

The Sioux County Journal

[OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.]

Subscription Price, \$2.00

L. J. Simmons, Editor.
Entered at the Harrison post office as second class matter.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1901.

According to the judicial bill reported by the committee, this district will remain the same, but the number will be changed from the 12th to the 15th and it will have but one judge.

The Australian ballot now rightfully given to Nebraska, will give the humblest citizen an opportunity to vote his convictions and without his act being questioned or bulldozed.—Lincoln Call.

The commissioners of Stanton county have ordered the county attorney to commence action against two ex-county clerks and three ex-county treasurers for amounts found due the county from such ex-officials by an expert, unless settlement be made on or before March 20th.

A correspondent (?) of the Herald has a good deal to say because people who have been here but a year or two question the acts of older residents of the county. That is a peculiar argument. Does a man have to spend his life in a place before he has a right to take part in public matters?

The editor of the Herald denies the statement in the last issue in regard to the ownership of the old Republican and Herald and also states that the mortgage which appears on the records is paid. It takes a lot of gall on the part of the double-primed worker to ask the people to accept his statement against the records in the office of the county clerk.

A race war is threatened in Oklahoma. Negroes are flocking into the territory and the white settlers claim that they come destitute and infected with small-pox and it is now on foot to put a stop to any more of that class coming into the territory. If the latter part of the charge is true, it ought to be an easy matter to prevent the blacks from moving around the country.

The gang organ gives County Attorney Conley and the editor of THE JOURNAL credit for all the stirring up of matters in Sioux county. If matters are straightened out so that the poor settler has an equal show with the would-be cattle barons and those who have gone wrong in public matters are brought to account, it matters not who gets the credit for it, the county will be the gainer.

It is the wounded bird that flutters, and judging from the amount of fluttering that has been done of late by the gang and its organ, it is safe to presume that the entire flock has been wounded. It may be a bitter dose, but it has to be taken. Bluff, bulldozing and bluster may win for a time, but right and justice will prevail in the end.

The gang organ and its correspondents (?) make a great deal of fuss about the necessary improvements made by the county officials in the early days. Will they please state definitely some of the necessary things they did and did legally and economically? Perhaps it refers to the road to Running Water, or the Murphy and Whitney road and bridge contract, or the map of the county for which they allowed \$150, or the costs paid by the county for prosecuting men on some trumped up criminal charge for political purposes. Come tell the people some of the good things done, and what they cost.

On last Thursday the supreme court overruled the demurrer of Boyd in the quo warranto case and held that the defendant must file his answer by Tuesday, March 10th. The only thing now that seems to be left for Boyd to do is to show whether he is a citizen or not. If he can show that he is a citizen that will end the suit, but if he cannot it will end his term of office. The friends of Boyd were disappointed when he filed a demurrer instead of answering in the case, and the belief is growing stronger all the time that he cannot prove that he is a citizen. He will likely be compelled to either make a showing to that effect or vacate the office.

On Tuesday Boyd filed his answer on the quo warranto case in the supreme court setting up that his father and himself had both held public office and that he, the defendant, had been a member of the constitutional convention of Nebraska, had served in the United States army and that he did on December 16, 1890 appear before the United States court and make a showing, and that said court declared him to be a citizen, and a number of other points of minor importance are also presented. The attorney for Boyd announced on the ground that the answer did not state sufficient grounds for defense, he is asked to show that he was a citizen prior to November, 1890, and that he had never been a citizen prior to November, 1890. The argument was not for today (Monday) at 9 a. m. It is hard to believe when the matter will be.

The Australian ballot law will be used for the first time in Nebraska at the coming municipal elections in the various cities and villages of the state. Good results are sure to follow.

The repeal of the pre-emption and timber culture laws are significant. It shows that the fact that free government land is becoming scarce, is apparent to the government, and congress deemed it necessary to reduce the amount of land which people can secure from the government. The repeal of the pre-emption and timber claim laws will prove beneficial to the new counties for it will make it possible for a greater number of people to acquire a good sized farm and will put a stop to any one man getting a large amount of land. The people in the east who have been contemplating a move westward and securing government land, but have been delaying making a start, will realize that if they ever get a piece of government land they must do so at once, and the result will be that a new impetus will be given to immigration.

The bill repealing the bounty on beet sugar has been signed by the governor and therefore no more bounty will be paid, unless some of the bills providing for a bounty to the farmers who raise the beets. The beet raising last year was not altogether satisfactory to the producer as the price paid by the factory people was not enough to make it a very profitable business. It may have been, and doubtless was, a good business for the manufacturers and an equalization of profits ought to be arranged. In localities where the farmers are doing as they are here, preparing to build and operate a factory themselves, the bounty would go to the farmers. From the present indications it will not be long until a great many factories will be owned by the farmers and then the bounty, whether given to the grower or to the manufacturer, would benefit the farmers and for that reason the state ought to offer all the inducements possible for the advancement of the industry.

