

Agriculture

Command large fields, but advise small ones - Virgil. The farmer is the founder of civilization - Daniel Webster. In ancient times, the sacred place enjoyed the king and noble fathers of mankind - Thompson. The first is God's gift which He gives man - every loaf of the ground in the world, meeting man, and preserving the whole - Fuller.

Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but the real wealth and standing are to be looked for among the cultivators of the soil. - Lord Chatham. In the age of science, antecedent to Corn and the rural plowman, Tripolitan, a single barley corn had been of more value to mankind than all the diamonds that glower in the mines of India. - Frooke. The first three men in the world were a gardener, a plowman and a grazer; and if any man object that the second was a murderer, I desire he would consider that as soon as he was so, he quitted our profession and turned builder. - Cowley. And he gave it for his opinion, that whoever could make two masts of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country, than the whole race of politicians put together. - Swift.

Agriculture is the most certain source of wealth, strength and independence. Commerce flourishes by circumstances precarious, contingent, transitory, almost as liable to change as the winds and waves that waft it to our shores. She may well be termed the younger sister, for, in all emergencies, she looks to agriculture both for defense and for supply. - Colton. In a moral point of view, the life of the agriculturist is the most pure and holy of any class of men; pure, because it is the most healthful and vice can hardly find time to contaminate it; and holy, because it brings the Deity perpetually before his view, giving him thereby the most exalted notions of Supreme power, and the most fascinating and endearing view of benignity. - Lord John Russell.

Three Things. 1. Three things to admire: Intellectual Power, Dignity, Greatness. 2. Three things to love: Courage, Gentleness, and Affection. 3. Three things to hate: Cruelty, Arrogance, and Ingratitude. 4. Three things to delight in: Frankness, Freedom, and Beauty. 5. Three things to wish for: Health, Friends, and a Cheerful Spirit. 6. Three things to avoid: Idleness, Loquacity, and Flippancy, Jesting. 7. Three things to pray for: Faith, Peace, and Purity of Heart. 8. Three things to contend for: Honor, Country, and Friends. 9. Three things to govern: Temper, Tongue, and Conduct. 10. Three things to think about: Life, Death, and Eternity. - Blaghampton Republican.

Proposed Reforms in the Grange. The Raisin, Mich., Grange, one of the largest of Lenawee county, recently adopted the following recommendations of a committee which had been appointed to consider the subject of errors and abuses in the Order of Patrons of Husbandry which need reforming: 1. That any fourth degree member in good standing shall be eligible to any position in the Order. 2. That the State Grange shall be composed of representatives elected by the State Granges. 3. That the National Grange shall be composed of at least two representatives elected by the State Granges. 4. That the members shall continue to hold honors and privileges by virtue of having once occupied a place of honor and trust. 5. That the dispensation fee be reduced from \$15 to \$5, and that the funds in the National Grange be returned to the State Granges, pro rata, except what is needed to defray necessary expenses. 6. That all degrees above the fourth degree be abolished. 7. That the annual fee from each member be reduced to five cents. 8. That each subordinate Grange be allowed to regulate their own admission fees. 9. That the representatives receive no pay except actual expenses. 10. That dues to the State Grange from members be reduced to twenty-five cents for males, and ten cents for females. 11. That we submit for the careful consideration of Patrons of the country the amendments.

What the Farmer Saves in Paying Cash.

