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COMMITTEE OF THE

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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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J. J. WOODMAN, } Publishing Committee.
J. T. COBB, }

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Special R. R. Fares to Chicago.

The Mich. Central—the Lake Shore and Mich. Southern and the Chicago and Mich. Lake Shore Rail Roads will return Patrons who visit the National Grange in Chicago during its present session on a free pass to the Station where their tickets were bought. To secure a return pass, members must be provided with a certificate signed by the Master or Secretary of their Grange, and stamped with its seal.—Tickets on the L. S. & M. S. are limited to the 25th inst.

Subordinate Grange Secretaries

Brothers! from many of you, Quarterly Reports for the quarter ending Sept. 30, are past due, and from some, Reports for previous Quarters. Do not longer neglect a duty you owe to the State Grange, your own Grange and to yourselves.

J. T. C.

ANNUAL ADDRESS

Of Worthy Master John T. Jones, delivered before the National Grange, which Convened in Chicago, Nov. 15, 1876.

Bro's and Sisters of National Grange:

Under the requirements of our Constitution we are again convened in annual session, to consider and take such action in the great interests of the class we represent as may appear expedient for the advancement of their prosperity, and as a consequence, the prosperity of our country, and for the good of our Order.

The feeling of enthusiasm with which you have heretofore been greeted from this chair, on like occasions, experiences no abatement, but receives new force from year to year, with the increase of our membership, power and good works. If we shall build our superstructure in harmony with, and in just proportions to the broad and substantial foundations we have laid, we shall have cause of deeper, of immeasurable gratitude to Him who has sustained us so far in our work, and permitted us to meet together again, with our ranks unbroken, to labor in this glorious cause.

I observe but few changes in this glorious cause.

I observe but few changes in this body since our first grand Parliament at St. Louis, and have the happiness to know that the brothers and sisters representing the Order on that occasion, who are not here in the same capacity, are yet active laborers in our field.

We cordially extend to their successors here a fraternal welcome.

I shall briefly allude to such matters as I deem it expedient to call your attention to, referring you to the reports of the Executive Committee, Secretary and Treasurer, for details of the business in their respective departments, and for the general progress of our work.

At the last session of this body several important amendments to the Constitution were proposed and subsequently ratified by the State Granges, of which proclamation was duly made.

While I am impressed with the evil of frequent and needless changes in our Constitution and Laws, experience has confirmed my conviction that some further changes are expedient. Prominent among these is the necessity of so amending Section 2, of the Constitution, under the head of Organization, as to preserve that unity and symmetry in our Grange system which had characterized it before the adoption of this section, and which is so

essential to its harmonious and efficient working. In providing for the establishment of Pomona Granges "under such regulations as may be established by State Granges," instead of placing them upon the same footing as other Granges in their organization and government, we have not only marred the harmony and beauty of our system, but greatly impaired the efficiency of this valuable link in our chain of Granges.

At the same session a set of "Rules for Patrons Co-operative Associations," were submitted to the National Grange and "recommended to the Patrons throughout the country."

As a part of the system and plan of the organization and government of the co-operative societies of Great Britain, which it was our purpose to adopt, these rules, with some slight changes, will be most valuable, but taken alone they are a disjointed link in a chain, the perfection of which by our British friends has been the work of their educated, thinking, practical men, for the last thirty-five years.—The fraction which we have given our Order has been utilized to an extent which we can only conjecture. Hundreds, and it may be thousands of co-operative stores have been established in the various States and Territories of the Union, with various amounts of share capital, and perhaps as various in other features, and in their fortunes. They are without a head or connecting link, "like so many islands in the Sea, without even a boat plying from one to the other"—without that principle of unity which is the life of co-operation and the guiding star of humanity.

Contrast this chaos and ignorance with the admirable and intelligent system we would follow. I have before me, on a single sheet, a bird's eye view of four hundred co-operative societies in the United Kingdom; giving of each the name, location, number of members, purchases from wholesale during the year; quarterly, half-yearly and annual sales in each department of trade, share capital, reserve fund, buildings and fixed stock for trade purposes, rate of dividend per £, amount of dividend declared to members, and amount devoted to education. On the same sheet is a bird's eye view of co-operation in England and Wales, compiled from the Government returns, showing the financial progress and position of the co-operative movement during the past seven years. With such information, their co-operative Congress, the head of this

system, acts intelligently. Without it, they could take no safe action affecting their subordinate organizations.

With the perfection of our system of organization, is the necessity of educating our members in the true principles of co-operation. Let us follow the example of our English friends in this also. Through their courtesy I have received a large number of tracts, with the proceedings of their co-operative Congress from 1868 to the present time, making a most valuable collection of co-operative literature. We have to reach the minds of many who are ignorant, and to stimulate in them a thirst for knowledge. The latter, which is the first requisite, is better accomplished by living missionaries. If we could send out some of the friends of co operation, (who could be named,) to act as pioneers in this work, we would soon see a large demand for co-operative intelligence.

It may be thought by some who take a solely sentimental view of our Organization, that I am giving an undue prominence to its *material* objects. If so, I cannot think they have studied the deep philosophy, pure morality, lofty virtue, and genuine religion, that underlies *co-operatives life*. Rightly understood it is the practical realization of christian ethics. The silent virtues of temperance, forethought, just dealing, and fellowship in work, will do more to correct the moral disorders which darken our land, and have tainted our government, as well as trade and commerce, than all the penal statutes that have been or can be devised. The material, moral, social and intellectual influences are in near connection with each other. The most material things have great influence on mental subjects, a sentiment that ages ago the poet Homer gave vent to, in saying that "when *man* becomes *slave* he loses half his virtue."

