

CIRCULAR



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

Vol. 1.

APRIL 1875.

No. 1.

Executive Committee.

NATHANIEL CHILSON, Chairman and State Purchasing Agent, Battle Creek.
 SAMUEL LANDON, Bowen Station.
 ALONZO SESSIONS, Ionia.
 J. W. CHILDS, Ypsilanti.
 F. M. HOLLOWAY, Hillsdale.
 GEO. W. WOODWARD, Shelby, Oceana Co.
 W. G. WALES, Disco, Macomb Co.
 J. J. WOODMAN, J. T. COBB, - Ex. Officio.

Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw.
 O.—P. W. ADAMS, Tecumseh.
 L.—C. L. WHITNEY, Muskegon.
 S.—H. FLEMING, Pontiac.
 A. S.—W. H. MATTISON, Ionia.
 C.—A. M. FITCH, Albion.
 Sec.—J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft.
 T.—S. F. BROWN, Kalamazoo.
 G. K.—A. E. STRONG, Kalamazoo.
 CHIEF—MRS. N. CHILSON, Battle Creek.
 POMONA—MRS. N. R. ADAMS, Grand Rapids.
 FLORA—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw.
 L. H. S.—MRS. W. H. MATTISON, Muskegon.
 C. L. WHITNEY, Gen. Deputy, - "

INTRODUCTORY.

At a late meeting of the Executive committee of the Michigan State Grange, after due deliberation and discussion, as a means of more direct and regular communication between the officers of the State and subordinate Granges, it was determined to issue, monthly, a CIRCULAR in this form. The Master and Secretary were directed to execute this determination of the committee, and send two copies of the first issue, and one copy of each subsequent issue to each subordinate Grange in the State.

The CIRCULAR will contain each month the *rulings* of the Master of the State Grange; the doings of the Executive Committee, and the State Agent; information from the Secretary's office; answers to correspondence; communications from the State Lecturer, and other prominent members of the order. Important announcements; items of news that are deemed of value to members of the order, and a few advertisements of such articles and kinds of business as we deem of interest to Patrons.

The Committee were prompted to this step by the success which the scheme has met with in several of the Western States. We hope to make the CIRCULAR of such value that very many members of the Order in this State will become regular subscribers.

The CIRCULAR will be sent regularly to single subscribers, one year, for 50 cents; in clubs of ten or each.

If the receipts from subscriptions and advertisements are in excess of the cost of issue the surplus will be faithfully paid into the treasury of the State Grange.

We shall adhere to Grange principles, and require the money with the order.

Send money in registered letter, by postoffice money, order or draft, and direct all communications to J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.

ADVERTISING RATES.

One column 1 month, . . . \$12.00
 Half " " " . . . 7.00
 Quarter " " " . . . 4.00
 One-eighth " " " . . . 2.50

On advertisements ordered for three months a discount of ten per cent from above rates will be made.

On advertisements ordered for six months a discount of twenty per cent will be made.

On advertisements ordered for 12 months a discount of 30 per cent. will be made.

A BILL TO INCORPORATE STATE AND SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

SECTION 1. *The people of the State of Michigan enact, That State, county, or district and subordinate granges of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry in the State of Michigan may be incorporated under the provisions of this act.*

Sec. 2. Any thirteen or more persons, residents of this State, and of lawful age, and members of a State grange of the Patrons of Husbandry of the State of Michigan, and appointed for that purpose by the executive committee of said State Grange, may, under the direction of said executive committee, for the purpose of incorporating a State Grange of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry, make and execute articles of association under their hands and seals, which articles shall be acknowledged before some officer having authority to take the acknowledgment of deeds, and shall set forth:

First, The names of the persons so associating in the first instance, and their places of residence;

Second, The corporate name by which such association shall be known in the law, and the place or places which shall be deemed to be the place of its business office;

Third, The object and purpose of such corporation, which shall be to advance the social, moral, intellectual, and material interests of the members of the corporation;

Fourth, The period of the existence of the corporation, which shall not exceed thirty years.

Sec. 3. Such articles of association shall have endorsed thereon, or annexed thereto, an affidavit made by not less than three of the signers thereof, sworn to before some officer in this State authorized to administer oaths, showing that the persons whose names are signed to said articles of association are members of the State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, and that they have been appointed by the executive committee of said State Grange to make and execute said articles for the purpose of incorporating a State Grange, as aforesaid, and that such articles of association are made and executed in accordance with the direction of said executive committee.

Sec. 4. A copy of said articles of association, and of the certificate of acknowledgment thereof, and of said affidavit, with an affidavit thereto attached, showing the same to be true copies of said original articles, certificates, and affidavit, which affidavit so attached shall be made by one or more of the signers of said articles, shall be filed and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, and thereupon the persons who shall have signed said articles of association, their associates and successors being masters of the subordinate Granges of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry in this State, together with such other persons (if any) as shall be designated for that purpose in the articles of association aforesaid, shall be a body politic and incorporate, under and by the name expressed in such articles of association; it being thereby intended and provided that the persons who shall be the members and compose the corporation created as aforesaid, shall be composed of the persons signing such articles of association as aforesaid, and all the other masters of the subordinate Granges of the Patrons of Husbandry in this State, during their continuance in office as such masters, and until their successors in office shall be chosen and enter upon the duties of their offices, together with such other persons as may be designat-

ed for that purpose in such articles of association as aforesaid; and the corporation formed under such articles of association as aforesaid, shall by the name designated in such articles, have succession, and be capable of suing and being sued, of contracting and being contracted with, and of purchasing, receiving, and holding real and personal estate, by deed, gift, grant, or devise, and may have a common seal and may alter the same at pleasure, and shall have full power to give, grant, convey, lease, mortgage, sell and dispose of any and all of such real and personal estate; but the rents, income and proceeds of all such property and estate shall be devoted exclusively to the objects for which the corporation is formed; and the amount of the real and personal estate owned by such corporation at any one time, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars in value.