The commissioners at their meeting on last Monday decided to hire an expert accountant and it is quite likely that he will be here in a few days to begin work. Ever since this matter has been agitated the gang has opposed it. A great cry has been made that it would be a great expense to the county, not only for the salary of the expert but for suits brought in consequence thereof. The report has been circulated that an expert would cost from one to two thousand dollars, and other expenses in proportion. There is no doubt but what some people do not want an investigation of the records, and the reports sent out go to verify the general belief that all is not right. There are a number of hundred of dollars which any one that will look over the records will notice is short and how much more can only be learned by a complete investigation. The expert will cost in the neighborhood of \$200, and if any suits grow out of his report it will be on record evidence and if judgment is recovered against anyone the defendant must pay the costs. It is generally the case that when an expert reports an official or ex-official to be short that individual walks up and makes it good and there the matter ends and in most, if not in all cases where an examination has been made, enough shortage has been found to make that cover the expense.

The Irrigation Bill.

Omaha Bee.

The irrigation bill will, we are assured be reported by the sifting committee and there is every reason to believe that it will meet with the favor of a majority in both branches of the legislature. Such objections as have been urged against the bill are largely founded on misapprehensions. One of them is that it is purely for the benefit of the western part of the state and that it will be injurious to the eastern half. This objection is based on a very narrow view of the case. When several of the western counties suffered destitution as the result of the drought, the injury was not limited to them. The whole state of Nebraska was put before the country in an unfavorable light and taxed in common to raise means to meet the emergency. The injurious effects of such a calamity fall with equal force on all parts of the state and in the same way all parts will share the prosperity which will come to the semi-arid region under a wise system of irrigation. The eastern half of the state has, therefore, a very vital interest in putting the counties west of the 100th meridian beyond the reach of the drought.

Under the provisions of the bill a system applicable to the entire length and breadth of the state, from the Missouri river to the boundary of Wyoming, is established upon broad foundations. It would be folly to begin with a system of patchwork. No one can tell how far or fast the interest in irrigation will travel, nor when the waters of the Missouri will be in so great demand as the waters of the North Platte.

For instance, the latest spontaneous convention was held Saturday at O'Neill, in Holt county, which is far east of the 100th meridian. The dispatches state: "Everybody was enthusiastic and anxious to see some scheme inaugurated to give the county a system of irrigation." A more convincing has been called to meet on the 17th. This is a surprise to the friends of the movement, though it

is a very welcome surprise. It demonstrates how short sighted policy it would be at this time, when irrigation bids fair to become the most important development in western agriculture, to attempt to limit the operation of a beneficent law to one small section of the state. The bill divides the whole of Nebraska into water districts and provides a system of administration to see that the law is impartially enforced, but as all local officers are paid by the day no expense will attach to the system in the eastern counties until they begin to make use of it. It is manifestly wise, however, to make provision at this time for their possible demands.

The only other objection to the enactment of the splendid law submitted to the legislature by the recent state and district conventions comes from the cattle men. Their objection is purely selfish. They want the western half of the state to again become the cowboy's empire. The battle is to-day, as it has been for a dozen years, between the homesteader and the cowboy. The homesteader has built his house or cabin on almost every quarter section west of the rain belt. He has enriched the land with the labor of himself and family—through years of hardship and sacrifice. The arid homestead represents his total wealth and prospects. He now asks for laws that will insure the development of irrigation and bring the powerful arm of capital to his assistance. He is a host where the cattleman is but a small company. The greatest good of the greatest number demands that the prayer of the homesteader be granted.

The friends of the irrigation bill are ready to discuss it with all comers, but they have full confidence that the legislature will make it the law of the land.

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Notice—Timber Culture.

U. S. LAND OFFICE,
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March 3, 1901.
Complaint No. 2226 having been entered at this office by Kellum F. Lindsey against Colville P. Terrett for failure to comply with law as to timber culture entry No. 111, dated Oct. 17, 1897, upon the section 25, township 21, range 36, in Sioux county, Nebraska, with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contents alleging that said Colville P. Terrett has failed to plant, or in any way cultivate any portion of said tract during the third year of said entry—and he has failed to plant to trees, tree seeds or tree cuttings five acres of said tract during the second year of said entry, and further he has failed to plant any portion of said tract to trees, tree seeds or tree cuttings during the third year of said entry, and has wholly failed to cure said defects up to the date of this affidavit, to-wit: Feby 26, 1901.
The said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 4 day of May 1901, at 10 o'clock a. m., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure.
Testimony of witnesses will be taken before H. H. Jones, a notary public, at his office in Chadron, on the 27th of April 1901, at 10 a. m. T. F. POWERS, Receiver.
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