At the last session of this Grange much interest was expressed in the action which had been taken by the co-operative societies of Great Britain to inaugurate a system of exchange between them and the agricultural producers in this country, and in their friendly messages to our Order, through their special deputation, and subsequent correspondence with our Executive Committee, which I was directed, by a resolution of this body, to continue, as I did, until a point was reached when, in my judgment, with the approval of the Executive Committee, it became expedient to send a special commissioner to confer with the authorities in those societies upon this subject, and to represent our ideas and interest in this connection. Brother J. W. A. Wright was appointed to this office, and it affords me sincere pleasure to bear testimony to the ability, dignity and grace with which he discharged its important duties. Complications of a very serious character had arisen through the misrepresentations of unfriendly parties, the character and extent of which were unknown to us until ascertained by our commissioner, after his arrival in England. These matters were fully discussed in the Co operative Congress which met at Glasgow in April last, the courtesy of opening and closing the discussion having been extended

to our commissioner. The result was a reference to Mr. Neale and our Commissioner, by whom important modifications and changes of the original articles were agreed upon, submitted to the Executive Committee of the Company on the other side, and assented to by that Committee. Copies of the original articles, the modifications and changes and the report of the Executive Committee on the other side assenting thereto will be placed in the hands of the Secretary for your use. These papers were submitted to your Executive Committee at their session in July last, when a resolution was passed requesting me to submit to them at their next session, my views as to what steps should be taken to insure the practical benefits of a business connection with the Co operative Societies of Great Britain.

In compliance with this resolution, I again brought before the Committee, at their late session in Philadelphia, the proposed articles of association of an Anglo-American Co-operative Association, with a plan of organizing the American section thereof, published in my circular letter of July 14th, copies of which are also in the hands of the Secretary for your use. The Executive Committee will report to you what action they have taken in these matters.

I commend this whole subject to your careful consideration, as one of supreme importance to our Order, trusting that by your wise action, the system of co-operation recommended at your last session may be perfected, and that the articles provided for its extension to international commerce, through an Anglo-American Association, may be found acceptable, and may be recommended to our members. Every safeguard which the experience of British co-operators, and the most careful consideration on our side could devise, is thrown around the whole scheme.

The plan of organizing the American section of this Association which I submit, may be improved by your joint wisdom and united intelligence of the extended field for which it is designed. By some it may be regarded as yielding much of the authority and fostering care, which our Constitution wisely provides the National Grange shall exercise, directly, and through subordinate Granges, over the business interests of our Order, in only becoming an "advisory body."

On the other hand it may be objected that the National Grange is not elected by those who may be stockholders in these enterprises alone, but by the representatives of all the members, and therefore should not exercise supervision over their interests. Of these opposite opinions the last would lead to consequences, I think, fatal to our Order, and our cherished hopes. The purposes of our Order are so blended, each so in harmony with the others, and so dependent upon one another, the separation of one, and especially that one which is the life blood of the whole, would paralyze the system. It is not to the share capital in these enterprises that our members will look for greatest benefits, but in the facilities they will af-

ford for the sale of our products and the purchase of our supplies. The member that holds but a single share will be entitled to the same benefits, and have an equal voice with the member holding the maximum. Some of our members may not be able to take a single share, yet such may contribute to the profits. *by their custom*, more than others holding the maximum of shares. Shall such members have no representation in a purely Patron's enterprise, to the support of which they contribute perhaps the largest share?

A co-operative Congress, elected by stockholders, could not be more responsible, or represent the interest of their constituents more intelligently, or faithfully, than a body chosen from the Order, as is this National Grange.

That we have opposition to our plans, powerful and energetic, we know, but the source from which it comes should nerve us to put forth whatever effort may be necessary to secure to the toiling farmer the rightful profit of his industry, as a prerequisite to the proper development of what are called "the higher objects of our Order." Do we not see an *educational power* of the highest kind underlying this co operative movement for the great masses of our people? The further we have gone the fairer and wider the prospect before us. Do we mean to go on? have we faith enough in the principles of our Association to follow them wherever they may tend? I trust we have, and that we shall take our forward steps in the reorganization of labor, and therefore of society, carefully and steadily, but resolutely, and with a perfect indifference to the abuse and opposition which we must of course look for, until *manhood* shall cease to pay tribute to *money*; conscious as our limited education in these principles has made us, in some dim way, of that highest mystery of our human life, which can only be adequately described in words with which I hope all of us are familiar, "that we are members one of another, so that if one member suffers all suffer, and if one member rejoices all rejoice."

By your action at the last session upon the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the resolutions following the report I felt warranted in commissioning Brother Wright as Deputy, to present our Order to the farmers of Great Britain, and to organize Granges in the United Kingdom if desired.

I refer you to his report for his work in this connection, only adding that many letters received from men of high character and position in that country, assure me of the very able manner in which he presented the principles, purposes and claims of our Order, and of favorable impressions made by his efforts. He gave his time for months in the negotiations and other services referred to, as a free-will offering to our Order, which has been so near his heart from its infancy, and I only ask your approval of the sums for which I have drawn upon the treasury to pay his necessa-

ry expenses while laboring for these objects.

Upon his recommendation I appointed J. P. Sheldon, Esq., of Sheen, Ashbourne, England, a Deputy for that country, whose letters I present to you for his suggestions, and fraternal greeting. When recently at Philadelphia, I appointed M. Charles M. Lamousin, with whom I had been in correspondence, a Deputy for France. He is one of the most eminent co-operators in France, visiting this country on a mission of inquiry on the part of the French Government into the condition of the working population here. My correspondence with him is also submitted, from which you will see the favorable prospects of our Order spreading in France, and the desire of that people to form a like business alliance with us to that which we are endeavoring to establish with Great Britain.

Besides the incalculable commercial and monetary advantages to our people, which such business alliance of our agricultural producers with the consumers of these great nations must supply, with the additional bond of union and confidence of a fellowship in our Order, war between us could hardly occur. Surely this feature in our work is worthy of very high consideration.

I have only alluded to a few subjects of prominent interest to our order and our whole country. Coming together as you do, from every part of it, with the experience of another year in the working of the order, and especially of its business system, you are prepared to supply omissions and to remedy defects in our laws that will facilitate our safe progress towards the grand objects of our Organization.

There is one other subject however, to which I ask your attention specially.

