

Public Grange Meeting at Hyde Park.

INSTRUCTIVE ADDRESS BY THE DOMINION OVERSEER.

The Grangers and farmers of this district met in the school-house there on Tuesday night, to hear the aims, objects and principles of the Patrons of Husbandry explained. Bro. D. Hanson, Royal Oak Grange 29, occupied the chair. The meeting was composed of all classes of the community; in fact, Grangers and anti-Grangers, this institution having taken such a deep hold on the minds of the farmers. Mr. Stephen White, of Raleigh, Dominion Overseer, addressed the meeting at some length, and on introducing the subject of Grangeism, and its rise and progress, said the progress of the Order for the last eight years, the same being its entire existence, had been unprecedented, there being now in operation about 27,000 Granges, with a total membership of 1,100,000, or, say, 400,000 families in the United States. The Dominion Grange is not affiliated with the National Grange, the thrifty Canucks preferring to keep their dollars at home, but it contains about six hundred Granges, or 21,000 members. Instead of being a failure, as the opponents of the Grange would try to make out, in a few years it had got to be one of the most gigantic institutions in the world. From a small handful of farmers three years ago the Grangers were counted by thousands in our Dominion. The speaker pointed out here the several benefits to be derived from belonging to the Society, and dealing on Grange principles. It was a principle of trade to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest, and farmers should be no exception to this rule. If farmers could save from 30 to 40 per cent. in purchasing implements, &c., by dealing for cash and buying directly from the manufacturer, why should they not do it? The point was, did farmers know how to do their business or not, without employing others to do it for them? The country was teeming with men who came between the manufacturer and farmer, producer and consumer, in the shape of agents, and he hoped farmers would stand on their dignity and show the world that they could do business for themselves. Farmers were bored to death by these agents; and often a purchase was made merely to get rid of them. The speaker referred here to the various swindles perpetrated on the farmers in the shape of bogus fruit tree agents, lighting rod protectors, &c. The social element of the Order was fully gone into, during which the speaker reverted to old times in Canada, when neighbors met on the common level; but as wealth was gained, people got jealous and envious of each other's positions in society. The Grange was trying to bring all into their fold as one common brotherhood, irrespective of creed or party. The speaker next referred to monopolies of different kinds, and referred to the oil ring, which, he understood, was burst by some of the members kicking over the traces. He said the Grange was anti-monopoly, and they were the very men to break up such institutions. The moral power and influence was entered into at considerable length, and in the course of his remarks the speaker said the Grange was one family; old and young met for social intercourse, and the young men and women were under the surveillance of their parents. After an exhaustive address by W. H. White, Jabel Robinson, master of Elgin Division Grange, addressed the meeting, and did not see how any farmer after the explanations given by the previous speaker could be opposed to it. After entering into detail of the various advantages to be gained by being connected with the society, he said, at first the movement had been scoffed and ridiculed by all parties. Every paper in the country had opposed them; but as the Society had increased in power and influence they were acknowledged by all parties. He thought the financial advantages were of small importance compared with the social and intellectual. But the financial benefits were no small item to look at. During his connection with the Society he could safely say, he gained enough on purchases by dealing on Grange principles for cash to make a little fortune in a few years. He had a considerable family, and for its influence as educating and moralizing the rising generation he would have them all join the Grange. After a lengthy discussion on educational advantages, illustrated by several historical characters, by drawing out the mind of farmers' sons, the speaker concluded an excellent address by urging the farmers present to become Grangers. Pithy addresses were also delivered by Messrs. Thos. Routledge and Jas. Ferguson, of London township.

Why the Grange Started.

In all ages the agricultural, like other industrial classes, had been prevented by force, fraud or cunning from extracting more than a subsistence from the soil. The robber baron, the medieval merchant, the royal tax gatherer, and the railway monopoly had triven, but the men who had painfully toiled in rain and sun had seldom, if ever, received a due reward for their labor. Agriculture had been a system of spoliation. The landlord, the transporter, or the middle-man robbed the farmer, and the farmer robbed the land, so that arid and waste provinces remained to tell the story of bad husbandry and worse political economy. Yet in the great modern discussion of labor and capital, work and wages, the men who perform most of the labor and constitute more than half the race had been hardly thought of by our labor reformers, and did not force themselves into notice until 1872, in the English farm laborers' movement, and the farmers' movement in our Western States.

As the will and the ability to associate for the common good became developed, resistance to

oppression began and positive efforts were made for the general welfare. Farmers and farm laborers were among the last to combine, not from lack of intelligence, but from isolation and unwieldy numbers.

