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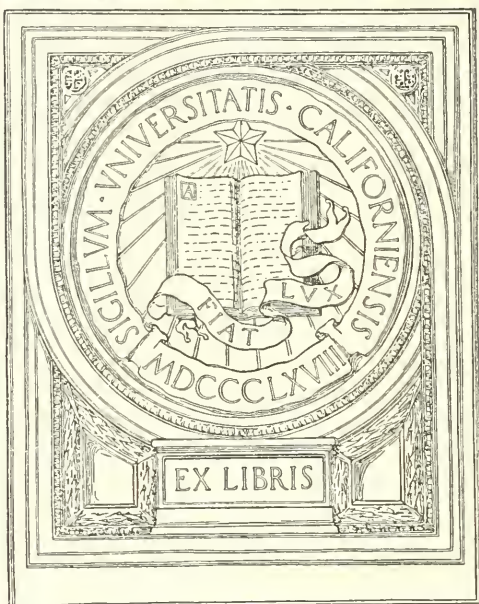


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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT LOS ANGELES



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ROBERT ERNEST COWAN





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NOVEMBER 8, 1889, 1...40 A. M.



... HISTORY ...

OF THE

SOCIETY

OF THE

FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

STATE OF MONTANA.

1890.

JULY 4, 1889.

AUGUST 17, 1889.

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— HISTORY —

OF THE

SOCIETY

OF THE

FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

STATE OF MONTANA.

JULY 4, 1889.

AUGUST 17, 1889.

WRITTEN AND ARRANGED BY

— HENRY KNIPPENBERG —

Member from Beaverhead County,

GLENDALE.

OFFICERS

President,

WM. A. CLARK,
Butte, Montana.

Vice-President,

MARTIN MAGINNIS,
Helena, Montana.

Secretary,

HENRY KNIPPENBERG,
Glendale, Montana.

Treasurer,

L. H. HERSHFIELD,
Helena, Montana.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

WM. A. CLARK, Chairman.

H. KNIPPENBERG,
PARIS GIBSON,

CHAS. S. MARSHALL,
GEO. W. STAPLETON,
ALFRED MYERS.

MARTIN MAGINNIS,
J. E. RICKARDS,

GLENDALE, BEAVERHEAD CO., MONT., December 31, 1890.

To the Members of the Society of the Framers

of the Constitution of the State of Montana:

I have the honor and pleasure of presenting you with the short history of the SOCIETY OF THE FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA.

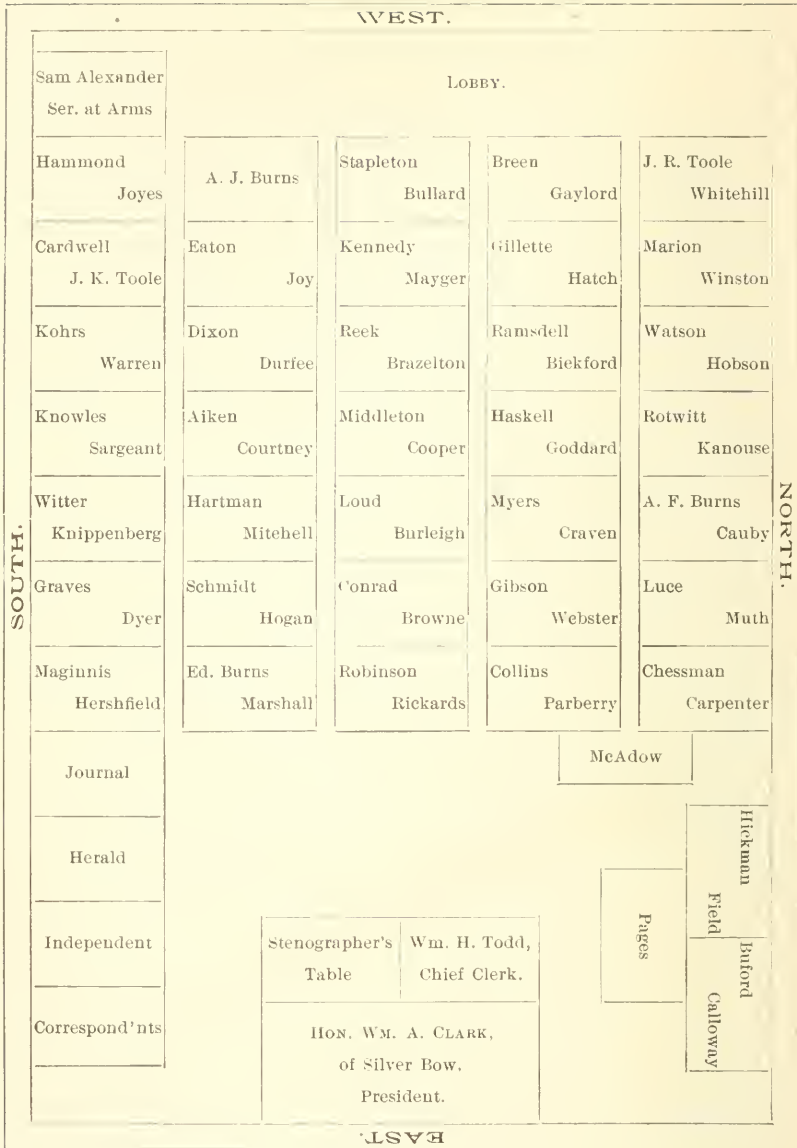
It is possible that the result of my weak efforts in this direction may not fully meet your expectations; if so, rest assured that I have done the very best I could. The work has been no light task, but my high esteem and love for each member of the Society has enabled me to persevere in its completion, and fully paid me for the labor required.

Accept for yourself my well wishes for long life, health, happiness and prosperity. God bless Montana and her good people.

I remain your friend,

HENRY KNIPPENBERG.

P. S.—I have given each member a full page, leaving one-half blank for future memorandums.



THE MEMBERS LOCATED.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE DELEGATES TO THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WERE SEATED
WHILE IN SESSION.

HISTORY

OF THE

Society of the Framers of the Constitution

OF THE

STATE OF MONTANA.

August 17, 1889, being the last day of the Constitutional Convention of the State of Montana, Henry Knippenberg, a member from Beaverhead county, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the President of this Constitutional Convention is hereby requested to appoint a committee of seven (7), the President himself to be the chairman of such committee, which shall prepare plans and By-Laws by which all the members and employes of this Convention shall form a permanent organization, and meet socially at least once a year, so that the happy and agreeable relationships here formed may endure, and even strengthen, in the years to come. This committee shall be known as the "Executive Committee," and shall have full power to elect the proper officers for the first year, or until the first annual meeting of the proposed organization.

This resolution was promptly, unanimously, and cordially adopted by all the members present.

The President appointed the following as the "Executive Committee," in accordance with the above resolution :

H. KNIPPENBERG,
PARIS GIBSON,

CHAS. S. MARSHALL,
GEO. W. STAPLETON,
ALFRED MYERS.

MARTIN MAGINNIS,
J. E. RICKARDS,

December 7, 1889, the author of the resolution, looking toward the social organization of the Society, mailed to each member of the Convention the following circular letter :

(SOCIAL.)

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION
OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF MONTANA.
July 4, 1889--Aug. 17, 1889.

GLENDALE, BEAVERHEAD CO., MONT., November 7, 1889.

MY DEAR SIR:

Our work having now been adopted by the people of Montana, I enclose you herewith a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Convention. The President (Hon. Wm. A. Clark) will doubtless soon call a meeting of the "Executive Committee" to perfect a permanent organization. In the meantime, at my own expense, I have assumed the responsibility to gather such facts as will at least furnish material for the foundation or groundwork for this *social structure*.

Please promptly fill out the enclosed blank and return to me by mail; such information I will enter into a book, arranged and printed for that purpose, which I will give to the organization. With kindest regards,
I remain your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

In addition to this circular letter there was enclosed a printed copy of the original resolution, also a slip of special ruled and printed paper, requesting each member to fill out the same, giving briefly the important events of his life.

These were promptly filled out, and are now given in full, exactly as written by each member, the original being in the hands of the Secretary on file :

EDWARD D. AIKEN.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Foundryman.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—August 28, 1864.

Date of Birth—July 6, 1838.

Town Born—Grafton.

County—Windham.

State—Vermont.

Country—America.

Nationality—Irish parents.

PETER BREEN.

Town—Wickes.

County—Jefferson.

Business—Laborer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—April, 1884.

Date of Birth—October 5, 1860.

Town Born—Near Olatha.

County—Johnson.

State—Kansas.

Country—United States of America.

Nationality—Irish parents.

I came west to Colorado in the fall of 1881, and since then have been employed in mining and smelting in different sections in the Rocky Mountains.

Yours truly,

PETER BREEN.

ED. BURNS.

Town—Elliston.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Merchant.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—August 13, 1884.

Date of Birth—June 8, 1855.

Town Born—Rochester.

State—New York.

A long and prosperous life to the organization, and to each and every member of the Constitutional Convention.

WALTER A. BURLEIGH.

Town—Miles City.

County—Custer.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—July 10, 1879.

Date of Birth—October 25, 1820.

Town Born—Waterville.

County—Kennebec.

State—Maine.

Country—United States of America.

Nationality--American, thank God.

DAVID G. BROWNE.

Town—Fort Benton.

County—Choteau.

Business—Government Contractor.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—March, 1878.

Arrived in America—February, 1876.

Date of Birth—January 16, 1859.

Town Born—Miller Hill.

County—Down.

Country—Ireland.

Nationality—Irish.

WALTER MANSUR BICKFORD.

Town—Missoula.

County—Missoula.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June 17, 1884.

Date of Birth—February 25, 1852.

Town Born—Newburgh.

County—Penobscot.

State—Maine.

Country—United States, with a big U.

There is nothing special in my case. Just the common, ordinary, every-day way. Am in with you on the plan of organization.

J. T. BRAZELTON.

Town—Deer Lodge.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—County Clerk.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—March 3, 1884.

Date of Birth—May 19, 1858.

Town Born—New Market.

County—Jefferson.

State—Tennessee.

Success in the undertaking.

BRAZELTON.

S. R. BUFORD.

Town—Virginia City.

County—Madison.

Business—Merchant.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—September 5, 1865.

Date of Birth—March 2, 1846.

Town Born—Canton.

County—Lewis.

State—Missouri.

WILLIAM MASON BULLARD.

Town—Pony.

County—Madison.

Business—Physician and Surgeon.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—April 11, 1880.

Date of Birth—April 23, 1853.

Town Born—Indianapolis.

County—Marion.

State—Indiana.

Country—United States.

Prior to reaching Montana, was Professor of Chemistry and Toxicology in Indiana Medical College; came to Montana to accept position as physician and surgeon to the Alta Montana Co., at Wickes; afterwards, the Helena and Livingston Smelting and Refining Co.; at present, the Pony Gold Mining Co.

ANDREW J. BURNS.

Town—Marysville.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Mining Superintendent.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—August 9, 1881.

Date of Birth—May 5, 1828.

Town Born—Congress township.

County—Wayne.

State—Ohio.

Nationality—Scotch-Irish.

My father was a Lieutenant in the 16th Regiment, U. S. Infantry, during the war of 1812. I received a good common school education, having for school-mates General Stanley and Wm. B. Allison; followed farming, stock and produce buying in Ohio; went to California in 1860, and have followed mining ever since.

Yours respectfully,

A. J. BURNS.

ALEXANDER F. BURNS.

Town—East Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Farmer.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—October 4, 1866.

Date of Birth—December 7, 1832.

Town Born—Liberty.

County—Clay.

State—Missouri.

WALTER COOPER.

Town—Bozeman.

County—Gallatin, Montana.

Business—Mines and Real Estate.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—February 9, 1864.

Date of Birth—July 4, 1843.

Town Born—Stirling.

County—Cayuga.

State—New York.

TIMOTHY E. COLLINS.

Town—Great Falls.

County—Cascade.

Business—Banker.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—November, 1864.

Arrived in America—1850.

Date of Birth—November 25, 1843.

County—Cork.

Country—Ireland.

Nationality—Irish.

WILLIAM ANDREWS CLARK.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Banker, also mining and reduction of ores.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana, July 3, 1863.

Date of Birth—January 8, 1839.

Town Born—Near Connellsville.

County—Fayette.

State—Pennsylvania.

I located first in Beaver Head county, at Colorado Gulch, on Horse Prairie Creek, where I mined in 1863, and also in 1864. Spring of 1865 I went to Blackfoot, in 1866 to Elk Creek, in which places I sold goods. In 1867 and 1868, I had a mail contract from Missoula to Walla Walla, and lived most of the time at Helena. I was married to Kate L. Stauffer, at Connellsville, Pa., on March 17, 1869, and went into the wholesale grocery trade at Helena, in that year, with Mr. R. W. Donnell. In 1870 we moved to Deer Lodge, and in that year we opened a bank there, which continues to-day. I bought mines at Butte in 1872, and have been operating here ever since. In '77 I opened a bank here which continues to-day. Have five children living and two dead. My oldest boy, Charles, is now in the '93 class of Yale College.

CHARLES E. CONRAD.

Town—Benton.

County—Choteau.

Business—Banking and merchandising.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June 30, 1868.

Date of Birth—May 20, 1850.

County—Warren.

State—Virginia.

MILTON CAUBY.

Town—East Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Hotel-keeper and prospector.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—February 5, 1885.

Date of Birth—January 1, 1838.

Town Born—Virginia.

Count—Cass.

State—Illinois.

Country—U. S. A.

Enlisted in army February 3, 1862; mustered out March 13, 1865, Putnam county, Mo. Was elected Clerk Circuit Court of said county, 1867, and served in that capacity eight years. If you desire further information, write.

Respectfully, etc., M. CAUBY.

WILLIAM ALLEN CHESSMAN.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Capitalist.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—April 20, 1865.

Date of Birth—August 19, 1830.

Town Born—Weymouth.

County—Norfolk.

State—Massachusetts.

Went to California in 1849; followed mining during my residence there; started for Montana in March, 1865; am a life member of the Society of California Pioneers; was first elected member of the Montana Legislature in 1873; have served in three sessions of the House and two of Council since; was married to Miss Penelope V. Newhall, of Galena, Illinois, Feb. 4, 1875; have two children living.

B. PLATT CARPENTER.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—Jan. 5, 1885.

Date of Birth—May 14, 1837.

Town Born—Stanford.

County—Dutchess.

State—New York.

Country—U. S. A.

Nationality—American.

ARTHUR J. CRAVEN.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—Aug. 7, 1884.

Date of Birth—Dec. 12, 1857.

Town Born—Lancaster.

County—Jefferson.

State—Indiana.

Country—U. S.

Nationality—American.

Graduated in collegiate department of the State University of Iowa with class of 1882.

Parents removed from Indiana to Iowa when I was very young. Raised and educated in Iowa.

EDWARD CARDWELL.

County—Jefferson.

Business—Stock Growing and Farming.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—1863.

Arrived in America—1848.

Date of Birth—1832.

Town Born—Glenavey.

County—Antrim.

Country—Ireland.

Nationality—Ireland.

Mr. Knippenberg, I should have written you sooner, but I have been away from home so much this summer. Your resolution was very appropriate, and I am sure our social meetings in the years to come will be as happy and agreeable as our days spent in the Convention were pleasant and harmonious.

JAMES E. CALLAWAY.

Town—Virginia.

County—Madison.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Radical Republican.

Arrived in Montana—March, 1871.

Date of Birth—July 7, 1835.

Town Born—In the “Backwoods.”

County—Trigg.

State—Kentucky.

THOMAS F. COURTNEY.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Grocer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—July 16, 1880.

Date of Birth—April 4, 1856.

Town Born—Minersville.

County—Schuylkill.

State—Pennsylvania.

