

WOMEN IN THE GRANGE.

Gov. Porter, at the late meeting of the Indiana State Grange, among many other sensible and progressive things, said: "Women are admitted as members of your order, and I am glad to see so many ladies here to day. Those who are consulted so much at home in regard to the conduct of the farm and household are counted worthy to be consulted with and to take a part in discussions in your councils in regard to the most important questions that concern you. The time has gone by when it is considered unfeminine for women to understand business; and the farmer who must place reliance, in case of death, upon his wife, if upon anybody, to preserve his estate until his children shall have attained an age and capacity to manage it, likes now to make sure that she is instructed in business, and will not have to lean upon some unknown and incompetent or fraudulent person for advice or assistance.

There are 90 halls in Michigan owned by the Granges. One of them is valued at \$3,000, another \$2,000 several at \$1,500 each, 33 at \$1,000 and over, the balance ranging from \$200 to \$900 each. The Grange in Michigan is in a very flourishing condition, that is one reason.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Adopted at last Annual Meeting of Provincial Grange.

To the Worthy Master and Members of Ontario Provincial Grange, in Annual Session Assembled.—

We, your committee on education, to whom was referred the various suggestions from Division and Subordinate Granges relative to matters affecting the above named subjects, beg leave to report that we have endeavored to give the same our most careful consideration, the results of which are embodied in the following recommendations, viz.

1st. That non-residents shall have equal privilege with residents in the benefits of attending our public schools providing they are ratepayers in the section they desire to attend.

2nd. That no further change as to holidays take place at present, inasmuch as the law in that particular was lately amended at the request of the Patrons of Husbandry, so that the summer holidays need now only extend from July 15th to August 3rd.

3rd. That the attention of the members of our Order be called to the question and requested to investigate as to whether the system of county grants to public schools shall be continued or whether the amount required to support the schools in addition to the Government grant shall be raised by direct taxation from each school section, and also as to whether the system of inspection of said schools as at present conducted cannot be improved so as to make it more efficient and less expensive.

4th. That the study of agricultural chemistry be introduced into all our schools, believing that thereby we would materially aid in a more successful cultivation of the soil, and, consequently, an improved condition of the agriculture of our Province.

5th. That the greatest care should be taken in the change of school books, inasmuch as we believe that many changes in the past have not given advantages proportionate to the increased cost to the community; also that greater option be allowed in the choice and numbers of studies pursued in our public schools. We are aware that the opinion prevails, and we believe not

without foundation, that the general standing of the scholars in our public schools is not equal in accordance with their ages to what it was in times past, when such exactness in reference to proficiency in each study was not required previously to general advancement. Also we would urge that care be exercised in the granting of permits to teachers.

6th. That we believe that it would be of advantage to our schools if the engagement of teachers should commence and end with the summer vacation, inasmuch as a change of teachers at that time would be the least interruption to the general progress of the scholars.

7th. We would also recommend that this Grange petition the Local Legislature for a grant to Granges establishing libraries the same assistance as is now extended to other bodies, believing that it would be a great aid in the more general education of the farming community of our Province; and your committee would further ask the attention of our members to the advisability of the Government taking action to secure the delivery of evening lectures throughout the country on agricultural subjects.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed { A. J. HUGHES.
ROBT. MCGUFFIN
S. A. NELLIS.
JOHN TOLMIE.
D. McDERMID.
H. D. IRWIN.

DR. P. MEREDITH, of Cincinnati, says: "About one year ago I took a cold, which settled on my lungs. A violent cough was the consequence, which increased with severity. I expectorated large quantities of phlegm and matter. During the last winter I became so much reduced that I was confined to my bed. The disease was attended with cold chills and night-sweats. A diarrhoea set in. My friends thought I was in the last stages of Consumption, and could not possibly get well. I was recommended to try ALLEN'S LUNG BALM. The formula was shown to me, which induced me to give it a trial, and I will only add that my cough is entirely cured, and am now able to attend to my profession as usual.

GRANGE LECTURE.

(Reported for the CANADIAN FARMER.)

Bro. E. H. Hilborn, Past Master [of Dom. Grange, addressed the patrons and farmers of Rainham Grange, No. 325, Haldimand Co., in the Town Hall, Rainham Centre, on Friday March 24th, in the afternoon and evening, on the subject of the Grange, and its connections, with an improved system of agriculture. In the afternoon the audience was medium, the hall being only partly filled.

Bro. Hilborn addressed the public about three-quarters of an hour, referring very briefly to the necessity of a union of effort, interest and action among farmers, and went on to show the advantages to be gained by such a union, after which the public were dismissed, and a private meeting held, at which the Worthy Bro. exemplified the unwritten work, and explained several matters which had heretofore been a mystery to a large number of our members.

In the evening the hall was filled to its utmost capacity by farmers interspersed with ladies, not more than one-third being members of the Order. The Worthy Bro. entered more fully into the discussion of a number of subjects, in which farmers are all interested; such as an agricultural edu-

cation in public and high schools, as well as in the colleges; and the practical results likely to flow from such a system; the Legislation of our country as viewed from a farmer's standpoint; the benefits of union among farmers, from a social and intellectual standpoint, as also the advantages of co-operation generally; the auxiliary institutions of the Grange were also explained, and made clear to many who had heretofore but little idea of their working: Such as the Insurance Co., The Grange Wholesale Supply Co., and the Canadian Mutual Aid Association.

