

BOZEMAN AVANT COURIER

VOLUME 3.

BOZEMAN, MONTANA TERRITORY, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1874.

NUMBER 17.

THE AVANT COURIER,
Published Every Friday,
AT BOZEMAN, GALLATIN COUNTY, M. T.
JOSEPH WRIGHT,
Publisher and Proprietor.

TERMS:
INvariably in Advance
One Year \$3.00
Six Months 2.00
Three Months 1.00

ADVERTISING RATES:

TIME.	1 Column.	2 Columns.	3 Columns.	4 Columns.	5 Columns.
1 Line	5	10	15	20	25
2 Lines	10	20	30	40	50
1 Month	50	100	150	200	250
3 Months	150	300	450	600	750
6 Months	300	600	900	1200	1500
1 Year	600	1200	1800	2400	3000

Special notice is given for the first insertion and 10 cents for each subsequent insertion. Transient advertisements must be paid for in advance, and all job printing when the work is delivered.

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another—or who has subscribed or is responsible for the payment.
2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.
3. The courts have decided that refusing to take the newspapers or periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing or leaving them uncollected for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

REGULATING LEGAL PUBLICATIONS.

AN ACT to amend an Act entitled, "An Act to provide for and regulate the rates of charges for the publication of legal documents," approved January 20, 1872.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Montana:
SECTION 1. Publishers of newspapers in this Territory shall be entitled to payment of his full fees before being required to furnish a certificate of publication.
Approved, December 23, 1873.

DIRECTORY OF FEDERAL OFFICERS OF MONTANA.

OFFICE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Governor	BENJ. F. FOSTER	Virginia City
Secretary	J. E. CALHAWAY	Virginia City
Chief Justice	D. S. WADE	Helena
Associate Justice	JAMES KNOWLES	Deer Lodge
U. S. Dist. Atty.	C. S. SEWELL	Helena
Surrogate General	JOHN E. BROWN	Helena
Register of Lands	JOHN S. STARR	Helena
Receiver	W. H. WHELAN	Helena
U. S. Marshal	W. F. WHELAN	Helena
Collector Int. Rev.	F. P. FULLEA	Helena
Collector Customs	A. C. BROWN	Helena
U. S. Examining	THOMAS HARRIS	Helena
Surgeon	J. H. MORSE	Missoula
U. S. Commissioner	JOHN POTTER	Hamilton

DIRECTORY OF COUNTY OFFICERS.

OFFICE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Probate Judge	H. N. MAGUIRE	Helena
Deer Lodge County Commissioners	J. G. DEER	Deer Lodge
Deer Lodge County Commissioners	W. H. McADAMS	Deer Lodge
Deer Lodge County Commissioners	J. W. WALKER	Deer Lodge
Sheriff	C. L. CLARK	Deer Lodge
Deputy Sheriff	J. B. FINCH	Deer Lodge
Clerk and Recorder	ASCHER GRANGER	Deer Lodge
Superintendent Public Instruction	F. L. FINE	Deer Lodge
Surveyor	S. M. REED	Deer Lodge
Coroner	A. D. McPHERSON	Deer Lodge
Assessors	G. W. DICKSON	Deer Lodge
Assessors	MONTEV BALLEW	Deer Lodge

Times and Places for Holding Courts in the Territory of Montana.

SUPREME COURT.
At Virginia City, first Monday in January and second Monday in August.
EXCISE AND STATE DISTRICT COURTS.
First District—At Virginia City, first Monday in April, second Monday in July, and second Monday in November.
Second District—At Deer Lodge, third Monday in April, first Monday in September, and first Monday in December.
Third District—At Helena, first Monday in March, first Monday in July, and fourth Monday in October.

TERRITORIAL COURTS.

First District—In Madison County, at Virginia City, first Monday in April, second Monday in July, and second Monday in November.
In Gallatin County, at Bozeman, first Monday in March and fourth Monday in October.
In Jefferson County, at Hardwood, second Monday in May, and first Monday in October.
Second District—Deer Lodge County, at Deer Lodge City, third Monday in April, first Monday in September, and first Monday in December.
In Missouri County, at Missoula, fourth Monday in June and second Monday in November.
In Beaver Head County, Bancroft, first Monday in June, and third Monday in October.
Third District—In Lewis and Clark County, at Helena, first Monday in March, first Monday in July, and fourth Monday in October.
In Meagher County, fourth Monday in May and fourth Monday in November.

