You will see that is many fold above the averages of to-day; and to rise to the accomplishment of even half so much would both put money in the farmer’s farm and in his purse, and would enable him to solve the starving problem that confronts us all — how to cheapen production.

Of course this does not cover the full bill of particulars, but the farmer who can comprehend and really do so much as the general plan involves, will not be slow to learn the smaller principles of success, to wit: the best seed, cultivation, time of culture, methods of harvesting, housing and feeding; the absolute necessity of warm barns, and the non-sheltering of stock in the fall or spring, during rain or snow storms; the treatment of the fertilizers; the right kind of stock to feed, and what to do with the milk or meat.

Best of all, the farmer, who has achieved in a fair degree the results outlined will have improved the stock of humanity in himself, increased the sum of his knowledge, which is better than gathering diamonds; will have elevated himself from the drudge to the realm of the thinker, and from the just profits arising he would be the independent man, rather than the slave of toil and embarrassment; could enlarge the world in which he lives through the reading of good books and papers, through travel and companionship with his fellow men, could wear off the angularities of the man of mere muscle, and feast upon the wonders of nature and art, as he never would if he did not get the aid of an enlightened brain to help him earn the money it costs to know something. No man who has to pay his own bills can take any true comfort in spending more than he does now, unless he can honestly make his gains greater, and to help the farmers of the state to do the latter is one of the high aims of the Farmers’ Institutes of Wisconsin.

SECRETARY’S REPORT.

Mr. President and Members of the Association:

During the past year I have paid out for office expenses $109.17. This has been paid out for postage, stationery,
freight and express on reports, telegrams, etc. A bill of items furnished the Executive Committee.

The reports that are not sent out by mail are distributed through the president of this association, at the Farmers' Institutes, the utmost care being taken in their distribution.

I had hopes at our last meeting of reporting the premiums due this association ($400.00) from the World's Exhibition, at New Orleans, paid, which would have paid nearly all of our outstanding indebtedness, incurred in making the exhibit last winter. It has not been paid, nor any portion of it.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee it was thought best to pay up all of the accounts which has been done.

For the past year the Executive Committee have been trying to devise some way, with the means at their command, the best way to instruct the creamery men, and cheese factory men how to make a better quality of butter and cheese.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the state be divided into three cheese factory districts for the purpose of a system of factory inspection and instruction. The headquarters of District No. 1, be at Sheboygan Falls; District No. 2, at Fond du Lac; District No 3, at Fort Atkinson; that for the purpose of this system the Dairymen's Association hereby appropriate six hundred dollars; two hundred dollars to each district, provided that a like sum be raised in each district. The association appropriation to be equal in all cases to the sum raised by the district and not to exceed two hundred dollars.

The districts will be made at the meeting of the Executive Committee in April.

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. CURTIS.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1885.

Mr. President and Members of the Association:

The following itemized report is made showing the source from which all moneys paid into the treasurer's hands were received and the disbursements paid on orders from the secretary, which I hold as vouchers: