per cent. a year rolling in in dollars and cents, and we find on the books opposite his name simply this—"suspended."

Then there is Brother D. who has had a great deal of experience in the line of farmers' clubs, &c., knows just how the thing is done, you know, is an earnest, active worker in words, leads the brethren in the enterprises they have undertaken until it touches his pocket, then behold, the man is changed. Because the opposition element makes him a most favorable bid he deserts the camp in the hour of its greatest need, calls for a card and is gone.

Then there is Brother E. who becomes a member because it is popular, but a little experience goes a great ways with him. It requires his attendance regularly once in two weeks of an evening. He can't stand that. He keeps up his dues, comes once or twice a year to see how the thing runs, you know, and you meet him on the street or at some

gathering where there is fun, or at the brew, perhaps, sitting with his beer. Ask him why, he never comes to the Grange. This is his reply: "Well, now you know they are not doing anything; there is nothing of interest there. I had rather have a chat over my beer." Ask him how he knows there is nothing going on and he will tell you that it is so reported by the opposition element. He has not been to the Grange for so long he does not know the password, still he keeps up his dues and remains a member *de facto*, but *de jure* he is not.

Then we have Brother F., a very worthy man. He does hope, and it does seem to him that something could be done for the benefit of men like him, but propose a plan for the elevation and advancement of the Patrons and who is so cautious, and who stands so ready to throw cold water upon the efforts of the leaders as he. He assesses fine talents but we never hear any of them in use at meetings of the Grange. His voice is never lifted up in our sympathy and encouragement for the Order, but vice versa to criticize and find fault with the leaders.

Then there is Brother G. He joined the Grange in order that he might get their patronage in his business, and never giving them a puff or an advertisement, but they have to pay the cash or take it towards his dues.

Then there is Brother H. He deserves a word in these remarks. He had no particular reason for joining until the opposition made a proposition and he became their tool inside the ranks of our Order where he never belonged, but you cannot prefer charges. He keeps his dues paid up and you can not get any tangible hold on him, he is so sharp.

Then there comes Brother I, who joined our noble Order solely that the agriculturists might, as a class, be benefited by the success of our Order. His time is given ungrudgingly as well as his money. He labors in season and out of season in order that the Grange shall flourish and be prosperous. His dues are paid up promptly, his presence is seen at all of our meetings, and in all of the moves of advancement and development he is in the van. Of this class of men are composed the successful Grange. But I am sorry to have to state that he is outnumbered in most Granges by the other class of which I have spoken, together with that class of young folks who, having no interest at stake, come to the Grange for fun and to have a good time. They should enjoy themselves, but let us have a portion of the time used to advantage.

Neither must I forget those Brothers J. K. L. and M., the stand-bys whose voices are heard in support of every movement in advance, whose money is ready to back up the various enterprises together with those other brothers who have not the money but give of their time and labor whenever and wherever needed. Nor must I fail to speak a word for the sisters, always at hand to counsel with and help with their vote and their labor when needed.

Now, brother and sister Patrons, do not take these remarks in an unkind way, but think of them as kindly meant. If any of the coats fit put them on and think how they would look on some one else. "Reform in yourself the faults you see in others, and you will be happy," is the old saying, trite but true. Let us aim to harmonize all these different elements in order that our work may be successful.

Character.

There is a structure which everybody is building, young and old, each for himself. That structure is called character, and every act of life is a stone in the structure. Our minds are given us, but our characters we make. They are formed by a course of actions, and not actions by character. Honesty, caution, and a desire to do right, carried out in practice, are the true elements of a good character. Integrity is the foundation of all that is high in character. Let a man have the reputation of doing what is fair and upright in all his dealings, and he will have the confidence of all who know him. "He that walketh uprightly, walketh surely, but he that perverteth his ways shall be known." The truth of the old maxim that "Honesty is the best policy," is upheld by the experience of every day life. There are many trying circumstances in life which show the value and importance of character. A good character is a sure

and strong support when every thing else fails. We can be safe only by a maintenance of those principles which are just and pure, and by which we gain the confidence of all who know us. The young in life should regard character as capital much surer to yield full returns than any other capital, having as certain promise in the present life, as in that which is to come. He who perseveres in a course of rectitude and honest industry will procure friends in any community. The value of character is the true standard of progress. The individual, the community, or the nation, tells its standing and its worth, by its estimation of character. Societies and organizations, as well as individuals, have a character. We as Patrons of Husbandry have a character. The elements of our moral character as a Grange which we should seek to establish and maintain, are Purity, Integrity and Benevolence. If in our integrity with the world outside of the gate as well as within, we practice the precepts and principles taught in our Ritual, and are careful day by day to build this structure—character—with pure, noble, and praiseworthy deeds, we shall find that we have reared a noble edifice, honored by God and man, and whose influence will tell for good.

M. J. HARTWELL.
CANNON Grange, No. 39

The Interest Question Once More.