Was educated in the common schools of Schuylkill and Dauphin counties, Pa. After coming to the Territory, worked for two years in the mines, then engaged in the grocery business.

A member of the first Legislature of the State of Montana.

WILLIAM W. DIXON.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—May 15, 1866.

Date of Birth—June 3, 1838.

Town Born—Brooklyn.

State—New York.

Country—United States.

Nationality—American.

Best wishes for success of organization.

Yours,

W. W. DIXON.

DAVID M. DURFEE.

Town—Philipsburg.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—March 12, 1882.

Date of Birth—July 22, 1855.

Town Born—Duanesburgh.

County—Schenectady.

State—New York.

WILLIAM DYER.

Town—Butte.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Miner.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—March 16, 1878.

Arrived in America—July 8, 1873.

Date of Birth—February 28, 1853.

Town Born—St. Ansell.

County—Cornwall.

Country—England.

Nationality—English.

Wishing you every success in making a permanent organization. From yours,

Respectfully,

WM. DYER.

GEORGE O. EATON.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Miner.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—May 1882.

Date of Birth—May 14, 1848.

Town Born—Warren.

County—Knox.

State—Maine.

WILLIAM T. FIELD.

Town—Livingston.

County—Park county.

Business—Locomotive engineer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—September 22, 1882.

Date of Birth—August 13, 1859.

Town Born—Joliet.

County—Will.

State—Illinois.

WARREN C. GILLETTE.

Town—Dearborn.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Wool Grower.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—September, 1862.

Date of Birth—March 10, 1832.

Town Born—Orleans.

County—Ontario.

State—New York.

FIELDING L. GRAVES.

Town—Bannack.

County—Beaver Head.

Business—Merchant.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June 22, 1865.

Date of Birth—July 19, 1833.

County—Fayette.

State—Kentucky.

O. F. GODDARD.

Town—Billings.

County—Yellowstone.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican (black).

Arrived in Montana—March 16, 1883.

Date of Birth—January 20, 1853.

Town Born—Near Troy.

County—Davis.

State—Iowa.

Country—America.

Nationality—American.

J. E. GAYLORD.

Town—Butte.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Mining.

Politics—"A."

Arrived in Montana—February 15, 1883.

Date of Birth—January 14, 1844.

Town Born—Liberty.

County—Sullivan.

State—New York.

Country—U. S. A.

Nationality—American. "B."

"A." Democratic; but I do not call myself a rabid party man. I vote, especially in local matters, for those I consider the best men in all respects.

"B." My ancestors were among the first settlers of Connecticut, in now towns of Waterbury, Bristol, Wallingford and Middlebury. Father and mother were born in Connecticut. I call myself a Connecticut Yankee.

PARIS GIBSON.

Town—Great Falls.

County—Cascade.

Business—Real Estate.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—March, 1879.

Date of Birth—July 1, 1830.

Town Born—Brownfield.

County—Oxford.

State—Maine.

LEWIS H. HERSHFIELD.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Banker.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—July 1, 1864.

Date of Birth—August 12, 1837.

Town Born—Utica.

County—Oneida.

State—New York.

Country—United States.

CHAS. S. HARTMAN.

Town—Bozeman.

County—Gallatin.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—January, 1882.

Date of Birth—March 1, 1861.

Town Born—Monticello.

County—White.

State—Indiana.

HENRI J. HASKELL.

Town—Glendive.

County—Dawson.

Business—Attorney at Law.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—June 24, 1882.

Date of Birth—July 20, 1843.

Town Born—Palmyra.

County—Somerset.

State—Maine.

Country—U. S.

Never knew of any except after adjournment.

LUKE D. HATCH.

Town—Stevensville.

County—Missoula.

Business—Post Master and Miner.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—June 20, 1876.

Had been in the Territory before.

Date of Birth—October 3, 1844.

Town Born—Mason Township.

County—Cass.

State—Michigan.

Served four years in the army, during late civil war, have four honorable wounds to show for the same; and I wish success to the permanent organization of the members of the late Constitutional Convention, and may the work enacted by them and adopted by the people ever be their pride and guide.

JOSEPH HOGAN.

Town—Walkerville.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Miner.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June 20, 1883.

Date of Birth—November 24, 1862.

Town Born—Sweet Chalybeate Springs.

County—Alleghany.

State—Virginia.

Country—America.

Nationality—Irish parents.

S. S. HOBSON.

Town—Utica.

County—Fergus.

Business—Stock Grower.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—March, 1880.

Date of Birth—April 29, 1839.

Town Born—Buxton.

County—York.

State—Maine.

ROBT. E. HAMMOND.

Town—Elkhorn.

County—Jefferson.

Business—School Teacher.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—July 1, 1887.

Date of Birth—September 17, 1859.

Town Born—Ashland.

County—Greenup.

State—Kentucky.

RICHARD OWEN HICKMAN.

Town—Virginia City.

County—Madison.

Business—Merchant and Miner.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—July 7, 1864.

Date of Birth—November 1, 1831.

Town Born—Shelbyville.

County—Shelby.

State—Kentucky.

Country—U. S. A.

October 2, 1889, elected State Treasurer, and removed to Helena, Mont., November 17, 1889; residence, No. 527 North Rodney street.

ALLAN R. JOY.

Town—Livingston.

County—Park.

Business—Attorney at Law.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—June 10, 1883.

Date of Birth—June 15, 1857.

Town Born—Ellsworth.

County—Hancock.

State—Maine.

Nationality—Full-blooded Yankee.

THOMAS JOYES.

Town—Boulder.

County—Jefferson.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—Helena, June 3, 1885.

Date of Birth—February 14, 1858.

Town Born—Louisville.

County—Jefferson.

State—Kentucky.

Country—United States of America.

Nationality—American.

Received early education in Louisville, Ky.; graduated at Hampden Sidney College, Va., 1877; studied law at University of Va., 1878-79, and graduated with first honor at Louisville Law School in 1881; practiced law in Louisville till removal to Helena; moved to Boulder, fall 1886; elected County Atty. Jeff. Co. in 1886; served two years; renominated in 1888; defeated; elected from 11th Dist., 1889, to Cons. Convention; nominated 1889 for Judge 5th Jud. Dist. by Democratic convention, and defeated by T. J. Galbraith.

CONRAD KOHRS.

Town—Deer Lodge.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Farmer and Stock Grower.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—July, 1862.

Arrived in America—1852.

Date of Birth—August 5, 1835.

Town Born—Wevelsfeth.

County—Wilster March.

State—Holstein.

Country—Then Denmark now Prussia.

Nationality—Germany.

HIRAM KNOWLES.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—June 1, 1866.

Became a permanent resident August 15, 1868.

Date of Birth—January 18, 1834.

Town Born—Hampden.

County--Penobscot.

State—Maine.

Nationality—American.

WILLIAM J. KENNEDY.

Town—Victor.

County—Missoula.

Business—Clerk Supreme Court.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—April 30, 1880.

Arrived in America—June 12, 1879.

Date of Birth—April 11, 1851.

Town Born—Bowmanville.

County—Durham.

Country—Canada.

Nationality—Canadian, Irish and Scotch.

My occupation as printed in the list of members furnished by the "Helena Journal" last July was that of a farmer, of which I am justly proud. My present occupation, Clerk of Supreme Court, is the one that I have inserted, as you will see above. It makes no difference to me which I am credited with, as I believe either is honorable.

HENRY KNIPPENBERG.

Town—Glendale.

County—Beaverhead.

Business—Mining and Banking.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—April 3, 1881.

Arrived in America—1849.

Date of Birth—December 27, 1843.

Town Born—Hamm, near city of Worms.

County—Hesse Darmstadt.

State—Germany.

Nationality—German.

I was left an orphan when ten years of age. In my youth I had neither money nor time to go to school, but had to struggle for a living. Two things I have sought after—

1st. To know and pay my full obligation to God.

2nd. To know and do my full duty to man.

J. E. KANOUSE.

Town—Townsend.

County—Meagher.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—August 6, 1886.

Date of Birth—December 18, 1845.

Town Born—Woodstock.

State—New Jersey.

Country—U. S.

Nationality—American.

Served 3 yrs. in 11th Ills. Cav. Vols., War of the Rebellion, under Robt. G. Ingersoll.

LLEWELLYN AUGUSTUS LUCE.

Town—Bozeman.

County—Gallatin.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—March 29, 1882.

Date of Birth—November 11, 1837.

Town Born—Readfield.

County—Kennebec.

State—Of Maine.

First came to Montana from Washington, D. C., in August, 1881, as chairman of a commission 'to treat with the Crow Indians for the right of way for the Northern Pac. R. R. Co., and became so well pleased with the country that, on returning to Washington, I made immediate preparations to settle in Montana, which I consider the most favored country, socially, politically and naturally on earth.

CHARLES H. LOUD.

Town—Miles City.

County—Custer.

Business—Stock Growing.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—January 28, 1880.

Date of Birth—November 20, 1858.

Town Born—Weymouth.

County—Norfolk.

State—Massachusetts.

Country—U. S.

WM. MUTH.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Real Estate.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—December 3, 1873.

Date of Birth—October 2, 1851.

Town Born—Wheeling.

County—Ohio.

State—Virginia.

Never had any adventure until I “paired” in the Constitutional Convention.

SAMUEL L. MITCHELL.

Town—Choteau.

County—Choteau.

Business—Stock Raiser.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—April 1, 1865.

Arrived in America—February 5, 1852.

Date of Birth—July 10, 1842.

Town Born—Coleraine.

County—Derry.

Country—Ireland.

Nationality—Irish.

CHAS. S. MARSHALL.

Town—Missoula.

County—Missoula.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—May 15, 1888.

Date of Birth—January 19, 1821.

Town Born—Paris.

County—Bourbon.

State—Kentucky.

Country—United States of America.

Nationality—Native born American.

WILLIAM MAYGER.

Town—Marysville.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Mining Superintendent.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June, 1864.

Date of Birth—November 24, 1842.

Town Born—St. Louis.

State—Missouri

Took passage on steamboat Yellowstone, from St. Louis, April 16, 1864, bound for Virginia City, Idaho, via Fort Benton; landed on Silver Creek, Montana, July 17, 1864; commenced mining, and have since followed that occupation.

ALFRED MYERS.

Town—Billings.

County—Yellowstone.

Business—Stock Grower.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—September 2, 1866.

Date of Birth—January 10, 1840.

Town Born—Macomb.

County—McDonough.

State—Illinois.

Country—America.

Nationality—American.

Friend Knippenberg—A trifle late, but hope I am not shut out.
Long live the Constitution of the State of Montana.

MYERS.

C. R. MIDDLETON.

Town—Miles City.

County—Custer.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—July 4, 1884.

Date of Birth—January 31, 1853.

Town Born—Afton.

County—Washington.

State—Minnesota.

Nationality—Parents, Scotch-Irish.

JOSEPH E. MARION.

Town—Frenchtown.

County—Missoula.

Business—Merchant.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June, 1861.

Arrived in St. Louis—September, 1860.

Date of Birth—June 1, 1842.

Town Born—Contreecveur.

County—Verchires.

State—Province of Quebec.

Country—Canada.

Nationality—French.

Weeks may pass, and years may end, yet you will find me a
friend. Shake!

MARION.

MARTIN MAGINNIS.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Mining.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—August, 1866.

Date of Birth—October 27, 1841.

Town Born—Walworth.

County—Wayne.

State—New York.

Nationality—Of Irish descent.

Educated at Hamline University; served in Union Army four and one-half years; in Congress twelve years; founded the Rocky Mountain Gazette.

PERRY W. McADOW.

Town—Maiden.

County—Fergus.

Business—Quartz Mining.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—July 10,²₄1861.

Date of Birth—July 28, 1838.

Town Born—Maysville.

County—Mason.

State—Kentucky.

When I arrived in this country it was then known as Washington; the next year Idaho was formed, and afterwards, Montana.

WM. PARBERRY.

Town—White Sulphur Springs.

County—Meagher.

Business—Physician.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—August 7, 1865.

Date of Birth—March 12, 1833.

County—Bourbon.

State—Kentucky.

Country—U. S.

Nationality—Scotch descent.

Was married in 1872 to Miss Matilda Hampton, of Leighton, Alabama ; have no children.

JOHN CLARK ROBINSON.

Town—Deer Lodge.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—May, 1866.

Date of Birth—March 9, 1834.

Town Born—Near Palmyra.

County—Marion.

State—Missouri.

Country—U. S. A.

Nationality—American, emphatically.

WILLIAM R. RAMSDELL.

Town—Egan.

County—Missoula.

Business—Mercantile and Cattle Raising.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—1881.

Date of Birth—June 7, 1860.

Town Born—Mantorville.

County—Lodge.

State—Minnesota.

Nationality—English extraction.

LOUIS ROTWITT.

Town—White Sulphur Springs.

County—Meagher.

Business—Mining.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—May 31, 1866.

Arrived in America—April 23, 1857.

Date of Birth—July 23, 1838.

Town Born—Hochheim-on-the-Main.

State—Duchy of Nassau.

Country—Germany.

Nationality—German.

From 1866 to 1879, engaged in merchandising and mining; member of the 9th and 10th Legislative Assembly, from Meagher county; from 1880 to 1889, County Clerk and Recorder of Meagher county; elected to Const. Convention from Meagher county; October 1, 1889, elected Secretary of State of Montana, and residing at Helena since October 9, 1889; served in Fremont's body guard during the war; member of the Grand Army.

G. J. REEK.

Town—Granite.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—School Teacher.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—September, 1887.

Date of Birth—March 17, 1856.

Town Born—Linn.

County—Walworth.

State—Wisconsin.

JOHN EZRA RICKARDS.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Merchant.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—October, 1882.

Date of Birth—July 23, 1848.

Town Born—Delaware City.

County—New Castle.

State—Delaware.

FRANCIS E. SARGEANT.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Mining Secretary.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—August, 1865.

Date of Birth—August 2, 1841.

Town Born—Peacham.

County—Caledonia.

State—Vermont.

GEORGE W. STAPLETON.

Town—Butte City.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Attorney at Law.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—July, 1862.

Date of Birth—November 28, 1834.

Town Born—Knightstown.

County—Rush.

State—Indiana.

Country—America.

Nationality—American.

LEOPOLD FRED SCHMIDT.

Town—Butte.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Brewer.

Politics—Independent.

Arrived in Montana—May 28, 1870.

Arrived in America—March 11, 1866.

Date of Birth—January 23, 1846.

Town Born—Dornassenheim.

County—Oberhessen.

Country—Germany.

Nationality—German.

JOSEPH K. TOOLE.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—May, 1869.

Date of Birth—May 12, 1851.

Town Born—Savannah.

County—Andrew.

State—Missouri.

Country—U. S.

Nationality—American.

JOHN R. TOOLE.

Town—Anaconda.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Mining.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—December 21, 1884.

Date of Birth—July 3, 1850

Town Born—Weston.

County—Arroostook.

State—Maine.

CHAS. M. WEBSTER.

Town—Great Falls.

County—Cascade.

Business—Sec'y Great Falls Water Power and
Townsite Company.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—April 20, 1886.

Date of Birth—April 12, 1858.

Town Born—Zumbrota.

County—Goodhue.

State—Minnesota.

Country—U. S.

Widower.

WILLIAM H. WATSON.

Town—Lewistown.

County—Fergus.

Business—Retired.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—June 1, 1882.

Date of Birth—August 31, 1822.

Town Born—Geneva.

County—Ontario.

State—New York.

GEORGE B. WINSTON.

Town—Anaconda.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Lawyer.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—May 23, 1883.

Date of Birth—October 9, 1861.

Town Born—Jefferson City.

County—Cole county.

State—Missouri.

Country—America (U. S.).

Nationality—American.

CHARLES S. WARREN.

Town—Butte.

County—Silver Bow.

Business—Mining Operator.

