

**The Grange as a Reformer.**

Something more than a mere change of men or of parties is necessary to reform the abuses of government. We must place in office men who have been educated in principles of honesty, who have not been themselves corrupted by the extravagance and vicious practices that have of late characterized public men of all parties. To give business its proper direction, men must be taught to aim at the highest standard of integrity, to make fair dealing their rule in all business transactions. The cause of temperance will be very little promoted by lecturers who sympathize with the movement only because they can make it peculiarly profitable, or by showy "reform" movements which are effective only while a temporary popular excitement continues, but by teaching men purer principles, and constantly surrounding them with such influences as will tend to make them better.

The Order does not simply demand reform, nor appeal to popular enthusiasm, but it promotes it by keeping before its members at all times its cardinal principles of honesty in all business transactions, both public and private, and uprightness in all the relations of life. It is based on true principles of political economy, not only demands equal rights for all without making war upon any useful class. The working of the Order elevates and cultivates the minds of its members, and makes them more capable of understanding the workings of government, conducting intelligently the different departments of business, and exerting a useful influence upon their fellow-men. No man can belong to the Order, attend its meetings and thoroughly understand its principles without being a more intelligent citizen, more upright in his business transactions and more useful in society. Thus besides improving the condition of farmers, the Grange has already become a vast power to benefit mankind.—*Dirigo Rural.*

At the annual meeting Mr. Chase, a member of the Executive Committee of the National Grange of the United States, was introduced by the Worthy Master of the Dominion Grange, and gave an interesting address and some valuable information regarding the Order in the United States. He said a desire was felt by some members of the Order in the States to reciprocate with the Canadian Order. He did not doubt but a friendly relationship would be soon brought about, and that such would be of mutual advantage. He stated that the Granges were found to work much better where the ritual was strictly carried out; that laxity in discipline tended to weakness.

An Alabama grange has appointed a committee to visit the farm of each member of that grange, and to report in writing the state of the growing crops; condition of farm and fences; quality and condition of stock; methods of cultivation; rotation of crops; kinds of crops raised, and the varieties of each; varieties of fruit raised, and the general condition of farm buildings. These reports are not for publication, unless the owner desires, but are to form the subjects for discussion at future meetings. Such grange work cannot but be profitable to the community in which it is situated, and could be imitated by other granges with much benefit.—*Rural World.*

The officers of the Kansas State Grange have established a monthly official paper, with "Patron's Gleaner" as its title. The *Kansas Farmer* has this to say about it:—"With the State Grange warehouse of Kansas standing idle and locked up, the funds of the State Grange treasury frittered away without a business organization outside three or four counties worthy the name, the forty thousand Patrons of Kansas have a right to demand a new Executive Committee that will not resort to the flimsy pretext of an organ to sustain and cover up their inefficiency and imbecility."

Ohio now has 1,200 granges, with an average membership of about fifty each. For the past few months the trade of the Order there has amounted to about \$100,000 per month, at a saving of about 25 per cent. The Order kept free from party politics during the late heated canvass in Ohio, showing it was too pure for party strife.

Lectures in fact, and not in mere theory, will be found very beneficial to the Order. Not alone should the regularly selected brother deliver these well-digested thoughts, but at stated periods each brother and sister should confer a special favor on the grange by delivering a few well-prepared remarks on some subject of interest.

**Absentees.**

In many Granges there are members who seldom or never attend the meetings. It is as much the duty of a member to attend the Grange as to pay dues, for getting farmers together, where they can talk and consult, gives the Grange its main strength. Let this be looked to. If any member habitually absents himself, he will neither know of nor abide the action of his Grange on important business matters. He is pointed to by outsiders to show that the Grange has no meaning, and becomes a stumbling block over which others cannot be induced to come. Continued absence without excuse is sufficient cause for a Grange to grant a withdrawal, whether asked for or not, and it will be found best to vote it.

H. D. Ranney, Secretary of River Valley Grange, Michigan, writes, under date of 16th September: Yesterday twenty-one Grangers, with teams, turned out for a brother who could not work, and sowed ten acres of wheat, cut three acres of corn, dug a field of potatoes and put them in the cellar, and cut half an acre of buckwheat. The sisters were also there with a bountiful supply for the inner man. We think that is as it should be.

W. Pemberton Page, Esq., the Worthy Secretary Dominion Grange, kindly offers to supply us monthly with items of Grange information. Mr. Page will please accept our thanks for his kind offer; we will be pleased to give his communications space in our columns.

**Good Health.****Diphtheria.**

There are at present in both town and country very many cases of this contagious disease, that, very often as at present, prove fatal. As the greatest care of the patient is necessary, from the moment when the first symptoms are perceived, which is often some time before the services of a physician can be procured, we publish the following very useful authorized article on the subject. It is the Report of the Sanitary Committee of the Board of Health of the City of New York:

**MODE OF ATTACK.**—Diphtheria is, therefore, a contagious disease (not perhaps as marked as scarlet fever) induced by contact with persons and objects infected. It may be diffused by the exhalations of the sick, by the air surrounding them, or directly by exudation, communicated in the act of kissing, coughing, spitting, sneezing, or by the infected article used, as towels, napkins, handkerchiefs, etc. The poison clings with great tenacity to certain places, rooms and houses, where it may occasion cases after the lapse of months.

