

PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS. S. A. CLARKE. D. W. CRAIG. 

SALEM, FRIDAY, NOV. 30, 1877.

#### THANKSGIVING.

We go to press usually on Thursday, but this Thursday is Thanksgiving day, and we shall not mail the FARMER before Friday morning, so a few of our subscribers may not get their paper on the usual day, but they must remember that nobody stands in more need of a genuine Thanksgiving than we who manufacture newspapers.

Years ago, when we used to be familiar with New England life, Thanksgiving was a prime day for family gatherings and enjoyment of all the good things possible to achieve in a New England kitchen. No good Yankee can ever forget those Thanksgivings that were famous events in life and made the year seem long until they came around again. The Yankce trait of thankfulness was so mixed up with good cheer and jollity that it was most enjoyable, and we should not object to see the same interest taken in Thanksgiving day in Oregon as marked our young days in the land of steady habits. It is a relic of Puritan times, but the orthodox Puritan creed both Grange members-is shown by a has lost much of its harshness, and the Christian world looks more kindly upon Go.'s intentions toward weak and sinful n an, and this is additional cause for that kfulness and happiness that we possess over our ancestors of old Puritan times.

## THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

In view of the annual session of the National Grange, which commenced at Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 21, J. W. A. Wright, former Master of the California State Grange, contributes to the San Francisco Post an interesting paper relative to the National Grange matters, from which we take as follows:

The first session of the National Grange, which attracted much attention, was held in Georgetown, District of Columbia, in January, 1873, and nine states were there represented. In Feb-uary, 1874, at the noted St. Louis session, thirty-two states were represented. At the eighth annual session, which met at Charleston, South Carolina, in Febuary, 1875, thirty-eight states were represented, and much was done by the cordial associations of the delegates from both sections toward inaugurating that "era of good feeling," which has in many gratifying ways marked the progress of our country for two years past. In November, 1875, the ninth session met in Louisville, Kentucky, to which city the headquarters of the national Grange were removed during the year. Last November, the tenth session met at Chicago, and took the most important steps yet taken toward shaping the business enterprises of the order. The sessions occupy from ten days to two weeks. The first Master of the National Grange, was William Saunders, a Scotch gardener, who has long had charge of the government botanical gardens in Washington City, and during the Centennial Exposition had charge of part of the exhibits of the Agricultural Department, Mr. Saunders deserves some credit for tak-Mr. ing part with his fellow founders in organizing the National Grange, though there is no question that but for the persevering efforts of O. H. Kelly, of Minnesota, who has deservedly been Secretary of the National Grange from its beginning, the Grange organization would never have existed. To the part Mr. Saunders took in helping to some extent to organize the National Grange, he owed his position as its Master from December 4, 1867, until January, 1873, when Dudley D. Adams, of Iowa, was elected Master. Mr. Adams, a zealous advocate of farmers' rights, and owner of a fine fruit farm near Waukon, Iowa, made a very efficient executive head and presiding officer, and was succeed-ed, in November, '75, by Judge John T. Jones, of Arkansas, than who there could be no more conservative patriot, nor more able and earnest worker for the cause of the American farmers. As the term of officers is now but two years, a new set are to be elected at the present session. Should Judge Jones decline to be continued in office, as it is most likely he will, a Northern member will, no doubt, succeed him, in accordance with the very conservative princi ples and actions of the Grange. Indeed, no organization could be more conservative or truly unsectional in its character, than the grange always has been, and always proposes to be. These char-acteristics the farmers of the Union and spires point to heaven, where then value in our large and broad-principled brotherhood as much, perhaps, as any of its numesous excellent features. To show its conservative character, it may be well to mention that its present Executive committee of five members-to be reduced after this session to three-consists of Colonel Aiken, of South Carolina; Mr. Chase, of New Hampshire: Colonel Chambers, of Ala-bama; Colonel Golder, of Plinois, Mr. Pioneer and Historical Society of Or-

# WILLAMETTE FARMER

James, of Indiana; with Judge Jones,

of Arkansas, ex-officio Chairman. In spite of all that has been said by national treasury, was satisfactorily ac-counted for by Mr. Kelly, Secretary, and F. M. McDowell, of New York, Treasurer.

The strict economy observed in the expenditure of the funds of the National Grange-very limited as compared with the funds at the disposal of similar organizations of so large a jurisdiction -is shown nowhere more conspicuously than in the headquarters office of the Secretary, No 92 Main street, Louisville Secretary, No 32 Main Street, of a rent-Kentucky, in the second story of a rented building. Large as is necessarily the business conducted here, the office proper consists of but two plain, unpretending rooms, and joining them is a large storeroom, which contains the necessary supplies for Granges throughout our immense jurisdiction.

Worthy Secretary Kelly, with two lady clerks-members of his familymanages all the business of the office with the most thorough system. The furniture, chiefly of black walnut, is plain but substantial. Over the mantlepiece, in a black walnut frame some three feet square, hangs a well arranged group of photographs, cabinet size, of the twenty-nine members who composed the National Grange when it met at Georgtown in 1873, at which time there were but nine state and 1,362 subordinate Granges in the United States -afterwards increased to 38 state and over 25,000 subordinate Granges. Of these 29 persons only 15 were able to be present at the last session.

