

CITY OF WEeping WATER

A Charming Little City of 1,500 Inhabitants, With Excellent Schools, Fine Residences and Business Houses

SECOND CITY IN COUNTY

Some Brief Biographical Sketches of Leading Citizens and Enterprising Institutions
—Brief Historical Resume

Weeping Water today contains about 1,500 inhabitants and is pleasantly situated, nestled as it is among the hills which nearly surround it, and is laid out on either side of the stream called Weeping Water, from which the town derived its name. It was a point well advertised in the early days of its location, on account of the milling facilities, to which many of the early pioneers of Cass, Otoe and even Lancaster counties were obliged to come to get their wheat and corn made into flour and corn meal. It was in those days when the millers had to adopt the rule "first come, first served," and many there are still in this section of Cass county who can relate their experience in crossing unbridged streams on their way to and from Weeping Water for the purpose mentioned. Some of them were compelled to wait from one to three days, and at times nearly a week to get their "grist" as soon as ground and in their turn. The mill site had been selected by Wm. Reed in the spring of 1851, a short distance above the falls, and a small wooden mill was built which did good service until 1866. Then Mr. Reed decided that a larger and more modern mill became a necessity, which was constructed from stone, of which material this section seems to be inexhaustible. Then within a radius of a half mile lived three families, and that spring three more families moved in, and soon about twenty-five men (teamsters, quarymen, masons and carpenters, were at work hauling and taking out stone for the mill and other buildings being erected later on. This material was taken from the bluffs on both the north and south side of what is known as Eldora Avenue.

The Present Townsite.
One or two paper towns were laid out before the present original plat was made by E. L. Reed, L. D. Hunter, F. M. Wolcott, Geary Treat and Samuel Clinton. The survey was made by A. B. Smith in March, 1868, and the plat filed for record, December 19, 1870. Numerous additions have been added since, until the present platted city covers about 500 acres, 400 acres of which are included in the corporate limits. As soon as the town was established, provisions were made for the education of the children, the first school being taught by Mrs. C. A. Bellows in a log house which stood between where Mr. Pritchard and Mrs. Wilkerson now live. Mrs. Bellows lived in a log house that stood in what is now Mrs. Wolcott's front door yard. In the fall of 1861 she moved to Rock Bluffs, which town was striving hard to become the "future great" of Cass county. In 1864 Mrs. A. W. Beach was engaged to teach school in a fourteen foot square log house and the scholarship numbered ten. A new stone school house was begun that spring, but was not completed for several years. This was used until 1888 when the two lower stories of the present school house were built, making a capacity for ten grades, but in 1895 necessity compelled the third story to be put on, making room for more grades. From the town's incipency the citizens seemed to have eyes single to good schools, and they have kept up their excellent work in this direction, until today Weeping Water is known far and near for its excellent schools. The course of studies include all that are taught in the city schools of perhaps double the population of Weeping Water, and it is designed to give the graduate a practical grasp of the branches which will enable him or her successfully to surmount the problems of every-day business life. Every citizen feels a pride in the public schools, for here the children learn of the formation and growth of the nation's government, and taught to respect the laws under which the great nation was formed. These facts learned are the beginning of a career as good citizens. Weeping Water is also fortunate in possessing an Academy, where, after leaving the high school, the scholar is taught higher branches which fit them for entering almost any business career, without going elsewhere to receive these advantages.

Pioneer Merchants.
Some of the early merchants were H. D. Clark, who started a small grocery store in the winter of 1864, and Reed & Beardsley a general merchandise store in 1865. Today nearly all lines are represented. E. E. Day came from South Bond in 1882, and started in the grain business, and in 1887 opened a general store, each of which he still conducts. S. F. Girardet started in 1883, Ambler Bros. began in 1892, E. P. Marshall opened a grain business in 1900 and in 1904 erected a modern and well equipped elevator. S. W. Orton, a druggist, began business in 1881, and still continues in the same. The business firms have been greatly increased and now boasts of a number of the finest equipped business houses in Cass county. Like all towns Weeping

Water has enjoyed her ups and downs in the establishing of newspapers, and in infancy days several came and went. The Republican was established by J. K. Keithley in 1882. In 1902 George H. Olive established the Herald, and both the papers continued until a short time since when both publications were consolidated under the name of the Republican, and George H. Olive placed in control of the paper. His career as a newspaper man is well known, and the people seem to be well pleased with the manner in which he is conducting the columns of the Republican. He is a good citizen, and is right in for anything that is calculated to benefit Weeping Water. Mr. Olive is also postmaster of the city and is proving himself very competent for the position.