**SYMPTOMS.**—In ordinary attacks the poison begins to act the moment it lodges upon the tissues, but, like a vaccination, causes but slight sensible effects in from two to five days; then there is marked prostration, dryness of the throat and pricking pains in swallowing; the throat becomes red, patches of white exudation appear, and the glands of the neck swell. In mild cases these symptoms subside on the third or fourth day from their appearance; if more severe, these symptoms may be prolonged; if unfavorable, the fever increases, the local inflammation spreads and exhaustion rapidly follows.

**PREDISPOSING CAUSES.**—THE PERSONS.—Diphtheria attacks by preference children between the ages of one and ten years, the greatest mortality being in the second, third and fourth year; children of feeble constitution and those weakened from previous sickness, and those suffering from catarrh, croup and other forms of throat affections.

**SOCIAL RELATIONS.**—All classes are liable to diphtheria where it is prevailing, but suffer most who live on low wet ground; in houses with imperfect drains or surrounded by offensive matter, as privies, decaying vegetable or animal matter; in damp rooms, as cellars; in overcrowded and unventilated apartments.

**SEASONS.**—Diphtheria is not affected either by heat or cold, drought or rain.

**PRECAUTIONS.**—(a) THE DWELLING OR APARTMENT.—Cleanliness in and around the dwellings and pure air in living and sleeping rooms are of the utmost importance where any contagious disease is prevailing, as cleanliness to prevent and mitigate it. Every kind and source of filth around and in the house should be thoroughly removed, cellars and foul areas should be in perfect order, dirty

walls and ceilings lime washed and wood-work painted; the carpets, bed clothing, upholstered furniture, etc., exposed many days to fresh air and sunlight; all articles which may be boiled or subjected to high degrees of heat should be thus disinfected; such rooms should be exposed to currents of fresh air for at least one week before re-occupation.

(b) WHEN DIPHTHERIA IS PREVAILING, no child should be allowed to kiss strange children, nor those suffering from sore throat (the disgusting practice of compelling children to kiss every visitor is a well contrived method of propagating other and graver diseases than diphtheria); nor should it sleep with nor be confined to rooms occupied by or use articles, as toys, taken in the mouth, handkerchiefs, etc., belonging to children having sore throat, croup or catarrh. If the weather is cold, the child should be warmly clad with flannels.

(c) WHEN DIPHTHERIA IS IN THE HOUSE OR FAMILY, the well children should be scrupulously kept apart from the sick in dry well-aired rooms, and every possible source of infection through the air, by personal contact with the sick and by articles used about them or in their rooms should be rigidly guarded. Every attack of sore throat, cough and catarrh should be at once attended to; the feeble should have invigorating food and treatment.

(d) SICK CHILDREN.—The sick should be rigidly isolated in well aired (the air should be entirely changed at least hourly) sun-lighted rooms, the outflow of air being, as far as possible, through the external windows by depressing the upper and elevating the lower sash, or a charge from the mouth and nose should be received into vessels containing disinfectants, as solutions of carbolic acid, or sulphate of zinc, or upon cloths which are immediately burned, or, if not burned, thoroughly boiled, or placed under a disinfecting fluid.

**Birds vs. Insects.**

Birds should be protected and not killed. It should be an offence to kill birds, as they are the friend of the farmer, and save him an untold amount of property. Of late years it would seem that insects have multiplied a hundred fold, and now most every crop is subject to their depredations. The potato crop must be protected from the Colorado beetle; the currant from the saw fly; the plum from the curculio; the apple crop must be protected from the borer, the codling moth and the tent caterpillar; the pear from the slug; the cabbage from the cabbage worm; cucumbers and melons from the squash beetle; the corn from the cut worm, army worm, and chinch bugs; oats and wheat from the wire worm and chinch bugs; and in some of the Western States, from the Colorado locusts; the tobacco crop from the tobacco worm; the cotton from the cotton worm, and so on to the end of the list. It is a continual warfare from the time the farmer plants his crop till he harvests it. The loss to the farmer in 1874 was not less than \$300,000,000.

Now the question arises, What is the remedy for all this devastation? There are two: birds, and the united work of the farmers. Farmers should protect the birds and work to destroy these insects. It is surprising what united effort will bring forth. In Minnesota, some sections of the country have been freed from the locusts by an united onslaught of the people, whereby over twenty thousand bushels of locusts, in one county, have been killed, and the premium of \$1.50 per bushel has been paid, and the crops saved to a great extent.

Orchards can be protected from the tent caterpillar by syringing the nest with water in which a tablespoonful of Paris green to a pailful has been mixed; a pailful being sufficient for two trees. The codling moth can also be trapped by means of cloth placed in the forks of the branches, and hay bands wound around the trunks, from now till fall, and the insects collected and killed. The potato beetle may be destroyed by sprinkling the top with water in which Paris green has been mixed. It only needs an united effort on the part of the farmers to greatly diminish the insects that destroy so much every year. But the greatest agent is the birds. They will catch the white butterfly, the parents of the cabbage worms, the saw fly, which produces the currant worm. The birds eat the eggs of the insects which are so destructive. Millions of eggs are eaten by the birds. To place the estimate at \$600,000,000 which was saved to the farmers last year by the birds is a low estimate. Save the birds and our insect pests will be greatly diminished.