

The Plattsmouth Daily Herald.

FIRST YEAR

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, MONDAY EVENING, MAY 28, 1888.

NUMBER 213

CITY OFFICERS.

Mayor	F. M. HIRSH
Clerk	W. K. FOX
Treasurer	JAMES PATTERSON, JR.
Engineer	EYON CLARK
Police Judge	A. MADOLE
Marshal	S. CLIFFORD
Comptroller	W. H. MALLON
Comptroller, 1st ward	J. V. WECKBACH
" 2nd "	A. SALTSBURY
" 3rd "	B. M. JONES
" 4th "	DR. A. SHIFMAN
Board Pub. Works	M. B. MURPHY
	S. W. DUTTON
	CON O'CONNOR
	P. McALLEN, PRES
	J. W. JOHNS, CHAIRMAN
	D. H. HAWKSWORTH

COUNTY OFFICERS.

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Deputy Treasurer	THOS. FOLLOCK
Clerk	BIRD CRITCHFIELD
Deputy Clerk	EKA CRITCHFIELD
Recorder of Deeds	W. H. POOL
Deputy Recorder	JOHN M. LEYDA
Clerk of District Court	W. C. SHOWALTER
Sheriff	J. C. KEENE
Surveyor	A. MADOLE
Attorney	ALLEN BEESON
Supt. of Pub. Schools	MAYNARD SPINK
County Judge	G. RUSSELL

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

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LOUIS FOLTZ, Ch'm.	Weeping Water
A. B. DICKSON	Edwards

CIVIC SOCIETIES.

CLASS LODGE NO. 146, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Tuesday evening of each week. All transient brothers are respectfully invited to attend.

PLATTSMOUTH ENCAMPMENT NO. 3, I. O. O. F.—Meets every alternate Friday in each month in the Masonic Hall. Visiting brothers are invited to attend.

TRIO LODGE NO. 84, A. O. U. W.—Meets every alternate Friday evening at K. of P. hall. Transient brothers are respectfully invited to attend. P. J. Morgan, Master; Workman; E. S. Barstow, Foreman; Frank Brown, Overseer; J. Boyen, Guide; George Honess, Secretary; H. J. Johnson, Treasurer; Wash. Smith, Receiver; M. Maybright, Past M. W.; Jack Daugherty, Inside Guard.

CLASS CAMP NO. 332, MODERN WOODMEN of America—Meets second and fourth Monday evening at K. of P. hall. All transient brothers are requested to meet with us. L. A. Sawyer, Venerable Consul; G. F. Niles, Worthy Adviser; D. B. Smith, Ex-Banker; W. C. Willets, Clerk.

PLATTSMOUTH LODGE NO. 8, A. O. U. W.—Meets every alternate Friday evening at Rockwood hall at 8 o'clock. All transient brothers are respectfully invited to attend. L. S. Larson, M. W.; F. Boyd, Foreman; S. C. Wilde, Recorder; Leonard Anderson, Overseer.

MCCONNIE POST 45 C. A. R.

J. W. JOHNSON	Commander
C. S. TILES	Senior Vice
F. A. RAYSON	Junior
GEO. NILES	Adjutant
DAVEY STEWART	Quartermaster
MALON DIXON	Chief of the Day
CHARLES FORD	Guard
ANDERSON FRY	Serge Major
JACOB GORHAM	Quartermaster
L. C. CURTIS	Post Chaplain

Meeting Saturday evening.

Commencement Oration.

CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY.

UNEMPLOYED TALENT.

BY LOREN WILES.

The world is full of talent, we face its surprises at every turn we make. Without it would there be any enjoyment of life?

Let us imagine this world devoid of books, music and all productions of talent. This beautiful earth populated with a race of people developing no progressive mental capacities. Would it not be like this vast universe wrapt in darkness?

Or the mighty ocean soundless, motionless, waveless, bearing no fleet of noble ships? But such a world is to bleak and desolate for even the imagination.

The reality is a happy contrast. We go to our homes and find the walls there adorned with beautiful designs pleasing to the eye and true to nature.

We take from the table a production from our favorite author; go to the art gallery and study with admiration the curved features, where the sculptor seems to have delineated in delicate and expressive lines, the highest conception of his soul. But these things which surround us daily are not only sources of pleasure to us, but refining to the taste; elevating to the character.

Surely we feel a thrill of gratitude to those who contribute their genius and ability to the elevation of mankind.

Then can we infer that talent is bestowed any where to benefit self alone? No, the Giver implies that, "like the waters of the Nile it shall overflow to fresh the thirst souls around." Yet if each individual were to suppress the power of genius which he feels in his own breast, like the lighted candle placed under a bushel, hidden from the world that which God sent into it to bless and brighten it, we should not possess the broad light in which we stand today rejoicing.

Shall we develop our talents? In the first man we find God giving him a very imperfect language, which if he and his descendants had not developed their talents, where would we stand? What would we have known of our forefathers, of the history of Christ and almost all we know? If some one had not improved the talents given them, we could have hardly been distinguished from the brute creation.

