THE ADVERTISER.

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READING MATTER ON EVERY PAGE.

Nebraska Advertiser.

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Oldest Paper in the State.

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THE ADVERTISER.

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SPACE.	1 W'k One Inc'n.	2 W'ks Two Inc'ns.	3 W'ks Three Inc'ns.	1 Mo. One Inch.	3 Months.	6 Mo's.	1 Year.
Half inch	$1 00	$1 50	$2 00	$3 00	$5 00	$6 00	$8 00
One inch	1 50	2 00	3 00	5 00	7 00	10 00	15 00
Two inches	2 00	3 00	4 00	6 00	9 00	12 00	18 00
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Six inches	4 00	6 00	10 00	12 00	18 00	25 00	40 00
Twelve inches	6 00	12 00	15 00	20 00	25 00	40 00	60 00
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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY.

SOCIAL DIRECTORY.

LODGES.

Parnas Council No. 3, R. & S. M.—Stated Communications first Monday in each month, immediately after the Chapter. JNO. BLAKE, T. I. G. M. T. A. CHRISTY, Recorder.

St Carrol Commandery Knight Templar No. 1.—Meets in Masonic Hall on the Monday in each month. R. W. FITCH, E. C. T. A. CHRISTY, Recorder.

Brownville Chapter No. 4, R. A. M.—Stated Communications first Monday night in each month. Meetings every Monday evening. JOHN BLAKE, M. E. H. P. REUBEN T. BURKE, Secretary.

Nemaha Valley Lodge No. 4, A. F. & A. M.—Regular Communications held on Saturday on or before each full moon. Lodge of Sorrow Saturday night. JOHN BLAKE, W. M. T. A. CHRISTY, Secy.

Brownville Lodge No. 5, I. O. O. F.—Regular meetings Tuesday evening of each week. A. M. FALL, N. G. R. W. BENNETT, Secy.

CHURCHES.

Christ's Church, (Episcopal.)—Corner Atlas and second streets. Divine service every other Sunday morning. Sunday School at 9 a. m. Seats free. Rev. J. E. Bonner, Rector.

Presbyterian Church.—Services each Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7½ p. m. Sunday School at 2 p. m. Prayer Meeting Thursday evening. W. W. JAMES, Pastor.

Methodist E. Church.—Services each Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7½ p. m. Sunday School at 2 p. m. Prayer Meeting Thursday evening. J. W. ADAMS, Pastor.

Baptist Church.—Corner Fourth and Atlas streets. Services every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7½ o'clock P. M. Sunday School at 2 P. M. Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening. C. J. McMINN, Pastor.

Christian Church, Loudon.—Divine service every Sabbath at 11 a. m., and in the evening.

U. B. Church, Peru.—Services every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and in the evening. ALEXANDER, Pastor.

CITY OFFICIALS.

City Council.—Meets the First Monday in each month. Mayor—A. Tisdale, Jr. M. D. Lewis, B. F. Hammond, C. Neidhardt, Jno. Sheridan, D. Campbell, Clerk, J. S. Spurrier, J. W. Middleton, Police Judge.

Arrival and Departure of Mails.

[illegible]

BUSINESS CARDS.

ATTORNEYS.

SIDNEY FRENCH,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW, Brownville, Nebraska. 1y1

STULL & SCHICK,
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW, Brownville, Nebraska. Office, No. 50 Main street, up one flight. 1y1

A. J. THOMAS, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Nebraska City, Nebraska. Will attend to all legal business entrusted to him in Otoe and adjoining counties, and in the Supreme Court. Office in Mason's Block, Main street. 1y1

J. N. LEWIS, Attorney and Counselor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery, Brownville, Nebraska. 1y1

LOWE & NEWMAN, Attorneys and Counselors at Law, Brownville, Neb. Office No. 50, Main street, up stairs.

GREENE & BROADY, Attorneys at Law and Solicitors in Chancery. Office in District Court Building, Brownville, Neb.

