THE HERALD.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1873.

J. A. MACMURPHY,.....EDITOR.

CORRESPONDENCE

From all parts of the State and country respectfully solicited for the HERALD.

Agricultural notes and short articles detailing farmer's experience particularly requested.

We do not read anonymous letters and communications. The name and address of the writer are in all cases indispensable as a guarantee of good faith.

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We will send the HERALD and Demorest's Monthly, which is $3.00 for one year, to any person who pays us $3.50.

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THE NEBRASKA HERALD and the OMAHA REPUBLICAN, to one address $3.00 per year.

We call attention to the meeting of the Normal Institute for this State, at Ashland, Aug 11th, of which full notice is given on the first page.

As yet no postal cards have been received at the department which in paper or execution were such as the contract calls for.

Gov. Furnas has offered two hundred dollars reward for the arrest of Geo. W. Waldo, charged with being one of the murderers of Geo. G. Randall of Johnson Co.

They do say that the Hon. T. M. Marquett, of our town, made the most eloquent Fourth of July Oration at Lincoln, this year, that the citizens there ever listened to.

Read Prof. Swearingen's letter from Pennsylvania.

We return thanks to Professor Swearingen, of Pennsylvania, for his contribution to the Educational Column, and trust that he will continue the favors.

An Impostor.

A telegram from Mills & Co., of Des Moines Iowa, says James B. Hamilton, now traversing the State of Nebraska, and claiming to be agent for that house, is an impostor and confidence man. Pass him around.—*Journal.*

On the night of the fifteenth inst Louisville, Ky. was aroused by the alarm of fire and within three hours five alarms were given in different parts of the city.

A large amount of property was destroyed but the fires were finally got under control.

The fires were the work of incendiaries.

VICE PRES'T WILSON'S SICKNESS.

Somewhat more reliable information concerning Vice President Wilson's sickness seems to be vouchsafed us than has been obtainable heretofore. He has had a slight attack of paralysis, depriving him of the control of the muscles of one side of his face, which has some what disfigured him. His physicians hold out hopes of his entire recovery if he will abstain entirely from work of any kind. It is doubtful if they will allow him to preside in the senate at the next session.

Speaking of the resolutions adopted by the Iowa Republican Convention making it a duty to oppose the election of bad and incompetent men, even if nominated by a Republican convention, the Bloomington (Ill.) *Leader* says:

They do not say that every Republican *may* oppose the election of a bad man on the ticket of his own party without losing political caste in his own party; which would be a bold announcement of personal liberty, but they say it is *the duty* of every Republican to do so. It is incumbent, it is binding upon him, as a good Republican. What other political party has ever made a similar declaration? What other political party has ever had so firm a hold upon the popular heart, so complete possession of the public confidence that it could dare to make such announcement of political liberty, faith, and doctrine?

AN ABSURD RUMOR.

The report in circulation that the President has drawn two years' back pay under the law increasing salaries is absurd, since the Constitution forbids the increase or diminishing of a President's compensation during the period for which he shall be chosen; and also prohibits him from receiving within that period any other emoluments from the United States. His new rate of pay under the late salary bill began with his new term on the 4th of March, and the clause in the law increasing his pay is as follows: "That on and after the 4th day of March, 1873, the President of the United States shall receive, in full for his service during the term for which he shall be elected, the sum of $50,000 per annum, to be paid monthly."

The proceedings of the Nebraska State Horticultural Society for 1872 lies before us, thanks to the kindness of D. H. Wheeler, Secretary. It is a very neatly bound volume, and gives much valuable information in the Horticultural line. The appendix contains J. T. Allan's Essay on Forest growing; an Essay on Planting Evergreens, by E. Ferrand; Essay on Timber growing, by J. H. Davidson; Essay on Timber, by James Morris, and an Essay on Tree Culture, by C. S. Harrison, all of which will repay reading, and should be read by our practical farmers throughout the State.

