

## WELCOME TO YOU OLD TIMERS

Your Home Folks of Former Days Greet You and Bid You Look Over Haven of Peace and Plenty in Dear Old Plattsmouth.

Those pioneers of Nebraska coming from Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and other localities, who settled the Missouri river counties in 1853 had good cause never to regret their choice of location. In most cases wealth and happiness have been the lot of the first settlers and nearly all are well to do.

The counties into which came those early adventurers after fortune, were Nemaha, Otoe, Cass, Sarpy and Douglas. Of the five named Douglas with Omaha as its county seat takes the first place in importance and after that comes as of second consequence, Cass, with Plattsmouth as its chief city.

The Union Pacific and other railroads made Omaha while Plattsmouth and Cass county have attained their position by the energy, pluck, patience and ability of the citizenship of both town and county. In the selection of their new home the pioneers of Cass were the most competent, for Plattsmouth has by far the best of any other city in Nebraska in every natural and essential quality.

For excellence of location, healthfulness of climate and the beauty of its scenery it is away ahead of them all. Its tree clad hills, rising majestically from the river plateau, forms a landscape not equalled in this country except possibly by the palisades of the Hudson river.

Some of those men who came in the first days here have gone hence to their reward; some are still living in and around Plattsmouth and some who moved to other localities, are again with us, meeting with their old friends and cronies at Plattsmouth's first fall festival now under way.

The welcome to those who at various times, left their first Nebraska home will be given them by the Wiles, the Todds, the Herolds, the Parmeles, the Pollocks, the Doveys and many others of the stay at home old timers, and you can bet your bottom dollar they will talk it over to a fare you well.

These home comers, as they move around the city looking up their old haunts and homes, will see some new things, and many great changes in Plattsmouth. The town will look different to them; they will recognize some of the old landmarks here and there, but the great improvements that have taken place since their time will cause them to wonder and at the

same time applaud, for all of them to a man, retain their affection for the old home town. Why not, for here in the best days of their youth and lives they had their homes, their friends and all their worldly possessions.

Let us walk around and see with them what they find that is new to them. First of all most of them recollect no street pavement at all, others remember only that on Main street and none can recall the brick way they now see on Vine and the intersecting streets from Third west to and including Sixth.

Many of the old timers have come to town over the Missouri Pacific and as the auto bus loaded with home comers made the familiar turns down along Washington avenue this morning, the old timers speculated upon what the piles of sand and concrete

As one auto bus turned south on Sixth street, at Vine, another old timer, sitting on the left hand side of the car put his head out of a window, as though he were looking for something that had been familiar to him in the days gone by. He seemed to be disappointed as he drew in his head and again sat erect in his seat. "I thought I would see the old Neville building there," he said to an old time friend who had gone to the train to meet him, "but instead of that there is a big fine brick building, that looks like a hotel or a millionaire's home on the same spot where it used to stand."

"The old building was there all right," said his friend, "but it was torn down some three years ago and the Elks' new home is where the old building used to be when you were here."

"You must remember that Plattsmouth is not behind any town in the state for modern features and our Elks' home is the finest in Nebraska, outside of Omaha."

The rejuvenation of Plattsmouth as a business point began about ten years ago, and although slow at first, has gathered strength year by year, until 1916 shows the city a young giant among the chief towns of the state.

There is today an air of confidence and alertness among the business men; that is born of a confidence in an assured future for the town, only to be

confidence which inspires confidence in others.

The town sits solidly on a foundation of material wealth seldom enjoyed by places of equal size. It is located on two of the greatest railroad systems in the United States—the Burlington and Missouri Pacific. Through these two systems Plattsmouth is connected either directly or indirectly with all the great centers of the country. It is possible to ship products from our farm or factory to any point in the United States at equitable freight rates, governed by the same conditions that our big neighbors, Omaha and Kansas City, enjoy.

Of settled elements of prosperity Plattsmouth has the shops of the Burlington railroad within her borders. The road has invested here over \$2,000,000 in buildings and machinery. More than 700 men are employed in making and repairing rolling stock for the road, and the shops' capacity is constantly being added to. This source of the city's growth will never be less than at present, but will grow as the great system grows. The monthly pay roll runs well over \$50,000.

