

THE Grange Visitor

ISSUED

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE
Michigan State



COMMITTEE OF THE
Grange, P. of H.

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No. 10.

THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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Invariably in Advance.

J. J. WOODMAN, } Publishing Committee.
J. T. COBB, }

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RATES OF ADVERTISING:

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A Square is one inch in space, column width.

It is not the purpose of the Executive Committee in continuing the publication of the VISITOR, by direction of the State Grange, to deviate from the course first marked out in February last, which was to furnish the most direct, complete and cheapest medium of communication between the officers and members of the Order throughout the State.

We hope Masters and Secretaries will not fail to call the attention of members to every matter of general interest, which appears in the VISITOR.

Communications on any subject, calculated to promote the good of the Order, are solicited.

For Grange Supplies kept by the Secretary, see "LIST OF SUPPLIES" on eighth page.

Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—J. J. WOODMAN,	Paw Paw.
O.—P. W. ADAMS,	Tecumseh.
L.—C. L. WHITNEY,	Muskegon.
S.—H. FLEMING,	Pontiac.
A. S.—W. H. MATTISON,	Ionia.
C.—A. M. FITCH,	Albion.
SEC.—J. T. COBB,	Schoolcraft.
T.—S. F. BROWN,	"
G. K.—A. E. STRONG,	Vicksburg.
CERES.—MRS. N. CHILSON,	Battle Creek.
POMONA.—MRS. W. T. ADAMS,	Grand Rapids.
FLORA.—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN,	Paw Paw.
L. A. S.—MRS. W. H. MATTISON,	Ionia.

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State Business Agent.

J. H. GARDNER, Centreville, St. Joseph Co.

Deputies.

C. L. WHITNEY, General Deputy,	Muskegon.
P. W. ADAMS,	Lewavsee Or.
W. O. SMITH,	Oscola " "
COURT'LD HILL,	Clinton " "
JAS. ANDERSON,	Sanilac " "
W. SHATTUCK,	Saginaw " "

Proceedings of the National Grange.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

"Worthy Master and Patrons:

"With this session our official terms expire. When elected at Georgetown, D. C., in 1873, the work of the Secretary's office required the constant attention of my worthy assistant and myself, and occasionally one or two others were employed. During the past three years the press of business has required us to increase the force at one time to eighteen persons, mostly females. At the present time but four clerks are employed. During the past three years we have supplied twenty-two thousand six hundred and twenty subordinate Granges with their outfits, and issued a large amount of extra materials, such as song books, manuals, tracts, etc. The largest number of Granges supplied with outfits in any one day has been one hundred and sixty-five, and the smallest is one. We have yet to see the work fall off when not one application will be received any day, but the country being well supplied with Granges, that day can not be far distant.

"In the history of organization our order is the greatest achievement of modern times. Ancient history tells us of the Eleusinian Mysteries, where both male and female, old and young, were admitted to membership, and Ceres the Goddess of Agriculture was worshipped, to whom they built costly temples, and all Greece flocked to join in the sacred rites.

"It is the leader of modern associations in admitting old and young of both sexes. The Masonic Order, consisting of blue lodges, chapters, commanderies, and other branches of its organization, number 12,930 bodies on the entire globe; the Odd Fellows number 7,051 lodges, encampments, etc., giving a total number of 19,981 in the whole world; and those orders have existed for centuries; while at the outside we have but eight years' growth, and have issued twenty-four thousand two hundred and ninety charters, confined to the United States alone. We stand far in the lead of any other association.

"From our efforts let us hope we may yet see not only the farmers and mechanics of this country, but those of all other nationalities unite in an equally glorious work.

"During the three years past there have been upwards of three thousand

and deputies at work reporting directly to our office, and I doubt if the same amount of similar work has ever been done with less trouble and complaint; and to the credit of those deputies, let me say there has been but three cases of dishonesty.

"It is quite reasonable to suppose that many of the Granges organized under the excitement of last year should be weak, but our records at this date show only six hundred and eighty-six that have been consolidated, suspended, or had their charters revoked since the first introduction of the order.

"State Secretaries this year report a total paying-membership of seven hundred and sixty-two thousand two hundred and sixty-three, while the increase of new Granges for the past month has been ninety-two.

"The total amount of moneys received in the secretary's office and deposited in the fiscal agency in the past three years is in round numbers about \$350,000, exceeding the united paid-up capital of all the purely agricultural societies in the United States for the past fifty years, or in fact since they first had an existence.

"We have on our books 1,247 deputies appointed by State Masters the present year. There have been during the past three years 3,172 deputies supplied with manuals and other documents, leaving in most of the States enough to supply all the deputies that may hereafter be appointed, as well as all new Granges that may be organized.

"I suggest that each State Master take active measures to recall the bulk of these supplies and utilize them; and that for new deputies only one copy of the manual and private instructions be hereafter furnished by the National Grange.

"The present plan of furnishing supplies, demands your attention. In the early days of the order, when few took any interest, and none were willing to invest capital in materials and risk a market, it was absolutely necessary as well as to secure uniformity, that materials be supplied by the National Grange; but I believe it no longer necessary, and suggest that we adopt the same plan in this respect that prevails in the Masonic Order, after the present stock on hand is exhausted.

"The general correspondence of the office indicates a strong desire that the National Grange should at this session adopt some work of a national

character for the good of the order, and as one who fully appreciates the necessity at this time of wise and harmonious action, I sincerely hope soon a great work may be inaugurated which may redound to our credit and be of incalculable value not only to our order but to the whole country. "In the preamble of our constitution is this language:

"The ultimate object of this organization is for mutual instruction and protection, to lighten labor by diffusing a knowledge of its aims and purposes, expand the mind by tracing the beautiful laws the Great Creator has established in the universe, and enlarge our views of creative wisdom and power. *How much of the resources of the National Grange has been spent during the past three years in diffusing knowledge? Are we not losing sight of our ultimate object? Co-operation in buying and selling seems to absorb the attention to the exclusion of everything else. Ought we not as representatives of this grand body of American farmers to do more toward the education of the people by means of tracts and competent lectures? At the Georgetown session it was decided that the Secretary confine his work exclusively to organization and extension of the order, while the Executive Committee would attend to the general work by which the members at large should derive all the benefits of the organization. As far as my office is concerned we may consider organization as finished, and we now have the facilities at our command to carry out any other branch of work that they may decide upon.*

The accompanying tabulated statement shows 2,012 Granges organized from January 1st to September 30th of the current year. Texas leading all other States. Indiana is now the banner State, and Missouri next, the first having received 2,036 charters.