Sec. 5. Such corporation shall have power and authority to designate, elect, and appoint from its members, such officers, and agents, under such name and style as shall be in accordance with the constitution of the national Grange of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry, and as shall be provided for by the articles of association or by-laws (or both), of the corporation, and such corporation shall have authority to make all such rules, regulations, and by-laws, not repugnant to law, or to the constitution and regulations of the national grange of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry, as may be necessary and convenient for the regulation, management, and government of the affairs, business, property, and interests of the corporation; and such corporation may change the location of its business office whenever desirable.

Sec. 6. A copy of the record of the articles of association of every such corporation formed as aforesaid, filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and certified by him under the seal of State, shall be received in all courts and places as *prima facie* evidence of the existence and due incorporation of such corporation.

Sec. 7. Any thirteen or more persons, of lawful age, residents of this State, and being members of any county, district, or subordinate grange of the patrons of husbandry, duly chartered by the national grange, by charter approved by the State grange, desirous to become incorporated, may make and execute articles of association, specifying therein, as provided in section two of this act, and acknowledge the same as specified in said section two, and file a copy of such articles, together with a copy of the charter granted as aforesaid by said national grange, in the office of the county clerk of the county where the business office of the grange is located, and the same shall be recorded by such county clerk, in a book to be kept in his office for that purpose; and

thereupon, the persons who shall have signed such articles of association, together with their associates and successors who shall sign such articles, shall be a body politic and corporate, by the name expressed in such articles of association, and by that name they and their successors shall have succession, and by that name may sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, and may have a common seal, which they may alter at pleasure, and may purchase, take, receive, own, and hold real and personal estate, and the same or any part thereof grant, sell, mortgage, lease, and convey at pleasure. But every such corporation shall be limited as to the amount of estate which it may hold, and the disposition to be made thereof, and of the income and proceeds therefrom, by the provisions of section four of this act, and a copy of the record of the articles of association and of the charter thereto attached certified by the county clerk, under the seal of the county where such record is kept, shall be received in all courts and places in this State as *prima facie* evidence of the existence and due incorporation of every grange incorporated under this section.

Sec. 8. Every county, district, and subordinate grange incorporated under this act shall have power and authority to designate, elect, and appoint from its members such officers, under such name and style as shall be in accordance with the constitution of the national grange, and the regulations of the State grange, and as may be provided for in the articles of association or by-laws of the corporation; and shall also have authority to make all such by-laws, rules, and regulations, not repugnant to the laws of the United States or of this State, nor repugnant to the constitution and regulations of the national grange or State grange, as may be necessary and convenient for the regulation, management, and government of the affairs, business, property, and interests of the corporation; and may change the location of its business office whenever expedient, but notice of such change shall be filed and recorded in the office of the county clerk, where the record of its articles of association are kept. And every corporation organized under this act may, for the purpose of effecting the objects and purposes of the corporation, create a capital stock, and divide the same into convenient shares, and make all such rules and regulations in respect to the same, and the management thereof, and for the collection of assessments and calls upon such shares, as may be expedient.

Sec. 9. All corporations formed under this act, shall, in all things not herein otherwise provided, be subject to the provisions of chapter one hundred and thirty of the compiled laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-one, so far as the same may be applicable to corporations formed under this act, and the

Legislature may alter or amend this act at any time.

GRANGE BOUQUETS.

To the meetings of the Grange the bouquet lends much of comfort and cheerfulness, as well as of beauty and fragrance. At this time a word may be given to our members that such preparations be made as will insure an abundance of flowers for each meeting—winter as well as summer.

Wreaths, bouquets and baskets of flowers are always acceptable, and even needed and essential to the successful working of the Order.

How can we have flowers? By a little care in the spring and summer in preparing the soil, getting plants and seeds, and tending them carefully. Flowers will not put up with neglect. They need good soil, well prepared, sufficient room and freedom from weeds. Fresh bloom may be had from early spring to the fall of snow in autumn. For summer use shrubs, as roses, deatziyas, spireas, and many others give almost continuous bloom. Bulbs planted in autumn finely supplement the shrubs.—Such bulbs as the hyacinth, tulips, narcissus, lilies, poenies, etc., and cheap and hardy bedding plants as verbenas, heliotropes, lantanas, Ell Paetunias, pansies, pinks, etc., can be planted till July and afford a great deal of bloom until late and heavy frosts,—to them may be well added, gladiolus, dahlias and many house plants. Cheapest of come a list of annuals, blooming till very cold weather. The phlox, drummondi, ten weeks stock—candytufts, sweet allyssum, mig nonnette and latespurs are hardy, and asters, balms, sweet peas, zinnias added give a profusion of bloom suitable for bouquet making.

For winter use seeds of everlasting flowers should be planted, and when the flowers are just opening gathered and dried in the dark. The best kinds to plant are acralinium, ammobium, globe amaranth, helichrysum, xeranthemum and the grass brizia maxima, others are good, but we have only named the best. Get seeds at once and plant.

C. L. WHITNEY.

If the Grange does nothing else than to inaugurate the pay down system, it will add twenty per cent. to the income of the farmer, merchant, and mechanic. Credit always was a bare-faced swindler.

The Massachusetts Railroad Commissioners very justly compliment and endorse the Grange movement in the West, when they admit that it has established three material principles. These are, the accountability of railroads to the public as well as to their stockholders; the necessity of dealing equitably with all men; and the existence of a broad distinction between a railroad corporation and a manufacturing company.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW.

[From the February number of the *Rural Carolinian*, the first magazine which advocated the cause of the Patrons of Husbandry in the South.]

