THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

THURSDAY DEC. 9. 1875

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Webster County Condensed.

Webster Co., Neb., lies in the Valley of the Republican, is 150 miles west of the Missouri River and touches the State line on the South. Winters are mild and dry; very little rain or snow falls in that season so little in fact that cattle live all winter with no hay or grain. Plenty of rain falls in the spring and summer. The summers are not disagreeably warm, as there is always a cool breeze especially in the evenings. The county first began to settle in 1870. In 1871 the county was organized with a population of 45. Its population is now between 2500 and 3000, and is rapidly increasing. There are at present 38 organised school districts within its boundries and school facilities are therefore ample—better than those in some Eastern States. The apportionable school fund furnishes nearly enough money to pay teachers' wages. Farmers can buy R. R. land from $1.50 to $6 per acre with ten years time. There is yet a considerable amount of government lands for homesteads and pre-emptions. As a stock raising country it is hard to excel. Cattle do well, and for sheep it cannot be beaten. It is just suited to that. Fortunes can be easily made by raising sheep as the expense of feeding is very small. That corn, oats, barley, potatoes, buck wheat, and all kinds of roots and vegetables, are grown here with little labor. 35 bushels of sod corn to the acre is nothing new. Wheat averages about 25 bushels to the acre. Fruit does extremely well. Every farmer has his orchard growing. Forest trees grow rapidly. Cottonwood, boxelder, whitewood, soft maple, and many other kinds of trees grow into timber large enough for fuel in about three years. Osage orange plants do nicely, and in a few years your live fences can be made. Mechanics find employment and fair wages. The very best and purest water is obtained by going from 5 to 100 feet. The cost is very small when the well is bored.—These wells never go dry. The streams of this county are the Republican and its tributaries which are as follows: on the south side of the river, Walnut, Dry, Buffalo, State, Perry, Cedar, Hicks, Ash, and Guide Rock creeks. On the north side are Willow, Elm, Cottonwood, Crooked, Indian, and Farmers creeks. In the north part of the county is the Blue river and its tributaries.

The soil of Webster county is a dark, rich vegetable loam. The wild grasses are nutritious and abundant, and make most excellent hay. Timothy, clover, Hungarian and millet will undoubtedly prove a profitable production. Those who have tried them so decide at least.

Our railroad prospects are good, and we will have a road as soon as we really need one. But the farmers for years will find ready sale for surplus productions in the newer counties west and to new settlers. By the time these markets are closed roads for cheaper transportation east will be opened.

Our climate is healthful, the air pure and bracing, and sickness of any kind is almost a stranger to the people here.

The county seat, RED CLOUD on the Republican river, near the center east and west and a little south of the center north and south. In it are chances for business men of every branch of trade. The country around is such as to warrant a good business in every kind of merchandise. Red Cloud and Guide Rock are the only two laid out towns. Further information can be obtained from any land agent who advertises in this paper, or at this office.

WHY can't we get a daily mail from Red Cloud to Hastings? This question is often asked, and the only answer we can give is we do not know. Petition after petition has been sent to our honorable Senator, Mr. Paddock, but to no effect. They seem to totally ignore our existence at Washington. While our friends above us on the river enjoy the benefit of a daily mail, we are put to one side with a tri weekly; at the same time this route pays double to the government that the one above does. We are only in need of this daily mail, and if there is any way that we can secure it we should like to find out what that way is. At present we are talking railroad up this valley. The prime mover in this project, we were informed by gentlemen from Beatrice, is Mr. Paddock. Our people on hearing this, lost much faith in the enterprise, for they say a man that does not take enough interest in our affairs in this county to help us to secure a daily mail surely must have some other than the interests of the people in this contemplated railroad.

Mr. Jacob Cramer of Merrimac Co. lost about $1,000 worth of property by prairie fire recently.

Buffalo county is to have a jail. The State Journal says the people are wondering who will be the lucky person to dedicate it to the devil.

The Blue Valley House at Seward came near being destroyed by the explosion of a kerosene lamp.

Last week a fire occurred in Pawnee county, burning the residence of Mr. Libby to the ground. The family barely escaped cremation in the devouring flames. The family saved nothing but their night clothes.—*Journal.*

A German named Joseph Werz was frozen to death a few nights since in Nebraska City, while under the influence of liquor.

Kearney needs more tenement houses. So does Red Cloud.

Corn is 30 cents per bushel in Kearney.

The U. P. R. R. had to pay Geo. J. Tutton $5,000 for damage done by fire, set by one of their locomotives.

REVENUE OF NEBRASKA.

Collector Newman's Report Shows $352,889.43 Paid into the Treasury in the Year.

Notwithstanding the grasshopper invasion and the drouth, Nebraska has contributed quite liberally towards the support of the national government during the year ending Oct. 31, 1875. According to the official statement of H. A. Newman, Collector of Internal Revenue, Nebraska's contribution to the Internal Revenue Department during that year amounted to $352 889.43, or double the amount required for the maintenance of our State institutions. In comparing the revenue returned to the National Government from the state of Nebraska with the revenue collected from other States, we also think that Nebraska will compare favorably with any other State in the Union, taking into consideration her relative wealth and population. For instance: Kansas with a population of nearly 600,000, has only paid $133,535, internal revenue taxes. Texas with a population of nearly 759,000, has only contributed $267 448. Minnesota, with a population of half a million, only paid $228 363.