The order of the Board says 3000 of these reports should be printed. Dr. Miller says they were not. Mr. Wheeler says they are, and we saw a pretty good stock of them at his office, any way.

We call attention to the article stating the fact that Nebraska has a State Fair in September. The time is fast approaching, our farmers ought to be preparing now for the proper exhibition of their produce and stock at that time. It will be one of the most interesting and important Fairs this State has ever held. The prize Essay on Nebraska will be read, Miss Matilda Fletcher deliver an address on "Farmer's Wives and Daughters," and, as will be seen by the letter of a correspondent in another column, she ought to know how that is herself.

The railroad rates on passenger travel and on stock or goods designed for exhibition have been greatly reduced, and the conveniences for reaching the fair grounds multiplied so that there can hardly be an excuse for our people not visiting our fair this season from all parts of the State.

GREAT RAILROAD ACCIDENT AND ROBBERY.

Tuesday, July 22.

A gang of robbers placed a heavy timber across the track of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific R. R., at a curve in the road, four miles west of Adair. The engineer saw the obstruction in time to apply the air brakes and reverse the engine but the robbers seeing this, from their ambush, fired at him and shot him dead. The engine struck the timber and was thrown, with one of the baggage cars, from the track, the passenger cars standing on the track. The robbers, who were masked, broke open and emptied the express messenger's safe of some $2,000, and rode off on horseback. Several passengers were bruised, but not severely hurt. The country is being scoured in every direction in search of the robbers.

"THE SARE-CUS."

The circus has come and gone. The big show has been to Plattsmouth, and old and young have seen it. Once more "Old John Robinson has become a household word" in another section of country, and many a mother, with a troop of boys, will devoutly wish that Old John Robinson and his circus too, were in tophet, during the next three weeks.

Early in the morning the folks began to gather from all parts of the known world, (we guess so, there was so many), and about ten o'clock the grand procession passed up Main street on one side and down our principal thoroughfare on the other.

The side walk attendance was large and ecstatic. The chariots shone in the morning sun like burnished gold, and the brass fixings looked indeed like chariots of fire. The stately elephant carried his own trunk and two other fellows, bag and baggage, in solemn grandeur, and the patient camels ground their many corns on the slippery cobble stones of the *Gulch City*, while two magnificent native Arabs in Zouave pants, (like red meal bags) and Turkish Fez, grandiloquently marched in front of them, one of whom softly whispered to his camel as we passed, "Ye onld fool ye, af ye tread on me heels agin, I'll pit a rale county cork head on yez, ye ould vagabone ye."

ON THE GROUNDS

An immense tent was cast, and evrything bore token that the great John Robinson and all his robbin' sons had come to town.

Under the canvas, the lions roared, the tigers growled (these are facts, readers) the dogs barked, (trained to, they was), the monkeys—well, the real reporter would say chattered—it was too hot to chatter—these monkeys turned up their noses at Plattsmouth people, and showed their teeth at their young *conferes* about town in the most hospitable manner possible. One old fellow, that was loose, hooked his tail round one of the three horns of the Texas steer, and whimpered in the ears of an admiring group of young gutter grubs, "You-uns-come-from-Darwin; you-did; Darwin 's-one of-our-men, he is."

THE LITTLE PONIES

Were perhaps the pleasantest and most healthful sight there, among the animals at least. Such little dears, only three feet high, some of them, and as docile as kittens. One little round-bellied, mild-eyed, innocent looking little mother-pony had the tiniest, sweetest (shall we say it) little collie you ever saw. It was not bigger than a half grown setter dog—about 18 inches high, and would weigh 20 lbs., maybe. It did look so cute we know that half the little folks there longed to hug and kiss it, and we should not have objected ourselves. Several of the little ponies had colts, and all were pleasant, graceful objects to view, but none others were so small as this one we have described. They all looked contented and cheerful, and that made them the most agreeable feature of the animal show, as all the caged animals always seem restless and discontented, as if pining for other climes and lands, or at least for liberty here, which can never be granted. For one it is too hot, for another too cold, and they sometimes show such evident pain in their cramped positions that we feel sad at heart on viewing them; and then, it always seemed to us, as if many of them knew and felt they were set up there as a show, at so much a head, and really were mortified at being gazed at hour after hour by an ignorant and often unsympathising crowd.