Resistance began where oppression was most felt and where the ability to resist it was greatest. Hence the farmers' movement first showed itself in the Western States, where cheap and fertile lands had attracted a large body of intelligent emigrants. In that region these men comprised more than one-half of the population. The production of their farms was far in excess of the local consumption, and the large surplus which sought the seaboard had to pass through the hands of dealer and transporter. Where not supplied by local manufacture, the farmers' wants must be met by the purchase of goods which passed through the same hands. From this resulted a high cost of production and a low price of products, rendering the business of the farmer unremunerative even in favorable seasons.

The farmers' movement was based on certain existing organizations of the agricultural class. It generally passed by the agricultural societies, boards of agriculture and all organizations devoted to holding fairs and the like, for the reason that they usually contained men who were neither farmers nor in sympathy with them; but the farmers' clubs, organized for discussion and mutual improvement, and the grangers, whose object was mutual help and social intercourse, were appropriated, multiplied and concentrated upon the new work. The loose organizations of the clubs, the secrecy and prohibition of politics in the granges, were drawbacks to their efficiency which had been to some extent corrected.

The farmers being a large class, their interest was almost the common interest of the people of the whole country. The trade organizations were strengthened, or, better, became fused together in a class organization of mechanics and operatives, with broader and less selfish purposes than the single trades union can have. These industrial interests, comprising from seventy to seventy-five per cent. of the population, promised sooner or later to join hands and combine in putting down whatever seemed inconsistent with the fundamental doctrines of our republic. In this they would undoubtedly receive the aid of fair men of all classes, and would be opposed only by the more selfish of the privileged classes, who have grown wealthy at the expense of others through legal advantages supplied by improper legislation. Thus the movement which began with the farmers reacted upon other classes, and became hostile to existing parties, either decadent or triumphant.

Presentation.

On Friday, 16th ult., at the Temperance Hall, St. Thomas, a meeting was held for the purpose of presenting a testimonial, from the Grange organization, to Mr. Stephen Wade, in recognition of his services as Master of the Elgin Division Grange. There was a good attendance of ladies and gentlemen, representatives of the Order being present from all parts of the county, and several also from the county of Middlesex. The meeting was an open one, and a number of the citizens, personal friends of Mr. Wade, testified by their presence the respect they entertained for him. The testimonial consisted of a full set of Chambers' Encyclopedia, numbering ten bulky volumes; in addition to which there was a further presentation to Mrs. Wade, from the ladies connected with the Grange, of a handsome cake basket. Bro. Jabel Robinson, Master of the Elgin Division Grange, occupied the chair. After a few appropriate words from Bro. Franklin Hathaway, Grange Lecturer, and from Bro. Chas. O'Malley, Overseer Elgin Division Grange, Bro. Emory Steele, Secretary Elgin Division Grange, read a kindly worded address, to which Mr. Wade, who is removing from the county, made a neat reply. Bro. Geo. Phelps, E. P. G., then read an address to Mrs. Wade, from the sisters of the Pioneer Grange, Sparta, expressive of regret at her departure from among them, and requesting her acceptance of a handsome silver cake basket as a token of their esteem. Mr. Wade then made a suitable reply. Addresses were afterward delivered by Bro. B. Payne, Master of the London Division Grange; Bro. W. L. Brown, Sec. London Division Grange; Mr. Charles Roe, St. Thomas; and Mr. John King, St. Thomas. The proceedings of the evening were pleasantly diversified by singing, several of the Grangers acquitting themselves excellently.

Tariff on Fruit.

The Niagara District Division Grange at a recent meeting resolved upon a protective tariff for fruit, and appointed a special committee to interview the Honorable the Minister of Customs in that behalf. We are sorry that our brethren in Niagara should so far have overstepped the intentions of the Order.

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Grange Summary.

GRANGE SOCIAL AT HYDE PARK.—The members of this Grange invited the sister Lodges to a social on Tuesday, 27th prox. The chair was occupied by W. M., D. McKenzie. Addresses were given by Bros. Walker, Jackson and Brown and Thomas R. Rutledge, Esq., London Township, and recitations and readings by Bros.

Capt. Wood, Capt. Burgess and Miss Ryan. The musical entertainment was under the direction of Mrs. Richardson, Miss Sifton and Messrs. Joseph Ferguson and Charles Richardson.