Editor Grange Visitor:

Please allow me a little room in the Visitor for a few thoughts on the interest question. It is true that occasionally a person engages in business so profitable that he can afford to pay ten per cent for the use of money for a short time. Sometimes farmers may make ten per cent, then again not make three, and another year work hard and make even less than one per cent.

The records of the United States show that in 1870, when times were much better than now, the earnings of agriculture were not quite four per cent, while the rate of interest was more than twice that. This is the rule and not the exception, and the rule is very much in favor of money lenders. But some say what is the use of petitioning the Legislature to reduce the rate of interest to seven per cent, when money lenders will send their money into other States where they can get more interest and leave this State destitute of money to do business with. This perhaps might be partially the case. But to prevent this objection and to commence at the proper place, we should petition Congress to pass a law reducing the rate of interest to either six or seven per cent, and make it uniform in every State in the Union. Until that is done, we will meet with more or less difficulty. The Constitution of the United States makes it the duty of congress to coin money and regulate the value thereof. The value of money is governed by the amount of interest it commands. It seems therefore to be the duty of Congress to regulate this question. And in order to accomplish this object, and every other object the Grange has in view, and especially those now before the Order, in the form of petition, every member of the Order should consider it his duty to sign such petitions, circulate them and secure all the signatures that can be had.

Our Worthy Master of the National Grange says, "United we stand, divided we fall." Unity of action will accomplish our objects. If a few petitions sparsely signed are sent to our Legislature, or to Congress, perhaps but little attention will be paid to them, but let the petitions pour in upon these legislative bodies by the thousands, and signed by hundreds of thousands of people, asking for such legislation as we need, and our legislators will not pass them by unconsidered. We must work together if we would win. We must let our influence be felt. We have just commenced in the great work.

PATRON.

COLDWATER, BRANCH CO., MICHIGAN,
Feb 5th, 1899.

Coldwater Grange P. O. H. No. 137, held its annual installation of officers Jan. 28th. Brother Delos Studley, Past Master of Union Grange, assisted by Brother E. M. Treat, performing the installation work in a neat and workmanlike manner. After the services Brother Studley gave us a first rate talk from which to gather good things. Remarks were made by the Masters of Bronson and Matteson Granges, also by different members of our own Grange. Everything passed off pleasantly and we feel as though we are ready for the year's work.

EMILY A. HORTON, Sec'y.

Reason cannot show itself more reasonable, than to leave things above reason.

Ladies' Department.

THE TWO GLASSES.

There sat two glasses filled to the brim,
On a rich man's table rim to rim,
One was ruddy and red as blood,
And one was clear as the crystal flood.
Said the glass of wine to the paler brother,
"Let us tell the tales of the past to each other,
I can tell of banquet and revel and mirth,
And the proudest and grandest souls on earth
Fell under my ton, for I ruled in might,
Where I was king, for I ruled in might,
From the heads of kings I have torn the crown,
From the height of fame I have hurled men down;
I have blasted many an honored name,
I have taken virtue and given shame;
I have tempted the youth with a sip, a taste,
That has made his youth a barren waste.
Or than any king am I,
I have made the arm of the driver fail,
And sent the train from the iron rail,
I have made good ships go down at sea,
And the shrieks of the lost were sweet to me;
For they said, "Behold how great you be!"
Fame, strength, wealth, genius before you fall,
And your might and power are over all."
"Ho! ho! pale brother," laughed the wine,
"Can you boast of deeds as great as mine?"
Said the water glass, "I cannot boast
Of a king dethroned or a murdered host,
But I can tell of a heart once sad,
By my crystal drops made light and glad,
Of thirst I've quenched and brows I've laved;
Of hands I have cooled and souls I have saved,
I have leaped through the valley, dashed down
The mountain,
Flowed in the river and played in the fountain,
Slept in the sunshine and dropped from the sky,
And every where gladdened the landscape and
The eye.
I have eased the hot forehead of fever and
Pain;
I have made the parched meadows grow fertile
With grain.
I can tell of the powerful wheel of the mill,
That ground out the flour and turned at my
Will.
I can tell of manhood debased by you,
That I have lifted and crowned anew,
I cheer, I help, I strengthen and aid;
I gladden the heart of man and maid,
I set the chained wine-captive free,
And all were better for knowing me."
These are the tales they told each other,
The glass of wine and paler brother
As they sat together, filled to the brim,
On the rich man's table, rim to rim.

EXCHANGE.

The Duties of Lecturer.

The following extracts are from a paper read before Redford Grange, No. 367, by the Lecturer, Mrs. E. P. F. Beadnee.