IN THE EVENING.

We went into the circus tent and it was packed; the tall benches rising one behind the other from the green-sward, almost to the roof of the tent. There must have been 2,500 people present; and where they all came from in Plattsmouth is a mystery.

The little lady on the tight rope was very graceful, and the horses, those white ones, were beautiful—now were'nt they? Who says they were nothing but old circus horses? Nobody, but some miserable old puffed up curmudgeon, bloated with beer and vanity, who has forgotten the days when he was a boy, and the circus was next door to heaven, and the horses were all wild from tartary, and the circus men more than human beings, the envy and admiration of his little soul.

Really, the horses were fine, and looked grand as they galloped about the ring, their muscles swelling with pride, and their eyes glistening with emulation; for the horses, boys, have as much pride in this thing as the men, and even more. A dog is more susceptible to envy and jealousy than any of our domesticated animals; but to the horse is given pride, the desire to excel, rivalry with his compeers for favors, to a greater extent than any other known animal; and they are the most beautiful of all the animals the great Creator has given us. The elephant is wonderful, the lion, king of strength, but the horse is emperor of beauty and intelligence.

Then the riders and athletes, what a wonderful control of the muscles, what splendid chests they have; how easy and graceful every motion. The muscles of the shoulders and arms rise and swell and play from side to side, and seem for the time being endowed with life and reason, add to control the great inert mass of bones and flesh as they list. That small cord that bends our little finger supports and draws up or down the whole frame, and those minute lines under the skin, by which we wiggle our toes, becomes capable of supporting the weight of two large men.

If men can so educate the body, should they not the soul, and can they not? If men can teach the minute chords of the body to obey the slightest wave of will power from the mighty brain at option, should they not be able to teach the mind, the immortal part to obey the behests of a higher power in something the same proportion.

There is much truth in the clown's joke, that its "a great moral show," and although one of his feet was religious, and only came to see the animals, teachers, preachers and learners may visit the circus with two religious feet and receive there a great lesson. The lesson of endurance, patience, the power of thorough training, the immense power of the will which overcomes every physical difficulty, and should overcome all mental ones, if applied with the same persistence.

THE CLOWN.

A large proportion of the interest of any circus centers about the clown.—To the young he is a magic person, and even we older ones laugh at his Stale jokes and blush at his practical tricks on us. This fellow was a born vagabond, we know it. He should be indicted, along with the bridge he talked so much about, for a nuisance. He thinks he's smart, but he aint a bit.—He undertook to show us up as a wholesale depot for bad whisky; but the joke failed entirely—every one could see it failed, and that's why they laughed. Every one knows we get the best in town, and always have; *all* the doctors sample it first, to see if it 'll kill or not, before we drink it; and then to have a miserable circus clown expose us in that way. Well our reputation is fire proof and Babcock proof and we don't think he hurt Fox's feelings any, but to include one our best lawyers, a pious man, leader in the ——— school; pillar in the ——— h (vide *Watchman*)—in his vile whisky frame was too bad; and if ever that clown comes to Plattsmouth again we'll fix him. We'll just "smash" him till he can't stand any jokes on whisky. We'll tumble-r him, we'll take him over to Billy Neville's and give Jerry a dollar to Punch him until instead of dancing a tight rope he'll think a *tight* rope is dancing him a pretty jig, and we don't care how much Claret Jerry draws during the operation—nor who he draws it from.

THE DORG SHOW.

Was'nt they pretty, was'nt they cute? How the curly dog bit the old man's tail, and ran through the drum instead of jumping over the hoop, and went slow up the ladder when he should have gone fast, and was never on his chair (like some children) when he ought to have been, and how the "little white dog" stood up as straight as a boy, and the monkeys all walked a rope and stood on their head on a forty foot pole. Will it not all be chronicled in the hearts of our children for many a day to come? And this ends our day at the CIRCUS.

