

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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QUIET LIVES.

In a valley, centuries ago,
Grew a little Fern leaf, green and slender—
Veining delicate, and fibres tender,
Waving when the wind crept down so low.
Rushes tall, and moss and grass grew round it;
Playful sunbeams darted in and found it;
Drops of dew stole down by night and crowned it;
But no foot of man e'er came that way;
Earth was young and keeping holiday.

Monster fishes swam the silent main,
Stately forests waved their giant branches,
Mountains hurled their snowy avalanches,
Mammoth creatures stalked across the plain;
Nature revelled in grand mysteries;
But the little fern was not of these;
Did not number with the hills and trees.
Only grew and waved its sweet, wild way;
No one came to note it day by day.

Earth, one time, put on a frolic mood,
Heaved the rocks and changed the mighty motion
Of the deep, strong currents of the ocean;
Moved the plain and shook the haughty wood;
Crushed the little fern in soft, moist clay,
Covered it and hid it safe away.
Oh! the long, long centuries since that day,
Oh, the changes! oh, life's bitter cost!
Since the useless little fern was lost.

Useless? Lost? There came a thoughtful man,
Searching nature's secrets, far and deep;
From a fissure in a rocky steep
He withdrew a stone, o'er which there ran
Fairy pencilings, a quaint design,
Leafage, veining, fibres, clear and fine,
And the fern's life lay in every line!
So I think God hides some souls away,
Sweetly to surprise us the Last Day!

SAVING MOTHER.

The farmer sat in his easy chair
Between the fire and the lamplight's glare;
His face was ruddy and full and fair,
His three small boys in the chimney nook
Coned the lines of a picture book;
His wife, the pride of his home and heart,
Baked the biscuit and made the tart,
Laid the table and steeped the tea,
Doffed, swiftly, silently;
Tired and weary and weak and faint,
She bore her trials without complaint,
Like many another household saint—
Content, all selfish bliss above
In the patient ministry of love.

At last, between the clouds of smoke
That wreathed his lips, the husband spoke:—
"There's taxes to raise, an' interest to pay,—
And ef there should come a rainy day,
'T would be mighty handy, I'm bound to say,
'T have somethin' put by. For folks must die,
An' there's funeral bills, and gravestones to buy—
Enough to swamp a man, putty nigh.
Besides, there's Edward and Dick and Joe
To be provided for when we go.
So I was you'd tell 'em what I'd do:
I'd be savin' of wood as ever I could—
Extry fire don't do any good—
I'd be savin' of soap, an' savin' of oil,
And run up some candles once in a while;
I'd be rather sparin' of coffee an' tea,
For sugar is high,
And all to buy.

And cider is good enough drink for me,
I'd be kind o' careful about my clo'es
And look out sharp how the money goes—
Gawgaws is useless, nater knows;
Extry trimmin'
'S the bane of women,
And all to buy.
And cider is good enough drink for me,
I'd be kind o' careful about my clo'es
And look out sharp how the money goes—
Gawgaws is useless, nater knows;
Extry trimmin'
'S the bane of women,
And all to buy.

"I'd sell off the best of the cheese and honey,
And eggs is as good, nigh about, 's the money;
And as to the carpet you wanted new—
I guess we can make the old one do.
And as for the washer, and sewin' machine,
Them smooth-tongued agents 's pesky mean,
You'd better get rid of 'em, slick and clean.
What do they know about women's work?
Du they kalkilate women was born to shirk?"

Dick and Edward and little Joe
Sat in the corner in a row.
They saw the patient mother go
On ceaseless errands to and fro,
They saw that her form was bent and thin,
Her temples grey, her cheeks sunken in;
They saw the quiver of lip and chin—
And then with a wrath he could not smother,
Outspoke the youngest, frailest brother—

"You talk of savin' wood and oil
An' tea an' sugar, all the while,
But you never talk of saving mother!"
—Detroit Post and Tribune.

Plaster on Corn, Clover, and Grass.

John Johnston, of Geneva, N. Y., has been using plaster on his farm for forty-four years and says it has done wonders on corn, clover, and grass. This is his experience: "The first I used was on corn, soaking the corn in water, then mixing plaster with it when wet. I planted that rolled in plaster; a hired man planted the same without plaster. As soon as the corn was up, I noticed the plastered was much the darker green and it kept ahead of the other greatly, and when ripe a blind man could have told the difference by feeling the stalks and ears. I have plastered all pastures and mowing ground ever since. I often left strips not plastered to see the effect. Cattle and sheep would not eat the unplastered so long as they could get enough to eat on the plastered. "I have always used it on meadow and pasture lands to great profit, but have noticed on black muck soil and on wet soils it did no good. I have always said that on the greatest part of my farm I would use it if it cost forty dollars per ton.

Corn.

The value of the corn crop in the economy of the farm has long been recognized and acknowledged, but the very facility of its culture has been a bar to any improvement in the process of cultivation, or to attempts at larger yields and the consequent increase of profit. Stubble land and continuously cropped fields are planted because corn will give a better return for the labor than any crop that can be grown on them, and this has kept many fields from being seeded, until successful seeding is nearly impossible. No crop seems more grateful to kindly treatment, or responds more cheerfully to intelligent culture than this, and it should be the aim of every farmer to so prepare the soil as to secure the greatest amount of profit for the area under cultivation and the amount expended in its production.

PREPARATION OF SOIL.

A clover sod of three years' standing will give the best results probably of any condition of the soil. If left longer, more or less of the hardy grasses will have become firmly set and be hard to eradicate, while a shorter period in clover will not have perfectly enriched the soil for the best results.

If manure is to be applied, it should be applied early and spread evenly on the surface instead of being left in piles. Early spring rains will wash the elements of fertility into the soil, and distribute them in a condition to become assimilated by the roots of the plant, and in much better proportion than could be done if turned to the bottom of the furrow fresh from the yard.

The plowing should be done with a double plow, or jointer, not to exceed seven inches in depth; on light soils, six inches is sufficient. A good deal of plowing is done in a slovenly, slipshod manner. The furrow slices are unequal, and irregular in width, sometimes too wide to turn, and at others setting the narrow furrow on its edge, thus making a very unequal surface, and a difficult one to get into shape for planting. By using the jointer and cutting the slices of equal and proper width from end to end, the field will present the appearance of having been rolled into shape. The upper edge of the furrow lies at the bottom, and the after preparation is very much lessened. If it is necessary to hasten the planting after the plowing, the harrow can be run corner-wise of the field once over, then marked both ways and planted, and immediately work with the harrow until the corn appears. It can then be left until large enough to cultivate, and several days be added to its growth.

Nothing so facilitates the after working of corn as to have the ground accurately marked. Four feet apart each way seems to be about the right distance, but on soil of rather poor condition four and one half feet is preferable; this gives more surface for the roots to work in, and a larger growth of stalk.

PLANTING.

There is no single operation in the production of corn on which so much depends as the manner of planting it. If too much seed is placed in the hill, small stalks and nubbins are the result; if not planted at the proper depth the harrow will pull out some of it. Where only from ten to twenty acres are to be planted we prefer the hoe in the hands of careful men. The seed should be tested to prove the perfection of the germ, and then on land of average fertility, three kernels, no more, no less, should be planted in each hill. If special pains have been taken to fertilize a naturally strong soil, with the view of producing an uncommon yield, four kernels may be planted, but cases are rare where a field will carry so much seed through to perfection. Many more fields will be planted this season where two kernels to the hill will make the better crop.

In a former article, as an illustration on another topic, we gave some figures and calculations pertinent to this subject, which we reproduce in this connection:

"We all plant corn, but many of us have too much of 'the way our fathers did' hanging about us. We may have come from the east, where this doggerel rule for planting prevails:

"One for the blackbird, one for the crow,
One for the cut-worm, and three to grow"—
where, if the cut-worm and crow did not call for their rations, all the kernels grew to be stalks, and every stalk bore its nubbins.

It is feared that some of this may still be clinging to us. Let us apply a little arithmetic to it—experiment a little with figures.

At four feet apart, there will be 2722 hills to the acre. A medium sized ear will weigh about ten ounces. Suppose we allow two stalks to the hill and one of these medium sized ears to each stalk. The product will be 50 bushels of shelled corn to the acre. A little arithmetic again, and it will be seen that three stalks to the hill, each bearing one of these medium sized ears, will produce 75 bushels of shelled corn to the acre. Now suppose again that by having but two stalks to the hill, we grow two large ears of 12 ounces each: this will add one-fifth to the amount, and we shall produce 60 bushels of shelled corn to the acre. Isn't this a respectable yield? How many grew more than 60 bushels of shelled corn to the acre? By this illustration is shown what experiment will prove, and has proved: that the smaller the number of stalks to the hill, the larger the ears, and vice versa."

The extraordinary yields often reported, of 100 bushels of shelled corn and over, to the acre, if brought to an accurate test by the scales, for each entire acre would undoubtedly be diminished to about 80 or 90 bushels. Eighty-seven bushels to the acre requires three large sized ears to each hill, of 12 ounces each. The logic of figures for an entire acre is greater than an estimate for a certain number of hills.

We would not discourage the attempt at producing unprecedented yields per acre, but shall be fully satisfied when all farmer readers of the VISITOR shall report raising 75 bushels of shelled corn to the acre, which we think attainable on most strong soils, with proper cultivation and care.

CULTIVATION.

Only a small part of the labor and care necessary for making a profitable corn crop is done when the field is planted. The ground should be kept continually moist from the time the blade appears until the ears are formed, and this can be done only by frequent stirrings of the soil. Killing weeds is only of secondary importance in cultivation, but many make this the prime motive, and fail to appreciate the importance of continuous cultivation.

We are an advocate of harrowing with a light harrow when the corn is well through the soil, and if the planting is properly done, not one hill in a thousand will be injured; small weeds are killed, and the soil is left in the best possible condition for the growth of the crop. Deep cultivation should be given only while the corn is small, and the depth lessened as the growth of roots extends.

The corn crop to Michigan farmers is not secondary to the wheat crop, but of equal value, and the same number of acres of each should be grown. When that ratio is reached, and the corn is fed on the farm and the consequent manure applied, then fertility will be increased, and farming become more profitable.

The Wheat Crop in Van Buren County.

At a session of Paw Paw Grange April 15, with representatives present from different points in this vicinity, a free interchange of opinion was had as to the present prospects of the wheat crop. Gathering the average of sentiment expressed, the evidence is in favor of the following conclusions as the outlook for the times: Wheat on dry openings land has a much better appearance than on heavier clayey soils. An average of 15 per cent was reported killed, and the balance so injured by freezing that the loss would be about 30 per cent of the whole. Timber lands and heavy soils showed a much greater per cent of loss, averaging 50 per cent absolutely killed, late sown fields making the poorest showing. The late warm weather, and the rains of last evening have freshened up the plants, and at this writing (April 25) the fields present a much more hopeful appearance.

THE Granges which intend to ship wool should notify the committee as soon as possible, that sacks in sufficient number can be ordered, so as to prevent delay in shipping. It is also necessary to report as nearly as possible the amount to be forwarded, that freight arrangements can be made for its transportation.

THE Grange sets farmers to thinking, and thinking in the right direction.

Sheep Shearing Festival.

The 6th annual festival of the Van Buren and Kalamazoo County Wool Growers' Association will be held on the Fair grounds in Paw Paw on Thursday, May 5th.

The Association intend this shall be the most enjoyable and entertaining festival of the season. The committee on entertainment is composed of the following gentlemen and their wives: J. J. Woodman, R. Morrison, and D. Woodman, who will see that guests from abroad are suitably cared for.

A very interesting report will be made from a committee, of whom W. G. Kirby, of Kalamazoo county, is chairman, on the comparative value of washed or unwashed wool, based on the views of manufacturers and dealers in the leading markets of the east. This report will be followed by discussion. We shall give the readers of the VISITOR some of the facts from this report and discussion in the next number.

"Acknowledging the Corn."

In response to an advertisement in the VISITOR some time ago a number of farmers sent samples of Indian corn to the Agricultural College to be tested for its vitality. The following samples were tested in sand in the green-house, temperature 60° F., by J. Troop, assistant in botany, and resulted as follows:

One lot of 50 kernels from J. P. Budrow, Schoolcraft, 84 per cent germinated. Another lot of 50 kernels, 92 per cent germinated. One lot of 50 kernels from Gilbert Stuart, Schoolcraft, 98 per cent germinated. Another lot of 40 kernels only five per cent germinated. One lot of 50 kernels from D. C. Bartlett, Lapeer county, not a kernel germinated. Another lot of 50 kernels, 62 per cent germinated. One lot of 50 kernels from I. M. Wilcox, Rochester, Mich., 100 per cent germinated. One lot of 18 kernels from H. C. Lookwood, Oceana county, 100 per cent germinated. Another lot of 40 kernels, 100 per cent germinated. One lot of 50 kernels from G. Snyder, St. Joseph county, 100 per cent germinated. One lot of 50 kernels from F. A. Gully, Miss., 88 per cent germinated.

The following were tested by W. Snyder, a student, in folds of thick paper, in the green house, temperature the same as the above:

One lot of 200 kernels from J. P. Budrow, Schoolcraft, 93 per cent germinated. One lot of 200 kernels from Gilbert Stuart, Schoolcraft, 100 per cent germinated. One lot of 150 kernels from H. C. Lookwood, Oceana county, 94 per cent germinated. Another lot of 150 kernels, 100 per cent germinated. One lot of 150 kernels from G. Snyder, St. Joseph county, 100 per cent germinated. One lot of 50 kernels from D. C. Bartlett, Lapeer county, none germinated. Another lot of 50 kernels 80 per cent germinated. One lot of 200 kernels from F. A. Gully, Miss., 84 per cent germinated.

It will be seen that some of the results obtained from the same lots of corn, but by different methods of testing, exactly agree, while others vary a little. W. J. BEAL, Agricultural College, Lansing.

Sheep-Shearing Festival and Basket Picnic.

The annual Sheep-Shearing Festival and Basket Picnic of the VanBuren and Kalamazoo County Sheep Breeders' Association will be held on the Fair Grounds in Paw Paw on Thursday, May 5th. Superintendent of the day, O. P. Morton. Committee on Entertainment, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Woodman, Mr. and Mrs. R. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. D. Woodman. Breeders of long wool sheep are invited to bring their sheep to be shorn. The entry to the Fair Grounds will be free, and arrangements will be made for parties to lunch together. An interesting report will be made on washed and unwashed wool by W. G. Kirby, of Kalamazoo county, followed by discussion. JAMES BAILE, Pres.

Seeds, Plants and Bulbs.

As many orders are now coming in for seeds for the garden, and plants and bulbs for house and lawn, I will renew my offer of former years to furnish any Patron or member of the Order with them at the following rates:

Selecting from Vick's, Henderson's and other standard retail price lists, I will furnish \$1.50 worth of plants, bulbs and seeds for \$1.00 cash. Seeds and small plants sent free by mail. Larger plants sent by express, with enough extras added to pay expressage. Fraternally, I am,
C. L. WHITNEY,
Muskegon, Mich.

Communications.

Education of Farmers.

SALEM STATION, March, 1881.

[The following essay, prepared and read by Dr. George W. Pray at the Farmers' Institute held at —, was read by Bro. H. B. Thayer at a public entertainment given by Salem Grange, on the evening of March 11, and by vote of the Grange it is sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.]

D. D. C.]

Education is one of the standard topics among school children, and indeed it is a hackneyed theme among older writers of more pretentious ability, but the lack of education among farmers as a class may not have been noticed to the extent that its importance deserves. I desire briefly to call your attention to this subject by reference to facts and by some comparisons.

By education is not meant the simple ability to read and write and cipher, but a more liberal culture than is usually afforded at the district school, a culture that fits one for any position to which society may call him, or which his ambitious aspirations may impel him. The advantages of the district school are not to be undervalued. It is not unfrequently impracticable, if not impossible for young persons to avail themselves of any better educational facilities than are furnished by the district school, and in many instances these facilities well improved are the impetus and the momentum that urge to a thorough self-culture, which is nearly as valuable to the possessor, and perhaps of greater benefit to society, than the average college course, but these instances are rare compared with the multitudes that attend district school. The great mass of its attendants acquire a meagre amount of the rudiments of learning, and are content with their acquirements, go into life just competent to do the menial service of society, and unfitted for any of the more responsible positions. Other things being equal, the cultured and cultivated persons will be called to positions of profit, honor and trust. Even sterling integrity, the highest moral worth, or the soundest judgment will not compensate for lack of intelligence, for boorishness of manners, for vulgarisms of language. The public readily discriminate between the crude and the refined, and invariably in favor of refinement, frequently, no doubt, at the sacrifice of superior moral worth and of better judgment.

If a certain class of persons seem to be neglected in the bestowal of the honorable and lucrative favors of society, may it not be inferred that those persons are wanting in those qualifications that the public demand shall be possessed by its favorites?