The Grange, as its name implies, is a place for work. From the newly initiated laborer whose unskilled hands clear the forests, build the fences, drain the soil, or turn the uneven furrow, through all grades to the Master, who presides over all as a true guardian and guide, each having his allotted tasks, should be staunch and true. Brothers and Sisters: In all the many departments of its service the founders of the Order have not assigned more onerous duties than to the Lecturer. If those of the Secretary are arduous, is it less to furnish mental food for enquiring minds? To be even prepared with topics for thought and discussion? To awaken an interest in objects and pursuits which have become common from daily contact? For this work you should have chosen a fresh young mind, one on whom the greatness of life is dawning, and whose mind is ready to grasp and solve its countless problems, one just entering its battle-fields resolved to win the victor's laurels. For me, I feel all unequal to the task. With me, the day is passed when every new thought opened with the freshness of a June morning, when the unfolding of ideas was to me like the sparkle of gems in a tiara. With me the time has been, when to work for the good of humanity was of itself sufficient boon, even while those for whom I wrought thought my work unclean.

To be in ill repute for the good we do is the lot of all true Grangers, yet none the less will the faithful work till the day dawneth, seeking to raise the farmer to an acknowledged level with his fellow men. But, happily for you and for me we are not called upon to work this broad field alone. I am permitted to call to my aid each and every one of you. And, as faithful Brothers and Sisters I trust you will assist me with cheerful alacrity, making my duties times the gods and goddesses came to the aid of mortals, I shall expect our Worthy Patrons, Ceres, to gather from her subjects thoughts and papers on grains, their culture and uses. Pomo-

na, discussions and essays on fruit culture, her subjects on forests, lawn and garden, to plant and protect trees, plant seeds and gather bouquets; let us have contributions in every form from Flora's realm, for there is not a Brother or Sister who cannot bring us a seed, a spray, or a flower, and all have an interest or a pleasure in these.

The time is now passed for us to ask, "cannot some one do better than I?" Let us rather say, "what I can do is needed, no one can do better than his best." The best lesson we have learned through steadfastness is that of a true fraternity, where each appreciates the efforts of the other without a feeling of rivalry or jealousy.

A Voice from Howell Grange.

HOWELL, Feb. 1, 1878.

Worthy Secretary:

I am very thankful to the State Grange for establishing this means of communication, for when I become overcharged with Grange enthusiasm, it is a great relief to my mind to sit down and write to the VISITOR.

I do not wish to become a person of one idea, having no time or thought for anything but the Grange, but the more I study the principles of our noble Order, and the more I know of its workings and members throughout the State, so much the more am I convinced of its beauty and grandeur; and I believe if all the Patrons in the State stand firmly together, every one in his own place, that there are possibilities within our reach which we have just begun to grasp.

The Granges in this County have had very pleasant gatherings for the installation of officers. Some of the installations were private, and some public; among the public ones, were those of Conway and West Handy Granges.

Past Master A. E. Cole, of Conway Grange, was their installing officer. He was delegate to the last State Grange, and is one of the most efficient workers in this County.

At the close of the installation, Bro. Moore, of Adrian, was introduced, and held the large audience in rapt attention through a speech of more than an hour's length. Bro. Moore has given several lectures in this County, and his services have been of incalculable benefit to us.

Bro. Moore's speech was followed by short addresses from Bro. Stevens, of Shiawasee, and others. When they had finished, Bro. Moore stated that there were some things he had forgotten to speak of, and then made some additional remarks; and there were other speakers in the same predicament, for by the time he had finished, they were ready to speak again, and so the speaking continued until the wee small hours of the night. Good music added very much to the pleasure of the occasion, and, taken all together, Conway Grange had a grand, good time.

If I were to speak of the installation services of West Handy Grange, it would be but a repetition of what I have already written. Good music, good speeches by Bro. Stevens, of Shiawasee, and Bro. Roberts, of Salem, and a good time generally, was the order of the evening at West Handy.

I would like to tell the readers of the VISITOR something about the Farmers' Institute, held in Howell, Jan. 20th and 21st.

At the November meeting of our County Council, the Secretary was instructed to petition the State Board of Agriculture for the appointment of an Institute, which petition was granted.

Prof. Ingersoll was appointed to confer with our committee, and they all worked hard to make the Institute a success—and it was a grand success. Sec. Baird, Prof. Ingersoll and Cook, of the Agricultural College, were here; and the success of the Institute must be attributed largely to the very interesting lectures delivered by them.

It was the aim of the committee to secure a fair proportion of the essayists from those outside the Grange, but they only succeeded in obtaining four out of the thirteen.

We had some opposition from the citizens of Howell, who called the Institute a Grange affair. They were told that it was appointed by the State Board of Agriculture, and was for the benefit of all the farmers; but since it was such a success, if they will persist in calling it a Grange affair, I am perfectly willing they should have their own way.

The Court house was well filled at every session. The Methodist choir furnished excellent music, and every-

one seemed perfectly happy. Nothing occurred to produce a jar or discord. I think, taken all together, it was one of the most enjoyable public meetings ever held in this County; and I would congratulate any County that was so fortunate as to secure the appointment of a Farmers' Institute.

An immense amount of good will accrue, not only to the farmers of the Counties where these Institutes are held, but to the Agricultural College. The practical workings of that institution will be better understood through its able representatives sent out to help carry on these Institutes.

