

Grange was booming. Dominion Grange was organized in London, Ont., June 2nd, 1874, and the first meeting was held three months after, namely, on September 22nd, 1874, in Toronto. At that time the treasury shows the receipts to be \$290. From that time they increased rapidly for some years. Suffice it to say that the third annual meeting showed them to be over \$6900, and an average of ten years showed them to be over \$3700 annually. This large amount of money was recklessly spent in many unnecessary ways, but it was got through with as fast as it came. Now had a percentage of it been set apart, and the interest of it only used annually, as was done in the United States, by the National Grange, how much better off would the Grange have been now. We might have had a small account at command, which would have been a financial assistance, and which would have helped to hold us together. But it is gone, and no one is the richer for it.

Had we done this the Grange could have had from seven to ten thousand dollars lying at interest, at five per cent. say, and no one, I believe, would put it at a lower rate than that, which would have made a comfortable little yearly income, which, with the dues, would have left us in a much better condition than we now are, and which would have had the effect of holding us together. But our financiers were *built that way*, and it is gone now and will never return.

The second mistake which I will notice here was made by the first organizers, the men who may be said to have planted the Grange in Canada. In holding out inducements to join the Grange, the financial advantages were too prominently presented. It was a mistake to refer to them at all. The whole country was surprised and alarmed at the way the farmers took hold of the organization movement, and feared the result of their power and influence, which, if properly directed might result in upsetting the whole system of business, as it was then done, and therefore their efforts were put forth to check the movement. And their fear of its influence arrayed every class and interest against it. Business interests which it was in no way calculated to injure, and which ought rather to have been friendly, seemed unable to restrain the feeling of hostility which was in the air, and joined in the crusade against it, and used their efforts to chill its prospects, and injure its success.

Business men did their best to circumvent it and checkmate its plans, but in this they signally failed. But another way was resorted to with more success. That was to poison the popular mind against it, and so the tongue of ridicule was employed. Not that there was any reason. But like school children calling each other names by persistently calling them they were

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