Politics—Stalwart Republican.

Arrived in Montana—August 20, 1866.

Date of Birth—November 20, 1847.

Town Born—Utica.

County—La Salle.

State—Illinois.

Country—United States of America.

Nationality—American-English.

Served in the Union Army in the War of the Rebellion, to the finish; drove in a bull team from St. Joe., Mo., to Montana; landed in Virginia City broke, and have held my own since coming to Montana; followed placer mining 1866 to 1873, when was elected Sheriff of Deer Lodge Co.; married to Miss Mittie Avery, November 15, 1872.

HENRY R. WHITEHILL.

Town—Deer Lodge.

County—Deer Lodge.

Business—Attorney at Law.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—August 15, 1881.

Date of Birth—March 26, 1838.

Town Born—Hookstown.

County—Beaver.

State—Pennsylvania.

Country—U. S.

Nationality—American.

AARON C. WITTER.

Town—Dillon.

County—Beaverhead.

Business—Mining.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—July, 1875.

Date of Birth—June 13, 1849.

Town Born—South Bend.

County—St. Joseph.

State—Indiana.

Country—German descent.

WM. H. TODD.

Town—Fort Benton.

County—Choteau.

Business—Journalist.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June 15, 1866.

Date of Birth—January 12, 1843.

Town Born—Newcastle.

County—Henry.

State—Kentucky.

Married October 19, 1876; one son, 9 years old; removed from Kentucky to Missouri when an infant; was raised near Kansas City, at the county seat of Jackson county, Mo.—Independence, Mo.; enlisted at commencement of war, Co. B, 2d Mo. Cavalry, Confederate service; surrendered with command, Gen. Sterling Price, June 7, 1865, at Shreveport, La.

SAMUEL ALEXANDER.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Genl. Collector.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—January, 1874.

Date of Birth—June 2, 1859.

Town Born—San Francisco.

County—San Francisco.

State—California.

Country—United States.

Nationality—Hebrew.

CHRISTOPHER P. CONNOLLY.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Attorney at Law.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—July 6, 1886.

Date of Birth—December 23, 1863.

Town Born—Wappingers Falls.

County—Dutchess.

State—New York.

Country—U. S. America.

H. E. CLOWES.

Town—Fort Benton.

Business—Minister (Episcopalian).

CHRISTOPHER P. CONNOLLY.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Attorney at Law.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—July 6, 1886.

Date of Birth—December 23, 1863.

Town Born—Wappingers Falls.

County—Dutchess.

State—New York.

Country—U. S. America.

H. E. CLOWES.

—————
Town—Fort Benton.

Business—Minister (Episcopalian).
—————

JENNIE MAE MERRIMAN.

Town—Gallatin.

County—Gallatin.

Born in Montana.

Date of Birth—October 12, 1868.

Town Born—Jefferson City.

County—Jefferson.

State—Montana.

A Montanian in every sense.

WILLIAM LEONARD GREENE.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Clerk.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—Fall, 1882.

Date of Birth—March 9, 1857.

Town Born—Chicago.

County—Cook.

State—Illinois.

Country—U. S. A.

Nationality—Swedish.

EDWARD C. GARRETT.

Town—Fort Benton.

County—Choteau.

Business—Journalist.

Politics—Democratic.

Arrived in Montana—Fall of 1877.

Date of Birth—July 28, 1856.

County—Lancaster.

State—Pennsylvania.

Country—U. S. A.

Nationality—American.

Joint Representative, Choteau and Cascade counties, in 16th Legislative Assembly, Territory of Montana; Assistant Clerk Constl. Conv., 1889.

GEORGE H. STANTON.

Town—Great Falls.

County—Cascade.

Business—Surveyor.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—October, 1887.

Date of Birth—March 27, 1867.

Town Born—Eminence.

County—Morgan.

State—Indiana.

Country—U. S. A.

Nationality—Scotch descent.

Graduate of Central Normal College of Danville, Indiana.

JOHN M. KAY.

Town—Bozeman.

County—Gallatin.

Business—School Teacher.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—June, 1868.

Date of Birth—May 21, 1867.

County—Oneida.

State—Idaho.

W. D. ALEXANDER.

Town—Bozeman.

County—Gallatin.

Business—School Boy.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—September, 1874.

Date of Birth—October 22, 1873.

Town Born—Shreveport.

State—Louisiana.

Nationality—American.

EUGENE DICKERSON.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—September 29, 1888.

Date of Birth—April 14, 1876.

Town Born—Indianapolis.

County—Marion.

State—Indiana.

Country—America.

Nationality—French extraction.

MAURICE L. LANGHORNE.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Page.

Politics—Democrat.

Date of Birth—November 19, 1875.

Town Born—Bozeman.

County—Gallatin.

State—Montana.

EDW. KERN.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clark.

Politics—Republican.

Arrived in Montana—May 1, 1889.

Date of Birth—November 13, 1868.

Town Born—Miami.

County—Carroll.

State—Missouri.

At Iona College, Grinnell, Iowa.

LEE SWORDS.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—Journalism.

Politics—Democrat.

Arrived in Montana—March 17, 1889.

Date of Birth—21 years of age.

Town Born—Vicksburg.

County—Warren.

State—Mississippi.

Country—United States.

Nationality—American.

Was Page in the National House of Representatives during the 49th and 50th Congresses; engaged in newspaper business most of life; was elected clerk in the Constitutional Convention of Montana, July 4, 1889; am at present with Helena Journal.

CORNELIUS HEDGES, JR.

Town—Helena.

County—Lewis and Clarke.

Business—School Boy.

Politics—Republican.

Date of Birth—March 14, 1874.

Town Born—Helena, Montana.

Nationality—American.

Nearly all the members were prompt in responding to the first request and only a very few had to be reminded of the work. Many very happy letters, full of enthusiastic expressions, were received, as the following will show. The original letters are all on file.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., December 17, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of December 10, concerning organization of permanent members of the Constitutional Convention. I can only say the President made no mistake in appointment of this committee.

I enclose my pedigree card. Will you please send me a couple of your envelopes; they strike my fancy. With kindest regards,

I remain, yours truly,

CHARLES S. WARREN.

HELENA, MONT., December 18, 1889.

H. Knippenberg, Esq., Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of circular letter of the 7th inst., and in compliance with your request I enclose the information requested.

Your prompt attention and public spirited action in taking hold of the details of the organization deserve the thanks of the members.

Yours truly,

JOS. K. TOOLE.

BUTTE, MONT., December 19, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—It is with pleasure that I fill out and return the enclosed blank. I hope the organization of members of the Constitutional Convention may prove to be all that you intend and wished it to be when you introduced your resolution.

Yours truly,

G. W. STAPLETON.

HELENA, MONT., December 19, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg:

DEAR SIR—Herewith please find blank kindly sent, with proper entries. I trust your efforts toward a permanent organization may meet with success. With kind regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

WM. MUTH.

BUTTE, MONT., December 19, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have your circular letter of the 7th ult., which has been forwarded to Arizona, and delayed somewhere, I presume. I have been intending to call the Executive Committee together at Helena, for the pur-

pose of organizing permanently. I return herein the blank filled out, as you request. I regard the formation of the proposed society as one of great importance, and that will redound to the interest of the members, and that will secure for them much pleasure in the future.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

STEVENSVILLE, MONT., December 20, 1889.

Henry Knippenberg:

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND—Your communication with reference to permanent organization of late members of the Convention received, and with pleasure I note the contents. Command me in any manner that I can be of assistance in furthering the end desired.

With kindest regards for yourself, I remain,

Your friend,

LUKE D. HATCH.

GRANITE, MONT., December 20, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 7th inst. at hand, and in reply permit me to say that I am pleased to know that you have made a beginning in this social organization that I think will meet with the hearty approval of every member of that Convention. I trust that you and your committee will meet with encouragement and assistance, if necessary, until the work is perfected.

Enclosed you will find blank, as per your request.

Respectfully yours,

G. J. REEK.

FORT BENTON, MONT., December 20, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Your esteemed favor of the 7th inst. at hand and duly noted.

I herein enclose blank filled out as requested.

I wish the organization all possible success, and if I can be of any service in helping the good work along, please command me.

Yours very truly,

DAVID G. BROWNE.

LEWISTOWN, MONT., December 24, 1889.

H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Your circular and blank received just after my return from a visit to Helena, and I hasten to fill out and return the blank, with data as requested. Hoping that at some time in the future I may have the pleasure of meeting you with other friends of the past summer, I remain,

Yours very truly,

W. H. WATSON.

GREAT FALLS, MONT., December 24, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Your esteemed favor of the 11th was duly received. I enclose herewith the information required, and will express my thanks as a member of the Constitutional Convention, for the interest you have taken in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

PARIS GIBSON.

BOULDER, MONT., December 25, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I enclose blank sent by you; not exactly understanding what the blank at first was for, I filled it, as you will see. If not what you desired, then it can be cut off. I hope the social organization will be perfected, believing it will be an agreeable one.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS JOYES.

EGAN, MONT., December 28, 1889.

H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Herewith find enclosed the blank sent me, answered. It is to be hoped the successful organization may be carried out. Hoping to meet you at some future time and renew our pleasant acquaintance, I am,

Most sincerely yours,

W. R. RAMSDALL.

SAN JOSE, CAL., January 4, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Esq., Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 24th inst. reached me here. I am pleased that you are doing the preliminary work of organization in so effective and thorough a manner.

I will be back in March, when, if I can be of service to you, please command me. I do not know of anything to add to your suggestions as to the scope of the organization. With kind regards, I am,

Yours truly,

T. E. COLLINS.

MISSOULA, MONT., January 19, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Esq.:

DEAR SIR—I hope you will pardon my delay in replying to yours of December 11th ult. I have no good excuse to offer. It was caused by mere neglect. I received your letter while engaged in court and laid it aside and forgot it. Enclosed you will find particulars asked for.

I shall certainly be glad at any time to renew the acquaintanceships I formed last summer at Helena. They were without exception pleasant.

Hoping to meet you before a great while in our capacity as members of the Executive Committee, to form a permanent organization of the members of the late Constitutional Convention of Montana, I am

Respectfully your friend,

C. S. MARSHALL.

HELENA, MONT., January 22, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I received your communication and take this opportunity of answering it. Your letter went to Boulder instead of Wickes, and for that reason I did not get it before. Hoping you will succeed in the work you have mapped out, I remain,

Yours truly,

PETER BREEN.

DEARBORN, MONT., March 25, 1890.

Mr. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Mr. R. O. Hickman handed me yesterday the blank, which I now enclose, filled as you request. I beg pardon for not answering your first letter promptly. I found, when filling it up, that I was at sea as to whether I was born in Orleans county or town, and, having laid the paper aside until I could look into the matter, it slipped my mind. I am, with high regard,

Yours truly,

W. C. GILLETTE.

DEER LODGE, MONT., March 22, 1890.

Mr. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Beaverhead County, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Enclosed you will find the blank filled out. I am glad that you have started the work to organize for a meeting of the members of the Constitutional Convention. Hoping we may have many pleasant meetings,

Yours truly,

CONRAD KOHRS.

LIVINGSTON, MONT., March 27, 1890.

MY DEAR KNIPPENBERG—I regret that your former correspondence on this subject has been overlooked, and I am pleased to forward herewith such information as I understand you to request, and I shall be glad to furnish anything further which you may desire.

I am highly pleased that you are taking such a lively interest in the matter, and I am sure a very satisfactory organization may be formed, and I beg to assure you that I shall always, whenever possible, be present at the meetings.

Wishing you unbounded success in your good work, I beg to remain,
Very respectfully yours,

ALLAN R. JOY.

OFFICE OF CLERK OF SUPREME COURT, }
HELENA, MONT. }

To *Hon. H. Knippenberg, Esq., Glendale:*

DEAR SIR—You will please find enclosed blank filled out as requested by you Hoping that your committee, in your effort to gain the desired information, will meet with the success which the merits of the undertaking deserves, also that nothing will intervene to retard the progress of our permanent organization, with due appreciation for your efforts in that direction, believe me very truly,

Yours,

W. J. KENNEDY.

FORT BENTON, MONT., July 9, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Esq., Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR AND FRIEND—I am scarcely deserving of your continued kindness in forwarding your kind invitations to join the permanent organization. However, better late than never; so I send you the biographical memorandum filled out as you request.

When your former letter came it found me just entering a siege of "la grippe." My wife mislaid it, and the matter escaped my attention until July 4th came, when I was reminded of it, and commenced a search for the papers enclosed, but could not find them I was on the eve of writing you when your valued communication arrived this eve.

I sincerely trust that Mr. Myers will also be heard from, thus making the organization as complete as it was a year ago.

Hope to have the pleasure of meeting you soon.

Yours, with much respect,

WM. H. TODD.

GREAT FALLS, MONT., December 30, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of recent date has been received. I enclose herewith such information as you ask for. Am glad to see this work in progress, and hope your resolution will not be overlooked by a single member of our convention. I shall be glad to render you any assistance that may come within my power to help our organization along.

Very respectfully,

G. H. STANTON.

GREAT FALLS, MONT., December 24, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I enclose blank sent me for filling. I am always justly proud to answer to an interrogation as to the place of my nativity, and to have been even so faintly identified with the making of Montana's Constitution is to myself a source of much pleasure. Hoping that the ties of friendship and sociability founded during the Convention may live and flourish for years to come, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

JENNIE M. MERRIMAN.

GLENDALE, MONT., December 20, 1889.

Hon. W. A. Clark, Butte, Mont.:

MY DEAR MR. CLARK—I hope you will not consider me as assuming any authority not belonging to me, in what work I am doing to bring about the organization of our Constitutional Convention. I have no personal ambition in this matter, except to see it a *success*. The work and expense so far has been quite a task in connection with my business duties, but I have done it cheerfully.

I am now writing to some ten (10) of the leading members (outside of the Executive Committee) to get their views and ideas concerning the Society, so that when we meet (Executive Committee) we shall not only be able to talk over among ourselves, but can have the views of other leading members before us, and thus organize strong and co-operative.

The meeting of our Executive Committee of course is in your hands; it may be best not to meet until spring, but do what you think wise. I am now liable at any time to go East, but my absence will do no harm.

Wishing you a happy new year,

I remain kindly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

BUTTE, MONT., December 22, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have your esteemed favor of the 20th, and carefully note contents.

I am glad to see you taking so much interest in the organization of the society of the members of the Constitutional Convention. I have talked with a number of the members, who seemed anxious to procure the organization, and manifested considerable interest in it.

With the compliments of the season, and wishing you a very happy and prosperous year, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

P. S.—I would like for you to be present when the Executive Committee is called together, and if you do not go East soon could you not go to Helena next week?

The following letter contains the main points and questions asked of ten (10) of the leading members outside of the Executive Committee:

GLENDALE, MONT., December 24, 1889.

Hon. J. K. Toole, Governor State of Montana, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—In order that our proposed Society of the Constitutional Convention may be commenced right, and placed upon a high plane from its very beginning, I am anxious to obtain the views of some ten

of our leading members. I will then be able, at the first meeting of our Executive Committee, to make known the general desire and views of our membership, of what our Society ought to be and aim for. I hardly think it necessary for me to assure you that in this matter I have no personal ambition to satisfy, save to give my hearty *aid, support* and *free labor* to make the organization one of *power* and great influence for good, both for the present and future, in our grand State.

Please consider, then, the following crude ideas and let me hear from you, adding such other suggestions of your own as may occur to you:

First. Financially, I would make it inexpensive, *not burdensome*, but an occasion of happiness, social greetings and enjoyment, recreation, and mental improvement, strengthening the cords of friendship and elevating the public thought and acts of the common people throughout the State, on all public questions, by our example, words and labors.

Second. There shall enter into our organization no partizan or political spirit, but only the spirit of American citizenship, liberty, justice and truth.