"Much complaint is made in regard to state dues. States are now required to pay dues on subordinate membership, whether they have collected the same or not.

"A change in the ruling has been called for. It has been suggested that semi-annual reports, instead of quarterly, by made in both Subordinate and State Granges. Would it not be better to require semi-annual reports from subordinate and annual reports from State Granges?

"I am urged to present the claim for the higher degrees that were in good faith promised to several worthy men who were commissioned as deputies prior to the Georgetown, D. C., meeting.

"There are those now excluded that rendered valuable service in the early days and though at the St. Louis meeting they were acknowledged as entitled to seats, their names were dropped before the session closed.

"As an office of record the Secretary's office should be utilized. It can readily be made the channel of imparting much valuable information of various kinds, for the direct benefit of our members.

A further suggestion may be considered: Abolish the system of mak-

ing new Granges, and require them to be composed exclusively of fourth-degree members.

"In the work of subordinate Granges will it not be advisable to require each candidate for a higher degree to pass an examination in the teachings of the lower degrees.

"Experience and observation prompt me to suggest several matters for your consideration, and among others, do away with publishing the key with the manual, requiring it to be committed to memory.

"Authorize the publication of the manual key in the German language. This can be done without any tax upon the National Grange, and at the same time we can increase our resources materially.

"In compliance with your resolution to have duplicate records of subordinate Granges prepared for each State, I have the pleasure of saying that sixteen States have been furnished, leaving twenty-two to be supplied.

"The instructions of the Executive Committee to move the National Grange from Washington to Louisville were received on the afternoon of Friday, and half an hour after crates were being made in which to pack the materials. We kept up the regular work of the office for the week while packing. The last desk left the Washington office Monday afternoon at 6 o'clock, and with the chief clerk and three subordinates I reached this city the following Wednesday and resumed our correspondence, being in fact but three days in making the change.

"In conclusion, brothers and sisters, I thank you for the marked courtesy that has at all times displayed itself in our business relations, and trust that the friendship formed and nurtured in the great struggle for the present success, may continue while life lasts.

O. H. KELLEY,
Secretary."

Co-operative Stores.

Wherever co-operative stores have failed in this country it has been from one of the following causes. Defective or dishonest management; giving credit instead of dealing on a cash basis; want of sufficient capital; too small profits allowed, which it was finally found were too small to meet the actual expenses; ignorant business managers, especially in selection of a stock of goods; needless expenses; unfortunate location of store, sometimes too obscure in location from its customers; but the greater causes were starting with too small a capital, and trying to extend the business and compete with combinations formed by other stores, and the were of a skillful, competent, and honest manager.

The main bond of interest is a moneyed interest and a knowledge that the customer is buying cheap. When the customer knows that he is buying cheap and is being honestly dealt with in weight and measure, and knows that he is receiving a dividend of profits upon his stock invested, that customer is going to support that store by word and trade.

Such stores can buy their goods at low rates of our large supply stores

in St. Louis and Chicago, and the cheapness will depend upon the quantity purchased; hence it is best to start with a few necessities than keep a large supply on hand. "Quick sales and low rates of profit" will lead to greater success.

The manager of the store should be an experienced, intelligent person, noted for honesty and trustworthiness. He should not be too closely connected with any of the officers of the society to cause objection; he should be a fair book-keeper, courteous, kind and obliging. He should be patient, active, a zealous worker, without necessarily having any interest in the dividends on the stock. Let him be paid a reasonable salary that will support him, and place him above temptation. It would be well if he could live in the same building, where his wife might aid him as the business increased, which it would be sure to do by fair management. Let the directors choose all other assistants, and let them require a monthly statement, with the proper books and vouchers for every transaction, and these directors must not work for nothing and board themselves.

If the Patrons wish to have success the members of the society must have a dividend on their capital invested. They will never gain strength on the unjust plan of giving all customers equal benefits, whether they have stock invested or not. There should be a difference made between members and outsiders, or there would be but little use in supporting such a store, will be the argument used when asked to invest capital, besides, capital demands a legitimate share of the profits on itself. Granges are generally enthusiastic, and so much in earnest in this matter of co-operative stores that the imperfect knowledge of many committees appointed leads them into numerous errors and difficulties. A little more care and time in studying into plans and causes would save many from shipwreck in plunging headlong into a business which they know little or nothing about, and we make these suggestions hoping they will prove of some service, and would advise all grange store-keepers to correspond frequently and get each other's experience.—*Patron's Gleaner.*

SENSIBLE ADVICE.—Each Grange should keep an accurate record of the amount of all purchases made by its members through agents or from firms offering discounts to the Order. The amount saved should be ascertained as nearly as possible, and entered upon the minutes. Each co-operative sale, together with the profit or loss, should also be recorded.

—The store of the sovereigns of Industry at Springfield Mass., did over \$6,100 worth of business in June last. In the four months since it has been under its present management, sales have amounted to \$21,255. Its expenses were only \$927.26, and the entire capital \$2,000. The net profits of the store, after paying expenses and 7 per cent interest on the capital stock, were \$302.37, indicating that goods were sold at only a small advance from cost.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW.

In answer to many inquiries that are being made, by members of the Order, about the Centennial Encampment project, I have deemed it advisable to give the following a place in the VISITOR:

Patrons' Centennial Encampment.

A meeting of the board of managers of this Association was held at the Penn Manor Hotel, corner of Eighth and Spring Garden streets, Philadelphia, on Tuesday last. All the members were present except Wm. Dean, Esq., of Delaware. Much important business was transacted, among which was the passing of resolutions determining to proceed at once to the building of the Encampment, and authorizing the Secretary to advertise for plans and proposals for buildings.