OUR WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

O, Brothers true, who proudly bear
The Golden Plow on field of green,
And Sisters who the Rose Badge wear
And glory in the Sickle's sheen,
From all the land— from far and near—
Our mystic "Sign" alluring all,
One guiding Star has brought ye here,
Obedient to the "Master's" call:—
So welcome, welcome, Patrons free,
To our fair "City by the Sea!"

And come ye from the great Northwest,
Or from far off Pacific slopes,
From where Canadian meadows rest
'Neath Winter's shroud with spring time
hopes,
From bleak New England's frost bound streams,
From homes in central valleys dear,
Or where Floridian sunshine gleams,
The same warm "Grip" we give ye here:—
So welcome, welcome, Patrons free,
To our fair "City by the Sea!"

We ope the "Gates" of Heart and Home,
To all who give the "Signal" true,
And with our sacred "Pass words" come,
Their pledge fraternal to renew.
"We know no North, no South, no East,
No West," within the Granger's wall;
No strangers at the "Harvest Feast,"
But Brothers, Sisters, in our halls:—
Then welcome, welcome, Patrons free,
To our fair "City by the Sea!"

J. H. JACQUES.

Ashley Grange, No. 1, Charleston, S. C.

NATIONAL GRANGE.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the National Grange convened in the City of Charleston, South Carolina, and remained in session fourteen days. The cordial welcome extended to the delegates by the people of the South, and the generous hospitality of the citizens of Charleston, convinced all who had the pleasure of attending, that the place for holding the meeting had been well chosen.

Nearly every State and several of the territories, were represented by men and women, who, with the warm grip of recognition and paternal greeting, met, discussed, and passed upon, grave and vital questions relating to the common good, of our common country; and over which legislative bodies have wrangled quarreled, and divided. The National Grange was composed of representative men and women, from the agricultural pursuits, representing directly nearly 6,000,000 of farmers, and indirectly more than 20,000,000 of people engaged in the productive industry of the country, the great source of our nation's wealth and prosperity, who seemed to know no North, no South, no East, no West, but all, actuated by the same philanthropic motive, to protect and elevate

the Agriculturists, and the laboring millions of the nation, restore peace, confidence, and prosperity to the country; and establish mutual co-operation among the different sections and States, in this great and humane work of the order.

The importance of such a meeting, at this time, and the result of its harmonious deliberations, cannot be overestimated, when we consider that combinations of numbers and aggregation of capital, whereby the rich are made richer, and the poor made poorer, is the mania of our country and our times. It will not be claimed that all the acts and recommendations of that body, were the most judicious that could have been devised; but that the general work of the session will result in great good to the order and the country, cannot be doubted. The recommendation that aid by the General Government, be granted to the Texas Pacific Railroad, will probably be criticised more severely than any other single act of that body. But when we consider that aid has already been extended to the Central and Northern Pacific roads, from which the Gulf States receive little or no benefit, and that the building of this Southern road will add to the material interests, not only of these States, but of California, and serve as another band to bind the Union together, we can readily see why a majority of the members favored the recommendation. I will not refer in detail to the work performed by the National Grange. The published report of its proceedings will soon be laid before you.

STATE GRANGE AND THE WORK OF ORGANIZATION.

Worthy Master, S. F. Brown, in his address to the last State Grange said, "The progress of the order in our State has been steady and gratifying, and everywhere the outlook is more encouraging. At our last annual session, there were two hundred and sixteen Granges in the State; now there are five hundred and sixty-four, showing an increase of three hundred and sixty-eight within the year. I had hoped to be able to report the State as fully organized at this session, but am unable to announce to you that the work of organization is completed. In the old and densely settled parts of the State little remains to be done, while in the new and sparsely populated regions there is work for the organizing deputy. In consequence of the work of organization being so well advanced, and in order to secure the greatest efficiency, I would recommend that a General Deputy be put into the field to finish up the work wherever any remains to be done. By assigning this task to one of known capacity, integrity and energy, I feel assured that the highest interests of the order will be promoted."

In accordance with this recom-

mendation, the State Lecturer, brother C. L. Whitney, has been assigned to this important work, and will give his time and energies to organizing and instructing Granges throughout the State. His ability, large experience, and thorough knowledge of the rules, usages and laws of the order, together with his untiring zeal in the work of organization, eminently qualify him for this duty. Special Deputies should confer with him, so that the work may be systematized, uniform and correct throughout the State. I am satisfied, from the complaints that are made to me, that the principal cause of difficulties between contiguous Granges, originates from mistakes and irregularities in organization and instruction. For the benefit of Deputies and subordinate Granges, I will give a synopsis of the laws and rules which must be observed, in order to secure universal harmony and good understanding among Granges.

1st. "No Grange shall be organized nearer than *five* miles from an existing Grange, by direct (air) line, without the consent of such Grange."

Such consent should be official and in writing.

2d. "The center of the jurisdiction of a Grange is the place of organization;" provided that when there is no convenient place of meeting at the most natural or convenient centre, the Deputy may organize at the nearest convenient place, and by resolution of the Grange at that time, establish the center, and record the same with the proceedings of the organization, and give notice of the same to all contiguous Granges.

3d. "The jurisdiction of a Grange extend two and one-half miles in a straight line in every direction from the center; and if the contiguous Granges are more than five miles in a straight line, then the jurisdiction will extend one-half the distance to the nearest Grange, on the most direct public highway."

4th. Deputies cannot receive as charter members persons residing within the jurisdiction of an existing Grange, without the consent of such Grange. Nor can they take as a charter member any person who is not actually engaged in agricultural pursuits, and who has interests in conflict with our purposes."

5th. "A person must apply for membership to the Grange nearest his place of residence, unless he obtains its permission to apply elsewhere."