The Editor of the Hebron Journal Comes to Plattsmouth.

We took the B. & M. train Thursday morning, and at 2 o'clock P. M. found ourself set down at Plattsmouth, with a brief stay of four or five hours before us, all of which we were able to devote to visiting, sight seeing, &c.

[He goes for the Rrooks house, which we omit.]

We found the HERALD office just coming out of a moving "tribulation tear up," with excellent prospects of an early recovery, and in the editorial room, the life-partner—Mrs. MacMurphy—in the absence of the racy editor, occasioned by over exertion and ill health—busily engaged manipulating a No. 2 Faber, with all the ease and dexterity of an expert. She has been engaged in the office for the past year or eighteen months, and has doubtless done much to elevate the standard of and build up a reputation for the HERALD. Just as we were making our politest bow, before retiring from the office, Mac himself dropped in, and although we are sorry to learn, in general bad health, which at this time was aggravated by the extra labor consequent upon the removal of the office, opened upon us a conversation volley that brought us to the verge of "utter failure" to sustain. We took a brief view of the office, and had descanted on general subjects for the few minutes when a rustic gentleman called at the counting room, and as we left, was paying a year's subscription in "advance," knowing this to be the editor's paradise, and wishing to leave Mac in his pleasant reflections, we seized the opportunity and took our hat and loomed out.

Before leaving the city, however, we must say that was she situated in the "high old canyons" of the Sierra Nevadas, or the illustrious hills of the more illustrious Switzerland, we could probably admire her river view, craggy bluffs, and gorgeous ravines; but located in the beautiful, rolling prairie State of Nebraska, we expected to see her spread over a smoother surface.

NEBRASKA,

Her Natural Advantages and Resources.

To the Honorable Executive Committee of the State Board of Agriculture, and the Honorable Examining Committee on Prize Essays, this paper is most respectfully dedicated:

GENTLEMEN—You have set your competitors a hard task, you ask us to write up Nebraska and her resources, a volume in itself, and then stipulate that we shall also treat of her history from her organization as a Territory; her water courses; water power; manufacturing advantages; navigable waters; Railroads, present and prospective; character and variety of soil and climate; rain fall; adaptation of soil and climate to raising crops; coal and salt deposits; timber and fruit growing; stock raising; wealth and population, approximate; and ratio of increase since admitted as a State. "In short, all information desirable and essential to those looking for new homes in the West."

Why did'nt you say "in long," for we cannot compress all this information within a small compass; nevertheless here's for a dash at it, and, Messrs. Examiners, although you may have before you many an abler essay on our young State, you certainly will not have one written with any more earnest desire to tell the truth or to show forth to mankind, with fervor and earnestness, the real advantages of Nebraska.

It seems but yesterday since first we saw this land in all its virgin purity. Not the track of a wagon wheel defaced the smooth surface of the prairie, not a corn-field obstructed the free passage of man or beast for miles in any direction desirable to travel, nor had the plow mutilated the pure sward of the prairie. But yesterday in the life of States, and Nebraska was called the Indian Territory, and her boundaries as indefinite, as unknown as the famous sources of the Nile, her limits as unbounded and as vague as the Indian's own ideas of the country he fancies he owns, when he magnificently tells you his fathers owned *all this land.*

The day before yesterday it was an unknown country, the Great American Desert. Yesterday it was only Indian Teritory, to day you ask us for its history, its resources, population, railroads, schools and wealth.

Verily, must we have rubbed Aladdin's lamp to have built up in this "wildernesa" a state that calls for such a history as this in eighteen years from its formation as a Territory and but little over five years as a State.

THE BOUNDARIES OF NEBRASKA.