Can we as farmers reasonably complain, or can it be a matter of surprise that the public should choose an educated, refined, and intelligent lawyer, doctor or minister to ably represent them in the State Legislature or Congress, rather than a coarse, vulgar and ignorant farmer or mechanic? Can it be a matter of astonishment that banker Jones' wife, or merchant Sheldon's wife, or Senator Sharon's daughter should be put on the committee of domestic manufactures, or of dairy products at the State Fair instead of the wives and daughters of farmers, if, as is too frequently the case, the merchant's and banker's wives and daughters are better qualified for the positions?

No doubt the farmers' wives and daughters would excel in making bread or butter, apple pies or doughnuts, accomplishments that are by no means to be despised or undervalued, but in addition to these it is well for the wife or daughter of the farmer to be accomplished in fancy work, to know, the more the better, of music and drawing and painting; while at least a smattering of Latin, of French and German, of geometry and chemistry and botany are not all out of place in the drawing room, or kitchen, or parlor of the farm-house.

The general reading and acquaintance with current literature should be as complete and varied as possible. Some years ago a large, awkward, honest farmer's boy had acquired a fair knowledge of the elements of education, sufficient to pass examination as teacher in a district school. Not having come in contact with people of extended culture, he came to overestimate his own attainments and to think himself equal to a professorship in a high school or college. He chanced upon a certain occasion to be in company of a lady and gentleman of genuine culture, of extensive reading and ripe scholarship, when the conversation turned upon the comparative merits of the plays of Shakespeare, and as the lady and gentleman discussed Hamlet, Macbeth, Richard III, and the Merry Wives of Windsor, etc., the honest farmer boy found himself unable to take any part in the conversation, for he knew nothing of the greatest of English authors, only as he had occasional couplets quoted from him in his school readers.

Embarrassed by his experience he resolved to extricate himself from the possibility of its repetition, and upon the first opportunity, purchased a copy of Shakespeare and familiarized himself with it. Then he possessed himself of other standard authors,

and after considerable culture of this kind found that he could appreciate cultured society, and he came to be appreciated by people of culture. He afterward became one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of his county, passing away several years since, full of honors and virtues.

Every true friend of the farmer must deplore the fact that farmers and their children who are being fitted for farm life, are content with the acquirement of so little education. Farmers themselves seem to acquiesce in the prevailing sentiment that the calling is a menial one, that it is incompatible with culture and refinement, that as a class they are predestined to a condition of abject servility to other classes, and by failing to qualify themselves for the responsible and honorable positions in society they virtually concede those places to other classes.

I am free to say that I am not one of those farmers who complain that our class does not get its just recognition in the distribution of society's favors. We undoubtedly get our full share, when our qualifications are considered. Classes, like individuals, sooner or later find their true places in the structure. An accidental breeze may for a time bear one far above his normal position, but soon the unnatural buoyancy will fail and the exact level will be found.

If oil and water and quicksilver are mixed in the same vessel, is there any doubt as to how the compound substances will arrange themselves? So the law that assigns to each class its appropriate place is as delicate, as accurate and as inexorable as the law of gravity that puts the oil above the water and the mercury beneath them both.

The manual of the last Legislature of our State shows that farmers are quite numerous in that body and that they were prominent in the transaction of its business. The speaker of the House, Hon. John T. Rich, one of the most acceptable and efficient that ever occupied the chair, is a leading farmer of Lapeer County. He was one of Governor Jerome's most formidable competitors, at the last Republican State Convention last summer for the nomination of Governor, and he was this morning nominated for Congress in the Convention at Mt. Clemens, as successor to Senator Conger in the Seventh Congressional District. Lieutenant Governor Sessions, President of the Senate, is a leading farmer of Ionia County. Of the thirty-two Senators, thirteen were farmers. Of the one hundred members of the House, forty-four were farmers. Of the forty-five standing committees of the Senate, the chairmanships of eighteen of them were given to the farmers. Of the forty-six Committees of the House, twenty-one chairmanships were given to the farmers.

The object of a true life, however, should not be the attainment of some distinguished position among men, but rather to be fitted for such positions as to be worthy of them. As the object of a Christian life should not be to gain heaven at all hazards and by all means, but rather to gain a fitness of heaven, a worthiness of it, assured that such worthiness and fitness shall have their reward, so if we are intelligent, and honest, and virtuous we shall deserve honor and influence among men, and they shall come to us as certainly as the circle of the seasons. In these days of cheap books every farm-house should have a small library,—not all agricultural and pomological reports, and stock registers, but there should be books of history, of poetry, of science, of religion, of biography, and of select fiction; and they should be read freely and frequently, so that by familiarity with these subjects the farmer and his family may be as intelligent and cultured as are the families of the doctor, the lawyer, the minister, or the banker. If the Grange by its influence among farmers, shall lead them to the realization of the importance of a higher degree of intelligence and refinement in their families, and among the working classes, and shall bring them to a truer appreciation of the educational facilities within their reach, and thereby elevate and dignify the calling and those who pursue it, till the average farmer shall be in truth, as by industry he may be, and as of right he should be, in point of intelligence, the peer of the average men in any other calling,—then the Order will not have been founded in vain. One of its chief objects will have been attained, and the fondest hopes of its most ardent friends will have been realized.

Presentation at Weston Grange.

Bro. Cobb:—April 16th being the time for our regular meeting, and also the eve of our Worthy Master's birthday, the brothers and sisters decided to present him and his estimable wife a testimonial of the kindly regard and esteem in which they are held in the Grange. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Smith were chosen to purchase the same, which consisted of an elegant silver service of four pieces—caster, water pitcher, creamer, and fruit dish. As the Worthy Master announced recess, the Worthy Overseer objected, saying there was a little more business to be transacted, and upon this signal the folding doors were thrown open, and two sisters entered, bearing a large tray with the service nicely arranged with floral offerings thereon, and advancing to the altar, Mrs. C. E. Grear made the following presentation:

Brother and Sister Patrons:—The first time during the three happy years I have been wont to call you brothers and sisters I have felt an inclination to shirk this responsibility assigned me, not because I feel less of love for the Order, but simply because I know full well my inefficiency, because I have but a vague idea of how to inaugurate the rejoicings and congratulations which must attend this—the eve of our Worthy Master's birthday. There is better brain for this than you might have chosen, with more of needed courage; but none can feel a higher appreciation.

It is the wise providence of the Great Ruler to create lives here and there in the great broad world that are lived, in the main, for humanity's sake—whose every effort seems to jewel with joy the moments that make up the lives of the beings about them; whose influence is in such striking contrast with the morbid selfishness of men in general, that they almost become a theme for worship. There is something sweetly sad in the thoughts of a life that is lived for others. The acts that mark them have a touching appropriateness that makes us feel a debt for which not anything is pay, and that of all the good gifts given there is none greater.

Grange, indeed, is the home where such a soul has the charge of its destiny, and, verily so must be that Grange.

I am conscious of endorsement in asserting that for years it has been our good fortune to reap from small beginnings the outgrowths of such a home, devoted, philanthropic spirit.

Thirty-six years ago to-morrow there was born in the grand old State of Ohio a being whose high prerogative it is to-night to know that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." In the years back it has been his province to weave in the hearts about him a devotion that seems almost solemn from its verity. I refer to our Worthy Master, Brother George B. Horton.

And now as an evidence that worth reaps reward, as an evidence that we wish you to know that we appreciate the efforts you have made for the development of this cause—it becomes my happy duty in the name of Weston Grange, to ask that you will accept these little tokens, not as a standard by which to judge the love we bear you, not as a compensation for invaluable services, but simply to establish the lasting bond of fraternity that makes life worth the living.

And if you are spared to meet with us here in our beautiful hall in years to come, when your steps are slow and your locks are gray, may the same sweet union remain as dwells with us in our Grange to-day.

Brother and Sister Horton, these mementoes we leave with you—one little link in friendship's golden chain.

This was a total surprise. Brother Horton's reply was very brief, but as he stood before us with the tears rolling down his cheeks, arising from his noble soul, we all felt amply rewarded.

The Ensilage of Maize.

This is the title of a thin volume lying before me. Its author is a Frenchman, M. Auguste Goffart. The process there described and known as ensilage is the invention of Mr. Goffart. Its object is to preserve corn or other crops in their green state for winter feed. He experimented at great labor and expense for nearly twenty years, and finally hit upon the successful plan of cutting the corn, while still in a green state, into short lengths and packing it into vaults built partly below the ground.

Mr. Brown's translation of this book was followed by quite a boom of this subject in this country, especially in the Eastern States, I judge. About a year ago two enterprising farmers of America, Dutchess County, N. Y., paid a visit to the farm of Mr. Bailey, of Bilerica, Mass., who had a "silo" in successful operation, and to make a long story short, they took the ensilage fever, and took it hard. Returning home, they both began the construction of silos. I called on Mr. Chaffee to take a look at his silo when it was finished.

I found he had built between a high bank wall on one side and the wall on the other side, an immense cistern, fifty and one-half feet long, thirteen and one-half feet wide, and sixteen feet deep. The walls were made of concrete (stone and cement), fifteen inches thick, and perfectly straight and smooth on the inside. The bottom was also well cemented.

It was estimated that this silo would hold 250 tons. He had eleven acres of corn sowed in drills. Calling again about the 1st of September, I found the filling in process. A large power cutter run by a steam engine was cutting the corn into half inch lengths as fast as one man could feed. Two men were cutting corn in the field, two teams were drawing, and one man was more than busy trying to stow away in the silo. Some of the corn made an immense growth, one field of four acres being estimated at thirty tons per acre. During the first two or three days' filling, it did not seem possible that the product of the whole eleven acres could be got in. But after a little the mass began to ferment, and by the increased weight to settle. Some days it settled almost as fast as it was filled, and when the corn was all in, it still lacked two or three feet of being full. The top was covered with six inches of straw, and over that a covering of boards laid on the straw, and on that about thirty tons of stone were piled. In a month after filling the mass had settled four feet more. In the winter the stones were taken off and the ensilage taken out as needed by a door near the bottom, which had been bricked up when it was filled.

The green color of the corn had changed to a light brown, and the taste, though not disagreeable, was slightly sour.

Mr. Chaffee keeps about fifty cows, and after they became accustomed to ensilage,

they ate it greedily, preferring it to hay. The flow of milk showed a marked increase and the quality was fully up to the standard where it is purchased at the condensing factory.

With the short trial ensilage has had it seems to be a success. Whether it will work a revolution in agriculture, as some of its enthusiastic advocates think it will, remains to be seen.

Sharon County, April, 1881.

FROM THE SUNNY SOUTH, No. 1.

BY MRS. LIPSCOMB, OF S. C.

Come, gather round me, dear little children of the cold North clime, and let me make you at home in this sunny land of ours. Yes, this is a large, rambling old house with many rooms and broad, long piazzas; but alas, it is sadly in need of repairs. "Never mind; God's blessed light shines very brightly on it, and the glare is most too much, out here; let us go to that side piazza and seat ourselves comfortably on the joggling board. What a merry crew! Four girls and five boys! Sit close, there is room for all. Now, joggle away. Ah! I see that expressive sniff—you think I have called you to a feast of ripe peaches; but that would be asking too much, even for this warm land. Cast your eyes upward and admire that tall, wide-spreading tree, covered with fern-like leaves, and radiant with peach-tinted powder puffs. Send that active boy to climb its branches and bring us a bouquet of its pretty blossoms. Here he comes, laden with sweets! See; they look and feel like delicate powder puffs, and the end of each tiny feather has the warm tint of the ripe peach, and the perfume is so similar that it often deceives even me. It is the Mimosa, one of our most valued ornamental trees, but not very common—rare enough to be highly prized. See the myriads of brilliant humming birds, flitting from flower to flower! Watch how their plumage glistens and changes in the sunlight! Is not that a beauty? His neck and wings are surely molten gold. No; now they are emerald green, and lo! as he turns his head, they rival the peacock's blue. But, dear children, they are naughty, passionate, wee birds. See those two fighting; and do look at that angry scrap, tearing the flowers to pieces because, forsooth, they are not suited to his dainty palate!

Ah, little ones, beauty is not much, after all, if it covers wicked hearts. Let your beauty be so deeply planted as goodness, that in time it will force itself outward and upward, and make beauty and goodness synonymous terms. But I must not preach. I want you to see the beauties the kind Father has bestowed on His children; and if I mistake not, they will speak louder than sermons.

Look at that luxuriant vine, clambering from tree to tree, binding them together in its loving folds. It is one mass of green and gold! What a wreath of golden trumpets; and did you ever inhale a more delicious perfume? Draw deep. Drink it in; it never sickens; it never clogs. I always feel that earth cannot give me enough of them—our dear, yellow jessamine! Now, look down. I don't wonder you exclaim. You would hate to plant your feet on those lovely violets, or to crush that mass of blue daisies. It does seem a sin—but hush! don't speak; only look! Here they come; my numerous band of romping girls and boys, and my cook's half dozen little darkies, all bent on a regular frolic. They shout and sing, and laugh and turn somersaults, and play leap-frog—oh, shame! right on the thickly covered daisy turf! They crush down the blue sod; and now they spy the violets. Nimble fingers go to work, and soon a high pile is made; each child has a share, and they begin a game called "fight chickens." I have never appreciated it, but like most games taught them by their colored playfellows, my children think it quite fascinating.

But the sun is not so hot now, let us walk to the river. Put on thick shoes and we will go the rocky way that you may admire the great stone boulders which some people think show signs of iron and gold. My crew will go barefooted that they may enjoy the fun of wading out, and run up and down the steep hill-side. Listen to that mocking bird! Now he is mocking the crow, and that trill is surely the lark's. What a flicker bird, and to mew like a cat! Not bird-like to say the least of it. But we cannot stop to listen to your varied song just now. Mr. Birdie, you must come early to-morrow morning and carol your sweetest lay to awaken these little visitors.

I see that you admire that pretty blue bird; so do I, but 'tis treason to say so. Every negro and child in this fair land regard it as accursed, and think it their bounden duty to torture and kill every one they can catch. To pluck their feathers off and turn them off "to go to hell," is a lesson early engraved on children's minds by their "Mau-mauers." Like other superstitions, I trust the day is near when it will be done away with.

This reminds me though, of a famous story which my baby boy never tires of, and to-night as we sit on the piazza I will tell it to you.

Now, children, you are at my garden gate, my garden of nature's own planting. I am

not able to make one at my door, but by taking this rugged walk I possess myself of one that kings might rejoice over. Don't you think so? See how thickly that hill-side is covered with mountain laurel and kalmia. The long shining leaves of the laurel mingle beautifully with the kalmia's pretty flowers. Pluck a cluster. See, each bunch is composed of dozens of little cups, scalloped at the top and dotted over with dark red. My favorite jessamine is clambering over all, binding the different shrubs together in chains of gold. Now turn to your right. Look at that low bush, covered with maroon colored flowers, crush one in your hand and see how fragrant it is. We call it the "sweet shrub," and if you put the flowers among your clothes, they will be sweet for many a day. But look before you at that tree so thickly covered with delicate white fringe. It looms up among the dark green foliage in its snow white purity, like a maiden adorned for her bridal. Do you like its perfume? I do not, it is too sweet, with no freshness about it. Some call it the Fringe tree, others, "Daddy Gray-Beard," but it is in truth the white ash.

See what quantities of wild Azalia adorn that hollow, and have you noticed that you are walking on a carpet of blue-eyed daisies, while every bush shelters a bed of violets? Now, we come to my garden of large, white, fragrant lilies, and near by observe that starry white bloom. Could any hot-house plant possess more delicate beauty? In vulgar parlance it is the white blood-root; and that mound, tradition asserts, is an Indian burial place. Meet flower for such a bed! Once, in the olden time, a powerful race made their home in the bend of our river, and we often find arrow-heads, bits of pottery, and tomahawks among the sand.

And now, little friends, do you like my garden? I am glad of it, and very glad that I could show it to you on such a lovely afternoon. The slanting rays of the sun shed a halo of glory around each plant, and I never come here at this hour without being reminded of the First Garden ever planted; and methinks even the rivers Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel and Euphrates could not have gleamed under the sun of Eden more beautifully than this shining water which compasseth the garden of my love.

Moral Teaching in the Grange.

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters:—When we express our faith in God we take our first great moral lesson in the Grange, for a belief in God and the moral law as laid down in that Holy Book lying upon our altar, is the chief corner stone, or foundation upon which all the moral teachings of our Order are founded. As we advance step by step we find each lesson fraught with moral precepts and instruction, which, if exemplified in our lives and in our intercourse with others, would exert such an influence that the many plague spots and demoralizing cesspools that now disfigure and pollute this beautiful world of ours would be cleansed and purified, without the aid of costly legislative bodies. The moral teachings of the Grange are such as are calculated to raise a high moral standard, and should never be lost sight of in the multiplicity of duties which are ever presenting themselves to our notice. The latent forces of our natures need to be brought forth, fitted and educated for active work in the cause of right and justice, in uprooting superstition and bigotry, in dispelling the cloud of oppression and humility which has hung as a pall over woman, for ages dwarfing all her energies; and for the furtherance of all the great moral ideas of the day.

