

AGRICULTURAL.

Meeting of the National Grange in Charleston.

The National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, of the United States will commence its annual session in Charleston on the first Wednesday in February, 1875. It will be a great occasion for this City, for the State of South Carolina, and for the South generally—indeed, we may say, for the whole country, since it will promote, as nothing else could, the true unity of the Republic and fraternal feeling and kindliness among the people of all parts of our land. It will bring here representative men from every State and Territory of the Union, and from the British Provinces, all working together for the common good and all bound to each other by the most sacred obligations and the closest brotherly ties. The spectacle will be impressive and its significance of the gravest import. The representatives of the Grange—come here for work, and that work will be of the most serious and important character. We trust it will be wisely performed. But we believe in recreation as well as in work, and the Patrons of Charleston and of the State intend to provide such means of recreation as will make the visit of our brothers and sisters from abroad as pleasant as we have no doubt it will be profitable. Next month we hope to be able to give our programme of reception and entertainment in full. In the meantime, brothers and sisters of the North, the South, the East and the West, be assured that a warm, hearty, fraternal welcome awaits you in this famous old historic 'City by the Sea.' We open the doors of our home and our hearts with true Southern hospitality to all who come with the Pass words and Signs of the 'Noble Order of Patrons.'

Rural Carolinian for December.

Taking a Hint From Nature.

Even what are called poor lands are comparatively productive when fresh. The forest growth has drawn up from the depths of the subsoil the fertilizing elements, assimilated them, and, finally, given them back largely to the land in the decayed leaves, branches, and trunks, which have strewed the earth for centuries. Much that was originally buried in the subsoil now enriches the surface soil, where we also find a good supply of humus. Now what have we been accustomed to do with such fresh land? We have been wont to take from it a succession of crops, returning little or nothing to the soil, till it has become what we call 'worn out,' the available plant-foot becoming so far exhausted that it no longer pays to cultivate it. What happens then? Another 'old field' is added to the vast area of artificial barrenness which disgraces our country. Patient nature takes possession again, and by the same process by which she originally made it fertile, proceeds to restore its lost virtues. But 'the mill of the gods grinds slow.' It takes a long time for a new forest to grow up and decay. Nature needs not to take account of months and years, or even of centuries; but can we not take a hint from her and gain the same end by a simpler but more rapid process? In other words, can we not make the soil manure itself by a succession of growing crops, turned under, that is by green soiling? And is not this one of the essential processes of rational agriculture?

Rural Carolinian for December.

WHY JOIN THE GRANGE?—There are many reasons. The Grange is a means of national and highly beneficial enjoyment. The Grange is a means of valuable instruction. When farmers meet together, they naturally talk. They talk of their business as farmers, of the markets, the oppressions of monopolies, the rate of interest, the railroad law, the third term, the prospects of the Patrons' movement, in short, of everything that interests them as men. A few days since two good farmers sat here at our table and talked of the different breeds of hogs, then of their proper care, then of other stock matters, and so on, all of us were instructed by the talking together. So every-

where, and in particular at the Grange meetings, good farmers will find much valuable instruction in the mutual interchange of views and the relation of their experiences. In the connection the advice can not come amiss if we say so early. It will afford you the greatest opportunity to talk with your neighbors. The Grange is the means of large savings in business. Already throughout the State and county agencies, a vast amount of farm machinery and other supplies have been purchased by the farmers, at greatly reduced prices, and arrangements are now making for still further reductions and vaster transactions. Co-operative shares have been started, insurance companies organized, elevators built and agencies for the sale of farm products established. All this tends to save money for the farmer and to teach him habits of business.—Kansas Spirit.

There are fifty-one granges in Indiana which have saved their members on an average of \$578.50 each grange, and eighty-five others \$407.25 to each grange on average, by making their purchases direct of manufacturers. Here we have a saving of \$71,191.25 by only 135 of the 1,992 granges in this State. We have no reliable information from the other 1,857 granges, but it is fair to presume that all of them have made large savings by direct dealings, and the whole would doubtless astonish even the members. Here is a bond of union which is substantial, and ought to be palpable enough to the outside world to show them how foolish the thought is that the Grange will dissolve.

Indiana Farmer.

Changing Seed.

