

The Plattsmouth Journal.

VOL. XXXIII.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1915.

NO. 59.

REMINISCENCES OF EARLY DAYS IN CASS COUNTY

Mr. A. M. Holmes of Murray Relates Several Interesting Incidents of Pioneer Days.

From Friday's Daily.
Mr. A. M. Holmes of Murray was in the city today enjoying a visit for a time with his relatives and old friends. Mr. Holmes is among the oldest residents of the county, having come here in the early fifties, and was one of the pioneers in old Rock Bluffs, then a flourishing little city and the metropolis of the county. Mr. Holmes is a most interesting talker on the subject of the early history of the county, and related some very interesting experiences while in conversation with a representative of the Journal in regard to the early days in this county.

At the time Mr. Holmes resided in Rock Bluffs city it was on the boom and the residents there, most of whom have long ago answered the last roll call, were very hopeful of having the capital of what was then the Territory of Nebraska located in their city. At that time there was not an official county seat and the enterprising residents of the village of Plattsmouth decided to take a shot at securing the county seat, and erected on the public square in this city, where Garfield park is at present, a small brick building, which they donated to the county to be used as a court house, and the offer was accepted and the official county seat placed in this city. This attracted the emigrants from the east and attorneys and others coming west at once located in Plattsmouth, which was also on the old Mormon trail, and here a large number of those attracted to the west in the days of 1854 and 1855 by the reports of gold in Colorado, stopped in this city, where many of them made their permanent homes, and in this manner the population of Plattsmouth gradually grew greater and finally surpassed that of Rock Bluffs, which was also disappointed in the locating of the state territorial capital at Omaha.

Mr. Holmes also related some of his experiences in crossing the plains in the summer of 1862, when, with oxen as the motive power, he drove to Denver and return and the trip occupied the space of several months. He had driven to Plattsmouth one day in the late summer, bringing in with him a wagon load of wheat, which contained several hundred bushels, and this he offered for sale at the store of Mr. Hanna in this city, where he was informed that he could receive the sum of 32 cents a bushel for the wheat, which happened to be of extra fine quality, and this was rather disappointing to the farmer, especially as he would be compelled to take the price out in trade in the store, and in those days it was a hard matter to sell enough of the farm produce to secure the shoes and clothing for the family. He finally decided to sell his wheat to the mill of Conrad Heisel in this city, which was then first established, and with this load of flour he decided to start for Denver to dispose of it at a better price than he could command here. One of the first things to handicap the young man was the fact that he had only one team of oxen to take up the journey and he was compelled to draw on the two cows which he possessed to aid in taking the load of flour to Denver. The cows had never been hitched up and he found great difficulty in getting them started, as they were very wild and the first day they only made a mile and a half on the way and it was not until he reached what is now the town of Wahoo, some six days later, that he was able to trade the cows off for another team of oxen to continue the journey to Denver. It was 190 miles out onto the western plains before Mr. Holmes ran onto any companions traveling to the west and then he met five young men from Nebraska City teaming to Pike's Peak, who joined him and together they made the trip of 400 miles and the return trip from Colorado, which they covered in several months.

Case Is Continued.

From Friday's Daily.
The case of Frank Marler vs. Morris Lloyd, Cameron Cathey, and John and Walter Jenkins of Murray, which was scheduled for hearing this morning in the court of Judge Archer, has been continued until next Thursday, January 14th, on motion of the defendants, in order to secure further evidence.