At the last session, my worthy predecessor, in his annual address, congratulated the Grange in the appropriate selection of a location for our permanent head-quarters, and very forcibly urged that our great Order should now have a *habitation* as well as a name, and that each State and Subordinate Grange, should own and occupy suitable buildings, as of itself almost a sure guarantee of permanence. These suggestions were fully endorsed by the report of a committee which was adopted, with a resolution "that all Masters of State Granges be advised to offer to their Subordinate Granges the suggestions of our Worthy Master, relating to the building or owning of Grange Halls, as a means of fostering and increasing the interest of our members in our Order."

I cannot too strongly urge the importance of such action at the present session as will fix permanently the head-quarters, and secure a suitable building for the National Grange.—Your advice to the State and Subordinate Granges on this subject, at the last session, so well given, would receive much greater force by your own example.

The money in our treasury, which might be used for this purpose, is rapidly diminishing by donations—

While we have any considerable sum on hand, urgent appeals will be made for donations in the interest of our membership in States having suffered from insects and drought. No amount that can be appropriated from our National Grange Treasury, would afford an appreciable relief, so divided. This should be the work of our Subordinate Granges and members blessed with abundance, and I rejoice to say they have not been unmindful of such obligations.

In conclusion, I trust that the same harmony and freedom from sectional feeling which has so eminently and admirably characterized the deliberations and action of this body, and of our entire order, in the past, may obtain at this session, and in all time to come; thus rebuking the reckless selfishness of political partisans who are too graceless to profess a zeal above party, and continue to irritate the wounds, which every true patriot should labor to heal.

Life Insurance.

As promised in the Sept. number of the VISITOR, for the information of Patrons, we have the By-Laws of the Patrons Aid Society of the State of New York printed in this number.

We hope our fellow patrons will consider this subject, talk about it, discuss it at Grange meetings, and be prepared, if it is deemed advisable to organize an Aid Society in this State, to promptly send forward their applications to the proper officer.

By-Laws of the Patron's Aid Society.

Incorporated under the Laws of the State of New York. Adopted December 24, 1874; Amended March 16, '76.

NAME AND OBJECT.

This society shall be known as the Patrons Aid Society, and is formed for the purpose of aiding and assisting the families of designated representatives of deceased members.

PLACE OF MEETING.

The office of this society shall be in the City of Elmira, N. Y., at which office all meetings of the society, and of its directors, shall be held, and its principal business transacted.

OFFICERS.

The officers of this society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Board of Directors.

Any member of this society, male or female, may be elected to fill any of the offices as set forth in the above paragraph, excepting only that the members elected to the offices of Secretary and Treasurer must be residents of the county of Chemung, State of New York.

MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of this society shall be held on the third Thursday of December in each year, at one o'clock p. m. Special meetings of this society may be called by the President, and it shall be his duty to call such special meetings on the written request of ten directors, or twelve members of the society. Notice of any of the above meetings shall be given by sending a timely notice to each of the di-

rectors by mail, and by publishing the same at least one week before such meeting in one of the Elmira papers.

The regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the City of Elmira, N. Y., on the second Tuesday of each month at 1½ o'clock p. m., at the office of the society. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Secretary, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call such meetings on the written request of five directors.

Notice of special meetings of the board of directors shall be mailed by the Secretary to each director.

ELECTIONS.

The President and Vice-President shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the society by a majority vote of the members present, and shall remain in office until their successors are elected.

The board of directors shall be elected at the annual meeting in such manner as a majority of the members present shall determine.

At the first regular meeting of the board of directors after the annual meeting of the society, they shall elect a Treasurer and Secretary from the members of the society residing in the county of Chemung, State of N. Y.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors shall not exceed forty-eight members of the society, and the President and Vice-President shall be *ex-officio* members of the same.

Thirteen of the directors shall be residents of the county of Chemung, State of New York, and one director may be elected from any Grange outside of said county which shall be represented in this society by twenty members (*until the limit fixed*.)

At any meeting of the board of directors seven shall constitute a quorum.

VACANCIES.

Any officer of this society may be removed, for good and sufficient cause, by a two thirds vote of the board of directors at any meeting called for such purpose upon a notice of ten days. And a change of residence by any officer, which, in the opinion of the directors, will interfere with the proper performance of the duties of his office, may be regarded as sufficient cause for his removal.

A vacancy occurring in any office of this society may be filled by the board of directors at the next regular meeting thereof after such vacancy shall occur.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the society and of the board of directors, but shall not vote upon any question except when there is a tie vote. He shall sign all certificates of membership, and official papers, except notices and notifications, and all orders drawn on the treasurer by order of the directors. At the first meeting of the board of directors after the annual meeting of the society, he shall appoint an executive committee consisting of three members of the board of directors. He shall have general supervision of the books and accounts of the treasurer and secretary. He shall see that all laws and regulations of the society are fairly and faithfully executed.

The Vice-President shall possess the powers and perform the duties of the President during his absence or inability to act.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President the president *pro tem* shall possess the powers and perform the duties of the president for that occasion.

The treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the society from the secretary, giving his receipt therefor, and shall deposit and pay out the same as required by the board of directors. He shall make quarterly, or oftener if required by the board of directors, a full report of the receipts and expenditures and of all matters affecting the financial condition of the society. He shall give a bond in such sum and with such sureties as the board of directors may from time to time require for the faithful performance of the duties of his office, or for a proper care and accounting for, or return of moneys or other property of the society which may come into his possession.

All orders on the treasurer made by the board of directors, appropriating money shall be signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary.

The secretary shall keep a full and correct record of the proceedings of the society and of the board of directors. He shall keep a correct and complete register of the names, ages and residences of members, the Granges to which they belong, and the date of their admission. Also the name and post-office address of the person or persons designated to receive the benefit of each member. He shall receive all moneys required to be paid by members of the society, and shall pay the same to the treasurer as soon as received, taking a receipt therefor. He shall conduct all the correspondence of the society and of the board of directors; shall prepare all certificates of membership, and all notices of death and assessment; shall keep a record of the deceased members of the society, and the name and residence of the representative to whom the claim of such deceased member was paid; shall keep a proper and distinct account with each member of the society, so that the books of the society will clearly show what members have failed to pay the assessment made upon them; shall keep a record of all persons restored to membership; shall make and serve, or publish all notices and notifications required by the society or board of directors; shall make a semi annual report to said board and oftener if required by them, and shall perform such other duties as from time to time shall be required of him by the board of directors. He shall give a bond in such sum and with such sureties as the board of directors may require for the faithful performance of his duties and for the proper care, accounting for or return of all moneys or other property of the society which may come into his possession. He shall be entitled to such compensation as the board and directors shall determine.