A change of seed in agricultural operations is almost always beneficial. Growing the same crop in one locality, from the same seed, year after year, often tends to deterioration. The advisability of this change of seed from one locality to another is well illustrated in the oat crop. Seed grown in the cool atmosphere of Northern Vermont and Canada is found to grow more luxuriantly when re-sown in the Middle and Western States, and uniformly turns out heavier weight to the bushel. If the same seed is sown every year in the latter States, without new importation, the produce per acre and weight per bushel gradually deteriorate. The farmers of Bermuda always grow their potatoes from American seed, and never from their own seed. Hence they are able to attain a remarkable success in potato culture, such as we never attain here. Vegetable seeds should be changed frequently, and obtained from localities remote from the farms where sown. The farmers of England, who raise excellent cereals, roots and grasses, are very particular in the selection of seed, and procuring it from a foreign country, if possible, and in steeping it in liquid manure before sowing. In the north of Ireland, where flax is grown extensively, the farmers prefer seed brought from Russia or Holland to that grown by themselves, as they find the change very beneficial. The finest bulbous and tuberous rooted flowering plants are annually imported into England, the United States, etc., from Holland and Germany; and the change is very beneficial for two or three years. Forest tree seeds obtained in the mountainous of the Tyrol, germinate in other parts of Europe with much greater vigor than those of home growth.—E.C.

CERTAIN CURE FOR A RATTLESNAKE BITE OR SPIDER STING.—A physician in Oregon writes: 'Take the yolk of a good egg, put in a teaspoon and stir in as much salt as will make it thick enough not to run off, and spread a plaster and apply to the wound. Do this when ever bitten or stung, and I will insure your life for a sixpence. I have tried this remedy in a number of cases, and have never known it to fail.'

Young lawyers sometimes have an absurd way of identifying themselves with their clients. The other day one of these gentlemen ran that style of speech to its utmost limit, by saying: 'Gentlemen of the jury, we shall prove that, at the moment the policeman says he saw us pick the complainant's pocket, we were actually locked up in the station-house in a state of intoxication!'

A Remarkable Incident.

The first Masonic funeral that ever occurred in California took place in 1874, and was performed over a brother found drowned in the Bay of Francisco. An account of the ceremonies states, that on the body of the deceased was found a silver mark of a Mason, upon which were engraved the initials of his name. A little further investigation revealed to the beholder the most singular exhibition of Masonic emblems that was ever drawn by the ingenuity of man upon human skin. There is nothing in the history of the traditions of Freemasonry equal to it. Beautifully, dated on his left arm, in red and blue ink, which time could not efface, appeared all the emblems of the entire apprenticeship. There was the Holy Bible, square and compass, the twenty-four gauges, and common gavel. There was also the Masonic Pavement, representing the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple, the identical tessellated which surrounds it, and the blazing star in the center. On his right arm, and artistically executed in the same indelible liquid, were the emblems pertaining to the fellowcraft's degree, viz: the square, the level, and the plumb. There were also the five columns representing the five orders of architecture—the Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, and Composite.

In removing his garments from his body, the brother presented it with his right hand to the operative Masons. On his heart was the pot of incense. On other parts of his body was inscribed, in the book of constitutions, the words 'I am a Mason,' pointing to a tablet near the ascending eye, the altar and ark, the floor grass, the cycle, the body seven, the position of Balaak, the sun, moon, stars and planets; the three steps which are emblematical of youth, manhood and age. Admirably was the sweeping Virgin, reclining on a broken column, upon which lay the book of constitutions. In her right hand she held the pot of incense, the Masonic emblem of the immortality of the soul.

Immediately beneath her stood wedged time, with his scythe by his side, which cuts the brittle thread of life, and the hour glass at his feet, which is ever reminding us that our lives are withering away. The stunted and attenuated figures of the Destroyer were placed amid the long and flowing tresses of the disconsolate mourner. Thus were striking emblems of mortality and immortality blended in one pictorial representation.

It was a spectacle such as Masons never saw before, and in all probability such as the fraternity will never witness again. The brother's name was never known.

SLAUG.

A Few Specimen Bricks of the American Articles.