DEATH OF A FORMER CASS COUNTY PIONEER LADY IN WASHINGTON

From Friday's Daily.
The death of one of the old pioneers of Cass county, who for many years resided on the farm now owned by Major A. Hall, three miles northeast of Murray, occurred Sunday, December 27th, at North Yakima, Washington, when Mrs. Margaret E. Carroll passed away to her final reward. She had been failing in health for the past several years and had been making her home with her daughter, Mrs. E. Loss Graves, in North Yakima, and her death was not wholly unexpected by the members of the family, but comes as very sad news to the many old friends in Cass county, where she had for so many years made her home. It was at first the wish of the relatives to bring the body back to Nebraska for burial in the Lewiston cemetery, near the old home, but the great distance to travel was such that it was thought best to hold the services in North Yakima, and the body was laid to rest in the cemetery in that city. Mrs. Carroll was well known throughout the eastern portion of Cass county, she being the widow of the late John Carroll, sr., and they made their home for years on the farm near Murray. The maiden name of this most estimable lady was Margaret E. Jordan, and she was born August 8, 1829, in Virginia, coming with her husband to this county about fifty years ago, where their large family was reared, some of whom have since passed away and others locating in far distant homes, the only member of the family residing in Cass county at the present time being Charles Carroll of near Murray.

MISS FOSTER, LATE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, GOES TO CHICAGO UNIVERSITY

From Friday's Daily.
Tomorrow noon Miss Mary E. Foster, former county superintendent of schools, expects to leave for Chicago, where she goes to take up her course of study in the University of Chicago to further advance her in the line of school work. Miss Foster has received a number of flattering offers from different schools throughout the west, but as she has never been able to complete her college work along certain lines, feels that she should take advantage of the chance afforded her to take up her work in college and will spend some time in the east in studying. Miss Foster has devoted her lifetime to school work and occupies a high plane among the instructors of the west, and her course of study in Chicago will fit her for any position that she may desire to take up. The friends of the efficient former county superintendent throughout the county will be pleased to learn that she is to further advance herself in educational work, and they will trust that she may decide to take up her school work in the west here, where she has made her home during her lifetime.

Entertains at Dinner Party.

From Friday's Daily.
Miss Mae Murphy entertained at a delightful dinner party last evening. Covers were laid for eight. A color scheme of green and white and the candles made very handsome table decorations. A splendid five-course dinner was served, after which the time was devoted to bridge.

For Sale.

Five turkey gobblers; also three bull calves. Alf. Nickels, Murray, Neb.

THE LATE JUDGE P. S. BARNES, OF WEEPING WATER

Judge Barnes Was One of the Prominent Citizens of Cass County and Most Highly Respected.

From Friday's Daily.
The following biographical sketch of the late Judge P. S. Barnes of Weeping Water, a brief account of whose death appeared in the Journal of last Wednesday, is taken from the Weeping Water Republican of yesterday. The judge was personally known to the editor of the Journal and was a most clever and genial gentleman in every particular.

The death of P. S. Barnes on Monday night, January 4th, removed a pioneer citizen of Weeping Water whose activity in the affairs of the town and whose possession of friendship and esteem here and over the county has been above the ordinary for even a pioneer resident as he was.

Judge Barnes, as he was best known, because of his service as justice of the peace for many terms during more recent years, was 77 years of age. Until this last illness of pneumonia, which came upon him suddenly, he was extremely active in body and keen in mind—indeed, he retained that quality of mental power even during his several days of illness, as can be testified to by those who were at his bedside. As to physical powers also the strength of this was remarkable considering his age, as would be indicated from the fact that he exhibited an unusual struggle for life considering the severity of the disease that gripped him.

Those of the younger generation would hardly know of the immensely valuable work that Mr. Barnes did in civic and municipal enterprises here during nearly half a century. At least Mr. Barnes was no hand to tell of these deeds himself and it could never be learned from that source. Investigation among the records, however, and conversation with older people will reveal something of what he did.

Locating in the drug business here in 1875, he was very soon associated himself with the leading enterprises of the community. Before the incorporation of the town he served as president of the board of village trustees (1879-81.) After which he was one of the early mayors (fourth of the incorporated town) and active in all municipal affairs when not in office. For over twenty years he was a member of the school board, serving as secretary a part of the period, and at the time of the building of the brick part of the present building, superintended the construction. He at all times had the interests of the town at heart and was active in doing his part to obtain beneficial things for the town. During the days when the G. A. R. reunion and encampments were so successful here, he was perhaps the greatest moving factor in the enterprise. Commercial club work also received his support at all times whenever there was any club activity of any kind. It can be said moreover that Mr. Barnes was just as active in preventing things that would be detrimental. In this connection it should be mentioned as one example, that to Mr. Barnes, as to perhaps no other man, the town is indebted for its beautiful city park and splendid college square.