And now, Worthy Secretary, I cannot close this article without expressing my warmest thanks to Aunt Margaret for her real signature; hereafter I shall read her writings with still greater interest, knowing just who she is and where she lives.

The Grange is no fiction, and it is my candid belief that no person writing under a fictitious name can accomplish as much for the good of the Order in the way of promoting acquaintance and friendship, as they otherwise would if their real name was known.

Fraternally yours,
Mrs. W. K. SEXTON,
Howell Grange, No. 90.

A Pleasant Visit.

COLDWATER, MICH. Feb. 5, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:
In response to an invitation of Union Grange, No. 97, Branch County Pomona Grange, No. 22, held a special meeting with them Feb 4th, at 2 o'clock, P. M. It was a lovely day and after a pleasant ride of some eight miles, we arrived at the snug home of Bro. J. M. Crow, worthy Chaplain of both Union and Pomona Granges. As we drove up, his first greeting was, "well, I'm glad you've come, drive right in, put your team in the barn and ride over with us," which of course we did. While at Brother Crows, we saw some very fine cheese, made last summer. We bought half of one and found it excellent. They have quite a number on hand, and very nice ones too.

A few moments ride brought us to the pleasant home of Brother D. L. Buel, who kindly threw open the door of his beautiful house for the entertainment of his Brother and Sister Patrons. Brother and Sister B. gave us a true Patrons' welcome. Their house is a model of convenience and beauty, and their hospitality is without limit. Soon the house began to fill up. All seemed cheerful and happy. At the sound of the gavel those composing the Pomona Grange retired to another room and held a short session in the 5th degree, Worthy Master H. B. George presiding. We received five new members and then returned to the fourth degree and opened the doors to the Order. There were reports from five different Granges. All reported encouragingly. They all seem to have more courage to begin the year's work than they did last year. We feel the Grange is looking up in this vicinity. We had some good short speeches from Brothers George of Coldwater, Lincoln of Union, Benton of Bronson, Leatherby of Sherwood, and Studley of Union upon various topics of interest. The question box called out some good talk and lots of fun, especially when a sister happens to be the one to answer a question. At 5 P. M. came the call to supper, and surely in the culinary art, the good Sisters of Union Grange are unsurpassed. After supper we spent an hour or two in a social way, with music and conversation until again the gavel called from recreation to labor, and with Worthy Master Lincoln of Union Grange in the chair, again found ourselves in working order. From the number of members present, I should say that Union Grange was in a fair way to live for years and do good work in the cause. They seem to be of good courage, with their hearts in the work. After they had transacted their usual order of business, Hon. Geo. Van Aiken of Girard Grange was called out and made a most excellent speech of about half an hour, it was well worth riding ten miles to hear, and touched upon many vital points, especially in reference to schools and our text books. At half past nine the Grange closed and we took our homeward way, feeling it was good to have been there, and carrying with us pleasant thoughts of the stranger brothers and Sisters we had met, and feeling encouraged in the ultimate work of the Grange as an educator. H.

consecutive years, which not only testifies to the harmony of the Grange, but also to the efficient manner with which the office has been filled. Not that a Master can conduct a Grange without help from its members, but we rather pride ourselves upon the good attendance and the real interest manifested in our meetings. The question of building a Grange Hall has come before us a number of times, and the prospects now are that we shall have one just as soon as it can be built. Last, but not least, is the Ladies' Grange Social, which meets once in four weeks, and is a source of profit both intellectually and pecuniarily. At the last meeting, the following preamble and resolution were brought before it for consideration:

WHEREAS, In view of the position many women are taking in public life in striving to be equal with men, and the bad effect such ideas have on society; therefore,
Resolved, That we, as ladies of the Grange Social, entirely disapprove of women taking part in public life, more than practiced by our ancestors.

Motion was made to adopt the resolution, after which it was discussed and finally rejected by an almost unanimous vote—all but two of the brothers voting against it. Then a motion was made and carried that a copy of the preamble and resolution be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.
Mrs. E. PRATT,
Sec'y Ladies' Social of Whitneyville Gr.

Still They Come—Another Good Word for the "Visitor."

DALLAS GRANGE, No. 505,
January 23, 1879.

Bro. Cobb:
I do not know but you will think I am trespassing by calling so soon, but if you do, consign this to the waste basket. We have had our election of officers, and at our installation, Bro. T. Moore, of St. John's, officiated, and favored us with an able discourse. He seemed the right man in the right place, and, I think, will be the means of a goodly number joining the Grange who have stood in their own light so long.

Our Worthy Master, W. R. Rice, is very dignified and pleasant-spoken, and well worthy the place assigned him. Overseer E. W. Bock is a quiet, firm man, and never rises to his feet without he says something that tells on the minds of his hearers. Lecturer Geo. E. Bliss is as refined as a lady, very pleasant in his remarks, and fills his position with credit to himself and the Grange. Space will not permit me to give all their names and qualifications, but they are all energetic men, and work for the good of the Order. This is confidential, you know, so I will only say that with such a force we can storm the fort.