A. F. & M.

A. F. & M. meetings of Gallatin Lodge No. 6, A. F. & M. held at their hall on the first Saturday evening or before the full moon of each month.
Visiting brethren are cordially invited to attend.
THOS. B. EDWARDS, W. M.
R. P. MENZIES, Sec.

METROPOLITAN HOTEL.

JOHN BLUM, PROPRIETOR.
Main Street.
BOZEMAN, MONTANA.

COMMODOUS BRICK HOTEL.

Having assumed full control of this elegant and comfortable house, I would respectfully inform the local and traveling public that it will be my constant aim to make the house a first-class in all its appointments.
No expense will be spared to make our guests comfortable. The house is comparatively new, and furnished throughout in the best style.
Terms Reasonable.
All stages arriving in Bozeman stop at the Metropolitan Hotel.

AN ACT To Incorporate the Town of BOZEMAN.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Montana:

Article First. OF BOUNDARIES.

SEC. 1. That the inhabitants of the Town of Bozeman, County of Gallatin and Territory of Montana, be and are hereby constituted a Body Politic and Corporate by the name and style of Bozeman, and by that name shall have perpetual succession—may sue and be sued—plead and be pleaded in all Courts of Law and Equity; and may have and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

SEC. 2. All that territory embraced within the present and past limits of said town of Bozeman, as pre-empted and surveyed by the Probate Judge of said county of Gallatin, as appears of record in the County Clerk's office; also all tracts of land adjoining said town (as herein described) that have been or shall be hereafter laid out into town lots and duly recorded as additions to said town as may be by law required, the same shall be annexed to and become part of said town of Bozeman, and all said territory shall constitute said town.

SEC. 3. The inhabitants of said town, by the name and style aforesaid, shall have power to sue and be sued—to plead and be pleaded, to defend and be defended, in all courts of law and equity, and in all actions whatsoever; to purchase, hold and receive property, real and personal or mixed within or beyond said town for burial grounds, and for other purposes for the use of the inhabitants of said town, not contrary to the remaining provisions of this Act.

Article Second. OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.

SEC. 1. There shall be a Town Council, to consist of a Mayor and a Board of Aldermen.

SEC. 2. The Board of Aldermen shall consist of two (2) members from each Ward, to be chosen by the qualified voters of each respective Ward. They shall hold their office for one (1) year and until others shall be legally chosen and qualified.

SEC. 3. No person shall be an Alderman unless at the time of his election he shall be a freeholder of the town, and have resided within the limits of the town six (6) months immediately preceding his election, and shall have the requisite qualifications to vote for members of the Territorial Legislature and be a citizen of the United States.

SEC. 4. If any Alderman after his election remove from the Ward for which he was elected, his office shall be declared vacant.

SEC. 5. The Mayor and Aldermen shall serve without compensation until the city shall have (3,000) three thousand inhabitants, and when the town shall have secured such population the Mayor and Aldermen shall have and receive such compensation as the Town Council shall determine.

SEC. 6. The Town Council shall judge of the qualifications and returns of its own members, and shall determine all contested elections under this Act.

SEC. 7. A majority of the Town Council shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance.

SEC. 8. The Town Council shall have power to determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly conduct, and with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members elected, expel any member.

SEC. 9. The Town Council shall keep a journal of its proceedings and from time to time publish the same; and the year and days, when demanded by any member present, shall be entered upon the journal.

SEC. 10. No Alderman shall be appointed to any office under the authority of the city which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during the time for which he shall have served in the capacity of Alderman.

SEC. 11. When a vacancy shall occur in the Board of Aldermen from any cause the Mayor shall immediately appoint some suitable person possessing the requisite qualifications to fill such vacancy, said person so appointed to hold his office until his successor is elected and qualified.

SEC. 12. The Mayor and Aldermen, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall each take and subscribe an oath or make affirmation that they will support Constitution of the United States and the Organic Act of this Territory, and that they will well and truly perform the duties of their office to the best of their skill and ability.

SEC. 13. Whenever there shall be a tie in the election of Aldermen, the judges of the election shall certify the fact to the Mayor, who shall determine the same by lot in such manner as shall be prescribed by ordinance.

SEC. 14. There shall be twelve stated meetings of said Town Council in each year at such times and places as may be prescribed by the Town Council.

Article Third. OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

SEC. 1. The chief executive officer shall be a Mayor, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the town, and shall hold his office for one year and until his successor is elected and qualified.