The moral teachings of our Order are such as are calculated to help the young to become better, wiser, and nobler men and women, and more efficient laborers in all that pertains to the bettering of the condition of mankind. Its teachings and influence may be unlimited, its work unceasing, until the great Master above shall say, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Others have done well; thou hast done nobly the work assigned you: enter into that rest prepared for the faithful laborers from the foundation of the world."

Weston Grange, Apr., 1881. L. K. P.

No One to Advocate their Cause.

It is a most unfortunate fact that the "producers and tax-payers" of this country have, comparatively speaking, no one to advocate their cause. In support of the latter part of this statement, we have the assertion of Senator Beck, of Kentucky, who was for several years, before he was elected to the Senate of the United States, a member of the House of Representatives. He says: "I served in the House Committee on Ways and Means for six years, and I saw all the great monopolies and protected interests of the country struggling there to perpetuate their privileges. I have seen the ablest lawyers argue their cases (for pay), some for salt, some for iron, some for blankets, some for cotton, and for everything that is protected; but I never saw one human being come here yet to argue for a reduction of taxation in the interests of the producers and tax-payers of this country."

The German Agricultural Gazette says that several correspondents have got rid of rats and mice by means of a mixture of two parts of well bruised common squills and three parts of finely chopped bacon made into a stiff mess and baked into small cakes, which are scattered around for the rats and mice to eat. This is very simple and harmless, and worth trying.

Correspondence.

A Note from A. B. Grosh.

WASHINGTON, D. C. April 6, 1881.
 Dear Sir and Brother:—Thanks for the bright and cheery GRANGE VISITOR, whose contents have been highly appreciated by myself and family, notwithstanding I was unable to respond earlier. I have sold my house here and leave this city soon after the 20th inst. to visit kindred and friends in several States. Any letters or papers designed for me, will reach me if addressed to the care of W. E. Grosh, (my son), Elkton, Cecil Co., Md., to 39 Seymour Avenue, Utica, N. Y., until further notice.
 Your Brother, A. B. GROSH,
 Author of the Mentor.

Good Enough.

Liberty Grange, No. 391,
 NORTH STAR, Gratiot County,
 April 7, 1881.

Bro. Cobb:—Enclosed you will find the names of 39 three-month subscribers, and one yearly subscriber, making in all about 70 names sent by this Grange since January 1st. I would say that Bro. S. L. Little got 21 of these subscribers in one day. If each member would take hold and work a few hours occasionally for the VISITOR, I think it would not only add largely to its circulation, but would materially add to our numbers, and thus promote the noble work which we have united together to accomplish.
 Yours fraternally,
 LUTHER J. DEAN, Master.

The "Visitor" outside the Order.

PLEASANTON GRANGE, Feb. 15, 1881.
 Bro. Cobb:—We took advantage of your offer in the VISITOR to distribute ten copies to ten different persons not members of the Order, for three months for one dollar. The result has been, so far, that two out of the ten have renewed their subscriptions through me, on the list I send you. Perhaps some of the rest have sent directly to you for the VISITOR, for I have talked with some and they seem to like the paper.

With the request of D. R. Van Amburgh to have his paper renewed, I received the following letter, which was read to the Grange. I was then requested by the Grange to send a copy of the letter to you for publication. It is as follows:

"PLEASANTON, Apr. 1, 1881.
 "Mr. J. C. McDiarmid, Sec. of Pleasanton Grange: DEAR SIR:—Please accept our thanks for your kind remembrance of us, and also for the GRANGE VISITOR. We like it much and shall be glad to add it to our list of papers. Enclosed please find 50 cents for one year's subscription. Hoping to be better acquainted with the principles of your Order, We subscribe ourselves,
 "Yours respectfully,
 "D. R. VAN AMBURGH,
 "M. A. VAN AMBURGH."

Others courteously acknowledge the receipt of the paper, and we trust that the bread thus cast upon the waters in faith may not be in vain.

Fraternally yours,
 D. J. McDIARMID, Sec.

Portland Grange, No. 174.

Bro. Cobb:—The members of Portland Grange, No. 174, are still at work as laborers under the great Master with hopeful results. During the month of March we were the recipients of a three-week visit from our Worthy Past Master, Bro. Adam Decker, and wife, now living in Girard, Kansas. He speaks well of Grange work there, but as I am not reporter for Kansas Granges, I will come back to Portland. We hold our meetings once a week. After the regular business of the meeting we have essays and discussions. Sometimes we have visiting committees to inspect the premises of the brothers and report at the next meeting, and let us know how they manage their farms and stock, and these reports also include the domestic affairs of the household.

We have a question box, but lately the main question was kept out of the box, and the discussions we think were kept from the Grange as well as those outside the gate, which thereby opens up another question: Would a little fraternal counsel from the Grange be in order in the conduct of this business? But it is too late to discuss that in this case, for Brother Asil Way has proved his bravery as a Lyon tamer by leading Sister Augusta Lyon to the hymenial altar. The occasion was crowned with a feast, and all went merry as a marriage bell. And now we fancy we hear Sister Augusta sweetly singing:

"This is the Way I long have sought,
 And mourned because I found him not."

Who will go and do likewise?
 MRS. ADDIE WAINWRIGHT,
 Portland, April 12, 1881.

Berrien County Grange.

Berrien County Pomona Grange held its quarterly session at Buchanan on the 12th and 13th inst. The roads were bad, nevertheless quite a large number of earnest Patrons found their way to the meeting. We were favored with the presence of Aaron Jones, Worthy Master of Indiana State Grange, who, after installing our officers, favored us with an excellent essay, on the subject, "The Necessity of Farm Organization." "Our public schools, their defects, and how to remedy them," was discussed by B. Helmick, Hon. Levi Sparks, and J. J. Jones and David A. Best. We believe the discussion of this subject will result in much good. The reports of the Subordinate Granges throughout the county were encouraging, showing an increase in membership, and a better discipline in the work of the noble Order. Many who once affiliated with the Grange and fell from grace are now returning to its fold, and renewing their covenant with the Order. We extend them a hearty welcome, and it need be, feed them as prodigals with the fattest calf. We have good reason for believing that the GRANGE VISITOR is doing a noble work for the furtherance of Grange principles and Grange ideas throughout the land wherever read. We, in Berrien County, hope that the VISITOR may ever continue in its good work until every tiller of the soil is brought within the Gates of our noble fraternity.

W. J. JONES, Sec'y.
 Berrien Springs, April 18, 1881.

A Report from the North.

Bro. Cobb:—I will not longer wait, but send you a brief report from Valley Grange, No. 600, for your most excellent paper. Our Grange is doing well, although we need a hall very much, but considering that we nearly gave up the ship once, and have been in working order less than two years, I think we have much to encourage us.

New members to the number of fifteen have lately made their appearance in our ranks, and they still continue to knock for admittance at our gates.

We have a most efficient corps of officers. Our Worthy Lecturer, Sister Chatfield, is taking hold of the oar, laboring with a will, and is giving each one something to do to promote the interests of the Grange. We have essays, debates, speaking, reading, etc. We have listened to some able arguments on different subjects, and expect to hear some excellent essays—read by Sisters Hickok and Kittredge, and Bro. Chatfield, and perhaps some speaking from our Worthy Master, as these are on the program of our next meeting.

Fraternally yours,
 Crystal Valley, April 9, 1881. F. M. H.

Asparagus Beds without Transplanting.

The usual way of forming asparagus beds is by sowing seeds and afterwards transplanting the crown. In all works on gardening, this plan, and no other, is recommended. That the plan succeeds well enough, when managed skillfully and carried out under favorable conditions, there can be no doubt; but it is also true that transplanting throws the plants back considerably, that it is often the cause of great losses among the plants, and so causes much loss of time in filling the beds. Asparagus is one of the most troublesome subjects to transplant. Seeds grow freely enough, and there is never any difficulty in raising your plants; but moving from the seed bed to the permanent bed is a very different matter, particularly when the plants have to be transported from the nursery, where they are not always so carefully lifted as they should be. Several plans have been suggested to prevent losses in transplanting, and one of the best is to move the plants just when they begin to grow, and not before, as is frequently done. Whichever plan is adopted, however, there are sure to be losses, causing blanks in the beds, which have to be filled up the following season. By sowing the seed where the plants are to remain, however, and simply thinning them out to the proper distance apart, all trouble and losses are avoided. Perhaps a little more seed is used at first, and a little more space occupied for the first year or two; but these considerations are nothing compared to the advantages the plan offers. It is well known that, by transplanting, the plants that grow lose a year or more, owing to the check they receive. The first year their growth is usually as weak or weaker than it was the year previous in the seed bed, where, had they remained, it would have increased in strength, and the plants would have yielded a crop proportionally earlier. To sow seed to transplant, where the seedlings are two years old or more, and afterwards wait for four or five years longer for a crop, is a long while, when perhaps a third of the time might be saved by sowing seed only, as has been recommended. In a case in which this was done, the following autumn there were no blanks on the ground, and by the third year the seedling plants were about as good as those which were several years older, and which had come from the nursery. This, however, is not the only example of seedling plantations where it was found to answer, and was carried out on a considerable scale. In a large plantation elsewhere not one blank was to be found, and at the end of the third year, thanks to timely thinning and subsequent good culture, the plants were as strong as transplanted ones at the end of five years or more from the time of sowing. Beds for seedling plantations can be made in the usual way, either raised or sunk, according to circumstances, and afterward dressed and cultivated in the ordinary manner.—*Farmer's Friend.*

Those who have assumed that Jay Gould couldn't run a newspaper successfully may discover their error by noting the announcement made in yesterday's New York *Tribune*. It was bought by Mr. Gould some eight years ago, or rather 51 of the 100 shares were bought by him for \$510,000, and since then he has run it to suit his political and financial speculations, with Mr. Whitlam Reid as his editor. In some of what are commonly regarded as the chief features of journalistic success, Mr. Gould has not made the *Tribune* successful, but in what Mr. Gould considers journalistic success, he has made it entirely successful. True, the stockholders have had no dividends, and the shares of the minority have little market value, but that isn't what Mr. Gould wanted the *Tribune* for. He bulled and bearded Wall street, bulled and bearded political parties, bulled and bearded Presidents, Senators, Representatives, and Supreme Court Judges, and he made it pay. If the minority stockholders didn't come out so well, it was their misfortune and not their fault, and they can console themselves with the reflection that they are not to blame. In yesterday's edition of the *Tribune*, being the fortieth anniversary of the paper founded by Horace Greeley, Mr. Gould announces that its debt has been reduced to only about \$100,000; that it could pay dividends now, but that it probably won't; that Mr. Gould is contemplating, "with a cheerful equanimity," the use of the profits in some other direction; and that during the past year the *Tribune* "attained the largest circulation it has ever reached." Mr. Gould has doubled the capital stock of the company, which rating it at the price he paid for his original interest, increased the capital just \$100,000; but Mr. Gould wouldn't be expected to notice a little transaction like watering the stock of his newspaper a million dollars, when he waters the stock of telegraphs and railways by tens of millions by a dash of the pen. Viewing journalism from Mr. Gould's standpoint, he has made the *Tribune* a success. He has made it pay for himself and nobody else, and that's just what he wanted it for. There are many old fashioned journalists, devoted to journalism as an honorable profession, who will differ from Mr. Gould's idea of newspaper success, but this is a free country, and every man pays his money and takes his choice.—*Philadelphia Times.*

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, MUSKOGON.

Regret and Sympathy.

A mourning envelope came to hand this week containing notice of death and funeral of Sister Margaret A. Dean, wife of the chairman of the Delaware State Grange. We regret her loss, feeling that it was our good pleasure to have known her, though an invalid. Her home, her children, and her husband will greatly miss her, and to them we express our sympathy in their great bereavement. A brother's regrets and sympathy go many a mile to thee and thine, Brother Dean.

Historical Records.

In Lossing's United States History, vol. IV, we find the following recorded:

"The Patrons of Husbandry, a secret organization for the promotion of the various interests of agriculture and whose growth, particularly in the West, in the course of three or four years was marvelous, took a conspicuous lead in the movements in favor of cheap transportation. This organization was avowedly for the sole interests of agricultural industry. As the organization grew into immense proportions, politicians tried to seduce them to their support, but they have ever gone on under the imperative rule that no political or religious topics should be allowed at their meetings. The organization of the Patrons of Husbandry in its aims is an admirable one, and is the first of the secret societies which has admitted women to full membership. How could this do otherwise when the work and influence of women in the business of agriculture in our country is so important?"

Tough.

A lady reader of the VISITOR in Delaware sends this selection for us to pronounce. In Michigan of course we can do it. Let her come and hear us.

"According to a German chemist, that particular brain substance which is supposed to be essential to thought is—Oxethyltrimethylammoniumoxyhydrateleopalmityltrimethylphosphorsure. Now, as I disagree with that German chemist, I should be disposed to take up a column or so in stating my reasons, but for the fact that there is no compositor living who would undertake to set up that awful word more than once."

Well, we have burst the barrels in the barn, but think we succeed quite well, and our next lecture will be upon this necessity of thought. Get your note-books ready. Please tell us how many letters of the alphabet have been left out? PATRON.

What is the Grange?

From the history of the Dominion Grange we copy this item, and it is true to-day and in Michigan:

"Many people are of the opinion that the Grange is simply a society for making money by buying cheap and selling dear, and nothing more. The society was organized for other and nobler purposes than merely trading. It is a body of farmers who meet together for the purpose of discussing such subjects as materially affect themselves, to consider their mutual interests and how they may be best aided, to work unitedly where any good thing is to be done or any evil prevented. The scope of their work is large, and if in performing some particular part of it, they read on somebody's corns, that part of their work assumes the greatest proportions in somebody's eyes. This is why business men see nothing in the Grange but the trading idea."

In Good Historic Company.

The historian of the first century of American independence names its great events, and with the laying of the Atlantic cables, the building of the Pacific railroad, classes the organization of the Grange of Patrons of Husbandry. It says:

"One of the most active and vigorous co-operative bodies which have been organized on a popular basis within the last few years of the National Century, and which now has its associate representation in almost all parts of the country, is known as the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, devoted, as its name implies, to the interests of agriculture. The declaration of principles put forth leaves no room for doubt as to the character and purposes avowed by this now powerful Order."

The Declaration of Purposes was then largely quoted, and the date of organization given and facts relative to its growth and usefulness.

EXTRAS are the order of the day, and the Cincinnati *Grange Bulletin* is about to issue No. 6, Campaign Extra, devoted to the interests of the young people. It will tell of the Gates Ajar, and of the Glad May Day. I would that a few of them could find their way into every Grange in Michigan, to be read and passed around.

HENRY JAMES, of Indiana, member of the Executive Committee National Grange: "Farmers number at least one-half the population, while they really own but a small proportion of the wealth of the country—a proportion that is steadily growing less, under the present system of consolidation of wealth in the hands of the few. The power of concentrated capital has always been the enemy of republican institutions, and there is more danger to be apprehended from the power of wealth in this country than all other causes combined."

To TEN names not members of the Order, we will send the VISITOR three months for \$1 00.

Youths' Department.

MISS EDITH HELPS THINGS ALONG.

BRET HARTE IN THE "INDEPENDENT."

"My sister'll be down in a minute, and says you're to wait, if you please, And says I might stay till she comes, if I'd promise her never to tease. Nor speak till you spoke to me first: but that's nonsense, for how would you know What she told me to say, if I didn't? Don't you really and truly think so?"

And then you'd feel strange here all alone! And you wouldn't know just where to sit, For that chair isn't strong on its legs, and we never use it a bit.

We keep it to match with the sofa. But Jack says it would be as well to get it changed, and to knock out the very last screw.

"S'pose you try? I won't tell. You're afraid to! Oh, you're afraid they would think it was mean! Well, then, there's the album,—that's pretty,—if you're sure that your fingers are clean For sister says sometimes I daub it: but she only says that when she's cross.

There's her picture. You know it? It's like her, but she ain't as good-looking, of course!

"This is ME. It's the best of 'em all. Now, tell me, you'd never have thought That once I was as little as that? It's the only one that could be kept. For that was the message to Pa from the photograph man where I sat— That he wouldn't print off any more till he first got his money for that."

"What! Maybe you tired of waiting. Why, often she's longer than this. There's all her back hair to do up, and all of her front curls to friz."

But it's nice to be sitting here talking, like grown people, just you and me. Do you think you'll be coming here often? Oh, do! But don't come like Tom Lee.

"Tom Lee? Her last beau. Why, my goodness! He used to be here day and night. Till the folks thought he'd be her husband, and Jack says that gave him a fright.

You won't run away, then, as he did? for you're not a rich man, they say. Pa says you are as poor as a church-mouse. Now, are you? And how poor are they?"

