

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

FRIDAY, JAN. 16, 1885.

A. C. KOSTER - Proprietor

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Digest of the sermon preached by Rev. Geo. H. Brown, pastor of the Baptist Church, in his own pulpit, Sunday evening Jan. 12. Topic, "Surveying."

TEXT: "Some remove the landmarks." Job 31: 2:

We must ever recognize binding obligations two ways, one toward God, and one toward our fellow men. We are led by self evident ideas of right to acknowledge a code of principles binding upon us, from the sovereignty of God; and also to maintain a certain course of action, agreeable to these principles, toward the society in which we live. Job walking in the integrity of his heart, kept those obligations in mind, and so he asks, "Dost not God see my ways, and consider all my steps?" then looking at self he adds "Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity." Job could have been a hard task-master, but he was not, he could be reproached at the downfall of those who raised their hands against him, but he did not; his doors were open to strangers; his kindred extended to all, his land did not cry against him; his furrows did not complain; his conscience through waywardness. The honest old patriarch says "Some remove the landmarks." I take it that he refers to those who walked near the integrity of their hearts; who acted as though they had no care or thought about responsibility to God, or influence upon their fellow men. He wonders how people can escape these obligations for he exclaims "When seeing the times are not hidden from the Almighty," and supplements it with "They violently take away flocks, turn the nestlings out of the way, take the pledge of the poor in the digging through houses they mark for themselves in the daytime." Laying plans to plunder the poor and distress the needy in order to enrich themselves. The force of the text, landmarks removed, applies as well today as in Job's time, and with this thought we may deduce lessons that shall be profitable to all.

LANDMARKS.

This is an illustrative figure, foretelling that it establishes the fact of a fixed thing, a permanent point, an established witness. Landmarks fixed by civil authority are to remain where placed. It is an offence punishable by law to remove or interfere with government landmarks. Corners can be established and lines determined only by the authority in power, and though parties may imagine them wrong or of little consequence, yet such have no business to tamper with them.

ESTABLISHING LANDMARKS.

Among the instrumentalities fixing what we know as landmarks the surveyor stands as the most important, for through him, either in person or by those under his immediate direction, the points are fixed. He directs and therefore is responsible for the work done. If some of his workmen fail to follow his instructions, it is for the faithful to resort, that the surveyor may deal with them, for all has been entrusted to him. Second to the surveyor is the compass and chain; these are absolutely indispensable for the purpose of keeping the right direction, as well as establishing right points. Suppose we constitute ourselves experienced surveyors and personally look at the matter from various standpoints. Some may have compass and chain but not understand their use; others may not care to have them.

SURVEYING.

Surveying in general means to overlook or view with attention, to carefully observe, scrutinize, balance in the mind, that just conclusions may be reached. In the purchase of land parties interested go over it, to view the land; to calculate the advantages and disadvantages connected with it, taking in with a broader sweep of vision the surrounding country, looking to the building of roads, ways of travel, pleasure grounds, etc. Abram and Lot were called upon to separate their flocks. "Lot lifted up his eyes to survey the land and behold all the plain of Jordan and saw that it was well watered; he digged in his mind the chances in his favor as a grazing country and, being satisfied, pitched his tent toward Sodom. In other things it meant distances, dangers, directions, profits, losses, etc., and so on a basis for minute calculation and determined work. In agricultural money and improvements, it is well for everyone to become at least an expert far-sighted and close calculating surveyor. There is no one that can afford to neglect glancing along life's way to its close, watching for pitfalls and dangers, for wild beasts of evil which are constantly to destroy all good in heart and life. Every person from youth to age should take in all the bearings, angles and points of social life, then set the compass of the mind in the higher capacity of judgment, and run the lines of individual belief and action to avoid dangerous places, extirpate what was, and teach those who can in the wake of influence to contribute what will make society peaceable and more happy and prosperous. We should all remember that we stand related to eternity as well as time; to God as well as the race; and the soul has an interest in the future that must not be scattered away. Destiny is in our keeping and obligations are binding all around. It is therefore not only a privilege but a duty to level the compass of the mind so that the needle conscience shall always point towards God's requirements and thus mark the true way; and this brings us to consider

DIFFERENT SURVEYORS.