Let us look back through history to find something that has been developed by improvement of talent. In the first place man only had an imperfect language, so imperfect he could hardly express his thoughts, which were not very numerous on account of the surrounding circumstances, we find as time goes on he begins to form new words to express the ideas which are formed by his fast developing mind; that he invents means with which to convey them by written characters; we find he improves this written language. So we may trace humanity down to the age in which we now live and find the universal knowledge constantly increasing. Just think of it, but a few years ago there was no steam engines, telegraph lines, telephones, railroads, nor many other conveniences which we now enjoy. Perhaps some of the older persons in this house can remember that in the early settlement of this country all matters had to be conveyed by stage-coaches and horsemen; all goods had to be carried on steamboats and freight wagons. Then we find it to our interest that there has been developed talents.

But we may ask, how shall we use them? For instance, suppose some fine speaker gifted with great learning should win the ears of the people and appeal to them in such a way as to lead them to believe there was no God and there was no use abiding by the laws laid down by the government; lead us to believe it was right to deceive, slay, or do as we pleased. Undoubtedly this would be a very unwise plan to employ talent. Suppose a person had but one talent and that, blacksmithing, and he should undertake to teach school, or study law, we would say at once that man had buried his talent, and when the Master calls upon him to account for the misused talent, would find increase wanting.

Then let us develop our talents in the right way to the best of our ability, for our own good and the welfare of future generations and when our lives are almost over we can look back and say, my life is complete, I have done my best to advance humanity, my talents have been developed. Then God will reward us with everlasting life.

GOVERNMENT.

BY ROBERT HAYES.

The word government is of Latin origin and signifies a form of laws established for the guidance and ruling of any body of people.

Government unites a community in one common cause, and if judiciously administered aids in their general advancement both intellectually and morally. The earliest history affords us ample proof of the condition of society in a state of unrestrained and untutored freedom; and the biblical account of the unprovoked and unjustifiable murder of Abel, committed simply for the gratification of a jealous impulse, is sufficient evidence of the necessity of some established rules regulating the actions of all. The natural tendency therefore of the human race being to self indulgence and impulsive actions; it is necessary that some code of laws should be enacted in every community for the restraint of the more reckless and less tractable among them, and that officers be appointed for the enforcement of these regulations. The question naturally arises "who is to form and frame such a code and what power shall be authority for their enforcement," and here again Divine Providence gives us a standard to guide us, and in that most perfect and faultless code emanating from God and adopted only by the Israelites but by all humanity affords us a precedent not only of authorship but of material.

The great Architect having delivered His chosen people from bondage observing them drifting into evil ways gives them through Moses their leader; His laws written on tablets of stone. Clearly then is this evidence that the most gifted among a community are the most capable to establish a code of laws for its government; and from the history of the world it is evident that the law has dictated this course, and in the wisdom of David, Solomon and Lycurgus, we reap the reward of this method. In Judea in the earliest times laws were made and administered by the people, thus establishing a republican form of government, the success of which has been most fully demonstrated in our country and induces the grandest inspiration of unfettered thought and political freedom. The Egyptians supposed their ruler derived his authority from the gods, and he was actually worshipped after his death as a god. The Assyrians accorded their kings unlimited authority over their bodies, and ascribed to him power over their souls. Greece was in early times a monarchy; but it gradually became a democracy. Of Athens during the time of the democracy Herodotus wrote "The Athenians then grew mighty and it became plain that liberty is a brave thing." Pericles as a representative of the democracy was one of the most brilliant rulers that Athens ever had, and his rule known as the "Age of Pericles," was famous for advancement in every direction, and as attaining the most perfect state of Grecian culture.

Perhaps one of the most notorious and rotten systems by which the government of a people was ever encompassed was the Federal system introduced into England by William the conqueror. The government was a monarchy, but the king divided his land and leased it to his nobles, who in return gave him men for the military service; but these nobles having so much power became tyrannical and placed the country in danger of revolution, and for this reason was soon overthrown.

The governments are at the present day with the exception of United States, France, Mexico and Switzerland of the Monarchical form. There are objections to both forms, but the republic being ruled by the people must suit the majority. While on the other side the rulers of a monarchy may be in direct opposition to the people. As an instance of the despotic monarchy, look at the present condition of Russia where people for the smallest crimes, are either executed or exiled to Siberia; such being the condition of affairs the nation is ever ready to revolt. The government of our own country being of the republican form, one which gives an equality of civil and religious rights and the advantages of a free education to every one, we as citizens should improve every opportunity to promote the welfare of the country by selecting efficient officers, and by obeying the laws enacted by them.

STEAM, ITS ADVANTAGES AND APPLICATION.

BY ROBERT SHERWOOD.

