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The Governor Candidacy.

Editor Grange Visitor:

We are glad to notice the discussion of the subject of a candidate for Governor in the VISITOR, and I hope this discussion and a continued reference to the subject will be kept up until some one of your correspondents hits upon a plan of action that will result in some practical good to the Order and to the accomplishment of the desired end; that is, in the recommendation of a farmer for the office of Governor of Michigan. Simply expressing a preference for Bro. Woodman or Mr. Rich will accomplish nothing. We might express our preference for Bro. Holloway or Bro. Luce, it would simply be an expression of our choice from the many competent and available men inside the Grange for the office of Governor. The question for Grangers to settle, in the first instance and now is, will we insist upon putting a farmer into the office of Governor at our next election, are the Grangers true enough to insist upon doing this? Are we willing to drop our party preferences and prejudices, if necessary to accomplish so noble a purpose as placing in the gubernatorial chair of Michigan a real "dyed in the wool" farmer? If we are, then let us in the first place take some action as an Order which will bring about so desirable a result. Let every subordinate Grange in the State bind itself, its members by a solemn obligation not to support any candidate for the office of Governor, who is not a practical farmer, no matter by what party he may be presented. Take this step now, and take it openly and with a determination to stand by the record, and let the caucuses and conventions of the several parties be attended by men who have independence enough to cast off the emissaries of politicians, and we may then succeed in getting upon the head of each State ticket a practical farmer, which will result in giving us a farmer for Governor. If each ticket has not a farmer at its head, then let us support the ticket which has shown a disposition to yield to the demand of the agricultural interests of the State. If neither party hoists the farmers' flag, then let us go into the field with our own ticket, headed by some such candidate as Bro. Woodman, and if we don't succeed we shall at least teach the political parties that it is not a safe business to ignore the wishes of the largest and most important interests in the State.

Our resources in programs are by no means exhausted. We shall have a change. We all like something new once in a while. Most Granges take a recess during the hottest part of summer, some longer, some shorter—and this recess, to some, seems to be the best part of the year. In the latter case, it takes much time to get revived in work. It is to be compared to the old way of wintering cattle at the strawstack. They stand still for six or seven months and grow some during the other five or six months. Capital Grange has usually taken a recess for two or three weeks during a part of August, but this year the meetings had become so interesting that the members could not afford to close the doors, not even for one week. Our Grange is to be compared to the good husbandman who feeds his young animals well and keeps them growing every day of their lives. In this way, every day has the advantage of all the preceding.

We have had but few exercises open to the public, partly because our hall is small. We held one farmers' institute among ourselves. Each weekly meeting is probably not surpassed by any monthly or quarterly meeting of any farmers' club in the State. Your Lecturer has tried not to be tedious. He knows how easy it is for a Grange to hear too much from any one

Capital Grange.

Among our local institutions is one with headquarters at North Lansing, whose influence has been of great good among the farmers of this vicinity. We mean Capital Grange No. 540, organized about five years ago. The regular meeting on Dec. 20th, before the annual election of officers for the ensuing year, the out-going officers made their reports. From the report of the Lecturer, W. J. Beal, we glean the following:

We may well feel good over the fact that we have a live Grange. While some are dead or dying, or finding it hard to keep up an interest, we are taking in more members than we really have room for. A good Grange is worth a fortune to any member. It is a treasure to any neighborhood. It costs something, but it is worth all it costs and much more.

No one can learn or acquire an education without studying and sacrifice of time and money. Learning cannot be given to anyone. It must be earned. Just so it is with a Grange. Success cannot be given to it. The members must work for it, and in working for success we receive our reward. Those who have the most have received the most benefit. None have received greater benefits than our Worthy Master and our Worthy Secretary during the past year. Ask them and they will tell you so.

Those who have been least benefited are those who have remained at home, called on. The work here is not performed by a few, but by many. Every one has a chance to do something, no so much as he ought to, because of our large numbers. We are successful as a Grange, because of our division of labor. We have no bores, no long talkers such as afflict many societies. We have a great variety of exercises, all of them useful. Farm and household topics, political economy, history, amusements, education,—all have a place.

For various reasons a few, very few, have not taken part in the regular exercises. In one respect we have all taken a part without exception, that is, we have told what others ought to do. We have criticised, we have found some fault. Even this has been of some use. Our Grange, during the past year has improved a good deal in some respects. There is still room for improvement. Our members have improved in punctuality, in their ability to write and speak with ease, and in their knowledge of parliamentary rules. Our regular weekly attendance has nearly doubled, and now averages full 75 members, including meetings when the weather is unfavorable. The membership is quite scattered; a good many live five or six miles from town. The members in good standing number about 220; and over 30 have joined during the past year.

Our printed programs, which are distributed in advance among all the members, have helped to add stability to the meetings. They have been worth all they have cost. They have done other Granges good besides our own; as you have often been told. We have had inquiries from a distance, even from the State Lecturer of Texas. Our plans are yet far from perfect. We need a change. Our resources in programs are by no means exhausted. We shall have a change. We all like something new once in a while.

Most Granges take a recess during the hottest part of summer, some longer, some shorter—and this recess, to some, seems to be the best part of the year. In the latter case, it takes much time to get revived in work. It is to be compared to the old way of wintering cattle at the strawstack. They stand still for six or seven months and grow some during the other five or six months. Capital Grange has usually taken a recess for two or three weeks during a part of August, but this year the meetings had become so interesting that the members could not afford to close the doors, not even for one week. Our Grange is to be compared to the good husbandman who feeds his young animals well and keeps them growing every day of their lives. In this way, every day has the advantage of all the preceding.

man. A dozen broken words from some hesitating beginner will often do more to interest and strengthen a Grange than an eloquent lecture of an hour from one who is frequently heard on the floor.

We have had our ripples of trouble, just enough to test our patience. What family has not? I trust it has strengthened most of us. Shall the improvement of our members continue? We must not relax our efforts to keep the young members at work. Of this class we have a large number. You all remember how anxious some were not long ago to have the by-laws changed so that a young lad could join a few days before he was sixteen, he acquired the requisite age, and joined the Grange.

As a Grange, we have done during the past year all that we had a reasonable right to expect. Great things come slowly. Our Worthy Master has done as well as he could, and that is all that any one can do. He has made mistakes, but as Professor Shelton of the Kansas agricultural college says, "The only persons who do not make mistakes are those who do nothing," and Professor Shelton is correct. The list of officers is too long for each to be complimented in turn.

We will not intrude on the duties of our officers who are this day to be elected, for next Saturday, according to our program, we shall listen attentively to hear what good things they shall promise to do for us during the coming year. May no one accept an office in Capital Grange without realizing his great responsibility, and then may he endeavor to perform all the duties incumbent on the office to the very best of his ability.

Report of the Sub-Committee on Patrons' Aid Society to the State Grange.

Your special committee, to whom was referred the matter of a Patrons' Aid Society, have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully report, asking your co-operation and approval.

Co-operation is the chief corner stone of our great Organization, and through it, and a strict adherence to its principles, and the practice of its teachings, we have accomplished what we have in the past, and failed, if at all, in not understanding, or strictly adhering to its precepts.

Working together to provide for the wants of our families after our decease, is co-operation, and of the noblest type, and how much easier can we approach the realms of shade, if we are conscious that we are leaving our loved ones a certain aid, to be used by them in the hours when our ready hands and strong arms of care and protection will be needed and missed.

We are all painfully aware that life is uncertain, and its termination sure, hence it behooves every wise Patron to make provision for those depending upon him, when that dependence must cease—as ease it must, and no one can tell the day and hour thereof.

Societies and associations for life insurance are abundant enough, but at such high rates as to be beyond the power of the members of our Order. They are not reliable, even if their benefits were attainable by us, and all of them are monopolies, for the benefit of high-salaried officials and well-fed agents, rather than the benefit of those insured. The amount required by them being from four to six times the actual cost.

From these facts, so well-known to you all, we could not recommend them to you, nor could any true Patron use them without doing violence to his principles as a Patron, for we are taught by the lessons of our noble Order to "mind our own business," and as such in this direction as any other.

Many organizations on the mutual plan have lately sprung up, and are effecting the same results as the old life societies, at much less cost. Some of them have to sustain an organization of the benefit association, which the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities are each very successfully operating Mutual Benefit Societies already have the organization without cost to operate the same, and find that this branch strengthens and assists the order itself.

The farmers have a similar organization; why not use to secure similar results? The Order of Patrons of Husbandry can do all these orders can, and more, for we give woman equal privileges with man, and she can provide for her loved ones, if a widow, or share with her husband the privilege

of leaving a certain benefit for her children in the event of her death, which cannot be alienated from its objects.

In the States of New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Illinois, our brothers and sisters have inaugurated such benefit societies, and find them to work well, at one-fifth the cost of the old life societies. Why cannot the Patrons of Michigan do the same? We can. But some one says, as others have said and acted, "Why not join with those of other States?" For two reasons: First, we want an aid society of our own, of Michigan Patrons, by Michigan Patrons, for Michigan Patrons; second, we cannot use their's under the laws of our State. For "no company organized or existing without any authority whatsoever other than the statutes of this State, shall be at liberty to transact the business of life insurance within this State, until such company, in addition to the requirements now made by law, shall have deposited with the State Treasurer, one hundred thousand dollars security."

And shall be liable to a penalty of \$100 for every application obtained, policy issued, contract guaranteed, or pledge made,"—*Laus of 1869, Act No. 77; amended by Laus of 1871, Act No. 80.*

The law again reads: "That all corporations, associations, etc., doing business in this State under any charter, involving insurance, etc., a pledge for the payment of money to families, or representations of policy, or certificate holders, shall be deemed to be Life Insurance Companies, etc."—*Session Laus of 1872, extra Session.*

The above was amended in 1877 so as to except Mutual Benefit Associations, organized under the laws of this State, for the provisions of the last act quoted, that of 1872, extra session. From what law we have cited, it will be seen that the Patron Companies of other States cannot come to us, nor we go to them legally. Shall we not as Patrons of Michigan co-operate for the benefit of our families in the event of our death? Prudence and good judgment will say "Yes!" We need an organization similar to the ones in use by the Patrons of New York, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin, and similar to the ones used in this State by the Masons and Odd Fellows. The annual loss of life from the members of these organizations has averaged about 7 to the 1,000, which at the assessment of \$1.00 for each death, would be about \$7.00 per annum—about one-third what it costs a man to smoke a five-cent cigar per day, or drink a glass of ale, neither of which are of any present or future benefit, but the cost of which, in an organization like this, would leave the family at least \$2,000, with which to pay debts, relieve an encumbered homestead, and educate orphan children, in the case of the death of a member.

In view of all these facts, your Committee have conceived the plan of a temporary organization, which shall gather the material and members for a permanent organization of a Patrons' Mutual Benefit Society in this State at an early day, and having called together a large number of members of the Order forming the body, laid our plan before them, was unanimously adopted, and Bro. M. B. Hine, of Austerlitz, of Kent County, was chosen President, and Bro. C. L. Whitney, of Muskegon, was chosen Secretary, of such temporary society, and instructed to call a meeting of those interested, as soon as sufficient encouragement shall have been given.

Your Committee then recommend this plan to all Patrons in the State, and solicit your earnest co-operation, to the end that Patrons' orphans may have the benefit thereof, and that our Order may be strengthened thereby; for it is one of the fundamental principles of such organizations that the Patrons must remain good members of the Order to keep up the membership in the Benefit Relief Society. We also hope it will encourage other farmers to join our Order, for the sake of becoming members of this Association.

Your Committee would invite all County, District, and Subordinate Granges to investigate this matter, and instruct their members in at once becoming members, and thus set the organization upon a permanent footing, ready to give the benefit desired.

It is believed that we ought to have a membership of at least five hundred members at once, and to attain that of one thousand within a year. In all these recommendations, your Committee would ask the hearty approval of the Michigan State Grange.

C. L. WHITNEY, Chairman.

THE INDEPENDENT FARMER.

Let sailors sing of the windy deep,
 Let soldiers praise their armor—
 But in my heart this toast I'll keep,
 "The Independent Farmer."
 When first the rose, in robes of green,
 Unfolds its crimson lining,
 And round his cottage porch is seen
 The honeysuckle twining.
 When banks of bloom their sweetness yield
 To bees that gather honey,
 He drives his team across the field,
 Where skies are soft and sunny.
 The blackbird chucks behind the plow,
 The quail pipes loud and clearly,
 You orchard hides behind its bough,
 The home he loves so dearly;
 The gray old barn, whose doors unfold,
 His ample store in measure.
 More rich than heaps of hoarded gold,
 A precious, blessed treasure.
 But yonder, in the porch, she stands,
 His wife, the lovely charmer,
 The sweetest rose of all his lands,
 To the Independent Farmer.
 To him, the Spring comes dancing gay;
 To him, the Summer blushes,
 The Autumn shines with mellow ray,
 His sleep the winter hushes.
 He cares not how the world may move,
 No doubts or fears confound him,
 His little flock are linked in love.
 And household angels round him.
 He trusts in God, and loves his wife,
 Nor grief, nor ill, may harm her.
 He's Nature's Nobleman in life,
 The Independent Farmer!
 Feb. 8th, 1880. A PATRON.