H. W. Long, a master of a Florida Grange, has been talking some on this subject in this way:—If we adopt a cash system, our merchants can furnish us our supplies at a profit of twenty-five per cent.; and supposing that we purchase our annual supplies in twelve equal installments, our merchants can operate upon one-twelfth of the capital required under the present system. If we take the farmer who purchases one thousand dollars worth of supplies, annually from his merchant, who takes a profit of fifty per cent. by paying cash for his supplies, at a profit of twenty-five per cent. to his merchant, we find that after adding interest to his purchase money, that his supplies for one year cost him eight hundred and sixty-nine 44-100 dollars, which is an annual saving of one hundred and thirty-three 19-100 dollars. A farmer dealing upon the above specified basis, can purchase seventy-five per cent of his supplies direct from the producer at as low rates as his merchant does, which amounts to five hundred dollars per annum. The saving of twenty-five per cent per annum on that amount, with interest added, in a business of seven years, amounts to one thousand and eighty-five dollars. By recapitulating this calculation, we find that the farmer dealing under the present system has lost during the past seven years the sum of \$2,893.32. By paying cash, at a profit of twenty-five per cent. will save \$1,133.18. By buying seventy-five per cent of his supplies direct from the producer, he will save in seven years \$1,085. Amount total of losses in seven years, \$5,111.51. Thus it is shown that the honest farmer, who had the capacity to estimate his ability to meet his liabilities when due, and who needed annually one thousand dollars worth of supplies, which cost the merchant six hundred and sixty dollars and sixty-six and two-thirds cents, has actually lost during the past seven years the sum of five thousand one hundred and eleven dollars and fifty-one cents.

Advice to Patrons.

Hon. Jas. B. Beck, a Kentucky Congressman, made a speech to the Grangers, at a barbecue in his State, recently, when he took occasion to give them this advice:—"The Grangers have it in their power without departing from their determination to exclude politics from their organization, to do the country more service, than they are, perhaps, aware of, simply by resolving not to vote for any man for Congress or the State Legislatures who is in any way connected with any of the great corporations or organizations which are seeking special legislation or exclusive privileges. It is impossible to have just and honest legislation, State or Federal, so long as representatives are sent who owe their election to, or are personally interested in, great moneyed corporations or monopolies—no matter whether they call themselves Democrats or Republicans, they are not the representatives of the people, they are simply the agents and attorneys of those who seek, by taxing the masses, to enrich themselves, whenever they owe their election to monopolies, or are themselves interested in class legislation."

The Growth of the Order.

The Farmers' Movement is sweeping over Kentucky like a prairie fire, consuming the trash, and we hope purifying the desires of her people. We do not believe there have been as many organizations in any other State in the same period of time as there has been in this State. The first Grange was organized on the 28th of August last, and now there are eleven hundred in Kentucky—being only nine months, or on an average of over one hundred per month. At no distant day the honest, steady and noble farmers of Kentucky will stand as one man in this Order of grand principles, and then we shall expect to see all the county and State offices filled with men of integrity, a reduction of the salaries of the officers and consequent reduction of taxes; and then will follow a period of more prosperous times, and a happier people. - [Southern Agriculturist.

The State Grange and State Fairs.

The following proceedings of the State Grange in relation to the State Fair, we find in the Clarion. The official proceedings of the State Grange are not yet received. A communication from the Agricultural and Mechanical State Fair Association was received as follows: Jackson, Miss., Sept. 26, 1874. To the State Grange of Miss: GENTLEMEN: At the meeting of the Board of Control of the Planters, Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Association of the State of Mississippi, held on the 12th of June last, the undersigned were appointed a committee to solicit the co-operation of your Honorable Body in making the Annual State Fair what they should be—a faithful exhibition of the products and industries of the State of Mississippi.

The Sixth Annual Exhibition will be held in Jackson during the last week in October, commencing on the 25th and ending on the 31st. We have already reason to believe, that in general interest, it will be at least equal to any former exhibition. In the display of agricultural implements and machinery, we have assurance that it will surpass any former effort. But we are anxious to secure a creditable exhibition of the varied products of the State, and, therefore, appeal to your Honorable Body to recommend to your Subordinate Granges, and the individual members thereof, to contribute, as far as practicable, to the display in the several departments of the approaching Fair. An effectual method of co-operation would be for each Grange to offer one or more premiums for the best display contributed from within its territorial jurisdiction, and the State Fair Association will provide a suitable award for the best of all entries competing.