Besides the Burlington shops, Plattsmouth has the M. E. Smith & Company shirt and overall factory, with an average of fifty employes; the Olson Photograph company, the product from which is distributed all

## PROMINENT FACTOR IN THE EARLY DAYS OF PLATTSMOUTH

Mrs. Anna M. Livingston, widow of former General R. R. Livingston, who served in the civil war and was a prominent factor in the upbuilding of Plattsmouth immediately after the war, as well as a live wire in politics, is still living in our midst, at the mature age of 80. While Mrs. Livingston was not one of the earliest pioneers of Plattsmouth, yet she has seen it grow from a town of about 1,000 inhabitants to its present pretentious state. She came in the year 1864, up the river from St. Joseph, by steamboat, with her husband and his regiment, he then being colonel of the First Nebraska, having the distinction of raising Company A of that regiment here in Plattsmouth. Mrs. Livingston did not have the severe experience of the earlier pioneers, but with others shared the responsibility incident to a growing frontier town. After coming to Plattsmouth she first lived in the house originally built by F. S. White on the lot where her son, Dr. T. P. Livingston, now lives, and since that time has lived continuously across the street at the southeast corner of Sixth street and Oak street.

Mrs. Livingston came here, was the Platte Valley, situated where the Waterman block now stands, the landlord being C. H. Parmele. Among the leading citizens of that time she mentions Major D. H. Wheeler, John Shannon, the two Butters, the two Dr. Blacks, Father Hayes and his son, Newton; Shephard Duke, and Judge Chapman, just then starting into the practice. Mrs. Livingston's children were all born in Plattsmouth except Dr. T. P. Livingston. It is a pleasure to all her friends in Plattsmouth, who are a multitude, to know that she is enjoying life and good health in her advanced years.

## INTERESTING LETTER FROM PIONEER LADY OUT IN CALIFORNIA

A very interesting letter has been received by Misses Lizzie and Mary Hobson of this city, from their cousin, Mrs. R. M. Bates, now residing in California, and who is a daughter of Stephen B. Hobson, deceased, one of the pioneer residents of Cass county, located in Mount Pleasant precinct. In speaking of the early days, Mrs. Bates says:

"I'd dearly like to be in old Plattsmouth, 'Home Coming' week myself.

## HOME AGAIN

The old town,  
The home town,  
We come at  
Her call,  
From near land,  
From far land,  
From cottage  
And hall,  
To old friends,  
To true friends,  
The best friends  
Of all!

The old streets,  
The child days,  
By schoolhouse  
And mill,  
The same streets,  
The loved streets,  
That clamber  
The hill—  
We'll find them  
And walk them  
And wander  
At will.

The old days,  
The child days,  
Before we  
Were men,  
The boy days,  
The girl days,  
When forty  
Was ten—  
We'll tell them  
And dream them  
And live them  
Again!



Main Street, City of Plattsmouth, as it Looks Today.

scattered along the way were to be used for.

They were told that the Monarch Engineering Company of Fall City, another Nebraska town south of here, has the contract for the work and is now getting ready to begin paving the thoroughfare with brick, all the way from the Missouri Pacific to town. "Well, well, the old town is going some ain't it now," one old ex-Plattsmouthian was heard to say to himself. Yes, indeed, Plattsmouth is going some, has been going some and will still continue to go some.

measured by the growth of Nebraska. The state being one of the most favored in the union, it is a safe prediction that Plattsmouth will grow in an equal ratio with the rest of the communities within its borders.

At the present time there is an air of prosperity, and a brightness of appearance about Plattsmouth that at once inspires the stranger within our gates, and the impression is favorable. That is what counts. The stranger makes inquiry and finds among all classes of citizens that spirit of

over the entire country; the Western Machine and Foundry company, makers of engines and other steel products; the Plattsmouth Ice and Cold Storage company; five cigar factories; a broom factory, soda water factory, a wholesale liquor house, a large flouring mill and a number of smaller concerns.