It shall be the duty of the board of directors to enforce compliance with these by-laws. They shall have general charge and supervision of the affairs of the society. Shall receive and decide upon all applications for mem-

bership. They shall see that the permanent funds of the society are kept securely and wisely invested, and that the property of the society is kept in safe and proper custody. They shall have power, by a majority vote, to make such rules and regulations for the admittance of members, proof of death, payment of claims, and transaction of general business as shall not conflict with these by-laws.

The executive committee shall examine the books, accounts, and reports of the secretary and treasurer and quarterly in writing to the board, and they shall perform such other duties as the board of directors shall from time to time require of them.

ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP.

Any member of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, in good health, who shall be recommended by a director, agent, or officer of this society, and agreeing to comply in all respects with the by-laws, rules and regulations of this society and of its board of directors, shall, upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any meeting, become a member of the society.

FEES OF MEMBERSHIP.

The fee required to be paid upon application to become a member of the society, shall be as follows:

Less than 35 years of age.....	\$ 3 00
From 35 to 45 years of age, inclusive.....	5 00
“ 45 to 50 “ “ “	8 00
“ 50 to 55 “ “ “	12 00
“ 55 to 60 “ “ “	15 00

[By resolution the Board of Directors has fixed the fee at \$5.00 per year for every year over sixty, and that no one over sixty-five years of age shall be received. That is, the fee for a person 61 years old is \$20.00; 62 years \$25.00, &c.]

In all cases when the application for membership is rejected by the board, the fee paid shall be returned to the person from whom the same was received.

DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY.

Every person shall designate in his application for membership the person or persons to whom payment of benefit shall be made in case of death. If such beneficiary shall be a wife, husband, brother, sister, father, mother, or other person of kin to the applicant, except in the case of children, such designation shall be made by giving the name of such beneficiary, and the degree of kin; but in the case of children, where it is designed that payment be made to all sons and daughters equally, no names need be given. If payment is to be made to children in unequal sums their names and the desired proportion of benefits to each shall be set forth in the application. In all cases when the applicant desires payment to be made to a person or to persons not of kin, such fact must be distinctly set forth and the name or names of such persons to whom payment is to be made must be given to the Society to govern payment. In the case of the death of the designated person or persons to whom payment is required to be made, before the death of the member who made such designation, and the death of such member shall occur without a change having been made in the manner hereinafter provided, leaving no designated person to receive the benefit, then the Board of Directors, by careful examination, shall determine

to whom payment shall be made, and such decision by said Board shall be final. And if, on investigation, it shall appear that there are no persons equitably entitled to the benefit, then the Directors may withhold all such payment, in which case a full statement of the facts shall be placed on the file with the Secretary, and full mention thereof shall be made in the annual report of the business and transactions of the Society.

It shall be the duty of every member of this Society to report immediately to the Secretary the death of any person whom he had designated to receive payment in case of death, and to name some other person or persons whom he or she will proceed to have designated in the manner as prescribed by section three of this Article. And the Secretary shall report to the Board of Directors all cases of the death of designated beneficiaries which have come to his notice when no change has been made, and measures shall be taken to have persons designated.

No change of such designation shall be made except on the application of the member desiring the change.—Such application to be made in writing duly signed and acknowledged before an officer by law empowered to take acknowledgement of deeds, and when so executed the application for change shall be sent to the Secretary, and by him submitted to the Board of Directors at any meeting of said Board, when the change may be made by a majority vote.

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.

Any member changing his place of residence shall notify the secretary of the same within ten days, and thereupon it shall be the duty of the secretary to enter such change of residence upon the books of the society.

WITHDRAWALS AND EXPULSIONS.

A member may at any time withdraw from this society by giving notice in writing of his intentions so to do, and paying to the secretary all the assessments that may be due from him at the time of giving such notice.

Any member of this society who, after due trial, shall be expelled from the Order of Patrons of Husbandry by his subordinate Grange, and when said act of expulsion shall have been duly approved by the Master of his State Grange, and his approval thereof duly communicated to the secretary of this society, shall thereupon forfeit his membership in this society. Provided, however, that in case of failure on the part of the proper officer to communicate the fact of expulsion to the secretary, the board of directors shall have discretion, and may decide whether his membership is or is not terminated.

Any person withdrawing or being expelled from membership in this society thereby forfeits all moneys paid by him to said society, and the society is forever released and discharged from any claims or payment of benefits which said member or his representatives may seek to enforce against said society.

FUNDS.

The permanent fund of this society shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.)

The surplus fund of this society shall consist of all moneys received into its treasury, in excess of such permanent fund, out of which the necessary expenses of this society shall first be paid, and the remainder of such surplus fund, when it shall amount to \$2,000, shall be appropriated to the payment of death claims.

DEATH CLAIMS.

Upon the death of any member of this society the sum to be paid to the representatives of the deceased member, as designated in his application and recorded on the books of the society, shall be one dollar (\$1.00) for every member of the society not exceeding two thousand.

NOTIFICATIONS.

When official notice has been received of the death of any member of this society it shall be the duty of the secretary to notify the members of the same, and unless the death claim has been provided for as named in Section 2, Article 14 of these By-Laws, each surviving member shall, within the fifteen days after the date of such notification, pay to the secretary the sum of one dollar, and in case he shall neglect to pay the same within fifteen days he shall be again notified by the secretary, and if such sum shall not be paid within fifteen days after the date of such second notice the name of the delinquent shall be erased from the roll of members and he shall forfeit all claims upon the society, provided, however, that the board of directors shall have power to restore such delinquent member upon his giving personally, or in writing, a satisfactory excuse for such default and paying all assessments which may have been made up to the date of such restoration.

A notice deposited in the post-office at Elmira and duly directed to a member's place of residence, as it appears upon the books of the society, shall be deemed sufficient notice.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.

