

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

We cheerfully invite members of our Order to contribute to this department. Short, pointed articles for the good of the Order, news of its progress, co-operative business plans, educational interests, etc., especially solicited.

DIRECTORY.

NATIONAL GRANGE.

MASTER—JOHN T. JONES, Arkansas.
SECRETARY—O. H. KELLY, Louisville, Ky.
TREASURER—F. M. McDOWELL, N. Y.

TERRITORIAL GRANGE OF MONTANA.

MASTER—BRIGHAM REED, Bozeman, Gallatin County.
OVERSEER—G. W. BATTERTON, Deer Lodge City, Deer Lodge County.
LECTURER—A. MYERS, Helena, Lewis and Clark County.
STEWARD—J. C. LANGDON, Nevada City, Madison County.
ASSISTANT STEWARD—J. UNDERWOOD, Boulder, Jefferson County.
CHAPLAIN—G. H. OLDHAM, Beaver Creek, Jefferson County.
TREASURER—H. H. MOOD, Bozeman, Gallatin County.
SECRETARY—J. D. McCAMMON, Bozeman, Gallatin County.
GATE KEEPER—W. M. WALLACE, New Chicago, Deer Lodge County.
CERES—MRS. G. W. BATTERTON, Deer Lodge City, Deer Lodge County.
POMONA—MRS. JNO. CULVER, Radersburg, Jefferson County.
FLORA—MRS. A. W. SWITZER, Virginia City, Madison County.
LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD—MRS. J. C. LANGDON, Nevada City, Madison Co.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

BRIGHAM REED, Bozeman, Gallatin Co.
G. W. WAKEFIELD, " "
DAVID BURT, New Chicago, Deer Lodge County.
P. B. MILLS, Boulder Valley, Jefferson, Co.
A. W. SWITZER, Virginia City, Madison County.
W. M. WALLACE, New Chicago, Deer Lodge County.
A. F. BURNS, Helena, Lewis and Clark Co.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

1st District—DAVID BURT.
2d District—J. JONES.
3d District—P. B. MILLS.
4th District—A. W. SWITZER.
5th District—J. O. HOPPING.

SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

Star of the West No. 1—Meets first and third Saturday nights of each month. G. C. McFadden, Master; J. W. Kemper, Secretary.
Prickly Pear, No. 7—Meets second and fourth Saturdays of each month, at half past one o'clock, p. m. John Jones, Master; J. H. Jones, Sec'y.

BOZEMAN, December 20, 1875.

MR. EDITOR: I wish to inform the Secretaries of the several granges in Montana, through your paper, that they are respectfully requested to make up and forward to this office their reports for the quarter. The reports in full, including the names of the officers elected, and the number of members in each grange should be sent in by the 15th of January, so as to enable me to make an early and correct report to the National Grange.
J. D. McCAMAN,
Secretary.

PRICKLY PEAR GRANGE.—The following officers were elected at the first meeting in December, of the Prickly Pear Grange No. 7:

Worthy Master—John Jones.
Worthy Overseer—W. L. Miligan.
Worthy Lecturer—J. R. Hanan.
Worthy Steward—T. Wilcox.
Worthy Assistant Steward—Geo. Breck.
Worthy Chaplain—Abram Collet.
Worthy Treasurer—E. E. Bywaters.
Worthy Secretary—J. H. Jones.
Worthy Gate-keeper—N. G. Bryson.
Ceres—Mrs. J. R. Hanan.
Pomona—Mrs. H. H. Clark.
Flora—Mrs. T. Wilcox.
Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. B. J. Townsend.

MADISON VALLEY, M. T.,
December 18, 1875.

R. N. SUTHERLIN,

Dear Sir and Bro.: The ROCKY MOUNTAIN HUSBANDMAN, Vol. I, No. 3, is at hand and, for myself, I feel proud the Patrons of Montana have so creditable an Agricultural paper.

Madison Grange No. 22 has had but one meeting since your paper was issued, and at that meeting was held the election of officers for the ensuing year, consequently the grange did not take up the paper. At the next meeting I hope all the members will become subscribers.

Our grange had received, up to the first of

the present month, but six new members since its organization. At our last meeting, however, six petitions of candidates were referred, and I understand there will be five more presented at the next meeting of our grange.