In the first Geography that my father studied, printed in Boston, 1813, by Jedidiah Moore, under the head of North America, we find the following astounding information: "Michigan Lake is wholly within the boundaries of the territory of the United States,"* * * * "Erie Lake is of the fourth magnitude," * * and "when the population of North America shall have diffused itself toward the West, the banks of these lakes may become the seats of flourishing cities."

They have *diffused* themselves.—The cities "have arriv."

Next, "The Missouri rises in Louisiana, and falls into the Mississippi 1160 miles from the mouth of that river.—It is said to be navigable for 1300 miles."

* * * * "The Ohio is a most beautiful river, separating Ohio State and Indiania and Illinois Territories from Virginia and Kentucky."

It divides the U. S. into four districts which it terms, "the Northern, Southern, Middle and Western, or Louisiana," and says: "This division of the U. S. is already divided into Louisiana, and several territorial governments, is nearly equal in extent to all the rest of the U. S., and will, at no very distant period be divided into several independent States."

We should say so. Again we quote: "Agriculture flourishes most in New England, N. Y., and Penna., but is making rapid strides westward." *

"The boundaries of Louisiana are not settled and its extent cannot of course be estimated; it is supposed to contain nearly a million of square miles. Louisiana is divided into two governments, the *State* of Louisiana, and the *Territory* of Louisiania. The State of L. comprises the country between the Perdido on the East, the Mississippi river on the west, the Iberville and the Gulf on the south, and Mississippi Territory on the north.

The Territory of Louisiana comprehends all the country west of the Mississippi, and north of latitude 33deg." *

* "St. Louis is a village of 200 houses, beautifully situated on the Mississippi 14 miles below the mouth of the Missouri."

Evidently these folks could not bound Nebraska, but we have found somewhere near where we ought to be. We have found that our Nebraska was once in Louisiana, and within the lifetime of men not yet past active duty. Does'nt it make you feel queer? Think of New Orleans, and Kellog, and Warmouth, and let us thank Heaven that the population of these United States has been "diffused" and those "Cities have flourished," and those "independent States" have been made, and Nebraska is one of them.

In Cornell's High School Geography published by D. Appleton & Co., in 1856, we still find the Territory of Nebraska bounded on the North by British America, on the East by Dacotah, Iowa and a small portion of Missouri, on the south by Kansas, and on the west by the Rocky Mountains. The whole country north of the line of Missouri, and west of Iowa is not thought enough of to have a map to itself, on a separate page, as all the States up to these lines have.

Of course the surveys for these maps were taken before '56, but school maps continued to give substantially these limits until '59 or '60.

The Territory of Nebraska was organized in 1854, with the following boundaries, as given by the act of Congress creating said Territory.

TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES.

Beginning at a point in the Missouri where the 40th parallel of North latitude crosses the same; thence west on said parallel to the East boundary of the Territory of Utah, on the summit of the Rocky Mountains; thence on said summit northward to the 49th parallel; thence east on said parallel to the western boundary of Minnesota; thence southward on said boundary to the Missouri river, and thence down the said river to the place of beginning, be, and the same is hereby created into a temporary government by the name of the Territory of Nebraska.

Some time in '58 Dacotah was carved from out this vast region to the north, and later still the Territories of Colorado and Wyoming were lopped from The great Flat Water, so that in 1867, when we were admitted as a State, our boundaries were as follows:

HER PRESENT BOUNDARIES.

Commence at a point, formed by the intersection of the Western boundary of the state of Missouri, with the fortieth degree of North latitude; extending thence due West, along said fortieth degree of North latitude, to a point formed by its intersection with twenty-fifth degree of longitude west from Washington, thence north, along said 25th degree of longitude, to a point formed by its intersection with the forty-first degree, of North latitude; thence west along said forty-first degree of North latitude to a point formed by its intersection with the 27th degree of longitude, west from Washington; thence North, along the said 27th degree of West longitude, to a point formed by its intersection with the 43d degree of North latitude; thence East, along said 43d degree of North latitude, to the Keya-Paha River; thence down the middle of the channel of said river, with its meanderings to its junction with the Niobrara river; thence down the middle channel of the said Niobrara river, and following its meanderings, to its junction with the Missouri river; thence down the middle channel of the Missouri river, and following the meanderings thereof, to the place of the beginning.

