

# THE GRANGER,

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY IN CANADA

"In Essentials, Unity; In Non-essentials, Liberty; In all things, Charity."

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## The Granger.

### ADVERTISING RATES.

Space.	1st insertion.	Subsequent insertions.	A year.
Per line of solid Nonpareil.	\$0 10	\$0 08	\$0 75
1 inch, 12 lines, do.	1 00	0 80	8 00
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3 inches.	2 50	2 00	20 00
1 column, 4 1/2 inch.	3 00	2 50	25 00
1 column, 9 inch.	5 00	4 50	45 00
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### Prospects of the Grange.

Three years ago, when the Grange movement was introduced in Canada, people laughed at the idea, and predicted a general collapse in a year. In fact, it was considered to be so trifling and insignificant that no notice was taken of it beyond a few jeers and ridicule. It has, however, assumed dimensions now, and is wielding a power in the country that has made its opponents laugh on the other side of their face. They begin to look at the movement in a serious light. The Grange has become a reality. The press, that was hitherto reticent on the matter, is beginning to see the importance of such a movement. Prominent men amongst the agriculturists who looked upon it with prejudice and suspicion, and called it an American dodge, are falling into the ranks. Manufacturers who refused to make any offers to the Society and sell to them, are glad to deal at a liberal reduction for cash. Storekeepers in all parts of the country are starting to deal exclusively for cash and to reduce the prices of their goods. The truth is, the influence of the Grange is felt in every department of business. It did not require much penetration to see that the agricultural population of the country was ripe for such a movement. The individual opinions of the greater portion had been inclining this way for years, and they only wanted an opportunity to express them as a body. The Grange has none of the ephemeral elements which is attributed to it by outsiders. To start with it is among the wrong class, as farmers are the permanent population of the country. Ideas imbibed by them are not changed in a day. The Grange system has had a fair trial in the neighboring republic for years, and is still on the increase, and bids fair to embrace the whole agricultural population of the country. It was thought erroneously at first it was only an institution applicable to the Western States, and that the only object it had in view was to break down railway monopolies and get cheaper transportation for those situated a long distance from the sea-board. This was only one of the reforms it sought to introduce. Its declaration of principles was found to apply equally to all parts of the country, east, west, north and south. Farmers had common grievances that needed redressing, financially, socially and politically. The system has been found to be admirably adapted to the agricultural population of America in all their relations in life; and hence the astounding and rapid growth of the Grange system. It cannot but be expected among the large number that compose the Society that some irregularities will occur and mistakes be made, as Grangers claim no immunity from the imperfections of human nature. The system, as we said before, has had a fair trial and proved a success, and it is only from general principles that any judgment should be formed. The Order in Canada has yet to pass through the most critical period of its existence. It is hardly large enough yet to provoke good, sound criticism, but the time is fast arriving. This will be the purifying process that it must

go through. The Grangers have courted this criticism by holding public meetings in different parts of the country, and inviting all classes to attend. The Grangers wish to be known and judged by their fruits. The patrons in Canada have nothing to fear from criticism and opposition from outsiders. What they should most fear is from their own members. If the farmers of Canada do not make the movement a success, it is their own fault. There is nothing but inefficiency and lack of executive ability of the promoters that will injure its influence and retard its progress.

### Grange Insurance.

The desire for retrenchment in the matter of fire insurance prevalent among the fraternity, and almost each day being presented enquiringly to us, demands an honest consideration in our columns.

It is insufficient that any mythical idea should preponderate; such as, because we are Grangers the whole essence of our aspirations should, without consideration or trouble, tumble pell-mell into our laps. No great acquisitions have been obtained but by laborious forethought—and

should be remunerated either by a slight commission or an advance in his salary. This arrangement appears practicable, inasmuch as the secretaries of subordinate lodges would have ample time, and we are sure would gladly give it in such a praiseworthy capacity. With them very considerably rests the success of Grange insurance.