We feel authorized to state that should the State Grange desire or consent to participate in the management of the State Fairs, that the Board of Control of our Association would lend such co-operation as a guarantee of future success, and would be glad to confer with any committee that your Body may appoint as to the best means of carrying out the objects of our incorporation, which are "to foster and encourage the agricultural, manufacturing and mechanical interests of the State."

Very Respectfully, L. F. MONTGOMERY, L. MUSGRAVE, W. B. TAYLOR, G. D. BUSTAMANTE, J. L. POWER, Committee.

To the State Grange.

Your committee to whom was referred the communication of the Planters', Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Association of the State of Mississippi, inviting the co-operation of this body towards making the Annual Fairs held by this Association, a faithful exhibition of the products and industries of the State of Mississippi, and to assist said Association in carrying out the objects of its incorporation, to wit:—"To foster and encourage the agricultural, manufacturing and mechanical interests of the State," beg leave to report, that, after considering said communication, and conferring with committee representing the State Fair Association, your committee express its hearty sympathy in the aims and objects and efforts of said Association and would recommend for adoption the following RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLVED 1st, That the State Grange of Mississippi recognize in the Planters', Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Association of the State of Mississippi, an organization well calculated to promote the industrial interests of the State, and that the same is worthy the encouragement and patronage of all, but especially of those engaged in agriculture, manufacturing and stock raising. RESOLVED 2d, That we heartily approve the suggestions in the communication before this Body, indicating an effectual method of co-operating with the State Fair Association, and it is accordingly recommended to Subordinate Granges, and to the individual members thereof, to contribute as far as practicable to the display in the several Departments of the Annual State Fair, and that such Subordinate Granges offer one or more premiums for the best display contributed from within its territorial jurisdiction—the State Association being pleased to provide one or more suitable awards for the best of all competing entries. RESOLVED 3d, That this Body cordially recommend the formation of Agricultural Associations, for the purpose of annual exhibitions, in each county of the State; or where this may not be practicable, that several contiguous counties unite, as at Madison, and have a District or Central Fair, and that we recommend to the several Granges, either to take the control and management of such Associations, or to co-operate in the manner suggested for the State Fair, in making the displays at such, a faithful exposition of the productive capacity of each county or district. Such County Associations, when auxiliary to the State Association, are entitled, under provisions of Sec. 9 of the charter of the latter, to a State appropriation of two hundred dollars to assist them in organizing. Respectfully submitted, L. O. BIDEWELL, T. B. SMITH, J. J. SHANNON, Committee.

To Patrons of Husbandry.

Dear brothers and sisters:—Anxious for the reformation of our unhappy State, I sent myself this morning to drop you a few lines for your consideration, and hope you may glean a few words of consolation therefrom. When I reflect how many there are whose faith in just principles has been shaken, and whose minds have fallen a prey to the wiles of speculation; and, moreover, when I remember that so many of the young and promising rank among the victims of this moral contagion, I cannot but feel an earnest desire to become an instrument of good to a portion of my fellow-citizens. Oh, that my brothers and sisters would help me to speak a word in their behalf, with all the zeal for our salvation to which they can give utterance! I would make the appeal to your judgment and conscience. Let me bespeak your candor. As I am conscious of no motive but a desire to honor our cause, I am anxious to see the wrongs in our midst eradicated, and I know of no better way than for us as Patrons to lay our shoulder to the lever and push forward. Our motto is onward and upward, not backward. No crawling in the game; such will do for speculators and swindlers. Farmers all over the land must come in one united band, laying aside wars and rumors of wars, and be as true Patrons. Let us love one another without murmuring, for bigotry has no feeling, persecution no resting place. S. A. L. Caldwell Parish, Aug. 30, 1874.

DISCOLORED YELLOW PINE.