The board of directors shall within sixty days after receiving official notice of the death of any member order the amount due by reason of such death to be paid to the representative or representatives of the deceased, as provided in Section 1 of Article 11 of these By-Laws.

All the provisions of these By-Laws shall apply equally to male and female members of this society, and no part of these By-Laws shall be so construed as to discriminate in favor of either sex.

AMENDMENTS.

Any member of this society may offer an amendment in writing to these By-Laws, at the annual meeting of the same called for the purpose of considering amendments to such By-Laws, and such amendment must lay over at least thirty days before being voted upon, and it shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present to make such amendment.

Secretaries should report at once; only a few days more and one list of delinquents will be made up for presentation to the State Grange.

Where have the members of the Grange attempted to reduce the wages of mechanics? Where have they ever wronged the laboring man?

Master's Department.

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

PALMER HOUSE, Nov. 17, 1876.

The 10th Annual Session of the National Grange commenced to day at 12 o'clock, in this house, with most of the delegates from the State Granges present. The members seem to be in good health and spirits, and anxious to make the work of the session tell for the good of the Order.—As there is to be no election of officers, except one member of the Executive Committee, the session will be strictly a business one. It is thought that the session will last about ten days; and as all 4th degree members are admitted to all the business meetings, we shall expect to see a large number of members from our State. Patrons, this is a meeting of your servants, sent here by you to do your work. It is your privilege to meet with them, and observe their acts, and advise with them.

I am aware that persons invested with authority to act or legislate for others, are liable to be criticised, blamed, and sometimes severely censured,—and without just cause,—by those who form conclusions without due investigation. Something has been done, which from their standpoint, seems wrong, or something has been neglected which they would have done. The members of this Body come here from different sections of the country, representing different interests, yet upon the great primary objects of the organization, namely, the social, moral and intellectual advancement and the elevation of farmers, there is no conflict. A system of co operation which is adapted to the grain growing sections of the great North West, would need modifying to meet the wants of the cotton and tobacco growing States of the South, or the diversified interests of the East and West. Hence, compromises must be made, and the interests of the different sections impartially guaranteed. Some of our members have erroneous ideas of the means and ability of the National Grange to do certain things; and wonder why more has not been done. I do not claim that no mistakes have been made, or that all has been done that might have been, to advance the interests of the Order; but I do believe that the members of this Body are faithful and true, and that it is their highest aim and object, to build up and perpetuate our Great Brotherhood.

I trust that as many members of the Order from our State as can make it convenient to do so, will attend this session, and by their presence and counsel, give encouragement to those upon whom they have placed responsibilities.

The Lake Shore and Michigan Southern R. R. as well as the Central, will return members free, who purchase tickets over that line of road to Chicago, and attend the National Grange, up to and including the 25th instant.

J. J. WOODMAN.

The VISITOR until January, 1878, for 30 cents.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the Number of their Grange.

The Grange Visitor.

Its subscription list is improving every day, and we receive many encouraging letters with renewals of subscription. We hope every one receiving the VISITOR will feel so interested in the good of the Order as to make a little effort to add names to our list. Remember Patrons, that the VISITOR is published solely for your benefit, and we are only solicitors that it shall be generally read by members throughout the State, and that the receipts shall pay the actual expense of the publication and postage. The State Grange will meet before the next number is issued, and a summary of the proceedings will probably appear in the December number.

Treasurer's Reports.

Although the fact has been stated in the VISITOR more than once that no report from the Treasurer of a Subordinate Grange to the Secretary of the State Grange is required, yet I continue to receive applications for blanks for treasurer's reports. The Treasurer of a Subordinate Grange is the custodian of its money, and is neither required to report to, or pay dues to the Secretary of the State Grange.—He should simply receipt all moneys received and pay all orders drawn on him by the Master and Secretary of the Grange. It is the duty of the Secretary to remit the fees and quarterly dues as well as make a quarterly report.

Sec. 2, Art. 7. Constitution of Nat. Grange. "The Sec'y of each Subordinate Grange shall report quarterly to the Secretary of the State Grange the names of all persons initiated during the quarter, and pay to the Secretary of the State Grange one dollar for each man, and fifty cents for each woman, initiated during the quarter; also a quarterly due of six cents for each member; said report to be approved and forwarded at the first session of the Grange in each quarter."

Blanks for Reports.

From several Secretaries who have made their quarterly Reports to date I have received applications for blanks for use in making quarterly reports for the quarter ending December 31, 1876. As my official term expires two weeks before the close of this quarter, it seems to me out of place to send blanks for use after the close of this year that are printed returnable to me, therefore I have not sent blanks as requested.

Song Books.

As there was a very general demand for something new in the way of Song Books, we have allowed our stock of the kind sold by the National Grange to become exhausted, and now have in stock only the "Patrons' Song Book," noticed in the September number of the VISITOR—a compilation of songs by the Executive Committee of the Ohio State Grange. Price single copy, 15 cents; by the dozen, \$1.50.

State Grange.

I have received certificates of election of members of the State Grange for its fourth Annual Session, commencing at 10 A. M. on the 12th of December next, in the Hall of the House of Representatives in the city of Lansing. Antrim, Clare, Huron, Isabella and Lake counties, each entitled to one delegate, have not reported.

Representatives to State Grange by Counties for 1876.