M. H. McENNAN, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Nebraska City, Neb.

J. M. HUMPHREY, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Auburn, Nemaha County, Neb.

A. SCHICK, Attorney at Law and Land Agent, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska.

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A. D. ADAMS, M. D., Physician, Surgeon, and Accoucheur, Graduate of 1851. Town office, Main street, Brownville, Nebraska. Lost & Coughlin's Drug Store, Nebraska City. Special attention given to the treatment and diseases of Women and Children. 6m1

J. T. ROBERT, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, Brownville, Neb. Office hours from 7 to 9 a. m., and 2 to 4 p. m. Office in R. C. Lett's building.

J. A. MERRILL, Physician and Surgeon. Office in Dr. Shaw's building, No. 51 Main street, Brownville, Neb.

LAND AGENTS.

[illegible]

GRAIN DEALERS.

[illegible]

MERCHANDISE.

[illegible]

NOTARIES.

[illegible]

JUSTICES.

[illegible]

SADDLERY.

[illegible]

BRIDGE BUILDING.

[illegible]

HOTELS.

[illegible]

DRUGGISTS.

[illegible]

GUN SMITH.

[illegible]

RESTAURANTS.

[illegible]

BLACKSMITHS.

[illegible]

BOOTS AND SHOES.

[illegible]

SALOONS.

[illegible]

JOHN BOUSFIELD.
Bricklayer and Plasterer,
Brownville, Nebraska.
[illegible]

PERU BUSINESS CARDS.

LOCATION OF PERU.

Peru is situated on the west bank of the Missouri river, in Nemaha County, about five miles south of the Otoe County line, and nine miles northwest of Brownville. Has a remarkably pleasant location, and bids fair to become a town of no little importance. It has a population of about 400. The State Normal School is located here, and some branches of business are well represented, but the trade carried on here is not up to the demands of the country. It contains many fine residences, and some good business houses. There are here two fine churches—Episcopal and Methodist; good District School House, one Steam Flouring Mill, two Hotels, one Livery Stable, five general Stores, two Drug Stores, one Hardware Store and Tin Shop, two Lumber Yards, three Blacksmith Shops, one Wagon and Carriage Shop, two Shoe Shops, one Bakery, one Harness Shop, two Paint Shops, two Meat Markets, two Agricultural Implement Houses, one Barber Shop, one Real Estate and Insurance Agency, two Brick Yards, lots of Clergymen, Physicians, Politicians, &c., but no Lawyer's Office nor Saloon in town.

PIONEER DRUG STORE!
PERU, NEBRASKA.
JOHN PATTERSON,
PROPRIETOR.
THIS Old and Reliable House is fully prepared to furnish pure and everything usually found in a first class Drug Store, at lower prices than any House in the State. COMPETITION DEFIED. 4y1

THOMAS HUTCHINSON,
WAGON AND CARRIAGE
MANUFACTURER.
PERU, - - NEBRASKA.
REPAIRING!
ALL KINDS of Repairing done on short notice. Also Cabinet Work and Coffins made to order. Terms reasonable, and all work warranted. 6-1y

CITY MEAT MARKET.
By CHARLES WEY.
PERU, NEBRASKA.
CONSTANTLY on hand a good supply of Fresh and Salted Meats. Highest market price paid for
FAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND HOGS.

H. F. Morton & Brother,
ARCHITECTS & BUILDERS
PERU, NEBRASKA.
CONTRACTS TAKEN FROM FOUNDATION,
AND FINISHED THROUGHOUT,
ON REASONABLE TERMS.
☞ All work warranted to give satisfaction. 4y1

City Hotel!
CHARLES GAEDE,
PROPRIETOR.
PERU, - - - - NEBRASKA.
THIS House is new, and newly fitted and furnished in every department. Guests will find here as good fare as can be found at any Hotel in Nebraska.
Hacks to connect with R. R. trains leave this House every morning at 6 o'clock.

LIVERY STABLE
In connection with this House. Teams furnished guests on the most liberal terms. 6y1

J. W. BLISS,
Real Estate
—AND—
INSURANCE AGENT,
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Real Estate Bought and Sold on Commission.
Collections made and Taxes paid for Non-Residents.