Spotting or staining of pine sheeting, "is owing to the boards being laid too close upon one another during the warm season of the year. Experience proves that in the storing of wood little care need be taken in the winter, season when nature is at rest; but as spring comes and vegetation—in the words of Thomas Hood—puts on "its furniture of green," the greatest care is needed. Wood which, though dead to all appearance, is still alive to vegetation in its lowest form in warmth and moisture, will cause a fallen tree to sprout sprigs of leaves from its bark, and, failing this, fungi will most certainly germinate. Wood denuded of its bark takes the latter form, hence discoloration of sapwood, spotting, staining, and drying rot; in these cases it is literally forming food for other forms of vegetation, and, if not arrested by intercourse with dry air, will sap its very vitals and "leave but a wreck behind." In the case in point, the spread of the fungi would cease upon the boards being removed from contact with each other; but the damage wrought is not easily effaced. If the roots have not struck too deep into the wood, the discoloration may be removed by retarding the boards, but, if otherwise, it may safely be taken there is no possible remedy.—Cor. of Building News.

A highly intelligent dog—the type-setter.

Mississippi

THE COTTON PARADOXICAL MATTER AND INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL, WHILE COURTESY OF VIRGIN LAMB. PASCAGOULA'S LINGERING TRADE.

The Southern editor of the Chicago Commercial Advertiser, after an extensive examination into the cottonness of the State of Mississippi, writes as follows: "Mississippi enjoys the proud distinction of being the Cotton State, par excellence, of the South, having in 1860, raised the enormous crop of 999,000 bales, and even since the war, with available labor, she has kept far in the lead in the race for the 'Cotton Belt.' The fertility of the soil and the ease with which it is worked, renders the State one that ought to command the earnest attention of those who desire to engage in agricultural pursuits. Corn, sweet potatoes, peanuts, field peas, wheat, oats, and rye are raised in the greatest perfection, while as a fruit growing region, the whole State is unsurpassed.

There are two grand trunk lines of railroad that pass through the State from South to North, the New Orleans, St. Louis, and Chicago, and the Mobile and Ohio, and over them garden vegetables and early fruits can be sent to the markets of Louisville, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago and Detroit, at a minimum cost for freight, and a maximum of profit, with market gardening, when crop can be placed early on the market.

Within the past two years, labor has become, to a great extent, settled in the State, and skilled laborers in the field and garden can be secured at from ten to fifteen dollars per month and board. The central portion of the State is best adapted to both garden and field products; the lands in the great prairie belt of Eastern Mississippi, and those comprising the bottom lands of the Mississippi, on the west, being more particularly adapted to corn and cotton; while the lighter soils, contiguous to both these sections, produce every variety of fruit and vegetables, and in the greatest perfection.

The commercial affairs of the State are in a most satisfactory condition, the effect of the panic of 1873, having almost entirely passed away. It is a current remark that the present crop will be raised at the least expense of any since the war, for the merchants, warned by the experience of the past years, and the disasters of 1873, would not "advance" on this year's crop, save to a very limited extent. The beneficial effect of this refusal to allow the planters to run up bills to be paid for when the corn is marketed, is already manifest in the air of confidence which now everywhere accompanies the formerly depressed agriculturist.

There is no political disturbance, save a local trouble at Vicksburg in regard to the city election, and even that has nearly died out, for people are too busy in their agricultural and commercial matters to pile any fuel on the flame. I find Northern men everywhere, and they are all prosperous—that is those who are engaged in business.

An interest that is destined to add immensely to the wealth of the State, and one that is that attracting much capital, both from the North, and from foreign countries, is the lumber trade. The whole southern portion of the State, some 10,000 square miles in extent, is an almost unbroken forest of splendid yellow pine on the uplands, while on the streams, are found oak, hickory and cypress. At Pascagoula, near the Gulf of Mexico, and in the southeast portion of the State, are some of the largest saw mills in the South. The lumber prepared here, amounts in value to over two and one-half millions of dollars annually, and it is largely shipped to the West Indies, and even to Europe, South America and Mexico.