The members of the board are of one opinion as to the success of the project, in the matter of patronage, and as a financial investment, and intend to push it with energy, economy and strict business fidelity. It now remains with the Patrons of the country to sustain the managers, by promptly subscribing to the capital stock, and using all their efforts to make the Encampment national in its character.

To build the Encampment with capacity for the entertainment of 6,000 people, will require at least \$75,000 additional capital to that already subscribed, and these subscriptions must be received within the next thirty days in order to enable the board to complete their contract. There are hundreds of Patrons throughout the land who intend taking stock, but they are delaying the matter to a more convenient time. We wish to impress upon their minds the fact that the time has now arrived when they must act if they desire to have a part in the consummation of this, the grandest enterprise ever inaugurated and carried out by farmers.

The Encampment will be built—the managers have determined upon this; but unless material aid to the extent above named, is promptly rendered, its dimensions will be much smaller than was at first contemplated. We hope and believe, however, that it will not be necessary to curtail the plans. The Patrons of the United States are able to carry out this project to its maximum capacity, and they will enter into it with a will, when they learn that the managers mean business.

In subscribing to the stock it is well to remember that the money will be called in by installments of ten dollars on each share, and that at least thirty days will intervene between dates of payment, so that stockholders will have ample time to arrange their money matters.

When the Encampment is open to visitors, stockholders will have preference in entertainment, by writing in advance and notifying the managers of the time they desire rooms. Those

who desire, may use their certificates of stock, at par value, as money in the payment of lodging and boarding on the grounds. These inducements should be sufficient to cause every Patron, who intends visiting the Centennial, to take at least one share of stock. Those who take stock as a financial investment, cannot fail in realizing their hopes of large dividends.

All stock subscriptions must be forwarded to this office, to be recorded on the books of the Association. Notice will be given by circular to each stockholder when and how to pay their instalments. An immediate response is expected from every Grange whose members are readers of the *Farmer's Friend*

R. H. THOMAS, Secretary,
Mechanicsville, Penn.

Patrons of Michigan, consider this matter, and if the enterprise meets your approval, give it material aid, and your influence. The following resolution was passed unanimously, by the Executive Committee of the State Grange at their last meeting:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange, from the information in their possession, have full confidence in the success of the Patrons' Centennial Encampment at Philadelphia, and feel justified in recommending to Members of the Order in this State who contemplate visiting this great exhibition, to take stock in the Centennial Encampment Association of the Patrons of Husbandry.

THE numerous inquiries that are being made by newly elected officers of Subordinate Granges, relating to subjects that have been fully explained in the VISITOR, leads me to infer, that in some cases, Secretaries have neglected to keep files of it for the benefit of the Grange, and new officers. As the VISITOR is the medium of official communication between the State and Subordinate Granges, much valuable information relating to the good of the Order, and its laws and usages, will appear in its columns, which should be preserved for future reference. This could be done, by using file-sticks, and preserving all the numbers in book form. In this way each number, as it appears, can be put upon the file without disturbing the arrangement of the previous numbers; and all may be preserved in a convenient readable form.

THE following will answer some of the questions which have recently been raised:

1st. A Grange is not responsible for the acts of the Deputy, in the organization of the Grange, or any act done as a Grange, until organized and invested with authority.

2nd. A rejected candidate may renew his application for membership, in six months from the time of rejection.

3rd. A Member who knowingly signs the application of a rejected candidate, before the expiration of six months from the date of rejection, violates his obligation as a Patron, and invites the penalty.

4th. If a rejected candidate has illegally become a Member of another Grange, he cannot take a Demit and join the Grange rejecting him, without submitting to the same form of ballot as is required of new candidates; nor can he make application to join the Grange rejecting him, even with a Demit, until after the expiration of six months from the date of his rejection.

5th. A Secretary of a Grange, cannot use the seal of the Grange, for his own private use, either with, or without the consent of the Grange.

Services of the General Deputy.

It seems to be understood, that the General Deputy, is paid a salary for his services by the State Grange. Such is not the case. He receives the fees fixed in the By-Laws for organizing Granges; of this work there is but little now required. He is also paid \$3.00 per day when engaged in special work, under the direction of the Master of the State Grange. Further than this, no provision is made by the State Grange, for paying him for his labor. He has a family to support, and his circumstances will not permit him to devote his time and means in the work of the Order, without reasonable compensation. He is devoting his whole time for the good of the Order, and Granges employing him, should remember that traveling costs money, and "the laborer is worthy of his hire."

—Woodstown Grange, No. 9, in New Jersey, represents having purchased during the last eight months, supplies to the amount of over \$4,000, upon which we are well satisfied. We have saved 25 per cent., which would make a saving of over \$850, an average of nearly \$100 per month. We have committees appointed, whose duties are to visit the farm of each member, and report in writing, which reports will be placed on file for future use as reference, &c. To examine the buildings, fences, and improvements generally—with modes of culture and of cropping—underdraining, if any, with what success; the different kinds of fertilizers used, and with what success, as well as the different soils of which the farms are composed; the kinds of stock kept, with profits of same. The committee have had the matter in charge for some time, and different reports been made. We cannot but think much good will result to our farmers generally by such an arrangement.

—*The Farmer's Vindicator* thus speaks of the Order in Arkansas:—"Our Order has accomplished a vast deal in Arkansas. It has taught the farmer to produce what he consumes and live at home. It has cheapened what he is compelled to buy. It has taught him self-reliance. It is making of the producers intelligent beings, and men and women of influence. It has given us a general spring harvest of small grain and grasses—a thing unknown before in the annals of our State. It has elevated the farming class socially and morally. It has been the great lever in elevating our State to its present happy political condition."

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.

Plaster.

In answer to letters of enquiry about plaster, the following explanation is presented:

Brother H. O. Weston, of Grandville, who had undertaken to supply the Patrons of the State with plaster, found himself, early in December, in such a state of financial embarrassment that he was unable to push forward the building, mining, and other necessary work preparatory to grinding plaster-rock, with the rapidity that he had expected. At the meeting of the State Grange at Lansing, Mr. Weston came before that body and stated very fully the situation of his business, and asked that assistance might be rendered him in some way, so as to enable him to fill the orders for plaster that he had received.