There has been nothing in the history of the world which has done more to elevate the condition of mankind than the invention of the steam engine. By it our country has reached a degree of development and civilization, which would have required three or quadruple the time before the universal use of steam. Journeys which consumed a whole summer of the hardships and privations of an out door life, can now be accomplished in a few days with an ease and enjoyment comparable to that by which the fairies and geni of our nursery tales were transported to and fro.

Hero of Alexandria who lived about 2000 years ago is the first man recorded

as using steam as a motive power and he applied it simply to the movement of philosophical toys. Then an ancient genius by the name of Porta invented an apparatus by which steam pressure would raise a column of water several feet. Then came the first steam engine which was used for the double purpose of grinding drugs and pounding other savory substances in mortars. Owing to the fact that so little of its power could be utilized, this little instrument was found to be impractical. From time to time many experiments were made with steam, but none were successful until James Watt, after a laborious struggle, perfected the application of steam to an engine; and from this time until the present, improvement after improvement has been made until steam appliances have almost reached perfection.

The application of steam to the purposes of travel and transportation, by land and by water, has vastly enhanced the facility, cheapness, and rapidity of both; and has also greatly increased the productive power of labor and capital, and thereby enlarged the number who may devote themselves to study and improvement. As applied to the locomotive it has done more to civilize and open new territory than any other agent, more especially in the United States. As it populates new country it must create new fields for employment and thus promote immigration. The same with the steamboat. See what it has done in settling and civilizing Africa and other countries. Note how rapidly and with what comfort and pleasure we can cross the ocean compared with the time when sail boats were in use.

The use of steam for the navigation of ships was first attempted about 260 years ago in the harbor of Barcelona. It was tried again by different men, but to no purpose as the power was not sufficient. About 160 years ago an enterprising Philadelphian did succeed in running a steamer on the Delaware, and in this wise reached the enormous speed of 7 1/2 miles per hour; and many ambitious minds followed in his footsteps with a variety of efforts, but it remained for the celebrated Robert Fulton to carry off the palm, and after thirty-three years of disappointment and delay to give us the first really practical and successful steamboat. The history of steam travel by water since that time is known to all, and the wonderful feat of crossing the broad Atlantic, in a week, with all the ease, comfort, and luxuries of a modern villa at one's command, is a daily occurrence.

There is a curious story in connection with the invention of the first locomotive. The inventor, and one trustworthy assistant, worked on this machine secretly and by night; and after weeks of toil its completion was accomplished, and a time set for trial, which in the interest of secrecy was also to be held at night. Going to his shop one morning the inventor was astonished to find fire in the engine, which also bore every evidence of recent use. Leaving his shop musing over the strange occurrence, and vainly seeking a solution to the mystery, he was informed of the committal of a murder on the previous night in a village some fifty miles distant. Strangely enough testimony adduced seemed to point to his faithful assistant as the murderer, but as many people had seen and spoken with this man at his residence only about two hours after the deed was committed, it was absurd to suppose that he could be guilty of a crime committed fifty miles away, and only two hours previous to these conversations. The fire in the engine was accounted for, and the inventor alone could solve the mystery of the rapid transit; and knew that the first use made of his invention was to cover up an unwarrantable crime.

To Geo. Stevenson belongs the honor of such improvement upon the locomotive as enabled it to be used for the traction of carriages, and shortly after his invention the first railroad was built from Liverpool to Manchester. It was a crude affair, and a picture of it as presented today draws a smile of contempt from the oldest inhabitant. Just stop for a minute and think to what uses steam may be applied.

It pumps water when wind power is not always available; it heats our houses; cooks our food; prints our papers, books and magazines; turns machinery for making electricity; and for manufacture of most all our necessities and luxuries; and in most cases turns out a neater and more substantial article, and with less expense, than if made by hand.

Steam, as a source of power, has many advantages over wind and water. It is independent of the weather, may be applied anywhere, affords a constant equable motion, and is capable of indefinite increase. Its invention has caused a new era in the arts; and the revolution it has brought in industry of all kinds, as well as the influence it has had on civilization in general, and what it will do is almost incalculable.

The invention of steam as a motive power is claimed by various nations, but indisputably it belongs to the English and Americans.

Without doubt not one of the uses to which steam is applied has produced its full effect; while several of the most powerful have just begun to operate, and many others, probably of equal or greater force, yet remain to be brought to light. The application of steam is the chain that binds savage and civilized countries together, overcoming whatever obstacles that may separate them.

When steam, and all sources to which it may be applied, has produced its full effect, if that may ever be, electricity or some other agent will take its place. No one, but Time, can decide when or what it will be.

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PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

NOTICE

We earnestly request all of our friends indebted to us to call at once and settle accounts due. We have sustained heavy loss by the destruction of our Branch House at Fairmont, Neb., by fire and now that we need money to meet our obligations, we hope there will not be one among our friends who would refuse to call promptly at this particular time and adjust accounts.

Trusting this will receive your kind consideration and prompt attention, we remain,

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