At a regular meeting of Centre Grange on Saturday Sept. 12th, 1874, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

- A. Scarborough, Master. \* J. L. Jordan, Overseer. \* H. Williams, Lecturer. \* J. Scarborough, Steward. L. Scarborough, A. St. Steward. \* C. F. Krohn, Chaplain. J. H. Krohn, Treasurer. \* G. W. Scarborough, Secretary. \* J. E. McQueen, Gate Keeper. Mrs. Dorcas Cruthirds, Ceres. Miss R. B. Evans, Pomona. Mrs. Kate Jordan, Flora. \* Those marked \* were re-elected. A. SCARBOROUGH, Master. G. W. Scarborough, Sect. Sept. 14th, 1874.

Endorsements of the 'Star.'

BY THE STATE GRANGE. Resolved, That we promise to send to the patronage and support of the Order throughout the State, 'The Farmers' Visitor,' 'The Southern Homestead,' 'The Star of Pascagoula' and 'The Patrons of Husbandry,' and said journals are requested to publish the proceedings of the State Grange, and the Secretary is directed to furnish said papers with copies of all circulars and other official notices required for publication.

At a meeting of Bluff Grange the following resolutions were unanimously adopted: Resolved, That the Star of Pascagoula be chosen as the official organ of Bluff Grange, and that the Secretary be authorized to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Star.

Resolved, That we hold with satisfaction the association of Brother C. K. Browning as Grange officer of the Star and commend it as a faithful and able exponent of the designs and interests of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry and to the support of the Order.

ORANGE GRANGE MEETING.—The following resolutions were adopted by Orange Grange at their regular meeting on Monday, Aug. 18th: Resolved, That we take pleasure in commending to all members of our order, and to the tillers of the soil everywhere, 'THE STAR OF PASCAGOULA,' a journal devoted to our interest; and further recommend for our fraternity its able associate editor, C. K. Browning, a true and earnest Patron.

Resolved, That we elect said paper the official organ of our Grange.

OCEAN GRANGE MEETING.—At a regular meeting of the Ocean Grange on Saturday, Aug. 1st, the following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That we heartily recommend to the patronage and attentive pursuit of all Patrons, and to the farmers of our country generally, 'THE STAR OF PASCAGOULA,' a paper devoted to the interest of our Order and edited in part by our worthy Brother, C. K. Browning.

Correspondence on all subjects of interest to Patrons is solicited for the columns of this paper. We particularly request that Deputies and Secretaries will have frequent recourse to our columns, advising us of the organization of Granges and all matters pertaining to the progress of our cause.

GRANGE EXCHANGES will please direct to C. K. Browning, Biloxi, Miss.

Mr. A. M. Hardin is our authorized Agent for the STAR at St. Louis, Mo., and is authorized to receive subscriptions and silver payments for the same.

Secretaries of Granges will please forward us, as soon as possible, the lists of officers elected by their respective Granges to serve the ensuing year for publication.

Blank applications for membership will be furnished to the granges, for one dollar per hundred. All other printed matter for our brother Patrons at first cost.

Having attended the State Grange and been put in possession of matters of considerable importance to the Granges in this section, I will, if desired, visit any Grange and instruct them in the correct workings of the Order without charge, provided they attend to conveying me to and from the place of meeting. Address C. K. Browning, Biloxi, Miss.

Here is an encouraging item from the Mobile Graphic:—"Some people can not understand why it is that the residents of the Southern States are so crippled financially. Let them ponder over two facts, and then they will see more clearly. Georgia alone paid \$24,000,000 for grain, meat, flour, meal, horses and mules, in 1873, and Alabama about \$18,000,000. That's what went with the money. It will not be so again. The amount this year has already been reduced to about \$10,000,000, and in Alabama to \$8,900,000, and but for the one item of meat neither State will have occasion to spend more than \$5,000,000 for subsistence next year."

Wet Boots.—The Agriculturist gives the following advice to farmers who, next to fishermen, are apt to get their boots wet through: "When the boots are taken off, fill them quite full with dry oats. This grain has a great fondness for damp, will rapidly absorb the last vestige of it from the wet leather. As it takes up the moisture it swells and fills the boot with a tightly fitting last, keeping its form good, and drying the leather without hardening it. "In the morning, shake out the oats and hang them in a bag near the fire to dry, ready for the next wet night, draw on the boots, and go happily about the next day's work."