Some have correct starting points. This is an important thing, for once starts wrong there is a great danger of continuing wrong. There are those who started wrong, and who being convinced of the fact went to work to set themselves right. Others may have started right and lost the direction and are now off the line and wandering. These are the exceptions to start right, with prayerful resolve to keep right, is the only true and safe way; it is the profitable way.

RUNNING LINES.

A surveyor sets the compass and sights ahead; then he starts off in one direction whatever angle it may be, and holds steady to the course, the eye is never taken from the sight object. Fields, groves, gardens, and hills, or whatever obstruction there is in the way must be gone through, or figured around. The line must be established straight

tight we do in spiritual and moral life, run a faithful line, whatever objects are in the way, nothing should tempt one to abandon the right way. Fix the eye and mind on truth and hold them there; fix the purpose of life on righteous ways, and whatever temporal loss maintain righteous ways. We shall come into judgment after a while, and if to rejecting it will be because in the survey while on earth we were wise enough and thoughtful enough to run righteous lines.

STAKES.

Surveyors on a highway stick stakes to show the directions of the true line and if grading is to be done there are grading stakes to show how much the road may be filled up, or how much must be taken off the hill. The figure is not laid upon as far as we are taught in the word of God, to examine ourselves, not only to find out our standing in the faith, but to know whether we are obedient to the commands of Christ, or not, and if not in grace, to see whether we are obedient to natural law in all things, or to the law of the country. To be a good citizen involves obedience to all laws of the land, not in conflict with enlightened conscientiousness in grace, and we must do this and grade up until we are right in the sight of God.

RAND LINES.

Sometimes in land surveying or civil engineering, it is necessary to run a random line from one objective point toward another especially if uncertain about the variation. When established corners are found the surveyor's business is to correct back. So if we have not a full and satisfactory knowledge of the truth, we must do the best we can, and when after a time, if found to be wrong correct back, but in life we cannot go back if a wrong line has been established there it must remain and forever remain so far as man is concerned, for no human being can go back over the years or days of life, and correct the record made. With every act of life, the book of time relative to that act is sealed to be opened only in eternity. What number of persons, then, can we be? I will tell you when we die, where there is a willing mind to do it. If found wrong, whoever will, may correct the line through the help of God's word in the knowledge of Christ, and go on from the point of correction in the right way.

CHANGED LANDMARKS.

In the summer of '83 I assisted a surveyor in running lines and hunting government corners bearing all the marks of originality in design, yet they were not recent, origin, they were not the true corners. The changing of the corners made much trouble, besides, it was a kind of bad practice on the government work. In the spiritual survey some have changed the corners, the old land marks; and have set to ways of their own. By this much trouble and confusion has come, more or less bad, is practiced on the government of God, seekers are led astray and the work greatly hindered.

CORNERS SURVIVING.

In measuring land, many pace it off, and if the old land mark is not found, guess at it, and say, "O well it makes but little difference anyway, it is near enough, so long as we do not know positively where the true land mark is we are justified in satisfying ourselves by establishing one most convenient for us." Sometimes the revolutions of a wagon wheel are counted while the team is on the trot; this rushes the survey along in a hurry, it may do in hunting corners, for rough estimates, but to know the exact point compass and chain must be used. God has established his government corners, and we have no more right to change the landmarks than we have to change the land marks. Between one land mark and another there are not two or three lines, but one line, possesses one each side of this one line, and this was established by the Almighty Father in his right of universal sovereignty through Christ must not be interfered with.

SIGHT.

Some have looked at another's survey and followed on, asserting that they were right, because their leaders were too wise or learned, or powerful to be mistaken. Spiritually many are now going wrong, possibly imagining themselves right because many learned and wise and good have said "follow me." If we see Christ and the land marks which he has established, we shall surely be right.

COUP WARS AND CRACKS.

In setting up these western prairies many home seekers did their own surveying and many labored hard on claims under the impression they were right, only to find at last that their labor went for nothing, and why? Because they labored, they went to work where they knew upon whose ground they were standing. They found good plowing all around, and went to work ignorant of the things established by compass and chain. Good works will not save, we cannot secure our salvation, it's saved at all, it must be in the way God has proclaimed and provided.

MARITIMUS.

Our dry Martimus is to deliver a lecture on a scientific subject at Cowles, on Monday evening, Jan. 16th. All are requested to come out and hear him. LITTLE HATCHET.

SOUTH SIDE.

Christians have come and gone but Lewis Saderlin has come back to stay.