We have a local paper to which the members are contributors, and which is read at each meeting. We have, also, charades and good singing, and anticipate a pleasant time at our meetings this winter. Hoping the next time you hear from this Valley, that it will be in the shape of a long list of subscribers to your paper, I am, fraternally, yours,
J. G. S.

SHERIDAN, M. T.,
Dec. 15, 1875.

R. N. SUTHERLIN,

Dear Sir and Bro.: Your paper comes to me regularly, and I understand that others of our grange are receiving it also. We like it very much from the fact that we believe it to be just the paper that every farmer in Montana needs, and I trust that every granger in the Territory will appreciate it at its true worth. Not only to the Patrons of Husbandry, but to laboring men of every class throughout the country, will your paper be found to be a benefit.

We have had no regular meeting of our grange for nearly two months, owing to the absence of some of its officers. On the 21st inst., will be our regular meeting, and as there is likely to be a full attendance, we will then make arrangements as to who, and what number, of our grange will take your paper. Yours, fraternally,
G. C.

NATIONAL GRANGE.

The National Grange closed its session at Louisville, Ky., on the evening of Dec. 2d. The following resolutions were introduced and adopted during the closing scenes of its long and laborious session:

Resolved, That in the sense of the National Grange the following suggestions are applicable to the present wants of our order: As the closing scenes of this long and laborious session approach; as the memory of previous sessions and many glorious achievements return to us, and as we look forward to the future we are deeply impressed with the truth that we must at all times preserve a vital spirit of fraternity between granges and individual members of this order, to best maintain its vigor, success and prosperity. The nature of our solemn obligation should ever be borne in mind. We have promised to aid and not to injure our fellow-patrons. Therefore, the good name of the brother or sister should be as precious to each one of us as our own. Harshness has no place in the principles of our order. Its mission is one of peace, gentleness and good-will. Therefore, in the discussion or application of our principles we hold that all asperity and violence are out of place, and should ever be avoided by our members. We also hold that the interpretation of any law of our order which works a manifest injustice to any member is at fault, and in all applications of our laws and regulations we should always remember that the grange is organized for the comfort, convenience and welfare of our worthy members. We trust that our members everywhere will renew their plight of fealty to the noble brotherhood, endeavoring especially to live up to the following principles of the declaration of our purposes, viz:

We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good-will and vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and natural prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition.

These are not idle words, but vital principles, which will give life and permanence to every grange throughout the land if our members will but emulate each other to exemplify them in their words and actions.

Mr. Aiken, of South Carolina, offered the following:

Resolved, That the currency question is rapidly becoming a political question, and therefore should not be entertained by this grange.

A resolution requiring the Secretary to have printed 25,000 copies of the proceedings of this session and send of same to each State Grange as many copies as there were subordinate granges, July 1875, under the direction of the Executive Committee, and

not less than ten copies to each State Grange Master. Adopted.

Mr. Moore, of the Finance Committee, submitted a resolution instructing the fiscal agent of the order in New York to transfer certain stocks, amounting to \$15,000 to the Executive Committee of the National Grange, to enable that committee to pay the various donations to State Granges granted at this session. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Maxwell offered a resolution in regard to co-operation, instructing the Worthy Master to continue a correspondence with English co-operative societies, and extending friendly greeting to all such societies. Adopted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Worthy Master and Members of Kentucky State Grange:

Your Secretary would respectfully submit the following report of the work done in his office for the past year. Since the last meeting of the State Grange the order has been steadily on the increase. From 1,454 subordinate granges then in working order, we have grown to 1,632, an increase of nearly 200. To-day every county in the State has the benefit of a regularly organized grange.

While the work of organizing has been checked, that has not been the chief concern of your officers. While they have provided for the introduction of the order in all parts of the State, their chief aim and labor has been to cement the already existing powerful organization, bind it together as a unit, so that the fundamental principle—co-operation—might have its full effect in relieving the order of every evil under which, as agriculturists, we have long labored. Your Secretary has, so far as was his province, done what his capacity permitted him to do in furtherance of this end. How far he has succeeded in his efforts he leaves to the granges to decide. There is but one feature of his work to which he can speak with conscientious certainty. All his efforts have been prompted by a heart devoted to the great common cause—the advancement of our order. While the duties of the office have been onerous, and the condition of the order was such as to complicate and increase his work; yet, with all the earnestness of his nature, he has striven to meet the obligation imposed upon him. How far he has succeeded the record of his work in each subordinate grange will show.