The whole subject was canvassed very fully by the State Grange, and a resolution adopted, pledging the support of the State Grange to its Executive Committee in carrying to a successful issue any plan they thought best to adopt.

Without going into detail, suffice it to say that the Executive Committee felt the necessity of immediate action, and although considerable time has elapsed, the complications were such that the Committee feel that the matter could not have safely been pushed much faster.

It has been necessary to advance money to Bro. Weston, which has been done by the Committee, and we think he will be able to begin to ship plaster the first week in February.

By arrangement, all orders for plaster that have been sent forward are now in my hands, and they will be filled, so far as practicable, in the order in which they were first received by me.

Parties preferring to have their orders filled later in the season, will not lose their priority of claim by such postponement.

All remittances of money for plaster will be made to me.

By order of the Ex. Com.,

J. T. COBB, Secretary.

We hope our friends will not overwhelm us with letters of enquiry about this plaster business beyond what is really necessary.

While we hold ourselves ready to answer direct, all letters that will not admit of a general reply through the VISITOR, yet all must see that this medium of communication is cheaper and far better than private correspondence, upon all subjects of general interest.

In looking over this number of the VISITOR its readers will see that, while it has not been enlarged in size, by the use of *smaller type*, we furnish more reading matter than before.

With the expectation that our friends would send us a large subscription, the price has been reduced to 30 cents per annum.

At this price, every Grange in the State should send us some subscribers before the 1st of February. We shall try and make it useful, in fact indispensable, to every Patron who desires to be kept informed of the condition of the Order in this State.

Patrons will bear in mind that in urging you to take the VISITOR we have no sort of pecuniary interest at stake.

We hope the support given it will make it entirely independent of the State Grange Treasury, and that in the future, as in the past, it will be the best channel through which to reach the membership of the State.

Election Returns.

Our list of Masters and Secretaries of Subordinate Granges for 1876 is very incomplete. We send this No. to Masters and Secy's of last year, where election returns are not yet received, with a request that it be given to their successors and report officers elect. We hope Secretaries who have been dilatory in this matter will forward the names of Master and Secretary, with the P. O., of each. We do not care to have sent us a *full list* of the officers of Subordinate Granges.

Notice to Secretaries:

As soon as official notice has been received of the action of the State Granges upon the Amendments to the Constitution of the National Grange, we shall issue a revised edition of the National Constitution, the Amended By-Laws of the Michigan State Grange, and the Codes of By-Laws recommended by the State Grange at its last session, for adoption by Pomona and Subordinate Granges. Price, 30 cents per dozen.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on the 6th inst., J. H. Gardner, of Centerville, was appointed State Business Agent. Bro. Gardner is a man of considerable business experience. If success in his own business affords any ground for confidence in his success in this new field of labor, we may reasonably expect that Mr. Gardner will fill the bill, as he stands in the front rank of the best farmers of St. Joseph Co.

His opportunities are very much improved by the action of the Executive Committee, authorizing the Agent to furnish goods at cost, and look to the committee for pay for his services.

As Bro. Gardner has received definite instructions from the committee, there will be no variation from this rule, that goods will be furnished to Patrons at cost, on all orders accompanied with the money, or on such assurances as are satisfactory to the Agent.

I think the business arm of the Order will gain strength by this arrangement, and hope Subordinate Granges and County Agents will at once open correspondence with Brother Gardner.

THERE are still quite a number of orders on Treasurers of Subordinate Granges, issued to Masters for attendance at the session of the State Grange in January 1875, which have not been returned to me, and placed to the credit of the Subordinate Grange.

I was instructed by a vote of the State Grange, to pay Masters holding these orders, whatever balances remain unpaid after the fees and dues of the Grange for the full year of 1875 had been endorsed thereon, and reports of Secretaries for the year received at this office.

I hope Masters or Treasurers holding those orders will return them to me at once, that the Grange may have credit for the amount paid, and the Master receive from the State Grange Treasury the balance still due him and not endorsed on his order. All that matter should be closed up as soon as possible.

I HAVE just received a notice that a sufficient number of copies of the Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the National Grange, held at Louisville in November last, had been shipped to me to supply each Grange in the State with one copy. I shall mail a copy to each Master so far as election returns have been received. Masters not receiving a copy will know why.

As we receive letters daily without the *number* of the Grange, we sometimes find it very difficult to determine where to direct an answer.

We hope calling attention to this matter often will show an improvement in the future. We lose time every day, and frequently cannot answer a letter immediately, for want of the *number* of the Grange to which the enquiry relates.

We receive letters every week, and sometimes from Secretaries, asking the price of some article found in our List of Supplies.

Please take notice that all articles kept by us, and prices of the same, will be found in *List of Supplies* in every number of the VISITOR.

We send Blanks for Secretaries' Reports, on application.

Before the close of the current quarter we shall send a full supply for this year of a new form, to all Secretaries whose election has been reported to us.

IN the December number of the VISITOR, the printer made a resolution reported by the Finance Committee, relative to the pay of the Worthy Treasurer, for his services, recommend that he be paid \$600. It should have been \$150; and as the resolution was *adopted* by the State Grange, he was paid that amount.

THE following Granges are not entitled to the Annual Word, on account of delinquency in Secretaries' reports for two or more quarters, to wit: Nos. 27, 28, 98, 105, 109, 117, 150, 163, 169, 196, 218, 231, 254, 258, 294, 345, 365, 369, 382, 405, 412, 418, 419, 420, 446, 449, 453, and 542.

No.'s 451, 571, 577, 586, 588, 595, 596, and 598 have never reported.

Scientific Butter.

If science continues in her present rapid progress, the occupation of farming will very soon be played out, and instead of sending their sons to agricultural colleges, the farmers will do better for them by having them instructed on a mixed basis of "trade" and chemistry. We are led to this reflection by the exposure of the last scientific dodge for dispensing with genuine butter, and substituting for it an extract prepared from the fat of beeves. The oil contained in the fat is separated by a series of processes, from the stearine, and is then mixed with a little milk and churned and prepared like ordinary butter.