SEC. 2. No person shall be eligible to the office of Mayor who shall not have been a resident of the town for one year next preceding his election, or who shall be under twenty-five years of age, or who shall not at the time of his election be a citizen of the United States.

SEC. 3. If any Mayor, during the term for which he shall have been elected, remove from the town or shall be absent from the town for the space of more than three months, his office shall be deemed to be vacant, and the Town Council shall order an election to fill such vacancy.

SEC. 4. When two or more persons shall have an equal number of votes for Mayor, the judges of the election shall certify the same to the Town Council, who shall proceed to determine the same by lot in such manner as may be prescribed by ordinance.

SEC. 5. Whenever any election for Mayor shall be contested, the Town Council shall determine the same as may be prescribed by ordinance.

SEC. 6. Whenever any vacancy shall happen in the office of Mayor, it shall be filled by election.

Article Fourth. OF ELECTIONS.

SEC. 1. On the first Monday in April A. D. 1874 an election shall be held in said town for one Mayor, who shall be ex-officio Police Magistrate for the town of Bozeman, and two Aldermen for each ward, who shall act as Street Commissioners in their respective Wards, without pay; and forever thereafter on the first Monday in April of each year there shall be an election of one Mayor, and two Aldermen for each Ward for said town.

SEC. 2. Immediately after the election and qualification of the Mayor of said town he shall appoint the following officers, to-wit: One Town Marshal, who shall be Day Watch and Constable, one or more Night Watches, as occasion may require, one Town Clerk, one Town Treasurer, one Town Attorney, who shall hold their respective offices for the term of one year and until their successors are appointed and qualified; the Town Attorney, the Town Clerk, and the Town Treasurer shall serve without compensation from the city funds until there shall be three thousand inhabitants in said town, when the Town Council shall determine the compensation to which they shall be entitled.

SEC. 3. All male inhabitants over the age of twenty-one years who are entitled to vote for members of the Territorial Legislature, and who shall have been actual residents of said town ninety days next preceding said election, shall be entitled to vote for town officers, provided that said voters shall cast their votes in the Ward in which they respectively reside.

Article Fifth. POWERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.

SEC. 1. The Town Council shall have power and authority to levy and collect taxes for town purposes, as herein stated, upon all taxable property real, mixed and personal within the limits of the town not exceeding \$2,500 per annum, and may enforce the collection of the same in any manner that may be prescribed by ordinance not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States or the Organic Act of this Territory. The taxes, fines and forfeitures and licenses raised under this Act shall be applied: 1st: Towards payment of the Town Watch herein provided for, then toward the prevention of fires, as herein provided for, then toward street improvement, as herein provided for.

SEC. 2. The Town Council shall have power to appoint all officers except such as are elected or otherwise provided for in this Act, but shall not allow compensation to any except as herein stated.

SEC. 3. The Town Council shall have power to require of all officers appointed or elected in pursuance of this act bonds, with penalty and security, for the faithful performance of their respective duties, as may be deemed expedient; and also to require of all officers appointed or elected as aforesaid to take such oaths or affirmations as the Town Council may prescribe for the faithful performance of the duties of their respective offices before entering upon the discharge of the same.

SEC. 4. The Town Council shall have power to borrow money on the credit of the town.

Provided: That no sums of money shall be borrowed at a greater interest than fifteen per cent. per annum, nor shall any sum or sums be borrowed as aforesaid until the question as to the loan and its amount shall have been submitted to the property holders of said town; for which purpose a special election shall be called by the Mayor, after giving twenty days notice there-

of; and if a majority of the property holders of said town shall vote in favor of any such loan the same may be negotiated, and not otherwise; and, provided, further, that the annual interest on the loan of the town shall never exceed one-half of the revenue annually derived from the tax levied by said town upon the real estate within the limits of said town.

SEC. 4. To appropriate money and funds from the authorized taxes for the payment of the debt and expenses of the town.

SEC. 5. To make regulations to prevent the introduction of contagious diseases into the town, to make quarantine laws for the purpose, and to enforce the same within five miles of the town.

SEC. 6. To establish hospitals in case of epidemic, and to make regulations for the government of the same.

SEC. 7. To make regulations to secure the general health and improvement of the town, etc.; to declare what shall be a nuisance, and to prevent and abate the same.

SEC. 8. To provide the town with water, erect hydrants and pumps, build cisterns and dig wells in the streets, for the supply of engines and buckets. Provided: that nothing in said section shall be construed as to deprive private individuals of vested or acquired rights without just compensation being made therefor by the Town Government.