PRESENTATION AT HALTON GRANGE, No. 344.—The members of this Grange presented Bro. J. Ramsay and the ladies of his household with substantial tokens of their respect. Bro. Ramsay was presented with an cestator, Misses Ramsay with a china tea set each. Bro. Ramsay made suitable reply. A pleasant evening was enjoyed. The Grange has dealt on the co-operative principle to the extent of \$2,200.00 in eleven months, and have shipped their barley by the car load. The brethren here have taken a step in the right direction, and it only requires more extensive combination to secure farther and greater success.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Dominion Grange will meet at Owen Sound on the 27th of this month.

On the following day in the same town will be held the first general meeting of the Dominion Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company, when the election of directors will take place, and the Company organized for immediate work. The Company commences under unusually favorable prospects, having now applications for insurance to the amount of about a half a million dollars, and every day increasing.

THE London Fish, Game and Insectivorous Birds Protection Society will hold their annual meeting on March 14th, in the Mechanics' Institute, at 8 o'clock p. m., for the election of officers for the ensuing year, and receiving the annual report of the Secretary.

Division Grange.

38. Essex—John Hooker, M., Blytheswood; G. W. Johnson, S., North Ridge.

Subordinate Granges.

- 555. Keene—John Lang, M., Lang, Ont.; D. P. McFarlane, S., Keene.
556. Goshen—David Irving, M., South Finch; Hugh Lamont, S., Newington.
557. Bantwick Centre—John McCollum, M., Durham; Peter Cook, S., Crawford.
558. Leslie—James Hillis, M., Hanover; Robert Leslie, S., Hanover.
559. Mount Horeb—Wm. Campbell, M., Vasey; Matthew Vasey, S., Vasey.
560. Dunsford—Geo. Willock, M., Dunsford; Thos. Bell, S., Dunsford.
561. Peterboro'—T. E. Fitzgerald, M., Peterboro'; Hugh Davidson, S., Peterboro'.
562. Pine Hill—Joseph Hall, Peterboro'; James Timble, S., Peterboro'.
563. Union—Job D. Nelson, M., Clifton, N. S.; Chas. Langhead, S., Clifton, N. S.
564. Glendage—John Weir, M., Durham, Ont.; J. Edg. S., Durham, Ont.
565. Queen of the West—James Pollock, M., Vasey; John Wilford, S., Blyth.
566. Mount Hope—J. W. Whealey, M., Lakeside; Alex. D. Sutherland, S., Bennington.
567. Sidney—Samuel P. Knight, M., Belleville; C. W. Huffman, S., Wallbridge.

The Farm.

Report on Artificial Manures to be Applied Per Acre.

By Prof. Stockbridge.

- CORN.
To produce fifty bushels of corn to the acre more than the natural product of the land, use: Nitrogen, 64 pounds, in the form of sulphate of ammonia.
Potash, 77 pounds, in the form of muriate of potash.
Phosphoric acid, 31 pounds, in the form of muriate of superphosphates.
HAY.
To produce one ton of hay per acre more than the natural product of the land, use: Nitrogen, 36 pounds, in the form of sulphate of ammonia.
Potash, 31 pounds, in the form of muriate of potash.
Phosphoric acid, 12 pounds, in the form of superphosphate.
OATS.
To produce 25 bushels of oats and the usual proportion of straw per acre more than the natural product of the soil, and in proportion for other quantities, use: Nitrogen, 10 pounds, in the form of sulphate of ammonia.
Potash, 31 pounds, in the form of muriate of potash.

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Potash, 31 pounds, in the form of muriate of potash.
Phosphoric acid, 8 pounds, in the form of superphosphate.
POTATOES.
To produce 100 bushels of potatoes per acre, and their usual proportion of tops, more than the natural production of the land, and other quantities proportionally, use: Nitrogen, 21 pounds, in the form of sulphate of ammonia.
Potash, 34 pounds, in the form of sulphate of potash.
Phosphoric acid, 11 pounds, in the form of superphosphate.

By the use of these formulæ upon any ordinary level lands, with a good clay subsoil, corn may be raised at about 42 cents per bushel; oats 20 cents; potatoes 10 cents, counting in the cost of labor. These mixtures should be sown over the land broadcast, when the ground is well prepared,

before planting, and not put in the hills, so that the roots may seek the food and not concentrate, and thereby cause the plants "to burn up."

These formulæ have been tested at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and have produced the above results. These ingredients can be purchased at a trifling cost if our Granges will only combine and buy large quantities. Of course this is calculated for average seasons.

Hints about Work.