Brothers and sisters, let us all in our respective Granges try to excel in Well-doing, and my word for it, by the time the year is at a close we will have a Grange that we will be proud of, and then we can exclaim with the poet—

Beautiful Grange that we love,
Emblem of order and duty,
Fair as the planets above,
Leading our hearts by thy beauty.

I was ever so much pleased with the VISITOR of Jan. 15th. The sisters gave such good advice on rearing children. I think it is the duty of every father and mother to teach their boys as good morals as their girls. It is an old saying, "Bring up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."
E. S.

—Genius lights its own fire, but it is collecting material to keep alive the flames.

Correspondence.

That "Vermont Farmer."

ORLEANS, Feb. 5, 1879.

Editor Visitor:
I notice in the number of Feb. 1st, a communication from "Vermont Farmer," which, I think, needs ventilating a little.

Now suppose Neighbor B. should call on "Vermont Farmer," and ask him for the use of his wagon, saying he had broken his own, and could afford to pay him a good price for the use of it. Vermont Farmer tells him that he can take it, as he is not going to use it. In due time B. brings your wagon home all right, except the natural wear, and says: "How much are the damages?" Now I take it for granted that the real good part of the Yankee is not quite all out of Vermont Farmer yet, and he says, "O, Neighbor B. I may want to borrow a wagon of you some time."

Now in a day or two, Neighbor B. comes to Vermont Farmer and says that he is awful hard up and wants to borrow \$50, and says he can afford to pay a good price for the use of it. Vermont Farmer's ears are erect now he hears every word. "Hard up!" "awful hard up!" "Yes, yes!" "money!" "interest!" Straightway he draws up a note with interest to suit the degree of hard up that Neighbor B. is enduring, and thinks he has done the square thing. Now, Vermont Farmer, tell me if you can see the moral difference in the above transactions?

One question more, and I am done for this time. Would it be all right for the law to say how many wagons or plows should be used in a County, and not say how much a man should pay for the use of the same. Law regulates the amount and value of our money, and why not regulate its interest worth as well?

Respectfully,
MORT. SPAULDING,
Orleans, Mich.

The Liquor Tax.

Worthy Secretary:

Under the present law, the liquor tax is very unequally divided—or rather it is not divided at all; the corporate and municipal governments receiving the full benefit of the tax, while the farming community receive no benefit from it.

Now it is well known that a large percentage of the crime and pauperism is traceable directly to the use of intoxicating liquors. The whole county is taxed equally to support County Jails and Poor-houses, and why should not the whole county receive some benefit from the tax? Of course the municipalities have an extra burden in the shape of police duties, and should receive a larger share of the tax.

Another fault in the present law is the discrimination which it makes between malt and spiritual liquors—the tax on the former being \$50 and on the latter \$150; thus offering an inducement for dealers to take out a license for malt liquors, and then fraudulently sell spirituous liquors; and this is frequently done.

Then again, the tax is not sufficient to defray the extra expense which the result of the trade imposes upon the country.

It would seem that the following changes in the law are demanded by equity and justice:

1. That the tax be equally divided between the County and municipality in which the liquor is sold.
2. That the tax for selling liquors be made uniform, whether malt or spirituous, or both.
3. That the tax be increased to \$1 per day for each bar.

If these changes meet the approval of your readers, would it not be well to petition the Legislature accordingly.

A. F. W.

A Letter From C. L. Ingersoll.

LANSING, MICH., Jan. 13th, 1879.

Dear Bro. Cobb and the Visitor:—I have just returned from Hudson, Lenawee Co., where we (Prof. Beal and myself) attended a large gathering of farmers from Lenawee and Hillsdale. It was truly a feast of good things. The largest hall in town was filled to overflowing, and probably 500 or more were present during the day and evening session.

We found the brothers and other in that vicinity full of the spirit of progress and enthusiasm, and the universal verdict was, that it had been a good and paying investment.

At the close of the last session a committee was appointed to perfect an organization of a Farmers Club that should take in six or eight towns, and hold meetings monthly or bi monthly. The meeting was addressed by Hon. C. E. Mickley, S. B. Mann, and others from abroad, and many good farmers from Hudson and vicinity. One graduate, Mr. Geo. D. Moore, and a farmer student of the Agricultural College, Mr. T. R. King, took an active part in the exercises, as also did Mr. E. H. Hume, formerly connected with us as foreman of the Farm.

May there be many more such in Southern Michigan where there is so much of kindness and generous hospitality, is the wish of Your Friend and Bro.,

C. L. INGERSOLL

LITCHFIELD MICH., Feb. 10, 1869.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:
The following officers having with others been duly elected were installed at a regular meeting of Hillsdale County Grange, No. 10.