The itemized and statistical report of the financial work of this office has already been referred to the finance committee. For a correct view of the same I direct your attention to the report of said committee. For the work done, as Secretary of the Executive Committee, I refer you to the report of its Chairman.

During the past year the correspondence of the office has been so great that the Executive Committee, to endeavor to relieve to some extent this daily increasing labor, and at the same time supply a need long known and seriously felt, determined to issue a monthly bulletin, under the direct control of the Master and Executive Committee. Your Secretary was placed in charge of its management, to attend to the arrangement of its details, edit his own department, and see that it was regularly published and distributed to each Master of a grange in the State. While this was an extra duty it was willingly assumed. However, it has failed in one thing, it has not decreased the amount of correspondence. The average of letters answered has been, during the past year, not less than thirty per day. More than 3,000 letters have been mailed from your Secretary's office per month during the past year. As the order increased, inquiry multiplied its questions, and as the organization engendered new ideas the Secretary was besieged with queries, so the fact is patent beyond dispute—a fact to be proud of by every member of the order—which is this: Our organization has roused from sleep the common sense of our brothers in toil, drawn their thoughts from the everlasting struggle of digging out of the earth a mere pittance for their labor, and directed them to seek a better way to elevate their condition, both mentally and pecuniarily.

For the exact standing, pecuniarily, of every grange in the State, I would respectfully refer each to the books kept in the of-

fice, which are open at all times to the inspection of each grange, and which have been thoroughly examined by the Finance Committee.

In regard to those granges that are delinquent, I would suggest that we deal with them in all brotherly kindness, but kindly.

Trusting that the next quarter may find every grange in the State square on the books, I feel that it only needs wise counsel and true devotion to our principles to win, where the law would be futile to force. Two years of our existence as a State Grange has passed—two years of hard struggle and bitter experience, and now we are just emerging from the crude shape of the embryo into something tangible and business-like. Our experience is worth all the crammed knowledge of schools. Let us keep it and profit by it.

The report was adopted.

CRITICISM ON THE ORDER.

Many persons who are Patrons seem to think that those who criticize anything belonging to the order are committing an unpardonable offense. If the order has its faults and imperfections, or if members do not act properly, there is certainly room for advice and sometimes for a scolding. It would be as useless for any one to claim perfection for the order as for a Vatican council to declare that the Pope is infallible.

It is impossible that an organization that has sprung into existence and increased so rapidly should also attain perfection at the same time. Errors will necessarily occur, both in plans and execution; men will attain positions for which they are unfit, and their administrations will be failures, and do much harm to the order. It should, therefore, be unwise and improper to screen such persons or their misdeeds from the proper punishment by an apology or by applying gag law.

The other is Democratic in its teaching and tendency, and the Democracy supposes the will of the people to be exercised, and the popular will to be law; and he who would attempt to make the order an aristocracy or a monarchy will find himself rudely set aside, and no matter how important his past services or present power. It is no use attempting to cover every defect and flaw. If it is there, that is an unpleasant fact, but it is not healed by filling it with some soft plaster. No, it is best to weld it again, even should it require hot fire and sturdy blows to do it. We want a fabric that shall possess strength as well as beauty—one that shall wear and endure, but if we all sit silent when a wrong is committed, we consent to quackery and wrong; we even aid in its demolition. The power of a State Master or Lecturer, if used in an attempt to coerce men into silence, will only be damaging to the order, while fair, honest criticism will only direct attention to weak points, which may be remedied in time before an actual flaw occurs.

There should be no aristocracy in the order, save that of merit; and while it may be proper, as a mark of honor, to call a Past Master by that title, it is not, in my opinion, proper to make degrees unattainable by every member of the order upon application and payment of fees; in fact, there is no need of any degree above the fourth, or, if there is, let them belong to the subordinate grange.

The order is formed for social, educational and business purposes. All these do not require degrees, but active work and earnest purpose, and the more we cumber it with degrees and paraphernalia, the more we hinder its perfect working, and the further we put off the results. We need not follow any other order. Our duty is plain and simple and the work too great to be burdened with forms and ceremonies.—Cor. American Patron.

The *Missoulian* of Dec. 15, contains a long article which we regard as an abortive attempt to prove the farming community to be incapable of attending to their own business. Owing to our absence the past week, we are compelled to defer proper review until our next issue.

The State Grange of Colorado commenced its third annual session, at the City Hall, in Denver on Thursday the 14th inst.