Just as the minister was immersing a colored convert near Bangor, lately, the choir broke out: "The morning light is breaking, The darkness disappears."

FATHERS OF HUSBANDRY.

NATIONAL GRANGE. The National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, organized at Washington, D. C., on the 30th of August, 1869, has for its object the promotion of the interests of the farmer, and the improvement of the condition of the rural population. It is a non-political, non-sectarian, and non-partisan organization, and its members are bound to support the Government, and to obey the laws of the United States. The National Grange is composed of State Granges, and each State Grange is composed of local Granges. The National Grange is the only organization of its kind in the world, and it is the only one that has the honor of being the first to be organized in the United States.

MISSISSIPPI STATE GRANGE. The Mississippi State Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, organized at Jackson, Miss., on the 1st of September, 1874, has for its object the promotion of the interests of the farmer, and the improvement of the condition of the rural population. It is a non-political, non-sectarian, and non-partisan organization, and its members are bound to support the Government, and to obey the laws of the United States. The Mississippi State Grange is composed of local Granges, and each local Grange is composed of individual Patrons.

ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL. Organized August 26th, 1874. Regular meetings on the first Monday of each month. J. B. Miller, Master, Jackson, Co. J. W. Grayson, Secretary.

HARRISON COUNTY COUNCIL. Organized August 26th, 1874. Regular meetings on the first Monday of each month. C. Adams, Master, Harrison county. C. K. Browning, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL AGENTS FOR PATRONS OF MISSISSIPPI. A. J. Vaughan, 308 Front Street, Memphis. A. M. Hardin, N. E. Cor. Pine & 2d, St. Louis. B. F. Hargraves, 19 N. Commerce St., Mobile. W. Harrington & Co., 79 Carondelet St., New Orleans.

Some Things Which the Patrons Propose to Do.

1. To secure for themselves, through Granges, social and educational advantages, not otherwise attainable, and to thereby, while improving their condition in class, enable farm life, and render it attractive and desirable.
2. To give full practical effect to the motto in which unites them, in helping one another in case of sickness, bereavement, pecuniary misfortune, and want of danger of every kind.
3. To make themselves better and more successful farmers and planters, by means of the knowledge gained, the practical method established, and the quickening of thought induced by intercourse and discussion.
4. To secure economies in the buying implements, fertilizers, and family supplies, and in transportation, as well as increased profits in the sale of the products of their labor, without enhancing their cost to the consumer.
5. To mutually abolish the credit system, in their ordinary transactions, always buying and selling on a cash basis, and among themselves and in their dealings with the outside world.
6. To encourage co-operation in trade, farming, and in other branches of industry, especially those most intimately connected with agriculture.
7. To promote the true unity of the people, by drawing the best men and women of all parts of the country together in an organization which knows no national bounds or prejudices, or even party allegiance. - [Rural Carolinian.

A Sound Platform.

The following is the platform of the Farmers' and People's Anti-Monopoly Party of Livingston county, Illinois. Every farmer and workman in the country can stand upon it and make a successful fight against all opposing interests. We endorse every word and sentiment of this platform: DECLARATION. This organization is opposed to railroad rates, tariff, trusts, salary grabbers, bank stocks, and every other form of stealing by which the farmer and working classes are robbed of the legitimate fruits of their labor.

PLATFOM. We are in favor of controlling by the railroad corporations of our State, we submit to taxation and State aid, we denounce as unjust and oppressive all taxation for the benefit of special classes.

We are in favor of the present banking system being so made that all men, giving the proper security, should be equal privileges, so that supply and demand shall regulate our money market.

We are opposed to all future grants of land to railroad or other corporations, and believe that the public domain should be held sacred to the actual settler.

We are in favor of a true system of election reform, making honest and speedy the only valid claim for public employments; and believe that the office should seek the man, and not the man the office.