### Protection and the Grange.

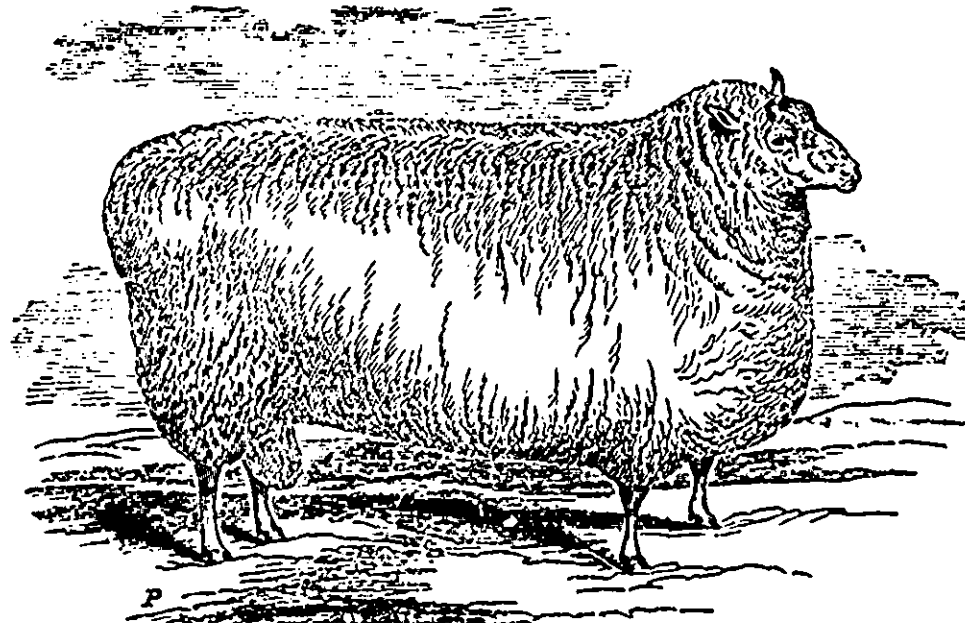
During the last session of the Dominion Grange, held in Toronto, it was unanimously resolved to petition Parliament to levy a tariff on American produce now coming into our markets duty free, while Canadian grain was heavily taxed when sent to the United States; and also that the same rate of duty be levied on all agricultural products coming into the Dominion from foreign countries that impose duty on Canadian produce. The tenor of the petition was not so much a protective tariff as to have equal rights—either protection or free trade.

Petitions were largely signed in different parts of Canada, not only by members of the Order but farmers in general. Whatever other knowledge those who

their duty in not bringing the subject fully before their respective lodges, they are equally culpable as far as the Grange Society is concerned. We would not speak thus, only we have received numerous letters asking about the matter. Several who took a prominent part in disseminating the petitions, attended Parliament in the hope of hearing this brought forward during the debate on the budget. A better opportunity could not have presented itself. The matter of Protection and Free Trade, it is not our intention fully to discuss at present. It is possible to protect too much, and injure the general good by throwing the manufacturing interests of the country into the hands of large capitalists and monopolists. Free Trade may do well for Great Britain with dependencies in every part of the globe, where she can secure the produce of every clime independently of any other power outside her own empire. The petition of the Grangers has been fair and reasonable—to protect their interests on the same terms that their next-door neighbors do. It is certainly not reasonable to allow Americans to flood Canadian markets free, and charge duty on grain they happen to want from us. Only in one kind of grain, corn, we do not want their produce for our own consumption. It is alone beneficial to a few millers who get inferior American wheat and brand the flour Canadian, and thus injure our standing in the English markets.

### Lord Chancellor.

The accompanying engraving represents the imported Lincoln Ram, Lord Chancellor, the property of Richard Gibson, Esq., London, Ont. Lord Chancellor has been a successful competitor at the various shows in Canada and the United States. Mr. Gibson has spared no pains to secure the best strains in England. The brother of Lord Chancellor was the winner of first prizes at the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and first, as a shearer, at the great Lincolnshire show, in a class of 52 competitors.



