

# THE MARITIME PATRON, AND ORGAN OF THE Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

"In Essentials Unity—In Non-essentials Liberty—In All Things Charity."

[All communications intended for this column should be sent to the editor of the Maritime Patron, EDWIN S. CREED, M. D., Newport.]

We believe that there could be no better exponent, advocate or champion of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry than a simple statement of its aims and objects, presented in the Preamble to the Constitution and the Declaration of Purposes of the order, of which we earnestly solicit a careful examination.

## PREAMBLE.

Human happiness is the acme of earthly ambition. Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity and the adoption of right principles. The prosperity of a nation is in proportion to the value of its productions.

The soil is the source from whence we derive all that constitutes wealth; without it we would have no agriculture, no manufactures, no commerce. Of all the material gifts of the Creator, the various productions of the vegetable world are of the first importance. The art of agriculture is the parent and precursor of all arts, and its products the foundation of all wealth.

The productions of the earth are subject to the influence of natural laws, invariable and indisputable. The amount produced will consequently be in proportion to the intelligence of the producer, and success will depend upon his knowledge of the action of these laws, and the proper application of their principles.

Hence, knowledge is the foundation of happiness.

The ultimate object of this organization is for mutual instruction and protection; to lighten labor by diffusing a knowledge of its aims and purposes; to expand the mind by tracing the beautiful laws the Great Creator has established in the Universe, and to enlarge our views of creature wisdom and power.

To those who read aright, history proves that in all ages society is fragmentary, and that successful results of general welfare can be secured only by general effort. Unity of action cannot be secured without discipline, and discipline cannot be enforced without significant organization. Hence we have a ceremony of initiation which binds us in mutual fraternity as with a band of iron, but, although its influence is so powerful, its application is as gentle as that of the silken threads that bind a wreath of flowers.

## DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

### The Platform of the Grange.

GENERAL OBJECTS.—1. United by the strong and faithful tie of Agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country and mankind.

2 We heartily endorse the motto: "In essentials, unity, in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

SPECIFIC OBJECTS.—3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects:

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to exhort each other in labor to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel, and more on hoof and in fleece. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities.

To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We propose meeting together, working together, buying together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood, among ourselves; and to make our Order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

BUSINESS RELATIONS.—4. For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence, we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interest whatever. On the contrary all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence, we hold, that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous; keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall, therefore, advocate the increase in every practicable way of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers

and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our first purpose to "open out the channels in nature's great arteries, that the life blood of commerce may flow freely."

We are not enemies of railroads; navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble Order there is no communism, no agrarianism.

We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent. profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of production. We desire only self protection and the protection of every true interest of our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade and legitimate profits.

EDUCATION.—We shall advocate the cause of education among ourselves and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges, that practical agriculture, domestic science and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

THE GRANGE NOT PARTISAN.—5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, discusses political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship; and if properly carried out will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

We must always bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Husbandry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately, to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption or trickery, to see that none but competent, faithful, honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, be nominated for all positions of trust, and to have carried out the principles which should always characterize every Patron that THE OFFICE SHOULD BE THE MAN, AND NOT THE MAN THE OFFICE.

We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is not crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong, in short, justly distributed burdens, and justly distributed power.

It is reserved to every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

OUTSIDE CO-OPERATION.—6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution we cannot admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest which conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for cordial co-operation to assist in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromise and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

CONCLUSION.—It shall be an abiding principle with us, to relieve any oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order.

## UNTHRESHED OATS FOR HORSES.

Unthreshed oats are a better feed for horses than the grain alone, or grain and straw both fed, but separately. The albuminoid ratio of the grain of oats is 1.61; of the straw of oats, 1.299. The food for horses and mules should have an albuminoid ratio of 1.70. Hence, the grain of oats should be mixed with food having a lower albuminoid ratio. A horse might get a ration—having the proper ratio—by using corn with the straw. But it is well known that for grain to be well digested, it must be eaten with some sort of stover to form the necessary bulk in the stomach. For example, we might use timothy, which has an albuminoid ratio of 1.81, and mix it with the necessary bulk. But it is much better to have the grain and stover eaten together. We may cut the hay, mix it and the grain together, and moisten the mixture; but we accomplish the same thing more economically by feeding unthreshed oats, for then the grain, all the chaff, and part of the straw are masticated together. By thus feeding oats, we can improve the albuminoid ratio of the ration and provide the necessary bulk masticated with the grain, but we save the expense of threshing. Oats fed in this way should be cut before they are quite ripe, cured thoroughly, and then moved away. They are just the feed for winter, when they require carbohydrates; and because of their manner of feeding are well digested, and are so well suited to the wants of the horse that he will get a great deal better upon them than he would upon almost any other feed.