Peru Ferry.
GOOD ACCOMMODATIONS for crossing Teams, Livestock, Freight, &c., at all times. Not liable on account of weather.
H. H. THOMPSON, Proprietor.

PERU AND WATSON
U. S. Mail and Transfer Line.
W. H. Thompson, Prop.
HACKS leave Peru every morning, in time to connect with trains South and North on the St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad, reaching Peru every evening. 4y1

F. L. PROUTY,
Tin, Copper
AND
SHEET IRON
WORKER,
—AND DEALER IN—
HARDWARE!
STOVES,
Agricultural Implements,
WOODEN WARE, &c.,
PERU, - - - - NEBRASKA.
TAKES this method of informing the citizens of Nemaha county, and the balance of the world, that he is prepared with a full stock, and good workmen to furnish any and everything in his line at as low prices as the same can be bought at any point on the Missouri river.
Special Attention paid to
SPOUTING, ROOFING, &c.
Constantly on hand, a full stock of
HEATING & COOKING
STOVES,
of the most approved patterns. Also
Agricultural Implements,
of all kinds.
Blacksmith's Iron and Supplies.
NAILS.
WOODEN WARE, FENCE WIRE, &c., &c., &c., &c.
Highest Price paid for old Iron, Copper, Brass, Rags, &c.
☞ All goods warranted, and satisfaction guaranteed in reference to price and quality of goods.
Agent for the Celebrated Charter Oak Cook Stove.

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LUMBER MERCHANT,
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Doors, Nails, Glass, Lime, Plastering Hair, &c.
Corner 5th and Park streets,
PERU, NEBRASKA.
Contractors and all others that contemplate building will do well to call on me before purchasing elsewhere. Competition defied. 22-3m

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PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Corner 5th & Main Sts.,
PERU, NEBRASKA.
Special Attention paid to Diseases of the Eye and Ear.
REFERENCES—Prof. H. D. Gleaner, Keokuk, Ia.; Prof. J. C. Shrader, Iowa State University. 6-1y

JOY & DAILY,
Dealers in
DRUGS, MEDICINES, PAINTS, OILS,
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STATIONERY, PERFUMERY, &c., &c.
Post Office building, - Peru, Nebraska.
Physician's Prescriptions carefully and scientifically compounded. 4y1

WILLIS CARTER,
PAINTER, GLAZIER AND
Paper Hanger,
PERU, NEBRASKA.
WISHES to inform the citizens of Peru and surrounding country, that he is prepared to do all work in his line with neatness and dispatch, and on terms that will be satisfactory. 6-1y

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JOSEPH SHUTZ,
No. 59 Main Street, Brownville.
Keeps constantly on hand a large and well assorted stock of genuine articles in his line. Repairing of Clocks, Watches and Jewelry done on short notice, at reasonable rates.
ALL WORK WARRANTED.

JACOB BERKLEY,
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CUSTOM WORK done on short notice and in a style and manner which will guarantee satisfaction.

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STORAGE, FORWARDING,
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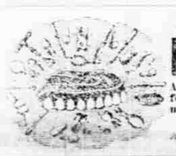
SMITH & WILCOX.
Dealers in all kinds of Grain, for which they pay the highest market price in Cash.
☞ Office at store of F. E. Johnson & Co. 18-6m



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ONE DOOR WEST OF COURT HOUSE.
WAGON MAKING, Repairing, Plows, and all work done in the best manner and on short notice. Satisfaction guaranteed, give him a call. 34-1y.