We allow ourselves to say of a rich man that he has got 'scamps' or 'drunken man' that he is 'light' or 'boozey' or anything that pleases us, or is satisfactory to us, it is 'stunning' 'awful' is considered a better word than 'very,' and we are awful cold, or not, or sick, or jolly, as the case may be; it is finer to say 'you bet' than to answer a question by a simple 'yes'; everything that annoys us is 'internal' or 'heasty'; bank-bills are 'green-backs'; I heard a lady in good society say, recently, that her dress-maker had discomfited her, and that in consequence she was 'regularly up a tree'; we threaten, not to humiliate or to mortify a man, 'but to take the starch out of him'; we reckon our brain to invent slang words for various drinks, and bring out such names as 'forty-rod,' 'tangle out,' 'rotgut,' 'blue ruin' and 'jersey nightingale,' words that would more than 'puzzle a foreigner'; a man is not cheated, but 'done down,' or 'bamboozled'; railroad conductors do not steal (in fact we are getting a little sensitive about using the word), but 'knock down'; bank cashiers do not swindle and steal, but commit 'irregularities'; we hear of a house being 'burgled,' and that two foot-pads 'went through' a baggage traveler; a fair dealer is spoken of as a 'square man,' a most wonderful 'honest nature,' a sanctified dinner is spoken of as a 'square meal'; we hear invitations given, not to take a drink, but to 'shoot in some position'; anything unacquainted or unexplained is 'puzzled out'; an insignificant excuse is said to be 'too thin'; or we are told that it is 'with-out wash'; we buy stocks on a 'margin,' or sell them 'short,' or 'butt' the market; or 'take a flyer,' or 'scoop in' a view line of stocks; we do not stake a sum of money, but 'bet our pile'; after a convivial party we next morning find ourselves 'precious seely'; our railroad train 'telescope,' or a 'Pun-man' breaks a wheel; a party of rowdies 'clean out' a drinking saloon; a big man threatens to 'wipe out' a little one; we do not out-wit or circumvent another, but 'teach him'; we 'take the shine out of' a rival, and 'fix his flint.'

for him; a carpenter's union a cheap house in a week; an investigating committee in congress 'white-washed' the character of some defendant, and so on, and so forth in all the departments of business and trade and social intercourse we permit ourselves to associate words and phrases which are of no authority, often vulgar and always needless.

DEATH IN A PULPIT.

A Minister Drops Dead—His Last Words, 'Jesus, Save Me Now.'

A scene was enacted on Sunday, the 8th November, during the services at the Methodist Episcopal Mission Church in Washington, D. C.

The church was thronged as usual for the morning service, which commenced at 11 o'clock, and when the pastor, the Rev. Milton E. Hysore, entered the pulpit, he announced to the congregation that he was suffering very much from inflammation of the throat, but proceeded at once with his sermon on the subject, 'Word of Life.' He was about half through his discourse, when he suddenly remarked, 'Brethren, I feel very sick,' and clapping his right hand to his forehead, as if in intense pain, exclaimed, 'Jesus, save me now!' at the same time staggering backward and falling on a high-backed position on a sofa. Many in the audience rushed forward to assist him, foremost among whom was his wife, who, lifting his head to her shoulder, asked, 'Mr. Hysore, do you feel sick?' when he replied, 'Yes,' and sank back unconscious immediately. His teeth became clenched, and, after dreadful muscular contortions, he breathed his last.

Dr. J. L. Adams and S. A. McKim were sent for at once, and upon their arrival pronounced no gesture of the brain the cause of death.

Deceased was formerly a minister of the Methodist Protestant Church, and this was his first charge in the Methodist Episcopal ministry. He was not only beloved by his congregation, but by all who knew him. He was a native of Baltimore, was thirty-seven years old, and leaves a wife and one child.

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS' WORTH OF DIAMOND RINGS STOLEN.—On Wednesday a fashionably dressed man entered F. B. Byrmer & Co.'s jewelry store, Broadway, New York, and asked the clerk to show him some diamond rings. Two plates of rings were shown him, and he examined them. He requested the clerk to put a number of the rings in a better light, as he desired to test them. Seemingly not satisfied with the selection, he asked to be shown some rings of greater value, and while the clerk was looking for another plate of rings, another man called upon Mr. Byrmer and inquired the price of a handsome bronze clock. Seemingly pleased, he said that he would call again with his wife, and quietly walked out. A few minutes later the clerk returned with the rings, and not seeing either the plates or his customer, asked Mr. Byrmer whether he had bought a ring. Mr. Byrmer, thunder-struck at the question, asked the clerk what he meant. The story was soon told, and the clerk became aware that the firm had suffered the loss of ten thousand dollars.

