ALMA.

Visited By Ranger in His Perambulations.

Things of Interest Which He Saw There.

A Thriving Community And Fine Surrounding Country.

Correspondence of The Ban.

ALMA, August 3d, 1881.

The conception of the town of Alma, April 1879 when as a vigorous, infantile village it demanded recognition as one of the somewhat numerous family should discontinue the services of of Nebraska towns. G. D. Borden this man. I don't know his name but nursed the town in his log cabin hotel. presume the proper officials do. About this time a mandamus case in the courts gave the county seat of Harlan county to Alma and from the mowling and puling of a baby bug it the items taken missed the Orleans May, 1881.

the most promising of the valley and put the child's name over the present is all we can offer. front door. Soon after the town, by much of my success in this section is saving up its nickles in its little bank, due, and that he may never lack for was able to build a substantial Court the good things of this world is the House, one of the best in the valley.

The population of Alma is near ly five hundred, and is growing steadily. New buildings are constantly being erected and every thing is indicative of prosperity.

Overbuilding, an error common to towns that have temporary railroad terminuses, never afflicted Alma, but from its start to the present time, its merchants have done a paying busi-

A company has been formed and an elevator is to be built on the double-

Also a flouring mill is among the new enterprises. The inexhaustable supply of water furnished by the Republican will in the near future furnish power for scores, yes, hundreds

Cellars are being dug right and left, residences going up on all sides. A church will be erected this year, and a new school house in time for winter use, in addition to the very excellent school now existing.

An important improvement on one

thing substantial for Judge Fisher. for a lumber dealer, and another fur-

COUNTRY.

and extremely easy of cultivation, I passed off pleasantly, and the whole never traveled in a land where there affair was a grand success. Fairfield were so few weeds, no lack of running water and better supplies of timber than almost any other county in western Nebraska. The chief feature of the present glorions prospect is, how-

acreage over any former year.

Oats, not a large acreage but an excellent quality and an average of These were Mr. William Winthrop, about 40 bushels to the acre. and barley are also good; millet in abun- an Englishman, whe kept a book store dance and extra in quality. All of on the Strada Realla, in Balletta. these crops are harvested and cared Both of these gentlemen had been

The corn crop was never more promising excepting in a few locations where fields have a southern exposure, tien of the first proofsheets of his and the great heat of that notable book-letters addressed to him for-Wednesday scorched the tops. The merly, by his own account of himlater corn is uninjured and gives indi- self, and many points of corcations of being the best crop the roborative evidence. There was Republican valley has ever had. In no doubt of his being the identical comparison with the portions of Iowa Morgan among the many English and and Eastern Nebraska traversed by Americans who knew him. His story your correspondent this season, he must give this vicinity the palm for from Rochester, N. Y., taken across big results to the husbandman.

There have been no destructive storms or insects here and everyone is hopeful and happy. The rainfall has been steady and not in excess, but fully sufficient for the requirements of the healthy growth of vegetation and proper destruction of insect

Mr. J. T. Clark, the agricultural implement dealer, gave us a few ideas on the methods used by cultivators of the soil hereabouts. One implement, the Chicago screw pulverizer, is used to do all the work of ploughing, seed-ing and harrowing. The Croft iron wind mill is found to be about the only thing that stands the continued high winds of certain seasons.

I am indebted to Mr. Frank Schaffer for an extensive ride over the surrounding country, thus gaining much from actual observation.

Mr. Schaffer's livery rigs, like his farm products and agricultural

plements, are of the very best.

Having now concluded our sketch of Alma and its tributary country, it on-ly remains for me to add that on the sixth page a business review of the town can be found, and parties wanting information on any particular line of business can there find the address of those engaged therein; but in real estate I want to especially commend you to that most public-spirited, enterprising gentleman, Judge E. A. Fletcher, who, besides his law practice, is devoting a great deal of his time to real estate matters.