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46 Main-st., Brownville.
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FEED STABLE
IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOUSE.
This House has been remodeled and refurnished throughout, and is the best accommodation for travelers and boarders in the city. Rooms easily heated, access to the West and Omnibuses to and from the Sherman House, Free of charge. 15-1y

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CAPITAL, - $100,000.
Transact a General Banking Business and make collections on all points throughout the West,
AND IN ALL PARTS OF EUROPE.
Exchange on Europe
Draw Our Own Drafts on England, Ireland, France, Germany, &c.
DISCOUNT NOTES AND TIME BILLS OF EXCHANGE.
INTEREST ALLOWED ON TIME CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT, BY SPECIAL AGREEMENT.
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ARCHITECT & BUILDER!
Brownville, Nebraska.
WILL DO ALL KINDS OF BUILDING, PREPARE Plans, Draw Designs, and Furnish Specifications. Satisfaction guaranteed. Job Work of every description at short notice. Shop on First Street between Main and Atlantic. 26-1f

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Manufacturers of
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All Kinds of Job Work done at the "Advertiser" Office.

EDUCATIONAL.

This column of the ADVERTISER is under the Editorial control of the Educators of Nemaha County.

SPELLING.

How shall we teach spelling? is a question that is being agitated now among the teachers generally, and a question to which there has been no definite conclusion arrived at.

The plans for teaching this branch are varied, like those for teaching all other branches. It is strongly advocated by some, and we believe the theory to be a true one, that any language has a perfect alphabet, when every character of that alphabet represents only one sound. Therefore, if we should have a perfect alphabet, we must in consequence have a character to represent every sound. Our alphabet fails in these particulars. Therefore, logically speaking, our aldhabet is not a perfect one. Some authors let the character "a" represent seven distinct sounds, others have it represent but four, again still others that it has five and six sounds. We have only twenty-six letters or characters in the alphabet, and these characters represent forty-one different sounds, and we may represent our forty sounds in many more different ways. Hence we find that there is not a single word in the English language but what may be spelled in some different way by exercising a little ingenuity, and to one not well acquainted with etymology, the wrong spelling may seem as reasonable as the correct. There is no apparent reason why "kot" should not be the correct spelling of the word that is commonly spelled "caught," and yet we do not find a single letter used in the spelling of the former word, that is used in the spelling of the latter. This accounts for so much time being spent in learning words in lieu of things. We find some teachers who have their pupils form in a class and then spell a whole exercise, without defining a single word, and the pupils return to their seats about as wise as when they left them.

What constitutes good spelling? Is it one that wins at a spelling match, having spelled orally all the words pronounced, when his whole attention is directed to the spelling of the words only? We say not. The individual alone may be considered a good speller, when he has to a certain extent, mastered the art so that he can use his words not only in conversation, but in writing also. We are aware of the fact, that some congratulate themselves as good teachers of spelling, when their pupils can spell a certain prescribed exercise or two without failure.

Now I shall endeavor give you my plan for teaching spelling—how I would and how I do teach it. I would in the first place, rule out all the spelling books and take, in their stead, a small dictionary, and then have the pupils learnto spell the word and after spelling it learn how to use it, what it means, &c. And if we cannot get dictionaries for all, we must use our readers, from the First up to the Fourth. We believe this is as high as any common school need go. We assign lessons that we think every member of the class is capable of preparing, and when the class is called upon to recite, it is expected that each member of it will be able to spell and define every word in the lesson, and notice the construction of the sentence in which the word is used, and in this way gather an idea of what the word means, and then define it in their own language. In this way, I believe that pupils will not only learn how to spell and define words, but they will also learn how to use them. Practically, the object that we have in view, in wanting to know the letters that compose a word is, that we may be able to write it correctly, and we must know what it means in order to get it in its proper place in a sentence. It is seldom that we are called upon to name the letters in a word, and we all know that one may may be a good oral speller, and yet write it incorrectly. I believe this, that about two-thirds of the time spent in oral spelling is a dead waste for the reasons stated above.

Yours, S. M.

HARMON'S SCHOOL HOUSE.

We had the pleasure of attending the closing exercises of this school on last Friday. The day was rather cold and blustery, and we thought in the morning that there certainly would be nobody there, but finally concluded to go and see. We went, and to our utter astonishment, found a house full of children and parents. The forenoon was occupied in examining the various classes. The exercises were conducted by Mr. G. S. McGrew, the teacher; D. W. Pierson, and S. M. McGrew, County Superintendent. The children done well, indeed. We might speak of a class in Geography, and one in Arithmetic that done exceedingly well.