The taste of the ladies in the officelarge and pretty hanging basket inside the central one of three broad front windows. Within are growing beau-tiful ferns with fronds more than two teet long, and over its sides hang the graceful trailers of the plant known as 'Wandering Jew.' On each side of the mantel are two small earthen flower pots, in each of which grows a thrifty plant of English ivy, extending some six feet in length and forming by their united branches a beautiful, natural living wreath, with their star-shaped leaves, above the frame in which are seen the familiar faces of the twentynine pioneers of the National Grange. Permit me to close this sketch with a

fermit me to close this sketch with a few words of just praise, As a slight but merited tribute to one who has ever been an honor to the truly great order of the Patrons of Husbandry, which she has done so much to build up. What I mention here, I do the more willingly, because certain journals, hostile to the Grange, have done rank injustice in alluding have done rank injustice in alluding

to this noble, good woman. The good name and management of Secretary Kelley have now been fully vindicated publicly, and it should be known to the lasting honor of our lady membership, and, especially, of the lady here mentioned without her knowledge, that every dollar paid into the office of the National Grange has passed through the hands and been accounted for by Miss Carrie Hall, Assistant Secretary, and no one is more stly proud to youch for this fact than the worthy Secretary himself. A Veritable Pioneer.

egon, at Astoria, which contains a historical sketch, delivered as the 6th an-In spite of all that has been said by hostile journals and people to the con-trary, it can be truly asserted that no organization which has existed in our country ever had its finances managed with stricter integrity than the Nation-al Grange. At the last two sessions, and during the interval, the most care-ful investigation possible was made for the purpose, and every dollar out of over \$200,000 paid since 1867 into our national treasury, was satisfactorily acsionary, patriot, and martyr, who did so much to retain Oregon as part of our national domain.

The Season.

A long season of deluging rain is succeeded at last by clear, frosty weather. Up to this time much less plowing than usual has been done, owing to the ground being too wet and the weather too uncomfortable. It is not known that any former season has seen the three fall months realize such a great rainfall as we have known through September, October, and November .-For weeks past we have known severe and unusual storms, but at last we have sunshine, and the farmers will hasten to make the most of it while it lasts, and it is not certain to continue long at this season of the year.

## ABOUT SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have just sent notices to many subscribers transferred from the Cultivator list, informing them that we have placed a date on each tag that corresponds, at \$2.50 per annum, with the amount they owed last February when we took the list.

Where words and figures are abbreviated on the tag, the last figure stands for the year; we are short of 7s, so Aug.6 stands for August '76, Se7 stands for Sept. '77, Je8 stands for June '78, &c., &c.

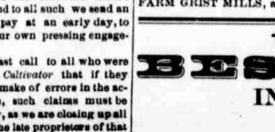
As we are short of Ss, those who pay up nowadays will not find their dates changed this week, but we shall probably receive Sa before another week.

We have sent accounts to some of the Cultivator subscribers who have made partial payment to us, and in all such instances we give the date to which such payment entitles them.

A great many on the Cultivator list are badly in arrears, and to all such we send an earnest request to pay at an early day, to enable us to meet our own pressing engagements.

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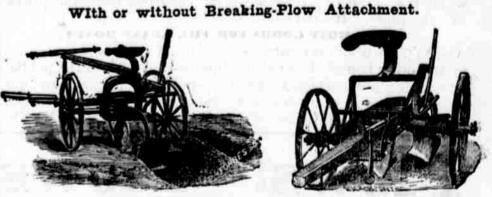
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Almost forty years ago, in the Summer of 1838, a band of missionaries reached Walla Walla, after a long and painful journey across the continent. last week; his companion in thet early journey, Rev. Cushing Eells, is still living, having almost reached the life span of three score years and ten. They were companions and co-laborers with Dr. Whitman, and deserve to be remembered through all time, as the first and most unselfish of all our pioneers, led hither by no hope of gain or worldly ambition, but by the desire to benefit the world that then lay in savage darkness, afar from civilization and all that made life valuable to civilized man. A resistless tide of finmigration is now passing into the remote recesses of the vast wilderness they then found only inhabited by savage tribes. The charming valleys have already become populous with life, and animated by civilized influences. The wilderness has blossomed, but where a scattered people settle to-day, an empire will march with steady tread to-morrow. All this has passed before the eyes of these earliest of pioneers; their short span of life has been a living panora ma; the world as they knew it is no more; for the Indian canoe, we have the toiling steamer; the wigwam has disappeared, to give room for the farm house, and spires point to heaven, where then the groves were unthinned and the bosom of the prairies unscarred. And as these wonderful results transpire, the gray-haired pioneers are passing away forever.

PIONEER SOCIETY .- We are in receipt of a pamphlet published by the

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