NEWS. There is no murdering, suiciding or other crimes, but the few items extant

preliminary examination of a young S. M. Judd, a Masonic veteran of

are after the contractors because they all those years.

seem to have gone to sleep on their The school ma'ams, Superintendent Piper manager, will hold a three weeks normal institute in Alma, com-

nencing August 8th. August 24th the M. E. church will hold a camp meeting in the finest grove to be found in the state of Nebraska, so say the Alma folks. On the 23d Harlan county soldiers invite reunion at that same grove.

A post of the grand army is about to be established here and would have been before now if the fellow who has Harlan county, occurred in 1872, but the commission for organizing posts the existence was prospective until had not got drunk and taken part in a

WAYSIDE NOTES. Before leaving Orleans I visited the extensive manufactory of wagons and buggies, owned by J J. Charlton, but sprang at once into vigorous boyhood. letter and business directory. The railroads made proposals for omaha has only one institution adopting the child, deeming it one of the kind that will compare with Mr. Charlton's.

Burton's bank shared the same fate youngsters, and built an excellent as Charlton's factory and for that Mr. house in the southern part of town Burton has our apology, which at

To Mr. John E Wood, of Orleans. hope of your correspondent,

THE LODGES.

Notes From the Season of Refreshment---The Triple Link

THE FREEMASONS-INSALLATION. Fairfield Lodge, No. 83, A. F. & Instructor, with a salary of \$2,000 per A. M., was instituted and consecrated annum. last Tuesday evening by M. W. Past quick, to handle the wheat and other Grand Master James A Tulleys, as officers - pipe-laying and lobbying begrain that will shortly be flowing in sisted by John J. Wemple, Grand ing entirely unknown among us. here from both north and south.

Junior Warden. The installation of wonder the Order progresses in Junior Warden. The installation of wonder the Order progresses in the officers at the M. E. Church was well Old Bay State. attended, the house being full. A celebration in Boston, Mass., amountquartette composed of Mrs. W. S. ed to \$4,000, which, as usual, was Prickett, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Oliver, given to the library fund. and S. M. Lewis, furnished appropriate music. After installation ceremonies they repaired to the banquet death principle, and there was also room where a bountiful repast had collected a few cents over from each been prepared by Mrs. B. F. member at each assessment to create a Rawalt. One hundred and twenof the best corners in town, is a large ty persons sat down at the banquet. general merchandise store, that is being erected by Messrs. Smith and on Perkins the response by John J. op Perkins, the response by John J. Near the court house we noted the Wemple, and prayer by Lyman Porbricklayers hard at work on some- ter, they proceeded to discuss the viands. One of the pleasantest epi-There is an excellent opening here isodes of the evening was the presenniture house would do a good busi- tation of a very fine fruit cake by ness; in fact there is no line of trade Mrs. Rawalt to Fairfield lodge, No. ness; in fact there is no line of trade overdone, and Alma has her latchstring out for all.

There are four church organizations

There are four church organizations org J. W. Small. Another was the pre- Nebraska, at the residence of the The land tributary to Alma has all sentation of an elegant gold pin, from grooms parents, on Tuesday, August the advantages and very few disad- the members of Fairfield lodge initi- 2nd, 1881 vantages. Conspicuous among the former is the soil which is very rich and extremely an

> (Neb.) News. ANOTHER MORGAN STORY.

Alta sends the following contribution to the literature of the Morgan mys-In the year 1849 the writer of this The wheat crop of Harlan county is article was detained some three weeks said to average fifteen bushels to the in the Island of Malta, while waiting acre, and an immense increase in the for a passage to Constantinople. He there became acquainted with two Rye our consul at Malta, and a Mr. Muir, formerly engaged in commerce in Smyrna, in Asia Minor, and knew William Morgan well by the exhibiwas that he was abducted, as known, the river, and given in the middle of it to another party, two of whom were British officers, and put upon a ship bound to the Levant. Under a sworn promise never to return, his life was spared. He lived a precarious life in Smyrna, was very poor, and lived on the charities of the Franks. Both Mr. Winthrop and Mr. Muir saw him die on Sunday morning on a bench in front of a Turkish cafe. The writer found the cafe just as described, on a street leading to the Jews' burying some ground,