Third. Every year the organization shall have one public meeting, either at the capital of the State, or such city as may invite the Society, for I think most any city would be pleased to entertain the body for one, two or three days. The Executive Committee may, of course, meet as often as it may deem necessary.

Fourth. Every year there shall be selected, either by appointment or lot, say five of our members, who shall have assigned to them certain constitutional topics, who shall carefully write an article on such topic, on specified sized paper, and read or deliver same at our *reunion*, and after being read, the same shall be filed with our Secretary, who shall have them bound and so preserved. These papers would become most valuable in years to come, especially so, coming from the makers of our Constitution.

Fifth. Our By-Laws can be so made, that after we have all passed away to answer no more the roll call on earth, that all our records and papers shall become the property of the State of Montana, the State and the people we all love.

Pardon me if I have wearied you in writing at such length.

Accept my well wishes for your administration, and may God bless you and direct you in the way of all truth and righteousness; for this, and this only, exalteth a people.

With kindest regards, I remain, dear sir,

Yours truly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

HELENA, MONT., December 27, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I am just in receipt of yours of the 24th inst. Your circular letter of the 7th inst, after many devious turns, also reached me the same mail. I return the blanks herewith duly filled in.

As, perhaps you will remember, I was unfortunate enough to be absent during the closing hours of the Convention. I take this occasion, however,

to state that I am in hearty accord with the spirit of the resolution offered by you, and adopted by the Convention. If the idea can be carried out, there is, apart from pleasure involved, much good to be derived from it.

I therefore write you frankly, and while I may not agree with you in some of the details of the organization, I trust that even in case you find my ideas are worthless you will believe that "Naught is set down in malice."

If the organization is to succeed, it *must*, as you suggest, be inexpensive. I should suggest the very smallest limit of annual dues, and then let those who are able to attend the yearly meeting pay so much for their plate at the banquet which will presumably be had. In other words, it is proper now, as ever, that "Those who dance must pay the fiddler."

Of course your next suggestion is sound, that politics must be barred. Once let that question be introduced in whatever guise, and we will be "goners." One meeting *only* should be held each year, preferably at the capital, at which there should be a "feed."

I fear that your aim is too high as to the literary scope of the organization. Our members have brains enough (I trust that goes without saying), to carry out your plan under this heading, but I think you will find men too indolent—too lazy, if you please, to carry out the idea. At least my experience has been disastrous in similar cases.

My idea in brief is that the simpler, more spontaneous, you make the yearly meetings, the more joyous and successful they will be. It is true that in this manner we will transmit no records of our doings at these meetings to posterity, but, then, posterity is most likely to class us as a lot of old fossils, anyhow, and not care for anything from us. With best wishes always,

Very truly yours,

GEO. O. EATON.

BUTTE, MONT., December 28, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg:

MY DEAR SIR—Your very complimentary communication concerning the proposed organization of members of the late Constitutional Convention is just received. I have read your letter with great interest, and most heartily concur in and approve the plan suggested by you. As to the details and plan of organization, I have nothing at all to suggest. Your letter is sufficient evidence for me to know that you are fully capable of carrying out the scheme to perfect success without any feeble hints from me, and so I am very willing to blindly endorse whatever you may propose in regard to the matter.

Yours with the greatest respect,

H. B. WHITEHILL.

BUTTE, MONT., December 28, 1889.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I am pleased to acknowledge the receipt of a "Christmas Carol," in the shape of your valued favor of December 24. I had not given

the matter much thought, but your letter opens the flood-gates of thought as to what possibilities this organization may lead to.

I have read and re-read your letter, and as to the suggestions therein contained, I can see no chance for improvement, and, if carried out as suggested, is sure of success. I, therefore, fully approve of your views, and will give the same when the time comes my unqualified approval and support.

However, in this connection I desire to say that if at any time I can be of service to you in this matter I am yours to command. With the compliments of the season, and wishing you many happy returns of a blessed Christmas tide, I remain,

Yours very truly,

CHARLES S. WARREN.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 2, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Yours of the 24th ult., relating to proposed plan of Constitutional Convention organization, was forwarded to me here.

I heartily approve all your suggestions, and nothing occurs to me now to add to them, except that it might be well to have the articles upon constitutional topics, referred to in the 4th clause of your letter, include observations as to the practical working of some of the provisions in our Constitution (particularly those that are somewhat of experiments) and also recommendations as to amendments, and as to necessary and effective legislation to make certain constitutional provisions operative.

Your own suggestion is perhaps broad enough to include all these points, but I thought it might be well to call your attention to them.

Your time and labor in the matter will certainly place the organization under many obligations to you.

If I can assist you in any way, I shall be glad to do so.

I expect to return to Montana the latter part of this month. A happy new year to you.

Yours,

W. W. DIXON.

BOZEMAN, MONT., January 10, 1890.

Mr. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Your favor of December 24th, regarding proposed organization of the Constitutional Convention members into a society has been received. I have not had time to give the matter any attention until now, hence my delay. It seems to me that your ideas as set forth in your letter to me, taken as a whole, are good. They are of course outlines of the policy, and would require nothing but action on the part of the proposed organization to put them in force. All of the objects expressed by yourself seem to me to be highly commendable, and whenever it rests within my power to be instrumental in furthering any of these purposes you may feel free to call

upon me. I have not now the time to go further into the questions suggested by you inasmuch as Mr. Armstrong is absent, and I myself having been absent for the past week.

I had the pleasure last night of meeting Leopold F. Schmidt and T. F. Courtney, of Butte, at Livingston.

Wishing you every success, I am,

Very truly yours,

CHAS. S. HARTMAN.

HELENA, March 25, 1890.

MY DEAR MR. KNIPPENBERG—Am very sorry that my negligence should have caused you the trouble of writing to me a second time for the information I should have supplied promptly after the first notice. I trust you will pardon my short-comings this time, and I will endeavor to act promptly hereafter.

I enclose herewith the blank properly filled out, and have added something under the head of "Anything Special," which you can make use of, or any part of it, or leave it all out, as you please. I hardly know what you intended should be written under that head. I have nothing special to offer as to the organization of the Society, but leave it entirely to your own sense and to those of the committee who are working with you. I am heartily in accord with the movement. I agree with you fully as to the usefulness of the organization, and the benefit to its members in many ways. I am sure that it will be a great source of pleasure, to say the least, for us to meet at least once a year.

Hoping that you will soon hear from all the members who have not reported, I remain,

Very truly yours,

WM. A. CHESSMAN.

GLENDALE, MONT., June 26, 1890.

Hon. W. A. Clark, Butte, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have just returned from the East. In regard to our proposed organization, I am happy to report that every member (but one, Mr. Myers) has responded to my circulars and has mailed me statements properly filled out.

As our Chairman, will you now call a meeting of the Executive Committee, so we may proceed to form a permanent organization. So far as I am concerned, shall be glad to have you name Butte as the meeting place.

I enclose you a list of the names of the Executive Committee.

Yours truly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

BUTTE, MONT., June 30, 1890.

Mr. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 26th received and contents noted. I shall be very glad to call a meeting of the Executive Committee together within

a few days. I am obliged to go to Jefferson county some time during the week, and as the day is indefinite at this writing, I will not fix the time until I return.

I am very glad that you got the data you desired and hope that Mr. Myers, the only delinquent, will respond in due time.

Yours very respectfully,

W. A. CLARK.

BUTTE, MONT., July 5, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont :

DEAR SIR—I have the list of the members of the Executive Committee, which you have kindly sent me, for which please accept my thanks.

I will advise you very soon concerning the meeting, which I will call in a few days.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

The following notice was mailed to each member of the Executive Committee by the Chairman :

BUTTE, MONT., July 7, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—In pursuance of a resolution which was adopted at the meeting of the members of the Constitutional Convention last year, at Helena, at which an executive committee was appointed for the purpose of forming a permanent organization, I beg to inform you that I desire to have a meeting of said Executive Committee on Monday evening, the 14th inst., at 8 o'clock, at my office in Butte City.

The following gentlemen comprise the Committee :

H. Knippenberg,	Charles S. Marshall,
Martin Maginnis,	Paris Gibson,
George W. Stapleton,	J. E. Rickards,

Alfred Myers.

You are earnestly requested to be present at the meeting at the date named.

Yours very respectfully,

W. A. CLARK,

Chairman.

GLENDALÉ, MONT., July 10, 1890.

Hon. W. A. Clark, Chairman, Butte, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of July 7, 1890, to hand. So far as I can now see, I will be present at the meeting Monday, July 14, 1890, 8 P. M., and trust all the members of the committee will report.

Yours truly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

GREAT FALLS, MONT., July 10, 1890.

Hon. W. A. Clark, Butte :

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 7th has been received.

I am obliged to leave for St. Paul this evening, and, therefore, can not be present at the meeting of the Executive Committee.

I regret that I am compelled to be absent, but you can be assured I shall be heartily in accord with the results of your deliberations.

Very respectfully yours,

PARIS GIBSON.

July 14, 1890, the Executive Committee met at Butte City, Mont., at 8 o'clock P. M., in the private office of Wm. A. Clark.

There were present Geo. W. Stapleton, Wm. A. Clark and Henry Knippenberg.

After much general and informal conversation, these three members concluded to assume the responsibility of perfecting the organization, notwithstanding the meeting lacked a quorum.

Wm. A. Clark was requested to take the chair, and H. Knippenberg to act as Secretary.

Geo. W. Stapleton then proposed the following plan :

First. Name.—SOCIETY OF THE FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA.

Second. Officers for the year ending November 8, 1890—

President—WM. A. CLARK.

Vice-President—M. MAGINNIS.

Secretary—H. KNIPPENBERG.

Treasurer—L. H. HERSHFIELD.

This order of permanent organization was unanimously adopted, and the organization declared complete.

The Executive Committee further agreed that the Society should hold its first reunion at Helena, Saturday, November 8, 1890, 12 noon, and hold a banquet in the evening.

The President and Secretary volunteered to prepare a Constitution and By-Laws, and present the same to the Society at its first reunion for their adoption.

A local or home committee was appointed to look after a place for meeting, hall, banquet, etc., etc. :

B. P. Carpenter, Chairman, W. A. Chessman,

A. J. Craven, J. K. Toole,

M. Maginnis, L. H. Hershfield,

Wm. Muth.

Wm. A. Clark volunteered to issue, at his own expense, a circular to each member, giving the full proceedings of this first meeting.

The Executive Committee then arranged that at our first reunion, three addresses should be delivered, and the manuscripts filed by the Secretary of the Society.

G. W. Stapleton and W. W. Dixon were appointed a committee to draw up papers of incorporation, to be signed by the Executive Committee as incorporators.

The Executive Committee, having nothing further, adjourned.

GLENDALE, MONT., July 18, 1890.

Hon. W. A. Clark, Butte, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I enclose a circular which, perhaps, covers my idea. Please compare with yours and take the best of the two.

I am sorry that I can not find my Indianapolis paper containing Turpie's speech at the unveiling of the Hendricks monument. It may yet be found; if so will mail it to you.

Yours truly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

BUTTE, MONT., July 21, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have your favor of the 18th, with enclosure as stated, for which I am much obliged. The memoranda I have made is very similar to yours. I will make up one embracing the main features of both.

I suppose I had better get a circular letter printed, say 100 copies, and send out to each one of the members and employes.

If you approve of this I will attend to it.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

BUTTE, MONT., August 3, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I enclose herein a proof of the form which I dictated for the circular letter to be sent to the members and employes of the Convention, and desire to have your opinion as to its fitness and your suggestions as to any changes you would like to have made.

Please return the form, and oblige.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

GLENDALE, MONT., August 5, 1890

Hon. W. A. Clark, Butte, Mont. :

DEAR SIR—Your kind note of August 3d, just received. The proof of circular 1 herewith return. I can suggest no change; it is all right as you have it.

Yours truly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

The following circular letter was mailed to each member of the Constitutional Convention by the chairman of the Executive Committee.

BUTTE, MONT., August 6, 1890

DEAR SIR:—Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the members of the Constitutional Convention at the adjournment of that body in 1889, looking to the organization of a permanent society of its members, a meeting of the Executive Committee then appointed was held at Butte City, July 14, 1890, at 8 o'clock, P. M., and the society was organized under the name of "Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana"

The following officers were elected for the first year ending November 8, 1890:

President—W. A. CLARK, Butte.

Vice-President—MARTIN MAGINNIS, Helena.

Secretary—H. KNIPPENBERG, Glendale.

Treasurer—L. H. HERSHFIELD, Helena

The first society meeting or reunion will take place at Helena, Mont., Saturday, November 8, 1890, at 12 o'clock noon, that day being the anniversary of the admission of the State into the Union.

A local committee was appointed to make all necessary arrangements. This consists of the following members:

B. P. Carpenter, Chairman.

J. K. Toole,

W. A. Chessman,

A. J. Craven,

Martin Maginnis,

L. H. Hershfield,

William Muth.

The duty of this committee shall be to provide a place or hall for the meeting, and also for a subscription dinner to be given on the evening of the 8th, and to make such other arrangements as may be deemed expedient.

It was decided to arrange for the delivery of addresses, or the reading of papers upon a few special subjects of interest to the Society at each annual meeting. The three subjects selected for the first meeting are as follows:

"The Constitutional Convention and Our Society"By W. A. Clark.

"The Executive"By Joseph K. Toole.

"The Judiciary"By W. W. Dixon.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the incorporation of the Society and a committee appointed to carry it out, consisting of G. W. Stapleton and W. W. Dixon, the present Executive Committee to be the incorporators.

The Constitution and By-Laws will be submitted to the Society for its consideration at the first meeting.

With fraternal wishes and an earnest desire that you be present at the first meeting,

We remain, very respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK, President.

H. KNIPPENBERG, Secretary.

GLENDALE, MONT., July 15, 1890.

Hon. M. Maginnis, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—The Executive Committee of the Constitutional Convention met Monday evening, July 14th, and organized "The Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana." At said meeting we elected for the first year the following officers:

President—W. A. CLARK, Butte.

Vice-President—M. MAGINNIS, Helena.

Secretary—H. KNIPPENBERG, Glendale.

Treasurer—L. H. HERSHFIELD, Helena.

The Society will hold its first reunion at Helena, November 8, 1890, noon.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,

Secretary.

GLENDALE, MONT., July 15, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—The Executive Committee of the Constitutional Convention met Monday evening, July 14th, and organized "The Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana." At said meeting we elected for the first year the following officers:

President—W. A. CLARK, Butte.

Vice-President—M. MAGINNIS, Helena.

Secretary—H. KNIPPENBERG, Glendale.

Treasurer—L. H. HERSHFIELD, Helena.

The Society will hold its first reunion at Helena, November 8, 1890, noon.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,

Secretary.

HELENA, MONT., July 24, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg :

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND—Yours, noticing the organization of the Constitutional Society, received. I am very much obliged, and will do what I can to forward the objects in view.

Your friend,

MARTIN MAGINNIS.

HELENA, MONT., July 26, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Sec'y, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your very kind favor, informing me of my election as an officer of the "Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana."

I sincerely appreciate the honor conferred, and trust that as long as kind Providence in His beneficence grants me life and health to so shape my life's conduct towards my never-to-be-forgotten fellow members of Montana's Constitutional Convention to merit their appreciation and personal esteem. With assurances of my sincere respect for your honored self, believe me,

Yours truly,

L. H. HERSHFIELD.

GLENDALE, MONT., August 5, 1890.

Hon. W. W. Dixon, Butte, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—The Executive Committee of the late Constitutional Convention met July 14 and organized the "Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana."

All the committee did at their first meeting will soon be made known to the members in circular shape by mail.

