

literature. Several papers of considerable merit, which devote their entire space to the consideration of subjects adapted to the improvement of the condition of farm life, and the best methods of carrying on our business are now within our reach. These should be intelligently perused, and none of the lessons in retrenchment, economy, and prudence, gleaned from years of depression, at great cost and sacrifice, should be discarded now at the dawn of better days. There is a saying current that "there was once a man who made a fortune by attending to his business." We may not all expect to amass fortunes, but a larger proportion of those engaged in ours than in any other calling may secure a competency by keeping in mind that rule of life.

The stability of our order, and its success as compared with other organizations for the benefit of farmers, is in a large measure accounted for by the exclusion of religious and political controversy from within our gates. Nevertheless we may not close our eyes to current facts in public life, and the Provincial elections just closed point practically to the utter extinction of independence from one or other of the two great political parties. It may be open to question as to whether this is a result to be deplored or not, but it is certainly a matter of some significance. This will for the time being have the effect of reducing the number of farmers as members of the Local Legislature, they composing at present rather less than one-third the number of that body; a condition which may possibly be the more readily cured by the absence of a third party from the political arena. Farmers should investigate thoroughly the questions receiving the attention of the Government, and act intelligently and in consistency with well matured opinions regarding the best interests of the country, and when duty and convenience conflict in pressing themselves upon us, not allow the more alluring features of the latter to stifle the still, small voice of the former; always remembering that Government corresponds with citizenship.

A few words as to the occupation of the time spent in our Subordinate Granges. The principles which govern us and run through the laws of nature as pertaining to animal and plant life, and the social conditions which surround us, are sufficiently varied in their character and broad in their nature to afford the most ample scope for study and discussion, and that form of education will develop a higher type of citizens, its effect reaching into future generations and fulfilling the true mission of the Grange. It will aid us in beautifying our homes, dignifying our lives, and stamp our profession with the highest form of culture.

The work of the session is now before you. I trust that you will enter upon it with vigor, and allow nothing to interfere with the duties you may be called upon to perform, so that all our

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