6th. "If a Grange receive members who do not reside within its jurisdiction, it commits an offense against the laws of the order, and upon complaint being made, the Master of the State Grange should investigate and correct the irregularity. Admitting members in violation of the Constitution is sufficient ground for the revocation of a charter."

DIMITS AND WITHDRAWAL CARDS.

1st. A member in good standing, and clear on the books, is entitled

to a dimit or a withdrawal card, upon application therefor and the payment of 25 cents.

2d. A withdrawal card has the effect to sever a member's connection with the Order.

3d. A member holding a dimit, is a member of the Order during the life-time of the dimit,—one year,—and is eligible to membership in the Grange in the jurisdiction of which he or she resides; and may be received, upon proper application, accompanied by the dimit and a fee, equal to the amount of all accrued dues,—by a majority vote, by ballot.

4th. A dimitted member may, by the consent of the Grange in the jurisdiction of which he or she resides,—affiliate with another Grange.

PASS WORD.

The annual word, is communicated to the Masters of subordinate Granges, or their legal proxies, at the State Grange. Masters that have not received it, should apply to the Master of the State Grange.

COUNTY OR DISTRICT GRANGES.

The Constitution of the National Grange has been amended as follows:

Sec. 2—"There may be established District or County Granges in the fifth degree, not to exceed one in each county, composed of Masters and Past Masters of subordinate granges, and their wives, who are matrons, and such fourth degree members (not exceeding three) as may be elected thereto by the subordinate granges, under such regulations as may be established by State granges. Such District or County granges shall have charge of the education and business interests of the order in their respective districts; and shall encourage, strengthen, and aid the subordinate granges represented therein. Dispensations for such District or County Granges shall issue from State Granges, and under such regulations as the State Grange may adopt."

It will be seen that before such granges can be organized, the State Grange must establish regulations for their organization and government. But this cannot be legally done, until notice of the ratification of this article of the constitution, and the action of the National Grange in relation to it, has been received.

As soon as the proceedings of the National Grange, with the amended constitution, are published, the executive committee of the State Grange will attend to this important matter. Until this is done no attempts towards the organization of District or County Granges should be made, as they cannot be officially recognized.

I regard it, as of the utmost importance that this work of organization be systematic, and uniform throughout the State, that the rights of all Granges may be protected, and harmony perpetuated.

In answer to questions touching this point, I have made the following ruling: "A Grange may, at a regular meeting, by a two-thirds vote of all the members present, suspend temporarily, members who are more than six months in arrears for dues; and the Grange will not be liable to pay dues to the State Grange, on such suspended members. But if such members shall at any time, pay all back dues, and are thereby reinstated, the Secretary of the Grange shall credit the State Grange with the amount due from such delinquent members to the State Grange, and incorporate the same in the next quarterly report.

NECESSITY OF MORE EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES.

In the work of organization, on the part of Deputies, the material benefits to be derived have been largely dwelt upon, *and wisely, too*, (although, perhaps, in some instances the hopes for *immediate* financial benefit have been too sanguine.) I believe that all expectations that are measured by *justice* may, by wise means, be accomplished. Let us look to the wisdom of the means employed in the past. As individual Granges we were instructed to bulk our orders and order, under the seal of the Grange, through the Secretary. This plan has, to many Granges, been a fair success, but, perhaps, on the part of a majority has not been adopted or only in part. Whenever councils have been formed the same idea, in connection with the plan of soliciting trade from dealers in the various centers, has been adopted. On the part of the State Grange, the first method proposed was to solicit from business firms their best proposition for trade, to be carried out on the plan before indicated. This proved, on trial, to be to a large extent, a failure—the cause, not *sufficient concentration* on the part of Patrons, to make it desirable for the parties connected therewith to continue special favors without a large amount of patronage. The next plan on the part of the State was the appointment of a Purchasing Agent, to whom all orders for the purchase of agricultural implements, etc., might be sent, and he would see to the purchases. The agent sent circulars to the various Granges, soliciting such orders; but Patrons failed to respond, consequently this method has not been so far a success, or such success as we desire. I have already indicated some of the causes of failure; let us look for further causes. Take the human body for an illustration. In a healthy organization we find all parts working harmoniously. The head to plan, the stomach to repair, the limbs to execute; let there be any disease in any of its parts, and soon the whole machine is out of order, and no effective work can be done. Apply this illustration: We are an organiza-

tion composed of head, and members various; the head commands, the members heed not the demand, why? because in many cases the proper means have not been created to convey the intelligence; in others the member "*heeds it not*," the consequence is, the whole machine is out of order. Now, where is the blame? Shall the head say to the members, "thou art the cause?" Shall the members reply with a similar accusation? Nay, verily, let us rather intelligently search into the causes that make our failures, and intelligently go to work to correct them.

The wisest plan that can be devised on the part of the head, will fail, if the members do not give the plan their undivided support; and a plan not the wisest, would succeed if it had the proper backing. What we, as patrons, need, is *faith in one another and united effort*; with these we are sure of ultimate success.

Do not infer from what I have said that I consider all our past efforts as failures. For I believe that in most, if not all, of our efforts we have been benefitted; and these efforts have been in a large extent educational and preparatory for wiser methods. We, like children, have had to learn by experience, and every partial success points to greater success by the use of wiser means.

But so far as I am informed where these agents have been appointed there has not been proper provision made for carrying out the business. Some capital is necessary to meet expenses, and to enable the agent to take advantage of the market. This may be effected by organizing a joint stock or co-operative association for that purpose to be under the control of the Council or Grange. In the bill for incorporation of the various branches of the Grange, now before the Legislature there is a provision that will cover all necessities in the case. When this system becomes properly established, making as it will an available way to get supplies, and make sales, it seems to me we shall be on the road to final success in financial matters.