Master—R. W. Freeman, Litchfield.
Overseer—Moses Willets, Reading.
Lecturer—L. B. Agard, Litchfield.
Sec'y—G. Wilton Gardner, Litchfield.
Our next regular meeting will be held at

the Grange Hall in Jonesville, on Wednesday, March 5th, commencing at 10 A. M. All fourth degree members are cordially invited to attend and take part in the discussions.

G. WILTON GARDNER, Sec'y.

Mt. Clemens, Mich., Jan. 29, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:
I am in receipt of your favor of the 25th inst. and thank you kindly for the information imparted.

To convince you that I read the VISITOR, I will now make amends for my delinquency in not before forwarding addresses of Master and Secretary elect, as I noticed an appeal from you for us to do so.

Master—John C. Cady, Mt. Clemens.
Secretary—T. J. Shoemaker, Mt. Clemens.

All our officers were re-elected. Worthy Master W. S. Hart of Chesterfield Grange officiated at our installation, which was public. Quite a number of the neighboring farmers attended and we shall undoubtedly draw recruits from those who were our visitors, as they were well pleased with all they saw and heard.

We have rented a fine commodious hall here in town at \$50 per annum, fire and lights included, so you see our expenses are not heavy.

We now number thirty-three live members, and have a choir second to none in the State.

If you think the patrons at large are interested at all in the youngest Grange in the State you may publish this in the VISITOR. Fraternally Yours,

T. J. SHOEMAKER,
Secretary, Mt. Clemens Grange, 637.

SPRINGVILLE, Ind. 50, 1879.

J. T. Cobb, Editor GRANGE VISITOR:
Springville Grange, No. 279, is ready with harness on, officers installed and should do effective work during the coming months, toward developing a nobler and more genuine manhood and womanhood among our members.

We have very much to do. "The field is white, already for the harvest."

The most of us have now had years experience in the Order, which should enable us to avoid the bars and quicksands that too often beset our early history.

I notice here in our Grange that there is a more settled conviction that the Grange has ceased to be an experiment and has become an accomplished fact, and members are much more ready to engage in Grange enterprises and discussions than formerly. There is much less friction. It is easier by far to make our meetings interesting and satisfactory than during the first years of the organization, and a large interest always insures a full hall with us. But I am also conscious that notwithstanding this fact, prudence would dictate no relaxation of effort, but quite the contrary, we should be stimulated to renewed exertions to elevate our calling to the dignity and position among the industries to which its magnitude justly entitles it.

We are all lamentably deficient in a knowledge of our noble declarations of purposes, and our relations to each other and the order under the comprehensive obligations that we have each voluntarily assumed, "to discipline us and get the subordinate grange in good running order as was contemplated by its founders is the great object to which all, officers and members should assiduously address themselves for the future.

Let us all, and each for himself resolve to do what we can in our several spheres for the accomplishment of our noble purposes and the end is assured.

Enclosed please find P. O. order for \$7.70 for fourteen copies of the VISITOR, and one of the Husbandman, to be mailed to each as per slip enclosed.

SAMUEL MOREY, P. M., No. 279.

COLDWATER, MICH., Feb. 10, 1879.

Dear Bro. Cobb:
The annual meeting of the Branch Co., Pomona Grange, No. 22, will occur on Thursday, March 20th, 1879, at 2 o'clock P. M. at Coldwater Grange Hall, at which time the election of officers and other important business will come before the meeting. Let every member be present. This is one of the live Granges of Michigan.
WALLACE E. WRIGHT, Sec'y.

There will be a meeting of Kent County Grange, No., 18 on Wednesday, March 5th, at Sparta Centre, in Kent County.

GEO. W. EWING, Sec'y, pro tem.

CAPITOL GRANGE, No. 590.

Bro. Cobb:
Having read with pleasure the letters from different Granges, I thought it time for some one to report Capitol Grange.

CALEDONIA, Feb. 3, 1879.

Worthy Sec'y Cobb:
Whitneyville Grange, No. 222, begins the new year with nearly the same officers that it had in 1878. Our W. M. has occupied the position he now holds for four

We meet regularly every week and have a good attendance. On the 11th of January our officers were installed by Bro. J. W. Childs. His words of encouragement fell upon fertile soil, and all those that have heretofore been faint hearted could not fail of seeing more in our noble Order than ever before. We have connected with the Grange, a store called the "Lansing Co-operative Association." The sales from January 1st 1878, to January 1st 1879 were as follows.

Average daily sale, \$44 06. Capital, \$900 00. Fixtures of store \$100 00.

It is managed by our Worthy Brother, C. Goodnow, whose sound judgment and constant efforts have made it a success.

Fraternally, A WORKER.
Lansing, Jan. 31, 1879.

SOUTH LOWELL GRANGE, No. 113,
January 20, 1879.

J. T. Cobb, Worthy Brother;

Please send GRANGE VISITOR to the following names. I hope to swell the number to fifteen or twenty. Will send in as fast as I get the names.