Does a City Garb.
The town changed from a village garb to that of donning city clothing in the spring of 1888, and the first mayor was G. W. Norton in 1888-9. Up to the present time eleven different citizens have held the position, no one of them holding the office so many terms successively as the present mayor, Fred Gorder, who has been the chief executive of the city so long that everybody seems to think that Mr. Gorder is a permanent fixture in the mayor's office. He is a good man, an excellent citizen, and seems at home in conducting municipal affairs. The city voted water works bonds March 1, 1888, amounting to \$13,000. These bonds are all now paid and the city is out of debt, \$8,000 of these bonds having been paid in the last four years. The lights are now talking of electric lights, and the probabilities are that inside of the next two years the streets, business houses and residences will be lighted by the installation of a plant that will be well equipped for this purpose. Weeping Water is an up-to-date city, as her many well equipped stores, splendid business houses and magnificent residences, with well kept surroundings would truly indicate. Her natural advantages are all that could be desired. The church edifices are better than those in many towns of five times the population of Weeping Water, all with good memberships and are presided over by able and highly educated pastors. The shipping facilities of the city are of the best, with two branches of the Missouri Pacific railway passing through the town, making it an excellent shipping point to Omaha, Lincoln, Kansas City or other market cities. The people of Weeping Water are enterprising, energetic and generous, and extend a hearty welcome to all strangers who want to settle in a live, progressive community.

What the City Has Today.
Weeping Water at this time possesses one exclusive grocery store, two livery and sales stables under one management, 2 restaurants, one cigar factory, 2 banks, 2 hotels (one European), 3 general stores, 2 shoe stores (one exclusive), one exclusive confectionery, one clothing store, one jewelry store, one exclusive hardware store, one hardware and furniture store, pump and windmill supply house, one exclusive implement and repair house, 2 harness shops, one bakery, one blacksmith shop, one blacksmith and implement shop, 2 barber shops, 2 music stores one printing office, four real estate dealers, two stock buyers, two lumber yards, two elevators, one of the best mills in Eastern Nebraska, two milliners, three paper hangers and decorators, three carpenters and contractors, two plasterers, two stone masons, one brick mason and one meat market. This list will give the reader a pretty fair idea of the business conducted in this thriving and beautiful little city. Following will be found brief mentions of those business men who have kindly contributed to the issuance of this mammoth edition of the Journal, and thus displayed the enterprise which all good business men should possess:

Pool & Colbert, Real Estate.
One of the largest and most extensive real estate firms in Southeastern Nebraska is that of Pool & Colbert, of Weeping Water. These gentlemen give the buying and selling of real estate their undivided and special attention, and have probably found more homes for those seeking investments in Western Nebraska lands than any of their competitors. They not only have immense tracts of fine, tillable lands in this state for sale, but have 30,000 acres

in Brown, McPherson, Edwards, Spink and Beadle counties, South Dakota lands for sale, near the towns of Sheridan, Redfield and Ipswich, along the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, Northwestern, and Great Northern railways. The country is well settled with an educated, enlightened, progressive, up-to-date people, with schools, churches, rural routes and numerous telephones. To view these lands means to buy you a home and cease paying rent.

Pool & Colbert can fully testify to this fact. So if you are in the market for a farm, don't fail to correspond with these gentlemen and you will be sure to get what you desire.

William Cherry.
The subject of this sketch was born and grew to manhood in Weeping Water. His father, Chas. M. Cherry, who removed to the western part of the state, some months since, yet owns property in the city.