Communications.

Prof. Cook, of the Agricultural College, on the "Insect Enemies of the Fruit Grower, and How to Destroy Them."

There are over 200,000 insects in this country, many of them useful as parasites, and many are injurious. Many of these insects can be subdued or held in check by concerted action of fruit growers. The codling moths have been whipped by such concert of action. If the Executive Committee of our society would offer a premium of \$50 or \$100 to that township or neighborhood that will bandage and perfectly protect the trees in the largest area, it will be a great credit to the society, and also be a means of doing great good, and as Entomologist of the society, I recommend it. When I was out this winter, I was proud of the praise given our society by eastern horticulturists.

There are places where, by a concert of action, the curculio has been whipped. Most insects have their parasitic enemies. The Professor illustrated on the board by colored crayons many of the parasites. The ichneumon fly was illustrated and the Professor showed how its young preyed upon the bark louse of the apple tree. These parasites can be sent by mail, and are so sent. Parasites are spreading all over the country.

The next point is the birds. Which will you have, the worms or the birds? At the College we bandage our apple trees. Between the bands and trees we sometimes put cotton. Prof. Beal thinks the bands with cotton are best because we find more worms there; but I think there is no difference, only the birds have picked out the worms where there is no cotton. Plant enough cherries and berries for yourself and the birds.

HOW TO TELL THE CANKER WORM.

The female is wingless, the head small, and the body oval. The male—the moth of the canker worm—is ash colored, with a whitish costal spot near the tip of the fore wings, which are crossed by two jagged, whitish bands, dotted with black on the outside; they expand 1½ inches. In early spring and late in autumn, the male flies about, and couples with the wingless female, seen crawling up the tree in February and March, which lays a patch of short cylindrical eggs, from 60 to a 100, arranged in rows and glued to the bark. The larva hatch about the time the apple tree leaves out. Almost before the presence of the larva is known, they often nearly strip an orchard of its leaves. They also attack the cherry,

plum, elm, and other trees. The canker worm, when mature, is about an inch long, ash colored on the back, black on the sides, and beneath yellowish. It ceases eating when four weeks old, and late in June creeps down, or lets itself down with a thread (is a measuring worm) burrowing in the ground, it makes for itself a rude earthen cocoon, fastened together with silk. Coming forth in autumn or in the spring, its progress can be arrested by application of the bands smeared with coal oil or printers' ink, but this has to be applied every day or two, while the eggs should be picked off and burned.

A better way, is to syringe the tree with a solution in which a pound of London Purple has been dissolved in one hundred gallons of water. London Purple is a residuum, left in the manufacture of colors, and is of no use only to kill insects. It used to be carried out to sea and thrown overboard. It can be bought of any druggist for 5 cents per pound. It is cheaper and more effective than Paris Green, which is insolvent in water. Provide yourself with Whitman's fountain pump, which can be bought by the dozen for \$6.50 each, or a single one for \$10. They are very useful for other things, as washing carriages, windows, etc. Prepare your water by putting ½ pound in an oil barrel of water in your wagon, drive under your trees in May, and syringe your trees. It is sure death not only to the canker worm, but to the leaf roller, and the rose slugs. It will also kill the potato beetle. I do not think it will kill the curculio, as they do not eat. But you must use it with care, as it is a poison; so do not put it on your rose bushes where your children can eat the roses and get poisoned. A rain will wash it off. I think with London Purple and a good Whitman force pump, I am master of the situation as far as the canker worm is concerned, and the cost is but trifle compared with the use of Paris Green.

CODLING MOTHS.

The codling moth lays its egg in the blossom end of the apple or pear, early in summer. The larva feeds in the interior of the fruit. It matures in 3 weeks, when it comes out and transforms into a thin cocoon, and hides in the crevices of bark or under bands, and in a few days another brood of moths appear. It is now in the cocoon under the tree. About the middle of May, it comes out a moth. Why don't you get these apple worms, put them in a box, and in a short time they will transform. It is very interesting, and you will learn, just how the moths look. If you take them out when it is time for them to lay their eggs, they will always fly toward the orchard. When the larva comes out, as many go down the tree as go up, as I have frequently tested by putting on three bands. In the upper I find as many as in the lower, but none in the middle.

TO PUT ON THE BANDS.

You want a good stiff brown wrapping paper, a paper of tacks in your side pocket, and a tack hammer suspended from a string around your neck, bring your paper around the tree, and drive a tack half in, and so on until you have bandaged all your trees that blossom. Do this the last of June. About the 8th of July visit the Red Astrean and Boughs, and you will find no larva. In about 8 or ten days, if warm, go again; if cool, in 12 days. Take off the bands and crush every larva with your thumb, and keep account of the number you kill.

Now suppose the Executive Committee of the Pomological Society offer a premium to the neighborhood or Grange that will do the most effective work in the largest territory, and report, supported by affidavits. Suppose a number of neighborhoods engage in the work, stimulated by the premium at first, they would find how easily they could check the ravages of the codling moth, which would not cost to exceed 3 to 4 cents per tree. You can see how greatly enhanced

would be the value of fruit, and in a few years the people would demand that there be a law enacted, requiring every one to bandage his trees and attend to them.

In answer to a question, Prof. Cook said a pail of water would be enough to syringe two average trees.

Whitman's fountain pump is manufactured at Providence R. I.

J. S. Woodard, a friend of mine, applied Paris Green to apple trees in May, and killed the codling moth by one application.

Prof. Cook—I never thought of that before; think it would kill the larva if applied at the right time, as it is then in the blossom end and the end is up, and the smallest drop would do it, but think there should be more than one application. The London Purple is cheaper. I think there would be no great danger in applying so early, as the rain would wash it off before maturing.

[NOTE.—Your reporter is one of the Executive Committee of the Pomological Society. The Executive Committee has already taken action on the offering of premiums, and will offer a first and second premium of \$50 and \$25 to the Grange or neighborhood that will do the most effective work, in the largest territory, in bandaging trees and killing the larva of the codling moth. So Patrons be up and doing when the time comes.]

A Wedding Anniversary Occasion.

Bro. Jerome T. Cobb:
 PAINT CREEK, Wash. Co. Mich.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

At a regular meeting of Fraternity Grange, No. 52, held Feb. 3d, it was arranged to hold another session Feb. 10. Sister Ballard said to a member of the Grange that said meeting come on the thirty-fourth anniversary of our wedding, and the Grange is responsible for what followed. When we arrived at Grange hall we found the fires lighted and the kettles boiling, which indicated business, but what was to happen was a mystery to us, until the W. M. called the Grange to order and announced, in one of his characteristic speeches, that this was an anniversary surprise party for Bro. and Sister Ballard, and said we were to have a good time. Soon the tables were loaded with good things, among which were seventeen kinds of cake, and other eatables to match, all tastefully arranged. Most prominent, perhaps, was the bride's cake, contributed by Sister Darling. It was a thing of beauty and a joy for—the present. At the repast, the W. M. called to order, and announced, that a committee had arranged a literary program, consisting of selections and original essays, furnished by the Worthy Secretary, Sister Eveline Fisher, and Sisters Smith, Lowe, and Breining. Sisters Breining and Lowe traced in pen pictures the results of our married life, giving us the credit of having always kept the peace as citizens, and as brother and sister in the Grange, claiming for us a warm place in its affections.

This was to us a joy unspeakable, coming as it did from those we love. By their fruits we know them, and garnering the happy remembrance of that hour, we find that another link has been added to the golden chain of affection we so dearly prize.

By this we are made to feel that Fraternity Grange is a tower of strength, in the unity of feeling that has pervaded and is pervading our meetings. Our motto, Fraternity, has knit our hearts together by cords so enduring that even the wrecker Time can never unloose them, though while turning beauty to ashes, he hangs the symbols of mourning at our inner gate. Dust thou art! was not written of the gem the casket contains, and when dust has returned to dust, that imperishable entity, enriched by the fruitage of brotherly kindness, will find in the higher Grange, an abiding place, there to enjoy the fruitions of an endless life.
 S. T. BALLARD.

Beet Culture.

The VISITOR for Feb. 1st, contains a sound article on feeding beets to stock, and having had in my mind an article on the same subject, perhaps I can add a little that may be of interest.

The cultivation of roots, beets in particular, is too much neglected, but after being fairly tried, the value of roots for feeding in winter and spring is appreciated, and the beet patch becomes an established institution on the farm of the prudent husbandman.

A fair trial does not consist in preparing the ground, sowing the seed, and then neglecting cultivation until the labor of getting rid of the weeds is considered more than the beets will be worth, so that the experiment is given up in disgust; or, as in one case I know of, continued by purchasing the roots of a more lucky neighbor. Properly managed, however, an acre or more of beets, according to the size of the farm and the amount of stock kept, can be raised with comparative little trouble, and very slight expense. The yellow globe mangold wurtzel is my favorite variety, although on some soils the long red, or the white sugar beet may be preferable. This may be easily tested by each one for himself, by sowing a portion of each kind. Other things being equal, the richest soil will produce the heaviest crop, but any good corn land with a good coat of fine manure, plowed in, will yield a paying crop. The ground should be plowed early, cultivated sufficiently to mellow and keep clean, until the middle or the last of May, when the seed should be drilled in at the rate of about four pounds to the acre, in drills thirty inches apart, just wide enough to allow of horse cultivator. To sow, I use Planet Jr., drill and wheel hoe, which is of great assistance in after cultivation, besides being a very handy implement for use in the garden. As soon as the plants show themselves so that the rows can be distinguished, a use the wheel hoe, working both sides of the row at once, throwing the earth and small weeds away from the plants, and leaving the row of weeds and plants two inches wide. In this manner, I can go over an acre in three hours, leaving the rows so distinct that I can use a horse cultivator to good advantage. This first cultivating can be done perhaps as well, though more laborious and expensive, with a hand hoe, but in either case it is important that the work should be done while plants and weeds are small. It may require sharp looking to distinguish the rows, but if the weeds are allowed too much start, there is no salvation but in pulling by hand. A double shovel plow, with the right leg set cross to the beam, small beam (bull tongues), and a sheet iron shield can now be used to advantage, and the spaces between the rows kept clean by hand labor. With a hoe, the rows can now be "chopped out," leaving the plants in squares from eight to fifteen inches apart, and in the best shape for convenient thinning, which is done at the final hoeing, when the plants are from three to four inches high, leaving one plant in a place. I usually get my beets thinned out at odd times, when the weather is too wet for working corn or haying. After the beets are thinned out, it is rarely necessary to use the hoe again, horse cultivating being sufficient. The main trouble is on the start. The secret of success is to begin the war against the weeds soon enough. The yellow globes grow mostly above ground, and are very easily pulled; the others pull rather harder, but still easier than turnips. A good way to harvest is to walk between two rows, pulling one with each hand, thus throwing four rows into one. They can then be topped in the field, or drawn tops and all to the pit or cellar and stored as fast as topped. They should be gathered before hard frosts, as they are more tender than turnips, and if frosted are liable to rot. For milch cows beets are excellent, and

make sweet, yellow butter. Horses, sheep, and swine relish them, and an occasional feed does much to keep them in health, while a moderate daily feed given to incoming cows, and to sheep a couple of weeks before lambing time, will often prevent serious trouble and loss. Farmers, try a small patch of beets.
 H.
 Burr Oak, Feb. 16, 1880.

Selling Plaster to Outsiders.

Bro. Cobb:
 On forwarding our first order for plaster this season, Burr Oak Grange passed a resolution not to sell plaster to those outside the gate. Heretofore we have pursued the opposite course, selling to all whom we could induce, as a personal favor, to buy their plaster of the Grange. The consequence has always been that the local agent for Grand Rapids plaster put his price down as low as ours, so that we could offer farmers no inducement to deal with us, except the superior quality of our plaster. Now we propose to make an amicable arrangement with the agent, whereby he will set his price without any reference to what the Grange charges. His customers will be outsiders, and he will make all he can out of them, while the Grangers will get their plaster at just what it costs delivered, and we feel confident that our plaster will be the cheapest. In this way, neither party will interfere with the other, friendly feeling will prevail, the Grange will stand better in the opinion of outsiders, and there will be a more general desire to join the Order.