We assigned to you the subject, "Our Judiciary." Your address on this subject, at our reunion, November 8, 1890, we hope you will write out fully on regular size legal cap, as we wish to have these addresses bound and kept for years to come. The idea of the committee was that all our annual addresses be upon some constitutional point, *as we who framed it understood it*. This idea carried out, will serve, in years to come, when we are dead and gone, a good purpose to those living.

We also appointed Messrs. Dixon and Stapleton a committee to draw up the needed papers to incorporate the Society.

I trust you are enjoying good health. With kindest regards,

I remain your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,

Secretary.

GLENDALE, MONT., August 5, 1890.

Hon. J. K. Toole, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—On July 14, last, the Executive Committee of the late Constitutional Convention met and organized the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana.

The full proceedings at our first meeting will soon be made known to all our members by printed circular.

The subject, "The Executive," was assigned to you. Our committee wishes that each address be written out in full on regular size legal cap, so it can be bound and kept for the living when we framers are dead.

Of course the idea is that the speaker present such views as he had in helping to frame the particular topic assigned to him of the Constitution.

Our first reunion will take place at Helena, Saturday, November 8, 1890.

I trust that this will find you enjoying good health. With kindest regards,

I remain your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,
Secretary.

GLENDALE, MONT., August 5, 1890.

Hon. B. Platt Carpenter, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—On July 14, last, the Executive Committee of our late Constitutional Convention met and organized the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana."

Our first reunion will take place at Helena, November 8, 1890, noon.

The committee to look after the local arrangements, viz., hall for meeting and evening banquet, etc., is as follows:

	B. Platt Carpenter, Chairman.
Messrs. Craven,	Muth,
Toole,	Maginnis,
Chessman,	Hershfield.

Trusting this will find you in good health, I remain, dear sir,
Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,
Secretary.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., August 10, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of yours of the 5th inst., relating to the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana. I have also received a circular showing proceedings of the Executive Committee at its late session. I shall certainly be present at the meeting in Helena, in November, if possible, and shall endeavor to have something to offer upon the subject assigned to me. I suppose that subject, "The Judiciary," would appropriately include some account of the judiciary article in the Constitution; how it has been found to operate in practice, and, perhaps, suggestions as to how it might be improved. Am I right in this view of it? As to incorporation, I do not think there is at present any law of the State under which such a society can be incorporated, and probably we will have to await some legislative action before it can be done. My health is fairly good. I hope you are well and prospering.

Yours,

W. W. DIXON.

HELENA, MONT., August 7, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Secretary :

MY DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 5th inst. has just been received. I observe that you name me as chairman of the local committee on arrangements for hall and banquet. I am somewhat embarrassed by this, and am afraid there is a mistake somewhere, for the reason that I saw in both Butte and Helena newspapers that Governor Toole was chairman of the committee on arrangements. Was the same notice sent to the other members of the committee?

Sincerely yours,

B. PLATT CARPENTER.

GLENDALE, MONT., August 8, 1890.

Hon. B. Platt Carpenter, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—Your kind letter of yesterday to hand. You were selected as the Chairman of the local or home Committee of Arrangements to look after the hall, etc., for our reunion, and all the members will be notified by printed circular, shortly, to be mailed by the President and Secretary. The circular is in the hands of the printer now.

Our President expressed himself strongly that you were the best man for this position, and I heartily agreed with him. With kindest regards,
I remain your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG, *Secretary.*

GLENDALE, MONT., August 18, 1890.

Hon. W. W. Dixon, Butte, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I have your very kind letter, of August 10th. You are perfectly correct in your understanding of what the "reunion" expects from you on the subject "The Judiciary," assigned to you. The idea is to dwell year by year upon the Constitution, its meaning, and improvements suggested. Thanking you for your hearty and cordial co-operation,

I remain your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

HELENA, MONT., August 22, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg :

MY DEAR SIR—When in doubt, I feel at liberty to call upon you or President Clark for information. Of course, all members of the late Constitutional Convention are members of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana.

Now, first, what other persons, if any, are members? and if any other persons are members, please be kind enough to furnish me their names and addresses.

Second, are any persons except members to be admitted to the banquet? and, if any, what are their names?

I earnestly desire that this anniversary should be properly celebrated. Please do not confine yourself to answering the foregoing questions, but freely make any suggestions that you deem pertinent.

Very truly,

B. PLATT CARPENTER.

GLENDALE, MONT., September 1, 1890.

Hon. B. Platt Carpenter, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—I have been away from home, hence the delay in answering your very kind letter of August 22.

I thank you for the deep and earnest interest that you are taking in our first reunion, and shall be glad always to hear from you and render you all the aid possible.

First. Only the seventy-five members, and the employes of our Convention, are to be members of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana. *No one else.*

Second. The banquet is only for the members and employes, as stated above.

The President and I talked over the entire question, and are both firmly of the opinion that the day "reunion" session should be open and the public admitted, but that the banquet should be with closed doors, none inside but the members and employes.

It is possible the Convention itself may change this conclusion at our first anniversary, if so the majority will rule, but a few of us did not feel at liberty to open the doors.

Will you let me know as soon as possible the place or hall where we are to meet, and also the hotel where the banquet is to be given, and the hour, so that I can incorporate these facts in my *notice*.

I have arranged with Mr. Clark to meet him in due time to arrange a "toast list" for the banquet, and I will notify the chosen speakers and subjects.

With kind regards, your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG, *Secretary.*

HELENA, MONT., September 3, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg:

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 1st inst. received. The local committee of seven is so large that it was found impossible, after two attempts, to get more than a quorum together. To facilitate action it was finally agreed that Messrs. Muth, Hershfield and Chessman should be, and they were, appointed a sub-committee to arrange for a hall and banquet.

Mr. Wm. Muth is chairman of that committee, and seems disposed to be active in the matter.

I assume that this sub-committee will desire to ascertain the wishes of the Society.

It has occurred to me that the Society should meet at 12 m. in the hall where the Constitution was framed, and there transact all business.

Second. That after the transaction of all proper business, a recess be taken until 3 or 4 p. m., at which time the members, and the *public also*, should meet either in the same hall or in the opera house and listen to the addresses.

Third. That the members should meet at the banquet at 8 or 9 p. m.

Please give me your views as to a program for the day, so that the committee may arrange accordingly. I shall write to President Clark and ascertain his views and wishes, as he will be the most prominent actor at the meeting.

Very truly,

B. PLATT CARPENTER.

HELENA, MONT., September 23, 1890.

Henry Knippenberg, Esq., Secretary, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Your various favors to B. Platt Carpenter have been by him referred to a sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Hershfield, Mr. Chessman and myself. Owing to absence from the city, we have not had an opportunity until just now to arrange matters. The arrangement is to have the members of the Society meet at the court room, the room in which the Convention was held, at noon, on November 8. Further exercises will probably be held in the opera house. The banquet will undoubtedly be had at the Hotel Helena.

We shall be glad to hear from you at any time with any suggestions you have to offer, and we will let you know of any movement that we make.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM MUTH,
Secretary of Sub-Committee.

HELENA, MONT., October 17, 1890.

Mr. H. Knippenberg:

MY DEAR SIR—The committee will be able to report arrangements made for our banquet within the next day or two. We guarantee sixty-five, and would like to know as soon as possible just how many will be certain to attend. Many more than sixty-five can be accommodated, but it will be well to know the positive number.

Trusting that our reunion may be pleasant and profitable, I am,

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM MUTH.

HELENA, MONT., October 18, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg:

MY DEAR SIR—We have about concluded that the banquet will be held at the Helena, and they will furnish everything, including menu. How about invitations?

As I understand it, you will send all that are needed. If not, let us

know at once. Our idea is to have a menu card that will be a souvenir of the occasion.

If there is anything else we should do, please advise us promptly and oblige.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM MUTH,
For Executive Committee.

GLENDALE, MONT., October 21, 1890.

Hon. Wm. Muth, Helena, Mont :

MY DEAR FRIEND—Your very kind letters of the 17th and 18th of October reached me last evening. I am glad to have your help. The fact is that you can hardly realize the amount of labor this matter has so far cost me. So far the Society has had no expense. I have no bill to bring against the organization; I have myself paid everything. I want no money from you now, but I want the help from your entire committee to "boom" the coming gathering. I have written to the Union Pacific, Northern Pacific and Great Northern railroads for reduced fare. In this matter you can help me.

Our first meeting must be made a guarantee for the future meetings. This can, in my opinion, be made only by not making the first burdensome on our poorer members. The railroad fare and hotel bills to each member will be a matter of at least on an average of \$15.00 This alone will be a tax on some few. To this must now be added the cost of a ticket to the banquet. It is true many of our members have railroad passes, but, as a rule, these are the very ones that can best afford to pay their fare, so that this will not help the very members in whose behalf I am referring to and seeking to protect. In other words, I mean that the rich must be willing to sacrifice their ideas and tastes, and meet with the less favored, so that the organization shall remain within the reach of the poorest member that we have, thus avoiding giving offense, or causing some to stay away because of their inability to meet the pecuniary demands. My idea in this matter is that the man who can afford to drink wine, when he meets with his brethren that can only afford to drink water, had better drink water upon that occasion. I am fully aware of the good-hearted people of Helena, and their willingness to do, but it was thought best that the banquet should be paid by the organization, each plate so much. The menu card I place in your hands; get up something nice, worthy of the occasion. I think the toasts after supper should be on the card. My hands have been so full that I have not been able to arrange a toast program. This should be arranged for five-minute speeches, and the members notified of their subjects. May I not ask your whole committee to meet and arrange this card and the toasts? If you wish to have my personal approval, submit to me the proof.

In regard to the number that will be present, I am not able to say. All have responded to my notice of the formation of the Society. I am now mailing my notice of our reunion, and I may be able to let you know later how many may be expected. Some, however, may not think of the importance of notifying me.

Your committee will have no duty to perform about invitations. That will be done by the Secretary; I mean so far as the members are concerned, and no others are allowed at the banquet. Your committee, of course, is at liberty to invite anybody to be present at our meeting during the day at the court house. That will be public and free to all.

May I not ask you to call a meeting at once of your committee, and submit to them my suggestions. Keep me posted as to all your plans.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,

Secretary.

GLENDALE, MONT., October 21, 1890.

Hon. Wm. Muth, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—I am satisfied that we had better assume the responsibility and place our meeting upon a business basis. We must not meet and find ourselves all at sea. I have drawn up a program for you, which please consider, and I think your committee had better get out a nice lot of slips or cards for the public. Perhaps a small sheet of note paper would be nice. The enclosed is simply to give you the *matter*, not the style or shape. Many of these could be placed in the railroad stations over the State. Of course, enough must be retained for the court house on the 8th. If you wish to mix any music, all right. Make such changes as you think best. Please let me hear from you.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,

Secretary.

GLENDALE, MONT., October 22, 1890.

Hon. Wm. Muth, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—If you conclude to publish a lot of programs, as I yesterday suggested, I think you had better put on the last page the names of all the members. Let the names come by counties. This would be more convenient for people to locate the men.

Understand me, I only suggest these things. I shall be perfectly satisfied with the work and result of your committee.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,

Secretary.

The following circular was mailed to each member of the Convention or Society. There was also enclosed a white silk badge, with National Flag and name of Society printed on it:

GLENDALE, MONT., BEAVERHEAD Co., October 17, 1890.

MY DEAR FRIEND—Our first annual reunion will take place Saturday, November 8, 1890 (noon), at Helena.

Our first banquet will be enjoyed in the evening of November 8th. Members of the Society only will be admitted to the banquet.

Surely you will not fail to be there, for in being present you will add to the happiness of all. Cordially your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,
Secretary.

P. S—I have written to the railroads and hope to secure half rates for everybody.

GLENDALE, MONT., Monday, October 20, 1890.

E. V. Maze, U. P. Agent, Butte, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—The Society (members of Constitutional Convention) will celebrate its first reunion, at Helena, November 8. I am of the opinion that, with liberal inducements on the part of the railroads, many people in the State would go.

Please consider the matter and make your special offer known to the public in plenty of time.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG,
Secretary.

BUTTE, MONT., October 25, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Secretary, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have your circular of the 17th, for which, please accept my thanks. What is your understanding as to the eligibility of the employes, that is to say, chaplain, chief clerk and others, to become members of the Society? I suppose, strictly construed, our title would admit only actual members.

I hope we will have a large attendance.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

GLENDALE, MONT., October 27, 1890.

Hon. Wm. A. Clark, Butte, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Your esteemed favor of October 25, 1890, at hand.

My opinion regarding the employes, is that they can only be *honorary members*; they can neither hold office or vote upon any question. The Society can only consist of the men chosen by the people for the purpose of making the Constitution.

Am I correct in my position? And are my views upon this matter in accord with yours?

I have written a number of letters to our friend Muth, and I think everything will be in good shape November 8.

Yours truly,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

BUTTE, MONT., October 23, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR KNIPPENBERG—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor, notifying me of the meeting of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana. Thank you. If it's in the papers I will be there.

Yours very truly,

CHARLES S. WARREN.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., October 23, 1890.

Friend Knippenberg:

Your artistically constructed, patriotically decorated, and cordially expressed invitation to attend the first annual reunion of the F. C. S. M. is at hand.

I anticipate a most enjoyable time, and shall be there, D. V., without fail.

Yours sincerely,

F. E. SARGEANT.

DEER LODGE, MONT., October 26, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg:

DEAR SIR—Your circular letter with Society badge of the Framers of the Constitution is received. Many thanks. I shall certainly make a great effort to be on hand at Helena for the first annual reunion. My associations with and recollections of the members of that body were, and are, so very pleasant that I am exceedingly anxious to keep them in remembrance.

Yours very truly,

H. R. WHITEHILL.

HELENA, October 25, 1890.

Hon. Knippenberg, Secretary, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR MR. KNIPPENBERG—God willing, I shall be present and participate in the happy reunion of the members of the Constitutional Convention on November 8.

I can not close this without complimenting and commending our honored Secretary for his great efforts in obtaining prospective good results from the organization of the society. With great esteem, am

Yours truly,

L. H. HERSHFIELD.

HELENA, MONT., October 25, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—Your invitation to attend the reunion of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution received, together with the handsome souvenir in the shape of the badge. It will be one of the pleasures of life to attend and meet with our friends.

Thanking you for the remembrance, and hoping to see you ever in the best of health, I remain,

Very truly yours,

LEE SWORDS.

HELENA, MONT., October 27, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Secretary Society Framers of Constitution, Glendale:

DEAR SIR—Your favor, with enclosed badge, received, for which please accept thanks. I shall be at the banquet (D. V.), and hope if there are any speeches or toasts, I may be accorded the privilege of one short effort. You will remember how "you fellows" drove me for forty days and forty nights, and I think it only the measure of God's retribution that I should be allowed the privilege of getting back at you for a few minutes at least.

Very truly yours,

C. P. CONNOLLY,

Stenographer Constitutional Convention.

MISSOULA, MONT., October 27, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 18th is at hand and noted. Let me thank you for the very beautiful badge sent, and to compliment you on the neat and tasty design. It is in every way appropriate, and, I have no doubt, will be worn with pride by every member.

Yours very truly,

W. M. BICKFORD.

MARYSVILLE, MONT., October 27, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 23d received. I will be glad to meet once more with all the members of the Constitutional Convention, and hope they will all be there.

Yours truly,

A. J. BURNS.

HELENA, MONT., October 27, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Secretary of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR MR. KNIPPENBERG—I have to thank you for your kind invitation to attend the banquet of the "Framers," received last week.

During the last year it has several times been my pleasant duty to construe the instrument that the members of your Society gave to the people of our State. The application of the rules of constitutional construction is one of the most interesting branches of law. Your painstaking labor has heretofore relieved the Supreme Court from any serious embarrassment; but, I now regret to say that, the Honorable Secretary, in his invitation, has presented an instrument for construction which taxes the established rules.