Many in our order deprecate this continual agitation of money matters, thinking that this is of the least worth of any part of the order, but to my mind it is plain that it is one of its most important features, the base, so to speak, upon which success in its other departments depends. Lacking material prosperity, being (as many of us now are) obliged to labor for one year's end to another to obtain the necessities of life to say nothing of luxuries. What chance, I inquire is there for the exercise of our minds, or the improvement of our natures. Let us make the *material* a success, and upon this build up an order, in which all that is good, all that is beautiful, may have expression, ever rising to higher conditions as opportunity presents.

SAMUEL LANGDON.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

TO THE PATRONS OF MICHIGAN.

The determination of the Executive Committee to reach the officers and members of subordinate granges through the medium of this CIRCULAR has devolved new duties, labors, and responsibilities upon us. Having been identified with the State Grange since its organization two years ago, and having devoted our entire time in our official relations to its business, we take pleasure in expressing our confidence in the adaptation of this Institution of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry to meet a want long felt by the great Agricultural class of our country. To carry into practical effect the aims and objects of the Order will require constant labor and earnest work.

The enterprise is vast, having within its scope a revolution in the social and business life of the farmer and his family. As great and important results are never achieved without a corresponding amount of labor and effort, we feel that it is incumbent on every good Patron to sustain the business department of the Order, and do what he or she can to advance this "The Farmers Movement." However confident we may feel of the final success of this enterprise we are not ignorant of the fact that the steps to be taken and the precise course to pursue are not always clearly defined. In our business affairs and schemes so much of it is experimental, that we shall encounter some discouragements and some failures. But the measure of success already secured is sufficient to satisfy all but the constitutionally incredulous, that this revolution cannot go backward.

With the rapid growth of the Order in organization and membership there has been but little time to develop and perfect its business department, and to that we must now turn our attention.

We hope this CIRCULAR will contribute to that object, and that we shall receive communications from members in every part of the State that will aid our State and County agents in this work.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

We find it necessary to call the attention, not only of Masters and Secretaries who have occasion to correspond with this office, but also other Patrons to the necessity of always giving their Post Office address.

We receive letters daily with the name of the Grange but not its number, or the Post Office address of the writer. We can generally in some way make out where a letter is from, but if the P. O., is not given it takes time that I feel is lost for want of a little care on the part of the writer. When the

number of the grange is given, I can readily turn to a list and find out the address. But suppose a Bro. opens on me in this way:

"Union Grange, M'ch. 1, '75.

Worthy Bro.—Please send by return mail one doz. song books—find cash enclosed to pay for same. Fraternaly,

There being nine Union Granges in Mich., (and more coming I presume), it may take five times as long to determine where to send the goods as it does to put the goods up and direct them. We hope our friends will see the importance of a matter that is so little to them, and so much to us. At least one-third of the election returns of officers elected for the current year did not give the Post Office of the officers elected, though the blanks were prepared to show the Post Office as well as the name of the Master and Secretary. In case of a change in the office of Master or Secretary, the Acting-Secretary should at once send a notice of the change, under seal of the Grange, to this office.

QUARTERLY REPORTS.

About the middle of March we sent to every Grange in the State a full supply for one year of blanks for Secretaries' and Treasurers' Reports.

Some parcels, it seems, have gone astray, as we get letters quite often asking for blanks.

We endeavored to have such definite rules in relation to Quarterly Reports on the face of the blanks as would secure complete returns; but still many secretaries send in their reports without any reference to, and apparently in ignorance of what is required. We must therefore take the liberty to call the attention of secretaries and treasurers to the necessity of filling up the blank report in every particular and making a duplicate of the same to be retained by you.

As reports are often made with several erasures and corrections we would respectfully suggest that after carefully reading what comes under the head of "Instruction to Secretaries" you make out and determine accurately on some blank sheet, all the facts to be embodied in the report, and then transfer your figures to the blank report.

We have received and accepted reports heretofore that were very incomplete, and we now give notice that we intend in future to return reports where the essential facts do not fully appear.

The usage established of requiring dues to be computed on the entire membership of the Grange at the beginning of the quarter for which the report is made, must be adhered to.

It is sometimes made an excuse for delay in making reports, that the Grange has no money in its treasury with which to pay dues.

Secretaries should make their reports promptly the first week of the new quarter without any reference to the payment of fees and dues by the treasurer.

If treasurers remitting fees and dues do not receive a receipt for the same within ten days we should be notified by card, when and how money was sent to us. We intend to receipt for all fees and dues within twenty-four hours after we receive the same.

It is not intended that treasurers shall send a duplicate report to the Treasurer of the State Grange.

We do not receipt for money sent us for supplies, but send the goods, if we have them, by mail or express within twenty-four hours after receiving an order.

We did not, uniformly, last year, adhere to the rule of sending goods only on orders accompanied by the money, and were annoyed by the tardiness of some in remitting, and in a few instances lost the amount due.

Hereafter we shall send out, on orders, no goods that are not paid for.

As some charters have been sent from this office that have not reached their destination, we hope every Grange, below No. 513, entitled to its charter, will not fail to notify us at once and we will send to Washington for a duplicate of the lost charter.

A ruling of the Worthy Master, found in this CIRCULAR, in relation to dues and suspended members, will answer many inquiries addressed to us on that subject.

The Masters of some Granges have failed to send us their claim for per diem and mileage for attendance at January session of the State Grange.

Will those who have not already done so, send in their bill at once, that we may send them the orders to which they are entitled.

The delay in getting out the List of Granges was occasioned by the neglect of secretaries to make returns of the December elections, though the blanks for that purpose were furnished and a request printed on the blank that it be returned at once to this office when filled.

As appears by the list a few have never reported, though invited by card to do so.

FEES FOR MEMBERSHIP.