SEC. 9. To provide suitable offices for the Mayor and Common Council of said town for the transaction of business.

SEC. 10. To divide the town into wards, alter the boundaries thereof, and create additional wards, as the occasion may require.

SEC. 11. To establish, support and regulate night and day watches, as herein provided.

SEC. 12. To provide for the enclosing, improving and regulating all public grounds belonging to the town, and receiving gift of same for town purposes.

SEC. 13. To, and it shall, license and regulate tax and regulate auctioneers, merchants, peddlers, retailers, taverns, drinking saloons, hawkers, brokers, pawnbrokers, gambling houses, and all branches of business.

SEC. 14. To, and it shall, license and regulate theatrical and other exhibitions, shows and amusements.

SEC. 15. To, and it shall, restrain and suppress tipping houses, dram shops, gambling houses, dance houses, bawdy houses, and any disorderly houses, and the selling of intoxicating or malt liquors by any person within the town, except by persons duly licensed under the provisions of this act.

SEC. 16. To provide for the prevention and extinguishment of fires; to organize and establish fire companies.

SEC. 17. To regulate the building, and order the repairing and cleaning of chimneys and flues.

SEC. 18. To regulate the storage of gunpowder, tar, pitch and resin, and other combustible materials.

SEC. 19. To regulate parapet walls and partitions, fences, and restrain cattle, hogs, horses, dogs, etc., from running at large.

SEC. 20. To provide for taking the enumeration of the inhabitants of said town.

SEC. 21. To regulate the election of town officers, and to provide for removing from office any person holding an office created by ordinance.

SEC. 22. To regulate the fees of jurors and witnesses for services rendered in pursuance of this act, or any ordinance made in pursuance thereof.

SEC. 23. To regulate the watch of the town, to enforce fines, forfeitures and penalties for the breach of any ordinance, and to provide for the receiving and appropriation of such fines and forfeitures, and the enforcement of such penalties; and all money collected under or by authority of any ordinance shall be deemed to be taken to belong to said town, and disposed of by the Town Council under the ordinance of said town for the general use and benefit of the inhabitants thereof, and all fines and penalties shall be used in payment of Constables and Marshals' fees, town improvements or in liquidation of any town debt.

SEC. 24. The Town Council shall have power to make all ordinances which shall be necessary and proper for the carrying into execution the powers specified in this act, so that such ordinances be not repugnant to, nor inconsistent with, the Constitution of the United States, nor the Organic Act of this Territory.

SEC. 25. The style of the ordinance shall be, "Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Bozeman."

SEC. 26. All ordinances of the Town Council shall, within ten days after they shall have been passed, be published in some newspaper in the town, or posted up in three public places in said town, and shall not be in force until they have been published as aforesaid.

SEC. 27. All ordinances of the Town Council may be proven by the seal of the corporation, and when printed in book form or pamphlet form, and purporting to be printed and published by authority of the corporation, the same shall be received in evidence in all courts and places without further proof.

Article Six. THE MAYOR.

SEC. 1. The Mayor shall preside at all meetings of the Town Council, and in case of a tie, shall have the casting vote, and in no other. In case of the non-attendance of the Mayor at any meeting, the Board of Aldermen shall appoint one of their members as Chairman, who shall preside at the meeting, but shall not thereby lose his right to vote on any question before the Board.

SEC. 2. The Mayor or any two Aldermen shall preside.

SEC. 3. The Mayor shall at all times be vigilant and active in enforcing the laws and ordinances for the government of the town. He shall inspect the conduct of all the subordinate officers of said town, and cause negligence or passive violation of duty to be prosecuted and punished. He shall from time to time communicate to the Aldermen such information and recommendations all such measures as in his opinion may tend to the improvement of the finances, the health, security, comfort and ornament of the town.

SEC. 4. He is hereby authorized to call on every male inhabitant of said town, over the age of eighteen years, to aid in enforcing the laws and ordinances, and in case of riots and fires to call them out as militia and fire companies, to aid him in suppressing the same or disorderly conduct; preventing and extinguishing fires, for securing the peace and safety of the town, and carrying into effect any law or ordinance, and any person who shall not obey such call shall forfeit to said town a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

SEC. 5. He shall have power, whenever he shall deem it necessary, to require of any officer of said town an exhibit of his books and papers.

SEC. 6. He shall have power to execute all acts that may be required of him by any ordinance made in pursuance of this act.