It is distressing to find that this ingenious attempt to break down the monopoly of butter producing, hitherto enjoyed by the bovine race, has not met with success, and that the "Oleomargine Manufacturing Co.," have been rewarded for their efforts to benefit mankind, by a series of persecutions which have at last driven them into bankruptcy.

The Butter and Cheese Exchange took the matter up, and declared that the innocent looking stuff which might easily have been mistaken for good yellow Orange Co., butter, was a dangerous adulteration, liable to turn speckled, streaked and rancid. The factory of the company was closed, and the final act of the drama took place in the Marine Court, a few days ago, when judgment was granted against the stockholders for the wages of their employees, and for other debts.—*Patrons' Gazette.*

—As one of the leading features of the Grange movement is the education or development of the latent talent among the farmers; or, in other words, to prepare farmers to occupy places of trust and honor, by leading them to think for themselves—these grange meetings should be varied by addresses or essays by our members.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

Permanency.

No better evidence of a permanent future for the Order of Patrons than the building of numerous commodious and tasteful halls can be asked.

Within two weeks, we have had the honor and pleasure of dedicating three of these halls, according to the rites and usages of our Order, lately promulgated by the National Grange.

This ceremony reflects great credit upon the Order, and especially upon the author, Bro. Thompson, (to whom we are indebted for many of the finest portions of our literature.)

The first of these dedications was at Worth, or Tuscola Village, in Tuscola Co. Whitney Grange, No. 513. Bro. Richardson, W. M., and Bro. J. Q. A. Burrington, Sec., may well be proud of their efforts in securing so good a Grange Home. The dedication on the 7th inst., was followed by the installation of officers, all of which passed off very satisfactory. A piano well played supported the choir as they, by well executed singing, supplemented our services.

At the close of the labors of the day, we were called to banquet at tables groaning under luxuries, as well as necessities, which soon grew less and less, until at length they gave place to innocent recreation, in which both old and young joined with zest, in harmony to the sweet notes of the lute and violin. We looked on, and should have continued to look on, but, alas! it was Leap Year.

Dedication No. 2, was on the 12th inst., for Fayette Grange, No. 251, of Jonesville, followed by installation—all public. We earnestly commend the example of this Grange to all Patrons. The hall, large and commodious, was tastefully decorated with paintings, emblems, wreaths, and mottoes, on the walls. The windows have elegant louvered curtains pending suitable lace curtains. The floor was well carpeted, all of which the Grange can justly be proud of. W. M. Bro. Halloway called the large assembly to order at the proper time, and in a short address opened the service, delivering the keys to our charge, as representative of the State Grange, asking the dedication of their handiwork to the use of the Order of P. of H., according to the established rites. The usual address followed, at the close of which the L. A. S. entered from the preparation room, followed by two Brothers and two Sisters, bearing a plain but tasteful altar, followed by the A. S. This emblem of Faith, Hope and Charity, was duly placed in position, the entire assembly standing. The W. M., Ded. g Off., W. O., W. L., W. Ch., Ceres, Pomona, and Flora, took positions near and surrounding the Altar, when a prayer was offered, followed by a "Laud," and a hymn by the choir. Flora then scattered flowers upon the Altar, with appropriate words in Faith; Pomona, with fruit offerings, spoke of Hope, and Ceres brought out her grain and taught us a lesson of Charity. The W. Ch., then placing the bible upon the Altar, all read the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians, after which seats were resumed, the Hall declared duly dedicated, and its keys restored with appropriate words to the Master.

Similar services were held at Keystone Grange, No. 226, Clinton Co., on the 15th inst., at which time the Green-bush band assisted, supplementing the choir in the installation services that followed.

The influence of these services, well rendered, is good upon the public who witness them, and oftentimes aid greatly in strengthening weak Granges. We recommend them.

Work.

Worthy Brothers and Sisters:

Your humble servant, honored with the title and office of State Lecturer, to which has been added the labors and responsibilities of General Deputy, has much he would like to say to you in this number, which for reasons he will not. 1st. The columns of the VISITOR are filled with other important matter; and, 2d. With his continual change of place, and public addresses, installations, and dedications, nearly every day since the Lansing meeting, he has not had as much time as he desires when he appears in these columns.

He would, however, suggest some food for thought, and recommend the same for your consideration, discussion and investigation:

1st. Will your seed corn grow? Why not? Fröst! Try it. Old seeds ditto.

2d. With this open weather may not the stirring of the soil be tried to destroy cut-worms, &c.?

3d. What *agricultural papers* shall the Members take—not forgetting the culture of the orchard, garden, home and family interests?

4th. Shall not the Grange subscribe for, and have for the use of the *Lecturer*, some paper, or papers, not taken by any Member?

5th. What can this Grange, or community contribute towards the best possible representation of Michigan products at the Centennial? (No time to be lost.)

6th. When, and how, shall we best prepare hot-beds and cold-frames for forwarding early vegetables and plants?

7th. What varieties of fruit shall we plant in orchard and garden?

8th. What can be done to add to the interest, increase the attendance and promote the greatest good in our Granges and among the Members?

9th. Is not a *word* to the wise sufficient?

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - - - CENTREVILLE.

Patrons of Michigan:

I have been appointed State Business Agent by your Executive Committee, in place of Brother N. Chilson, with instructions, "that the business is to be conducted so as to give you all discounts, both general and special, and all rebates allowed by manufacturers and dealers." I have not yet entered upon my duties, as it is not known probably beyond the neighborhood of the committee of my appointment. I have been engaged during the past year as agent for St. Joseph county, and have transacted some business with manufacturers of farm implements and jobbers in merchandise, so that I do not come before you entirely unacquainted with trade. I am now corresponding with manufacturers and members of the Order in other States, for prices and information. I expect to be able to secure some deduction in prices from last season, on all tools and machinery used in farming.

E. Murry, of Niles, offers wagons ten to fifteen per cent. below last season's prices; J. Hutchinson, of Three Rivers, offers his power corn-shellers at twenty per cent. off. These shellers, with a two-horse tread, or four-horse sweep power, will shell seventy to eighty bushels per hour of dry corn. A two-horse walking cultivator for \$20; two-shovel, single horse cultivator for \$3.25, with steel blades and clevis, provided a contract can be made soon for a definite number. On plows, several makers offer 25 per cent. off from retail rates of the past season.

