

Caroline Hall:

Caroline Hall was Oliver Hudson Kelley's niece and his secretary. She was his advisor and inspiration during many of Oliver's early attempts to mold the fledgling body into a viable organization. She was most supportive and encouraging in her uncle's passion of founding the Grange. She saw the Grange as a great opportunity for womankind to express her fine talents, and there is no doubt that Grange idealism has been raised to a higher level than would have been otherwise.

However, with being female in the early post-Civil War era, her input was not thought of as being a founder. However, wiser minds had since prevailed, and in 1892, by vote of the National Grange delegate body, she was accorded the same level as the other founders. Later, the Assembly of Demeter passed a concurrent vote that a page be inserted in the Sacred Record of the Order that she is entitled to the same position in Grange history as held by the initially determined Seven Founders themselves.

She was the first National Grange Ceres and the first woman to hold an office therein. This fact is contained in a letter, written and signed by Francis M. McDowell, the first High Priest of the Assembly of Demeter. She was then elected the first National Grange Lady Assistant Steward when that Office was established in 1873.

She also compiled the first Grange songbook.