SEC. 7. He shall also have such power as may be vested in him by ordinance of the Town Council in and over all places within five miles of the boundaries of the town, for the purpose of enforcing the health and quarantine ordinances and regulations thereof.

SEC. 8. In case the Mayor or an Alderman shall at any time be guilty of a palpable omission of duty, or shall wilfully and corruptly be guilty of oppression, malconduct or partiality in the discharge of the duties of his office, he shall be liable to be fined in the Probate Court of the county, and on conviction he shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, and the court shall have the power, on the recommendation of the jury, to add to the judgment of the court, that he be removed from office.

Article Seven. OF PROCEEDING IN SPECIAL CASES.

SEC. 1. When all the owners of all the property on a street, lane, avenue or alley shall petition for such street, lane, avenue or alley to be opened the Town Council may open, widen, or alter such street, lane, avenue or alley upon condition to be prescribed by ordinance; but no compensation shall in such cases be made to those whose property shall be taken, their tenants or others; nor shall there be any assessment of benefit or damage that may accrue thereby to any of the petitioners, the cost of such opening, etc., to be assessed on said owners only.

SEC. 2. The Town Council shall have power by ordinance to levy and collect a special tax on the holders of lots on any street, lane, avenue or alley, according to their respective fronts, for the purpose of paving, grading or planing sidewalks on such street, lane, avenue or alley; provided, said tax shall not exceed the actual cost of said sidewalk, etc., respectively, which tax shall be collected in the same manner as other city taxes; and, provided, further, that nothing in this act shall be construed so as to prevent the owners of such property from making the desired improvement of their own volition.

Article Eight. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

SEC. 1. The Town Council shall have power for the purpose of keeping the streets, lanes, avenues and alleys in repair to require every able-bodied male inhabitant in said town over the age of twenty-one years and under forty-five to labor on said streets, lanes, avenues and alleys, not exceeding two days in each and every year; and every person failing to perform or supply such labor when duly notified by the Street Commissioners, shall forfeit and pay three dollars for each of said days so neglected or refused.

SEC. 2. The members of the Town Council shall during their term of service as such, be exempt from serving on juries, and in the militia of the Territory.

SEC. 3. The Town Council shall have power to provide for the punishment of offenders, by imprisonment in all cases when such offenders shall fail or refuse to pay the fines and forfeitures which may be recovered against them.

SEC. 4. All fines and forfeitures collected for offenses committed or penalties incurred within the incorporated limits of the town of Bozeman shall

be paid into the Treasury of said town by the officer collecting the same.

SEC. 5. The Town Council shall cause to be published annually a full and complete statement of all moneys received and expended by the corporation during the preceding year, and on what account received and expended.

SEC. 6. All suits, actions and prosecutions instituted, commenced or brought by the corporation hereby created shall be prosecuted in the name of the town of Bozeman.

SEC. 7. In all cases arising under the provisions of this Act, or any ordinance passed in pursuance thereof, to the Probate Court; and every such appeal shall be granted in the same manner and with like effect as appeals are taken from and granted by Justices of the Peace under the laws of this Territory.

SEC. 8. Whenever the Mayor shall absent himself from the town, except as herein allowed, or resign, or die, or his office shall otherwise be vacated, the Board of Aldermen shall immediately proceed to elect one of their number President who shall be Mayor pro tem. until the office shall be filled by election as herein provided.

SEC. 9. This Act is hereby declared to be a public Act and may be read in evidence in all courts of law and equity within this Territory without proof.

SEC. 10. The Town Marshal and the Constables within said town of Bozeman shall be authorized and have power to execute, anywhere within the county wherein said town may be located, all process issued by the Police Magistrate of said town or other Magistrates within the said town; and the said Marshal shall have power to do all the acts that a Constable may lawfully do, and shall receive the same fees that are allowed to Constables in similar cases, and shall give bonds as Constables are required by law to give.

SEC. 11. All actions brought to recover any penalty or forfeiture under this Act or any ordinance, by law or Police regulation made in pursuance thereof, shall be brought in the corporate name, and it shall be lawful to declare generally a debt for such penalty, fine or forfeiture, stating the clause of this Act or the by-law or ordinance under which the penalty or forfeiture is claimed and to give the special matter in evidence under it.

SEC. 12. In all prosecutions for any violation of any ordinance by law or other regulation the first process shall be by summons, unless complaint under oath shall be made for a warrant as in other cases.