COUNTY.	NUMBER.	REPRESENTATIVES.
Allegan,	No. 296,	E. G. Minkler.
"	247,	Fredrick Day.
"	364,	A. J. Van Wyck.
Antrim,	"	"
Barry,	38,	Y. B. Hoyt.
"	472,	Aaron Durfee.
"	243,	J. W. Briggs.
Bay,	614,	David C. Fisk.
Benzie,	381,	L. A. Jennie.
Berrien,	80,	A. N. Woodruff.
"	194,	Wm. S. Farmer.
"	9,	David Schnarf.
Branch,	96,	H. L. Bisbee.
"	88,	A. Lampman.
"	91,	Geo. Fuller.
"	137,	J. C. Pierce.
Calhoun,	66,	H. B. Hogland.
"	83,	J. L. Davis.
"	101,	H. B. Smith.
Cass,	162,	S. A. Bogue.
"	42,	Wm. E. Williams.
Clare,	"	"
Clinton,	370,	O. A. Lockwood.
"	439,	R. S. Van Scoy.
"	317,	Chas. E. Hollister.
Eaton,	360,	G. W. Knight.
"	315,	P. Z. Skinner.
Genessee,	250,	W. W. Davis.
"	573,	D. F. Bennett.
G. Traverse,	379,	O. E. Clark.
Gratiot,	521,	Louis Hetzman.
"	583,	W. Walker.
"	308,	Darius Reid.
Hillsdale,	251,	Chas. Coregell.
"	75,	E. R. Kelley.
"	182,	Lorenzo Ranier.
"	273,	A. B. Slocum.
Huron,	"	"
Ingham,	540,	R. E. Towbridge.
"	265,	L. H. Ives.
"	7,	H. H. Bruerton.
Ionia,	175,	A. S. Stannard.
"	430,	A. W. Sherwood.
"	185,	A. D. Bates.
"	187,	J. M. Brown.
Isabella,	"	"
Jackson,	227,	Chas. A. Brown.
"	344,	Caleb Angevine.
"	321,	Able N. Howe.
Kalamazoo,	5,	R. A. Ingersoll.
"	21,	R. E. James.
"	8,	M. Cox.
Kent,	25,	Benj. Woodard.
"	220,	Uriel Snow.
"	170,	Geo. D. Wood.
"	64,	M. B. Hine.
"	348,	H. D. Wedge.
"	31,	Riley Cole.
Lake,	"	"
Lapeer,	607,	A. L. Scott.
"	592,	A. L. Kingsbury.
Leelanaw,	371,	Solomon Steel.
Leenawee,	384,	A. S. Bush.
"	213,	A. H. Briggs.
"	576,	G. L. Oliver.
Livingston,	90,	W. H. Sexton.
"	114,	A. J. Wickman.
Macomb,	445,	Chas. Andrews.
Manistee,	580,	H. A. Danville.
Mason,	415,	J. T. Phillips.
Mecosta,	362,	C. W. Whitfield.
Monroe,	509,	Thomas Gibbs.
"	412,	S. C. Phelps.
Montcalm,	440,	Wm. Y. Gates.
"	318,	Wm. Divine.
Muskegon,	373,	H. C. Tuttle.
Midland,	603,	D. A. Hare.
Newaygo,	495,	Melvin W. Scott.
Oceana,	497,	Sam'l G. Houston.
"	401,	E. T. Mugford.
Oakland,	405,	John W. Perry.
"	275,	Sam'l H. Harris.
"	283,	J. B. Galloway.
Ottawa,	30,	D. D. Hoppock.
Oseola,	363,	I. J. Noyer.
St. Clair,	462,	M. Shannehan.

"	404,	Geo. W. Carlton.
"	481,	John Gardner.
St. Joseph,	76,	Wm. Hull.
"	291,	A. P. Shepherdson.
"	333,	C. Y. Runyan.
Saginaw,	326,	D. M. Cook.
"	599,	J. M. Wiltzie.
Shiawassee,	160,	F. H. Reeves.
"	180,	M. L. Stevens.
Sanilac,	490,	Geo. Smith.
"	417,	James Anderson.
Tuscola,	523,	Thos. W. Briggs.
"	528,	Travis Leach.
"	513,	J. H. Richardson.
Van Buren,	230,	Orrin Powell.
"	158,	James O. Keith.
"	355,	A. W. Hayden.
"	10,	David Woodman.
Washtenaw,	69,	Wm. Allison.
"	56,	Edward King.
"	329,	I. W. Wing.
Wayne,	263,	Jabez Padley.
"	331,	J. R. Brayton.
"	398,	S. A. Cady.

Plaster.

Orders for plaster have not been forwarded to the extent we had a right to expect. I have done what I could to press this matter upon the attention of the Patrons of the State by a circular on Blank Plaster Orders and in the VISITOR. I have endeavored to make the whole matter so plain that all interested would understand the situation exactly, and yet from enquiries received, I see a necessity of re-stating some points. I therefore renew the assurance that all who order can have plaster shipped *at such time* as the parties ordering may desire — We base this promise on the facts that Day & Taylor have had thirty men preparing for and getting out rock all summer—they have a large amount of rock now piled under sheds from which they are grinding every day. This mill has been running for some weeks, and they now have on hand a large quantity ready to ship. Their facilities are such, that they can get out one hundred tons daily, whether the weather is good or bad. Their mill was thoroughly overhauled and no expense spared to put it in good shape to do business. The parties are capable business men, and will perform what they promise. Some enquiries are made about the quality of their plaster. I supposed that was sufficiently explained in the October VISITOR, but I find that stating a thing once is not always sufficient. Day & Taylor will furnish plaster this season that is worth twenty per cent more than plaster from any other mine in the Grand River Valley—for this reason all other manufacturers sort over their rock and select all that is pure for stucco, and all rock that is part shale, flint or other foreign and worthless matter is thrown out, ground and sold as land plaster. The reason is obvious—in the use of stucco its quality is at once apparent, and if not made of pure rock, would soon ruin the business of the manufacture—not so when ground and sold to farmers. Its use does not so readily determine its quality, and therefore, the purchaser is interested in knowing something of the honesty of the manufacture, and the chances of getting a pure article. Every other plaster mill in the G. R. Valley makes stucco, and therefore it is a plain case that their land plaster is not made of the best rock. When Day & Taylor make stucco, if they ever do, and are ever so honest, we shall not get from them as

good plaster as they will furnish us this season. Some want to know if the plaster must be paid for when ordered, to which we answer, no. We are not running this business on the plan of the "OHIO AND MICHIGAN PLASTER ASSOCIATION." What we want now is your order for what plaster you will want to use next spring, and we want the parties ordering to pay for it when they receive it like good honest Patrons. We simply ask you to treat this matter in a business manner, and stand by your friends, regard your obligation, take care of your present and future pecuniary interests, and in so doing you will have only done your duty. You are not asked to take any hazard or risk whatever. Now that the election is over, and we don't know, and can't find out who is President, we ask Masters and Secretaries who receive the VISITOR and have their attention called to the plaster business to attend at once to getting orders for plaster. Let us know what to depend on. It is more important than we have time to explain. In regard to freight, I can only say, that at the proper time the subject shall receive attention; I am not at present advised of any change from the rates of last spring.