"Ain't you glad that you met me? Well, I am, for I know now your hair ain't red. But what there is left it's mousy, and not what that naughty Jack said. But there! I must go. Sister's coming. But I wish I could wait, just to see If she ran up to you and kissed you, in the way she used to kiss Lee."

Uncle Nine Happy.

Dear Nephews and Nieces:—I am happy to find that so many of the young people take or read the GRANGE VISITOR. I see by reading the *Grange Bulletin* that one little girl in Louisiana reads these columns, and has written to Aunt Locksie about it. I hope she will write to Uncle Nine some time.

I hope all our young farm people will learn to love the farm and the farmer's life for it is the best and most important calling upon the earth. Read what Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, once said of farming, "There are few arts and sciences that do not contribute to agricultural skill, and I venture to say that there is no wider field for all the powers of a large and sagacious intellect than that of farming. Many suppose that any sort of an intellect will answer for a farmer, and when a son seems unfit for anything else he is so made. I say, if you have a boy of bright intellect make a farmer of him, if stupid and indolent throw him away by making him a lawyer, a doctor, or a preacher."

Now while this is for young people, I hope many of your fathers and mothers will read it, and if they don't you read it to them! Yes, and a great many other things that are found in the VISITOR.

Now, friends did you ever try to get up a club for the VISITOR? Try and interest all you can in the farm and its interests; the Grange and its teachings; the Patron and his duties; the home and its comforts, and you will find yourself much interested in them all.

I have made a quotation from Cassius M. Clay. Who will write me through the VISITOR, giving a history of this gentleman? Read, think, and then write.

Truly, I am

UNCLE NINE.

Uncle Nine:—I will try and answer some of the questions in the last VISITOR. The only President of the United States now living is James A. Garfield. He lives in Washington. There are two ex-Presidents living, Gen. Grant, now of New York city, and R. B. Hayes, of Ohio. S. J. Tilden, who some say was once elected, is also living in New York city. There are only two divisions of the Western continent, and only two continents, so I suppose we should say the larger not the largest. The two lines of poetry are found in the "Lady of the Lake," written by Sir Walter Scott. They refer to the warriors of Roderick Dhu.

JOSE L. SCOTT.

Uncle Nine:—Seeing some questions in the VISITOR for young folks to answer, I thought that I would try my luck on the train of cars, and this is my answer: For convenience we will number the trains Nos. 1 and 2. Now train No. 1 runs onto the switch and is cut in two and leaves the rear half standing on the switch, then runs out on the main track and backs down by the switch. No. 2 runs up past the switch and backs down and pushes the cars of No. 1 out on the main track; then No. 1 runs on the main track, and brings No. 1 cars with it and cuts them into, opposite the switch. Then No. 1 pulls out on the main track, and backs down and connects the train, and they have passed each other. I would like to have some of the little folks tell me how 19 trees can be set out so as to have nine rows with five trees in each row.

Yours, truly,
 Lowell, March 27, 1881.

A good way to treat corn ground that is known to be infested with cutworms is to plow it just before planting. The worms will be buried so deeply that the plants can have opportunity to get out of their reach before they get to the surface; or, perhaps, the worms feed on the sod turned under and so permit the corn to escape.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

COX.—WHEREAS, The hand of Providence has been put forth and has snatched from our midst by death our worthy brother, John Cox; and

WHEREAS, By the death of Brother Cox the Grange has lost a good member, the community a good neighbor, and the family a good husband, a kind father and an affectionate parent; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of this Grange extend our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family. Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this Grange, and that copies be presented to the family of the deceased, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

LOUIS REINOLDT,
 CHAS. BLOOD,
 A. S. HILDBRETH,
 Committee.

SWEET.—Died at her home in Genoa, Livingston county, Jan. 17, 1881, aged 26 years, our much-loved sister, Mrs. FRANCIS SWEET, of consumption. With trusting faith and quiet patience she waited for the final summons from the Great Master above.

As she will nevermore give us words of good cheer, nevermore extend to us the hand of fellowship, and nevermore grace our hall with her presence,—therefore Resolved, That we unite in expressions of heartfelt sympathy with her family, in this their great bereavement.

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for sixty days, a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family of the deceased, be spread upon the records of the Grange, and sent to the GRANGE VISITOR with a request for publication.

MISS E. J. FISBECK,
 MRS. C. SCHWENKES,
 MRS. CHAS. FISBECK,
 Committee.

WOOLSEY.—Died in Scipio, on the 18th of February, 1881, after nearly a year's lingering illness, JOHN F. WOOLSEY, in his 60th year, a member of Scipio Grange, No. 106.

WHEREAS, It has pleased an All-wise Providence to remove by death our much-esteemed brother; therefore

Resolved, That, while we bow with reverence to the decree of our Great Master above, we deeply feel the loss of our friend and brother.

Resolved, That we sympathize with the widow and family of our deceased brother in this their bereavement, and commend them to that God who is too wise to err and too good to do wrong.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be entered on the records of our Grange, and a copy be presented to the widow of our deceased brother, also one sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

D. C. HOLMES,
 A. STORMES,
 S. D. BROWN,
 Committee.

DAVIS.—WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst by death our Worthy Chaplain, Brother Jesse M. Davis, who died Mar. 3, 1881, in the 69th year of his age; therefore

Resolved, That in the death of Brother Davis, this Grange has lost an earnest and consistent member, his family a kind and indulgent husband and father, and the community a worthy and useful citizen.

Resolved, That as a Grange we sympathize with the widow, the children and friends of our deceased brother in their great affliction and sad bereavement, and commend them to our Heavenly Father, who doeth all things well.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon our Grange record, and a copy be furnished to the family of our deceased brother, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

ALITANA CHAPMAN,
 WM. ALGATE,
 J. A. CHAPMAN,
 Committee.

Memorial of Lucy Cady.

[The following tribute to the memory of Sister Lucy Cady, who died March 21st, 1881, aged 65, was read before a meeting of Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, and by a unanimous vote of the Grange it is sent to VISITOR for publication.]

It has been said that it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting, for by it the heart is made better. To-day we have met in the Grange for sociability, greeting of friends, literary enjoyment, and to advance the interests of our noble Order. In all probability our expectations will be realized to a certain extent. We will go home better friends, better Patrons, and resolved to do better and more efficient work in the future than in the past.

Yet amid our enjoyment of to-day the thought comes with peculiar emphasis to our remembrance that our first Pomona is not with us. Her place is vacant, no more to be filled by her again. So many of us can call to mind the interest she gave to each of our meetings, and with what dignity and gracefulness she presided over Pomona's Court, and when she gave the charge to the candidates it was done with so much earnestness and impressiveness that it would seem to be so indelibly engraved upon each mind that it would brighten through all time.

It was but a reiteration of her life work. Her usefulness was ever on the side of the right, and her heart was filled with a love for humanity. Hers was an unselfish life, and her motto, "love for all, hatred toward none," and she wore the "mantle of charity" as an everyday garment.

Sister Cady was never hilarious in her enjoyment, yet she had a pleasant smile, and often gave a practical joke or sharp repartee, and all who came within the radius of her influence were infused with joy, not sadness. She had a sunny, even temper, and as we saw her once so we might expect to see at other times. It seems so strange to us short-sighted mortals that the good, the beautiful and influential are taken from our midst when we need them so much, while those who are no good to themselves or the world are left to pester society and be a blot upon humanity.

Sister Cady left an unblemished record, and has gone to reap a rich reward. Her dear, patient, helpful, hands have laid down their life's work, but the work she began another will take it up, and so it will continue as the years come and go. Let us emulate her example in our everyday life, and the world will be better for our having lived in it.

MYRA.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, - - MAY 1st, 1881.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES AND AGENCIES.

The experience of those communities that have established co-operative stores, has not been entirely satisfactory. Here and there keeping goods in stock, has been of advantage to all concerned. But the successes have not equalled the failures. The failures that have resulted in loss have not generally been without some benefit, though the benefit has not always accrued to the right party. We have become satisfied that, with the arrangements made with Bro. Mason of Chicago, and with the standing offer of Brother Stegeman of Allegan, and the opportunity of getting goods through Geo. W. Hill of Detroit, that it is not advisable at present for Granges to establish co-operative stores for the purpose of keeping a stock of general merchandise.

It is true there are a few stores in the State that are on a firm basis and doing well, and it is just as true that there have been a good many failures. There are localities remote from villages and large towns where it may be advisable to establish a co-operative store. But in all such places those interested should, before they go into it, always be sure that they have the right sort of a man to take charge of the business, and that man must not be afraid of doing some work that he don't expect to get much pay for. The fact is established that Patrons or others can join in ordering many (not all) kinds of goods, and get them at a very small advance on wholesale rates. The standing and reliability of Brother Mason of Chicago is established, and we are quite sure that he is both willing and anxious to serve the Patrons of Michigan. Brother Stegeman of Allegan has been the most successful manager of any man in Michigan, who has undertaken to run a co-operative store. Last year he sold over \$100,000 worth of goods, the purchasers paying never more than four per cent more than the cost of goods at the store. Brother Stegeman works hard, and never loses sight of the "Good of the Order." With his large experience in the business, and the determination he has always evinced to take good care of his customers, we have no hesitation in saying that Patrons will find it both safe and profitable to order goods of him.

In the matter of Geo. W. Hill, of Detroit, we wish to have the facts clearly understood. The firm of Geo. W. Hill & Co. were last year the bonded agents of the Order in Detroit, under an arrangement made with the Executive Committee of the State Grange. Last winter, with the dissolution of the firm the arrangement of course ceased, and as our Executive Committee have had no meeting since, no arrangement has been made with Geo. W. Hill or anyone else in Detroit, to act as agent of the Order in that city. Mr. Hill continued in the commission business at the old stand of the firm, and has kept an advertisement standing in the VISITOR. As we said at the outset, from various sources we learn that he is doing very much more business for the Order than the firm of Geo. W. Hill & Co. ever did, and so far we have heard of no complaint.

Now, there are a large number of Patrons in Michigan. They have many wants to supply from day to day, and there is no reason why they should not avail themselves, as other people do, of all opportunities to better their condition in any fair, legitimate way that may be presented. Your wheat crop will be short this year, and unless the price should take an unexpected boom, you will have to make a little money cover more wants next fall than last.

We believe all these parties, as well as those managing the few successful co-operative stores in different parts of the State, will deal honorably with all those who may do business with them. You can certainly save some money by ordering many things that you must have, of some one of these parties. And we have no hesitation in saying that we believe you can do so with entire safety. There is room for all to do a large business, and we believe they will.

A QUESTION ANSWERED.

Bro. Cobb:—Why do the State and National Granges admit clergymen and persons of various occupations, not farmers, and then send out Constitutions and By-laws for the government of Subordinate Granges forbidding us to admit such members? Many believe it best to admit those friendly, even though they do not belong to the very aristocratic fraternity of farmers.

Respectfully, G. W. K.

We are not aware that "The State and National Grange admit clergymen and persons of various occupations not farmers." The State and National Granges are composed of persons that Subordinate Granges have admitted to full membership, and as members of these bodies, it is too late to enquire how closely the Subordinate Grange that clothed them with the rights and priv-

ileges of the Order adhered to the Constitution of the National Grange.

This brother has missed the mark aimed at.

THE WHEAT CROP.

In answer to our request for reports from farmers of the condition and prospects of wheat on the ground we have a few returns—much less than we expected.

A report from Hartford, Van Buren county, says: "Wheat has looked very bad so far this spring. Our Grange farmers think that with the most favorable weather three-fourths of a crop may be had."

C. L. Young, Secretary of Ross Grange, in the north part of Kalamazoo county, says: "I am instructed by our Grange to inform you that the wheat in the jurisdiction of this Grange will not exceed one-third of a crop."

Geo. M. Kinney, Lainsburgh, writes that from towns in Shiawassee county, and several localities in Clinton county reports were gathered at a Grange meeting on the 23d. The prevailing opinion was that not more than half a crop could be expected. "Many do not expect more than five bushels per acre. Call this croaking if you will, but I believe it to be a fair statement of facts."

W. L. Simons, Secretary of Battle Creek Grange, and supervisor of the township of Emmett, estimates the crop in that township from three to five bushels, and thinks Emmett will do as well as the average of Calhoun county. He adds that the farmers still hold about one-fourth of the old crop.

Hiram Shipman, Grand Lodge, under date of April 23, answers "What shall the Harvest be," by saying that "after a four days' drive through Eaton county, and seeing thousands of acres of wheat fields, and with 25 years' experience as a Michigan farmer, I can truthfully say I never saw the wheat look so sickly as at present. Many are expecting to plow up their wheat fields for corn. From the present outlook I would not estimate the yield at over ten bushels per acre on the best half of the sowing, with the other half far below."

From Branch county we have three letters. The first dated April 23 from W. E. Wright, Coldwater, represents that from reports gathered at a meeting of the County Grange on the 19th the conclusion reached was that the probable yield would be from one-half to two-thirds of a crop.

Brother B. S. Spofford writes from Orangeville, same county, that "there cannot be more than one-half a crop in that part of the county—that he has 20 acres that he is plowing up, and that many others are doing the same."

Brother C. G. Luce, of Gilead, Branch county, after a review of the various ways that wheat has been injuriously affected, sums up with the conclusion: "On the whole, if we get two-thirds of a crop in this vicinity, it will be all that we can do."

From their reports, and what can be gathered from what we have said elsewhere, our readers can draw their own conclusions. The prospect is certainly bad, and only the most favorable conditions of weather can give us a fair crop.

A QUICK TRIP AND PLEASANT VISITS.

By a late train on the 18th of April we left home to carry into effect a purpose long since formed of visiting Brother and Sister Childs at their home. His protracted illness confining him through all the long winter, the most of the time to his house, or at most to his premises had prevented our meeting him as of old.

Leaving Kalamazoo just before eight, a little before 10 o'clock P. M. the fast train pulled into Jackson, and in a few minutes we were at the house of a friend to make good a promised visit. We put in the remainder of the day and a couple of hours the next morning in a most satisfactory manner with our Jackson friends, and before 10 o'clock, A. M. we dropped off at Ypsilanti, to find our wife waiting for us at the depot. She had preceded me a week, visiting some friends in this part of the State.

Bro. Childs kindly furnishing transportation, we were soon on our way to his farm in the township of Augusta, some eight miles south of the city. The day was bright, and we had a very pleasant ride over this level country that in general appearance bore less evidence of having been settled a half century than our own county.

We found Brother Childs on the road looking after some sheep, 80 rods or more from his house. He was looking better than I had expected, and his numerous friends will all be glad to know that he is gradually improving. His throat, however, is seriously affected, and gives him a good deal of trouble. The disease was probably produced by too much public speaking, still continued after the organs of speech had been irritated and injured.

Brother Childs has had more zeal than care for himself, and only desisted from that soft of exposure when absolutely compelled to.

We were very cordially received by sister Childs, and soon felt quite at home. After dinner we strolled out to look at the premises, and witness the general havoc made by the Butler & Detroit railroad, which was constructed last year, and running a few

rods from his house required the removal of all his barns, sheds, and out-buildings to maintain its air line direction from Detroit, a long distance. As I remember it was stated to me, some 60 miles without a curve.

As railroad corporations have some arbitrary legal rights that respect no man's convenience or wishes Brother Childs was compelled to move all his buildings in haying and harvest, and dig up an acre of good young orchard to clear a site for them. The road is in an unfinished and unfenced state, and as it is already doing a considerable freight business the farmers along the line are subjected to a great deal of annoyance.

This is a fine dairy country, and Brother Childs has a fine farm better adapted to grass than our lands in the western part of the State, but we should think not as good grain land.

A cheese factory in the neighborhood is well patronized and is a success. A good many other neighborhoods in Michigan ought to have cheese factories, and will when Dakota farmers drive our people out of the wheat raising business.

We spent the afternoon pleasantly and tarried over night, returning to Ypsilanti the next morning in time for the day express to Kalamazoo. We left Bro. Childs and his wife full of hope that with the return of the genial, mellow spring weather, his health would so improve that he would be again able in the course of the season to take the field and do more good work for the farmers of the State and the Order he loves so well.

We thought to get a better opinion of the apparent condition of the wheat crop in the line of our travel we would grade each field as we passed on our way home, and we condense the whole in the following brief summary:

We make five grades. First, the few fields that by location and protection were extra good, 10. Second, the fields that seemed but little injured, 45. Third, fields that under favorable conditions will make a fair crop, 78. Fourth, poor, 112. Fifth, very poor or nearly worthless, 71. These figures were made on the 20th, and before many of our readers see this they will have been much modified by timely rains and warm days.

We reached the conclusion that the most favorable conditions of weather must prevail to give the farmers half a crop in the district of country that we passed over from Ypsilanti to Schoolcraft via Kalamazoo.

"THE ONLY AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED IN MICHIGAN."