The invitation contains two clauses—

1. Members of the Society only will be admitted to the banquet.
2. An invitation, very cordially expressed, to me to be present.

The interpretation and construction of these two clauses has caused me some unsuccessful effort.

Provisions of the Constitution, *in pari materia*, must be construed together. To construe the two clauses of your invitation together, seems to me to arouse an "irrepressible conflict." I am not a member of the Society, and therefore am invited to stay at home. Again, I am warmly invited to be present.

The true intent of the framer of the invitation must be sought, is another rule of construction. That intent may be that I am to attend, and stand behind the table, or in the hall, and get nothing to eat. But this construction falls again by the application of the principle that I may resort to established history for light; and, making that excursion into history, I find the years of friendship and courtesy from the framer of the invitation, toward me. Therefore it is impossible to believe that he intended for me a banquet of the imagination, while he partook of the substance of the feast.

Whether the former or the latter clause shall prevail leads to equal difficulties.

I do not know how to retaliate upon you, unless we form a "Society of the Interpreters," and then extend an invitation to you to attend our banquet, which invitation we will allow you to "frame," and we will "interpret" ourselves. In any event, be assured of my continued regards.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM H. DEWITT.

GLENDALE, MONT., October 29, 1890.

Hon. Wm. H. De Witt, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR FRIEND—Your kind letter of the 27th inst. is to hand; contents noted.

Really, I am delighted even to think that I have been able to dumbfound the Supreme Court of Montana, upon a constitutional question.

But I will not be vain. The question, or rather invitation, I propounded to you in my celebrated and cordial circular, is the outgrowth of my early education. When I was in the Constitutional Convention, you lawyers told us poor laymen, that a constitution was a "prohibitory" instrument. This was told me every day; sometimes all day. So strongly was this impressed upon my mind, verily, ever since August 17, 1889, I have felt that I am old "Mr. Prohib" myself.

I plead guilty. I see that my warm friendship and high esteem for a limited number of my personal friends in Montana, among which are my dear personal friends DeWitt and Blake, has caused me to fall into a very sad "prohibitory" mistake.

There is but one way out of this unheard-of constitutional question, viz.: You to accept the cork, and the "prohibitors" empty the bottle.

Please accept my kindest regards and my well wishes for a long and useful life.

Your sincere friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

BUTTE, MONT, October 27, 1890.

MY DEAR MR. KNIPPENBERG—Your notification of the annual reunion Saturday, November 8, has been received. I will be present, if possible, and I know of nothing now to interfere.

Yours truly,
MARTIN MAGINNIS.

HELENA, MONT., October 28, 1890.

DEAR SIR—Your letter of the 23d inst. was received containing the badge. I was very pleasantly surprised, as I was only one of the *extra* pages in the Convention.

I am sure I shall always be proud of it, and, when I grow older, of the happy remembrances of the Constitutional Convention.

Enclosed you will find stamps for the letters you have so kindly sent to me. Again thanking you for your trouble, I am,

Yours truly,
CORNELIUS HEDGES, JR.

CAMP IN NORTH MOCCASIN MTS., MONT., October 28, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Secretary, Etc.:

MY DEAR SIR—Your reminder of the approaching first annual meeting of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution is just received by private hand from Lewistown, where I have been staying for some time.

I much regret that I shall be unable to be present at the gathering of the Association at Helena on the 8th prox., as it would give me great pleasure to renew my acquaintance with so many who were associated with me in our good work. I expect to go over to Lewistown to vote on the 4th, but will be obliged to return here at once.

With my best wishes for the happiness and welfare of every member of the Association, and for yourself personally, I remain,

Yours very truly,
W. H. WATSON.

FORT BENTON, MONT, October 29, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Enclosed please find blank filled out as requested by you some time ago. I had overlooked the matter until Mr. Todd called my attention to it to-day. Hoping I am not too late, I remain,

Yours very truly,
E. C. GARRETT.

BUTTE, MONT., October 30, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have your favor of the 27th, and note contents. I agree with you as to the eligibility of employes of the Constitutional Convention to membership in our Society.

I have seen recently, in my travels in the State, many members of the Convention, and they generally express an intention to be present on the 8th.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. CLARK.

HELENA, MONT., October 30, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale:

DEAR SIR—Your kind invitation to the first annual banquet and meeting of the Society at hand. The badge is one of the handsomest and appropriate that could be designed. I shall surely be on hand, and hope that all of the members will. Hoping to see you there well, as the last time we all met,

I am, very truly,

WM. L. GREENE.

BUTTE, MONT., October 30, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR FRIEND—Your kindly reminder of the reunion, to take place November 8, to hand. I have been absent, hence this delay.

It must be something very important, and more important than I can now imagine, that will prevent me from enjoying the meeting, which I look forward too with so much pleasure.

Your friend,

G. W. STAPLETON.

HELENA, MONT., October 30, 1890.

DEAR SIR—I have the honor of acknowledging notice of meeting of members of the Constitutional Convention. Thanks.

I shall take pleasure in attending.

Yours truly,

MAURICE LANGHORNE.

HELENA, MONT., October 30, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—I herewith acknowledge receipt of invitation to the first "Annual Reunion of the Framers of the Constitution," to take place at Helena, on November 8, for which, please accept thanks.

Very truly yours,

W. J. KENNEDY.

CHOTEAU, MONT., October 30, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 22d inst. just received, and, in reply, I will say that it will give me much pleasure to meet our friends of the Convention on November 8, 1890.

You will please find enclosed your printed blank form, which I filled as requested.

Very respectfully yours,

SAMUEL L. MITCHELL.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., October 31, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Esq., Secretary, Etc.:

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND—Your kind invitation to attend the reunion of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana, November 8 prox., was received, and is sincerely appreciated. And in expressing my regrets at not being able to make the long journey and greet you in person with my kind wishes, I may, perhaps, be allowed, though a stranger to all of your members but yourself, to offer the following sentiment:

"Hail to Montana, the Mountain State! May her star grow greater and brighter, until its luster equals that of any of her sisters in the galaxy of States!" And with my best wishes for your personal health and prosperity, and the success of your reunion,

I am yours sincerely,

CHARLES P. JACOBS.

SPOTTED HORSE MINE, October 31, 1870.

H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR FRIEND—If possible I will certainly be present at our first banquet to enjoy the happiness of meeting our friends. With good wishes, etc., I am,

Your friend, truly,

P. W. McADOW.

SHATTUCK SCHOOL, FAIRBAULT, MINN., November 2, 1890.

Mr. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—It is with pleasure that I receive your invitation to the first banquet of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, but I will be compelled to decline, as it is impossible for me to leave school.

Yours,

W. D. ALEXANDER.

STEVENSVILLE, MONT., November 3, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Glendale Mont.:

DEAR FRIEND—Yours, containing invitation, received, but was delayed on the road; therefore the acceptance is accordingly late. No preventing Providence, I will be on hand. Hoping you are enjoying the health and the blessings you deserve, I remain,

Truly yours,

LUKE D. HATCH.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., November 5, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Glendale, Mont.:

DEAR MR. KNIPPENBERG—Returned from the East day before yesterday and found your circular letter, with badge inclosed, awaiting me. If nothing occurs to prevent I shall take great pleasure in being present.

Hoping to see you in a day or two, I am, with respect,

Yours very truly,

J. E. RICKARDS.

HELENA, MONT., November 1, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg:

MY DEAR SIR—Herewith I send copy of invitation. The program will go to-morrow and all invitations will be mailed, including programs, to all the members known to me.

I find that I have not a complete list of all entitled to invitations. I think some are omitted in the picture, the only thing I have. Can you send me a complete list at once and I will have a card printed with all the names on it.

Are we expected to prepare a toast list? I understood that you would do that, but this morning I again read yours of the 22d and am in doubt.

I am afraid we are a little bit late on this part, but a little spontaneity might increase the "snap" of the responses.

Very respectfully yours,

W. M. MUTH, *for Committee.*

GLENDALE, MONT., November 4, 1890.

Hon. Wm. Muth, Helena, Mont.:

MY DEAR SIR—The programs and invitations received. They are very nice, and do great honor to your committee. Will you kindly mail me one-half dozen programs. I wish to use them.

I have received a large number of letters from our members saying that they will surely be present.

I enclose you a correct list of our membership, and the photo. of the group will give you the P. O. of each and county. If these are printed, please see that no names are wrong in the spelling.

If your committee has not arranged the toasts, all right. Perhaps it would be best to have them off-hand, free for all. I will be over Friday evening.

Your friend,

H. KNIPPENBERG.

FIRST REUNION

HELENA, MONTANA,

—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 1890.—

SOCIETY

OF THE

FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

STATE OF MONTANA.

JULY 4, 1889.

AUGUST 17, 1889.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

WM. A. CLARK, Chairman.

H. KNIPPENBERG.

CHAS. S. MARSHALL.

MARTIN MAGINNIS.

PARIS GIBSON.

GEO. W. STAPLETON.

J. E. RICKARDS.

ALFRED MYERS.

PROGRAM.

12 O'CLOCK NOON.

Society called to order BY PRESIDENT.
Address of Welcome B. P. CARPENTER.
Response W. A. CLARK.
Roll-call and Minutes Read SECRETARY.
Report of Treasurer L. H. HERSHFIELD.
Constitution and By-Laws Adopted. Election of Officers. Standing Committees Appointed. General Business. Recess.

4 O'CLOCK P. M.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES.

"The Constitutional Convention and our Society" WM. A. CLARK.
"The Executive" J. K. TOOLE.
"The Judiciary" W. W. DIXON.
General and Closing Business.

9 O'CLOCK P. M.

Society Banquet at the Hotel "Helena"

DEER LODGE, MONT., November 2, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Banquet Committee and Others :

DEAR SIRS—In response to your request to be present at the first annual banquet, etc., I will say that I will be in Helena on the 6th inst., and if possible remain over to evening of 8th.

Very truly,

J. C. ROBINSON.

[Telegram.]

DEER LODGE, MONT., November 8, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Helena Hotel:

I regret exceedingly my utter inability to be present at the reunion. Will do better next time. Kindest greeting to all.

J. F. BRAZELTON.

[Telegram.]

BOZEMAN, MONT., November 8, 1890.

Hon. W. A. Clark, President Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, Helena, Mont.:

I regret exceedingly that, owing to the serious illness of my wife, I shall not be able to attend the first reunion of our Society. I assure you that the movement has my warmest sympathy and approval, and will have my earnest support whenever I can be personally present or otherwise assist or promote its present and future success. I earnestly hope you will have a large attendance and an enjoyable time.

WALTER COOPER.

VIRGINIA, MONT., November 7, 1890.

Hon. Henry Knippenberg, Secretary, etc.:

MY DEAR SIR—It is with the most intense regret that I am unable to join you to-morrow and greet you and others—the Framers of our Constitution. It is, indeed, a high honor to have served with such notable and noble citizens. I am proud to believe them all to be my friends. I can think of no one of them but with the kindest feelings and sentiments of the warmest friendship.

Truly your friend,

J. E. CALLAWAY.

ELLISTON, MONT., November 7, 1890.

Hon. H. Knippenberg, Secretary of Society :

DEAR SIR—I am very sorry that I can not attend our first annual meeting on the 8th inst. Personal matters over which I have no control prevent me at this time, but I assure you that I have nothing but kind words for our Society, and sincerely hope that the Society may flourish, and that we may all be able to meet one year hence.

Very truly,

ED. BURNS.

BUTTE, MONT., November 6, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I regret that it will be impossible for me to be present at the reunion of the Framers of the Constitution in Helena, on the 8th.

Respectfully,
J. E. GAYLORD.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., November 6, 1890.

Messrs. L. H. Hershfield, W. A. Chessman, Wm. Muth, Banquet Committee:

GENTLEMEN—Your invitation to attend the first annual banquet of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution is received. In answer I wish to express the pleasure afforded in the opportunity to meet with the entire number of that Convention. I certainly will avail myself of the opportunity.

Respectfully yours,
THOMAS F. COURTNEY.

LIVINGSTON, MONT., November 6, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, and Others, Helena, Mont.:

GENTLEMEN—I regret very much that I can not be with the Framers of the Constitution at their first reunion on the 8th inst.

Very respectfully yours,
ALFRED MYERS.

BILLINGS, MONT., November 5, 1890.

Messrs. L. H. Hershfield, W. A. Chessman and William Muth, Banquet Committee, Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, Helena, Mont.:

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your invitation to attend the banquet of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, to be given at the Helena Hotel, on the 8th inst., and beg to say that I will be in attendance.

Yours fraternally,
O. F. GODDARD.

FORT BENTON, MONT., November 5, 1890.

David G. Browne accepts with much pleasure the invitation extended by the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana, for their first annual banquet on November 8, 1890.

DILLON, MONT., November 5, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena:

MY DEAR SIR—I hope your banquet will be a complete success and I very much regret my inability to be present and participate in the pleasures of the day. My best wishes are with all the members present.

Respectfully yours,
A. C. WITTER.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., Nov. 4, 1890.

Messrs. L. H. Hershfield, W. A. Chessman, Wm. Muth, Committee, Helena, Mont.:

GENTLEMEN—Your very kind invitation to the annual banquet of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, to be held on the 8th inst., at Helena, is received. Should nothing now unforeseen occur to prevent, I shall be with you.

Yours,

W. W. DIXON.

DEER LODGE, MONT., November 4, 1890.

Banquet Committee of the Constitution Framers:

GENTLEMEN—I accept with much pleasure the invitation for the banquet for November 8, and unless unavoidably detained at home, which I do not anticipate at present, will certainly be there.

Yours very gratefully,

H. R. WHITEHILL.

DEARBORN, MONT., November 4, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I have received the invitation to be present at the "First Annual Banquet of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, at the Helena Hotel."

You can count on my being present. I am,

Very respectfully yours,

W. C. GILLETTE.

BANNACK, MONT., November 3, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena:

DEAR SIR—I expect to be with you on the 8th.

Yours truly,

F. L. GRAVES.

BUTTE CITY, MONT., November 5, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I find invitation to first reunion, etc., to be held in your city on the 8th, awaiting me upon my return from Boston. I shall take great pleasure in being present, nothing occurring to prevent.

Hastily. Yours truly,

J. E. RICKARDS.

FORT BENTON, MONT., November 3, 1890.

Hons. L. H. Hershfield, Wm. Muth, and Others, Banquet Committee of the Constitutional Convention of Montana:

GENTLEMEN—Acknowledging the honor of your kind invitation to attend the banquet November 8, is accepted with great pleasure.

Yours respectfully,

WM. H. TODD.

BOZEMAN, MONT., November 3, 1890.

Messrs. L. H. Hershfield, W. A. Chessman and William Muth, Committee, Helena, Montana :

DEAR SIRS—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to the first annual banquet of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana.

I regret more than I can tell you that engagements which I can not break prevent my being present with my fellow members of that Society. I have to leave here to-morrow morning for White Sulphur Springs to attend court there, and will not be able to get away before the 8th inst.

I tender my warm and patriotic greetings to the Society.

Your obedient servant,

L. A. LUCE.

LIVINGSTON, MONT., ——— —, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Helena:

DEAR SIR—You can count on me being with you next Saturday. Sure!

Yours, etc.,

ALLAN R. JOY.

HELENA, MONT., November 3, 1890.

To the Honorable Banquet Committee, Society of Framers of the Constitution, Helena, Mont.:

GENTLEMEN—Your invitation to attend the first reunion of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana is duly received, and I assure you, gentlemen, it will be a great pleasure to me to be present to again meet the honorable members of the Convention.

Yours truly,

SAM. ALEXANDER.

STEVENSVILLE, MONT., November 3, 1890.

William Muth, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND—The invitation of your committee, requesting my attendance at the banquet, Saturday evening, November 8, 1890, received and respectfully accepted.