By an amendment adopted at the sixth session of the National Grange the fees for membership in a subordinate Grange are, five dollars for men and two dollars for women. Organizing Deputies will hereafter bear this in mind. By the amended constitution males as well as females are eligible to membership at the age of sixteen.

We hope Masters and Secretaries will keep a file of the CIRCULAR for reference. It will save you writing letters of inquiry in the future about some question that has been answered.

As several Granges have not reported for one or more quarters, we shall make up a list of all delinquent Granges in our May issue.

Many letters will not be answered as heretofore, but where the answer will cover similar inquiries, we shall reply through the next issue of the CIRCULAR.

Secretaries will please furnish Masters with a copy of this CIRCULAR as soon after received as convenient.

The State Grange of Ohio has a fund of \$27,644.54 in its treasury. The Order is in a very flourishing condition in that State. She intends to invest \$10,000 to further the work of the State Purchasing Agent.

In answer to the appeal of Past Master Brown to the subordinate Granges of Michigan, for aid for the needy Patrons of Kansas and Nebraska, we have received, up to the 15th of April, \$1,133.88. Of this there has been sent to Wm. B. Porter, Master of the State Grange of Nebraska, \$307.50. By order of the Executive Committee, there was sent, March 30th, to John G. Otis, State Agent of Kansas, \$750; freight paid on relief goods sent me from Granges to be forwarded, \$4.58; paid for railroad ticket for Douglass County Relief Agent, \$23.30; balance in my hands, \$48.50. Shall forward this balance, with any other amounts received before May 1st, to John G. Otis, Topeka.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 1, 1875.

J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich.

Dear Sir and Bro.—Please accept our thanks for the donation of \$750.00 from the Granges of Mich. We are instructed by the ex-committee to use all donations for seed, and it is our opinion that western Kansas is better supplied than the eastern portion; therefore, we are distributing what comes into our hands mostly in the eastern part of the State. Your donation comes in a very acceptable time, there has never been a time when it was more needed.

Yours, Fraternally,
JOHN G. OTIS,

PRICE LIST

Of supplies kept in the office of the Secretary of Michigan State Grange, and sent out free of charge, on receipt of cash order over the seal of a subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary:

Ballot Boxes, (hard wood).....	\$1 25
Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred.....	60
Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep account with members.....	1 00
Order Book, containing 100 orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound.....	50
Receipt Book, containing 100 receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound.....	50
Cushing's Manual.....	60
Applications for Membership, per 100.....	50
Membership Cards, per 100.....	50
Withdrawal cards, per doz.....	25
Illustrated Visiting or Traveling Cards, each.....	25
Dimits, in envelopes, per doz.....	25
By-Laws of the State and Subordinate Granges, per doz.....	60
Singing Books, with music, 1 copy, flexible cover.....	30
Singing Books, with music, per doz.....	1 80
Rituals, single copy.....	15
" per doz.....	1 50
Patrons' Monitor, by Smedley.....	25
Blanks for consolidation of Granges, sent free on application.....	
Blank Orders for use of Granges or Purchasing Agents, per doz.....	10
Blank Orders for use of Granges or Purchasing Agents, per 100.....	50
Blank Orders for Secretaries & Treasurers, per set.....	65

State Agent's Department.

N. CHILSON, - - - BATTLE CREEK.

Worthy Brothers and Sister Patrons:

As the business of this department increases, I find it necessary to give up all other matters, and give my undivided attention and time to the interest of the Order, and that I may be enabled to do this promptly, I have opened an office in the City of Battle Creek, and am prepared, and will do all in my power to build up a business that shall subserve the interest of Patrons through the State and give good practical proof of the claim set up by the Order that we can do our own business and save money by so doing. While we have not been able to make arrangements to furnish all classes of implements goods and supplies, at wholesale rates, yet we have made many arrangements by which articles can be obtained for the members of the order through the Secretary of subordinate granges, or county agents at greatly reduced rates. From the experience we have already had, we are satisfied that Patrons cannot afford to adhere to their old habits of trade—when from 5 to 50 per cent. can be saved by adopting and practicing the principles of the Order. Let us then concentrate our orders and enlarge the business of the State and county agencies, so as to be independent, to a great degree, of all dealers who have persistently ignored the Patron.

Do not forget that on many small articles that we all use we have always been paying 100 or more per cent. Send your orders for all your supplies to the State or County Agent, without you have a satisfactory arrangement with your local dealer.

We can furnish you stationary at prices that will surprise you. Don't neglect your interest, but make up an order in your Grange for \$10 or \$20 worth. Only a good article will be furnished.

The very favorable terms that we have made for procuring salt in bulk, should induce our farmers to experiment with salt as a fertilizer. It is high time that our attention was directed to this matter, and let us know as soon as possible the relative value of salt and plaster. The "Plaster Association" may do us good where not intended, by stimulating inquiry. We are certainly buying less plaster this spring than usual, and we may find by a little experimenting that we have heretofore bought too much. This matter is worth considering.

We take this opportunity to notify members of the Order that reaper and mower knives, and sections of the same, for all the different machines now in use, can be obtained at reduced rates by sending direct to the State Agent, who has very favorable terms for

them when ordered in large quantities. Every member of the Grange should at once overhaul his machine and see what is needed, and send his order to the Secretary of his Grange, to be forwarded immediately, so that all can be prepared for the coming harvest.

Since Circular No. 1, for 1875, went into the hands of the printer, I have made arrangements with W. H. Randall, of Paw Paw, for his Dodge & Curtiss chilled plows. We have the assurance of Bro. Woodman, Master of the State Grange, that these are first-class plows. As the plow manufacturers of this State have combined, and refuse to sell to Patrons on the same terms that they will sell to their agents, even though we offer them cash for their goods, we hope that Mr. Randall, the first manufacturer who has the independence and sagacity to understand the situation, and is willing to treat this matter on business principles will be sustained by the Patrons of the State.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

GRANGE HISTORY.