> an event so important ; as affect our politics at the time had not been published, he assured the writer it had been done, and over-whelming proofs of the tacts sent to the United States at that time, and the writer distinctly remembers when a boy reading the same; but, as Thurlow Weed said at that time, he was "a good enough Morgan" for the election. Perhaps no one cared to hear of the living afterward. Neither Winthrop nor Muir were Masons at Mr. Winthrop is now an the time. advanced one. Some years since the writer lived in the same hotel with Judge Gillis, one of the men tried for the abduction, and who was familiarly known as the man who killed Mor-On relating the above facts to him he replied that for all the Masons did to him he (Morgan) might be living yet. And it seems reasonable that the whole absurd story of his murder by the Masons should be un-

On questioning Mr. Winthrop why

derstood and forgotten. GOAT HAIRS.

Six presidents of the United States I will give you:

I said there were no crimes on the docket, but there has recently been a necliminary examination of

man for an assault with lascivious Waterbury, Conn., has tyled various through a sandy sage brush plain, ex-intent. He was bound over. Waterbury Conn., has tyled various through a sandy sage brush plain, ex-tending several miles west of the lake, Work has been begun on a bridge than twenty-one years and has not been away from his post six times in the centre of which the railroad has a

Masonic scholarship for the sons of point east of the mountains Freemasons has been established in miles further is Mirage Station, while the university of Sidney, by the dis- might serve as a memorial to the un trict grand lodge (E. C.) in that colo- fortunates who have been betrayed

Old "Father Blanchard," the longtime grand lecturer of Michigan, used to say that some of his lodges were made up of two classes of Masons, viz: the one sort that did all the work, the old veterans to meet them in a and the other sort that sat back and did all the grumbling.

In Germany there are eight grand odges, 439 lodges and 39,711 Masons long distance around, leaving the flat in a total population of 45,194,172. o'd lake bed as bare as a floor. This is one Mason to 1,129 people; while in this country there is one in eighty seven, or thirteen times as of the country seems to be a light ye

The Triple Link B. F. Foster, grand secretary and cibe of Indiana, has forwarded the neatly printed, bound journals of the grand lodge and grand encampment of his jurisdiction, for the season of

The prospects are that the differences between some of the subordinates attempts to get water for its on and the grand lodge of the German but without success. They bered empire will soon be adjusted. The 1,300 feet at Hot byrings. edict which suspended Farnsworth but got only a brackish mixture of encampment has been revoked and a liquid alkali. They haul water in speedy settlement of all difficulties is

The "new work" has been received in the German states. A writer says: "I am free to add that the text of the work, especially the dramatic part of the first two degrees, may be designated as unacceptable for Germany. The Odd Fellows Hall of New York City, is offered for sale at a large sacrifice on its original cost, as the Fra-

Albert Guild, a member of Massa chusetts Longe, No. 1, was initiated fity-three years ago. Wisconsin has appointed a Grand

ternity desire to build further "up

A writer from Massachusetts says: "Very little canvassing is had here for

The net proceeds of the anniversary

The O. F. Beneficial association was organized in Providence, R. I., several years ago, on the pay-one-dollar-atreserve fund. Its last annual report shows twenty deaths for the year, in membership of 1,041; suspended 22, withdrawn 2, present membership 997 with assets of \$27,514.92. Since it organization \$203,967 have been paid to families of deceased members.

Much visiting by lodges to each other is done in the New England

Hymenial.