STREET SCENE—WEEPING WATER

In Chase County, Nebraska, Messrs Pool & Colbert have some very choice propositions. These opportunities can never be duplicated in any section of the United States. Think of it! Fifteen and twenty dollars an acre with good soil and water. Anything you want Messrs. Pool & Colbert have in Chase county, the best in the west, and the investor to be the judge. They pay hotel bills at the west end for all investors, and will refund all expenses if the land, crops and water are not just as they represent them to be. The Frenchman creek, one of the prettiest streams of water in the state, runs the entire length of Chase county, and was never known to go dry. These gentlemen have

Young Cherry conceived the idea about one year ago, of establishing an up-to-date musical establishment in Weeping Water, and he has succeeded in doing so.

His store is one of the finest of its character to be found in many cities of five times the population of Weeping Water. Here can be found all kinds of musical instruments and supplies, such as violins, banjos, guitars, mandolins, graphophones, records, strings, sheet music, and in fact everything characteristic of a first-class musical emporium. Mr. Cherry makes a specialty of the celebrated Kurtzman Pianos, among the very best instruments placed upon the market, and warranted to be



GIRLS' COTTAGE—WEEPING WATER ACADEMY

more choice bargains in real estate in both South Dakota and Nebraska than any other real estate firm in this section of the state. They have sold thousands upon thousands of acres, and not one of those who have purchased farms from them have become in the least dissatisfied with their bargains or locations. Messrs. Pool & Colbert are the real live land men in Cass county, and they are not of that class who misrepresent their lands in order to sell. A landseeker can depend upon getting just what they represent. They are honorable and square-dealing, and the hundreds who have been nicely located in Western Nebraska and South Dakota by the aid of Messrs.

just as represented, and you can purchase one of this make or any one of several brands as cheap of Mr. Cherry, as you can get one in Lincoln or Omaha. Mr. Cherry is married, and has one of the most accomplished young ladies for a wife. Mrs. Cherry is a fine musician, and now has a class in instrumental music. She is a great help to her husband in the fact that she knows all the rudiments connected with all the first-grade instruments which they keep on sale. The store is handsomely arranged, which demonstrates the fine taste of which these two popular young people are possessed. The people of Weeping Water should be proud of such an



KLIETSCH & HALMES' ROLLER MILLS

enterprise, and see that it gets the patronage it truly deserves.

J. I. Corley.
This gentleman has been one of the highly respected citizens of Weeping Water almost from the date of its incipency, and has been identified with the upbuilding of every interest that was for the best of Weeping Water. He came to Weeping Water many years ago and since by his thrift, industry and genial qualities, has succeeded in laying up plenty of this world's goods for the proverbial rainy day.

For a number of years Mr. Corley has been engaged in the confectionery business, and keeps an up-to-date place of business. Here can be found always a first-class quality of the latest confections, all kinds of cigars and tobacco; also a general line of stationery, books and magazines, and also soft drinks and ice cream in season.

Mr. Corley has built up a fine business, which is, in fact, the only real confectionery in Weeping Water. He has hosts of friends, in Cass county, and this to a great extent, is one reason why he has made a success out of the business in which others have failed. Mr. Corley has a very handsome home in Weeping Water, and is happy and contented with his lot on this mundane sphere, surrounded, as he is by his estimable family.

The First National Bank
of Weeping Water is the largest bank in Cass county outside of Plattsmouth, and was organized with a paid-up capital of \$50,000.

From 1886 to 1897, the deposits in this bank amounted to about \$35,000. Beginning in 1897 the deposits began to gradually increase until now they average \$250,000.

This bank has always made a specialty of handling the accounts of farmers and stock feeders, and gives close attention to their business.

The greatest care is taken in handling the loans, and the entire board of directors act as a discount committee. The board meets on the second Tuesday of each month and examines in detail each and every note and all collateral held by the bank. Owing to the high grade paper owned by the bank, losses are almost unknown.

On February 16, 1907, Secretary of Treasury Shaw designated the First National Bank of Weeping Water a United States Depository, is being one of the few country banks in Nebraska so selected.

The present officers of the bank are: John L. Hutchins, President; Charles Philpot, Vice President; Thomas Murtey, Cashier; Lloyd P. Wolcott, Assistant Cashier.