Before leaving the question of boundaries, it might be proper to notice a curious fact about the first intentions, regarding the tract of land westward, divided into Kansas and Nebraska. The first bill introduced into Congress, looking towards the formation of a teritorial government, out of the vast region lying west-ward, and northwestward of the State of Missouri, kiown as "the Platte Country," was during the 32d Congress, or in '51—'2, and it proposed to organize all this above inentioned country, into a Territory, to be called *Nebraska.* There was no mention of any Kansas at that time, nor for two succeeding winters, during which, modifications of the same bill were reported and lost, but all for the purpose of organizing a Teritory to be called Nebraska, whose boundaries would have been from the Missouri line to the British Possession North; and Westward to the Mountains. Not until the winter of 1854, after three defeats, did the Territory of Nebraska struggle into existence, and then it was curtailed of its fair proportions, by so much as now forms the State of Kansas.

The bill by which the Territoral boundaries were settled, was introduced by Mr. Stephan A. Douglas in January 1854, and provided for *two* Teritories one to consist of all the land directly West of the State of Missouri, and to be called Kansas, and the residue to comprise all the great North West, and to be named NEBRASKA.

History from Organization of Territory to Organization as a State.

Oe'r the billows of a dark green sea,
Our sight as boundless, and our feet as free.

The act to organize the Territory of Nebraska was approved May 30th, 1854; during the first session of the 33d Congress; and immediately after describing the boundaries as before given, then follows this clause:

And when admitted as a State or States, the said Territory or any portion of the same, shall be received into the Union with or without Slavery, as their Constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission.

Thereby hangs a tale, and perhaps we may as well commence our history of Nebraska Territory by going back a little, and seeing how that clause came to be inserted there.

In 1820 an act was passed by the National Congress, since called the Missouri Compromise, which said:

In all that Territory ceded by France to the United States under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of 36 deg. and 30 minutes north latitude, not included within the limits of the State, contemplated by this Act, (Missouri) slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than in punishment of crimes, * * shall be, and are hereby prohibited.

In 1850, another series of Compromise measures were passed, but which, to the majority of northern minds, still left the act of 1820 binding and in force and consecrated all the new territory north of 36: 30 to freedom for ever and ever.

Our southern brethren thought otherwise, as people generally do over a compromise, and when in the first session of the 32d Congress a petition for organizing the region westward of the State of Missouri were offered, they were quietly laid aside, and in the next session when the Committeee on Territories reported a bill for the organization of Nebraska, it suddenly met with a formidable and angry Southern opposition, and was rejected in the Senate, although passed in the House.

Dec. 14th, 1853, during the first session of the 33d Congress, Mr. Augustus C. Dodge, of Iowa, submitted a bill organizing the Territory of Nebraska, embracing about the same territory as as before. At once the question of holding Slaves in the proposed new territory came up, and was argued with the same acrimony as such questions invariably were in those days. Mr. Douglas was Chairman of the Committee on Territories, and fought for the bill with all the tact and energy that he was master of. Every one knows the struggle that followed. The Southern members endeavored to legislate Slavery into the Territories; the Abolitionists trying to legislate it out, and Mr. Douglas anxious for his territories to come in on some footing that would be acceptable to both parties, finally proposed the amendment substantially as given in the Act, that the actual settlers in the Territories should decide whether they wanted to live in a free or slave territory—and the bill in this shape passed the Senate. The House after 2 months delay took up the matter and presented a bill of their own, but after many trials and an exhibition of some of the worst filibustering Congress has ever witnessed, at last practically passed the original Senate bill and sent it back to the Senate, where it was finally disposed of without amendment by a vote of 35 yeas to 13 nays.

The Act was approved by President Pierce, and the new Territory of Nebraska, with its twin sister, Kansas was born, with the Slavery clause at the outset of this chapter, as a cowl.