A DARING ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE ON THE HIGHWAY.—On Wednesday evening last, about half-past five o'clock while Mr. Thomas J. Brown was wending his way homeward from his place of business, he was shot at by a colored ruffian on the opposite side of the street just in front of Dr. Dargan's. As soon as the black devil caught sight of his pistol, he ran off with one of his legs would carry him. Mr. Brown barely escaped being shot, the ball striking the fence in about two feet of him. Fortunately the young man was identified, and the law will be applied to him. Mr. Brown was not armed at the time or he could have captured the fellow.

The necessity seems forced upon our young men—and old ones too—to go armed for self protection.

Darlington Southerner.

A man cannot expect half a loaf when he loafs all the time.

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Ex-Senator Doolittle, in a free speech, referred to the expense of the White House, and remarked that 'whatever may be said in criticism of Mr. Johnson's public course, we agree that the White House was never more gracefully kept and presided over than by his daughter, Mrs. Patterson—a perfect lady and a model of a republican mistress of the White House. Let me tell you a fact, which has never been before published, and which I had from the lady's own lips. Just as she was about to leave, at the end of Mr. Johnson's Administration, the steward of the house took an inventory and found that not one cent of furniture was missing or broken; not a sheet, towel or napkin was lost; and the house was in perfect order from top to bottom. She told me another fact, which I know the wives and daughters of the farmers of Wisconsin will be glad to hear. When she went into the White House she purchased two excellent cows. From the milk of these cows she made all the butter, used all the cream and made all the ice-cream used in the President's family. During the term, when she went home she shipped these cows to Tennessee. Is it any wonder, ladies, that Mrs. Patterson received that first premium on butter at their late fair last fall?'

N. Y. Observer.

No more Federal Interference.

The New York Times remarks that the problem in regard to the South is one of the most grave which is at this moment before the people of any country. Somehow or other the ex-insurgent States are not 'reconstructed,' and it would not be true to say that all of them are even at peace. One of the first things to be understood is that there must be an end of Federal interference in State Governments. The South, in point of fact, ought not to be looked upon as an instrument for gaining party triumphs on one side or the other. It is clearly entitled to the same form of government as any other part of the United States, and Federal interference is as much out of place there as it would be in New York or New Jersey. The President should promptly take measures to retrace some false steps. He could, to begin with, remove such office-holders as Casey from Louisiana; and he could make at least one change in his cabinet with very great advantage. We refer, of course, to the attorney general.

The latest scheme 'to save the party' is by gigantic 'internal improvements.' A few Congressmen and eminent lobbyists have been at work for a fortnight trying to obtain possession of the President. They tell him that all that is needed to put the Republican party back where it was two years ago—and the affections of the people—is to revive trade, business and speculation, and that there is but one way to do this—to open up new avenues for trade and commerce. This, in plain English, means that the Northern Pacific, the Texas Pacific, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and three or four other enterprises are to be 'revived' by congressional aid.

Charleston Going Ahead.

On Saturday 453 bags of sea island cotton and 11,275 bales of upland cotton were cleared from the port of Charleston, the largest clearance recorded in any one day. The cotton and the merchandise cleared with it in the same vessels were declared at a value of nearly one million dollars. There were four cargoes for Liverpool with 481 bags of sea island and 8,302 bales of upland; one for Boston with 505 bales of upland, one for New York with 27 bags of sea island and 1,125 bales of upland, and one for Philadelphia with 991 bales of upland. This export movement, with an increase of 50,000 bales in the current receipts, as compared with last year, when the arrivals were among the largest ever known, is convincing proof that Charleston is maintaining and improving her position among the great trade centres of the country. At the present rate of increase, the receipts at Charleston of a million bales of cotton a year may be looked for at an early period.—News and Courier.

Never give up old friends for new ones. Make new ones if you like, and when you have learned that you can trust them, love them if you will, but remember the old ones still. Do not forget they have been tried and found true; they have been merry with you in time of pleasure, and when sorrow came to you they sorrowed also. No matter if they have gone down in the social scale and you up; no matter if poverty and misfortune have come to them, while prosperity came to you; are they any less true for that? Are not their hearts as warm and tender as they do beat beneath homespun instead of velvet? Yes, kind reader, they are as true, loving and tender, don't forget old friends.—N. Y. Observer.



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