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YUMA, A. T.

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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1873.

A NATIONAL NEED.

If there is any one thing needed now more than another by the people of the United States, it is a newspaper at the National Capital that will keep them fairly informed on the administration of their affairs by the principal officers of the several departments of the public service. There is a good deal of prating all over the country about the power of the press, the pen being mightier than the sword, etc., but it can not be that many of those who talk in that way are in earnest, or they would not allow the seat of government to be without such a paper as I have just described. When the integrity of the Union was threatened by the sword, the might of that weapon was recognized, the danger from it was at once comprehended, and millions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of men were hurried to Washington to avert the dreaded calamity; but now, when the encroachments by the administration upon the rights of the States and the liberties of the people are steadily subverting the fundamental principles of self-government, when men are appointed to important offices, and public affairs are administered, with primal reference to securing a life-lease of the presidency to the present incumbent; when wealthy corporations, dishonest officers in the executive departments and a corrupt majority in the federal legislature systematically and successfully combine to oppress the people by over-taxation, and unscrupulously transfer the proceeds to their own pockets—now, when our traitors to Americanism, who must also be zealous third-term men, can secure the ear and influence of the executive, there is not a single paper at the capital to give to the people of the United States a faithful daily record of the official deeds and misdeeds of their agents. The three daily papers here are simply mouth-pieces of Grant and his followers, and do not even endeavor to ascertain the truth on any matter which involves the ability or reputation of the President or any public officer with whom he is known to have close personal relations, but only what statements said officials choose to have put

forth. I would not be understood to hold the capacity and energy of the editors of these sheets at a low estimate. Many of them would be considered valuable acquisitions by the best newspapers in the country, but they have little or no opportunity here to show what they can do, because the proprietors have chosen to pursue a course which places the very existence of their papers from day to day at the mercy of the administration. This is not the case with the *Star*, which could live comfortably without government patronage, but whose proprietors can not resist the temptation to enrich themselves by intellectual prostitution. Neither the *Chronicle* nor the *Republican*, however, could pay expenses for a single week, deprived of official advertisements. It is a matter of astonishment to me, sometimes how, with all these drawbacks, the staffs of these papers contrive to make them so readable. It is, indeed, a misfortune to the country that they are so interesting; for, besides their local circulation, they go, every day, literally crammed with plausible falsehoods, to the four quarters of the Union, to thousands of exchanges and subscribers, and after having been read by Government clerks are mailed home by them to their respective States by hundreds. I really do not see how any intelligent opponent of the administration, who really believes in the might of the pen and the power of the press, can fail to see that the best interests of the country require that there should be a "square" paper established here to ferret out and expose corruption, and to counteract the baneful influence of Grant's mendacious sheets, and that the sooner such a paper is started the better. The third-term men are working now, add so should we be. It won't do for us to commence raising troops after they shall have a trained and well-equipped army in the field.

THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY—REMOVAL OF ITS HEADQUARTERS TO WASHINGTON.

The business of the National Grange has assumed such vast proportions that it can no longer be conveniently transacted at the residence, in Georgetown, of Mr. O. H. Kelley, the Secretary; and Past Master Wm. Saunders, Chairman of the Executive Committee, has, therefore, leased a large building on Louisiana avenue, in Washington, which will be the future headquarters of the order. Dispensations for new granges are being received at the rate of from twenty-five to seventy-five per day. About fifty packages, containing dispensations, manuals, etc., are forwarded by express, daily, and this does not include hundreds of communications sent out in the mails. Since the 1st instant about 350 subordinate granges have been organized, making the total number in operation, up to date, over 4,700, with an aggregate membership of about 350,000. The order seems to be growing most rapidly in the State

of Iowa, which now has 1,750 granges, against 1,699 two weeks since, and in Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska and Wisconsin. In response to requests from different States, several additional general deputies have recently been sent out by the National Grange to organize subordinate granges. There are at present State granges in Arkansas, California, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont and Wisconsin.

