

desire for a vigorous onward movement. I am of the opinion that the Grange has been shorn of her strength for lack of nourishment. In looking over the records of the past, where do we find the attempt to feed the intellectual life of its members, or to lead them out into pastures fresh and green, either in the literary, scientific or agricultural world? Where do we find the effort for the uplifting of the community at large, for giving them broader views of their privileges and responsibilities in life? She has thrown herself into the breach to protect the farmers from their enemies; she has stood there with a resolute purpose and undeviating devotion; she has been quick to see and bold to strike; she has opened many avenues of escape and pointed out many paths of progress that lead to higher grounds of attainment, but she has been so busy fighting the foe, so engrossed in securing the safety of her protegee that she has been unable to lead to the heights beyond. Nay, she has neglected to supply herself with nutritious food or to partake thereof. It was, of course, enjoined upon the Subordinate Grange that they should engage in educational work, but as the higher Grange did not set the example, and furnish material therefor, the work has been neglected almost everywhere.

The mainspring of education in this century is the principle that education is teaching to think, rather than piling up a store of knowledge in the human mind. The outcome of this is conventions and institutes without number, and there is neither failure in the scheme nor surfeit of its application. Those reforms and associations that push this plan the most vigorously, and with the greatest skill, have been uniformly the most successful, and we must profit by their experience. I would urge upon you the careful consideration of this matter, and the setting apart of a portion of the time of this meeting for educational work, and placing on some person or persons the responsibility of selecting suitable subjects for discussions, and securing parties of ability to open up the same, giving them ample time for preparation. I would also suggest the wisdom of this Grange making some provision to aid the sub-Granges in similar work. As I conceive this to be the most important work before us at the present time, we may rest assured that unless we furnish our members with intellectual food, and send them home strengthened and inspired afresh for the conflict, so that they go forth like giants refreshed with new wine, they will not continue to come to our grange halls, and we must not expect others to join our ranks unless they are convinced there is some new life to be obtained there. I trust that we shall have both a pleasant and a profitable meeting, and