It makes some difference whether we can say to our new Granger neighbor, "If you belonged to the Grange your plaster would cost you 50 cents less on a ton than you now pay"; or whether we have to say, "Come join the Grange, handle your own plaster, shovel it up your self, and it will only cost you 50 cents a ton more than the agent charges." In the one case, he will reason, "Well, if the Grange can handle plaster in that way, it's a good thing to belong to it"; in the other, "As long as I can buy cheaper outside, what's the use of joining the Grange just for the fun of doing the work myself? I think I am better off by not belonging to the Grange." And just as long as we compete with the agent by selling to outsiders, just so long he will beat us in price. The case was the same in regard to salt. When we had salt on hand, and sold to outsiders, the dealers put their price down, but as soon as our stock was gone, salt "riz."

While I can and do work cheerfully for the Grange, I do not see the fun in working for nothing, for other than our own folks, getting instead of thanks, the ill-will of the merchants, and bringing slurs upon the Order from those sought to be benefited. Let us keep the benefits of the Grange for its members, and if others want a share, let them become members, and bear their share of the burdens of the Grange.

The plea is made that we should sell all what we can to aid Day & Taylor, but it seems to me that if we can, by a compromise, as above, keep Grange plaster at a lower price at a point of delivery, than ring plaster, we shall have the game in our own hands. There will be no inducement for recreant members to purchase ring plaster. The inducement of cheaper plaster through the Grange than outside will add rapidly to our membership, thus increasing the number of Day & Taylor's legitimate customers, and in the end, this policy will prove more profitable to them and to us than selling to outsiders.

H. HAWLEY, Sec.
 Burr Oak, Feb. 23d, 1880.

A WAG who lent a minister a horse that had run away and thrown the clergyman, claimed credit for spreading the Gospel.

Communications.

Do our Patent Laws Need Changing?

J. T. Cobb:

There are many things I would like to speak about through your paper to our people, but my time is so taken up that it leaves me none for that purpose, for what I wish to speak of needs some explanation.

One thing is this. With our reduced number of Subordinate Granges, and the drill in business they have had, would it not be well to return to the old way of having each Subordinate Grange represented in the State Grange? If the Treasury of the State Grange cannot stand the expenses, let each Subordinate Grange pay a certain percentage of it. I think it would help the Order very much as a whole.

Another thing is, the petitions sent around for signatures. Will speak of only one—that referring to patent laws, etc. We, the petitioners, ask for certain modifications. Now I would ask for the entire abolition of our present patent laws, believing them to be, from their inception, unjust, anti-Republican, and contrary to the spirit of our government. We believe that the man or woman who, by their inventive genius, have blessed or shall bless their kind, are entitled to fair compensation, but not to the right or privilege to prey upon the whole nation, or world of industry. The duty of the government is to protect the many against the few, instead of giving a few sharpers the right and power to become millionaires, at the expense of the people, for seldom does the real inventor receive much of this wholesale robbery. By our present system, many trifling inventions are gotten hold of by sharp men, and hundreds of thousands of dollars are wrung from the people.

I would have a Board appointed or elected whose duty it should be to receive and examine all applications and models, and if need be, to have the thing completed and put on trial. And the inventor should be to no expense save the conveyance of the models, etc, but no fee either to lawyer or government, thereby debarring the poor inventor from the benefits of his invention, he being obliged to sell out to some moneyed man, in order "to carry it through," as it is called. If the application should be considered worthy by the Board, and large considerations involved, the matter should be referred to Congress or the Cabinet, to act as a check on the Board. And the award should be paid to the inventor by the Government, and then given to the people free, and in no case should the award be over ten thousand dollars. This would rid the people of all monopolizing manufacturers, as well as hordes of roaming, thieving agents that now flood the country, and rob the people.

This is more than I meant to say, so please excuse
A. STEGRMAN.

A Letter from Arkansas.

LORO, Hot Springs Co., Arkansas,
February 12th, 1880.

Editor Grange Visitor:

As I have removed from my old Grange, No. 624, in Michigan, perhaps some of my old friends would like to hear from Southern Arkansas through the VISITOR. I would first say that although it is 14 months since I removed 1,000 miles from my old Grange, I am still a member, and have the A. W. for 1880. I attended the meeting of the State Grange of this State Jan. 27 and 28, at Arkadelphia. I found the officers and delegates present to be live Grangers—men of sterling worth. Worthy Master Williams' address contained many strong points, and was well delivered. My only regret was that the hall was not well filled. Had the Grangers of Arkansas been there and listened to his remarks, I think it would have done much toward reviving the Grange here in this State, and surely there is need

enough of it, for the Grange in these parts is in a very dormant condition, and it will require the combined efforts of every live Patron in the State to bring it up to what it may and should be—the farmers' friend and protector. Oh! that the farmers of this and every other State could see what their own interest requires, and build up the Grange till it becomes a power in the land.

But I promised to say something about this country. First, I will say that spring, with all its freshness is here, even in mid winter. Plums, peaches, cherries, etc., are in bloom. The fields where wheat or grapes are growing are clothed in their fresh green carpet—a luxury to behold even in this climate. We have had no snow to speak of, and but very little frosty weather. Nature seems to have adapted the vegetable growth of this climate to a period of rest, to recuperate for the long growing season, now just commencing and to last till December. I find this country all I can desire in salubrity of atmosphere, health, temperature, etc. The lowest point mercury reached this winter was 12 above zero, and but, few moments at that, the highest point it reached last summer was 99, and but two days at that. This County, Tulip Ridge, is high and somewhat rolling, yet the soil and sub-soil is an alluvial deposit. Water is invariably soft and pure, not so cold as the springs in Michigan, yet pleasant to the taste. Soil productive in wheat, corn, rye, oats, barley, cotton, and in all the various vegetables in general use. It is particularly adapted to fruit, and I think is destined at no distant day to be almost wholly occupied with it. The grape of nearly every variety flourishes beyond measure.

Yours fraternally,
T. H. CLYDE.

Essay on Writing and Speaking.

Having been asked to write on this subject, I will say a few words which may, perhaps, cause others to express their opinion on a matter which heretofore has received so little attention in our common schools.

Children should be taught to commit and recite pieces at home before they are sent to school. Their memory will in this way, get a little training, and they will start to school with this advantage over children who do not receive this training. At school, let speaking be a common thing, and also essay-writing as soon as the child can write. Letter writing, of course, is included in the latter, for every child should be taught at school how to write a letter. This practice is of incalculable value as an aid in learning to read, write, and spell well, and will teach a child more about correct expression than several years' study of grammar. If speaking and essay-writing are thus made a part of the ordinary work, it will seem no worse to a child to learn and speak a piece, or read an essay, than to learn and recite an ordinary lesson, and when he becomes sixteen or eighteen years of age, he will be able to learn a speech readily, to express his ideas neatly on paper, and to read or recite before strangers without embarrassment.

Every body, every child, should be fitted to take his or her part in active life, and it almost seems like neglecting a duty for us not to exert ourselves to give them the advantage of early practice. As a teacher cannot force a child to speak or read a composition, and as there will always be parents who will be careless in regard to this matter, would it not be a good idea if it could be made compulsory? Could not the school board in each district make an order that would be binding, that there should be a certain amount of speaking during the year? This seems to me as important for fitting a child for after duties as anything which is now studied in our common schools.

M. A. T.

Correspondence.

Berrien County Grange.

J. T. Cobb:

The regular meeting of Berrien Co. Grange, No. 1, was held Jan. 13th and 14th, at the hall of Berrien Center Grange.

The meeting was called to order at 10 A. M. of the 13th, by Worthy Master Thos. Mars.

The usual preliminary business was transacted, when, upon adjournment for dinner, nearly 200 members, from all parts of the County, met with the warm greetings of familiar acquaintances.

After twice filling the long tables without visibly diminishing the immense supply of good things furnished by the hard-working sisters of Berrien Center Grange, the regular order of business was taken up. Short verbal reports from members of Subordinate Granges, showing a general healthy and hopeful condition were made. The W. M. reviewed the reports, and made many valuable suggestions.

Under "resolutions and discussions," a preamble and resolutions were introduced and passed, whereby the organization, purposes and business of the Northwestern Produce Association and Chicago Agency were explained. A resolution recommending the Agency, as being worthy of the support and patronage of the members of Patrons of Husbandry throughout the Northwest was appended, also a resolution tendering copies of preamble and resolutions, signed by the Master and Secretary of Berrien County Grange, to Thos. Mason, business manager, with liberty to use the same as reference.

The subject of the relations of the Grange to the railroad corporations of the County was introduced, which brought out a lengthy and animated discussion. The power of Congress to regulate this business was generally declared, though it was not believed that Congress, as now constituted, would heed the numerous petitions which were being presented. It was conceded, however, that petitions should continue to be presented, and if our prayers remain unheeded, concerted political action, which shall place in power men who will protect the rights of all classes, will be the only remedy.

A committee was appointed to draft a preamble and resolutions, expressive of the sense of Berrien Co. Grange regarding this question. The committee reported the preamble, which set forth the wrongs of the railroad freight system, or want of system, and resolutions which were moderate, but firm, in expression.

Under "good of the Order," Bro. Corey, of Cass County, reported the Grange interest in a prosperous condition, and announced the holding of a farmers' institute at Cassopolis.

Bro. Sparks spoke of the tardiness of members of the Grange. He urged the necessity of prompt attendance, and he thought that all forms and ceremonies should be observed.

Bro. Helmick read from the GRANGE VISITOR "ten commandments," which were interspersed with graphic interludes by members present.

A motion was made to discontinue the "Grange column" in the Buchanan Reporter. Bro. Sparks opposed the motion, when it was withdrawn, and a motion to appoint Bro. Sparks editor of the "Grange column" prevailed.

Bro. Brown spoke of the enlarged size and great merit of the GRANGE VISITOR, and urged members to support and write articles for the VISITOR.

W. M. Mars quoted the action of the State Executive Committee in enlarging the VISITOR, and urged the imperative duty of every member of the Order to support our own paper.

The W. M. spoke of the farmers' institute at Buchanan, which would be held under the auspices of this Grange. Prof. Carpenter, of the State Agricultural College, being called upon, spoke

at length, regarding the objects and results of farmers' institutes. They were organized to advance the interests of agriculture, and might be called farmers' trade unions. The Agricultural College was endeavoring to solve agricultural problems, but they needed the practical lessons, which were so well inculcated at the institutes. The preliminaries had all been arranged; subjects of essays assigned and accepted, and he believed that Berrien County institute would prove one of the most instructive of the series.

The evening session was held in the fifth degree, which was conferred upon eight members.

The election of officers ensued, and was much expedited by depositing the ballots at the Centre. A very disinterested rivalry was manifested between two burly brothers who "were up" for the office of Gate-keeper—each one urged the claims of the other. Very little sympathy was shown them, as they had "put up a job" on a worthy brother for the same position last year. The successful candidate accepted the situation gracefully, but he looked a little gruff when escorted to an outside position, with his overcoat pockets full of chicken bones.

The second day showed a very small diminution in numbers present. After the election of committees, the installation of officers-elect was conducted by Bro. G. Corey, of Cass County.

Bro. T. Mars, the retiring Master, made a most excellent and impressive address, which was responded to by our new Master, Bro. Freeman Franklin, in a few well chosen words.

The Committee to Visit Dormant Granges reported much good work done.

The Committee on Grievances reported, "Not a single case of grievance during the year."

The Finance Committee reported a bill for sundries, for the use of this meeting, to which was appended the item of "one five cent cigar for the retiring Master." The allowance of this item was opposed by the W. M., on the ground of the cigar having proved a "fraud and a snide." Other members were opposed to this allowance, as it was immoral in its tendency, and might prove a bad precedent. Others urged the well known infirmity of the W. M., and the fact of his having attempted to smoke this identical cigar having been proved, the bill was allowed.

During the afternoon session, a motion to hold a County Grange picnic was carried, and a Committee on Arrangements, consisting of Bros. Thos. Mars, Levi Sparks, A. N. Woodruff, W. A. Brown, and B. Helmick, was duly appointed.

The chairman of the committee appointed the previous day to draft resolutions expressing the sense of this meeting regarding the railroad irregularities and tyrannies, read a preamble and resolutions, which were duly adopted.

Many suggestions were made for the good of the Order, and a motion to hold the next regular meeting at Bainbridge hall, on the 25th of May, passed.