The Whitney and Home Sewing Machines, both first-class, can be had for five per cent. less than heretofore. In

groceries I have not yet made contracts with any particular firm to fill general orders; I have been buying in New York and Philadelphia with satisfaction. Louisiana sugars, molassas and rice can be had from the State Agent at New Orleans at low rates.

There having been but a few days since I was notified of my appointment, I have not received many replies to my correspondence, and consequently can not give a lengthy list of prices now. The main thing to insure success in our business is unity of action, as far as practicable, through all our Order; therefore let us be united, and work together for the benefit of all.

My arrangements are designed to be such that all articles will be sent direct from the place of manufacture, and goods from the point where purchased, to the place where wanted.

Consult together now in your meetings and ascertain how many plows, cultivators and harrows you will need in the Spring, and send me your order as soon as possible, so that I can contract for them; and so that the maker can have them ready when you want them. Don't put it off until the day you want to use them, and then grumble because you have to pay high prices. Agree on one style of plow and one cultivator for general work on the same soil, if possible, and do away with so many different patterns, which vary but little. All orders accompanied with the money or satisfactory reference will be filled as soon as possible. Patrons, try me with an order for anything you need, and ascertain if I can fill it satisfactorily.

Address all communications to J. H. Gardner, State Business Agent, Centreville, St. Joseph Co., Mich.

Communications.

SMITH'S CREEK, Nov. 14, 1875.

At a feast held recently by our Grange. Miles H. Carleton, delivered a very able and instructive lecture on "Progress in Agriculture." He gave a voluminous and accurate statistical report, (from memory) showing the gradual increase of Agricultural products during the last hundred years. In summing up, he spread out a very encouraging prospect in the future, for the farmer, by dwelling upon the benefits that would accrue from the Grange,—pecuniary, social, and intellectual. His discourse was listened to with great attention, and was highly appreciated by all present.

Mr. Carleton is a first class speaker. For energy, and clear enunciation he is not excelled. The arrangement and handling of his subject is masterly. Possessing powers of concentration seldom equalled, backed by a memory almost infinite in its research, he is able to abstract facts from the surrounding rubbish of history, and to present them in such a free, and untrammelled manner as to astonish while it interests his hearers. I understand Bro. Carleton is lecturing somewhat in the interest of the Grange. His best passport is—*hear him!*

BENJAMIN R. MALLORY,
Master Smith's Creek, Grange No. 572.

BIG RAPIDS, Jan. 9, 1876.

BROTHER COBB:—The first quarterly meeting of Meosta Pomona Grange No. 2, was held in Fern Grange Hall, and officers for the ensuing year were elected: Master—A. B. Knapp, P. O., Hersey; Secretary—John P. Beyers, Big Rapids; Executive Committee—Chas. M. Darrah, Wm. Ladner, John P. Short; County Agent—John F. Beyers.

Fraternally yours,
JOHN F. BEYERS.

CO-OPERATION, CONCENTRATION AND COMBINATION.

Concentrate your forces, friends,
Good Patrons one and all,
Till every foe shall vanquished be,
And every traitor fall.
Combine as one in harmony,
If victory you would gain,
Nor heed the words of bitter scorn
Or jeers of proud disdain.

Concentrate, if you would achieve
The hopes we seek to win;
What though our efforts are but weak,
When we at first begin;
The future may disclose to view
An army brave and strong,
That will surmount each obstacle
For which we labored long.

In combination, there is power,
By which we may ascend,
To heights of honor, wealth and trust,
Which we will e'er defend;
For Justice thereon sits enthroned,
And weaves a garland bright,
With which to crown each toilers brow,
Who battles for the Right.

They, who have dared demand their own,
And bravely stemmed the tide,
Of aristocracy and power—
Monopoly and pride;
Now join together in one band,
Resisting forms of old,
Whose fetters long had bound them down;—
No more are bought and sold.

But Kings and Queens within a realm,
Are Patrons in their home,
Which they have earned by industry,
And love to call their own;
Their honest hearts doth bless the hour
Before unknown to man,
When concentrative thought produced
The Grangers' noble plan.

MRS. BAILEY.

Battle Creek, Mich., Jan. 1876.

"Pay as You Go."

How happy every one must be that pays for everything when he gets it, although he may not have as much as those that get trusted, but to think what you have is paid for, and no one dunning you for the pay, makes one feel manly and independent. If a man is industrious and a good manager he can soon have all the comforts of this world and some of the luxuries besides. There must be rest and quiet for such, that a man in debt never knows

"Pay as you go," but alas; how few do it. The most of farmers are in debt, cramped for money, hardly know how to twist or turn, as the saying is, to meet their indebtedness; they look careworn and anxious. I have read and heard about the "Jolly Farmers." Where are they now? I think they must be among the things that are past. Just look at the farmers now; I think they are anything but jolly. Why is it? They do not have to work half as hard to raise the same amount they did twenty five years ago; you may say you work just as hard as you did then. Granted that you do, you certainly ought to raise more than three times the amount you did then, with the improved machinery at your command, and lands well improved. Why are you not jolly! Simply because you do not "pay as you go." Debt, the curse of our country. How many homes, yes, beautiful homes, that you

the farmer, after long years of weary toil and anxiety, hoping, expecting to pay for and there end your days, are lost, by not having learned when you started out in life to "pay as you go." Perhaps your farm is mortgaged, but the mortgage is not due for a long time, and even if it comes due, the man who holds the mortgage says he is in no hurry for his money, he will renew the mortgage.

Now you feel there will be time for you to build a new house, and as you always expect to live there, you build a nice one. After you have got it built, then you must have it furnished or people will think you are "hard up" sure! Then the surroundings must be improved, a carriage and faster horses must be added, and other things to give the appearance of wealth. You live along so for a few years, but it takes all you can raise to keep up appearances, but those debts you have made, *must be met.*

What is the consequence! Your beautiful home is lost, the home you had made so beautiful is gone. God pity you; you are not as young and hopeful as you were when you began; age is creeping. What will you do? I cannot tell. But had you taken for your motto "pay as you go," this would never have happened.

