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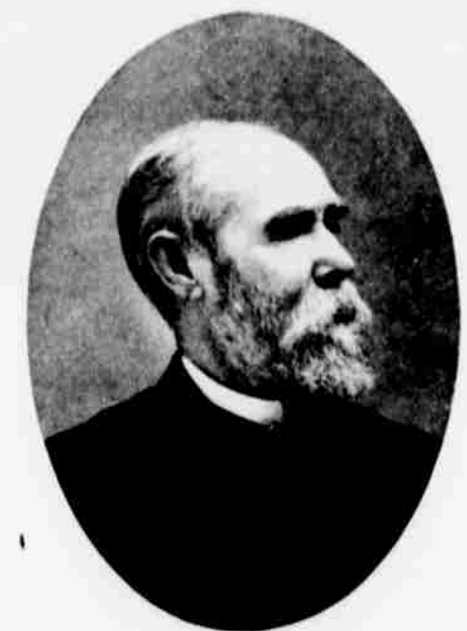
Builder of the Pacific Telegraph



THE first potential factor that made Omaha feel the quickening impulse of commercial growth that was to make it the principal trade center on the great trans-continental highway was the building of the Pacific telegraph...

Pen and Picture Pointers

THE name of Creighton is so well known, not only in Omaha and Nebraska, but throughout the entire west that no special introduction is required.



COLONEL S. A. MOORE OF BLOOMFIELD, THE OLDEST MEMBER OF THE COMING IOWA LEGISLATURE.

compiled from a little book recently issued as a memorial tribute from the pen of Father Mallons of the university which bears his name.

A notable figure in the next general assembly of Iowa will be Colonel S. A. Moore, a representative from Davis county.

Omaha has been entertaining quite a number of representative railroad employees waiting on their superior officials in the capacity of boards of adjustment for their respective branches of railway work.

PROF. N. B. VAN MATRE OF OMAHA, WHO WILL READ A PAPER AT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSTRUCTORS OF COMMERCIAL BRANCHES.

for adjusting the pay schedules for their associates reposed in those boards of adjustment and that the men are chosen to serve on them with a knowledge of their character to justify the confidence in their ability to transact such important business.

Prof. N. B. Van Matre, M. C. S., who is in charge of the commercial department of the Omaha High school, will deliver an address on "Actual Business in the Commercial High School" before the National Commercial Teachers' Federation...

Children seem to get more real enjoyment out of their animal pets than from any other source. It is safe to say that not one child in a hundred but would be overjoyed at the thought of possessing a pony for his own recreation.

The friends of Paul F. Skinner, a Nebraska boy living at Aurora, are greatly interested in his future, as a member of the American navy, in which he enlisted last August at San Francisco.



PAUL F. SKINNER OF AURORA, NEB.—A NEBRASKA BOY IN THE NAVY

new experiences to serve as an inspiration for his friends.

The next number of The Illustrated Bee will be a special Christmas number. Since its inauguration there have been two Christmas numbers which each reader has special cause to remember.

Edward Creighton, the first of the name to acquire fame and fortune, was the fifth of the nine children of his parents. He was born near the present town of Barnosville in Belmont county, Ohio, August 21, 1829.

At the age of 14 he was a strong, active lad, rendering his father valuable assistance at one time on the farm; at another working as a cart boy on the pike roads.

It was the period just before the inauguration of the large railway and steamboat lines, and the stream of commerce between the various inland cities flowed along the pikes.

One day, in 1846 or 1847, he was at work in the field when a party of telegraph constructors, in the course of their work, passed along the road.

On October 7 of the same year he was married in Dayton, O., to Miss Mary Louisa, daughter of David A. and Mary Emily Warham.

In 1856 Mr. Creighton enjoyed a well merited reputation for success in the construction of telegraph lines. His greatest success, however, he was yet to achieve. The usefulness of the telegraph had been practically demonstrated.

to abandon the work. In the autumn of this same year he moved his stock, consisting of some forty teams to Keokuk, Ia., where he took a contract for street grading, but because of a change in the city council the contract was revoked and the work suspended.

On October 7 of the same year he was married in Dayton, O., to Miss Mary Louisa, daughter of David A. and Mary Emily Warham.

Inception of Pacific Telegraph.

In 1856 Mr. Creighton enjoyed a well merited reputation for success in the construction of telegraph lines. His greatest success, however, he was yet to achieve.

The co-operation of several eastern capitalists was first secured. Jephth H. Wade of Cleveland, O., entered into correspondence with General Carpenter, president of the California State Telegraph company...

On November 18, 1859, he left Omaha and traveled by way of Julesburg to Salt Lake City. This journey, despite its hardships, was eminently successful.

An Historic Overland Journey.

It was mid-winter, in the year 1859, and the invitation extended by Wade to his associate had none of the attractions which such a journey now has.

The threat, however, failed to intimidate the promoters of the new line, who, contending that their profits at other points of the system would recompense them for local losses, proceeded at once to secure bids for the delivery of material at various points along the proposed route.

Incidents of the Work.

The following incident illustrates his managerial ability, exhibiting at once the accuracy of his calculations and his thorough acquaintance with every detail of the work in hand.

One Saturday Mr. Creighton arrived at the camp, just as the men were unloading a new consignment of poles.

before the poles had been taken from the wagons.

Thus eagerly the men worked and there was every reason to hope that the promise given to the general superintendent would be fulfilled. On the following Tuesday there were within two miles of their destination when it was discovered that there was not enough wire.

On November 18, 1859, he left Omaha and traveled by way of Julesburg to Salt Lake City. This journey, despite its hardships, was eminently successful.

Just a week later the line from California was completed to Salt Lake City, and the overland telegraph, which few men had considered a possibility, became a reality.

The new company, operating between Omaha and Salt Lake City, was known as the Pacific Telegraph company; and Mr. Creighton was made its first general superintendent, a position which he retained until February, 1877, when he resigned.

When the Pacific Telegraph company was incorporated it had an original capital stock of \$1,000,000, one-tenth of which Mr. Creighton purchased at 18 cents on the dollar.

Starts Range Cattle Industry.

Another industry, since marvelously developed, was practically inaugurated by Mr. Creighton. While engaged in telegraph construction he was forced on one occasion to abandon a herd of cattle on the plains.

(Continued on Eighth Page.)