No. 1.

While facts are fresh in the memories of the living, they should be recorded, that, when these memories have become clouded with age or care, or their possessors have passed away, those who follow may have full and accurate knowledge of the past. To this end we begin a series of articles, in which we hope to preserve for the future Patron of Michigan, something of the early history of the Grange movement in this State.

It is doubtless well-known to all that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry had its birth on the 4th of Dec. 1867, at which time the National Grange was formed at the City of Washington. Two years after this, the first State Grange was formed in Minnesota. A little more than a year subsequent, the second State Grange came into being in the State of Iowa, early in 1871. At this time a general movement towards organization was being made in the Western and South-Western States, and Granges were rapidly increasing in number.

Late in the Fall of 1871, Edwin M. Jones, a member of the Order from Perry, Dallas Co., Iowa, came to Burnside, Lapeer Co., to visit his brother, and old friends and former neighbors having previously been a resident of that locality.

Bro. Jones talked to his relations and old neighbors of the Grange, and the benefit it was to the western people where he lived, and succeeded in awakening an interest and a desire to have a

Grange in the locality. Bro. Jones sought and obtained power from the National Grange to form subordinate Granges in Michigan.

On the 10th day of January 1862, thirty-four citizens of Burnside met and signed an application, and a Grange was duly instituted, bearing the title of *Burnside Grange No. 1*, Lapeer County. The officers of this Grange were as follows:—Master, Charles Cole; Overseer, John Scott; L., Andrew Brown; S., P. Vandawalker; A. S., John McIntosh; O., Norman Smith; Sec., Edward Best; T., N. Vandawalker, jr.; G. K., Horace Westover; Ceres., Patience Anderson; Pomona, Almira Cole; Flora, Mrs. J. Turner; L. A. S., Eunice Vandawalker.

This Grange was for nine months the only one in the State, they had but little trouble as to jurisdiction. From Lake Huron to Lake Michigan, from Mackinaw to the Ohio line, extended their limits, monarch of all—yet with all this territory their existence as a Grange was not known even in their own county. They kept secret even their existence as an organization. For two years there was not a Grange within a hundred miles of them—and until the day before last Thanksgiving they had never been visited by a member of the Order, nor had a member of this Grange visited any other Grange. On the day named the General Deputy made them an official visit—lecturing to a large audience, treating upon the general benefits and aims of the Order, and afterward meeting them as a Grange, giving them an exemplification of the unwritten work, and instructing them in the routine of business.

The Deputy found the Grange very deficient in instruction—as would naturally follow from their isolation—but in energy, and faith in the final success of the Order they merited great praise. Let members who read this think of being thus alone for nearly three years, and ask what they would have done.

Burnside Grange is located 15 miles from any railroad, with only a tri-weekly stage to reach the outer world with. Bro. Charles Cole, the first Master, is the present Secretary of the Grange, being succeeded as Master by Bro. F. A. Jones, a brother to the Brother who organized the Grange. This was the only Grange formed by the Iowa Bro. We learn that the present Master had a commission from the National Grange to act as Deputy, but that he has never done any work.

The Pomona, or 5th degree Granges, are under the exclusive control of the State Grange in whose jurisdiction they may be located, including the right to fix all initiation fees and dues.

The codification of the rulings of the National Grange upon questions of law and usage was revised and amended at its last meeting. It will soon be issued in a small pamphlet.

THE DICTIONARY SAYS.

Many of our members spoil the country's English by habitually mispronouncing some of the terms used in our work.

We will call attention to some of them, hoping that we may speak, as well as think correctly. Grange should be spoken with a long "a", as if spelled *Graynge*, not with a short "a", as we often hear it. National Grange is to be pronounced as if it was spelled Nash-un-al Graynge.

Patron has "a" long, as in lane, and if divided correctly will always be spoken properly, as Patron. Matron has also long "a", as Ma-tron. Ma-trons and Pa-trons plurals come in the same list.

Notice how Ma-tron is divided and save inconvenience to others. Pronounce Steward as spelled—not as if it were Stuart.

Notice violate and be careful to call it vi-o late, not voi-late. Pomona and Flora suffer badly when spoken by some people. Pronounce them Po-mo-nah—Flo-rah—not Pomonay or Floray.

Ceres should be pronounced as if spelled ce-reez—with accent on the first syllable.

By a little effort on the part of each officer, or at least of each Master or Lecturer, all in each Grange will soon learn to speak these terms correctly, and our language will be uniform.

TO LECTURERS!

The idea is quite prevalent that the Lecturer is but a mere figure-head in a subordinate Grange. Read carefully the words of the Ritual used in the Installation of Lecturer, and thereby learn his duties and responsibilities. From experience we can readily see how many Granges have no time for the work of the Lecturer to come in. This is not right; there should scarcely a meeting pass in which the Lecturer, or some one selected by him, should not read some short article of general interest and instruction to the members—or some time should be given to the discussion of one of the many questions which we, as Patrons need to discuss.

We propose, in future articles, to fully discuss this matter, but in this article can only allude to a few general points. You *lack time*, because; 1st. You are not prompt in coming together, and when a sufficient number are assembled, do not at once begin work. 2d. When the work is begun, too many are slow—lack dispatch—spend time in frivolous, unnecessary talk, when no debate should be allowed; some allow time to waste between the various orders of business; too much talk is allowed when there is no question before the Grange.

Don't hurry, or half-do your work—but prepare well what you have to do, and do it promptly and thoroughly, and there will be time for much, now undone, that ought

to be done, and all will be finished at an earlier hour.