South Lowell Grange No. 113 is in a prosperous condition. Our number is not as large as at one time, but what we have are firm, solid members that you can depend upon. This I think better than large numbers. We have passed through some trials since we were organized, but we have lived through them all, and are to-day on a firm and solid foundation, with forty good paying members, and three applications since the new year came in. We built a new hall two years ago, two stories high. Last fall we used the upper room for a select school, with perfect success, and this winter we are having another term of school with an increased number of scholars. This required a good deal of work on the part of the members, for you know there is always opposition to all good works but with firmness and perseverance the work has been carried through and now we are reaping the reward of our labors.

Hoping that at the close of this year the VISITOR may have proved a perfect success financially and otherwise, I will close after expressing the opinion that I think every family of P. of H. in the State ought to have a copy in its home.

Yours in haste,

D. H. DENISE, Sec'y.

TRULY WONDERFUL.

\$14.00 AND \$15.00 SEWING MACHINES.

At last the Sewing Machine is within the reach of all. Ingersoll, of the Patrons' Paint Company has brought out a Machine, Lock-Stitch, and with all the advantages of the old monopoly machines, at the above figures. They are warranted to give satisfaction and no money required until they do. The book "Every one their own Painter," with also full illustrations of six styles Machines, sent free by mentioning this paper, and addressing O. R. INGERSOLL, Patrons' Paint Co., 162 South Street, New York.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

Died January 19th, 1879, MRS. MARY VAN TASSEL, in the 43d year of her age. A member of Center Grange, No. 298.

This notice was accompanied with the usual resolutions of respect and condolence, substantially the same as have appeared from time to time in the VISITOR, but which, taken together, occupy too much space for our paper.

SMALL FRUIT

—AT—
Low Prices to Patrons.

GRAPES.

No. 1 well Rooted Concord plants, \$3.00
No. 1 well Rooted Delaware plants, 5.00

RASPBERRIES.

Mammoth Cluster, (Black) 60 cts.
Doolittle, 60 "
Highland Hardy, (Red) 75 "
Turner, 75 "

STRAWBERRIES.

Wilson's Albany, Jucunda, President Wilder, Seth Boyden No. 30, and Monarch of the West.

Any of the above varieties at 50 cents per hundred, well packed and delivered at the Express Office at Benton Harbor. Or will send in small quantities, by mail, any of the above plants, to any one forwarding pay for plants, and money to pre-pay postage thereon.

Please send money in Registered Letter, or Post Office Money Order to

WM. J. NOTT,
Jan 23-3m Benton Harbor, Berrien Co., Mich.

FOR SALE AND WANT NOTICES.

FOR SALE. THREE SCOTCH COLLY SHEPHERD DOGS.
Address, M. J. SPENCER,
Pontiac, Mich.

The Husbandman!

EVERY FARMER Should TAKE IT.

It is thoroughly Reliable and Practical in Every Department.

It is Owned, Edited and Managed by FARMERS, and is an able Exponent of the Agricultural Interests of the Country.

THE HUSBANDMAN discusses public questions from the farmer's standpoint. It demands that the burdens of taxation should be more equitably placed on all classes of property, and that the farming interests be thereby measurably relieved.

THE HUSBANDMAN contends against unjust discrimination in freight charges, by which the present railroad management is heaping heavy burdens on the farmers of this and other States. No other farmer's paper pays as careful heed to its Market Reports, which are thoroughly reliable and accompanied with comments showing the condition of the market and tendency of prices.

In short, THE HUSBANDMAN seeks to promote in every way the greatest good of the agricultural class, and is such a paper as farmers everywhere ought to read and support. The reports of the discussions of the famous

Elmira Farmers Club

occupy about one page of the paper each week, and are alone worth more to any practical farmer than the cost of subscription.

Many of the leading farmers in different parts of the country are among its large number of correspondents. Hon. Alonzo Sessions, the present Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, and an old and successful farmer, in a letter urging the farmers of his own county to take this paper said: "I have read THE HUSBANDMAN for more than two years, and I do not hesitate to recommend it as the BEST FARMER'S PAPER that I ever read. I take and read several other papers, but I will say frankly that no paper comes to my house that is more welcome to myself and to all my family, and not one that is read with so much pleasure and profit."

As a representative of the GRANGE, THE HUSBANDMAN is highly prized by the leading members of the Order, in all sections of the country. It is not sensational, but is candid and influential.

The Husbandman is a Large Eight-Page Paper, and Only \$1.50 per year. Postage Free.

The interesting character of THE HUSBANDMAN, and low price, commend it at once to farmers everywhere, and make it an easy task to secure a club of subscribers in any Grange or community. Send for sample copies which are furnished free. Address,

HUSBANDMAN, Elmira, N. Y.

We will send THE HUSBANDMAN and THE GRANGE VISITOR for one year, for \$1.70, and in Clubs of five or more, \$1.60 each.

German Horse and Cow Powder.