Agriculture is the most important industry prosecuted in Michigan—employs more people, and has more invested capital than any other business interest within its limits. Periodicals published expressly to promote the great agricultural interests of the State are not numerous. The publishers of the *Michigan Farmer*, appreciating the importance of the position, long ago concluded to put themselves at the head of this vast industry and publish "the only agricultural journal published in Michigan."

This was a laudable ambition, and while the *Farmer* remained "the only agricultural journal published in Michigan" might very properly be advertised at the head of its editorial page. But this broad field, altogether too large for these able editors of the *Farmer* to fill, invited others to occupy, and years ago the invitation was accepted. This fact a great many thousand people in the State have been familiar with, but the *Farmer* folks, it seems, don't know it when told of it. In proof of this we cite an article in the editorial department of the *VISITOR* of April 1st.

We have known people before who could not see themselves as others see them, but seldom have we seen men who aspired to the high rank of standing at the head of the chief industry of a great State, do so silly a thing as to keep in a conspicuous position a pretentious falsehood that had not even the poor merit of deceiving anybody.

We had a pleasant call from Bro. T. J. Shoemaker, Sec'y of Mt. Clemens Grange. He is traveling in the interest of Cortright of Lansing, carrying a sample fanning mill and taking orders of Patrons at grange prices. He is also soliciting orders for Geo. W. Hill of Detroit. From Bro. Shoemaker, as well as from other sources, we learn that the business of Mr. Hill has been good this spring, and is on the increase.

New advertisements in this issue: The Eureka Mill, manufactured at Lansing, said to be an excellent implement, and sold to Patrons at bottom prices. Seed potatoes by Joseph Morris, of Sanilac county, has not been sent us any too soon; Alabastine, a substitute for paint, kalsomine, and white-wash. Those who know assure us that this, on its merits, is taking the place of all other preparations for a wall covering. We advise our people to give it a trial. See also the "ad" of Joseph Shaw—horse nets; Fenno & Manning, wool commission merchants, Boston; and O. B. Ranney—bees.

In proof of the value of the *VISITOR* as an advertising sheet, we refer to the ad. of J. H. Gardner in *VISITOR* of April 15. Before the second issue we got a note from Brother Gardner, saying, "Don't repeat my ad.; have had more orders than I have potatoes."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Aunt Kate's" article on the Health of American Women is postponed for a time. "Winseerine", has made some good hits, but we have not time to fix up her article in such shape as would be acceptable to our readers, or to the writer herself.

Some of our lady correspondents complain that we have not published their articles. Well, ladies we can't give you all the paper nor put two articles in the same place. Will do the best we can for you.

From Bro. Wm. L. Van Dyke, of Olive Grange, we have a report of its prosperity. The brother also refers to a very successful meeting of the Clinton County Pomona Grange, held at De Witt, when all were handsomely entertained in true Grange style by the members of De Witt Grange. Bro. Van Dyke represents the discussions as highly interesting and instructive, and give us encouraging evidence of the value of the County Grange.

STEPHEN GEER wants us to change the address of his *VISITOR* to Rose Center, which we will do when he informs us where we are now sending it. His address is mixed up with several thousand other names, and we have no time to look it up.

AN obituary notice from Capitol Grange will be found on the opposite page. From our personal acquaintance with Bro. Rowland E. Trowbridge, we feel that this death notice contains no fulsome praise—only honest tribute to manly worth.

The Great Question.

BY H. T. NILES.

The proper regulation, by public authority, of the transportation of the products of the farm and factory from the producer to the consumer, is a matter in which nine-tenths of the people of every section of the country are directly and personally interested, and must be one of the great questions of the future.

In importance, it rises far above any that has ever agitated our people, except the one great question, of whether we should be ONE COUNTRY, or a COLLECTION of WARRING STATES.

A matter of such broad, vital and enduring importance should not be considered in any narrow spirit, or with reference to any class-interest.

The principles of English law, which is but another name for the commonsense and spirit of fair dealing of the English people, applied to our present state of development, would give the question a solution at once comprehensive and just. These principles, however, have by a variety of causes become so overlaid that they have been lost sight of, and the owners of our great lines of transportation have become a law unto themselves, and the great mass of our people have become the despairing victims of these gigantic combinations.

In the early development of our railroad system, when everybody was anxious for railroads, on any terms, and at any cost, it was natural that neither legislatures or courts should hold them very strictly to their obligations to the public, and since then, Congress, the State Legislatures and the courts have been filled with railroad lawyers, whose interests and training cause them, perhaps in many cases unconsciously, to lean to the interests of the railroads and against the interests of the people and the spirit of the law itself. This tendency has of late become so marked as to attract the attention of the gatherer of items for the readers of the daily press.

In his letter to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, of November 18, 1880, Gath, one of the most observant and intelligent of the professional correspondents, says:

"The present Bench, and pending appointments upon it will be lawyers, who take stiff views in favor of vested interests and the rights of property, even against the Government. The Supreme Bench is being made up more and more of railroad lawyers. Bradley and Strong were put there for railroad purposes."

By almost imperceptible degrees, by act after act, and decision after decision, a system of railroad law has been gradually built up, leaning more and more to these great corporations, until now it leans away from the principles of public right and justice, more than the celebrated Tower of Pisa leans from the true perpendicular.

By this succession of favoring legislation and decision, the great railroads of the country, protected in a system of exaction and oppression, have grown strong enough to swallow up the weaker ones, and the strong men in these corporations have, in the manner, gathered up almost for nothing the stock of the people whose money built our railroads, until now, two men in New York, one in Philadelphia, and one in Baltimore control our whole transportation system, and can or will raise freights over the whole country on all the products of farm or factory, at once reducing the legitimate profits of the producer and increasing the cost to the consumer, apparently thinking that the people have no rights that a railroad is bound to respect.

Indeed, it has come to this, that the chattel property of some of these railroad kings is more than the entire chattel duplicate of several of the States of the Union, and by lending their money on call bonds they can produce an easy money market, and by suddenly calling it in, they can produce a public panic.

In the presence of such startling facts, into what insignificance sink questions of bank and sub-treasury, and tariff, that have divided the people into two great political parties!

Revolutions have been produced by less causes.

This is the evil we all see and feel.

What is the remedy? We need no revolution. We need no departure from broad, well-established principles of law. We need no stretching of the constitutional powers of government. What we need is:

1st. That the people should be aroused to a true appreciation of the importance of this question.

2nd. That they should not allow themselves to be divided into hostile parties by designing demagogues, on important questions, to the neglect of their real interests.

3d. That they should no longer allow themselves to be misrepresented in State Legislatures, or in Congress, or on the Bench by railroad lawyers or by mere party hacks, who can be ruled by railroad lobbies or bought by railroad money.

4th. That the Legislatures of the different States and Congress should use the power they clearly possess to protect the people, and that the Judges should apply the principles taught by the great lights of the English and the earlier American bench and bar to our present condition, and the remedy is reached.

By what right does a railroad exist and use the private property over which it passes? Its whole right rests on a broad and liberal extension, not to say stretching, of the right reserved by the sovereign power when parting with the title of land to construct over it necessary highways for public use.

The idea of private gain did not even enter as an element into this right.

Except on this ground, a railroad has no more right to take my land and use it without my consent than the President of the railroad to take my horse and use it without my consent.

Another principle connected with all public easements is that every one may use them on terms of exact equality, as the peasant with his cart had the same right to use the king's highway as had the nobleman with his coach-and-four.

This right properly enforced would cut up by the roots one great abuse of our present transportation system, which is favoring localities, individuals or transportation companies composed of the officers of our great railroads, which at once rob the stockholders and rob the public.

The power to protect the public thus comes from the very nature of the right of railroads to exist.

There is another broad ground of common law, which would give the proper public authority complete control of all railroad transportation. This is, that railroads are common carriers.

The English Parliament, long before our independence, exercised without question the right to regulate charges for the transportation of goods of every kind by all common carriers both by land and water.

There can be no hope or expectation of relief from these evils without a thorough reorganization of the State Legislatures and of Congress.

The railroad lawyers must be left at home, no matter how long they have been in public life, or how able they be, for the abler the better for the railroads and the worse for the people, and all those must be left out who accept favors from railroads or ride on railroad passes, no matter what banner they may fly or what party shibboleth they may cry.

None must be elected but those who believe both in the power and the duty of the Government to protect the people from oppression and spoliation by these overgrown and insolent corporations.

Indeed, the country is governed too much by lawyers. Many of our most valuable public men have been from other callings in life.

If Congress and the State Legislatures were made up principally from other callings and professions there would no doubt be less talking but more practical, useful legislative work.

It may also be necessary to reorganize the courts by removing one by one as they can be reached, the judges devoted from training and interest to those great corporations.

The courts have almost without attracting public attention been organized in their interest, and there would be no great harm in trying the experiment of reorganizing them in the interest of the people.

There are good lawyers enough not wedded to any special interest, and who would as once be just to the railroads, and just to the people—and even if there were not, there would be no great difficulty in finding men in other callings, whose sound common sense and clear perceptions of right and justice would be a full equivalent for the smattering of law which is the sole qualification of too many of those who now bear the once honored name of Judge.

To accomplish these results is much easier than would first appear, for it is not necessary to go through the slow process of forming a new party.

It is therefore of but little practical importance to the great mass of people whether the man who represents them in Congress or the State Legislature is called a Democrat or Republican, but it is vastly important to them that he should believe that the government has the power to prevent a few men in the East from lowering the price of every pound of produce raised by every farmer in the West, and at the same time raising it to every consumer in the country by exorbitant and unconscionable charges for transportation, and it is vastly important that he should be a man of sufficient intelligence, integrity, and force to carry this conviction into appropriate legislative action, no matter what the party caucus may say, or what the railroad lobby may do.

The manufacturer and laborer of the East and the negro and the planter of the South are even more interested in compelling the railroads to accept uniform, just and reasonable rates than the farmer of the West, for with his new, rich land he can get along under any system of extortion. Whenever one-half of those who are to-day thoroughly convinced that the correction of these manifold abuses is more important to them and to the people at large than anything the party leaders have left to talk about, and will resolutely say that when two candidates are presented for their suffrages, they will vote for the one who is thoroughly and earnestly right on this question and will vote against the one who is wrong or doubtful without regard to party names, the end is almost reached. Indeed, if one thousand men in every Congressional district in the country would take this position, the next Congress would not only pass the Reagan bill but would pass all other needed legislation and if the same course were taken with candidates for the Legislature, the eminent railroad lawyers now filling the United States Senate, would soon be left to devote their whole time to the interests of their clients.

Communications.

"SPRING!"

[Original—but a little late for the last number, where it should have appeared.—Ed. VISITOR.]

This might be called an ode to Spring, If Spring were near enough to hear it, But, at her present, rate of traveling, I fear it.

Where loiterest thou, O Spring?
And why art thou so slow in coming?
Long, long we've waited for the gentle voice
That bids each blossom waken and rejoice.

Where art thou staying? Has some spirit wild
Enticed thee to delay, as erring child,
Grown restless under Love's detaining hand,
Defies restraint, nor listens to command?

What is it woos thee from our wistful sight?
Shivering with cold, we wait thy coming light,
Thy misty morn and sunny noon-day glare,
Thy dewy eve, like Love's young dream so fair.

All this we're waiting to enjoy, and more.

Yes, earth is filled with beauty, running o'er,
Waiting for thee, O truant Spring, to break
The icy bonds you've helped so long to make.

Come, then, nor longer play on us these pranks;
Come and receive a Patron's grateful thanks.
Our plows are waiting to subdue the land,
If thou, O Spring, wilt lend a helping hand.

Our harrows and our drills we've brought to light,
Thinking that surely you would be in sight,
With thy soft breath, this cold north wind to warm;
This ice to melt, and save our wheat from harm.

Our shovels and our rakes we too have found,
We've mended all the handles and our hoes we've
ground

All sharp and bright; they wait the garden spot to
tackle

When thou shalt come to free us from this awful
wintry shackle.

Yes; everything is waiting, and we guess you're
waiting too;

But where so long, and why so late is more than we
we can know;

If "in the lap of winter," 'tis time that you were out;
And anyway we think 'tis time we knew your where-
about.

Ionia Grange, No. 191.

Report of the Committee of the Northwestern
Produce Association.

Editor Visitor:—At the annual meeting of the "Northwestern Produce Association" a committee of five was appointed to examine the books of Thomas Mason, the agent of the association, and Chicago business agent of the Michigan State Grange. In pursuance of said appointment, the committee met at St. Joseph on the 14th of April, and made a thorough examination of the books and details of the business of the present agent, Brother Thomas Mason, of 159 South Water street, Chicago. The association was organized nearly four years since by the Patrons of Berrien county, for the purpose of establishing a commission house in Chicago, which should be managed by an appointee of the association, who should give bonds for the faithful performance of the business entrusted to him, and who should be amenable to and subject to removal by, the association. The association was not organized for special benefits which might accrue to individuals or to the association, but the results desired were the establishment of a house in Chicago, which should sell our fruits and produce at the best possible rate, and make honest returns, and to purchase, on our orders, all varieties of goods and implements in the open market at the lowest wholesale prices. During the autumn of 1877 the association sent J. C. Miller to Chicago. Brother Miller opened a store on Market street, and succeeded in sustaining himself during the winter, but as the business required a better location, and more extended operations, Brother Miller resigned in the spring of 1878, and Thomas Mason was induced to leave his fruit farm and take charge of the business. Upon opening a Grange commission house on South Water street, Brother Mason encountered determined opposition by most of the houses on the street. He was subjected to petty annoyances, and a short "lease of life" was predicted for the Granger, and much difficulty was experienced in sustaining the business during the first year. Shippers of fruit from the Michigan fruit regions have, however, understood the importance of sustaining the Michigan agency, and many fruit growers, both within and without the gates, have given their business to the Grange agent. We find that the business has been largely augmented during the past two years by transactions with the people and Patrons of all of the States which send fruit and country produce to the Chicago market.

The business done during the past two years has increased at the rate of about twenty thousand dollars per year. We found the books kept in a systematic and comprehensive manner, by which individual accounts or shipments can be found and examined in a moment. Annual statements of business done, showing expenditures, etc., are placed on file.

We find that the expenses of conducting a commission house business on South Water Street are necessarily large. The item for postage stamps exceeds \$400 per year. The landlords of South Water Street go on the principle of "exacting all that traffic will bear," by raising the rent from \$1,200 to \$1,800 per year.

Believing the business to be firmly established and worthy of more extended patronage we would recommend the house to members of the Grange in all of the States which do business in Chicago.

C. P. PHELPS, Ch'm'n of Com.

The Visitor Wanted—Legislature Criticized.

Editor Grange Visitor:—I have not received a VISITOR since April 1. I thought perhaps my subscription had expired and under the rule you had stopped the paper, so I examined the last number, but did not find it marked. Now, I don't like to miss a single number of so good a paper, therefore I enclose \$1.00, for which please give me credit, and don't stop the paper again without due notice. Consider me a life-subscriber, who will always pay in advance when notified in time.

I see that nearly all the prominent city journals are harping in the interest of speculators and consumers about the fine prospect for an average wheat crop. This should deceive no farmer of common sense. Every man of ordinary observation must know that it is utterly impossible to obtain an average crop after such a severe winter. I don't believe the wheat has been so badly killed throughout the entire winter wheat sections in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, as in the hard winter of 1880-81. This section is probably in as good condition as any in the Union, and we cannot possibly get more than one-half of last year's yield. Therefore I advise brother farmers who have wheat on hand, to hold it for the rise, which must surely come, and not let speculators make all the profit.

When shall we ever get a legislature which will faithfully and economically represent the great mass of the people, instead of being controlled by profligate rings? It seems that every succeeding legislature is more profligate and has less regard for the people's interest than its predecessor. It is nearly four months since the present session convened, and they have not passed a single act of general benefit to the people, but have passed enormous appropriation bills, with more to follow, which will make over \$1,000,000 for the tax-ridden masses to pay. When the bill reducing the rate of interest to seven per cent. comes up, we have the humiliating spectacle of 43 members voting against it, and only 32 in its favor. Where were the other 25? Please give us the names of every member who voted for or against reduction, with the absences, that voters may spot members who are controlled by conscienceless Shylocks. One J. H. White, member from Port Huron, had the cheek to say, when he cast his vote in favor of paying the upper peninsula members \$5 per day, that every member earned and ought to have that sum. What are they staying there for, if their pay is inadequate? Certainly it is not in the interest of the people. All the work they have done or will do might easily have been completed in 90 days; still they hang on, at an expense to the tax-payers of not less than \$300 per day.

REFORMER.

Fences, Farm and Highway.

ORLEANS, IONIA CO., MICH. }
Bro. Cobb: April 23rd, 1881. }
I see the VISITOR of March 15th contains questions from N. M. Farmer, and correction by "Charlie" to article written by me in regard to fence, farm, highway, etc. As I expected my article would bring down coals of fire on my head, I am not surprised at meeting opposition, and must say it comes with a great deal less fury through the VISITOR than at the hands or tongues of some of my near neighbors. I think an explanation will not be necessary.

