

THE MARITIME PATRON, AND ORGAN OF THE Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

"In Essentials Unity - In Non-essentials Liberty - In All Things Charity."

[All communications intended for this column should be sent to the editor of the Maritime Patron, EDWIN S. CREED, M. D., Newport.]

The Dominion Grange held sessions at Toronto during the latter days of last month, commencing on the 27th. When full reports are received we will endeavor to give a synopsis of the proceedings.

The National Grange held its twentieth session in the City of Brotherly Love on the 11th ult. and subsequent days. A grand public reception was accorded the delegates in attendance, on which occasion every seat in the Music Fund Hall was filled, and many stood who could not find seats. Brother Leonard Rhone, Worthy Master of Pennsylvania State Grange, delivered the address of welcome, to which the Worthy Master of Alabama State Grange, Brother B. C. Harrison, responded. The singing of "America" by a choir of fifty voices and the large assembly must have been worth hearing. We would like to have been there. Governor Patterson welcomed the Grange on behalf of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and J. H. Brigham, Worthy Master of Ohio State Grange, responded. Mayor Smith being unavoidably absent, was represented by Capt. Leabourne, who bid the National Grange welcome to "the great old city whose people know no north, no south, no east, no west, but one il g, one country, and one God to worship." Governor Robie, of Maine, Editor A. K. McClure and Brother W. A. Armstrong, Master of New York State Grange and Editor of the Elmira "Husbandman," delivered appropriate and stirring addresses, and after some more music the exercises closed.

It is as it should be that a grand enthusiastic public reception, such as this that was accorded the National Grange by the representatives of a populous and wealthy State and metropolis, should be given to the representatives of a great Agricultural organization, the broad and noble objects of which are to "promote the welfare of the country and of mankind," by increasing the professional knowledge and skill, and the political and social status and influence, and elevating the characters of agriculturists.

Governor Pattison in his address, "told the assembled Patrons that the country was in their power, that they controlled the farms and the people, and that if anything goes wrong it was their fault and that America's future was in their hands," and Editor McClure told them that "it was their own fault they were not represented in the Legislatures, and that when the Granges helped themselves, the newspaper press of the country would help them."

We are pleased to know that these truths are being uttered by influential representative men; they should be reiterated, especially from every Grange platform, until farmers occupy the position to which they are entitled to, and honorably fill that position.

We are indebted to the American Grange Bulletin, of Cincinnati, for the information given above. The California Patron publishes the Annual Report of the Master of the National Grange, which occupies four closely printed columns, an entire page of that journal, and is, like its predecessors, an able, and in its political utterances, statesmanlike document. It should be studied by every Patron.

We shall endeavor to have it published for this purpose. Bro. Darden, Worthy Master of the National Grange, concisely but exhaustively reviews the mission of the Order in his jurisdiction during the twenty years of its existence, what it has accomplished, the work before it, and the condition of the Order in the United States.

What is claimed for the Order in the following language in this Report, we claim to be equally applicable, with necessary verbal alterations, to the Order in this Dominion.

"Notwithstanding its large membership—scattered over this broad land in nearly every county, parish, state and territory—it has never disturbed the peace of the country, or done anything hostile to the general welfare. Opposed to all class antagonisms, its tendency has ever been to development and improvement. It offers to the American farmer the only well grounded hope for protecting and advancing his interests."

The space at our disposal will not permit of further reference at present to this report or other proceedings of the National Grange.

The Report of the Master of the Dominion Grange, presented at the 12th annual session of that body, held on Saturday, 27th ult., is published in the Toronto "Mail." We are indebted to Bro. Geo. L. Sellers, one of the delegates from the Maritime Provincial Grange, for copies of this paper.

Worthy Master Wilkie in his report reviews the blessings and mercies enjoyed by Canadian farmers during the past year. He refers to the condition of the deserving poor which he contrasts with that of the comparatively comfortably provided for criminal class. A rather gloomy view is taken of the standing of a large proportion of the agricultural class, who are declared to be under bondage to mortgagees. Almost as gloomy a view is expressed of farming as a business, but hope is seen in organization and cooperation as a means of triumphing over rings, monopolies, trade and traffic combinations and exactions, and of obtaining for farmers a fair share of representative in legislative assemblies. Our worthy brother vigorously condemns party politics and rancor. "No party," he says, "is always right, and no party always wrong. * * * The men who support one

party, are about as good and intelligent as those who support the other." And he exclaims, "If we could only cast aside this party nonsense and work together for our common good and the good of our country * * * how much good we could accomplish." The Grange press of Canada and the United States is recommended to the generous support of Patrons. The important subjects of "forestry," "Fraternalization with other labor organizations," "The labor question," "The unsatisfactory condition of the Order in Ontario, and remedies for that condition," are briefly but ably treated, and the report closes with the hope that the Dominion Grange "may be able to devise and mature such measures as will establish strength and harmony in the Order throughout the Dominion."

