

Nebraska Herald.

PLATSMOUTH NEBRASKA.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1874.

Land Swindlers in Southwestern Iowa.

The Sioux City Journal states that many swindles have been perpetrated in connection with property located in Northwestern Iowa. Most of them, it is believed, were concerted but there is no evidence against closing bargaining for land without investigation. Two recent instances of fraud are given:

A few days ago, gentlemen arrived here from Indiana, and soon after found they had purchased over twelve hundred acres of O'Brien county land of a party in Chicago, to which the grantor never had honest title. One section of the property they found to be school land, and still in the possession of its owner.

More remarkable instance came to light some time ago. A gentleman of New York had long thought himself possessed of a beautiful tract of land in Buena Vista county, and one day he came to Iowa to look at his possessions. Judge of his surprise when he found that splendid sheet of water known as Storm Lake, covered the location of his supposed real estate.

Vallandigham's "Advance."

The Nebraska Herald copies approvingly Vallandigham's platform for the Democratic party, and characterize the movement as set off by that document as "the greatest advance in all the East." If the "advances" possess any significance, it yet is evident without money and without price to him who will patiently and faithfully receive it.

Whitish Extracts of WIHS.

From the will of General Blackett, Governor of Plymouth, proved 1782:—"Desiring my body to be kept so long as may not be offensive; and that one of my toes or fingers be cut off to secure the settling of my living debts. I further require no dead wife, as she has been troubled with one old foot, he will not think of marrying a second."

From the will of the Rev. Dr. Appling, of St. Bride's proved 1783:—"I leave my body to be dressed in a funeral waistcoat, an old surtout coat and breeches without lining and pockets; no shoes (shaving done walking), and a sword hilt which can be got, in order that I may rest comfortably."

From the will of the Mariner of Bristol, proved 1795:

"My executors to pay, out of the first money collected, to my beloved wife, if living one shilling, which I give as a token of my love, that she may buy hazelnuts, as I know she is better pleased with cracking them than she is with eating the nuts in her stockings."

He believes in secession and annexation, but is against the San Domingo scheme "upon the score of its notorious corruption and robbery."

He arraigns Grant's administration for its "corruption and favoritism," and denounces Congress for its "Ku Klux legislation."

This is the boasted "advance," and what does it amount to? If the Democratic party adopts such a platform, what issue is presented on which it should be advanced to power? If the amendments, and negro suffrage, are all right, what is to be gained by this addition of sixteen points? Practically only two points are left—no tariff—that is, the support of the government by direct taxation—and opposition to corruption. The Democracy would make a queer fight on such a basis. For years they have been quarreling with the "odious" direct taxes imposed by the Republican party to meet the demands of the national debt. They have talked about the "repeal" which would be with every man's interest to ascertain his income, and the "army of tax collectors" who were "eating out the substance of the people"—Well, we have just got rid of all this, thanks to an honest and economical handling of our financial affairs, the debt having been so reduced that "direct taxation" is almost entirely dispensed with. Would it be wise to abolish the tariff in order to get another Internal Revenue?

The Chronometer.

An interesting object is the chronometer, or instrument from which all England supplied with the correct time.—Sixteen of the most important cities in the world are connected with it, and it is in direct communication with the instrument, which is in itself in direct communication with the Observatory at Greenwich. At 9:58 o'clock every morning all other work is suspended, in order that there may be no interference with what is called the "time current," which precisely at the striking of the clock, flashes the intelligence to the sixteen stations with which it is in communication, and not merely at noon. There are twenty-four hours throughout the kingdom; the clocks at 9:58 o'clock are on the lookout for this signal which is being passed along their fine, and the clocks are adjusted accordingly.

This poetical conception has caused the passion flower to be held in esteem, almost amounting to veneration, in Catholic countries; and the blossom is found entwined, in many cases, with emblazoned inscriptions and borders of old manuscripts of the sacred writings.

Legend of the Passion Flower.

It is said that certain Jews, bewailing in Jerusalem the death of Christ, saw, for the first time, this flower, by some said to have sprung where drops of his blood had fallen, and with the scene of his wondrous passion and death still fresh in their memory, gave to this beautiful flower a symbolic meaning indicative of his sufferings and the manners of his death.

The anthers are supposed to represent the three nails used at the crucifixion.—The rays represent the glory of our Lord.—The purple fringe, sometimes found with red spots upon it, is a type of the crown of thorns. The petals, ten in number, are the representatives of those who were faithful to their Heavenly Master. The three sepals of the Calyx, are emblematic of the Trinity.

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