HAS THE NEW ORDER A POLITICAL FEATURE?

The Patrons of Husbandry is not a political organization, in the popular acceptance of those words. The members of the order are not professional office-seekers, but belong, for the most part, to that class of our population who have labored hard all their lives, alike during the long days of July and August, on the shadeless prairie, under a burning sun, and in the cutting winds and relentless snow storms of the blood-freezing northern mid-winter, not only for themselves and their families, but to support in idleness and dissipation at Long Branch, Saratoga, and a thousand other places, and on European tours, the wives and families of Credit Moblier swindlers, salary-grabbers, middlemen, professional politicians and other drones and sharpers whose labors do not add one iota to either the material or intellectual wealth of the nation, but who fatten on the labor of the producer. No, the order is not a political one. But, if legislatures, State or Federal, shall enact or fail to repeal laws unjust to the farmers, and shall side with their oppressors, and if unrighteous judges shall continue to render decisions that unjustly discriminate against the farmers—decisions not based upon the right as God gives honest seekers to see it in this 19th century, but upon palpable and self-evident wrongs, called by the lawyers "precedents"—why, then, it is reasonable to suppose that the men and women of this large, intelligent and powerful order will look after their interests precisely as other people do; and as this is a country of law, it is difficult to see how they can get their grievances redressed in any other way than by sending to all the legislative bodies in the country men who will do them justice, and by securing the appointment of judges who will be grateful to God for the light of To-day, and be guided by it rather than by the Darkness of the Past.

A. F. B.

REMARKABLE FECUNDITY.—Col. Ravis, a citizen of Cass county, Texas, and 100 years of age, was lately presented by his young wife with "five" healthy children, within the current year!—two at one birth, and three at another!—and all at present doing well!—*Jefferson Tex. Democrat* That's a whortleberry above our persimmon!

Hayden's Ferry.

As "coming events cast their shadows before," it may be presumed that the improvements going on at Hayden's Ferry will make the place familiarly known in the near future, over this great Territory. The honorable gentleman evidently did not come into the country "to make his pile," then, leaving, take it all along; but to make improvements, and with those improvements make "a raise" that will 'raise' others also. The machinery which makes labor productive and gives employment to the masses, will make such sweet music in the Salt River valley as will both charm and win. The hum of productive industry is mightier to attract good citizens than the best trained choir and the most valued organ in church or cathedral. Towns will grow where there is water-power utilized, so as to meet the ever-pressing wants of the race; for labor-saving power is a forerunner of good, a civilizer of men, hence a desideratum with thinking minds around the globe, where either steam or water can be harnessed into the service of man.

During my visit to this place, the work of quarrying, hauling, cutting and laying of stone in the walls of "the pit" for the Water-wheel, was progressing finely, while the general stir indicated that by the time the pine logs could be cut up toward the head of Salt river and floated down its swollen stream, the Saw would be ready to make lumber, and a new epoch chronicled in the industrial history of Central Arizona. No doubts are entertained as to the probability of being able to raft the logs to the destination by Hon. C. T. Hayden, who is a lumberman fresh from Maine. Neither will the men, or the saw-mill, have all and nothing but work to do, and as eating will be in the program, so will flour-making. There is a flouring mill to be erected adjoining the other, and as the two will stand in a juxtaposition, one can run, while the other is allowed to be idle. Each will make a market. Grain growers can bring and take. The place must be a growing center of attraction so long as these mills stand, and the water runs along this valley, which will save the cost of steam, and the needless expense of fuel and fire, which is great importance, in such a country as this, when there is little of either.

Now as the Salt River ever flows, and the Gila often runs dry, I should call it an act of injustice to denominate the two after their confluence by the name "Gila," while the Saline is seven times as large before their confluence, and after, fights its way alone to the Colorado. Whilst I would protest against this misnomer, I pronounce the Salt river the great living refreshing artery of Arizona, and the fruitful Nile of this Western Egypt.

GLENZEN.

The Arizona Sentinel, 8/9/1873:

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