It should be the aim of every farmer to make his horses and cattle as handsome and useful as possible. Nearly every teamster who drives a team of very fine horses feeds Condition Powders, either openly or secretly.

The German Horse and Cow Powder is of the highest value for stock. It aids digestion and assimilation. It helps to develop all the powers of the animal. It improves its beauty and increases its usefulness. It makes fat and milk. By using it a horse will do more work, and a cow give more milk, and be in better condition, with less feed.

By giving poultry a heaped table-spoonful occasionally in a quart of chop, it will keep them healthy and increase the quantity of eggs. By giving hogs a large heaped table-spoonful, with the same quantity of salt, in a half peck of scalded wheat bran for every four hogs, twice a week you will prevent HOG DISEASE.

Put up in five pound packages, six packages in a box, at 12 cents a pound; or in sixty pound boxes at ten cents a pound. The receipt is posted on each package and box. Made by Dr. Oberholzer, at his mills, No. 2 Petteer Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by R. E. JAMES, Kalamazoo Co-operative Association, No. 31 North Burdick St., Kalamazoo, Mich., and by J. M. CHAMBERS, Illinois State Business Agent, Chicago, Ill., at the Lowest Wholesale Price when ordered under the seal of the Grange. may 15-16

THE TWENTY THIRD

DESCRIPTIVE ILLUSTRATED

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We sell all our Goods at Wholesale Prices, in any quantities to suit the Purchasers. The only institution of the kind in America. Address,

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,
227 and 229 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

COLVINS' EUREKA BEE-HIVE and Honey Racks.

MADE ON AN ENTIRELY NEW PLAN.

A Great Advancement in BEE-CULTURE. Gives UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION where introduced.

Sample Hive—Complete, - - \$3.50.

Liberal discount on large Orders.

Address, McCALL & WILLIAMS,
Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo Co., Mich

MCCALL & WILLIAMS:

GENTS:—After a thorough trial of the EUREKA BEE-HIVES, both for Comb and Extracted Honey; I can positively assert, that for saving, and making large colonies, and for the production of surplus Honey, it is unequalled by any Hive that I have ever seen or used.

Yours,
LYMAN THOMPSON.

I do hereby endorse the statement of Mr. Lyman Thompson.

O. H. FELLOWS.

Patron's Commission House!

THOMAS MASON,
General Commission Merchant,

183 SOUTH WATER STREET,
CHICAGO. - - ILLINOIS.

Respectfully solicits Consignments of

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, BUTTER, EGGS,

Poultry, Wool, Hides,

PELTS, TALLOW, and DRESSED HOGS.

GRAIN, HOGS, and CATTLE

In Car Lots. Also,

LUMBER in Car or Cargo Lots.

Having a large and conveniently arranged House in the business part of the city, we are prepared to handle goods in any quantity, and, being on the SHADY SIDE of the street, can show PERISHABLE goods in BEST CONDITION, throughout the day. With

SUPERIOR FACILITIES,

and close personal attention to business, we hope to merit, receive, and retain a liberal share of your patronage.

Orders for goods in this market will be filled at lowest wholesale rates.

Cash must Accompany Orders to Insure Prompt Attention.

Also, Collecting and Distributing Agent of the Michigan Lake Shore Fruit Growers' Association.

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Merchants' National Bank, Chicago, Ill.
J. J. Woodman, Paw Paw, Mich.
J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.
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W. A. Brown, Sec'y Mich. L. S. F. G. Ass'n, Stevensville, Mich.

Stencils, Shipping Tags, and Market Reports furnished on application.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. may 30

TO EXCHANGE.

THE subscriber wishes to exchange Lumber for a span of Horses or yoke of Oxen. Call on or address A. E. UPTON, Fremont Center, Newaygo Co., Mich.

J. M. CHIDISTER, STATE BUSINESS AGENT, P. of H., DEALER IN

GRAINS.

—AND—

All kinds of Country Produce,

80 WOODBRIDGE ST., West,

DETROIT, - - MICHIGAN

Choice Stock for Sale, Cheap.

H. H. Taylor, of Dowagiac, Cass Co., has for sale, at hard pan prices, a first-class Business Horse, the choice in two fine grade yearling Durham Bulls, and a fine three-year-old Merino Buck.

5-TON STOCK SCALES,
\$50.

FREIGHT PAID, AND NO MONEY ASKED TILL TESTED.

JONES, of Binghamton,

may 6m BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

Paw Paw, Mich., May 18th, 1878.

JONES, of BINGHAMTON:

My Scales give entire satisfaction. I have subjected it to the most severe tests, and find it not only correct in weighing large or small amounts, but perfectly reliable.

Yours, Fraternally,
[Signed] J. J. WOODMAN.

PRICE LIST of SUPPLIES

Kept in the office of the Secretary 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.

Ballot Boxes, (hard wood),.....	\$1 25
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SEC'y MICH. STATE GRANGE,
SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.