"Pay as you go." How many of you have long accounts, or no written accounts, or accounts imperfectly kept with the men you employ to work for you. The settling up comes. If he is a man that works by the day, perhaps he will say that he has worked more days than you have given him credit for, or he has not been paid as much as you claim you have paid him. Now the best way is to "pay as you go," and the next best way is to keep daily accounts. "Pay as you go," not in advance. If you pay a man before he does the work how hard it is to get him to work, what short days he makes, and how little he works, and he would rather work for some one he does not owe. I believe you do him an injury. He has not that courage and ambition to work that he would have, if he was expecting pay when his day's work was done. Suppose he be a young man, working by the month, and you pay him two or three months in advance, (I have known it done,) and he should take it into his head to put out some dark night, wouldn't you wish you hadn't paid him. Or, suppose he should be taken sick, or should cut his foot or some other accident happen so as to be laid up for a long time, how are you going to get your pay. If he needs things, pay him as fast as he earns them, it will be better for him and you too.

Auctions are a nuisance! Do you ask why? For several reasons. You look at the handbills, you see some things advertised you imagine you want and can get trusted for them, so away you go to the auction. First, you know you are buying lots of things you do not want, because you think they are cheap and you can sell them and make a big thing. When the sale is over you give your note (larger than you expected) for ten months or a year at ten per cent. When it comes due, you find it hard work to pay it. You have not made as much on the articles you bought as you expected, and those you thought you needed, it would have been better if you had waited until you could have paid down for. And again, you often bid on articles you do not want or intend to take, but bid on them just for fun, and when no one else bids higher, you have to take them. Then it is not so much fun. Auctions are good enough for those that have things to sell, but I would advise farmers to keep away unless they have the money to pay down, and judgment to buy only what they

need. "Pay as you go!" I know a man who bought a fanning mill this last fall; the agent asked thirty dollars at ten per cent, payable in one year, or if he would pay down he might have it for \$25. The man paid the \$25 and took the mill, made a saving of five dollars, wasn't a Granger either. But you say you hav'n't got the money and must have things that are necessary, and trust to luck to pay for them.

If you had a will to pay for them you would find a way, for "where there is a will there is a way." Take the money you pay for tobacco, it would go a good ways toward keeping you out of debt, it is a dirty, filthy habit, doing no one any good. Why, I have known those that smoked as many as three ten-cent cigars a days and perhaps more, besides treating their friends, complain of hard times. The cost in a year would amount to over \$100, enough to pay the interest on \$1,000 at ten per cent. Let such a man's wife ask him for a little money; does she get it? No! he says I hav'n't got the money to spare, I've got to pay my debts. If his wife is a woman of spirit, after being told that a hundred thousand times, she may get mad. Can you blame her? No, of course you can't. I tell you, this always being in debt is useless, and worse than useless. It makes a slave of a man, his wife, and their children.

Let us rise in our might and shake off this curse, and be free and happy. I tell you it can be done. Let us begin the coming year and pay for what we get or go without it until we can pay for it, and take all the surplus money and pay the old debts, and then keep out of debt. Finally, if you want to live and be happy, *pay as you go.*

MRS. S. E. STURGES.

Okemos, Mich., Dec. 22, 1875.

Grange Real Estate Agency or Beaureau.

Worthy Brothers and Sisters of Michigan, Greeting:

Allow me to bring before you, through our GRANGE VISITOR, a subject on which I have spent a great amount of time; the work left undone, was the organization of a National Grange Real Estate Agency or Bureau. This will be the *poor man's friend*. Through this agency the man with small means at his command will receive help that will enable him to secure a home with *great saving of time and money*. By the assistance of his brethren, he can secure a full and accurate description of the lay of the land, soil, water, timber and title. Thus enabling the seller to bring his property before all who make their purchases through this agency, and also to bring the hundreds of farms and other lands before the purchaser at once, and without a *journey*. A Patron may remain in the chilly North and have his brother in the sunny South converse with him and describe their pleasant homes. The same with the brother in the East and the one in the West. Without our Order they would never have had a knowledge of each other, or the property that was far away. Formerly a distant home could not be procured without one or more long journeys, and then you could procure but little *reliable information*, and learn nothing of your title except through some *legal gentleman*, and by emptying your pocket of from \$10 to \$50. It is impossible for me to enumerate the thousand ways in which this Agency will do good. In the north there are more farmers than farms, and the tendency is to enlarge farms and reduce the number of country residences. I can show hundreds of places where the old log cabin used to stand, which is now gone, and a home gone with it, and nothing left to fill its place. These are facts. How can we remedy this? There is but one way, and that is to go where there is plenty of cheap, unoccupied lands, and large plantations. These are within the reach of all industrious citizens. By so doing many will be made independent by having a home

of their own. How sorry I frequently feel when they sing *Sweet Home*, and the *homeless* come into my mind. Our worthy brothers and sisters have been as busy as bees in doing our grange work, and have mastered everything which they as an order have undertaken; our will is law, and I am happy to say all our works have been those of love to each other and to our brother agriculturist. We as an order have sown, while all our farming communities have reaped equally with those of our order. I am glad that I am a Patron. I know our mission is one of the highest order; well may we cry "exceller!" Brethren, if you think this undertaking a worthy one, help us to perfect it. We expect from one to two per cent. for our work, owing to the trouble we have in effecting a sale. No sale, no pay. All property to be offered at its true value. All transactions through this agency confidential.

J. W. CORWIN, Manager.
Office of Grange Real Estate Agency,
Lebanon, Ohio.

IONIA, Jan. 7th, 1876.

BRO. COBB:—In the December number of the VISITOR, you publish the report of the Committee on Publication. In the main it is a very good report; but, it starts out with a declaration that is not true, and through inadvertence, or mistake, charges the Executive Committee with the publication of their circular in violation of a vote of the State Grange.