SEC. 13. Execution may issue immediately upon the rendition of judgment for any fine and costs imposed by virtue of any ordinance or other regulation, and if the defendant have no goods or chattels or real estate within the county whereof the judgment can be collected, the officer rendering such judgment may require the defendant to be confined in jail for a term not exceeding three months, and all persons so committed shall be confined one day for each three dollars of such fine and costs; and, provided, further, that all persons so confined may be compelled to work upon the streets of said town.

SEC. 14. The Police Magistrate shall have jurisdiction in all cases of violation of the town ordinances, and shall have the same jurisdiction in all civil and criminal proceedings as is now or shall hereafter be conferred upon other Justices of the Peace of this Territory, and in all courts of this Territory said Police Magistrate shall be held to be a Justice of the Peace, but no change of venue shall be allowed from said Police Magistrate to any other Justice of the Peace for hearing determination in any case where proceeding shall be commenced against any person or persons for the violation of any city ordinance.

SEC. 15. The duties of all officers mentioned in this Act not herein prescribed shall be prescribed by ordinance.

SEC. 16. That J. S. Mendenhall, L. S. Willson, Frank Harper, C. L. Clark, John C. Guy, Arch. Graham, Wm. H. Tracey, D. A. Rouse, Nelson Story, Louis Spiering, and H. N. Maguire be and they are hereby constituted and appointed to act as Commissioners for the purpose herein-after mentioned to serve in such capacity until the first Board of Aldermen of said town shall be elected and duly qualified; said Commissioners, or any three of them, shall, on or before the first Monday in April, A. D. 1874, proceed to lay out the Territory embraced within the limits of the said town of Bozeman into three Wards and fix the boundaries of the same, and shall also provide for holding the first election, herein appointed, in the several Wards of said town; shall fix the place for holding said election in each of said Wards; shall appoint three persons to act as judges of election in each of said Wards who shall be sworn, and whose places may be filled in case they do not serve as provided by law in other elections; said elections shall be held and returns thereof be made and certified in all respects as may be provided by law in elections for members of the Legislature; a copy of said returns of said election shall be delivered to said Com-

missioners, who shall canvass the same within three days from the time received, and the persons receiving the highest number of votes for the several offices to be elected under this act, shall be declared by said Commissioners, or any three of them, duly elected to said offices. If two or more persons shall at said election receive the same number of votes for either of said offices the said Commissioners shall determine the same between them by lot.

SEC. 17. This Act to be

THE GRANGE.

PROGRESS OF THE ORDER—SIXTH ORDINARY GROWTH.

(From the Pacific Rural Press.)

Few people, even among the members of the Order, have any proper idea of the rapid progress which the patrons of Husbandry have made to past year, or the increasing ratio with which the organization of Granges is now going on.

The Order was founded only six years ago, but ten Granges were organized during the first year, and that number had increased to only 338 at the end of the fourth year. During these four years farmers could not be made to understand or appreciate the benefits which might be derived from such an organization. The importance of the movement could not be impressed upon them until 1872, during which year 1,053 Granges were organized.

But nothing like the full benefit of the movement was realized until 1873, during which, up to December 13th—lacking over two weeks of a full year—seven thousand eight hundred and seventy-six new Granges had been organized; making in all, as reported at the Central office in Washington, up to the 13th day of December, 9,267 Granges in the entire Union.

There are now 29 State Granges in operation, including the Dakota Territory Grange; and the Order has been planted in every State in the Union except the two smallest—Delaware and Rhode Island. The number of Granges is now increasing at the rate of about one thousand each month. It is safe to say that there will be at least 20,000 organizations by the close of 1874, with a membership of not less than two millions, and even then there will be much to do in the way of organization.

No wonder the people's party is gaining in influence and power all over the land—that it has already become national and holds complete control of several of the most important States in the Union; for the great mass of the Grangers are throwing their influence in that direction.

The Order, as we have often stated, is not political. It holds no caucuses or political conventions; makes no nominations, and takes no part, as an Order, in political matters; but its members are found voting almost uniformly with that political organization which is freest from partisan rule, and most devoted to the welfare of the people, without reference or care for party. It is astonishing—to the initiated—how completely the Grange breaks down all partisan feeling. The moment a voter becomes a member of a Grange, he is a brother, in the closest social relationship to every other member, and enters at once into the fullest sympathy with the general feeling and spirit of the Order.

The working men of America can never hope to accomplish the amelioration of