List of presents, W. F. Harte, one clock; Miss W. K. Boliry, silver castor. J. H. Harte, silver butter dish; Mr. and Mrs. Doll, one pickle castor; F. Hickstein, one castor; J. Festner, A correspondent of the California Jr., Album; E. R. Klyne, one set of silver knife and forks; Mrs. Howard Kennedy, one silver set tea spoons, Mrs. Reosler, bed spread and shams; Miss Maggie and Louis Drexel, bed spread and table spread; H. G. Horte, one table spread; George Drexel, one set vases; Mr. and Mrs. Th. Doer, one land scape; Mr. and Mrs. Elirch, one table spread; Mrs. Augusta Kissley, one set vases; Mr. G. M. Hitchcock, vases and bouquet; A. Nash, Hans. Young, butter knife and stand, and lastly a present from John H. Drexel a broom, accompanied by the pleasing verse

THE BOOM. Accept this gift from me, Its use I would commend. In fair weather use the bushy part, And in storm the other end.

Polite Personalities C. H. Dewey, his wife and daughter, have gone east on a visit. Miss Lizzie Needham has returned home from a protracted visit in the

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Rogers have returned home from a seven week's bridal trip on the Atlantic coast.

Will Doane has returned from his hunting trip in the Rockies. Mr. C. S. Stebbins and family have

returned from Colorado. Mrs. Fanny Lathrom and Miss Katie Marquette, of Lincoln, are visiting in

the city. Mrs. H. D. Shull, Miss Nellie Landregan, Miss Brackin, have gone west on a pleasure trip.

General Manderson and wife, have returned from Lake Minnetonka. J. H. Millard, daugher and niece, Marsh Kennard and daughter, and W.

B. Hibbard and family are home again from Lake Minnetonka. An American Desert-Twenty years ago the great American Desert was the terror of the overland emigrant. It was impossible to

go around it, for it extended from the Colorado to the Cascades. All the routes that led to the land of promise crossed it, and it was soon covered with the bleaching bones of stock and dotted with human graves. It is about forty miles from the lower end of Humboldt Sink to the Truckee river at Wadsworth, and the name "Forty Mile Desert" given to the stretch has become known the world over. There is no water fit to drink

on the whole distance. The road lies

The Australian Freemason says that "White Plains," This is the lowest

from their proper course by the ture of running water, waving treand fields that existed only in the deceptive air. Near the middle of the journey is a boiling hot spring at th foot of the mountain and large beds c salt lie near, from which B. F. L. etc and the Bonanza mines put up an ship large quantities to market. The deposit has killed all vegetation for

Between there and Wadsworth ar some very odd formations. The body many Masons in proportion to the low substance, probably diatomous population. hills. The level places are strew with heavy rocks of all sizes, as black as coal. There is no timber anywhere in sight, and even the sage brush is of inferior size. On either side are the ever monotonous brown mountains carved and grooved by centuries o wear and frost into fringes of stony lace. The railroad has made frequen

tank cars for their section men between Lovelock's and Wadsworth, and the engines make the run with one tanktul, a distance of sixty-one miles. They formerly carried an extra car behind the engine with two wooden tanks to draw from, but new engines have been built with tanks that hold 3,700 gallons. They frequently run seventy-five miles without stopping, and Nick Cole made a hundred mile run once. It is a very pleasant com-parison for the rich '49er who rides in he palace car over the ground where he walked along with sore and tired teet, urging his oxen out of the thirsty desert, half a life time ago. - [Reno (Nev.) Gazette.

Grandmother

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Mr. J. G. Boliry, of Orangeburg,

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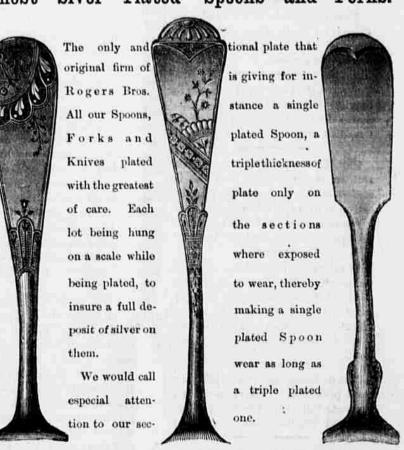
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