In the New England States, where population and wealth are concentrated, the proportion in favor of Nebraska is even more striking. Maine only paid $107,261, Vermont, $58,251; Road Island, 231 767; New Hampshiere only $298,312. And this shows that the federal representation is by no means in ratio with federal taxation. While Kansas pays less than one half as much revenue taxes as is paid by Nebraska, she has three representatives in the House against one for Nebraska. The same ratio of federal misrepresentation is strikingly illustrated by the New England States named, each of which has from three to five members in the lower House of Congress.—*Nebraska City Press.*

FROM RIVERTON.

RIVERTON, Neb., Nov. 29th. 1875.
December 3rd, 1875.

ED. CHIEF:—Have the people of this Republican valley, ever seriously studied the advantages that they have within their reach, without an intention to convert them into a source of profit to themselves as well as others.

Here we have a stretch of country, about two hundred miles long, with an average width of at least twelve miles, by nature blessed with everything needed (in the raw material) by a people; provided the people will make an effort to bring them up to their proper standard of usefulness. In the mineral mountain regions of Colorado, our main river has its source, within sixty miles of Denver City. Denver City is the miners market, where he sells his ore and buys his supplies. To bring us near this market, then, by the means of a railroad, should be the earnest endeavor of every one interested in this valley. We have the soil capable of producing food for the miner; we have the water power, capable of turning machinery, and we have the country that is specially adapted to the health and growth of cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry, as well as the raising of grain and vegetables. The miners of the future will need those things, and we will need the miners ore in exchange for them. A railroad will bring us men of capital and enterprise, who will take advantage of our water powers, start factories, build furnaces, and convert the hides and wool of our cattle and sheep, into leather and cloth, while the miner's ore could be smelted in our furnaces and the various industries attendant upon such things, like magic, would spring up in every locality, throughout the valley. With this climax reached, a home market would be created; for the manufacturing industries would naturally draw a large population of consumers, and the money which the farmer is now obliged to send east, for the manufactured article that he can not possibly do without, on the farm or in his family,—would remain at home in his own vicinity, to return to him again, as the price of his next year's crop.

The greatest strain on the financial nerves of the State of Nebraska, is this one, of being obliged to import its manufactured goods from abroad. This is now beginning to be understood, in the east as well as here. The industrial arena of the east is already too full of banded capital, for small industries to be remunerative—hence those latter are daily looking towards the setting sun, for new fields to risk their fortunes and their money in. They will naturally chose those places, where with their limited capital they can make most profit, with the least expense. Nebraska gives every encouragement to men of this kind, and they will select in the State those parts of it where the water is most abundant,—feed the cheapest, and the outlet to market most practicable and profitable. The iniative step to reach this point in our prosperity, is a railroad;—Capital will not get away from this channel of commerce. And the Republican valley having every advantage that nature could afford it, it only rests with the people thereof to say whether or not, they will put their shoulders to the wheel, that is destined to make each locality now laying pretentions to the name of town, a busy hive of human industry, where the former can dispose of his produce, and the laborer and the mechanic, will find a demand for their strength and skill.

O SULLIVAN.

Raising Fowls for Market.

A young man rented a few acres of rough land near a large city in New York. It was divided into yards of about half an acre, and six varieties of fowls were kept. Commenced the first season with two hundred common hens bought of the surrounding farmers; great care being taken to have no sign of sickness among them. A contract was made for the purchase of eggs for the best stock, and the next spring found him starting with three hundred hens, in nearly equal numbers, as follows: Hamburgs, Poland, Black Spanish, Game and Dorking, most of which were pullets raised from the eggs purchased, and not a sign of a sick chicken on the place, owing greatly, I imagine, to the soil being a light gravel, well drained and sloping to the south.

As he procured eggs from the best stock in the country, and purchased some of the best fowls to start with, he had a ready sale for eggs and fowls but disposed of only a few that year; kept increasing the stock for three years, when, fancy poultry being at a very high price, sold out, having made enough to get into a large manufacturing business in the West, where the same qualities of patient industry and carefulness conduct the business successfully. At my request, he gave me the following items about management, etc., of fowls, and their relative value under this treatment.

The first intention was to raise early chickens for New York market, and so constructed the chicken-house as warm as possible, in the following manner: A light rough board shed running the entire breadth of the lot (about two hundred feet); best boards selected for the sides and well battened, outside and in, on which, inside, was tacked thick tarred paper or felt; six large windows opened to the south and the roof projected some three feet in the same direction, pitching to the north; each lot of fowls had a room to roost in, and a large shed to stay in during the cold days, where they laid, etc.

For early chickens, the Grey Dorkings were found much the best; they lay and hatch early and the chickens are the soonest ready for market. The Brahma was not so good; although appearing a larger fowl, was not quick in maturing, and did not make a good spring chicken. For eggs during spring and summer, the Poland and Hamburg were found best, and most of the eggs were sold at fancy prices; found no difficulty in raising the chickens, because he always took great care to have them sheltered from the cold and wet, and was not troubled with roup or gaps; raised over fifty per cent. of those hatched; found it hard to get good hens to hatch; the best were games over two years old; the Dorkings are good but rather awkward; fifth toe is in the way, and they tread on their chicks when confined. In feeding, he found a mixture of the small grains the best, such as oats, wheat, barley, and considerable millet, average quantity required was six quarts to forty grown fowls; they were fed three times in the day.—*Canada Farmer.*

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