The Plattsmouth Daily Herald.

SECOND YEAR. PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1889. NUMBER 219

SACRED IN MEMORY.

Beautiful Weather and Most Appropriate Recognition in Cass County.

On Farm and in the Business Circles of Town and City, Labor is Rested from and Celebration Attended.

ALL CIRCUMSTANCES PLEASANT.

The Nation's Noble Dead at Weeping Water Enthusiastically Remembered.

May 30, 1889, in Old Cass.

For favorable circumstances on every hand, no better day for Decoration Day could have been desired than yesterday. The sun rose clear and bright in the morning; the early part of the day was very cool, but by noon out door surroundings were most pleasant. The banks, schools, printing and some other offices were closed all day, and business generally done was little, and the B. & M. shops were shut down in the afternoon and the employes given the benefit of the occasion. A great number of country people were in town, and the streets were fairly crowded with their many vehicles. All business houses were handsomely decorated with national colors at half mast.

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

At 2 o'clock the procession started for Oak Hill cemetery in order, as follows: Martial band, Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Veterans, Boys' Martial band, Woman's Relief Corps in Compromise, drawn by four fine horses, and then followed a great number of private and livery conveyances. J. W. Johnson was commander of the day. Hundreds also walked to the cemetery and rode on the street cars. At the cemetery the procession and citizens assembled before the speaker's stand. McConihie Post Commander M. A. Dixon, delivered the opening address according to the Grand Army service provided. Chaplain Curtis then offered the prayer for the day. Hon S. M. Chapman was then introduced by Commander Johnson, who addressed the large assembly. Speaking of his promise to say but a word or two on the occasion, said he was embarrassed by the announcement that he was to be the "orator of the day," and with the few moments this morning for preparation, his remarks would occupy but a few moments' time. Among other things in speaking of the true significance of Memorial Day, he said:

It would be a strange neglect of the beautiful and approved custom of this land of ours did we fail to meet together today to strew flowers upon the graves of our departed comrades and the dear ones who have gone from us. There is a deep significance in this observance of this day. It is no ordinary holiday to be celebrated by the blare of trumpets, the waiving of banner's and the ringing of bells amid the trumpet of a popular careless joy. It is not the anniversary of a single day made illustrious in our National history by the accomplishment of some national event. It is a day set apart in solemn commemoration of the achievments of the men who, by their heroric deeds saved to us and to mankind all that is embraced in the acheivments of the fathers and the establishment of constitutional liberty upon this continent. "The Tea party" at Boston harbor, the event of Concord Court House, the Declaration of Idependance, Bunker Hill, White Plains, Trenton, Princetown, Brandywine, Valley Forge, Monmouth Plains, Cowpens, and Yorktown; the surrender of the Confederation of the Colonies and the adoption of the Federal Constitution and the establishment of acentral government: The long stubborn contest in the civil war of 1861, its elimination from our republican form of government, the end of the constitution of compromises by the amendments to that constitution which left it to us a document of principles bold and wise in its utterances and conception; which left the American republic in fact, as well as name, a government of the people, by the people and for the people. All these achieyments, my fellow citizens, are epitomized in the observance of this Memorial Day, in memory of the men who took part in that most eventful drama of the world's history. So my friends all other events and all other days that particularly mark the years of our national progress, with its perils and triumphs are largely embraced in this holiday of memorial observance.

I cannot dwell further upon this thought to these living comrades in the presence of their dead. This day is particularly sacred. It is not alone the few dozen mounds in this Oak Hill cemetery that we honor from this God's acre. To every battle field of the republic where our unknown comrades rest, our hearts go out. The broken heights of Donalson, the tattered forests of Shiloh, the naked Wilderness, the barren sands of Charleston Harbor, everywhere, where the saber gleamed and the musketry rattled, and the Union soldiers fell and sank to rest, "on fame's eternal camping ground" is remembered here to day. You, my fellow citizens, native and foreign born, who were not permitted to participate in the war of the Rebellion, honor and observe Memorial Day and the men who fought the battles of the late war; not so much for the perils they passed through, for the sacrifices they generously made, not for their sufferings in camp and field and prison pen, but for the substantial benefits and blessings they achieved and handed down to you and yours. Their contest was with treason and rebellion in favor of law and order—the men who sought to destroy the Union, I speak of—the brain of the Confederacy must not be excused on account of their acts of personal courage and the sacrifices they made. It will not do, if we are honest with ourselves and with history, to overlook the *Causus Belli*. We must not allow this prosperous period of 1889 to obscure the crisis of 1861. Honestly we must face the period of war days in dealing with the problem of the rebellion, and we must fix our eyes on the dark problem which was then written on the blackboard of our nation for solution. It was human slavery, perpetuated by the original compromises of the Federal constitution, against universal liberty and equality before the law. The statesmen of the South, blinded by the social and sectional status of that portion of the Union brought about by the hated intrusion of slavery, desired, and plotted to, destroy this Union because that peculiar institution could not flourish under the same paternal form of government, with free schools, free pulpits, free press and free speech. Hence to the statesmen of the Confederacy, honesty of conviction can not lessen the crime of their treason against our free institution. Despots may believe in their right to rule and oppress—in the divine right of Kings—yet their acts of oppression are none the less excusable in the sight of their suffering oppressed subjects. The offense of the leaders of the rebellion of 1861 was a crime against human liberty, and as such it must stand so long as history is honestly written and read—and without feelings of sectional hate, influenced by sentiment, we can thus, more than a quarter of a century, removed from the scene of the war of the rebellion, honestly speak of the great crisis in our national life, and, in my opinion, to speak less frankly would be to fall short of that patriotism which prompted our noble dead to bare their brows to the consuming fires of battle that the republic might live, and while thus speaking to the misguided and mislead men of the South who were our enemies in 1861 and who are our friends and brothers in 1889, we can extend the full hand of fellowship, remembering the lessons and forgetting the animosities of the late war.