To N. M. F., I would say in answer to your question, I made the exception (orchard yards, etc.), just on the same principle that we sweeten baby's medicine. The average farmer will accept it better if you allow some of the old customs to hang around somewhere. My orchard is fenced, because I use it for pig pasture, and I think it the best thing for an orchard; but my garden and house-yard is not fenced, except by a small arbor vite hedge, and that only in front of my house for ornament.

My prescription unadulterated and without sugar, would be to every man, take care of your own stock. Now, Charlie, I want to ask you a question or two. You say the part of the State in which you reside "every man runs more or less stock in the road." I ask you, what right have you or any other man to turn your cattle in the road? You certainly have no law or common sense to sustain you in your practice. Supposing, if by accident, there should grow a nice swath of hay along your road-side, what would you think of the man who would shoulder his scythe or mount his mowing-machine and unceremoniously harvest and take away a ton more or less of hay.

Charlie, split the hair and tell me through the VISITOR which half is common sense and law, and which is not. Please bear in mind, I urge no war on the custom of maintaining road fences when the country is new and there is pasture enough on the unoccupied lands to pay the expense.

I stand corrected 80 rods, which is more than the average politician will do.

Fraternally, &c.,

MONT SPAULDING.

New Granges.

Elm Creek Grange, town of North Branch, Lapeer county, was organized on the 18th with twenty members. Geo. Bennett, Master, and Jacob W. Schell, Secretary.

Applications are in hand for two more new Granges which will soon be organized. So the good work goes on. Circulate the VISITOR and other Grange literature among the farmers of the country, and let them see what the Grange is and can be, and there will be more and better Granges than ever before.

FARMER JOHN.

In a nice new cottage lived Farmer John,
With his boys so trim and neat,
And his girls just patterned by mother Jane—
Bright and womanly sweet.

There was love in the cottage of Farmer John,
There was reverent household prayer;
It was thrifty without and bonny within,
Save for one failing there.

The ample storehouse of Farmer John
Was packed from sleeper to peak;
His purse had rounded out full and deep,
But for a single leak.

One sorrow there was for Farmer John;
His neighbor over the way
Was one who tarried long at the cup,
And he tarried day by day.

Now, it moved the heart of friendly John
To a kind, persuasive word;
He pleaded as man may plead with man,
Till the drunkard's soul was stirred.

Said neighbor Nat, "You're a good man, John,
Or I wouldn't bear your speech;
Your sermon,—it has a right, true ring,
But I in turn must preach.

"Say you the bottle that makes me mad
I must to my thirst deny;
I weed that smirches your Christian face
Is never denied, say I.

"I'll pledge your honor, my good friend, John
If you will but pledge me, too;
I'll not drink another dram,
If you'll never smoke nor chew."

It touched the marrow of Christian John,
And he dare not now be loth;
He quickly answered, "It shall be done;
And may God help us both!"

And now he reckoned, good Farmer John,
The cost of a vice so dear;
How health and sweetness had dribbled away
With the dollars year by year.

He wanted more acres—ambitious John—
For his boys and girls to share;
But quid and pipe had dripped and smoked
The acres into the air.

"We've scotched our tyrants," cried earnest John;
By the grace of God we'll win it!
Now neighbor Nat is a sober man,
And John is a victor still.

Railroad Law from a Railroad Standpoint.

The gravity with which Mr. George Ticknor Curtis argues that a State is legally powerless to regulate the tolls of a railroad corporation which it has chartered, will make not a few of those smile who know well the law is settled by principle and precedent to the contrary. From time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary the government has exercised the right of protecting the people against the extortions and abuses of common carriers, and, in fact, of all classes of persons and corporations whose business is affected with a public interest. In this country State after State has passed statutes for the regulation of railroad charges, and in half a dozen cases at least the highest tribunal known to American law has declared this to be a rightful exercise of legislative power. Decisions to the same effect have been repeatedly rendered by lower courts. These considerations, however, have not deterred Mr. Curtis from advancing quite a different theory of the law governing the respective rights of the people and their corporate servants. The right to regulate and control its own tolls, he asserts, is an inviolable, irrevocable right vested in a corporation and cannot be exercised by the State without unlawfully impairing the obligation of the contract created by the charter. He goes so far as to argue that this is equally true when the State has expressly reserved even the right to alter or amend the charter, because this reserved power, he alleges, does not extend to transportation charges, and hence gives the legislature no authority to interfere with such charges. Carried to its natural and logical consequences, this theory leads to the result that by the legitimate exercise of power expressly reserved to the State may annul the franchises granted to a corporation, stop the running of its trains, destroy its business, cut off its dividends and render its stock worthless, but it cannot touch its toll schedules. The *reductio ad absurdum* here must be sufficiently apparent even to the most ordinary lay mind. The pretence that the regulation of tolls is beyond the reach of the government rests on the assertion that sole control of this matter is vested in the corporation by the charter contract, which the State is prohibited from impairing. The conclusive answer to this is that no such contract exists, for the simple reason that none was ever made. No charter ever gave to a railroad company the right to fix charges without limit and without responsibility. No legislature has ever entered into such a bargain with a corporation created to serve the people. In one of the Granger cases it appeared that the charter expressly gave to the company the right to make reasonable charges, and the United States Supreme Court held that it was not for the company, but for the people, and through their Legislature, answer to this that no such contract exists. But say what were reasonable charges? Even if the charter should expressly declare that there should be no maximum limit to the rates which the corporation might exact this would not be an unalterable or inviolable contract. It would be in effect a covenant to plunder the people, and hence one which no Legislature has the authority to make. There are rights and powers of the people which the Legislature cannot bargain away. One of these is the police power—the power always inalienable in the people to protect the public health, morals and safety. Another is the right of the people to save themselves from being pillaged. This power, no more than the police power, can be bargained away by the Legislature to any railroad corporation.—*New York Herald.*

What Farm Deeds Convey.

Judge Bennett, in an address before the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, upon topics relating to legal questions in connection with the farm, had this to say in relation to farm deeds and what they include, from which we compile the following:

A farm deed conveys all the fences standing on the farm, but all might not think it also included the fencing stuff, rails, posts, etc., which had been once used in the fence, but which had been taken down and piled up for future use again in the same place. But new fencing material just brought and never attached to the soil would not pass. So of piles of hop poles stored away, if once used on the land, have been considered

a part of it, but loose boards or scaffold poles laid loosely across the beams of a barn, and never fastened to them would not be, and the seller of the farm might take them away.

Standing trees, of course, always pass as a part of the land; so do trees blown or cut down, and still left in the woods where they fell, but not if cut or corded up for sale; the wood has then become personal property.

If there be any manure in the barn-yard, or in a compost heap on the field ready for immediate use, the buyer ordinarily takes that also as belonging to the farm; though it might not be so if the owner had previously sold it to some other party, and collected it together in a heap by itself.

Another mode is to stipulate that possession is not given until some future day, in which the manure may be removed previous to that time.

Growing crops also pass by a deed of a farm, unless they are expressly reserved. When it is not intended to convey those, it should be so stated in the deed itself; a mere oral agreement to that effect would not be valid in law.

As to the buildings on the farm, though generally mentioned in the deed, it is not absolutely necessary that they should be specified.

A deed of land ordinarily carries all the buildings to the grantee, whether mentioned or not; and this rule includes the lumber and timber of any old building which has been taken down or blown down, and has been packed away for future use on the farm.

But if there be any buildings on the farm built by a third person, with the farmer's leave, the deed would not convey these, since such buildings are personal property, and do not belong to the land owner to convey.

The real owner thereof might move them off, although the purchaser of the farm supposed he was buying and paying for all the buildings on it. His only remedy in such case would be against the party selling the premises.

As part of the buildings conveyed, of course the window blinds are included, even if they be at the time carried off to a painter's shop to be painted. It would be otherwise if they had been newly purchased and brought into the house, but not yet attached or fitted to it.

Lightning rods also go with the house, if a farmer is foolish enough to have any on his house.

A furnace in the cellar, brick or portable, is considered part of the house, but an ordinary stove with a loose pipe running into the chimney is not.

Correspondence.

Livingston County Council Resolutions.

At a meeting of the Livingston County Council, held Saturday February 19, at the Grange Hall, Howell, Bro. M. W. Bullock offered the following resolutions, requesting their reference to special committee, which was done:—

WHEREAS, The State Grange memorialized the State Legislature to enact a law limiting all cases to Justice Court, under the sum of one hundred dollars; and

WHEREAS, Believing that John Quincy Adams, "the old man eloquent," did much for the civil liberty of this country in his long and almost single handed contest in the establishment in Congress of the right of any one to petition; and

WHEREAS, Believing the free right of petition and appeal is the foundation of civil liberty, and the right should never be denied to anyone, and believing the passage of such an Act, viz., the limiting of all cases of less amount than one hundred dollars to Justice Court would be detrimental to the civil liberty and the best interest of the country; therefore

Resolved, That such an Act ought not to be passed, and

WHEREAS, The bringing of trifling cases in the Circuit Court, and continuing them there for a term of years, not for the furtherance of justice, but to the manifest injustice of taxpayers, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, These matters are entirely in the hands of the Judge of the Circuit Court to extend the time to try the case or to dismiss from the docket; therefore,

Resolved, The Judge should be held responsible, and that a law ought to be passed that no Judge should be allowed to draw his pay from the County while there remains any case on the calendar untried longer than one year after being entered in the County Clerk's office for adjudication unless dismissed or settled; and

Resolved, That any Judge should not be entitled to any pay if, or while, he should neglect to render a decision on any case for the space of six months after the trial or final rendering of proofs; and,

WHEREAS, Judges seemingly do not look to the interests of tax-payers and communities; and,

WHEREAS, Judges are asking for increase of salary; therefore

Resolved, Such an increase is not warranted.

MRS. W. K. SEXTON,
Secretary.

Shiawassee Grange, No. 151.

Bro. Cobb:—As this Grange has never favored the VISITOR with a report of our success as co-laborers in the broad fields of Grange enterprise, I am inclined to let you know how we are prospering and how we feel in view of the future prosperity of the Grange. On February first we moved into a new hall, for which we pay \$25 per year rent, with an organ furnished. It is a beautiful hall, nicely arranged for our work, carpeted and seated with chairs. Our hall is situated in the thriving little village of Morrice. Last Wednesday evening we conferred the third and fourth degrees on 12 new members, after which we partook of a sumptuous feast. The tables were set in the hall, and bountifully furnished by our worthy sisters, to which we all sat down and ate in a social way as Grangers always do on such occasions. The balance of the evening was given to instructing the new members in the unwritten work. Then all departed to their respective homes, feeling

that the evening had been pleasantly and well spent. Our meetings are well attended, and we hope to make them profitable as well as enjoyable. We have about 50 members in good standing, and more knocking at the outside gate. We have strong faith in the future prosperity of this Order. We believe that it will prosper because farmers are becoming educated through this means to a higher standard of citizenship, and are beginning to feel that their occupation is second to none, although their faces may be browned by the rays of the burning sun, and their hands may be hardened by the labors of the field; yet they have brains notwithstanding, and can and will justly assert their rights and privileges as all good citizens should.

That the Grange influence is being felt and acknowledged throughout the length and breadth of this nation is an encouraging fact that gives us great confidence in the future of this country.

Feb. 22, 1881.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

At the last meeting of St. Joseph County Grange we had a very interesting time. We are having such lively and interesting meetings that we now talk of making them two-day meetings instead of one session. The meeting of the County Grange at Colon, in March, had the desired effect; they reorganized and are full of life. We propose to hold the next meeting of the County Grange at Constantine the first Thursday in May. We propose to make it so interesting for the Patrons that Constantine Grange will never say "die." A cordial invitation hereby is extended to all Patrons and their wives and daughters, and to every one interested in the success of the farmer. The meeting will be addressed by Brother Whitney, or some of the other Lecturers.

CHAS. W. SHELTON, Sec'y.

The Clinton County Pomona Grange will meet with the Eagle Grange at 10 o'clock, A. M., on Wednesday, the 11th of May. Essays will be read by Sisters Elizabeth M. Vorhees, Florence Kent, Harriet E. Conn, and Brother Lyman Townsend. The subject of incorporating the Grange will be discussed and acted upon at this meeting. All members of the Order are cordially invited to attend.

FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

Bro. Cobb:—The next meeting of Cass County Pomona Grange, No. 20, will be held at Cassopolis, in Goodwin's hall, on Wednesday, June 8, 1881. All fourth degree members are cordially invited to attend. The meeting to commence at 10 o'clock A. M.

L. J. RITTER,
Sec'y pro tem.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:—Will you please give notice in the next issue of the VISITOR that the next regular meeting of Calhoun County Pomona Grange will be held at Marshall, Calhoun county, May 12, 1881, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

MRS. PERRY MAYO.

The next regular meeting of Van Buren County Grange will be held at Decatur, May 12, 1881. Entire session closed. All fourth degree Patrons are cordially invited. A good time expected.

C. B. CHARLES.

The next meeting of Newaygo County Pomona Grange will be held at Ashland Grange hall, commencing on Tuesday, May 31, at 1 o'clock P. M. All fourth degree members invited.

A. TERWILLIGER, Sec.

Sheep-shearing festival at Hart May 24.

Resolutions of Respect.

At a regular meeting of Capitol Grange, No. 540, held in their hall April 23, 1881, a committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressing the sympathy of the Grange with the family of the late ROWLAND E. TROWBRIDGE. The following is their report:

WHEREAS, It has become our painful duty to mourn the loss of our worthy and much-esteemed brother, who departed this life April 20, 1881, at his home in Birmingham; therefore

Resolved, That in the death of Brother Trowbridge our Order has met with an irreparable loss, and the community misses a good citizen.

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved companion our condolence, and to his much afflicted children, in the loss of a kind and indulgent parent, our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, assuring them that their names are not only inscribed upon the roll with their many friends, but upon the tablets of our hearts.

When we look upon the past history of Capitol Grange, we remember with no little pride the name and friend E. Trowbridge, who was with us in every good word and work—one of the foremost in its organization, a charter member and also our first Master. But it has pleased an All-Wise Creator to call him from us to a brighter and better world. In parting with our brother, we realize not only the loss of a friend, but that of a companion; one who was ever ready to stand up for the right, the good and the true, by deed as well as word.

When Brother Trowbridge left us, nearly three years ago, for larger fields of usefulness, he not only left vacant the Master's chair of Ingham County Pomona Grange, but a place in the hearts of the membership of this Grange, that will always be kept green with many bright memories. Although called to one of the highest positions in the gift of the nation, he could always meet a brother, in any walk of life, with that earnest shake of the hand and cordial greeting that betokens a warm heart and the truest manhood.

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for ninety days, and that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the records of this Grange, a copy be sent to the bereaved family, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

E. S. THOMPSON,
C. GOODNOE,
Mrs. B. C. GOODNOE,
North Lansing, Apr. 25.
Committee.

PREMIUM PAINT, WITHOUT OIL OR LEAD.
—Slake stone-lime with boiling water, in a tub or barrel, to keep in the steam; then pass six quarts through a sieve; now to this quantity, add one quart coarse salt and one gallon water; boil the mixture, and skim it clear; to every five gallons of this skimmed mixture add one pound alum, half pound copperas and, by slow degrees, three-quarters pound potash and four quarts sifted ashes or fine sand; add any coloring desired. A more durable paint is hard to find.

Seed Potatoes.

BURBANK SEEDLINGS. LEADER.
BEAUTY OF HEBRON. TRIUMPH.
\$1.00 per bushel, bags included, delivered at depot here.
JOSEPH MORRIS,
Marlette, Sanilac county, Mich.

Ladies' Department.

Hints to Housekeepers.

[An essay read before Grange No. 76, St. Joseph County.]

Worthy Master and Patrons:—"Hints to Housekeepers" is the topic given me at our last meeting by our Worthy Lecturer.

The words housekeeping and housework are identical and of the family of compound words to be found in the English language. Housekeeping expresses home duties and cares in very many forms. Every department of housekeeping is included in its definition. A person skilled in housekeeping is capable of making home cheerful and happy.

As wealth increases refinement progresses, and the duties and cares of the housekeeper multiply very largely.

In the last fifty years the change in the manner of doing housework has been very great, indeed more so than most of us realize. Then one room sufficed for sitting-room, dining-room, kitchen, and frequently sleeping-room for the whole family. All preparation for the family cooking was done on the one and only table. The pantry was a little room as far from the fire as it was possible to get it, and was used to store everything it that was used or needed in doing the cooking for the family. One set of plates was all that was needed for all varieties of food prepared for the meal. Plain, wholesome, coarse food was sufficient. Strong homespun cloth was everyday clothing for the whole household. Now look at the contrast. Parlor, sitting-room, dining-room and kitchen are all to be kept clean and in order, as all are in use every day. Sweeping and dusting are daily to be done, yes, hourly if children are about. Dishwashing is a never ending necessity. No less than three sets of dishes will now answer for a family dinner, and frequently more is required. Then the cooking, such on endless variety of dishes, breads, pies, cakes, custards, puddings, and many other things too numerous to mention, and the most of them to tempt the appetite. It requires a busy head and nimble hands and feet to do the work in most of our homes at the present time. Then, the making and the mending, the darning and the patching, are accomplishments which all belonged to housekeeping.

