

in a great degree upon the estimation in which this most noble and important occupation is held by themselves and the community at large.

In extending my congratulations for the growth of the Order, I feel we have tided over some of the dangers that threatened our existence, for all are beginning to see the benefits of association, and the outside world is beginning to learn the Grange is not a myth, but is banding together a class of people whose interests are identical and upon whom the prosperity of the country depends. And while the great public mind is scanning our acts prior to a decision, let us be admonished as farmers and as members of the Grange, to so equip ourselves with intelligence as to merit the tribute that is sure to await us, providing we adhere to and carry out the precepts of our Order.

In Co-operation is embraced the fundamental principles of the Order, but before it can be successfully adopted as a working basis for the achievement of any great object, it will be necessary for members to educate themselves by observation and actual study, hence the necessity of our meeting together and talking together. This subject has been alluded to by members of the Grange on many occasions, both in public and private since the advent of the Grange in Canada, and some no doubt have almost come to the conclusion that we have failed in the solution and requirements necessary to its successful adoption. I do not take any such desponding view of this important part of our organization, but rather admire the progress we have made, considering the condition in which we found ourselves, and the length of time we have been organized. Confidence in each other is a great incentive to success, and confidence in our united ability to perform, are two things we should never lose sight of.

The Executive Committee, I trust, will bring before you for your consideration their action in regard to Co-operation in financial matters, and whatever legislation may be done by this Grange upon said report I hope will be characterized by wisdom and discretion. At a former session a committee was appointed on education, and I presume this Grange will see the propriety of continuing a committee of that kind. Notwithstanding it is a fact that public sentiment and the liberality of Government have made our institutions of learning to rank with the first in America—which is an honor to the country and its people—there are points, however, in the educational part, and home influences in rural districts, which perhaps a committee of this kind might reach—and on this occasion as on former occasions I wish to impress upon the members of this Grange the importance of cementing the affections of farmers' children to their homes and rural pursuits—for I believe it the palladium of our success, and a safeguard of our country's prosperity. I was much interested in reading the address of the Worthy Master of the National Grange, and as our interests are nearly identical upon this subject, I believe it would not be out of place to insert that portion of it in this address. He says :

"Throughout this church-spired land the children are always sought for to fill our Sabbath schools. The "pillars of the church" well know the sure effects of early and constant Christian training. "Ninety and nine" never stray from the Shepherd's fold.

"Now the farmers' children are needed in our ark of safety, where they may be instructed in good morals ; where they may form correct habits of thought, politeness and frugality ; where tastes for reading, discussion and