By his legal knowledge and his power to look into the future he was able to save to the town these public possessions at a time when they threatened to slip out of the hands of the municipality.

A disastrous fire in 1889, which burned out his place of business, ended his career in the drug store, but up to the time of his death he continued to rank as a business man of the town and maintained an office or store on Main street during practically all that time.

For some nine years previous to his entrance into business he was a resident of the county, having come here from Trumbull county, Ohio, after the war in 1866. His service in the war lasted from October 22, 1861, to September 11, 1864. His first enlist-

ment was in Company C, Twenty-second Ohio cavalry. A second enlistment was in the famous "Veteran Corps" at Knoxville, Tenn., on December 31, 1863. On July 1, 1864, he was made a corporal, and on November 1, 1864, a sergeant.

Upon coming to Cass county in 1866, he located at Plattsmouth, from which point he engaged in the freighting business between that point and Denver. He followed that for two years. He was then married to Miss Rosa Decker, who had come west with her parents from Pennsylvania in 1857, the trip being made all the way by boat.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Barnes engaged in farming near Weeping Water, and a short time in Saline county, near Crete. This was given up in 1875, when Mr. Barnes entered the drug business in Weeping Water.

Near relatives who remain to mourn the death at this time are, besides the wife, two daughters and one son, all of whom were at his bedside previous to and at the time of his death: Mrs. Myrtle Peck of South Omaha, Mrs. Lena Ralston of Council Bluffs and Phil, jr., of Minneapolis, Minn. There is also one brother of the deceased living in Trumbull county, Ohio.

Funeral services were held from the home Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. W. M. Elledge of the Congregational church officiated, and the thoughts presented and the eulogy given were very fitting. Members of the local Masonic order, of which the deceased was a member, also some from neighboring towns, participated in the service. Active pall-bearers were chosen from this body, and honorary pall-bearers from the G. A. R. Business houses were closed during the services.

MORE DOUBLING UP SEEMS TO BE THE ORDER OF THE DAY NOW

From Friday's Daily.
The past few days have been very lively ones in the marriage license department of the county judge's office, as quite a number of licenses have been issued to the residents of the county seeking matrimonial bliss.

Yesterday afternoon a license was issued to Lorán W. Parish, aged 46, and Mrs. Mable Oliver, aged 43, both of Elmwood. They were united in marriage last evening at their home by the Rev. W. H. Robb, pastor of the Church of Christ, at Elmwood.

This morning a license was issued to Louis C. A. Krecklow, aged 23, and Miss Emma Pautsch, aged 22, both of Manley. The groom is a son of August Krecklow and wife, two of the leading citizens of that section, and the bride is the charming and accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Pautsch, also among the most prominent families of Center precinct.

COMPELLED TO LAY OFF ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY RECEIVED AT CHRISTMAS FIRE

From Saturday's Daily.
Gus Carlson has been off duty for the past two days suffering from a badly affected middle finger of the right hand, which he secured as a result of his work in fighting the fire on Christmas day. Gus was on the roof of the burning building and assisted in tearing a portion of the tin roof loose to get at the fire, and in doing so ran a large tin splinter through his glove into the finger. He pulled the splinter out and went on with his work of fighting the flames and did not think anything more of the incident, although the finger was quite painful. Shortly afterwards it became quite sore and the swelled condition of the member caused him to seek medical assistance, with the result that it was discovered that the member was affected by evidently having been exposed to the cold and wet, and the whole hand is swollen up in bad shape and gives promise of making Gus considerable trouble before it is healed up.

Will Jean was among those going to Omaha this afternoon on No. 23 for a visit there with friends.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE SIFTING THE LIGHT PROPOSITION

And Probably Something Definite Will Materialize at the Council Meeting Monday Night.