A resolution, tendering thanks to the brothers and sisters of Berrien Centre Grange for their never-falling hospitality, was adopted. And one of the many useful and interesting meetings of Berrien County Grange closed in due form.

W. W.
Stevensville, Mich.

A Word of Caution.

BOWEN CENTER, Kent Co., Mich.,
February 14th, 1880.

I want to put in a word of caution for the VISITOR. Hold on, Grangers, there are plenty of old farmers that will do for Governor, Representative in Congress, or Vice President, or any other office; but there are not so many farmers that will fill the Master's office of the State or National Grange, and do it well. We think the office in this case has sought the man, and found the right one for the place, and he cannot be spared. Again, hold on. No. 219.

Grange Interests in Calhoun County.

BATTLE CREEK, Feb. 13, 1880.

Brother Cobb:

I have not forgotten my promise made on our return from the State Grange to write in regard to the prosperity of the Granges in Calhoun Co., and of our co-operative store; but I have been very busy, which I offer as an excuse.

Since our State Grange meeting, I have visited seven of the nine Granges in the County, and have installed the officers of six of them, and I find them in a very gratifying state of prosperity. For instance, Home Grange, two years ago, came so near dying that it had only just members enough to fill the offices in the Grange and hold its Charter—now has about 40 members, and has purchased material for the erection of a fine hall. The members of Bedford Grange are also preparing to build themselves a large and commodious hall. These improvements will have a tendency to make the Grange organization permanent. You probably are aware that a few members met about a year ago to bury the Calhoun County Grange. Your correspondent suggested the impropriety of burying it before life was entirely extinct, and introduced a resolution to reorganize and hold its meetings at the halls of the different Subordinate Granges throughout the County, and make them in part responsible for its literary work. The change has been very satisfactory, and about 40 new members have been added within the year, and its meetings have been largely attended and quite interesting.

In regard to our co-operative store, I will give you some figures which will show for themselves in regard to its prosperity. The total amount of paid-up stock at date of last quarterly meeting, Jan. 22, 1880, was \$5,483.00. The number of stockholders at same date, 195. The total amount of sales for the last quarter ending Jan. 22, 1880, was \$13,767.67. Sales for the corresponding quarter last year were \$12,344.13. You will see by the figures, that the business is on the increase, and the entire capital stock has been turned during the last quarter a little more than two and one-half times. The great need we feel at the present time is a Grange Agency in New York City, (which we asked for at the State Grange and did not get), to which we can ship our wheat, pork, beef, etc., and thereby save commissions, inspection, elevating, reshipment and profits to speculators, and middlemen, which we now have to pay by shipping to intermediate points. The prospect is that the Patrons of Calhoun County will establish such an Agency on their own responsibility during the year.

I find that I am making this letter longer than I intended, but I wish to say that we are all united and determined to secure correct legislation in regard to the present unjust and unscrupulous railroad freight rates, as a preamble and resolution, which I send you will show.

We were pleased to see the name of J. J. Woodman suggested for Member of Congress from the 4th District. Brothers of the 4th, go in and use the balance of power which you hold, to place our Worthy Master, Bro. Woodman where he will do the most good.

Fraternally yours,
W. S. SIMONS.

Coming Reform.

A great reformation is passing over this country—not religious as often heretofore, but moral, social, and educational. The slavery agitation, the temperance question, and other movements have stirred the people from time to time; but farmers, until recently, have never claimed anything for themselves. The coming reform is no accident; its causes lie deep, and have long been working. The farmers, in their isolation and timidity have been slow to act and reluctant to follow leaders of their own class, and at last they are moving with irresistible force. Their power must be felt and acknowledged.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MAR. 1, 1880.

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.

POSTAGE STAMPS of higher value than three cents will be returned to the sender.

THE NEXT GOVERNOR.

A correspondent, whose article appears on our first page, has stated some truths that should not be overlooked, if we expect to elect a farmer for Governor of Michigan next November. For Patrons to repeat that the next Governor ought to be a farmer, that it is due to the great agricultural interests of the State, won't bring about that result. Something more than this must be done, and in this there is, perhaps, general agreement. That the claim presented is right, reasonable, and moderate, no one with any real regard for fairness, will for a moment deny. But party politics and political machines are not controlled wholly by any rule of fairness, and the right of the matter is not so much considered, as probable results.

"Pomona No. 22," fully aware of party usages and political management, suggests a course of action for Patrons to secure a farmer for Governor, or teach politicians a lesson. Now as we have repeatedly said, the agricultural interests of the country are yearly assuming greater relative importance, and within the last few years, the immediate representatives of this vast interest, the farmers and their wives have been pressing their claims to recognition on the ground of more culture and qualification to fit them to occupy a higher place in their own chosen avocation, or in positions of honor, profit, and responsibility among their fellows. And it is universally conceded by all well-informed persons, that this Grange organization has been an active instrumentality in this progressive movement of the farmers of this country. We believe that the founders of the Order were men of broad views, understanding well the strong and weak points of human nature, and their wisdom is no more conspicuously shown than in the prohibition of the discussion of all political and religious questions in the Grange, which they embedded as foundation stones in the Constitution of the Order.

We believe that the great and good work inaugurated by the founders of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, while it has really accomplished very much, is just in its infancy. And that this hold good, we believe a respect for, and a compliance with the fundamental law must be generally maintained. If there are Patrons who believe the Constitution of the Order is too restrictive, let them go to work to have it amended in a regular way. But we are not prepared to advise overriding it, in the attempt to

reach an object, however desirable that object may be. We believe we have made real progress. The Grange movement is to-day a recognized power in this country. Its consistent adherence to correct principles, commands the respect of the thinking, well-informed men everywhere. We are advancing—gaining ground, year by year, and to-day the Order occupies a higher and more honorable position than ever before. Officers of our present State government are members of the Order. There are twenty-five farmers in Congress, and some of them are Patrons, and within the last month the President has nominated a prominent Michigan Patron to the important office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs. That he will be confirmed by the Senate, there is no doubt. The selection is a good one, creditable to the Government, to the appointee, and to the Order, and we accept these facts as additional evidence that the farmer is being recognized more than heretofore. Bro. Trowbridge is a farmer, a genuine, earnest Patron, and a thoroughly honest man.

With all these facts before us, is it not safer, and in every way better to keep within the limits of the constitutional prohibition, and thus perpetuate the harmony and fraternity which everywhere prevails, throughout the Order, and maintain, as we surely can, our onward, progressive growth.

From these considerations, we are not prepared to endorse the proposition of Pomona, No. 22. Were the course recommended by our corresponded adopted, we apprehend that at the end of our first political campaign, the object we started out to secure would really be one of secondary importance to Patrons. The business on hand demanding the earnest, careful attention of every true and faithful Patron, would be working to harmonize discordant elements, allay the bitterness of controversy, and recover lost ground.

We have no exact program to present and recommend, as the sure way to secure the election of a farmer for Governor. But we shall venture to make suggestions bearing upon the question. We think it is generally conceded that there is more independence in voting each succeeding year, that the people, as a whole, are not so strongly partisan as formerly, that they more generally recognize the fact that the people, as a whole have identical interests, and that much of the noise of politicians has little to do with those interests. This is an encouraging and valuable fact, which the Grange has largely developed.

All well remember how nearly the Republican party lost its ascendancy in this State six years ago, and although the large gains of later elections restored the confidence of the party in its ability to remain master of the situation, yet, from our standpoint, we can easily see that while the Republican party is in possession of the offices throughout the State, and expects to hold its own this year, that if its nominating convention wholly disregards this reasonable and just demand of the Patrons of

the State, for the selection of a farmer for the office of Governor, and nominates some lawyer-politician, and the Democratic party shall shrewdly nominate some good conservative farmer-candidate, like F. M. Holloway, of Hillsdale, with a record free from political craft and management, we say that the chances for the election of such a candidate, we believe, would be more than even.

It is hardly probable that each of the prominent political parties will present a farmer-candidate for Governor, but we are confident that the party that fails to do so will lose a large number of votes if another party shall make a wise selection.

It is hardly necessary to repeat that we shall not endorse the nomination by any party of any farmer for Governor, without we believe the man to possess the necessary qualifications to discharge the duties of the office with credit to himself and the position.

CO-OPERATIVE TRADING.

In the last number we referred briefly to the business done by the Battle Creek Co-operative Store. In answer to our request, we have a statement from Bro. Stegeman, of Allegan, which we print on another page, of the business done by him for the Patrons of Allegan County.

There is probably no other store in the country conducted on the same plan, and without another Stegeman, we are not certain that another can be and succeed.

Located right in the heart of a village of some 4,000 inhabitants, and surrounded by enterprising merchants, that from the first conspired to kill off the Grange concern, Bro. Stegeman determined to sell goods at cost—that is, the business should be self-supporting and no more. No profits should accumulate. After a short trial, he became satisfied that 4 per cent added to total cost would run the business, and it has, for several years.

Sales of goods are only made to members of the Order, except on trading tickets running for a limited time, sold to anyone for a uniform price. Bro. Stegeman, with his plan has succeeded where, nine men, and perhaps fifty-nine other men would have failed, and to his success is largely due the strength of the Order in Allegan County in the matter of numbers. In other places, where little or no financial benefit has been secured, we find just as good Grangers—as firmly attached to the Order, and with unlimited confidence in its principles, and the great benefits which it has brought to the agricultural class, through its social and educational features. But where these features, and these only, are prominent, the Subordinate Grange frequently loses some of its membership—those who never fully comprehended the grand object and purposes of the Order, and who can see only the almighty dollar, that they want in this world, or the devil that they don't want, in the next—men who remain faithful to no organization, only as impelled by their narrow selfishness, or apprehension of impending evil.

The Co-operative Store in Buchanan, under the efficient management of Bro. Freeman Franklin, has been of decided advantage to those wanting goods in that vicinity. Bro. Franklin, soon after the Grange was established in this State, was selected by the Patrons in the vicinity of Buchanan to test the value of co-operative principles. Though without the advantages of experience, he has proved his adaptation to the work undertaken, established a reputation for fair dealing, and vindicated the principles of co-operation.

His sales for the year 1879, aggregated \$40,000 of dry goods and groceries. The Patrons of Berrien County have taken the lead in providing through Grange channels an outlet for their surplus produce by establishing an agency in Chicago. The gentleman who has been in charge of the agency for the last two years is a Patron of unusual energy, and in the face of the old commission men of Chicago, and its sharpers and snides, Thos. Mason gets a fair proportion of the commission business done on South Water street. That he has done the business committed to him honorably and well, has been the uniform testimony of all who have communicated with us in relation to the agency. We feel confident that if our people in the western part of the State would ship their fruit in its season to Bro. Mason, and their butter, eggs, poultry, hides, and other farm products, that the returns would induce them to repeat the experiment.

The bonded State Agency of Geo. W. Hill & Co., in Detroit, has been found both convenient and advantageous to those who wish to make purchases in that city or consign produce for sale.

We have had good evidence, and plenty of it, that the Patrons of Michigan have reliable agencies, in Detroit and Chicago, that are of much less value to them than they might be, if better patronized.

SCHOOLS IN GRANGE HALLS.

In behalf of Prof. Beal, of the State Agricultural College, we wish to learn where schools have been taught in Grange Halls in this State; how long; what number of pupils; what studies, and any particulars in relation to such schools that can be of interest or value to the patrons of education.

In this connection it is perhaps a good time to enquire how many Grange halls we have in Michigan that are owned by Patrons. Will Masters or Secretaries please report? We mention both of these officers because; as a worthy sister sent us the names of Master and Secretary together with their post-office address, for 1880, she added, "Our Secretary does not take the VISITOR and of course don't know that he should send the names of those officers to the State Secretary."

We want not only to know how many Grange halls there are owned by Patrons, but please state when built, size and cost.

Give us a brief statement of the halls and schools of Michigan Patrons.

MASTERS AND SECRETARIES OF 1880.

Sins of omission do not usually create as much talk in a neighborhood as those of commission, but in this office the neglect on the part of those charged with the duty of reporting the names and post-office address of Masters and Secretaries of Subordinate Granges gives us more annoyance than we have time just now to describe, and this complaint has become of such a chronic character with the Secretaries of Subordinate Granges that just now as we are about leaving the country we are more than half inclined to talk a little savage.

This is a matter that requires attention once a year, and if it took a Secretary a day and a half to make the statement it would probably be a little better done. As it requires but a moment and a postal card it is neglected altogether. Every year we do a great deal of dunning to get these reports.

We are required by the By-laws of the State Grange to print annually a list of these officers, and we should like to be able to do it before the year is half gone.