Use more Postal Cards.

Many of our people do not seem to have found out the convenience and value of postal cards, else more would be used. Occasionally a Master, Secretary or subscriber writes that he has not had the VISITOR for two or three months, more or less. Parties who do not receive their paper before the first of the following month should send me a card, stating the fact. The same may be said after money is remitted for fees and dues or supplies. If you do not get a receipt or the goods ordered within ten days, I should be notified by card or otherwise. In some instances no inquiry has been made for months where money has been remitted and not received. Sometimes registered letters or money orders may remain in our post-office for two or three days before I get them, but if for fees and dues they are invariably received the day the letter is taken from the office. Remember that I receive money, more or less every day, and that I can know nothing about receipts from any source except as appears on my books—that for money received for fees and dues, I at once return a receipt on postal card—that for money received for supplies I send the goods. If the receipt or goods are not received within ten days, inquiry should then be made. This would often save me some trouble and be better for all concerned.

LOWELL, Mich., Oct. 16, 1876.

BRO. J. T. COBB:—Enclosed find draft for \$6.33, amount of fees and dues from Keene Grange, No. 270, for quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1876, also quarterly report. I am instructed by our Grange to notify you that we fully endorse the resolutions of Galesburgh Grange, No. 18, on the interest question, and also that they were adopted by Lowell District County Council at their regular meeting on the 10th inst.

Fraternally Yours,

E. HANCOMB, Sec.,
Keene Grange, No. 270.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

The Order at Work.

Faith is known by its fruits. The faith of our members in the stability and perpetuity of our Order is seen in the work and progress that is being shown in the rearing of halls and the perfecting of organization.

On the 20th of Sept. we had the pleasure of dedicating the new and commodious hall of Harmony Grange, in Kent Co., which had just been completed. It is a fine two story building, well adapted to the intended use. The upper room, with suitable ante and preparation rooms, are all that could be desired for Grange meetings in their systematic beauty. The hall proper was indeed a Grange home; its very walls teaching in their decorations the beautiful lessons. The lower story was well adapted to the use intended, and as we enjoyed with others the feast spread there in abundance, we inwardly wished that the doubting both within and without the gate could have witnessed the proceedings of the hour.

The excellent dedicatory service was impressively given, through the assistance of Master Thorington and his co laborers, aided and cheered by the presence of many visiting Patrons from neighboring Granges.

Again, on the 25th of Oct. we were called to give the service of dedication in Berrien County, at Berrien Center, No. 14, which Grange had with commendable zeal erected a hall 24x50 feet, two stories, at a cost of \$1,325, an ornament to the locality and a monument to the energy and vigor of the Patrons therewith connected. When we arrived we found the Berrien Co. Pomona Grange No. 1, just closing their two days' session in time to lend their enthusiasm and presence at the services of dedication. Here we met a fine brass band, nearly every one wearing two uniforms or regalias,—that of the band and that of our Order. The officers of the Pomona Grange also appeared in their distinctive regalia, and added much to the interest of the occasion. In addition to the contributions so well given by the band, appropriate selections were sung by a large number of those present, led by a fine chapel organ. All the services passed in a manner befitting the solemnity and interest of the occasion. Long to be remembered are the events of this day. Again I must commend the brothers and sisters of Berrien Center for the good work done, and trust they will live long to enjoy the results of their hard work, in the beautiful hall they have built, and may its walls ever silently impress the lessons taught within, and when weary with the labors of the day, each Patron enjoy as refreshing repasts as we did in the dining parlor below, adjoining which is a commodious kitchen and pantry, from whence issue as occasion demands, not only appetizing fragrance, but substantial comfort.

With thanks to Berrien Center for

its music, its dinner, its harmony, all stimulated by the presence of the Pomona Grange, and heightened by the cordial welcome to the beautiful and enjoyable homes of its members, who know not only how to grow grain and stock, but how to make home pleasant in surroundings, as every farmer's home may and should be. With all this to stimulate, we went on the 26th to meet the brothers and sisters of Van Buren Co., at Lawrence, and complete there and then the organization of the largest Pomona Grange yet formed in the State.

"What is well begun is half done," says an old proverb, and so Van Buren Pomona Grange No. 13, has great promise of success with its 60 charter members, and its efficient corps of officers to wit: David Woodman, Master, Oscar Caldwell, Overseer, A. W. Hayden, Lecturer, J. O. Keith, Steward, Frank Branch, Ass't Steward, O. M. Sykes, Chaplain, D. K. Charles, Treasurer, Henry Goss, Secretary, Geo. Worthy, Gate Keeper, Sister Caldwell, Pomona, Sister L. A. Hunt, Ceres, Sister Hayden, Flora, Sister Sykes, Lady Assistant, and Bros. Robertson, G. W. Sherpherd and H. H. Hillyard, Executive Committee.—The next meeting is to be on the 4th of Dec., at Hartford.

On the 2d inst., we had the pleasure of meeting with Hazelton Grange No. 606, of Shawassee Co., and enjoying a feast of good things in their yet incompleting new hall, which is a good work by a Grange not yet 14 months old. We were pleased to meet here, John N. Ingersoll, Grand Master of the I. O. O. F. of this State, who said encouraging words to our assembled brethren. When completed and dedicated we will speak further of this enterprise.

On our return home we found invitations to dedicate halls for Lelia Grange, No. 599, of Saginaw Co., and Union Grange, No. —, of Calhoun Co., and so the work goes on. Ingham Co. forms a Pomona Grange on the 24th inst., at Mason, and Muskegon Co. on the 4th of Dec., at Muskegon. Frequent letters asking for lectures, instruction and visits, and growing more frequent as the period of rest from hard labor approaches, and long winter evenings come, when the interest in the Order will revive in the enjoyment of the intellectual and social feasts of our Order, and the accessions of new members, and the awakening of new zeal in the old, will speak stronger than we can, the evidences of our Faith and Hope.