A thorough, practical knowledge of housework requires more brains than it does to become a lawyer or a physician. To run the complicated machinery of a household so as not to have any jar or friction, is a science in itself. Perhaps there was never a time when success in housekeeping demanded heartier or more earnest labor than at the present time. Enthusiasm is wanting in every one who would excel in this one essential point in our homes. Ability, learning, accomplishments, and opportunity are all well enough. But they do not of themselves insure success in housekeeping. Many do not succeed in becoming economical and successful housekeepers, because they do not put their heart into their work. It is something which does not come by nature; it is to be learned; it requires daily attention, often patient drudgery and tired limbs.

And now, sisters, one thing we do want, and that is to be appreciated for what we do. Don't laugh. I mean just what I say. Some men wonder that their wives need ever get tired except on washing-day. They think it strange that their homes should ever get out of order, as there is nothing to do but make a few beds and wash the dishes. Why, don't they know that to be a good housekeeper, a woman must be master of nine different trades, and though not in constant use of each, she must be ready to prepare with perfect precision whatever presents itself, whether it is first, secondly, thirdly or ninthly. First, she must be a good cook, for, don't you know the way to a man's heart is through his stomach? Well, it is. A laundress is an indispensable person in a home, for "Cleanliness is next to godliness." A seamstress of course, she must be, plain sewing must be done, besides her own. The children's finery must receive due attention, also shirts for her better half, and then when we have done the best we could, do we not dread to hear them say "Not a bit of a fit to it." It is either too wide or too narrow, too long or too short, collar don't fit, waistband too large or too small, in fact no fit at all. Just here, sister Patrons, let me give you a hint. Keep your temper, smile your sweetest and say "I am very sorry, I'll fix it right." In the mean time console yourself that there is always a calm after a storm. There are also many other things we do, even to whitewashing the walls, blacking the stove and carrying out the ash pail. A doctor too, we are expected to be. We must understand symptoms and bring about a sure cure for anything less than a broken neck. The wife and mother must be teacher and governess. Also a knitting machine, and at night when head and hands are tired with the ceaseless doing of little things we would fain rest, we must knit, knit, knit, while he who should, never even notices her tired and wearied look, but sits and silently reads and fills the spit-

toon, to clean which adds to her morning's work.

Such things, like straws in the wind, show that this, sister Patrons, is nearly our whole existence. Let me give you this hint. I have always made a mistake in planning how much I could accomplish in the long spring and summer days. I am now contemplating how little I can get along with in the months to come. I propose to take as much rest and that as often as I can without neglecting my family too much, even if I neglect to have the water pail filled when the men come in to meals, tired though they may be.

But seriously, we farmers' wives do not want to be free from labor or care. We do not want white hands, and expensive attire, with servants to do our work, or, at least, leave it undone. You know Josiah Allen's wife said to Bessie Bobbit, "Meet your husband with a smile each evening for a week, the next with a good warm supper, and see which he likes best." That stomach business again, you see.

But, sisters, with all our cares, there is this one thing we are ever to remember that "No man ever loved a woman for being his slave. As man expects all his little wants supplied, so he wants his wife, his equal to walk beside him as his Creator intended." Though we often feel that our tasks are more than we well perform, that our physical frame is overtaxed, let us keep our spirits bright by knowing that "The brightest scarf that heaven makes is thrown over the shoulders of the storm."

Perhaps our W. L. thinks that I am not confined to the text. If he expected me to tell you how to bake and brew, to cook and sew, why, he is mistaken this time. But in conclusion, I will give you a few more hints. Sisters, we need the wisdom of Solomon and the patience of Job, sometimes, to perform all that is required of us in our everyday life on the farm. There is this one thing to learn if we hope to be pronounced a success in housekeeping. We should so understand our business as to utilize our daily labor, not crowd three days' work into one. We should understand how much we can endure, and do no more. This is a great secret in doing housework, to undertake no more than we can perform. Housework is one of the most requisite branches of home education, and attention is being roused to the fact that ill-humor, fault-finding and grumbling flourish largely when the stomach is empty, and are quite cured by a full meal of wholesome food.

The first duty of housekeepers is to keep healthy and good natured. Consider then your food and clothing. Consider your strength, and take your rest before it is all gone. See well to your mind, do not stint it. Read books and papers, keep posted on what is going on in the world. Remember the social feature of your life. Do not neglect it. Interest yourselves in something outside of your own homes. Join the Grange or the Good Templars, a sewing circle, or anything to take you away from home occasionally among your friends and neighbors. If you cannot leave home, write an essay and send it to the Grange; if you have never tried it you will be surprised at the result in either case. Reach beyond your home and become acquainted with other people and in that way get many good hints in housekeeping. You say you have no time for these things. Well, what are you doing with all your time? Keeping your house? And with all your care it is not kept as well as you would like.

Now I envy the woman with a well-kept and well-furnished house. She stands as high in my estimation as the writer of books, the lecturer, or the artist. Yet I doubt if it is wise for any woman to give her entire time, thought, strength and ability to housekeeping.

Woman's Mission.

To woman first the tempter came, Madened with rage, hurling back defiance to the God of heaven because of his eternal banishment, and writhing still under that almighty power which had driven him with all his host of rebel angels to a place of torment, he beheld our first parents in a primeval state, and hoping to regain some of the power lost he came to them, but first of all to Eve, and deceived the mother of mankind.

Crafty then, as in all things since, he saw that in this lay all his hopes of raising another empire in direct antagonism to God's throne, and full well he did his work, erecting there a universe of death.

Through his success came all the sorrows and miseries of future ages. But amid all this desolation there was still a ray of hope. To Eve the promise was given, "Thy seed shall bruise the serpent's head." In fullness of time came the "Day-spring from on High," ushering in that glorious morn which kings and prophets long desired to see, but died without the sight.

Woman, formed from man, proved recreant to her trust, but of the humble maiden of Nazareth was born the Man, Christ Jesus, "The only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth," and was not woman's mission then indeed exalted? True, woman was first to sin, but how was her reproach rolled away when "God's express image and the brightness of His person became flesh and dwelt among us." To woman

was given the honor of becoming the mother of the Son of God in his human nature.

Angels ushered in the birth of our Savior singing "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will to men," and well might they sing in exultant strains, catching up the glad refrain when at creation's morn the morning stars sang together and the sons of God shouted for joy, and carrying it still to the ascension of our Lord when heaven received back its best gift to man.

By the loving ministrations of woman's heart and hand glimpses of Eden may still be brought back to us. The memory and influence of a mother's love, and a mother's care and a mother's prayers form stepping-stones in the great highway of life, over which many have walked and triumphantly came down to the river of death and up to the great white throne above.

The roaring Niagara carries death and destruction in its tide; while thousands of gently flowing rills, with their merry trickling sound, ever carrying freshness and beauty in their course, flow steadily on to the great rivers, eventually forming the vast ocean over which the commerce of the world may pass,—so with a mother's influence for good, weaving in and out through the child's affections, and forming a vast ocean of love, reaching even to Emanuel's land, and to-day, here and there, all through our land, patient, christian mothers are training immortal minds for the great battle of life, and for an appreciation of the beauty that is to be revealed in the great hereafter.

To women, more than all others, is given the custody of the child, the priceless soul, clad in human flesh, yet bearing on its brow the imprint of its Maker, and woman's mission can never be so exalted as when fulfilling this high and holy trust.

The mother has it in her power to create a kingdom, where she herself shall sit as queen, and love shall be the royal sceptre. This kingdom is a happy home, where oft she shall gather all her willing subjects, a place more sacred than all else beside, where nothing harsh or unkind should ever enter, and from which should radiate the light of love and truth.

"Make home a hive, where all beautiful feelings cluster like bees, and their honey-dew bring; Make it a temple of holy revelings And Love, its bright angel with shadowing wings; Then shall it ever be, when star on life's billows, Wherever your tempest-tossed children are flung, They will long for the shades of the home weeping willow, And for the sweet song which their mother had sung."

Mrs. W. K. SEXTON.

Howell, Mich.

Do Husbands Support Wives?

We are not discussing this subject for the sake of throwing out dogmatic assertions, but to honestly arrive at just conclusions, and if wives are generally supported we want to know it; if they earn their living, we want that should be understood also.

What is more humiliating to an industrious self-reliant woman than the idea that she is dependent upon her husband? It is not simply a question of individual interest, nor of sex, that unjust laws are made, purporting to be for her interest, when they tend directly against her own and likewise family interests, because our law-makers believe that woman is dependant and disqualified to earn her living or to protect herself. Neither is she qualified to manage property interests or to act as guardian for her own offspring. All of these laws grew out of a false idea of woman's dependence upon her husband.

We call this an oppression, and while men in Granges, Congress, and Legislatures are waging a warfare against monopolies, why should not woman, as well, raise the cry of monopoly, for here is certainly a monopoly of women's earnings in the household. This is why we want women for legislators, women in Congress, women in law, and women at the polls. Woman, the great enigma, must be solved, and she herself must unravel the mystery.

It is an astounding fact that after the thousands of years that men and women have associated together in the closest relationship she is still a riddle. Is not this fact alone sufficient reason why women should represent themselves in making laws for their own protection?

To "Victorine" we would say, ask the thousands of farmers' wives if they do not think that they earn their own living. Ask the millions of mothers in our land if they are not bread-earners and protectors of their families as well.

We are not one of those who believe that husbands ought to support wives, because both sexes have their part to perform, and when either party shirk their duty it presupposes the fact that the other must perform double duty, and when the husband fails on his part, the wife is often obliged to triple her exertions because she does not receive equal compensation for labor. Is that being supported? In Massachusetts there are 62,000 more females than males. These are expected to be self supporting; and there are also 40,000 drunkards, who probably have to be supported by wives, and here we see the effect of the present system of woman's labor, or the difference of the labor of the two sexes.

Victorine says man is the noblest work of God. This is an assumption of their own

which has not been altogether proven. We are not a sex worshiper, hence we do not endorse the sentiment. One of our most popular lecturers, in speaking of the creation of man said: "God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and took from his side a rib, out of which he made woman, and," he continued, "I think it was the most wonderful work God ever performed, to make woman out of such material."

Nevertheless we do respect the man who is willing to accord equal rights to women. Now, about that washing. Was it the wife's washing exclusively, or were the husband's clothes included? We presume she is happier in a good home than she was without one, and the husband also, for you know it takes a husband and wife to make a home in the best sense of the word.

We once heard a man say to his wife, "I furnish you wood to burn." "Yes," said she, "to cook your own food and warm your own body, and you get my labor for nothing." Mrs. Myers says her thoughts take a wide range. Well it is just such minds that we love to contemplate, and like to hear from them frequently, for the broader our views of life and its duties are, the less our minds are occupied with petty, local gossip, and if our thoughts should occasionally turn to politics, we may perchance hit upon, and develop some ideas that may benefit some one.

JUSTACIA.

Help in the House.

As the gage was thrown down in the Agricultural department of the VISITOR for March 15th upon the subject of help in the house, I beg leave to say a few words upon the same. It is a subject that has engaged the attention of housekeepers more than all others since housekeeping began, and like the weather, is a topic that is always new when nothing more interesting can be found to converse upon, and with many it is a never failing theme.

There are at least two sides to all questions, and this is no exception to the rule. In the first place the mistress must not expect to hire angels, neither must the maid expect perfection. We are all human. "To err is human," still there is a great lack of competency in the help we can obtain. I do not think it is wholly due to the idea that they are not well used, for there are few farmers' families, at least, where they are not treated as one of the family; but they do not take an interest in their work, or have any pride as to how it is done, if the time only goes on.

That there are exceptions to this rule I am well aware, for I, more than a score of years, had one of the exceptions in my family, but how many housekeepers can say the same? The idea seems to prevail that it is degrading to do housework, but I am too dull of comprehension to see why there is any more degradation in being a first-class cook, than in being a fifth rate school teacher. "Act well your part, there all the honor lies" is certainly as applicable to the kitchen work as to any other calling in life. Skilled labor will always command good wages, and to my mind there is no way in which money can be spent and bring a corresponding amount of comfort to the whole household as in employing competent help; but where shall we find it? That is a question I will leave others to answer. Some one may say, "bring up your own daughters to work." Every true mother will do that, but what if she has none, then what shall she do?

Happy the woman who is never obliged to hire help, and who at the same time never feels that she is wearing herself out, or leaving undone things that ought to be performed.

I notice the idea of establishing "schools of training" is being agitated. It seems to me there are thousands of good housekeepers who would gladly establish schools of training if they could find one intelligent, willing pupil who is anxious to learn all kinds of work, and would at the same time furnish them a comfortable home, and pay them for the privilege of teaching them.

CHLOE.

The Home.

[An essay read to Portland Grange, No. 174, by Mrs. E. Rozell.]

Home and its surroundings should claim the attention of every Patron and farmer in this broad land. The home is not only the place where we go to eat and sleep and because we have no other place to go to, but a place where, in every sense of the word we should delight to dwell, and where the children will be contented and happy. Home should be made as attractive and pleasant as possible. To make happy homes does not require a large amount of labor or expense. It is in the reach of nearly all to have pleasant and happy homes with but little labor. We can plant trees and flowers and arrange them with taste and order, that our homes may be pleasant and beautiful by they ever so humble. Home is a sweet word, but to make a sweet home all must act in concert to give to it both an external and an internal beauty. Home, with all that is dearest in the sacred name, is the peaceful and cherished retreat, within whose sanctuary bloom the flowers of happiness and contentment that makes it to the intelligent dweller a consecrated

temple. Home is the first school of childhood. Here they should be early taught the first great principles that constitute a noble man and womanhood—truth, virtue, and integrity. Any one imbued with these will not fail to labor to make a pleasant and beautiful home where love, happiness, and contentment reign supreme, whether that home be a log cabin or stately edifice. Home should be made as pleasant and agreeable as possible, that the children will be in no hurry to leave it, and when they do go out from their childhood's home for homes of their own, no matter how far they may wander from that sacred spot sweet memories will cluster around the dear old home.

Now let us all, as brothers and sisters, strive as we meet here in our Grange home from week to week to make our meetings both pleasant and profitable. Here we may exchange thoughts on matters that most interest the farmer, and kindly greet our brothers and sisters. Let us all try to live in our Grange home as members of one family, each one trying to do his or her duty as best we can. Let us set a strict watch over our words and actions that we may not do or say anything that will offend a brother or sister, and may envy or jealousy never enter our peaceful enclosure.

Female Suffrage.

There is much said and written in these days of progress, respecting an extension of privileges, and the grant of new rights to our sex. The true nobility of women is to keep her sphere, and adorn it. But will it detract from her real womanliness, her innate delicacy, or would her prerogatives as a woman be imperiled by her having a right of suffrage in matters which relate to temperance and education?

At the present time almost the entire control and education of children and homes are delegated to women, and could any danger or loss accrue to the interests of education by extending to her the right of suffrage, and of making her eligible to any office under the law? She should not, by curiosity or glowing words, barter away her Eden by seeking to share the fame of the ruler and the blood-shedder, or mingle in warfare that may rack our Republic, yet she should be permitted to raise her voice to put down the wrongs which oppress her. Women to-day are taking an interest in matters of public concern as never before. Has her presence before the public as an active participant in the reformatory, benevolent, and educational interests of the hour rendered her less lovely, less pure and womanly, less the companion and help-meet of man? No; rather is not the reverse true? Has not the atmosphere been purified by her presence, instead of sullied by her own purity; has she not exalted the character and dignity of the other sex? Is it not a woman's duty to do what is right, and try to do all that she can to see that justice is given to all, as well as a man's duty? If a woman finds that she can use her influence towards putting a good man in office, in opposition to one whom she knows to be bad, and would withhold from the people their rights and just dues, is it not her duty to her country and humanity to use that influence?

In former years when a man's wife was considered little better than a dog, and a little dearer than his horse, a woman might take the back seat, and submit to laws which were in every way an injustice to her. Thank God, we are living in an age of progress, and as civilization advances, we shall see woman gradually lifted up to her proper place as man's equal. The ballot is not the end to which we wish to attain, but simply as a means of bettering woman's condition.

Some may wish to know what benefit would be derived by woman suffrage. I will state a few of them—peace, temperance, political reform, a more economical scale of State and National expenditures, a higher standard of religion and morals. I cannot go to the extreme that some do on this question. I believe that it would be a great benefit to many women; that others, the majority perhaps, it would not affect at all; and to those who would eternally strive for an office for which they are not fitted, it would prove a positive curse, just as it is to the man who sacrifices everything in his insane efforts to obtain office.