We give below the numbers of such Granges as have been reported. There are some other Granges in the State that are alive, and if the Secretaries are also alive we should like some evidence in the way of a report of the names of the Master and Secretary, and their post-office address.

2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 39, 40, 42, 46, 49, 50, 52, 54, 55, 57, 59, 60, 62, 64, 67, 68, 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 85, 84, 85, 87, 89, 90, 97, 103, 104, 106, 107, 110, 112, 113, 114, 122, 123, 129, 133, 134, 136, 140, 144, 145, 152, 154, 157, 158, 159, 160, 162, 163, 167, 170, 174, 175, 176, 178, 185, 186, 188, 190, 191, 192, 199, 200, 201, 202, 212, 213, 219, 220, 221, 222, 225, 227, 228, 229, 235, 236, 237, 238, 241, 243, 246, 247, 251, 253, 257, 259, 260, 262, 266, 268, 269, 270, 272, 273, 276, 279, 280, 287, 288, 285, 286, 289, 291, 292, 296, 301, 303, 304, 313, 316, 321, 322, 323, 325, 327, 332, 333, 335, 336, 337, 339, 340, 343, 344, 347, 348, 350, 351, 353, 358, 360, 361, 362, 364, 367, 368, 370, 372, 373, 374, 375, 377, 379, 380, 381, 384, 386, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 400, 403, 406, 407, 414, 417, 421, 424, 427, 430, 437, 438, 440, 441, 443, 448, 458, 461, 462, 463, 464, 471, 472, 475, 481, 487, 491, 495, 497, 503, 504, 505, 509, 511, 517, 523, 530, 539, 540, 544, 545, 548, 549, 556, 557, 563, 564, 574, 580, 597, 608, 606, 610, 613, 616, 618, 619, 622, 623, 624, 625, 529, 631, 633, 634, 637, 638.

Since writing the above, the following numbers have been received: 108, 275, 401.

From the following Granges we have the names of Master and Secretary but not the post-office address. Will the Master or Secretary please supply the omission.

6, 92, 130, 180, 187, 230, 252, 293, 346, 376, 456, 459, 479, 529, 565, 582, 632, 635.

This spring weather should remind the Granger that soon the season for sowing plaster will be here, and although on every side-track stands long rows of idle cars, yet the week is but a little way off when he will want plaster that has just been shipped to some other man, who put in his order a day earlier. Remember, Day & Taylor furnish plaster in bags to all who wish, and that the bags can be paid for at wholesale price or returned to D. & T. With the present outlook, no one can expect sleighing to get their plaster from the cars to their farm. Those who first order, will be most likely to have their plaster when they want it. Brothers, do not be caught napping, but have your plaster ordered at once.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A Patron sending us a communication from Portland, refers to our "excellent paper," which we fear our correspondent has not read as attentively at all times as we could wish, as he has overlooked what has been so often stated that we cannot publish anonymous articles. We do not object to the article because the Patrons of Portland Grange and their friends had such a nice time at the dance on the 4th inst, nor because the Grange made a little money out of the entertainment which it proposes to use in the purchase of a carpet; but we repeat, articles for publication must be accompanied by the name of the author, which will be given or withheld, as the writer requests, or we must refuse to publish them.

We have not room in this number for our Orangeville Mills Patron's article. The report of the delegates to the State Grange from Home Grange, No. 129, is very good, but on account of its length, and the time that has elapsed, which makes it a little unseasonable, we prefer not to publish it.

If the article on "Books" was carefully re-written, we should undoubtedly find it acceptable.

The article on "Dress" we must decline—too crude.

Though not a born poet—and perhaps not a good judge—we must say that "An Acrostic" does not come up to our standard.

We have several other papers in our drawer, for which we have no room in this number. One of considerable length, by J. E. Day, read before Romeo Grange, that we lay away for future use, as it abounds in good suggestions—the out-crop of good practical common sense.

We have an Essay from a Sister of Paris Grange, which goes over for want of room.

A letter from Edwin Phelps, of Pontiac, came just too late for this issue.

Do not fail to read the valuable communication on the second page upon "Insect Enemies of the Fruit Grower." There are hundreds of farmers in Michigan who can save this year more than the VISITOR will cost them for the rest of their lives, by carefully reading this article, and, at the right time, heeding these suggestions. To read and forget, won't kill these mischievous insects. Brother farmers, not only read this article, but talk with the boys and your neighbors about the orchard, and the insects, and say what you "are going to do about it," and, at the right time, don't fail to do it.

We call attention to the advertisement in this number of the VISITOR, of A. Vandenberg of Grand Rapids. The advertisement is new, but his dealing with Michigan Patrons is not new. He has been selling his goods at a very low price to our people for three years, and the uniform testimony of good goods, fair dealing and moderate prices enables us to recommend him to the patronage of all those who want anything in his line. Bro. Luce and others have repeatedly told us that Mr. Vandenberg and his work were reliable.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, MUSKOGON.

Pickings by the Way—No. 4.

HURON COUNTY.

If the readers of the VISITOR will take a State map and locate this County, we fear many will shudder, feeling cold, from observing its location. But imagine yourselves here, facing a north wind, from Alaska (bought with that domain), and you might realize, after riding 40 or more miles, the cause of the shudder.

After a good rest at the home of Bro. Dewitt, we awoke on the morning of the 5th inst, ready for our proposed polar trip. Bro. J. Schenck was to take us to Bad Axe, 22 miles. A single buggy came around, and we were soon en route east and northward.

We passed some good farms and comfortable homes before we left Tuscola County, but for many miles the pioneer had made little progress until we crossed the Pinnebough River, seven miles from Bad Axe. For the last six miles of this distance we rode along a fine ridge of farming lands, smiling under the hands of the industrious owners.

Bad Axe was reached and dinner dispatched. This is a new town, the County seat of Huron County, the court-house of brick would be an ornament to any large town, and certainly is good enough for any County in this State.

The jail has not yet been moved from Port Austin.

We recite the origin of the name of this new town: when cutting the State road through here, a dull, rusty, old axe was found lying upon an old stump, which an Indian seeing, he called it a "bad axe," hence the name of the town, Bad Axe.

This town has a fine large hotel, well kept by S. Irving, who also runs the stage line to Caro and Sand Beach. While resting at the hotel, we met Bro. Luther Ripley, the Secretary of Huron Grange, No. 601. He was as zealous as ever in the good cause.

Night brought us twelve miles further north, to the comfortable home of Bro. T. Walder, which is 5 miles from the end of Port Austin.

On the morrow our companion from Cass City returned home, and Bro. Walker brought out the grays for a ride 12 miles west and south.

We dined with Bro. Thomas Bishop, lately from Canada, and a dimitted member of the Dominion Grange.

Night found us at the newly made home of Bro. Geo. Erb, also a Canadian farmer, who has had large experience in the Order in Canadian Granges—and speaks very highly of the benefits received from his connection with them.

We lectured to a small audience, at a school house near by. Want of sufficient notice, and wrongly appointed place of meeting, were the causes of small attendance. There is plenty of good material and need of a Grange in this location, and time will bring it.

On Saturday morning we returned to Bro. Walker's, in the teeth of a bitter north wind, to rest during the afternoon, and thus be ready for the labors of the evening, which were the public installation of the officers of Dwight Grange, No. 602, and a lecture.

This Grange has built some sheds for their horses, opposite the school-house in which they meet.

A very good attendance filled the house, to enjoy the occasion.

Bro. Joseph Coulter, late from the Dominion, was installed Master, and Sister Whitchurch Secretary of the Grange.

Three barrels of kerosene oil were bought by this Grange last fall, in which a large saving was made.

Great savings may be, and are, made by the Patrons in this County, by buying through the agency in Detroit, and a railroad, which they hope to have soon, will be a great aid to all.

This County has a good soil, which, under cultivation, is very productive. Bro. Walker grew 1,400 bushels of wheat the past year, and his meadows and pastures prove that stock farming is profitable here. Roots and vegetables are every where abundantly grown. The apple orchards promise well for the fruit prospects of the County. Better plum and dwarf pear orchards, of the age, we have never seen than the ones owned by Bro. Walker.

What Huron County needs is independence among the farmers. The Grange is their only hope, by it they can co-operate and throw off the burden imposed upon them by the merchants, large land holders and speculators. May they organize and learn how to mind their own business, which they have so long been dearly paying others to attend to for them.

A pleasant night at the fireside of Bro. Whitechurch, and he sends us in good company to Bad Axe, and our return toward the south, and the duties and labors of the coming week in Lapeer County and vicinity.

OAKLAND AND LAPEER COUNTIES.

On the 10th inst. we reached Lapeer, after a series of stages, trains, etc., from Huron County, through Tuscola County, and went to Thomas, in Oakland County, to meet an appointment at Oakwood, near Thomas station. Bro. John Thomas met us at the station, and took us to his comfortable home to dinner, and thence to the church at Oakwood, where we soon had the pleasure of meeting a large number of farmers and Patrons, to whom we spoke for two hours, upon the work of the Order, and judging from the results, with good effect, for in the evening we reorganized Thomas Grange, No. 327, with 32 members, and a good prospect of having 50, at least, by the 1st of April. Bro. Geo. D. Cowden was elected Master, and Sister Florence Loomis, Secretary. This Grange must now succeed. It has good material and a plenty of it, and only needs work to make it valuable. We spent the night with Bro. Cowden and wife, in a true Patron's home, where good taste and pleasant surroundings abound.

On the morning of the 11th, Bro. Cowden took us to Farmers' Creek, where we were advertised to speak in the afternoon. Owing to the want of notice of the meeting, and the hurry of many farmers to get their wheat into market, our audience was small, composed of a few from Hadley Grange, and some from Newark Grange. We talked for an hour, and then consulted with the Patrons present, and those of Newark Grange promise to resume work, and again push to the front. Success attend them, and all their other efforts in the right direction. Success will result from all earnest work.

Bro. Justin Tower entertained us for the night, and on the morrow gave us an early ride to Lapeer, where we took cars for Attica. Bro. J. F. Muir met us, and took us home with him to dinner, and to the church near by for public address, which was quite well attended, in spite of the Pomona meeting of the County, held that day. In the evening, Pine Stub Grange, No. 448, was re-organized and set at work, with Bro. J. E. Muir, Master, and Bro. William North, Secretary.

A hall can be had near by, and arrangements at once will be made to secure the same for Grange use. After a night's rest at Bro. Muir's, we went to Inland City, to take train for North Branch, which was reached at a late hour, and so bad were the roads, and so late was the hour, and dark withal, that the results were anything but encouraging. "Try again," is our motto.

On the 14th, we left the cars at Thomas, in care of Bro. Noble, for Oxford Grange. Dinner was taken at Bro. Haines, and at the Grange hall near by, we met a pleasant, inquiring audience, to whom we spoke for two hours, and we trust with good results. This Grange is small, but hopeful, and will soon regain some of its former energy and vigor. It only needs united efforts to become a living success. Supper, by the way, and Bro. Haines put us at the train in good time to reach our old home near Utica, where we spent Sunday.

On the 17th, we took an early train for Detroit, called upon C. W. Hill & Co, and found them busy with our Grange work, receiving and answering letters, and in every way trying to do their best to serve the Order, whose agents they are. We say to all, "Put your consignments in good shape, and do not expect impossibilities of your agents."

At 8:45 we were on the D., G. H. & M. train for Clarkson. At Birmingham the train was stopped and boarded by a band of farmers called Grangers, going to Clarkson to meet Bro. and W. M. Woodman, who was to speak to them that day. This band was very quiet, as they seemed to be controlled by the new Indian Commissioner to be, Bro. R. E. Trowbridge, Hon. we shall say, but he is "Iol," and "nobody but a farmer," yet will make just as good an Indian Commissioner as any man we know. At Pontiac more Patron friends came aboard, so that a goodly number of Grangers met at Clarkson. An hour later, Bro. Woodman came, and after dinner the Grange hall was well filled by Patrons, resident and visiting. Among visiting Patrons, we noticed Bro. and Sister Noble, of Garland Grange; Bro. and Sister Satterlee, Bro. and Sister Benjamin, the Trowbridges, and many others, of Birmingham; Bro. and Sister Cowden and Francis, of Thomas Grange; Bro. and Sister Noble, of Oxford; Bro. Andrews, of Orion, while of our old Clarkson friends we met Bro. Fleming, Bro. and Sister Harris, besides very many others, among them old school companions, too many to name here.

The afternoon session was private and devoted to Grange work. Good singing was a noticeable feature of this meeting.

The evening was for a public lecture in the hall near by. The large hall was well filled with farmers and friends of the Order, who, for two hours, listened attentively to Bro. Woodman, and they were instructed as well as interested by what he said.