From Saturday's Daily.
The lighting committee of the city council has been spending much time in the last two weeks in endeavoring to get together with the lighting company of the city with their proposition that they are to offer to the patrons of the company and the city in settlement of the question that has been up in the air for the past several months. The committee has proceeded on the theory that even if it required a greater length of time to arrive at a solution of the matter it would be better to do this than to allow the interests of the small consumers to suffer from whatever settlement might be made of the question.

The committee has prepared a new franchise for submission to the Nebraska Lighting company that covers certain points under controversy and which the committee desires to protect the city and the patrons of the company on. In arranging the settlement of the light question and the matter of admitting the McKinley interests into the city or the making of a new light contract with the Nebraska Lighting company there are many small technical points that to the laymen on the matter of electrical service are almost as perplexing as Greek, and it requires the most careful investigation to prevent some joker being pulled off on the city. The council is fortunate in having on their committee men of cool, conservative judgment who are not easily led into adopting a proposition without knowing what it really means, and they propose to understand clearly what is to be the result before any contract or franchise is allowed.

At the meeting of the city council on next Monday evening it is hoped to be able to bring the matter to a head and some definite action taken on the light proposition and the patrons be able to secure advantage of a lower rate, which the city and the light company both have been working for during the past few months. The settlement of the question will be a source of great pleasure to every resident of the city, and especially those who are users of the electric service for power or illuminating purposes.

WORK AT THE BURLINGTON SHOPS IS NOW GRADUALLY PICKING UP

From Saturday's Daily.
The work in the Burlington shops in this city is showing a decided improvement over the conditions that prevailed there during the month of December, when the men were on short time and off several days each week. The policy of allowing the men to lay off one day each week from the different departments has been discontinued, as the work of repairs on the cars and coaches is beginning to be piled up and the men are kept busy fitting the cars for service on the road, and in all departments this work has accumulated greatly during the time they were running on short time. The fact that the general trend over the country is toward improved business conditions looks favorable to the resumption of work at the regular number of men employed before the month of December, when the forces in the different departments were shortened up somewhat. The management of the shops has been able to get out a great deal of work, even with the force of men cut down, but the constant demand for cars is bound to result in the increasing of the working force, and as the season advances, increased hours in order to keep up with the needs of the railroad for their cars and coaches.

See T. H. Pollock for Cass County Farms and Farm Loans.

Fred Krecklow Very Low.

From Saturday's Daily.
Fred Krecklow, residing in the south part of the city, and who for the past few weeks has been suffering quite severely from what was at first supposed to have been an attack of the grippe, is reported as being very low with the ailment, which has become a great deal worse, and his family and friends are now greatly worried, as he seems to be growing weaker and weaker as the result of the inroads of the disease, which seems to have taken a more serious turn and now is most dangerous.

RIVER NAVIGATION MEETING HELD BY THE OMAHA COMMERCIAL CLUB LAST NIGHT

From Saturday's Daily.
The navigation meeting held in Omaha last evening by the Commercial club of that city, was one filled with much interest and enthusiasm from the large number present from the different towns along the river, who are growing very much interested in the proposition to make the Missouri river a stream that can be used for travel and for the purpose of allowing freight steamers to ply to and fro from the different cities. In Missouri the traffic from St. Louis to Kansas City has proven very successful and this has encouraged the towns farther up the river to get busy in endeavoring to get the navigation question before the public eye. There were large numbers present at the meeting from the different towns and all were very much pleased with the addresses given on this subject by those who had carefully investigated the matter. One of the chief boosters for the Missouri river navigation is J. W. Gamble, president of the Standard Stock Food company of Omaha, and formerly superintendent of schools in this city. Mr. Gamble has in the past few months made quite a close study of this question, in connection with Robert Manley of the Omaha Commercial club, and his views presented to the meeting last evening were most encouraging to the boosters for the encouragement of the navigation of the Missouri river. T. H. Pollock of this city was present at the meeting to represent this city and greatly enjoyed the views on the outlook of stimulating navigation along the towns on the upper Missouri river.