In justice to the Executive Committee, I deem it proper to say that there was no vote of the State Grange that prohibited them from issuing any circular or paper of any kind that they might deem necessary and proper, there was no vote containing any instructions, or advice to them on that subject. The State Grange did, by a very decided vote, refuse to make the *New Era* and *Northern Granger* an official organ, while it left its committee free to choose its own method of making communications to Patrons and to Granges. That they acted prudently and wisely the result has made abundantly plain to every one, and they were amply vindicated by the report of the Committee on Publication, and by the unanimous vote of the State Grange at its recent session at Lansing.

Very truly,

ALONZO SESSIONS.

The Reaper Death.

WHEREAS, The Great Master of life has seen fit to remove by death, our Sister, Elizabeth Lewis, which occurred at her residence in Birch Run, Saginaw Co., Michigan, on the evening of Nov. 9th, 1875, in the midst of her usefulness as an active and energetic Sister and Officer of our Grange, therefore

Resolved, That we as a Grange deeply lament the death, and most earnestly tender our sympathies to the family and friends who mourn her loss.

Resolved, That to our sorrow stricken Brother, whose pathway in thus darkened by the unwelcome clouds of grief and affliction, we as a Grange would extend the fraternal hand of true sympathy,

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the GRANGE VISITOR, and that our hall be draped in mourning for 60 days.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE LANE MANUFACTURING COMPANY having removed from Washington, D. C., to LOUISVILLE, Ky., thus locating their business near the centre of the population of the Union, are better prepared than ever before to furnish Granges with all their supplies.

The addition of Artificial Flowers to their business has become prominent, and their Grange Wreaths are well known for their beauty.

Orders executed with promptness at their new store, No. 139 WEST JEFFERSON ST., LOUISVILLE, KY.

Connecticut.

The Connecticut State Grange met at Hartford on the 28th of December. Delegates were present from 14 out of 16 Granges. The Master's annual address passed in review the past year of labor, and concluded with an encouraging representation of the future. One session was profitably spent in relating the experience of the several Granges, considering some of the means of sustaining the social and intellectual interests and of securing the greatest good of the Order. The result revealed the difficulty of sustaining the interest excited by the novelty of the organization, and the unwillingness of many scattered members to persevere in the legitimate work of the Grange. Many are too hasty in trying to reap where they have not sown, overlooking the fact that the Grange is designed to make better farmers, better housekeepers, and a more social co-operative people. The Order has been at work but a few months and numbers about 700, in as yet widely scattered bodies through the State; it is thought the present roll may easily be doubled during the present year under the expected reduction of fees. The following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That we look upon the organization of the Patrons of Husbandry as the dawn of a new era in agriculture, and from the character of the work which it contemplates, well calculated to elevate the producing classes to that commanding position of social and intellectual importance which they are justly entitled to occupy among a great people.

Resolved, That in our financial operations we wage no warfare against the legitimate laws of trade, nor do we expect or ask any favor or privilege above any other class of citizens acting on the same principle.

Resolved, That we adopt as one of the cardinal principles of our Order, the payment in cash for all articles when delivered, and honest dealing with all.

Resolved, That the injunction is especially obligatory upon us as a brotherhood, to look first for the blade, then the ear, and thus to labor with patience for the harvest, not greedy to reap where we have not sown, nor to harvest where we have bestowed no labor.

—The Granges of California are after the lawyers with a sharp stick. They are circulating a petition praying the next legislature to pass a bill "fixing the rate of attorneys' and lawyers' fees, where no special contract is made." Better way not employ them, generally speaking.

—It is the Grange that is giving new life to our industries and commerce, by teaching men the value and effectiveness of co-operation—that the different parts of society are as separate parts of an intricate piece of mechanism of which none can be spared—each is necessary to the other in the successful working of the whole. Intelligent co-operation is its watchword—disenthralment from ignorance, vice, and despotism in all its forms—its aim.—*Ex-Senator Ross, in Industrial Age.*

GLEANINGS.

—The Patrons at Albany, Oregon, have a warehouse that holds 120,000 bushels of wheat, and they intend to fit up another one the same size, and a flouring mill that will grind 200,000 bushels of wheat, so that they can flour their own wheat.

—Don't forget, brother patrons, that arbitration is death to litigation, and resort to it in all your differences. Pettifoggers don't admire the remedy, but plain honest people can do without their opinions. Keep out of the courts.

—Green Mountain Grange No. 1, of Vermont, has elected the "Pioneer Patron," of New England, Jonathan Lawrence, Master. He was the National Deputy until the organization of the State Grange, and since that time has held the office of State Deputy.

—The *Journal of Education* says: It does not matter so much what you call it, only that you organize some gathering and bring the people together. It may be a singing school, a debating club, a reading club, a legislature, a court, anything so as to get together for mutual improvement and a friendly fraternal interchange of opinion. Let original and selected pieces be read, some recitations be given, and good will be done. The Patrons of Husbandry are doing a good work in this direction.

—The watchfulness of the Order over all the interests of the people, is seen in the fact that in Illinois the State Grange has made arrangements to furnish country schools with cheap desks, chairs and tables, while in a certain California county the Patrons appointed a committee to examine into the assessment rolls, and they have already corrected some notable cases of undervaluation.

—All of our leaders condemn in unmeasured terms the practice, so common in many town and city Granges, of admitting to membership those who are not farmers, and whose interests antagonize the purposes of the Order. The Grange is no place for merchants, politicians, &c., and we hope there will soon grow up such an opposition to their presence that they will

"Fold their tents like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away."

Manual of Jurisprudence P. OF H.
and co-operation of the P. OF H.

By A. B. Smedley, Master of Iowa State Grange, Published by Geo. Wm. Jones, office of *Patron's Helper*, Des Moines, Iowa. 200 pages, bound in cloth. By mail, postage prepaid, \$1.25 per copy; by express or freight, in packages of five or more, \$1.00 per copy. Deputies and Masters are earnestly requested to call the attention of their respective Granges to this book. Send for prospectus. Sold by J. T. COBB, State Sec.

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Manual of Jurisprudence and Co-operation, by A. B. Smedley,.....	1.25
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M. M. MOODY, Sec. Ind. State Grange.
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