ITS LIFE.

Having given its conception and birth, we will now try and give its history through the days of swaddling clothes and puling infancy until having passed the stage of babyhood and tittelage, it stands forth in the full brightness of manhood, armed and equipped for the battle of Governments as the Great Western *Key-Stone* State of the trans-Mississipi country.

We have been more particular in giving the inception of Nebraska for reasons which will now appear. It is a curious fact that although the first notice ever published of the intention to form a new Territory spoke of Nebraska; that although all the early Resolutions and acts of Congress mention only Nebraska, Mr. Greeley opens his chapter on this subject as the "Nebraska-Kansas struggle," and ends it by speaking of the struggle of the slave-holders to conquor "Nebraska," yet until very lately, every one has heard altogether the most about Kansas. We were surprised ourselves on looking over the early documents to see how persistently the name of Nebraska occurs, while that of Kansas is not mentioned until the introduction of the bill for the formation of the two Territories by Mr. Douglas.

Nebraska is first in the act creating the two territories and first on all Governmental documents of that period, yet our sister Kansas has enjoyed for a period of years, by far the greatest notoriety.

The slavery clause in the organic act creating both territories, as must have been seen, caused at once a struggle for supremacy in settling up this new land, and Kansas lying directly west and northwest of Missouri, a Slave State, became the theatre of action between the Abolitionists and the Pro-Slavery men. It was this fact that brought her so prominently before the public, and while our own State was not left without some share of the border strifes and slavery agitations, we have thus far moved on to our mahood's estate find to our present great and marvelous wealth with less wars and bloodshed and with fewer departures from the usual quiet authoritive administration of civil law and order than perhaps any State ever organized so completely on the borders of civilization as Nebraska was in 1854.

STATE ITEMS.

Antelope and buffalo abound near Kearney Junction.

A dry-goods & grocery store in Fairmont assure the public that they will not be *undersold* by any firm in the country. Where *do* they get their shoes, we wonder.

It is reported that Dr. Renner of the *Staats Zeitung* has fallen heir to $45,000. And he an Editor!

A section house on the U. P. at Brady Island was struck by lightning.

What a Famous Woman Knows about Farming.

[From the Elkada (Iowa) Journal, July 2.]

Matilda Fletcher, Iowa's favorite platform orator, has been selected to deliver the annual address at the Nebraska State Fair, at Lincoln, the first week in September. She has accepted the invitation, and has selected for her subject, "Farmers' Wives and Daughters."

This is a happy selection for the success of our Western neighbors' Fair. It will bring thousands of visitors to their exhibition, and thousands of dollars to their treasury. The women of our country are as much interested in the success of our fairs as the other sex, and it is right they should be put in prominent positions to carry forward such enterprises, especially when the directors act so wisely in selecting, as our neighbors of Nebraska have done.—*State Register.*

Matilda will have a good many points in sympathy with an audience of farmers' wives and daughters. Having known her from early enough to have been called to go for the doctor at her first appearance up to big girlhood, we can give her a "character" as a genuine farmer girl, born very near the backwoods. The prairie boys used to call it "down in the barrens," a palpable misnomer, for her close-fisted father raised a family of thirteen and had nothing to brag of over his neighbors! If she lets "oratory" alone, and simply tells the girls and wives of Nebraska what she *knows* of farming, in a new country, in a family where to be born a girl involved severe pinching of privileges and a corresponding multiplicity of burdens, she will be sure to intensely interest if she fails to greatly instruct.

No Western soldier will listed to her who has fought a braver fight than that through which she has won the really rich trophies of scholarship which she bore into the door of womanhood. No farmer's girl, however hard her lot, will be there with hands more familiar with rough toil than the speaker's own. No farmer's wife whose burden is three-fold greater than she ought to bear, will command the sympathy of a more faithful and helpful daughter than this some Matilda. We have seldom met her since she became famous, but if she is an orator, as they say she is, she should certainly have the bull by the horns in an agricultural address.

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