Attend the meetings of your own Grange, and rally every indolent brother or indifferent sister to do the same. Interest yourself in all the work of the Order, take advantage of its purchasing power and facilities. Do this and more; go outside, visit your neighboring Granges; attend all public services of the Order within reach; take part in the Pomona Grange, and aid to further its good work. Read and digest the literature of the Order, study the economy of organization, and see if you will not be a better Patron and the Order will not prosper better. is our advice to all members everywhere of our fraternity.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Grange Visitor. This is to certify, that at a quarterly meeting of the P. of H. of the Detroit and Bay City Council held at Orion, Oct., 5th, 1876, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved. By the P. of H. of Detroit and Bay City Council, that we view with regret the seeming indifference of the Executive Committee of our State Grange, to establish a market in some of our commercial cities both east and west for the sale of our farm products, and thus save us from continuing to be the prey of so many "middle men" who become wealthy at our expense.

Resolved. That while we cordially and fraternally call the attention of the Executive Committee and the State Grange to the sentiments of the above resolution, hoping that prompt action will be taken on the same, and relieve us from our present embarrassment, we do solemnly resolve that in case of a much longer delay, we consider it the imperative duty of this Council to look after its own interests in this matter.

Resolved. That we do heartily endorse the action of the last State Grange, ratifying the proposed Constitutional Amendment allowing each State Grange to fix the membership fee within its own limits, and also reducing said fees in Michigan, and we do most heartily and earnestly petition the Worthy Master of our State Grange to use his influence in the next session of our National Grange to submit the same amendment again for ratification.

Resolved. That we consider the State Grange of Michigan to be too large, unwieldy and expensive a body, and believing that one-half of its members will do more and better work, therefore economy dictates a reduction of membership.

Resolved. That we again re-assert the great doctrine of American equality expressed in former resolutions, that every fourth degree member should be eligible to any position from the Subordinate to the National Grange.

Resolved. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the *Michigan Farmer*, and GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

H. GROFF, Secy.

HERSEY, MICH., Oct. 8, 1876.

BRO. J. T. COBB:—We as P. of H. in this pine country have a great deal to contend with adverse to the best interest of the Order. The lumbering element of the country as a whole, (with now and then an exception) are opposed to the Order, and of course there are a few farmers, who for want of backbone, will go with the majority. We have poverty to contend with, while we are few in numbers, which of course makes our progress very slow and some members weaken. Notwithstanding all this we have several good organizations in this county with good resolute members enough to make a complete success of the Order in time. A great many of us go to the lumber woods in the winter season which lessens the sociability of our meetings as well as the attendance and interest. We are looking forward to a day when these difficulties will be overcome and the Grange take the place of the lumbering interest.

Yours Fraternally,
A. B. KNAPP.

HILLSDALE, Mich., Oct. 18, 1876.

J. T. COBB.—Worthy Brother: At our Grange meeting last night, the resolutions of the Galesburg Grange were read, and a motion was made to endorse them, which called out some remarks and a lively discussion followed. Some thought that the first resolution had too much of a partisan feeling, which should not be cherished in the Grange, and the two resolutions were voted upon separately. The first was rejected, the second unanimously adopted. I call our Grange a sound

Grange, but we are located rather near the city limits to do much in the way of trade through the Grange. We like to hitch up often and drive to town to get a half pound of tea and quarter pound of tobacco. Fraternally,
G. CARLTON, Sec.

Ero. Cobb.—At the Convention held at the city of Corrunna, on Thursday, Oct. 12th inst. for the purpose of electing Representatives to represent the County of Shiawassee in the State Grange the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved. That our Representatives to the State Grange be instructed to use their influence to have the initiation fee reduced to three dollars for males, and one dollar for females.

M. W. WILLOUGHBY, Sec.

OBITUARY.

Ronald Grange No. 192, lost a Worthy Sister Nov. 1, 1876. Sister T. P. Laselle, the first death in our Grange since its organization.
GEO. WURSTER, Sec.

HALL OF SCHOOLCRAFT GRANGE, No. 8, }
October, 27, 1875. }

The following Preamble and Resolutions in reference to the death of Wm. H. Patten, late Treasurer of this Grange, were reported by Com., and unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS.—Death has removed from our midst our Brother, William H. Patten, therefore
Resolved.—That in the life of our deceased Brother, we have the example of a man honest in business, earnest in purpose, and full of good works—as a Christian, devoted in life, and peaceful in death.—As a Brother, ever ready to extend the openhand of charity.

Resolved.—That this Grange in the loss of one of its most exemplary members, will bow in submission to the will of the Great Master above, will cherish the memory of our departed Brother and cordially sympathize with his relatives in this their great affliction.

Resolved.—That our hall be draped in mourning, and that these resolutions be spread upon the record of this Grange, a copy sent to the friends of the deceased, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

JAMES POMEROY, Sec.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

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Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred,...	60
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Cushing's Manual,.....	60
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Withdrawal Cards, per doz,.....	50
Illustrated Visiting or Traveling Cards, each,.....	05
Drafts, in envelopes, per doz,.....	25
By-Laws of the State and Subordinate Granges, single copies 5c, per doz,.....	50
New kind of Singing Books, with music, Single copy 15 cts. per doz,.....	1 50
Rituals, single copy,.....	15
“ per doz,.....	1 50
Blanks for Consolidation of Granges, sent free on application.....	
Blank Applications for Membership in Common Granges, furnished free on application.	
Blank Orders for use of Granges or Purchasing Agents, per doz., 10 cts, per 100,	50
Blank “Articles of Association” for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges with Copy of Charter, all complete,....	10
Manual of Jurisprudence and Co-operation, by A. B. Smedly,.....	1.25
Patron's Pocket Companion, by J. A. Cramer, Cloth, 60 cts., Morocco with tuck, .	1 00
Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100, .	40

Address, J. T. COBB,
Sec'y MICH. STATE GRANGE,
SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

N. B.

PARTICULAR.

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