Bro. Hilborn has the rare talent of holding, and interesting an audience; and I do not remember of ever being present at any public meeting, where the order was better, or the audience more deeply interested, than at this lecture. The meeting was closed, with a unanimous vote of thanks to Bro. Hilborn. G. E. FITZGERALD, Sec.

Rainham, March 27th.

GRANGE TOPICS.

Question.—Is organization and co-operation a necessity among farmers?

Suggestions.—By isolation farmers live single-handed and are at the mercy of corporate powers, and are compelled to submit to the assumed authority unjustly exercised by corporations. Other classes and interests have organizations for the purpose of co-operation, and by the application of its power have gained many advantages, and have made the farmers bear burdens of injustice that a just Government should seek to remove. But by co-operative efforts through political instrumentalities to control legislation and government, such removals are prevented and the burdens of farmers annually increased. But united and consolidated efforts of the farmers only can they protect their own interests and secure justice to themselves. Such consolidation cannot be made, or the efforts employed, without thorough organization. Hence, organization of the farmers is an absolute necessity, and strict co-operation must be employed in all Grange work. By thorough organization and co-operation the farmers can accomplish desirable results. JAMES CALDER, Sec. Pa. State Grange.

Miscellaneous.

MOUND-MAKING BIRDS OF AUSTRALASIA.

The mound makers are members of a small family of birds peculiar to Australia and the neighboring islands as far as the Philippines and northwest Borneo. They are allied to our common domestic fowls, which they resemble in appearance, but differ from them in never sitting upon their eggs. Some of the family, like the *malacca* of the Celebes, and the *Megapodius wallacei* of Gilolo, Ternate, and Bouru, deposit their eggs in the warm beach sand, just above high water, in holes three or four feet deep, many birds laying in the same hole. The young birds work their way out of the sand as soon as hatched, and look out for themselves without any help from their parents.

The most of the family, however, lay their eggs in mounds built of earth, stones, sticks, sea weed, and other rubbish, which they bring together with their large grasping feet. The mounds are often six or eight feet high and twenty or thirty feet in diameter. The eggs are buried in the center of the mound, at a depth of two or three feet, and are hatched by the gentle heat produced by the fermentation of the vegetable matter of the mound. In his "Malay Archipelago," Wallace

says: "When I first saw these mounds in the island of Dombok I could hardly believe that they were made by such small birds, but I afterward met with them frequently, and have once or twice come upon the birds engaged in making them. They run a few steps backward, grasping a quantity of loose material in one foot, and throw it a long way behind them. When once properly buried the eggs seem to be no more cared for, the young birds working their way up through the rubbish and running off at once into the forest. They come out of the egg covered with thick downy feathers, and have no tail, although the wings are fully developed." The Lombeck birds are miscellaneous feeders: others species live exclusively upon fruit.

The curious departure of the entire family of megapodidae, or brush turkeys, in their breeding habits, from the usual habits of gallinaceous birds, Mr. Wallace traces to their peculiar organization. The eggs are extremely large for birds of their size, each egg completely filling the abdominal cavity. An interval of nearly two weeks is required before the successive eggs can be matured. Each bird lays six or eight eggs in a season, the time between the first and the last being two or three months.

Now, if these eggs were hatched in the ordinary way, either the parents must keep sitting continually for this long period; or if they began to sit only after the last egg was deposited, the first would be exposed to injury by the climate, or to destruction by the large lizards, snakes or other animals which abound in the district, because such large birds must roam about a good deal in search of their food.

"Here, then," Mr. Wallace concludes, "we seem to have a case in which the habits of a bird may be directly traced to its exceptional organization; for it will hardly be maintained that this abnormal structure and peculiar food were given to the megapodidae in order that they might not exhibit that parental affection, or possess those domestic instincts, so general in that class of birds, and which so much excite our admiration."

All the members of this curious family, whether laying their eggs in holes in the sand, or in mounds of their own making, would appear to be semi-nocturnal, their loud wailing cries being heard late into the night and long before daybreak in the morning. The eggs are deposited apparently at night. They are good eating and are much sought after by the natives. — *Scientific American*.

FORBEARANCE.

There are probably few qualities on which so much of the daily peace and happiness of men and women depends as that of forbearance. It is sometimes considered as a passive virtue, dwelling chiefly in calm and unexcitable natures, and not to be expected in union with boldness, courage, strength and impetuosity. Yet whatever qualities may lay claim to the name of passive virtues, certainly forbearance is not one of them. It is essentially active in its nature, demanding frequently the utmost strength of will, self-control and determination, and is, therefore, much more the virtue of a strong character than of a weak one. A feeble individual, mentally and morally, would not be likely to exercise much forbearance. He will rather yield to his first impulses, whatever they may be; whereas, the strong nature, if guided by wisdom, will learn self-control, and only through that is forbearance made possible. The very word implies this.