The literary is in a thriving condition. It is held on Tuesday night of each week.

ELGIN PARK.

Elgin Park is wrestling with elm knots.

L. A. ANGER.

Clark Stephens is not done gathering corn.

D. S. HOLYMAN.

D. S. Holymen is feeding a fine flock of sheep and will soon have them ready for market.

H. B. SIMONS.

H. B. Simons, we understand will move nearer Red Cloud about the first of March.

Wm. VAN DYKE.

Wm. Van Dyke has built a new corn crib.

D. H. KALEY.

D. H. Kaley's herd of cattle are now doing well.

MARINDA J.

Sheep for sale.

DR. PRICE'S SPANISH LIP SALVE.

I have for sale about five hundred high grade Spanish Merino ewes, which I will sell on four years time to any respectable party. Notes to bear ten per cent, interest and to be well secured. These sheep are all young and in good condition.

18T.

D. M. PLATT.

Ireland scratches of every kind in 30 minutes by Woodfordian Liniment. Use no other. This never fails. Sold by R. Sherrill Druggist, Red Cloud.

LESSONS.

These topics furnish instruction for us all, and they should lead us to inquire for a correct surveyor and a true compass.

Where now shall we look for the true spiritual surveyor? Look to Christ, He came from God. He took a wide survey of the race, saw the needs of the people; saw them wandering in the wilderness; saw them in dangers seen and unseen, and he had compassion; so took upon himself the load of sin and made a plain way for the sinner's salvation. In Christ we find all the fullness of God, in him is treasured up all the wisdom of the ages. He is our hope, our safety; for he is the way, the truth and the life. His doctrines should be the compass of life. In government surveys, the land marks, angles, variations and witness corners are noted in a book called "Survey Field Notes." In this book section corners and half section corners are noted. In filling notes of grace we may have eight corners, four principle corners and four intermediate. Our first corner, the starting point is Repentance. This corner Christ established, and thus Peter cries repeat as the first thing to do. Following along the line of grace we find the first intermediate land mark, separation from the world. Be not of the world. Come out from its sinful way, its foolish going. Travel on and, we come to the second principle corner, believe, except Christ, trust him, walk with him in the fellowship of renewed life. The second intermediate corner, love each other as we love Christ, be kindly affectioned, one toward another. This is to be the test of discipleship, the witness that shows us to be on the right line. Third principal corner, be baptized, this is putting on Christ before the world; and so this is the language of the heart, "I fellowship his death, I am buried into his death, believe in it, accept it, thus testifying to the world. Christ to man is an atoning sacrifice. Third intermediate corner, go teach, just as soon as one is baptized, an obligation is binding to tell others the way. "Go work in my vineyard," is a command to every baptized believer Disciple the nations, Matt. 28: 19, 20. Fourth principle corner, observe the sacrament. Commune with Christ, perpetuate what baptism begins, the fellowship of Christ's death. Fourth half or intermediate corner, be faithful in all things. Teach new disciples to observe all things and thus fulfil the law of Christ. That we may not lose these landmarks we have the true compass, the Holy word, so that over rough ways or smooth, dangerous ways or safe, we need not fall of the grace of God, or lose the race, or miss the inheritance secure to every trusting soul.

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RIVERTON.

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RED CLOUD.

The Congregational society intend to erect a three thousand dollar church the coming season.

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Three children of Mrs. Murphy, living southeast of here were badly frozen lately. The mother was absent from home and the oldest child started after the cows, the others soon followed and all had their hands and feet badly frozen before they were rescued. One of them has already lost his fingers and will have his feet amputated and one of the other has lost his toes. This is a sad case of parental carelessness.

RED CLOUD.

The Stapleford, who has been east on a visit for some weeks, will return soon bringing his bride with him.

RED CLOUD.

The firm of Athow & Young still keep one of the finest stock of goods in the valley and in order that some of their customers might not have so far to travel they have established a branch house at Smith Center.

RED CLOUD.

Trade is fair here now and our grain buyers are paying more for grain and hogs than those of other towns around us.

RED CLOUD.

From the very best material of local produce we offer to the trade the best quality of flour and meal.

RED CLOUD.

Correspondence solicited for information in Nebraska and Kansas.

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G. M. STOLZ, C. T. CO., 100 Main Street, to receive the same hour in Red Cloud, at regular prices.

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