The "American Grange Bulletin" says that "when cream stands for days, and at a pronounced acid condition, there is a change going on among the butter fats, influencing some and changing others, even developing glycerine, so that when the butter does come it refuses to gather, and the more it is churned the finer it becomes."

FACTS ABOUT MILK.—The time and manner of milking must affect the product. It is well known that the first drawn from the udder is not so rich as the last. This is probably because the thinner materials have the best chance to escape, leaving the larger globules to come last. Morning's milk is always better than that obtained in the evening. One milking each day gives richer milk than twice milking, but less in quantity. As milk is an animal secretion manufactured by the cow, it must be evident that whatever worries, frets or torments the cow, or renders her uneasy or uncomfortable, will certainly lessen the quantity and affect the composition of her milk.

As to the chemistry of milk, pasturage and feeding in general must exert a great influence. The adaptation of food for cattle is comparatively a new subject for investigation. A few years ago we heard nothing of oil meal, cotton seed meal, the succulent roots and vegetables, and the exact adaptation of foods to the end in view. Now all this is changed.

Let no one doubt that the first fresh sweetness of summer pasturage yields a larger and better percentage than any other food. I still believe in the silo. I will say, with all candor, after having used ensilage for four years, that I believe in succulent green corn and that in the silo, and fail to find any evil effects therefrom. After the most critical examination, I believe that ensilage is a friend to the farmer. I believe it has not been proven to damage milk, butter or cheese. The most delicate tests that milk and butter have been subjected to have failed to discover the least injurious product where good ensilage was used.

It is true of ensilage, as of all kinds of food, if the material is poor the product of the cow will be defective. I am satisfied that the use of immature sowed corn is a danger to milk. It renders it indigestible. Many a child in autumn has paid the penalty for using such milk with his life. Why hurry in the use of fodder corn when a few weeks' more growth will triple its value?

All annual plants aim to prepare material for their seed. When corn is tasseled and the ears begin to grow, the corn stalk is full of that rich saccharine matter which presently will be deposited in the perfected ear. Four hundred loads of such corn, cut into half-inch pieces, were deposited last fall in the silos which I built. The time will come when there will be no more question as to the value of preserved green food for cattle than there now is to the utility of canned food for the use of man.

Perfection in dairying is in securing finished results, but will never be obtainable except at the price of utmost care all along the line of production. If there is one man, from the first to the last, lacking intelligence or conscience, we have to pay for it in the markets of the world.

Profit and progress must go hand in hand in this business of dairying. The farmer and farmer's wife who put their cattle in clean, warm, well ventilated stables, who handle the milk with clean hands and the best appreciation of its nice susceptibilities, who, in short, are unconsciously becoming refined and advancing in civilization at the same time that they are reaping the largest profits from their business. The farmer actually rises or falls in manhood in proportion as humane sentiments control him in the treatment of his cattle, or harsh or brutal conduct renders them uncomfortable and unproductive, and their milk feverish and unwholesome.—Prof. Edwards to the *New York Dairyman*.

REST AND FEED FOR HENS—A writer on poultry says that after a season of egg production through the summer, a hen is naturally exhausted and wants a rest. Good feeding at this time is more important than at any other, and there is little or no danger that it will cause the fowl to lay on fat. Even corn will not fatten a moulting hen. So soon as she begins to get new feathers, feed liberally with corn and wheat mixed, and egg production will speedily re-commence.

There are many things which the intelligent, up to the times, modern farmer ought of course to do, which it is best to do as a rule, but the doing of which under exceptional circumstances would result in loss. Farmers should get as much of the needed plowing as possible done in the fall. There is a tendency to plow land in the spring before it is really fit, before it will crumble as it turns over from the mould-board and dry shortly after exposure to the air. If plowed wet in the spring, unless it is a decidedly gravelly or sandy loam, land will bake and go into and remain in lumps, that the ordinary harrow can only roll over and knock about, and in which plant food is shut up. Land may, however, be plowed very wet in the fall and be all the better for it in the spring, after the disintegrating and mellow-