LINCOLN RAM "LORD CHANCELLOR," the property of Rich'd Gibson, London, Ont.

### Cutting off Small Stores.

There is a great cry that the Grange Society is doing an injury to the trade of the country by not dealing with their next door neighbor, who keeps a small store. Of course it does seem a little hard not to deal with him, looking at it from this standpoint. But Grangers know this is not a principle followed by businessmen. The country merchants, within the radius of London, say, should buy from this place in preference to Montreal or Toronto, just because it is the nearest commercial centre and they should patronise their neighbor. This, indeed, would be protection grown to seed.—Grangers hold no ill will to small stores, but they really cannot deal with them profitably.

A great number of them, probably, only buy in the same quantities that one Grange does. They have not capital sufficient to buy in a good market, and they are thus necessitated in buying just what goods they can get at the time. They have no choice of markets, from the fact that only some wholesale dealer will take their paper. In this state of things it can easily be seen that these one-horse stores must go to the wall, and be supplied by others on a larger scale, that, for a fair profit, will sell to the Patrons for cash.

Over half of these small stores could be easily dispensed with. They all must be supported by the farming community; and instead of supporting seven or eight, let them keep up one good one. Instead of competition regulating prices and keeping business in a healthy state, in this case it only makes it worse. Profits must be made from some source, and a good many tricks of trade have to be resorted to. Whatever temporary derangement the Grange Society may cause in trade rela-

this object is one demanding serious attention and study.

If it be possible that a safe insurance can be purchasable at a reduced expense, it is our duty to seek and apply such individually. That a reduction in this respect can be made, there is no doubt; but it is of that character which, unlike ordinary commercial transactions, cannot accrue except by striking out for ourselves. There are many worthy companies doing business, and at what is considered reasonable rates—some, indeed, very low—yet the agent interferes with his fees and commission to the extent of from two to three dollars on each policy, and the expenses of well bred headquarters double the sum. It undoubtedly will be understood that there is a certain amount of expense incurred in issuing a policy of insurance, but it may be regulated towards the minimum to which it is now comparatively a stranger. The present ratio of outlay against each policy issued by the most popularly cheap companies is as three to seven.

Two-thirds of that expense can easily be avoided, consequently a corresponding reduction in the generally adopted farmers' rates would be attainable. Success, however, would depend much on the united efforts of Grangers, each assisting a little towards the general benefit, and while personally a reduction of five per cent. on existing rates might to some appear insignificant, would, in the aggregate, amount to a large sum.

In our opinion, no scheme can be adduced other than that the secretary of each subordinate Grange do the work in his locality of the present agent, and forward to the division secretary, who, on account of extra trouble and responsibility,

were not connected with the Society had, they readily conceded that this feature alone, representing the opinions of the agriculturists of the country as a body on any question that affected their interests, was one which should recommend the Society to every intelligent farmer. Rates of tariff had been greatly influenced hitherto on farmers' produce by boards of trade representing their views as a body in a similar manner. The present state of the country, the financial crisis and depression in trade, has brought the question of Free Trade and Protection prominently before the country during this session, and the petition of this large body has been looked forward to with considerable interest by all classes. The petition, however, from some unknown cause, has never made its appearance. If the Dominion Grange acted in good faith in taking up such an important question as a national tariff, they certainly should have seen that the opinions of their petitioners were duly respected by submitting them to Parliament. To whatever part of the Grange this dereliction of duty is due, we do not know. If the Executive Committee, in whose hands the petitions were placed, were satisfied from the number received that a general opinion was expressed on the question which they asked them to support, they had no right to ignore them, no matter what their individual opinions were on Free Trade or Protection. The question of political interference could not certainly have been any cause why this committee failed to bring this matter before Parliament, as the supporters of the petition embraced both sides of politics. If, on the contrary, the different secretaries into whose hands the petitions fell failed to do