FLOYD RAINEY, INVENTOR OF MAIL CATCHER, VISITS HIS MOTHER IN THIS CITY

From Monday's Daily.
Saturday Floyd Rainey, the inventor of the Rainey mail catcher and of the vibrating electric razor, was in the city visiting with his mother and brothers. Mr. Rainey, who for years has been engaged in this line of work in perfecting different articles which have all received the highest commendation. The first of Mr. Rainey's inventions to attract attention was the mail catcher, a device which made much easier the taking and receiving of pouches of mail from a moving train, and in tests the device worked perfectly and the mail catcher is now being backed by a stock company in which many of our people are interested. The latest of the inventions of this gentleman is the electric vibrating razor, which has been tried out and found to work perfectly. The razor is made along the lines of the safety razor and has protecting guards to prevent the cutting of the face and is propelled by an electric motor that causes the time of shaving to consume only a few seconds and its work is perfect in every way. A large number of these instruments have already been placed and orders are rapidly pouring in on the company, which has its offices in the Brandeis theater building in Omaha. Mr. Rainey is an old Cass county boy and his friends here are well pleased that he is so successful in his inventions and trust that he may find even greater fields for his genius in the future.

Mrs. J. W. Campbell and Mrs. Edmunds of Lincoln are here for a short visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Steinhauer.

ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING SOCIAL EVENTS OF ALL

The Misses Gering Entertain a Large Number of Friends in Honor of Their Cousin, Miss Pfeiffer.

From Monday's Daily.
One of the most elaborate and charming social events of the winter season was given Saturday evening at Coates' hall, when the Misses Mia and Barbara Gering entertained at a large dancing party in honor of their cousin, Miss Pauline Pfeiffer, of Piggott, Arkansas, who is here making a short visit. The occasion was one of the most joyful to the guests who were present to take part in the pleasures of the evening and the witcheries of the latest dances served to pass the time most pleasantly for several hours.

The hall for the occasion had been transformed into a scene of great beauty, and with the large number of handsomely gowned ladies, made the scene one of exceptional beauty. From the supports in the balcony festoons of electric lights, shaded with handsome Japanese lanterns, were suspended, and the tables placed throughout the balcony were added to by the softly shaded candles, which made the setting one of the most exceptional charm. In the balcony during the progress of the ball dainty refreshments of ice cream, ices, wafers, cake and candy were served by the waiters, who were present from Omaha for this purpose, and this feature was one of the most delightful that has been given in this city in years.

The hospitality of the Gerings is well known and the charming affair of Saturday evening was in keeping with the usual splendid methods of entertaining which always characterizes their gatherings. The company numbered some one hundred and fifty and the ball room floor was a scene of dazzling splendor as the grand march signaled the opening of the delightful event, and the handsome toilets of the ladies and the evening costumes of the gentlemen made a striking picture, and with the delights of the fox trots, hesitation waltz and others of the modern dances made the event one long to be remembered with pleasure. The older members of the dancing party were given a fine opportunity to enjoy a old-time quadrille and four sets were formed which executed the steps of this always pleasing dance, and much amusement was derived from the enjoyment of the dance, and it was with regret that the members of the quadrille were compelled to yield the floor to the new dances. The music was of the very highest standard and was furnished by the Holly orchestra, which had selected the program with much care for this unusually pleasant social event.

In the receiving line were: Misses Mia and Barbara Gering, H. R. Gering, Miss Lenora Williams of Omaha, Matthew Herold, Miss Pauline Pfeiffer and Edwin Fricke.

The out-of-town guests present were: Messrs. Horkins, Council Bluffs; Brown, Lincoln; Breed, Hastings; Siegel, Chicago, and Miss Lenora Williams, Omaha.

Is Getting Along Nicely.

William Rinker was down town Saturday afternoon for the second time since he was taken ill several months ago as the result of a stroke of paralysis that for several weeks threatened to cause his death. He is still quite feeble and it requires the assistance of an attendant for him to get around, but he is gradually wearing down the effects of his attack and it is thought he will in time be able to recover fully from the effects of the illness.

Teachers' Examination This Week.

The regular county teachers' examinations will be held throughout the county on Friday and Saturday of this week. The teachers from this section of the county will hold their examination at the office of County Superintendent Miss Eda Marquardt.