The last statement to the comptroller of the currency was April 28, 1909 and was as follows:

Assets.	
Loans	\$235,252.32
U. S. Bonds	60,000.00
Real Estate	3,000.00
Cash, Exchange and Due From U. S. Treasurer	68,234.56
Total	\$366,486.88
Liabilities.	
Capital	50,000.00
Surplus	10,000.00
Profits	4,011.64
Total	64,011.64
Circulation	50,000.00
Gov. Deposits	10,000.00
Local Deposits	242,475.24
Total	\$366,486.88

The object of the stockholders and directors of the First National Bank is to have a clean, up-to-date bank, second to none in the state.

The Cashier gives his entire time and attention to the bank and has been with it more than twenty years.

Weeping Water Flour Mills.

The city of Weeping Water is well represented by the largest and most up-to-date mill in Cass county, which is owned and operated by Klietsch & Halmes. They formed a partnership and built the mill in 1899 and it was put in operation October 6, the same year. It has a capacity of 60 barrels of flour, 20 barrels of corn meal and 500 bushels of feed. The picture shows the mill as was first built, but since then from time to time they have added more storage room, which now has a capacity for storing 10,000 bushels of wheat, 2,000 sacks of flour and 500 sacks of feed. Mr. Herman Klietsch was born in Germany in 1859, where he started to learn the miller's trade at the age of 14. In 1884 he came to the United States. After working for

three years at his trade in Iowa, he came to Nebraska in 1887, and worked as miller in the mill at Cedar Creek. In 1888 he went to Plattsmouth and was head miller in the Heisel mill some time. He also engaged in other business.

Mr. N. C. Halmes was born in Cass county near Weeping Water in 1865, but the greater part of his life was spent on a farm five miles west of Plattsmouth. Both men are well known all over the county and their goods, which have a wide reputation, are sold by all up-to-date merchants of the surrounding country. The mill also furnishes steady employment for six men. Their leading brands are Diamond Patent and K. & H. flour.

City National Bank.

The City National Bank of Weeping Water occupies a place in the very front rank of the strong financial institutions of the state. The combined worth of the stockholders is over three-quarters of a million dollars, and they are without exception men who have made good in their respective lines, insuring a sound, conservative and exceptionally well backed and well managed institution. As an illustration, during the late panic, they did not at any time find it necessary to use the clearing house certificates, or hedge in any manner, but through the panic paid cash in full on all their checks and certificates, without a limit, refusing no one the cash at any time from start to finish. It is in always being prepared for emergencies and a record of clean, sound management that has given the City National Bank an enviable reputation as a sound and conservative institution.

The bank was founded in 1895 by the late John A. Donelan, who for thirteen years was the active head of the institution. In that time building up one of the best banking institutions in the country. The first five of the fourteen years it has been running, being as a state bank, when it was re-organized under the National banking laws and became a National bank under the supervision of the



United States government. Since its organization, in 1895, it has had but two presidents, the first being the late George W. Adams, a Nebraska pioneer, and the present head of the institution, Jacob Domingo, one of the leading farmers of the county.

A little over a year ago Mr. Donelan sold his interests to the present stockholders and the active management was taken over by C. W. Bish who for twelve years had been with the bank as assistant cashier.

The bank is known as the home bank, all its stock being owned at home with the exception of a very few shares.

Dr. E. T. Rickard.

This gentleman was born in Wisconsin and passed his early childhood in his native state. Moving to Nebraska he took up the study of medicine graduating first from the medical department of the Cotner University at Lincoln and later graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago. He also has taken post graduate work in other eastern medical schools. He opened an office in Weeping Water in April, 1897, and has practiced successfully in that town and vicinity ever since. He stands at the head of his profession in Weeping Water and is highly esteemed by all classes.

The doctor is married and has one child.

He is often called in consultation in critical cases and is invariably correct in his diagnosis of disease. Dr. Rickard is a member of the United States Pension Board and assists in examining all applicants in his locality for pensions.

The doctor is a member of the Masonic order and also of the I. O. O. F. He is a valuable citizen and a good neighbor, always pleasant, progressive and a fine man to know.

C. W. Kaar, Dentist.

Weeping Water is fortunate in possessing one of the finest dentists in the state of Nebraska, in the person of Dr. C. W. Kaar. He graduated from the Lincoln Dental College (associated with the University of Nebraska) in 1908, and located in Weeping Water the same year, where he began the practice of his chosen profession. In doing so, he uses all modern appliances, and his work gives that satisfaction which is guar-