The Masonic Home for Nebraska is located in Plattsmouth, and adds materially to the disbursement of money through different local channels. The public improvements now un-

At the time of moving into the White residence, which at one time contained four families, which, she said, got along without quarreling; this locality was practically the out edge of the residence district. Some time after the return of Colonel Livingston's regiment from the south, they were ordered to the frontier to fight the Indians. Mrs. Livingston went with the regiment, and experienced frontier life for nine months, the soldiers being stationed at Fort Kearney. The leading hotel in Plattsmouth when

I would like to tell the folks how the town looked one evening in September, 1856, and of how we crossed the treacherous Old Muddy in a hand ferry boat. Of how mother and we children sat on the lonely Nebraska shore and watched the boat with my father in it, go back for the cattle and household goods. How the rising wind beat the boat down the river so far mother thought they must be drowned. At last, when it was all over and we drove up the riverside bank to Plattsmouth it was nearly

shutdown, and we, a dozen miles from our new home in the country. A real estate agent (I can't recall his name), told my father to go into an empty frame house to camp for the night. There was no doors or windows yet in the house, and other campers were there before us. Mother gave us a picnic supper and made our beds on the new laid floor. Stephen A. Davis (then 13 years of age) helped father with the cattle and young horses. Next morning, early, all we campers were astir. The men set up a cook-stove, called a slip stove—there was no chimneys built in the house, so they put an elbow joint on the stove pipe and let the smoke go out of a window. But a Nebraska wind was raising and the smoke blew back so the two campers and mother could not see, even how to make coffee, so the men lifted the stove, fire and all, and carried it to an opposite window, and somehow, we got eggs, ham and coffee ready for a lap breakfast, and soon we were out on the wild, rolling prairie bound for our new home. This picture has always been a clear one in my memory."

Mrs. A. L. Graham and sister, Miss Ruth Graham of Lincoln, who were here for a few days visiting their grandmother, Mrs. Louvia Kinnaman, departed this morning on the early Burlington train for their home in the capital city.



The Great Burlington Shops and Bridge

der way include a \$50,000 high school, a Carnegie library, a \$60,000 apartment building and other large building projects. It has the largest and best theater in the Parmale that any town in the state owns, outside of Omaha or Lincoln; it has a fine hotel and in fact every attribute of civic life is as well developed here as in many towns two and three times as large.

During three years past, two miles of curbing and guttering has been laid in the residence districts, besides brick pavement in practically all of the business district.

At the present time, Washington avenue, the thoroughfare leading northward from the business center to the Missouri Pacific passenger station, is being paved with brick, and when completed will give the city a continuous paved way from the Burlington station to the first named road's station, a distance of well over a mile. Plattsmouth has a live wire Commercial club, whose membership comprises the best men in the town, and the organization's efforts are constantly directed towards the betterment of the business and social life of the community.

The fact should not be overlooked that some day the Big Muddy, the turbid stream that flows down along the east side of the city, will become a vital adjunct in the growth and importance of not only Plattsmouth, but the whole Missouri valley. Already freight lines of boats carry vast quantities of grain and other products between Kansas City and St. Louis, thence to the gulf, and it is only a question of time when the upper river will have been given the at-

ention it deserves at the hands of congress and others interested in the growth and development of Nebraska.

No longer can our envious contemporaries say that Plattsmouth is a back number, laid by for younger towns to pass and laugh at, for the truth is otherwise; and as "truth is mighty and must prevail," we have come into our own by natural advantages, by mere force of circumstances and with the contributing efforts of live business men, of whom we have a large and diversified assortment.

### FILES SUIT TO QUIET TITLE.

A suit has been filed in the district court by Fred Patterson against the heirs, assigns and legatees of John Carroll, deceased, and others to the number of 105 defendants. The suit is to quiet title to property situated in the former town of Rock Bluffs and which is now owned by the plaintiff.

Willard Clapp and A. F. Turk, two of the enterprising residents of Elmwood were in the city today for a few hours advertising the Farmers' Union picnic to be held in that place next Saturday and while in the city called at the Journal office.

### VIEWS FROM PLATTSMOUTH, NEB.

1. Main Street Looking East.
2. Cass County Court House.
3. Elks' Building.
2. Government Building.
4. Masonic Home.
6. Pollock Wagon and Auto Bridge.
7. W. J. Streight Residence.