After the public meeting, a public oyster supper took place, in the Grange hall, and a real feast it was, and enjoyed by all.

At midnight, in company with Bro. Woodman, we took train for Durand, where, after an hour's waiting, we boarded a stock-train for Charlotte. This train was death upon calves, but we, survived, and took breakfast at Charlotte, at 9 a. m. the next day.

The Declaration of Purposes.

Every Grange in the State should have some copies of this sheet, just published by the State Grange, to circulate among the farmers in their vicinity, that they may become familiar

with the objects and aims of our Order, and join with us in extending its benefits to all parts of our land.

The Pomona Granges should each take hold of this good work, and distribute at least 1,000 each of these missionaries.

Every Patron can put at least one copy into the hands of some intelligent farmer, who, reading, will be inclined to read more and farther, and learn of the Order which is aiming to carry out these purposes.

Proceedings of the State Grange.

We commend with pride the Proceedings of the late session of the State Grange, and ask a careful perusal of the volume by all Patrons in the State. One hundred, and over, pages of reading matter are thus given to you, the result of less than four days' labor. Read them, and say if you can that the State Grange don't do anything.

There are in the Proceedings many reports that we earnestly recommend to be read before the Subordinate Granges of the State. We mention the report of the Committee on the Good of the Order, Bro. W. Beal Chairman, on page 57; report of Committees on Co-operation and Education and Agricultural Department, pages 60, 61, 62 and 63.

On page 71 you will find Bro. C. K. Carpenter's excellent report on transportation. Bro. Jas. Cooks reports, on pages 82, 83 and 84, will bear reading more than once.

These and all the reports and addresses will pay for careful reading.

The Amended By-Laws are to be found in this volume, and have also been published separately for circulation and use among the Granges.

Every true Patron should inform himself as to what his duty is, and then endeavor to perform it to the letter, and in the spirit which makes the letter.

We feel proud of our volume of Proceedings and By-Laws—they show the Order to be advancing.

Patrons' Aid Society.

We are receiving many letters of inquiry regarding our Patrons' Aid Society. Many Patrons have already sent in their names, to become members as soon as an organization can be effected.

To those inquiring, we say, read the report of the Committee on Aid Society in the Proceedings of the State Grange, page 101, or in this number of the VISITOR.

To all who would take a part in the organization as members, we invite correspondence, addressed to the Secretary, C. L. Whitney, Muskegon.

The attention of County and Subordinate Granges is called to this matter.

Rules for Success.

Brothers and sisters or the Order will find some good directions, or rules, to made their Granges a success, printed on the back of the VISITOR calendar for 1880.

If all are carried out, and put into practice, the Grange doing so may be very sure of success, in more ways than one. The Grange will be well attended, interesting, harmonious, progressive—in short, successful.

Read, mark, and inwardly digest, these essentials, and put them in practice, and aid others to do the same, and note the results.

Program of Macon Grange.

March 19th, 7 o'clock, P. M.—Regular order of business; song by the choir; The Best Variety and Culture of Strawberries, J. L. Remington; essay, Brains against Muscle on the Farm, H. D. Baker. recess. Opening song, I. S. Osborn; select reading, Mrs. C. Mead; A Higher Standard of Culture for House-keepers, Mrs. E. Howell; Address, Education of Farmers—Does it Pay? Geo. Howell.

Ladies' Department.

OLD KITCHEN REVERIES.

Far back in my musings my thoughts have been cast
To the cot where the hours of my childhood
were passed;
I loved all its rooms to the pantry and hall;
But that blessed old kitchen was dearer than
all,
Its chairs and its tables none better could be,
For all its surroundings were sacred to me—
To the nail in the ceiling, the latch on the door,
And I love every crack on the old kitchen floor.

I remember the fire-place, with its mouth high
and wide,
The old-fashioned oven that stood by its side,
Out of which, each Thanksgiving, came pudd-
ings and pies
That fairly bewildered and dazzled my eyes.
And then, too, St. Nicholas, ally and still,
Came down every Christmas, our stockings to
fill;

But the dearest memories I've laid up in store
Is the mother that trod on the old kitchen floor.
Day in and day out, from morning till night,
Her footsteps were busy, her heart always
light,
For it seemed to me then that she knew not a
care,

The smile was so gentle her face used to wear,
I remember with pleasure what joy filled her
eyes,
When she told us the stories that children so
prize—
They were new every night, though we'd heard
them before,
From her lips, at the wheel, on the old kitchen
floor.

I remember the window, where mornings I'd
run,
As soon as the day-break, to watch for the sun,
And I thought, when my head scarcely reached
to the sill,
That it slept through the night in the trees on
the hill,
And the small tract of land that my eyes there
could view
Was all the world that my infancy knew;
Indeed, I cared not to know of it more,
For a world of itself was that old kitchen floor.

To-night those old visions come back at their
will,
But the wheel and its music forever are still;
The band is moth-eaten, the wheel laid away,
And the fingers that turned it lie mouldering
in clay.
The hearth-stone, so seared, is just as 'twas
then,
And the voices of children ring out there again,
The sun through the window looks in as of
yore,
But it sees strange feet on the old kitchen floor.

I ask not for honor, but this I would crave,
That when the lips speaking are closed in the
grave,
My children will gather their round by their
side,
And tell them of the mother who long ago
died—
'Twould be more enduring, far dearer to me,
Than inscription on granite or marble could be,
To have them tell often, as I did of yore,
Of the mother who trod on the old kitchen
floor.—Selected.

Sowing and Reaping.

The following essay was read before
the Van Buren County Grange, at De-
catur, Jan. 22d, by Mrs. Allen Rice:

The season of sowing is justly consid-
ered the most important of the year, for
upon it the future harvest depends.

Ever since the Divine decree went
forth, "In the sweat of thy brow thou
shalt eat bread," it has been true that
there can be no harvest without first
sowing the seed.

The earth, left to itself, brings forth
only thorns, and briars, and noxious
weeds, or at the best, inferior fruit; but
by selection of seed, and careful cultiva-
tion, man has produced the most valu-
able grain, delicious fruit, and the
choicest and most fragrant flowers.

What is true of the physical world,
is equally true of the moral and polit-
ical world. All that is valuable is the
result of seed sowing and cultivation.

The wise and thrifty farmer, to in-
sure a harvest, takes the utmost pains
to prepare the ground for sowing. He
will plow deep and harrow well, to mel-
low the soil, and lay it open to the
warming influence of the sun, and at
the proper time will cast in the seed.
He will be careful to sow none but the
pure seed, for he knows that chaff and
cockle will not produce wheat, even
though he may imagine that wheat
will turn to chaff. If he plants corn,
he will select only large, well-ripened
ears of the variety best adapted to the
soil and season. He will stir the soil
of his cornfield to eradicate weeds, and
draw moisture from the subsoil, and
his corn is fresh and green, while that
of his thriftless neighbor is choked
with weeds, and parched by drought.

Having done all in his power to in-
sure a crop, the farmer looks forward
with confidence to the harvest.

Unfortunately, in the moral and polit-
ical world, men do not always imitate
the example of the wise and thrifty
farmer. They sow at random, as their

pleasure or caprice dictates, without
pausing to consider, "What shall the
harvest be?" Whether it shall be the
bread of life, or the Bohon upas, which
shall infect the atmosphere of commu-
nities, or nations, with its poisonous
exhalations.

If we glance at history we shall find
numerous examples of this random
sowing. When King Henry VIII of
England, ordained that a Bible should
be kept chained to the desk of every
parish church throughout the realm of
England, for the use of the common
people, he only aimed a blow at the
power of the Pope,—he did not see that
he was paving the way for the over-
throw of despotism, and the establish-
ment of civil and religious liberty, or
the bold despot might have paused and
recalled his edict.

When the Puritans, fleeing from per-
secution, set foot on Plymouth Rock,
they only sought freedom to worship
God for themselves. They had no
thought that "soul liberty" was the
birthright of the human race. So we
see them whipping and banishing
Quakers, Baptists, and Episcopalians.
But the spirit of liberty, the fruit of the
doctrines they preached, led brave
Roger Williams to proclaim that free-
dom of conscience was the birthright
of every human being, though banish-
ment to the wilderness in the depth of
winter was the penalty for his bold-
ness.

On the other hand, see the fruit of
the doctrines taught by Voltaire, and
his associates, which sunny France
reaped in tears and blood, fruit which
should teach coming generations that
liberty is not license, and that true
liberty is consistent with faith in God
and obedience to his laws.

We are all sowers in the field of life.
We either sow golden grains of Truth,
or scatter vile seeds of error. We shall
do well to pause and consider, and take
heed what we sow.

Yonder is a home, the place is holy,
for a little child is there with the dew
of innocence on its infant brow. No
evil passions have swelled its little bos-
om, no bad habits are formed. Be
careful, father, let no profane or vulgar
word fall on its ears. Let not the breath
of purity be contaminated with the
foul odors of whisky or tobacco. Set no
example which your infant son may
not safely follow. Be honest, truthful,
and kind. In short, be a gentleman,
and you will reap a rich harvest in see-
ing your son grow up to a noble man-
hood. Be careful, too, mother; the seed
you sow will fall into a fertile soil and
spring up to a harvest, which you shall
reap with joy or grief.

But we cannot speak of all the fields
that await our sowing, or the reaping
that would follow, for we wish to speak
of the Grange as a sower.

Thoughtful men have long seen that
farmers were not occupying the position
in the commonwealth which they
should. But few farmers were found
in our legislative halls. They saw also
that it was the fruit of their own sow-
ing. Farmers had come to think that
very little education was necessary
for a farmer. It did not require much
learning to plow and sow and perform
the labors of the farm. If a farmer's
boy was bright, with a thirst for
knowledge, it was thought a pity to
waste such talents on a farm, and he
was sent to school to be educated for a
lawyer or a doctor. If a farmer's
daughter expressed a wish for an edu-
cation higher than that of the district
school, it was frowned upon as useless,
for she would be only a farmer's wife.

Some farmers have taken pride in be-
ing awkward and uncouth, saying, "I
am a plain farmer, I believe in plain
farmers' style." As if there was any
merit in being boorish, or that graceful
manners were a weakness.

Living in isolation, holding but little
intercourse with cultivated society,
with little to awaken or call out the
dormant faculties of the mind; too
bashful to express the thoughts which
passing events stirred in his heart, de-
voting his days to toil and his evenings

to listlessness or sleep, is it any wonder
that the farmer has been looked upon
as an inferior member of the body polit-
ic? a mudsill, necessary, it is true, as
a foundation to bear the burden of the
superstructure, but entirely disqualified
to say what the form of the building,
or the weight of the structure, shall
be; and he, instead of asserting his
rights, and endeavoring to qualify him-
self to perform the duties which those
rights impose, has tamely submitted,
tacitly confessing himself an inferior.
Such has been the sowing, the fruit of
which we see in the political status of
the farmer.

The Grange has undertaken to per-
form the part of the wise and thrifty
farmer. To stir the soil and uproot the
weeds of prejudice, ignorance, and er-
ror, which hinder the progress of the
farmer.

It brings the east and the west, the
north and the south together, and
teaches them that they have a common
interest. It brings the rich and the
poor together on an equal standing,
and tells them they are brothers.

They become acquainted with each
other. They learn to talk and discuss
questions of farm management and
domestic economy, questions of Nation-
al importance, of social science, of
finance and taxation.

The Patron begins to think and to
express his thoughts. He is no longer
a stolid, toiling drudge, he begins to
ask the whys and wherefores. He is
diligent in business as before, but there
is more thought and method in his
work. He reads books and papers of
solid information, instead of story pa-
pers and novels.

The farmer is learning that a man
may be a good working farmer and at
the same time an educated gentleman,
and he is beginning to ask, if the ag-
ricultural interests of our country would
not be better cared for, if represented by
farmers in our legislative halls, instead
of by professional men.

The Grange endeavors to sow only
good seed. It wages no war on the
rights of any man, or class of men. It
only seeks equal rights and protection
for all.

It teaches that manhood is of more
value than money; that men should be
honest, industrious, truthful, temper-
ate and kind. It discourages quarrels
and lawsuits, saying in the language of
Holy Writ: "All ye are brothers." It
inculcates faith in God and trust in
His providence, but it does not usurp
the place of the church, nor aim to be
a religious teacher. Such is the seed
sown, and the harvest begins to appear,
the true Patron is a better farmer, a
better citizen and a better man.

