

Founder of the National Grange.



OLIVER H. KELLY.

Oliver H. Kelly, founder of the National Grange, is still living in Washington. He is 55 years old. He believes the grange has helped the farmer greatly to his present position of importance in the world's affairs. Mr. Kelly was made social commissioner of the agricultural bureau directly after the war by appointment of President Johnson. His duty was to study conditions in the devastated sections of the United States. He found that in the South scientific agriculture was practically unknown. The idea came to him of the organization of a secret association of farmers all over the United States for mutual advantage and improvement and the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry was the result. The first lodges were organized by Mr. Kelly in 1868. In less than five years there were 1,074 granges and \$16,000 in the national treasury. The order has been growing steadily since.