Following the address of the day the procession marched about the grave yard, and beautiful wreathes and flowers were placed upon the old soldiers graves by the G. A. R., in remembrance of their heroic service in the cause of the Union. Flowers were spread upon the graves in the cemetery in abundance, and flowers woven into emblems of remembrance and love, were strewn everywhere, where there was the last resting place of some loved one. After the proceedings at the cemetery the people returned to the city.

At 8:15 o'clock in the evening the W. R. C. gave their entertainment at the opera house. The curtain rose at 8:15 and the choir, composed of Mrs. G. E. Dovey, Misses Ella White and Rose McCauly, Messers Clayton Barber and John Moore, sung a song entitled, "Requiem of the Dead." Miss Agnes Kennedy gave a declamation "Four Hundred Thousand Men—They Died for you and Me," which was a peace of beautiful sentiment. Another song, "Lay Your Garlands o'er Their Grave," was sung by the choir, and then an instrumental solo was given by the pianist, Henry Herold. The curtain rose again and the forty little boys and girls dedicated the monument to the memory of the unknown dead. They each carried a flag and wreath and marched about the stage and around the monument, and formed a semi circle about the monument. Then in response to the call of a state or territory a boy or girl would respond atternaly with a verse commemorating some battle, hero, or army and place upon the monument, which bore the inscription "In Memory" their offering of flowers. After this followed a declamation "You put no Flowers upon my Father's Grave" by Allie Burns. "Rest from your Labors" was a song befitting the day sung by the choir. "America," sang by the children, was followed by a beautiful tableaux representing the Goddess of Liberty of the Union sustained by the Grand Army and Son's of Veterans. Throughout, the entertainment was a good one, all parts becoming the occasion, and were well declaimed.

AT WEEPING WATER.

The enthusiastic rememberance accorded the departed Union soldiers at Weeping Water yesterday is well worthy full mention. Extensive preparations had been made, schools were closed and the day taken as a general holiday, and the beautiful valleys and the picturesque hills seemed to join in the sacred memory of the dead in the quietness and bright sunshine. The whole city and many from the surrounding country joined heartily together for the celebration. At 1:30 the procession formed and started for the cemetery, in the following order: Ladies band, G. A. R, W. R. C., Martial band, S. of V., Odd Fellows, K. of P., W. U. of A., and several hundred school children. Arriving at the cemetery the procession marched through, stopping at each grave, upon which was erected an evergreen cross with white flowers, and wreaths. The graves, some twenty in number, were all visited, and then the orders and children of the procession formed a large hollow square about the monument erected in honor of the unknown, and all who died for the Union cause. A guard of nine entered the square, and also those to conduct the ceremony of prayer, addresses and formally decorat the monument. The ladies' band also played a national selection. A salute of three rounds was fired by the guard and the services at the cemetery closed by the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Hindly of the Congregational church. The procession then proceeded to the beautiful grove on the south side of the Weeping Water, where stand and seats had been erected and the orator of the day, Hon. F. E. Brown, of Syracuse, Neb., delivered a most appropriate address, paying worthy words of tribute to those who served or died in the Union cause. The memorial exercises closed in the evening with an entertainment in the G. A. R. hall by the ladies of the Relief Corps.

At 12 (noon) all the bells in the city were tolled.

THE LADIES' BAND

which furnished the music and [illegible] procession is one of two or three in the state, and has won popularity and praise for their musical ability as a band. It was organized over a year ago by Prof. T. R. Boon, who is a general merchant in that city and a competent leader in instrumental music. There are ten ladies playing ins ruments, as follows: Mrs. Boon, solo cornet; Miss Bertha Hadsell, first cornet; Mrs. Wm. Jamison, solo alto; Miss Woodard, alto; Miss Barnes, alto; Miss Swearinger, tenor; Miss Hauley, euphonion; Miss May Clisbe, tuba bass; Mabel Swearinger, snare drum; Miss Edith Clisbe, bass drum. The band uniform worn by the ladies is blue, with gold braid trimmings, black felt hats, with broad rim, and flag rosettes—plain but very becoming. Many selections--some of difficult rendition—were played with graceful harmony that was admirable.

Following the services at the cemetery an interesting game of ball was played on the grounds of the Weeping Water bottom, between the married and the single men of the city. The score was 39 to 36, in favor of the married men, which is their second victory over the single men.

Plattsmouth and Weeping Water held the principal celebrations in the county. At other places picnics and social celebrations were given, and the day was generally observed throughout the county, probably more so than ever before.

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House and lot on Ritchie place for sale on easy payments; enquire at JOHNSON BROS. Hardware store. tf

A. O. H. Attention!

There will be a meeting of the A. O. H. in the G. A. R. hall Thursday evening, May 30, at 7:30 o'clock sharp.

M. J. O'Reilly, President.

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..... Sergt Major.
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Meeting Saturday evening.

Collection Notice

I respectfully request all parties indebted to me to call and settle their accounts before June 1st.

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