But what does the Grange do for
woman? "It opens wide the door and
bids her welcome," to stand by her
brother as his equal, companion and
helper. She shares in his labors, res-
ponsibilities, and honors. She begins
to feel the dignity of her womanhood,
to think less of frivolous fashions, and
more of the cultivation of her mind.
She is learning that a farmer's wife or
daughter may be a lady of refinement,
and at the same time perform the mul-
tiple duties of a farmer's wife.

She fills her place with dignity and
honor in the Subordinate, State and
National Granges; she discusses and
votes on questions of vital importance
to the farmers of the Nation, and there
is no complaint that her domestic du-
ties are neglected, or her children un-
cared for. Why wonder then if she be-
gins to ask, "If woman may worthily
fill her place in the National Grange, a
body not inferior in dignity or intelli-
gence to the Congress of the United
States, why may she not be trusted
with the ballot, to vote with her broth-
ers for the officers of government?"

Such is the sowing, brothers; are you
ready for the reaping?

In conclusion, let me say, let us be
careful what we sow, for as we sow, we
surely shall reap.

For soon or late, to all that sow,
The time of harvest shall be given,
The flowers shall bloom, the fruit shall grow,
The harvest reaped, here or in Heaven.

Wash Day.

"They're always cross on wash day!"

Oh! ye men,
Before you judge so harshly,
Think again.

There seemed to be an idea enter-
tained by a large portion of the "nobler
sex," that women are always cross on
wash day. We earnestly hope there
are none among the subscribers of the
VISITOR, but should there be one,
we ask your undivided attention while
we enumerate a few of the trials which
beset our pathway on Monday. The
first job in the morning is to fill the
boiler; but before this can be done,
about half a yard of factory has to be
torn in strips to stop up the holes in it,
because John did not take it to the
tinnery to be repaired, as his mother
requested him to do, for, thought he,
"It won't make any difference. I guess
mother can use it a week or two just as
well. I am in a hurry to get to town
this morning to see the circus come in.
I don't suppose it will be much, but
I'd rather like to see it, after all. So I
guess I won't bother with it this
morning." The boiler mended, George
is told to fill it. Of course he does not
want to, because he wants to finish his
new ball club to take to school, so he
starts off muttering, after the water
which he hastily returns with, and
empties it carelessly at the boiler. But
a small portion of it, however, reaches
its intended destination. Several
quarts go onto the red hot stove,
snapping one of the covers into,
making it necessary to handle it with
the tongs, the remainder of the day;
and the rest of the rain water goes into
a kettle of beans, prepared the day
before, in order to lessen the labor of
getting dinner on wash day: But they
are now unfit for table use, and are set
away, while George is told to start from
the scene of disaster, which order he
obeys with alacrity, much to his delight
and satisfaction.

Next the wash tub is got, put on the
rickety bench, and we are ready for
business. Our thumb is sore and
swollen where it was cut on the old
washboard last week, and the new soap
makes it smart so badly that it is
almost unendurable; but we are
obliged to use it, because the men folks
were in such a hurry with their work
that they did not have time to set the
leech for making soap, until the old
soap was entirely gone. The rubbing
is finally finished, but the clothes seem
determined not to boil over the green
wood which sizzles and sputters, but
sends out very little heat.

At last, the clothes are ready to be
hung up. Baby is screaming at the
top of its voice, but since we are so
near done, we think we will hang
them out before stopping. So we
snatch the basket, and go out to find
that the clothes line has been taken
down for the boys to drive through
with a load of wood, and was left with
one end switching in the dirt. Of
course, it has to be washed, which
shrinks it so that it is almost impos-
sible to make it reach, and just as we
are flattering ourselves that we have at
last conquered, we find ourselves lying
in the grass clutching two or three
feet of rope, and the remainder of it
tied to the post. Urged on by the
babies' screams, we get up as fast as
our limbs will permit, and after look-
ing around to see if any one saw us,
find that a bruised elbow is the worst
injury we have received, proceed to
spread our clothes on the grass for the
chickens and dog to walk over, until
they are sufficiently dried to take in.

We do not claim that all these
accidents happen every wash day, but,
my brother, when you think your
mother, wife, or sister more fretful than
is necessary, look about you and see if
she has not some of the above named
obstacles, or something even worse, to
contend with; and above all, don't tell
her she is "cross as a bear," until you
find out who is to blame.

Fraternally yours,

JUNO.

Character.

AN ESSAY BY AUNT KATE, OF GRATTA.

Our characters are not for ourselves
only, but for others. If they make us
happy they produce a similar happiness
in the minds of all with whom we asso-
ciate, only in a different degree.

If our character is bad, oh! what a
weight of wickedness and misery we
shall cause! But if good, how pleasing
the thought that we are thus instru-
mental in sending tide after tide of joy
and peace out on the wings of our vir-
tuous influence, to purify and gladden
human hearts that stand in need of a
better and a more pure influence. A
good character is far above rubies, it is
more precious than gold, and they who
sustain a good character unsullied, are
the ones that will do the greatest good
in the world.

When I say character, I mean our
daily walk, the real life we lead.

We may have a good character, or a
bad one, just as we choose. But it costs
something to sustain a good character,
amid the temptations that are abroad
in the world. We have got to be const-
antly on our guard, or we will say or
do something wrong, or which might
lead to something bad.

We all might be better than we are, in
some respect. One may have the habit
of over-reaching in a bargain—that is,
he is not honest, he misrepresents;
another is always telling something
about this person, or that person, doing
something awful. Now I think it would
take too much time to mention all of
our faults, or all of the good qualities
we may have, but this much I will say
—let us be honest, and so teach our chil-
dren. And may we all remember this.
To think kindly is good, to speak kind-
ly is better, but to act kindly, one to-
ward another, is the best of all.

I believe, if we are honest, kind and
just, we are on the royal road to happi-
ness.

My brothers and sisters, we are taught
these three principles in the Grange,
and we are also taught it from the Bible
—and we know they make us better, if
we live up to them. And so may we
live that our good works may follow us,
after we go over the River, is my best
wish.

TO THE busy mother who has little
hands pulling at her dress, little voices
calling her hither and yonder, it may
at times appear impossible to enjoy the
luxury of meditation and quiet reading.
Her spirit is famished for the lack of
 repose. Her nerves are tortured by
incessant friction. She loves her home
and her children supremely, and toils
for them with uncalculating self-abnega-
tion. Yet how often her brow is
clouded and her tones are sharp, and
she makes those she would die for
uncomfortable and ill at ease by her
fretful complaining. This would be
seldomer so if she would take time
every day to be by herself, and toils
with the Master. Dear, tired mother, leave the
household perplexities behind you, go
to your chamber, and close the door.
Never mind the cross girl in the kitchen,
nor the noisy little fellows who are
shouting at their play in the back yard.
Forget for a little while the overflow-
ing basket, where lie so many garments
to be made and mended. Be not op-
pressed by the thought of the troubles
that are not yet, but may be in ex-
istence to vex you to-morrow or next
year. If you know that your husband
is carrying a heavy heart because of
embarrassments in business, do not let
that crush you, but all the more secure
for yourself the time to be alone, and
pray for him. The merchant in busi-
ness, the sailor on the sea, the minister
in his study, the clerk at his desk,
the man tried, tempted, discouraged,
whosoever he may be, is the stronger
and the braver if he have some one at
home to pray for him.—M. E. Sangster.

AN exchange tells of a young lady
who, in writing to a confidential
friend, stated that she was not engaged,
but that she saw a cloud above the
horizon about as large as a man's hand.

As girls advance toward womanhood
many of their notions undergo a
change. For instance: when small,
they believe in the man in the moon;
at maturer years they believe in the
man in the honey moon.

FULL many a rose is born to blush
unseen, and waste its fragrance on the
desert air; full many a nip is taken
behind the screen, and cloves, and
coffee, too, are eaten there.

Ladies' Department.

Written for the Visitor by a sister Patron.
OUR LOTTIE.

We marked thy faltering step and pallid brow,
Thy sunken cheek and wasted frame,
But could not think that thou wouldst bid
adieu
To us who loved so well. And yet with eager
haste
We sought the aid of those whose mission 'twas
to heal,
Yet still we saw thee, day by day, as passing
from
Our loving, fond embrace, strive as we would
To shut our eyes and close our ears to fatal
truth.
Oh! how we tried to stay the fell destroyer's
hand!
Oh! how we fought against the monster Death!
In agony we prayed, and cried to God, "Is
there no balm
In Gilead, is no physician there?" to save our
loved one
From the cruel grasp and cold embrace of him
Who never yet returned a captive to our mortal
shores?
Then, when our cup of bitterness was more
than full,
And when our pain was past enduring,
"A still, small voice" said to our wounded
hearts,
"Be still and know that I am God, and Lottie
is my child."
More calmly then we watched her face grow
Radiant with celestial smiles, and eyes grow
lustrous
With a heavenly light, until she seemed to
Talk with holy visitants, and God's bright
angels bore her
Company. Sweetly submissive to her Father's
will,
Boldly triumphant in the face of death,
Serenely she planned her funeral obsequies,
And calmly conversed of her last pilgrimage
Then we remembered who hath said, "O
Death,
Where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy
victory?"
Nor wonder we that angel intellect was tried
In searching out the plan which makes us
Heirs and partakers of the Throne of God!
Soon angel hands came hovering o'er our
Lottie's couch,
And bore her willing spirit home, where ne'er
again,
In mourning accents, she will say, "I am sick."
Nor tears again bedim those loving eyes.
Surely "there is a balm in Gilead, and a physician
there."
For now we see her by the living stream,
Whose waters maketh glad the people
Of our God. Her faltering step elastic grows
and firm,
Her pallid cheek puts on the rosy tint of
health.
And God, with loving hand, hath wiped her
tears away,
And beaming smiles light up her radiant face.
And though we feel that she no more will
Come to us; yet still we know that we
May go to her, and never part again from
These we love. For God hath given, and
God hath taken away, and blessed be His
Name forever more. While deep within
Our hearts we feel that all is well, all is well.
INVERSOLO, Jan. 13th, 1880.

Kind Words

This subject is an important one, and not fully understood. It is one on which very much may be very profitably said, and on which much ought to be said and written.
The effects of kind words are beyond human conception. God has constituted us social beings, and in our very natures we must come together, and mingle together. Man is bound to man by a thousand social ties. And the world is bound together by bands of commercial interests. We, as individuals, are dependent very largely upon one another. All have a common origin, with a common nature, and with mutual interests, are tending to a common end. By virtue of this common nature and mutual interests, man comes necessarily in contact with his fellow men, and words are the ordinary and almost universal symbols of human thought and of human feelings.
We usually communicate with one another by the use of words; our business transactions are carried on in the same manner; our social relations are pleasantly and happily continued, or ruthlessly sundered by what we call words. The world's progress in civilization, in the arts and sciences, as well as in religion, is all mainly due to the use of words. Friendships are formed and perpetuated, heart is bound to heart, mind to mind, sympathy with sympathy, by power of human language; and at the same time, hearts

are wounded, alienated, and estranged for life, minds are soured and embittered, and wounds are inflicted so deep, so sore, so lasting, that even death cannot heal, nor can the grave hide—and all by the mere use of words. The power of words for good or evil is far beyond the conception of human minds. Words live when men die. But it has been said that kind words can never die.

cherished and blest,
God knows how deep they lie,
Stored in the breast.
Like childhood's simple rhymes,
Said o'er a thousand times,
Go through all years and climes,
The heart to cheer.

And if it be true that kind words can never die, then how important that in all our social relations that we be careful and guarded in the selection of the words we employ, because as kind words, live in blessed and cherished memories, so unkind words live too, but these live in troubled and angered minds, in injured feeling, and in sorrowing hearts.

It is a principle plainly exemplified in the daily occurrences of life, that like begets like. The first blow is often followed by a second given in return, and the second would never have been given but for the first. One unkind word spoken tends to provoke a response of words still more unkind, if possible, and hence there arises in families, in communities, and sometimes in our pleasant Grange, so much of enmity that is bitter, and hatred that is cruel, and evil speaking that should be condemned. We cannot measure the power of words, as they go forth from thoughtless minds. They fly as autumnal leaves from the forest, carried by the angry tempest, but come down on human hearts like venomous poison. A gentleman once asked a hard working widow, whom he was visiting, "Does your son bring the money home to you that he earns every week?" "O yes," answered the mother. "Does he keep away from bad company?" "I trust he does," was the answer. "He must then be a comfort to you," said the gentleman, "The poor widowed mother, bursting into tears, said, "Oh, sir, if he would only speak kindly to me once in a while, I would not ask him for the money, but would work night and day to support us both." Who can tell the heart sorrow of that poor mother over the unkind words of her son, in some respects dutiful and provident?