Standing Water.—A very important work is to let off any water that accumulates upon the surface. This requires constant attention, and the use of the hoe or a shovel. Whether there is a crop in the ground or not, it is equally necessary to do this thoroughly, else the soil is soaked and dries very slowly. The amount lost through water remaining upon fields would each year buy for every farmer who permits it a good paper and more books than he could well study in a year.

Barn-yards, especially, should be freed from water; the wash from the roofs should be carried off before it has soaked through the manure and dissolved out all the valuable parts of it.

Live Stock.—When the coat is shedding, the use of the card, or smooth curly-comb, should not be neglected. There is then an irritation of the skin, which is allayed by brushing or carding; besides, the loose hair is removed and does not rub off on the clothes. A teaspoonful of sulphur daily, to every animal, for a week or two, would be helpful.

Vermin.—As the warm weather comes on, lice and ticks become active, and annoy the animals greatly. A mixture of equal parts of lard and kerosene oil, put on the backs and brisquets of cows, calves and sheep will have a good effect.

Spring Wheat.—In the districts where the crop succeeds, that is, north of a line drawn from Boston to the south shore of Lake Erie, and thence to Central Illinois, it is the first crop sown. Shallow plowing, with thorough harrowing, leaving whatever small clods may remain after the harrowing upon the surface, is the best preparation. Where some stimulating fertilizer is needed, use 150 pounds of superphosphate of lime, or 100 pounds of guano per acre.

Barley.—Skillful management is required to succeed with this crop. Peculiar soils are required to produce a clear, thin-skinned, bright-colored sample, such as brings the best price in the market. A friable, clean, mellow, dry, limestone clay-loam is perhaps the best soil, but some lighter soils, that are warm and rich, will produce good barley. The soil must be thoroughly worked, and free from weeds. Barley should always be drilled, and the seed placed in at even depth below the surface. There is no better crop with which to sow to clover.

Oats will succeed upon soils where barley would fail. A rough sod and a moist soil will grow good oats; it is the best spring crop for a reclaimed swamp or a newly broken clayey meadow. Two and a half bushels of seed per acre is light seeding; three bushels, if drilled, or three and a half, if broadcast, is sometimes sown with good results. The thick-seeding yields a finer stalk, which makes a more desirable fodder than stouter straw.

Oats and peas, sown together, produce a very nutritious fodder. The two crops, together, upon one acre of good soil, will yield nearly, if not quite, as much fodder as would an acre of each sown separately. We have sown two bushels of oats and six pecks of peas to the acre. If sown early, the fodder may be cut for soiling cows or horses in May or June, and a succession for continuous use may be sown every two weeks until early in May. Roll the ground after sowing, so that the crop may be cut with a mower, which may easily be done, as the oats support the peas and prevent lodging.

Potatoes.—Earlier planting than usual will be advisable. Few plant early enough; and, now that the Colorado beetle is around very early, it will be well to get the start of him. We have planted as soon as the frost was out of the ground and the soil dry, without heeding occasional night frosts. When the potatoes appear above ground, an inch of earth thrown over them with the hoe, or a light furrow, will be sufficient protection, and if the tops are nipped the plants will sprout again.

Lawns.—Clear up all leaves and rubbish from the lawn during the winter, so that they will not interfere with the use of the lawn mower.

Shrubs may be pruned, but only by one who knows the habits of the plants, else, in case of those which flower from ready-formed buds, all hopes of bloom may be destroyed; except in hedges, don't try to make the shrubs all alike.

Winter Wheat and Rye.—These crops are much improved by harrowing. If the ground is dry, the plants will not be harmed, but the

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Winter Wheat and Rye.—These crops are much improved by harrowing. If the ground is dry, the plants will not be harmed, but the crust will be loosened, earth will be drawn over plants that have been heaved, and the just starting weeds will be killed. The Thomas harrow, having light, slanting teeth, is admirable for this work, but the common harrow may be used instead of it.

Clover seed may be sown upon the snow, or when a frost has hardened the surface. One great advantage of sowing upon the snow is, that a very even spread can be made, as the seed can readily be seen, and the footmarks remain as a guide for the next breadth sown. The most experienced need make no lapse or misses. A good quantity of seed for each cast is as much as can be held between the first and second fingers and the thumb. Walking at an easy gait, this will use up about eight quarts of seed per acre. If the wind is blowing, walk so that it blows across the path; the effect is then equal both going and returning, but it is not so if it blows first on the face and then on the back. Horses that were hard worked during the