But whether beneficial or not, simple justice shows that women should have their right, and those who sneeringly say that woman's place is at home,—do not know enough to vote, are not worth-arguing with. Their style of reasoning shows the inability of their minds to comprehend a subject which certainly has right on its side.

Women, as a class are ordinarily intelligent, for instance, such women as Caroline Herschel, Grace Greenwood, Marion Harland, Marion J. Evans, and many more that I might mention,—do you think they are man's inferior?

I claim that man and woman are created equal, "That they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among them are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Women are governed by these powers, do they have their consent? I think not. I believe if woman

are given the ballot the greatest curse of this country—intemperance,—will cease to exist, that the cursed license law will be repealed and prohibition substituted in its place. Thousands of women whose pride has been humbled to the very dust by the folly of those who are as dear to her as life itself would raise their voices and forbid its sale and stop its manufacture. Exclusive male legislation has proved itself incompetent to cope with this destructive power. If women are denied a voice on this question, is it not an unwarrantable usurpation of power, since she is the sufferer and her freedom must still be sacrificed to man's liberty? You may say that the husband represents the wife at the polls. How can this be when he votes for a license which brings to her poverty, disgrace and death. Besides we have not all husbands to represent us, and a thousand times better, girls, is maidenhood, than wifehood full of wretchedness.

Woman is employed in almost every station in life where intelligence and good judgment are required, and it has been proven in history that she is capable of governing wisely, and hence can cast her ballot with equal wisdom. A woman who owns property has to pay taxes, and is amenable to the law, just the same as a man is, and yet has no voice in the election of those who make and execute those laws. She has road tax to pay just the same as her male neighbors. Does she shoulder her shovel and go out and put in a full day's work on the road, and some of our opponents have suggested? No, but with the same right she simply hires her taxes worked out, just as many men do. Men also send substitutes to the army in times of war instead of going themselves, but they vote just the same. What should prevent women doing likewise? Just because the women wish to have the same rights and privileges as men, and stand on equal grounds with the lords of creation, we are told that we are seeking notoriety. Well, if going to Congress, voting for the rights and protection of our country is notoriety, then that is just what we want. If voting against and laboring with all the earnestness of our natures to drive the cause of intemperance from our land is notoriety, then we hope and pray that the day will come when we can be notorious.

Why do women not receive the same wages as men for the same labor performed? Why do women do all the drudgery about the house, as is too often the case? Why should the Creator design her for a higher and nobler work of fitting and qualifying herself as a mother for training the young?

I will say that the right to vote is God-given, that He has implanted within us a spirit of self-defense, and given us the ability to discern right from wrong. I think the question of allowing either a man or a woman a vote should not be decided by their belonging to a certain sex, but there should be certain qualifications which every voter should be required to possess, before enjoying that privilege. We have in the United States thousands of women who are owners of property, who pay taxes annually for the support of the government, while they do not have a voice in the election of the men who make the laws and levy the taxes which they are called upon to help pay. We have also many who are not property-holders occupying positions of trust and honor. We find them teaching in our public schools and colleges, we find them taking the lead in suppressing that monster vice, intemperance—which in many instances becomes an important issue in the campaign. They have been careful readers and know whereof they speak.

On the other hand, we have many more voters who do not possess even a primary education, many of them cannot read the names on the tickets they vote, and many would sell their vote for a glass of whisky.

In order to vote intelligently, 'tis very important that we know something of the history of the party that we vote with, that we understand, to some extent, at least, the principles embodied in the platform upon which that party stands, instead of voting through our eyes and ears, as too many do. You speak of the polluting influences that would surround your wives and sisters at the polls, and for that reason you seem to object to their going there. Now, this may be sufficient reason for some, but it hardly satisfies me, for I am too well aware of the fact that the same men whose foul, tainted breath and obscene language pollutes the very atmosphere, congregate in other places where they have better chance to exercise all these debasing and demoralizing powers, and our gentle ones meet with them, and not a voice in all the land is heard warning us to keep away. My friend, if the condition is such at the polls as you describe it, then I think it high time we found some remedy. And what better remedy can we find than the refining influence of good women?

The polls are not the only place where women are brought in contact with roughs, or coarse, uncouth men. Every day we are disgusted with their filthy habits in other places than at the polls. For instance, a lady goes into a dry goods store to make a purchase; ten to one the store is surrounded by loafers, who stare her out of countenance and perhaps make disparaging remarks about her after her exit.

And if it be so degrading to go to the ballot box with your wives and sisters, they

could have a ballot box of their own, set apart from the crowd of roughs with which you vote.

Ah, gentlemen, if you wish us to hold fast to our morals, Christian graces, to all that constitutes a true woman, prove your faith by your works; and as we are and must be law-abiding, protect us as such, and as citizens of the United States should be. You wish to marry women only who are superior to you in all the higher questions. Think you we care to marry beneath us—bind ourselves to you for life?

Now, for the sake of the class that you represent, don't say that many want the right of suffrage, and to fill high offices, who have not the ability or natural qualifications to fill them, when in one of the prominent States, in the late election, one of the town inspectors of election confessed to never having read the Constitutions, State or National.

MRS. URSULA VANAKEN.

The Woman's Right to the Pocket-Book.

[The following question was before the Orleans Grange, No. 325, December 16, 1880: Resolved, that the wife has just as much right to the pocket-book as the husband.]

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters:—As I have been chosen to argue this momentous question in behalf of the rights of the wife, I will endeavor to state a few of the reasons therefor.

Now one of our inalienable rights is the pursuit of happiness, and if the husband's exclusive control to the pocket book causes us unhappiness, we have a right to seek a change in that respect.

In the first place, the man at the marriage altar says, "With my goods I thee endow." He may have much or little, as the case may be. If he endows her with his worldly possessions, has she not a right to them? But in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, his possessions are very small, and they start life about on an equal footing, to say nothing about the endowment.

For a little, she does not see or know that they are not equal partners, as far as the pocket-book is concerned. They buy a farm or perhaps a village home, each one working with all their might, striving to earn and save till the home is paid for, and all this time the wife has been slowly learning the bitter fact that as all their joint earnings have gone into the husband's pocket-book, if she wants a few dollars she must ask for it. If he happens to be good natured, she gets it without other comment than "what are you going to buy?" but if he is cross, perhaps she is flatly refused, or it is given with the grumbling remark, that "times are hard, and women must not expect to have everything they can think of." She takes the money with an aching heart and thinks it will be a long time before she will ask again, but by and by, her needs are greater, and she must have clothing for herself and children, and with a dread feeling that she must be a beggar to get what is hers by right, she asks again. I have known women to ask and even beg to be allowed a small amount called pin money, that they might spend as they pleased without question, well knowing that in their circumstances it could well be afforded, and only be laughed at for their pains. Many women get so tired and sensitive about asking and begging that they will deny themselves in every respect they can rather than submit to it.

They certainly have a right to it, for are they not as industrious, as economical, and as prudent in their outlays as men? and their earnings are all in the household, aye, and in the husband's pocket book too.

If they were to work out by the week, few of them would work harder, far harder, or dress poorer, but if one should say, "I do your work, care for the family, and save all I can for the general fund, now pay me as much as a hired girl receives, that I may not feel that every cent I spend belongs to some one else," she is laughed to scorn or scolded for her impudence, and left in the same beggarly state as before. I do not intend to accuse men of wanton cruelty in this matter, but most of them, if remonstrated with on this subject, will say, "If it is not worth asking for, it is not worth having," but if brought right down where they cannot dodge, they will admit that it is no more than just, yet they cannot seem to get rid of the idea that it is their pocket-book not *ours*, and that we are not partners with equal rights to its contents.

I once heard a lady make some remark about buying her husband a Christmas present, when a gentleman present said with a snicker, "How nice it is to receive presents and pay for them yourself," and that illustrates the idea exactly. It is *their* money we spend, not *ours*. And what an idea, after forty or fifty years of service, his wife did not have money enough of her own to buy her husband a Christmas gift!

Our lives of labor, our toils and cares and self-denials are as naught if it touches their pocket book, and I claim it is not right. We have a right to as much of the income as they have if we bear our portion of life's burdens, and we should have the same privilege of spending it that they have theirs without being made to feel like beggars.

Then, too, in many cases I claim that the wife has far the best right to the pocket-book, for it is her earnings that supply it, and provide mostly for the family, while what little the husband earns goes for whisky and tobacco. If a woman wants a bright ribbon or a feather for her hat she is made to feel her dependence, but what man ever stops to question his right to the money when he buys his cigars and glass of beer?

I once heard a man say he would not dare leave his pocket-book where his wife could get it, or she would spend all his money. I don't believe it. If she did not know his plans and outlays and incomes, whose fault is it if she did not know the need of saving? And if she was treated as a wife, and not as a servant, she would not spend a cent that was put by for a special purpose any sooner than he would.

I would not be unjust, but only tell the truth plainly, for I believe many men love their wives, and if they knew just how they felt on this subject, they would change their course, and not make them beggars instead of co-equal partners on life's journey.

Perhaps some may think I am giving my own experience, and describing my own bitter lot, but most of you know that my husband is a woman's rights man, and a few of you know that I have my own pocket-book, and I will tell you a secret. It is not empty as often as his, for that is where we deposit our money for especial purposes.

No, as civilization progresses, woman's condition improves, and most men only need to be enlightened to deal more justly with their wives. If any of you think I do not tell the truth, just ask your wives.

ELSIE LAMBERTSON.

Gossip.

Although this is a homely subject, there is much that can be said regarding it. Spinning street yarn has been the fashion since the small date of years began, and like some other fashions, it has grown more hideous. We all come below perfection, and sometimes err in word or deed. There is a certain class in every hamlet who enjoy life in no better way than in scattering the seeds of calumny broadcast, catching some saying, hastening away to some place of gathering to relate it, and on and on it goes, until it is extended into a lengthy line, with some black marks and several exclamation points. This may be thoughtlessly done by some, while others use it as a weapon whereby to avenge some fancied injury. This seems to be a trait belonging to woman more than man. Woman's tongue has always been proverbial for its hastiness and alacrity. Even in Eden's lovely land, man was beguiled to partake of the forbidden fruit by woman. And woman, pure and lovely as she is, must certainly acknowledge this error as a part of her poor human nature. Let it be as it may, it is an ugly trait which should be banished from society, for "He who steals my purse, steals trash; but he who robs me of my good name, takes from me that which does not enrich him and makes me poor indeed."

There is no act toward our fellow-man that pains a sensitive person more than the foul tattle that some weak-minded people let fall from their lips. Most persons wish to be well thought of, and it is very unpleasant even if all such accusations are false, for there are always a ready few to set the ball rolling, and there is certainly nothing under Heaven's blue vault that sweeps down upon mankind like these hard sayings. There is an old saying that "the best apples are found where most clubs lie under the tree," and the gold must be separated from the dross by the scorching test of fire, yet with these redemptions, people do not wish to be annoyed by such accusations. To be thought well of is one of the highest aims of man, and if every person would pause long enough to consider the saying that "malice toward none and charity to all," is one of the best safeguards, me-thinks that many loose tongues would put on the golden bridle.

There is a class of gatherings that are hot-beds for these poisonous weeds to vegetate in. A company of young ladies and gentlemen gather, perhaps, at a neighbor's house for enjoyment in the silly plays of the reason,—too silly for young ladies and gentlemen to engage in—and on the sly, comment upon the dowdy dress of one, or upon some trifle which a false breath has wafted to them. This certainly is un-Christian and rude. Civilization breeds better entertainments, and should breed better manners. They should long ago have been buried with the ancient modes of life. Then with the stride of time cannot we leave behind us the past and make for ourselves a more pleasing and instructive future? This now is dawning upon us in the beautiful organization of the Grange. Here we have sensible and instructive pleasure, where no one needs feel the fangs of gossip, but instead feel as a band of brothers and sisters striving to so educate themselves up to a higher order, that no back-biting can long live in its pure atmosphere. I knew a lady in my youth, who said to me one day as I was talking at random of some person, "If you know no good of a person, never speak ill of them." The delicate white flowers and blue forget-me-nots are now blooming over that pained tongue that never spoke ill of her

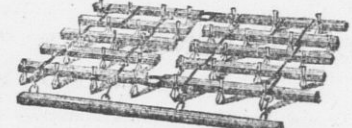
fellow-mortals and her pure spirit is praising God; but the lesson she taught me remaineth still.

As thoughtlessness begets these foolish habits more than any one thing, should it not be our aim and determination to exert every influence in favor of more mental and moral training—educating the young to that standard of right and beauty that may aid them to disdain the impure and frivolous atmosphere that surrounds snap-and-catch-'em bugging bees?

Then, Patrons, let us endeavor to make our Grange so alluring that all farmers and their families may be so well pleased with the precepts it teaches, that they can in no wise stay outside the gates, but come and be one among us in our pleasant home, and thereby aid the world to grow into that perfectness on earth, that as we knock at the pearly gates for admission, our password may be of that order which the Worthy Master and heaven may admit.

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MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

TIME-TABLE—MAY 9, 1880.

WESTWARD.

	A. M.	P. M.
Accommodation leaves.....	4 50	9 30
Local Passenger.....	9 30	9 30
Evening Express.....	1 53	
Pacific Express.....	2 42	
Mail.....		1 13
Day Express.....		2 36

EASTWARD.

	A. M.	P. M.
Night Express.....	2 25	
Accommodation leaves.....	6 50	9 35
Mail.....		12 33
New York Express.....		1 28
Atlantic Express.....		7 41
		10 25

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses and Local Passenger daily. All other trains daily except Sunday.

H. E. LEBLANC, Gen. Manager, Detroit.

R. C. BROWN, Asst. Gen. Supt., Jackson.

HERBERT C. WENTWORTH, P. & T. A., Chicago.

L. S. & M. S. R. R.

KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

(Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo.)

GOING SOUTH.

	N Y & C N Y & B	Way Fr.
Le. Grand Rapids.....	8 00 AM	4 15 PM
Ar. Allegan.....	9 17 "	5 30 "
Ar. Kalamazoo.....	10 15 "	6 45 "
Ar. Schoolcraft.....	10 43 "	7 23 "
Ar. Three Rivers.....	11 24 "	7 53 "
Ar. White Pigeon.....	11 55 "	8 20 "
Ar. Toledo.....	5 25 PM	2 40 AM
Ar. Cleveland.....	10 10 "	7 05 "
Ar. Buffalo.....	4 00 AM	1 10 PM

GOING NORTH.

	N Y & C N Y & B	Way Fr.
Le. Buffalo.....	12 30 PM	12 45 AM
Ar. Cleveland.....	7 35 "	7 00 "
Ar. Toledo.....	12 01 AM	11 10 "
Ar. White Pigeon.....	6 00 "	5 30 PM
Ar. Three Rivers.....	6 28 "	4 17 "
Ar. Schoolcraft.....	6 56 "	4 45 "
Ar. Kalamazoo.....	7 30 "	5 15 PM
Ar. Allegan.....	8 40 "	6 20 "
Ar. Grand Rapids.....	10 00 "	7 40 "

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line.

Supt. Kalamazoo Division, Kalamazoo.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Time-Table—January 24, 1881.

WESTWARD.

	Day Express	Express	Mixed
No. 2.	No. 6.	No. 13.	No. 13.
Le. Port Huron.....	7 15 AM	4 15 PM	
" Grand Trunk Junction.....	7 25 "	4 25 "	
" Imlay City.....	8 48 "	5 44 "	
" Lapeer.....	9 20 "	6 20 "	
" Flint.....	10 07 "	7 20 "	
" Durand.....	10 54 "		
" Lansing.....	12 08 PM		
" Charlotte.....	12 52 "		
" Battle Creek.....	2 00 "	7 20 AM	
" Vicksburg.....	3 18 "	8 40 "	
" Schoolcraft.....	3 32 "	9 10 "	
" Cassopolis.....	4 27 "	1 05 PM	
" South Bend.....	5 18 "	1 40 "	
" Valparaiso.....	7 14 "	3 40 "	
Chicago.....	10 00 "		

EASTWARD.

	Day Express	Express	Mixed
No. 1.	No. 5.	No. 13.	No. 13.
Le. Chicago.....	6 45 AM		
" Valparaiso.....	9 12 "		
" South Bend.....	11 20 "	10 30 AM	
" Cassopolis.....	12 14 PM	1 05 PM	
" Vicksburg.....	1 36 "	2 32 "	
" Battle Creek.....	1 18 "	3 00 "	
" Schoolcraft.....	2 20 "	3 50 "	
" Lansing.....	3 32 "	4 10 "	
" Durand.....	4 06 "	4 30 AM	
" Flint.....	5 55 "	6 20 AM	
" Lapeer.....	7 14 "	7 20 "	
" Imlay City.....	8 40 "	9 44 "	
" T. Junction.....	9 40 "	10 40 "	
Port Huron.....	9 50 "	10 30 "	

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