And oftentimes the same words have surprisingly different effect; for these same words, spoken by the same person, in a different manner, with different tones, and different feelings, have widely different results—results good and evil. Let me illustrate. I give a part of a conversation between a mother and her little child, concerning a cat. "Mother," said the child, "sometimes pussy has paws, and sometimes she has claws. She pats with her paws, and plays prettily, but she scratches with her claws. "I wish," said the little girl, "she had no claws, but only soft little paws. Then she could never scratch, but would be always nice." "Well," said the mother, "remember that you are much like pussy. These little hands so soft and delicate, when well engaged, are like pussy's paws, very pleasant to feel; but when they pinch, or scratch, or strike in anger, they are like pussy's claws. You may learn a useful lesson from the cat," said the mother. "When you think kind thoughts, and speak kind, loving, and kind words, you are like pussy, with her soft, nice, paws, and everybody will love you; but when you think ugly thoughts, cross, and unkind words, then you are like pussy, with her sharp, scratching claws, and no one can love you. Human words are oftentimes like the cat's paws, soft and without harm; and then again these same words are like the cat's claws, they scratch, and wound, and bleed—even human hearts.

These unkind cat's-claw words inflict wounds that no time can heal, they produce sorrows that nothing but the

grave can hide. It is not so much what we say as how we speak it. The manner, the tone, the gesture, the expression, tell the tale of sorrow, of pain or pleasure. Earnest words of rebuke, spoken in a kind and loving tone, and in a feeling manner, will most generally have a good effect on an erring brother or sister, while the same words spoken in a harsh, unfeeling manner, will only exasperate the feeling and produce immense injury.

And be it always remembered that while unkind words wounds, forgiveness will heal the wound, and forgetfulness will take away the scars.
—Read before Centreville Grange, No. 76.

Bringing out Latent Talent.

KEELER, Feb. 13, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I am like the man who could not sit still and keep silent without getting up and saying something. Before I proceed to my subject, I must commend your wise forethought in getting J. J. Woodman's autograph to accompany the portrait designed for his. Were it not for the autograph, the multitude would be slow to recognize the dignified, serene, and youthful look of our National and State Master, in the wild-eyed visage of the present cut. He is certainly much finer looking than represented here. We are sorry justice could not have been done him. However we must accept the inevitable with the evitable. Perhaps ten years hence, with the cares and labors of life, he may not look very different from the present representation.

I do not feel called upon to write for the Visitor while there is so much talent laid away in a napkin. Dear readers, just think of the little handful we have written for the Ladies' Department, compared with the many who certainly owe some gratitude, at least, to the editor for giving us a little corner to have all to ourselves. Myra's article ought to arouse some latent talent. Since the paper has been enlarged, we have more space, so I hope the contributions will flow in from those who have been so long silent. "A word to the wise is sufficient." I can endorse at least one sentiment from Excelsior, that is, "Mediocrity in nothing." Does not our noble Order teach par excellence in all things.

Myra's "Rainy Days" are my sentiments exactly. To me, they are truly rest days. Mrs. Remington's article on "Educating our Girls," is just right, and she is sensible. I am glad she gave a little of her time and talents to the VISITOR. I hope we may hear from her again. In fact I like something in every article published. Will not some one give a series of articles on diet, and some one else on dress as pertaining to health?

MRS. O. M. SIKES.

Experience the Best Teacher.

While sitting beside a box of carpet rags which I was going to wind over, I took up the VISITOR, and read Mrs. M. J. Spencer's letter, and with her, I thought—"To have the editor resign his post would be a catastrophe that must not happen if the sisters can help it," and so I thought to write something. What I shall say I presume has been said before, and perhaps will not be worthy a place in the VISITOR, but I can no more than fail, and then try again. I am a young girl, but an earnest Granger.

My mother is away on a visit, and I am keeping house. When she left, she expected to be gone two or three weeks, but she has been gone nine. I thought I could get along without her for a short time and not mind it, but when she staid so long it was not so pleasant. Now I know it has done me much good. The responsibility of managing the house, and telling my sisters what to do, seeing that everything was properly done, has strengthened my memory, and prepared me for more usefulness in the future. To mothers who

feel that they cannot leave home, I would say, go rest, leave labor and care with your daughters. Experience is the best teacher. If they only learn to bear responsibility, it will save much anxiety and mortification, should you be sick, and they find it necessary to take your place; or if they should be called upon to preside over a home of their own. Old housekeepers may think my few weeks' experience will not do me much good. If nothing else, it has taught me to help my mother better. I have always assisted more or less, but it was not my mind that laid out the work, or my hand that guided the wheel. Girls, do we appreciate our mothers? do we heed their instructions as we should? When we yield to temptations, and sometimes make mistakes which might seem to us of little importance, would it not be wise to listen to their reproof, and consider that when we are older we may be convinced that they were right. May we realize that age and experience are worthy of consideration, and in the future kindly regard the wishes of our mothers.
M. A. J.
Cedar Run, Mich.

Angel Food.

The white of eleven eggs, one cup of flour after sifting, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, one and one-half cups of granulated sugar, and a teaspoonful of vanilla.

Sift the flour and cream of tartar four times. Beat the eggs to a stiff froth, and then beat in the sugar and vanilla. Add the flour and beat lightly but thoroughly. Bake in an ungreased pan, slowly, forty minutes. The pan should have a tin strip projecting from each corner, so that when it is turned over to cool, the air may circulate freely under it. Cut it out when cool. The pan should be a new one, an ordinary pan will answer if set up on the edges of two other pans to cool. It is necessary that the oven be a slow one. The cake should rise gradually.

Around the World.

On the 9th of October, a Paterson school boy mailed the following postal card, which is self explanatory:

PATERSON, Oct. 9th, 1879.
DEAR SIR: It is desired to find the shortest possible time from this city around the world. Will the postmaster of each place designated here please forward this with the utmost dispatch, together with a request to the postmaster at the following place to remit it to
L. B. GASTBERG,
Paterson, New Jersey, U. S. A.
(London, Paris, Marseilles, Suez, Aden, Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, Yokohama, San Francisco.)

The card returned to the sender on the 27th inst., covered all over with post marks. These show that the time occupied in going from place to place was as follows:

Arrived.	Days.	Month.
New York to Liverpool	10 days	Oct. 19
Liverpool to London	3 days	Oct. 22
London to Paris	1 day	Oct. 23
Paris to Marseilles	1 day	Oct. 24
Marseilles to Suez	7 days	Oct. 31
Suez to Aden	5 days	Nov. 5
Aden to Bombay	7 days	Nov. 12
Bombay to Calcutta	3 days	Nov. 15
Remained in Calcutta office	3 days	Nov. 18
Calcutta to Hong Kong	18 days	Dec. 6
Hong Kong to Yokohama	28 days	Jan. 3
Yokohama to San Francisco	16 days	Jan. 19
San Francisco to New York	8 days	Jan. 27
Arriving at Paterson on		Jan. 27
Total time occupied	110 days.	

Three days were lost in waiting in the Calcutta office, and about eighteen days were wasted in delay from Hong Kong to Yokohama. Without these delays, the time would have been 89 days, still nine days in excess of Jules Verne's imaginary trip, or eight days counting as he did, the gain of a day in beating the sun.

"What will the harvest be?" asks an exchange. Well, just wait till the harvest bee crawls up your trowser leg, and you'll find out.

The meanest man lives in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He stole all the wood his neighbor's wife had saved and split during the day, and then invited her husband over to spend the evening.

How to Grow Rich.—This was the sage remark of an old Boston merchant: "I've stood here on State street for 40 years, and I have seen men accumulate fortunes by speculation, and I have seen them go up and down, and I have seen men go up and down, and I've always noticed that those persons who were content with slow gains and six per cent interest came out ahead in the long run."

Lecturer's Installation Address.

The following is the address delivered by Worthy Lecturer Kate M. Smith, at the installation of the officers of Salem Grange, Jan. 23d, 1880:

Another year has passed away, and once more we are called together to install the officers of Salem Grange. Let us look back and see if we have performed all its duties; look back and see if we have failed for want of energy. As Patrons have we accomplished the work assigned us? Did we feel it our duty to be in our place at the sound of the gavel? Were we always willing to aid a brother or sister when in trouble? Have our dealings been just, honest, charitable to our fellow men? Have we practiced fair dealing, and done unto others as we would have them do to us? As Husbandmen, have we advanced in our system of farming; are our farms looking nicer and are we keeping them in better order than a year ago? Are we studying to attain the highest degree in the science of agriculture? As Matrons, have our homes been made more attractive and beautiful? Have we economized our household duties, that we might have more time to improve our minds? Have we attained to that standard, as taught in our ritual, where "a good matron places faith in God, nurtures hope, dispenses charity, and is noted for fidelity?" Above all, have we been true to our obligations as officers and members of the noble Order of Patrons of Husbandry, taken by some of us more than five years ago? If we can respond in the affirmative to this, it is well; but if not, then as we enter upon the duties of another year, let us be aroused to the fact that the obligations taken are still binding, and if we have failed in the past, let us double our diligence in the future. Let us each feel the work of the Grange to be our work, and take hold of it unitedly, ever remembering that "united we stand, divided we fall."

As I think, we have, for the past year, been more resolute, manifested a deeper interest, and made far greater advancements than ever before, allow me to congratulate you for the improvement you have made, and also for the success which has attended your public efforts. As a Grange, we are proud of you.

Brothers and sisters, we must not stop with this. Let us climb higher and higher, and add more and more to our store-house of knowledge, till we shall be classed among the best workers in the Order.

As your Lecturer for the coming year, I feel the responsibility resting upon me, and once more I ask your support and aid in performing the duties of the office; once more I ask your kind indulgence and forbearance as my mistakes and failures in the discharge of official duty shall come to your notice. Not alone of you do I ask for guidance and help, but of our Master above; for I feel that our labor is as naught without Divine approval.

Small Change in the West.

A Kansas correspondent of the Boston Transcript writes:
In truth, a person who waits for change in the shape of two, three, or four cents is looked upon with something like scorn in the West. Is your bill seventy-eight cents? You pay eighty, or the obliging shop-keeper says, "Call it seventy-five."
I recalled an incident which one of the merchants of Salina related, when speaking of his recent trip to New York for goods. After making his preparations for returning he went to settle his bill, which proved to be \$40.03. He paid \$40, and was turning away when he was recalled by a tap on his shoulder, and the three cents pointed out.
In scornful amazement he threw down ten cents, and again started away.
"Here is your change, sir," said a voice, in no wise overwhelmed by his contempt.
The merchant waved his hand and bowed.
"Keep it, sir. I am a Western man. We don't grasp three or four cents there so closely."
Tempers come by nature, but they can be controlled like a fine piano.

Business of the Allegan Co-operative Store.

ALLEGAN, Feb. 11, 1880. Bro. J. T. Cobb. As per your request, please find statement of our business for the year ending December 31, 1879.

Notice of Meetings.

Ross, Kent Co., Feb. 26, 1880. Worthy Bro. J. T. Cobb. The next regular quarterly meeting of Kent Co. Grange, No. 18, will be held at the hall of Paris Grange, No. 19, on the 24th day of March, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M.

Notice of Meetings.

Burr Oak, Feb. 13, 1880. Worthy Secretary. St. Joseph Co. Pomona Grange, No. 4, held a meeting at Centerville, Thursday, February 5th, at which time Joseph Shear, of Sturgis Grange, was elected Master; G. Snyder, of Riverside, Lecturer; and Chas. W. Sheldon of Burr Oak, Secretary.

Notice of Meetings.

Monterey, Allegan Co., February 23d, 1880. Bro. J. T. Cobb. The next meeting of Allegan Co. Grange will be held at Allegan Grange hall on the second day of March.

THE REAPER. DEATH.

BISHOP. - WHEREAS, Worthy Brother CHARLES G. BISHOP has been removed by death from among us, and, in the dispensation, our Grange has been a second time entered by death, and another taken whose interest in the Order was second to none.

THE H. L. C. Leather Dressing.

MIDDLEBUSH, N. J., May 23d, '79. The can of L. D. came safely to hand, and we have given it a thorough test here on my farm. It is certainly all that you claim for it.

ONION SEED AND SEED POTATOES.

My stock of Onion Seed is all grown by myself, and water cleaned, which takes out all light seed. Will sell at the lowest prices.

SHORT HORNS FOR SALE.

ANY ONE WISHING TO PURCHASE A WELL BRED BULL, AT A REASONABLE PRICE, OR ON EASY TERMS, CAN FIND SOME CHOICE ONES

H. C. HOLT, Cascade, Kent Co., Mich.

Wool-Growers' Bulletin.

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