Yours truly,

LUKE D. HATCH.

BUTTE, MONT., November 3, 1890.

Hon. J. H. Hershfield, Chairman :

DEAR SIR—I am pleased to state that I accepted invitation to the banquet, and will be present on the 8th inst.

Yours very truly,

W. A. CLARK.

LIVINGSTON, MONT., November 3, 1890.

L. H. Hershfield, Esq.:

DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of invitation to be present at the first annual banquet of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana. I shall accept the invitation with pleasure, and shall be present in the city of Helena on November 8th to attend the same.

Yours most truly,

W. M. T. FIELD.

HELENA, MONT., November 6, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Chairman Banquet Committee, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—Replying to your invitation to same, I beg to say that it will give me pleasure to be present at the banquet to be given to the "Society of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana" on next Saturday evening.

Very truly yours,

GEO. O. EATON.

BOZEMAN, MONT., November 6, 1890.

Hon. L. H. Hershfield, Chairman Banquet Committee, Helena, Mont.:

DEAR SIR—I regret that I will be unable to accept the kind invitation of your committee and be present at the banquet November 8, 1890. I leave for the East on that day, and hence will be deprived of the pleasure of meeting the members of the Convention, whose acquaintance and friendship I thoroughly appreciate. Wishing you a pleasant time, I am,

Very truly yours,

CHAS. S. HARTMAN.

TOWNSEND, MONT., November 4, 1890.

H. Knippenberg, Secretary:

DEAR SIR—Invitation to annual reunion of Society of Framers of the Constitution is at hand, and I regret that my attendance at District Court, Meagher county, will prevent acceptance.

Cordially yours,

J. E. KANOUSE.

FORT BENTON, MONT., November 6, 1890.

Mr. L. H. Hershfield and Others, Banquet Committee, Helena, Mont.:

GENTLEMEN—I am in receipt of your invitation to attend the annual banquet of the Framers of the Constitution of Montana, to be held in Helena on the 8th inst., and am happy to say that I will be present.

Yours truly,

C. E. CONRAD.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST REUNION

HELD

Saturday, November 8, 1890.

At 12 o'clock noon, Saturday, November 8, 1890, the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana met in the Court-house, at Helena, Montana, in the same room in which the Convention held its sessions for forty-five days, viz., from July 4, 1889, to August 17, 1889.

Wm. A. Clark, President, called the Society to order promptly at the hour named.

The Chaplain not being present, prayer was omitted.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BY B. PLATT CARPENTER.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE SOCIETY OF THE FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MONTANA—In my few remarks, I shall speak partly as a colleague, but more particularly as an humble resident of the city where your important work of last year was performed. Many circumstances unite to make this occasion memorable. This is not only your first reunion after you had submitted to the people a system of government so nearly perfect as to receive their almost unanimous approval, but it is also the first anniversary of the birth of the State. You meet in this temple of justice, where, months ago you moulded our magna charta, and your presiding officer is the same honored President who, with an impartial and unerring gavel, then guided your deliberations to a fortunate conclusion. If Faneuil Hall was the cradle of American liberty, this now historic room may be called the cradle of our Statehood. Here was framed that distinguishing emblem of popular rule—a written Constitution. For thirty centuries the power of nations has generally been wielded, either absolutely or with slender restrictions, by a few persons, and those often usurpers, and the people have generally believed that progress and reform are the offspring of revolution. Even now the son of proud Albion boasts of a Constitution which is not only intangible, but which has never been accurately defined. That Constitution appears to be an oligarchic system perpetuated through the toleration of the masses who have not asserted their strength. Our people, however, are blessed with self-government, and with a Constitution which is written in the plainest characters, and is a continuing guaranty of equal rights and impartial justice. The framers of that instrument will experience no little pleasure as they recall convention associations, which have ripened into friendships scarcely less tender than family ties, yet firm and enduring as our mountains of rock. To them it will be a source of pardonable pride that their names are subscribed to our organic law—a law unalterable by legislatures, and alterable only after calm deliberation by the people. To the citizens of Helena it will also be a source of pride that the convention, which this reunion commemorates, was held within her gates, and here, as doubtless throughout the State, the celebration of Montana's natal day will become an established institution.

Gentlemen, a delightful duty now devolves upon me. On behalf of all the inhabitants of the place, I most heartily welcome you to this city, to its homes, its shrines and its firesides, and assure you that here you will always be welcome.

President Clark responded briefly to the welcome, but his words were not recorded, so that they can not now be given here.

The Society at this point of the meeting thought it best to take a recess, and meet again at 3 o'clock, instead of 4 o'clock, as shown on the regular printed program.

SATURDAY, NOV. 8, 1890, 3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The President called the Society to order promptly at the hour appointed.

The Secretary called the roll and the following members were present :

WILLIAM A. CLARK,	E. D. AIKEN,
WALTER M. BICKFORD,	PETER BREEN,
WILLIAM MASON BULLARD,	WALTER A. BURLEIGH,
ALEX. F. BURNS,	ANDREW J. BURNS,
DAVID C. BROWNE,	EDWARD CARDWELL,
B. PLATT CARPENTER,	MILTON CAUBY,
WILLIAM A. CHESMAN,	TIMOTHY E. COLLINS,
CHARLES E. CONRAD,	THOMAS F. COURTNEY,
ARTHUR J. CRAVEN,	W. W. DIXON,
D. M. DURFEE,	WILLIAM DYER,
GEORGE O. EATON,	WILLIAM T. FIELD,
PARIS GIBSON,	WARREN C. GILLETTE,
O. F. GODDARD,	FIELDING L. GRAVES,
R. E. HAMMOND,	HENRI J. HASKELL,
LUKE D. HATCH,	LEWIS H. HERSHFIELD,
RICHARD O. HICKMAN,	JOSEPH HOGAN,
THOMAS JOYES,	ALLEN R. JOY,
W. J. KENNEDY,	H. KNIPPENBERG,
HIRAM KNOWLES,	CONRAD KOHRS,
MARTIN MAGINNIS,	J. E. MARION,
SAMUEL MITCHELL,	WILLIAM MAYGER,
G. J. REEK,	WILLIAM MUTH,
LEOPOLD F. SCHMIDT,	J. E. RICKARDS,
JOSEPH K. TOOLE,	GEORGE W. STAPLETON,
H. R. WHITEHILL,	CHAS. M. WEBSTER.

Honorary members present (employees):

- WILLIAM H. TODD, Chief Clerk.
 CHRISTOPHER P. CONNOLLY, Stenographer.
 SAMUEL ALEXANDER, Sergeant-at-Arms.
 WM. L. GREEN, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.
 JOHN KAY, Clerk.
 CORNELIUS HEDGES, JR., Page.
 MORRIS LANGHORN, Page.
 EUGENE DICKERSON, Page.

The Secretary then read an account of the history of the formation of the Society.

Which was accepted as correct.

W. A. Burleigh moved that the Secretary write, arrange and have printed, in pamphlet form, the complete history of this Society, and that each member shall be entitled to one or more copies.

Unanimously carried

The Treasurer reported that he had received during the year no money, and so had not paid out any.

Report accepted.

W. W. Dixon reported that he had looked into the matter of incorporation, but could find no law or provision in the statutes for an organization of this kind. It is possible that this Society may be able to have the Legislature pass a special act in our case.

Report accepted; committee discharged.

M. Maginnis moved that this Society refund in full all expenses to our Secretary which he has had in the formation of this Society, that we now so greatly enjoy.

Unanimously carried.

Geo. O. Eaton desired to know if the railroads had made any reduction in fares for this occasion.

The Secretary said that he had written to all the roads, but received no favorable reply.

Wm. Muth said possibly the local committee had not commenced early enough in this matter, but felt that next year we would receive recognition by the roads.

W. A. Chessman moved that we elect for the ensuing year the old officers and the same Executive Committee, viz.:

W. A. CLARK, President. M. MAGINNIS, Vice-President.
H. KNIPPENBERG, Secretary. L. H. HERSHFIELD, Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

WM. A. CLARK, Chairman,
H. KNIPPENBERG, CHAS. S. MARSHALL,
MARTIN MAGINNIS, PARIS GIBSON,
GEO. W. STAPLETON, J. E. RICKARDS,
ALFRED MYERS.

Unanimously carried.

The Hotel "Helena" kindly offered the Society the free use of Room 25 for the private or committee meetings, for which the Society thanked the manager.

W. M. Bullard moved that the Executive Committee prepare a Constitution and By-Laws and present the same to the Society at our next reunion for its adoption.

Carried.

J. K. Toole moved that all sub-committees be appointed by the Executive Committee and act under its authority.

Carried.

H. Knippenberg moved that our second reunion be celebrated Saturday, November 7, 1891 (the 8th being Sunday), and that we meet in this same house and same room in the good city of Helena.

Unanimously carried.

It was now 4 o'clock.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AND OUR SOCIETY.

ADDRESS BY WM. A. CLARK.

The most important event in the history of Montana was the passage by Congress, in February, 1889, of the enabling act providing for her admission into the sisterhood of States.

To carry out its provisions, an election was held by the people of the Territory of members of a convention to frame a constitution. To participate in such a noble work was a source of pride and gratification deeply appreciated by all who enjoyed the honor and distinction of election. This sentiment naturally resulted, at the termination of their labors, in a desire to perpetuate the social relations and friendships which had been formed, and has happily culminated in the organization of this Society, through and by which those fraternal bonds will be firmly cemented. By such means the social and noblest instincts of men are developed and vivified, bringing those of congenial tastes and aspirations into closer companionship, thereby ennobling them and promoting their intellectual development.

In memory's pages I have preserved a most interesting record of the experiences of those eventful days and many tender recollections of courteous attentions and generous acts. Amongst the members there was a keen appreciation of the grave duty and responsibility that devolved upon them, and they began their work with zeal and continued it to the end with untiring devotion. The committees labored incessantly, and the sessions throughout the entire period of forty-five days were remarkable for full and prompt attendance. The discussions were full and interesting, and, while animated, and, in some instances, conducted with considerable warmth and spirit, the strictest courtesy and highest decorum were constantly observed. Political questions occasionally crept in and caused a slight ripple momentarily in the discussions, but were uniformly subordinated to higher motives. There was no exhibition of partisan feeling. A quiet and cheerful acquiescence in the will of the majority was universally manifested, and at the conclusion of their labors the members seemed to carry away the most pleasing memories.

There was found to exist an exceedingly fortunate combination of diversified talent and ability in the members of the Convention, almost every industry, occupation and profession being represented. Mining, agriculture, labor, stock husbandry, finance, commerce, transportation and education, all had able advocates for their respective interests, and there was a general co-operation for the promotion of the public good and the successful completion of the great work before them. The Constitution was cordially approved by the people. The executive and judiciary branches of the State government have been put into operation with, I believe, the most successful and satisfactory results. Upon these subjects we are to be favored with

an expression by His Excellency the Chief Executive upon the one, and upon the other by the honorable chairman of the Judiciary Committee, both of whom are eminently qualified by observation and experience to give an intelligent opinion and valuable information as to the operations of the constitutional provisions relating to these departments.

By reason of unfortunate complications, there has been little exercise of the legislative functions under the Constitution. The provisions relating to education, revenue and the rights of suffrage have been warmly commended, and, generally, it may be said that the Constitution, as a whole, has received almost universal approval in Montana, and has elicited favorable comment from critics, politicians and statesmen wherever it has been the subject of discussion. A distinguished constitutional lawyer, Senator Morgan, from Alabama, in a discussion in the United States Senate, made the following very complimentary allusion to this instrument. He said: "I have looked through the Constitution of Montana with great care, and I must say that I have concluded my investigation of that body of organic law with admiration as one of the most carefully prepared, one of the most conservative, one of the most excellent constitutions of all the States of the American Union that I have ever read."

It may not, in this connection, be deemed inappropriate to refer to another important historic event in Montana's career—the organization, in pursuance of legislative enactment, of a constitutional convention in 1884, and the framing of a constitution which was almost unanimously ratified by the people. Although unavailing on account of failure to secure admission of the Territory at that time, yet many of the fundamental provisions then adopted have been incorporated in the present Constitution, and the work of that body, some of whose members were engaged in the later work and members of our Society, was a valuable auxiliary and deserves honorable recognition. The rapid progress and forward strides of our young State may soon demand a revision and enlargement of the Constitution. The provisions covering this contingency are wise and liberal. As the generations come and go, developing rapidly successive changes and conditions, requiring new methods and additional powers and restraints, we may expect that the genius and wisdom of our successors will eliminate, supplement and amend, but the prominent features of our present Constitution will surely survive, because they comprise the recognized, immutable and eternal principles which are essential to good government, the administration of justice and the protection and perpetuation of the rights of man.

It is a work of which you may be justly proud; a legacy that will be handed down to successive generations, giving encouragement to industry, inspiration to genius, and support to the social and intellectual advancement of our people. As the ages come and this period of Montana's history shall be revolving toward the shadowy past, the contemplative student, reviewing the progress of our laws and government, may revert with, perhaps, something of ancestral pride to the framers of the Constitution of Montana, recognizing their contribution to the dignity and prosperity of the State, and generously acknowledge that "they builded better than they knew."

" THE EXECUTIVE."

ADDRESS BY JOSEPH K. TOOLE.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE SOCIETY—I must express my admiration for the energy, zeal, good fellowship and patriotism of our worthy Secretary, Mr. Knippenberg, in carrying to a successful issue the organization of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana. It was he who originated, promoted and executed the idea of this splendid gathering. If we applaud his efforts to-day, in the years to come we shall venerate them.

I regret that a combination of circumstances has prevented me from responding appropriately to the subject of "The Executive" assigned to me by the committee.

If I were to attempt it I could only speak of it in the abstract.

By reason of a failure of all legislation last winter, not a bill, joint resolution or memorial ever reached the Executive. No approvals or disapprovals are therefore of record. Some of the constitutional provisions are self-executing, but many require legislation to put them in operation and give effect to the intention of the Constitution. They are too numerous to mention. Comparatively little difficulty, however, has been experienced in carrying on the executive department of the State Government.

The Penitentiary and Insane Asylum have been the subjects of greatest expense, but the management and care of these have been entrusted to contractors at the best rates possible, who were willing to trust to the future ability of the State to pay.

Our outstanding obligations amount to about \$170,000.00, which we can not pay without express authority of law, under the Constitution.

We have in cash about money enough to pay this indebtedness. Further than this I can not hope to interest you.

My term of office has been one of great anxiety and solicitude, but I can not boast much of official action.

My principal occupation, it seems to me, has been the appointment of Notaries Public. The Constitution has not limited the number of appointments, nor have I. They are numerous; more so than the militia, and if occasion should require the calling out of the latter, I am not sure but what it would be more expedient to call out the Notaries Public. Certainly so, unless the Legislature soon does something for the militia.

It will doubtless be of historical interest to the Society to put it into possession of the following official information in my possession. I will read:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C., November 8, 1889.

To Hon. Jos. K. Toole, Governor of the State of Montana, Helena, Mont.:

The President signed and issued the proclamation declaring Montana a State in the Union at 10 o'clock and 40 minutes, this morning.

JAMES G. BLAINE,
Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, D. C., November 11, 1889.

To His Excellency, the Governor of Montana, Helena, Mont.:

SIR—I have the honor to transmit herewith a duly authenticated copy of the President's Proclamation of November 8, 1889, admitting the State of Montana into the Union. I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES G. BLAINE,

Secretary of State.

A PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States did, by an act approved on the twenty-second day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, provide that the inhabitants of the Territory of Montana might, upon the conditions prescribed in said act, become the State of Montana; and,

WHEREAS, It was provided by said act that delegates elected as therein provided, to a Constitutional Convention in the Territory of Montana, should meet at the seat of government of said Territory and that, after they had met and organized they should declare on behalf of the people of Montana that they adopt the Constitution of the United States; whereupon the said convention should be authorized to form a State government for the proposed State of Montana; and,

WHEREAS, It was provided by said act that the Constitution so adopted should be republican in form and make no distinction in civil or political rights on account of race or color, except as to Indians not taxed, and not be repugnant to the Constitution of the United States and the principles of the Declaration of Independence; and that the Convention should by an ordinance irrevocable without the consent of the United States, and the people of said State, make certain provisions prescribed in said act; and,

WHEREAS, It was provided by said act that the Constitution thus formed for the people of Montana should, by an ordinance of the Convention forming the same, be submitted to the people of Montana at an election, to be held therein on the first Tuesday in October, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, for ratification or rejection by the qualified voters of said proposed State; and that the returns of said election should be made to the Secretary of the said Territory who, with the Governor and the Chief Justice thereof, or any two of them, should canvass the same; and if a majority of the legal votes cast should be for the Constitution, the Governor should certify the result to the President of the United States, together with a statement of the votes cast thereon, and upon separate articles or propositions and a copy of said Constitution, articles, propositions and ordinances; and,

WHEREAS, It has been certified to me by the Governor of said Territory that, within the time prescribed by said act of Congress, a Constitution for the proposed State of Montana has been adopted, and that the same, together with two ordinances connected therewith, has been ratified by a ma-

jority of the qualified voters of said proposed State in accordance with the conditions prescribed in said act; and,

WHEREAS, A duly authenticated copy of said Constitution and ordinances, as required by said act, has been received by me.

Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States of America, do, in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress aforesaid, declare and proclaim the fact that the conditions imposed by Congress on the State of Montana to entitle that State to admission to the Union have been ratified and accepted, and that the admission of the said State into the Union is now complete.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and fourteenth.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

By the President.

JAMES G. BLAINE,
Secretary of State.

For the benefit of all concerned, I will say that I have filed the telegram with the State Historical Society, and the official letter with the Secretary of State.

And now, gentlemen, I want to say that I am glad this Society has been formed and that I am identified with it.

It ought to come up to our fullest expectations. If it does not, it will if we take the wise hints of Brother Knippenberg, at least serve to encourage a departure from the prevalent partisan methods of heaping undeserved and senseless abuse upon the heads of our statesmen while living and apotheosizing them when dead.

"THE JUDICIARY."

ADDRESS BY W. W. DIXON.

Mr. President and Fellow Members of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana

During the last few weeks unusual demands have been made upon my time. This fact must serve as my excuse if what I have to say upon the subject assigned me—"The Judiciary"—shall not be as full or as accurate as I might desire in justice to this Society and to myself.

The Judiciary Committee in the Constitutional Convention was composed of fifteen members. They were all practicing lawyers, and were from all the different sections of the new State. They were a truly repre-

sentative body of the bar, and also, as the action of the Convention in finally adopting their report proved, of the people of the State. I had the honor to be chairman of the committee and I wish here to record my testimony to the patience, industry and ability with which every member performed his duty. Full but friendly discussion upon all important matters was had. The differences of opinion were mainly upon minor points, and uniform courtesy and consideration prevailed in the committee throughout its sessions.

The most important matter for consideration was the organization and jurisdiction of the courts. The system agreed upon was substantially that of California, and there was not much difference of opinion in the committee as to this. The distinguishing features of this system were the vesting of all judicial power in three courts only, aside from municipal courts—the Supreme and District Courts, and the courts of Justices of the Peace—and uniting in the District Courts all civil, criminal and probate jurisdiction, instead of having a separate tribunal for criminal and probate matters.

The point upon which the members of the committee were most at variance was whether each county should be made a district by itself, with its own judge, or whether some of the less populous counties should be joined in one district with a judge in common.

There was no doubt that the benefits of the system would be best secured by a judge for each county; but, on the other hand, the limited amount of business and the small population in several of the counties seemed not to require a separate judge in each, and to impose too heavy an expense upon the taxpayers. A compromise measure was agreed upon and reported by the committee, by which four of the most important counties in the State were made separate districts and given separate judges, and the others were arranged in districts comprising three counties each, with one judge for each district. The Legislative Assembly was given power to increase or decrease the number of judges in any district, and to divide the State, or any part of it, into new districts.

The Convention adopted the report of the Judiciary Committee, with only a few material changes. The more important of these were the ones relating to judicial salaries and to the counties comprised in those districts which included more than one county. These matters the committee itself differed about and purposely left them open to be debated and settled in the Convention.

The Convention placed the salaries somewhat lower than the committee recommended. In this, I think, it made a mistake; but it can be remedied by the Legislative Assembly: *Provided*, That the salary of any judge is not increased or diminished during the term for which he is elected. I was myself of the opinion, and so were many other members of the committee, that the salaries were so low for District Judges that it would be found difficult to secure competent men to accept these positions. I am, however, glad to say that this has not so far been the case. From my own observation, and from general report, I am satisfied that we have as able, industrious and capable District Judges as can be found anywhere, and I find, in this re-

spect, general satisfaction among the lawyers and the people. Still I am of the opinion that the District Judges salaries are too small, especially for those whose whole time is laboriously and almost constantly employed.

The arrangement of the counties in districts, as made by the Convention, was not altogether satisfactory to the members from different sections; but, upon the whole, it was the best that could be made at that time.

An experience of nearly one year has demonstrated, I think, that our judicial system is a good one. In the particulars wherein it may be found defective, it can be remedied by legislative action, without the necessity of constitutional amendment. The best test of the system has been in Deer Lodge and Missoula counties. In these counties the judges have cleared off the old business of the former courts to which they fell heir, and can now give prompt attention to new cases. Criminals are speedily tried, and litigants in civil cases can obtain justice without unreasonable delay.

In the counties of Lewis and Clarke, and Silver Bow, the old courts were so much behind in the trial of cases when the present judges took their seats, and business has since so increased, that the new courts have been unable to afford to litigants in civil cases the prompt trials which they should have.

The judges have worked very industriously, but can make little progress. In each of these counties an additional judge is needed, at least for one or two years to come, and the Legislative Assembly should so provide.

In those districts where several counties are united, the system seems generally to work satisfactorily. Some of these counties, however, have so increased in population and business that they desire, and are entitled, to be made separate districts, and this, I think, should be done as speedily as may be. It is to be hoped that in a few years each county in the State will be a district with its own judge. When this can be done, all the benefits of the judicial system established by the Convention will be realized.

One trouble and inconvenience I have heard mentioned in the counties joined with others in one district, is the delay in procuring orders in probate matters when the judge is absent from the county where the order is desired. This, I think, might be remedied to a considerable extent by an amendment to the probate practice act authorizing the clerk of the court to make, in the absence of the judge, such orders as are usually made *ex parte* and of course.

The constitutional provision for at least four terms of the District Court each year in counties not districts by themselves, seems to afford to these counties as much time for the trial of cases as is required at present. So far as I am informed, the courts keep well up with the business in these counties. The same remark is true as applied to the Supreme Court of the State.

The constitutional provision by which a civil action in the District Court may be tried by a judge *pro tempore*, who must be a member of the bar and agreed upon in writing by the parties, is a good one. I have seen it put into practice in a few cases, and it has resulted in much saving to the par-

ties of expense and time, and has been found very convenient, especially where the regular judge was disqualified to try the case by reason of having been counsel or being interested. The provision that any judge of a District Court may hold court for any other District Judge is also a convenient one. It seems to me, however, that the power of a judge in a county outside of his own district has been too narrowly confined by the recent decision of our Supreme Court.

There are one or two other provisions in our Constitution relating to judicial proceedings, and to the administration of justice, which may properly be noticed here.

Section 8, of Article III, provides for the prosecution of criminal offenses in the District Court by information, and also by indictment of a grand jury, when the court considers it necessary to summon one, and a grand jury is to consist of seven persons, out of whom five must concur to find an indictment.

Owing to the unfortunate political complications of last winter, which deprived us of much needed legislation to make constitutional provisions effective, we have no law defining or providing for informations. The Supreme Court has therefore held, and no doubt correctly, that criminal offenses must still be prosecuted by indictment. We have not, therefore, enjoyed the benefits of the provision which dispenses in most cases with a grand jury, but we have reduced the number composing it to seven. This has reduced the expense to the counties, and, I think, has been found satisfactory to the people. The constitutional provision that in cases of misdemeanor, and in all civil actions, two-thirds in number of the jury may render a verdict, has, so far as I have seen or been informed, been found to be very satisfactory in its practical operation, and has greatly facilitated the decision of cases and prevented expensive and unnecessary new trials.

It may be seen, I think, from this crude review of our judiciary system that the framers of the Constitution builded it wisely. It needs legislation now to give some of its provisions full effect. It will need legislation here after to adapt it to our increased growth and prosperity. But the plan of the structure is a good one, and its foundations are strong. Such changes in it as different conditions may require, or future experience may suggest, can be made without impairing its solidity or destroying its symmetry.

Let us hope that it may endure long beyond our day and generation, and never cease to be the medium by which even-handed justice is dealt out to all our people.

So many kind and complimentary words were spoken for the Secretary, and for the work he had done in bringing about the organization of the Society, that this gentleman thanked the members in the following words:

ADDRESS.

BY H. KNIPPENBERG.

GENTLEMEN—Will you not let me say, my brethren and friends.

I wish to thank you, one and all, for the kind words that you have uttered here. I wish to thank you for the uniform and cordial co-operation which you have so generously extended to me the past year in my work of organization.

I do not wish to act under any false modesty. I realize the fact that, in a large degree, I have been the creative power in this work of a social organization. It has cost me time, labor, and some money; but this time, labor and money combined has been a willing sacrifice of love; love for the present, love for the future. Ours has been indeed an exalted privilege. Few men in this world ever enjoy one as great. Called and chosen by the greatest power in the State, *the people*, to hew out of the quarry a stone—a foundation stone; a corner stone—upon which the people themselves might erect a Temple—a Temple of Liberty, Truth, Justice and Mercy. Wisely and well the work was done. For when the people saw it they accepted it with glad acclaim, saying, "Grace, grace unto it."

But great as was our privilege, so great is the work yet to be done. When the children of Israel took possession of the promised land, and supposed they had it all, there came to them this message: "There remains yet much land to be possessed." And so this same message comes to us Montanians; *there remains great possibilities yet for us to accomplish.*

Where is the prophet that will dare tell us of the future greatness of this temple; of its culture; of its Christian influence; of its wealth; of its moral power; of its political power. I fear were such a prophet found, and could we return even one hundred years from now we would have to declare, as did the Queen of Sheba of old, "The half was not told me."

But bear this in mind, true greatness comes not from without, but from within. Our greatness will be only what our homes are. Happy, secure and great will our future be, if the future men and women shall come from homes trained and reared at the family altar of purity, and regenerated by the spirit of loyalty and patriotism.

Gentlemen, let us not deceive ourselves. Theorize and speculate as you will, nevertheless the history of the ages passed, and the experience of all the nations of the centuries, bear witness to the eternal truth: "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people," found to be true in the past, we shall find it true in the future. Truth is never false. Do not take the right from me in saying let our lives and our examples be such in this our beloved State, in this our beloved country, that our loyalty to the flag, our love for our country, our devotion to our State shall be akin to that of the "sweet singers" of old, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my

right hand forget her cunning. If I remember not thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth. If I prefer not thee, O Jerusalem, above my chief joy."

One by one we shall pass away. Our work shall then have been done, but our influence will remain, for good or for ill. My prayer is now that for each of us there may be erected and remain a monument not of crumbling stone or granite, but a monument erected in the hearts of a loving people bearing this inscription: Here lies a man—a man while living that was *true to God, true to his home, true to his country, true to humanity.*

My friends, again I thank you.

The President announced that we had no further business to transact, and that the Society would meet again this evening at 9 o'clock, at the "Hotel Helena," in the banquet hall.

Wm. Muth, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, asked that the members meet at 8.30 o'clock in the parlors of the "Hotel Helena."

Adjourned.

BANQUET. HOTEL "HELENA."

By 8.30 o'clock, P. M., nearly all the members of the Society had arrived, and had been received by the reception committee.

One-half hour was enjoyed in general social conversation.

At 9 o'clock the President and Secretary led the way to the banquet hall and all the members followed.

The entertainment was unquestionably the finest and most elaborately arranged banquet ever given in Helena. It is a matter of congratulation that the Hotel Helena has made it possible to thus satisfactorily cater to the wants of the citizens of Helena and their friends in a manner that would in all respects compare favorably with the large eastern cities. The tables were arranged in the form of an open square. The dining-room was handsomely decorated with paintings, potted plants, smilax and the national colors. The tables were decorated with numerous handsomely ornamented pieces from the hands of the chef and head pastry cook. The two principal ones were reproductions of ornamental pieces seen by the head pastry cook during a recent visit to Germany, on the occasion of a complimentary banquet tendered the celebrated diplomat Chancellor Caprivi. The first piece represented a fort with port holes, from which miniature cannon protruded. Soldiers were on guard on the ramparts with officers, and, in fact, every preparation for defense was shown. This piece had three turrets or towers, and from the highest was displayed the Star Spangle Banner. From the two lower towers were streamers, each bearing the legend, "Our Country." Another table ornament which attracted all eyes was a lofty pagoda of graceful and symmetrical

proportions, of a Moorish style, with many handsome awnings. On the base of the structure were the words, " Framers of the Constitution of Montana."

The tables were profusely and tastefully decorated with cut flowers and evergreens. At each plate rested a boutonniere. As each member entered the room he was handed a menu card of chaste style, bearing an illuminated monogram composed of the letters S. F. C. M.

Prof. Romandy and his orchestra filled the large room with sweet melody while the courses were being served.

The arrangements for the banquet were designed and perfected by Mr. Henry N. Willey, the vice-president and general manager of The Helena Hotel Company, assisted by his more than usual efficient chef, Chas. Mulchay, the head pastry cook, Frederick Kaul, and Samuel Henry, head waiter.

THE MENU.

Blue points.

Green turtle soup.

Broiled white fish.

Maitre d'hotel.

Celery.

Swiss potatoes.

Sliced tomatoes.

Young turkey with cranberry jelly.

Baked sweet potatoes.

Sweetbreads, larded.

Mushroom sauce.

French peas.

Rocky Mountain punch.

Broiled quail.

Asparagus a la creme.

Chicken salad.

Dressed lettuce.

Raspberry Charlotte Russe.

Cake.

Tutti frutti.

Fruit.

Roquefort.

Coffee.

There was also a quartette of four colored male singers that rendered a number of most charming negro melodies. These, with the waiters, were all handsomely remembered in liberal gifts from the happy guests.

The entire expense of this reunion was paid by the members of the Society, this being the expressed wish of all the members.

A vote of thanks was offered and passed for the "Hotel Helena" and its able manager, Mr. Henry N. Willey.

It was 12 o'clock midnight when the President arose and offered the toast—

"The Father of the Society of the Framers of the Constitution of the State of Montana."

There was a general call for the Secretary, who sat at the President's right hand.

Mr. Knippenberg arose and responded.

After the first toast, nearly every member was called upon, and some of the happiest speeches were made. Among these were Messrs. Clark, Maginnis, Carpenter, Toole (Governor), Collins, Eaton, Gibson, Rickards, Dixon, Knowles, Marion, Bickford, Joy and others.

At 2 o'clock A. M., the 9th, the Society sang "America," and then the Secretary proposed three cheers for Montana, which were given.

The President then announced that our first reunion was now adjourned.

"IT HAS BEEN ONE OF THE HAPPIEST OCCASIONS OF MY WHOLE LIFE," fell from nearly every lip as we all said,

"GOOD NIGHT."

,"AND THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE. BY THE PEOPLE.
FOR THE PEOPLE. SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH."

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