To aid the lecturers, we use the plural—for in fact, Ceres, Flora and Pomona are lady Lecturers, each Grange should subscribe to some good *agricultural* paper or papers, for the use of the Lecturers from which they may select articles to read for the general instruction of the Grange. Such papers should be those not generally taken by members of the Order in that Grange. The *Michigan Farmer*, *Prairie Farmer*, *Rural New Yorker*, *Horticulturist*, *Floral Cabinet*, and many others, would be of great utility to the working of each Grange. Selections may be made from *volumes* in the hands of any member, or loaned from some Library.

Whatever is selected should be well read, so that every member will be pleased to listen. If the Lecturer is not a good reader he can select some one who is.

The lady Lecturers should select short articles upon household economy, or food, dress, home and its surroundings, etc. We would suggest that the Lecturers act in concert as a committee upon instruction.

There are many questions that at this season should be discussed in every Grange. Let the above committee select some question to be discussed and report the same at one meeting for discussion at the next, and make it the special order of the next meeting. The time for selection of questions, reading selections and discussion is under the head of new business.

To secure greater success, some one may be appointed to open the discussion, or to read an essay upon the question.

Among other questions that claim our attention at the present time we would suggest the following, viz.:

1st. How much space, time and expense should be given to the kitchen garden, what varieties to plant, what cultivation is needed, etc.?

2d. What fertilizers shall we use? Which will give the best returns for the outlay, plaster, ashes, salt, bonedust, barnyard manure, etc.

3d. What implements do we need in the tillage of the farm and garden and orchard? What patents are best and how obtained?

4th. Shall we plant small fruits for home use or market, and what varieties, and what cultivation is needed?

5th. Ought not each family to devote some time and space to the cultivation of flowering plants and ornamental shrubbery about the house?

6th. What care shall be given milk cows, and what are the best methods of caring for the milk, and making good butter cheese?

We might add more but will increase the list next month. Don't forget the house and home, which are as essential as the farm and the field to the happiness of our members,

Do not fail to read the advertisements that appear in this CIRCULAR. You may find just what you want and save yourself trouble, time and money thereby.

The next annual meeting of the National Grange will be held in November next. The next annual meeting of the Michigan State Grange will be held in December next. This will be known as the "short year," by members of those bodies.

Some city in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, or Missouri, is to be the headquarters of the National Grange. The favored place is to be named by the Executive Committee of the National Grange.

In Wisconsin, organizing deputies are required to be either Masters or Past Masters of subordinate Granges, and are paid by the day for their work.

The dues from the State to the National Grange are five cents a year on each member, payable quarterly. Last year the dues were ten cents.

Many of the Granges are cursed with too much of the *all-saving* material. There are too many whose only thought is how to realize the greatest interest on their \$5 investment. They oppose the expense necessary to render their meetings attractive. They oppose the buying of an organ, because they see no money in it. They don't want singing, because they get enough of that Sundays. They are down on the idea of a Grange Library, because books cost money, and they don't read themselves and are unwilling to help others to reading matter.—*Ex.*

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[See Paper.]

HENRY I. ALLEN,
 Manager Prairie Agency,
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We claim that the Whitney Sewing Machine is capable of performing work which has hitherto been deemed impossible, except by the most deft fingers. We claim and are prepared to demonstrate that this machine is the lightest and smoothest running, most beautiful in design and finish, the least complicated, most perfectly adjusted and easily operated shuttle sewing machine known in the market. It is remarkable, not only for the quality of its work, but also for the variety and wide range of goods which it will sew with equal facility and perfection, whether using silk, twist, linen, or cotton threads, be they coarse or fine. It makes the interlocked elastic stitch or leather may be sewed with great strength of seam and uniformity of stitch, and in a moment this never varying instrument may be adjusted for fine work on gauze or gossamer tissue, for tucking of tarlatan, ruffling, embroidery, braiding, cording, hemming, or indeed almost any other needlework known and practiced by the most skillful hand-worker, and in a manner that will delight the operator.

We fully warrant every Machine perfect in every particular, and guarantee that they will perform all varieties of family sewing in a superior manner. This machine is not liable to get out of order, and with proper care will last, for family use, a lifetime. Any Machine found defective, if any such can be found, will be gladly exchanged, and any machine not found as represented may be returned and purchase money refunded.

In presenting our machine to the PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY, we do so with a full consciousness of a well organized and powerful combination of Sewing Machine Companies, possessing enormous wealth, who will use their whole power to keep up the present extortionate price of Sewing Machines, and to prevent others from selling at less than their established prices; and did we not feel strong in our convictions that the acme of perfection in Sewing Machines has not heretofore been reached, and did we not believe that as the result of years of patient endeavor, we have now achieved an advanced position in the mechanism of the Sewing Machine, so real and positive as to be readily conceded and appreciated by all who may give it a trial, we would hesitate to come before the world to-day with our latest achievement, but yielding to the natural law which impells us forward to higher and more perfect attainments, the result is our perfected WHITNEY SEWING MACHINE, which we unhesitatingly say stands without a rival in all the necessary mechanical qualities which must be embodied in any machine to successfully and fully meet the now intelligent and discriminating demands of the people, viz.: *Beauty, ease of operation, stillness, speed, simplicity and durability*; all these requisits will be found in this machine to a greater degree than in any other.

Send for descriptive circulars and confidential price list.

Order machines from your purchasing agents—or under Grange seal directly from us. The satisfaction that our machine has given warrant us in sending them upon twenty days' trial, where parties deposit with the express agent the price of the machine, in case the machine does not give satisfaction the money to be refunded by him.

Our machines have been adopted by Patrons generally as the standard machine.

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And all classes of goods in general use. We purchase our Goods direct from the Manufacturers, and sell direct to the consumer.

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REFERENCES:

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 Cresco, Howard & Co., Iowa.
 N. W. Garretton, Sec'y, Iowa State Grange,
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 Spencer Day, Business Ag't,
 Iowa State Grange, Des Moines, Iowa.
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