At 12 o'clock, M., a dinner was prepared by the patrons of the school, and it was indeed a grand success. To say the least of the good women of that district, they are excellent cooks. As the day was a cold one, the women did not get to the school house, so the dinner was served up Thomas Skeen, Ed. Snyder, Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Beeson, Henry Harmon and others, young and old ate until they were satisfied.

The afternoon was followed in class examinations, followed by speeches from Messrs. Skeen, Snyder, S. W. McCrew, Pierson and G. S. McGrew. This was followed by singing by the School, led by the teacher.

We had a pleasant time. The children, parents, and all present enjoyed the occasion to the utmost extent, and we left feeling that it was good to be there. How rejoicing it is to see parents and friends meet to encourage the children. It has a tendency to buoy them up and encourage them in their efforts to learn. Parents should visit the school frequently. S. M.

Politeness in the School Room.

The ability to govern a school is one of the most difficult of all the qualifications of the teacher. More teachers fail in this than in anything else. Is this because it is so very difficult to govern children, or is it because the proper course in not taken with them? Both of these causes may have much to do with it. But without a doubt the great trouble lies in not using the right methods of government. A long list of written rules, presented to the pupil, by which he must square his conduct, and measure his deportment, will do but very little to secure order in the school room. Some written items may be useful for regulations, but not for discipline.

To properly govern a school, an appeal must be made to the moral nature of the pupils. A standard of right and wrong must be raised in their minds, and a high one too. A high regard for the rights of others must be taught them, and a constant effort not to intrude upon these rights—such as not to whisper so as to attract the attention of another from his lesson—not to make unnecessary noise so as to annoy others. They should be taught to be cleanly and neat in their persons and dress, so as not to offend the most delicate sense, they should be taught to use chaste and courteous language to each other, and to use none other but such language. They should be instructed to show respectful deference to their teachers and elder persons, and a proper respect for each other, and a becoming respect for themselves. They should be taught to be graceful and modest in position and attitude of body, and elegance and refinement in deportment.

All this may be called politeness, very well. It is politeness which is absolutely necessary to the correct government of the school-room. Schools cannot be governed without it. Politeness is defined to be civility—a proper respect for the rights and feelings of others. And this should be taught children as soon as they begin to receive any mental or intellectual training. They have faculties for this kind of development as much as any other. Politeness need not be taught so as to reach extreme formality, so as to run into rigid mannerism. Nor court etiquette need not be required. Although courtly address, and a high polish of manner have their value, and are not to be spoken lightly of, yet many never have the advantage of this kind of culture. But there is a kind of politeness which every one may have, in the country as well as in the city—in Nebraska as well as at Washington.

Those parents or guardians who say I do not send my children to the school to learn manners or morals, but to learn to read and write and spell, and soon, make a fatal mistake, and they too often see the consequence of their mistake when it is too late. Parents should teach their children at home, if they expect to have a well governed family, and they should insist on having it observed in the school. And teachers who would have a well governed school, must instruct their pupils in politeness, teach them to be courteous. To do this, they must be polite and courteous themselves.

JENNETTE HARDING.

London, Neb.

The Result of "Swearing Off."

It is related that twelve young men of Salina "swore off" drinking on New Years day, 1871, and agreed to deposit with one of their number on the first day of each month $10 each, the total to be divided among the members of the association, who on the 1st of January, 1872, should prove to have been faithful to the pledge. One by one the members backsliddd and yielded to the liquid temptation, until a single individual was left, who at noon, on New Year's day, was to receive $1,100. This Aodhel, infidel found among the infidels, proceeded to the rendezvous at the appointed hour. He waited until ten minutes after noon, and then thought he would run into the saloon next door and get a nip. He had just swallowed it when lo! of the other members entered to take there noonday Augustus, and he found, to his horror, that his watch was twenty minutes fast, and the money was lost. The eleven, therefore, proceeded to the residence of the treasurer, and found that he had lost all the money playing draw-poker with one of the church trustees.

A lady correspondent wishes to know the meaning of "stag parties." They are entertainments whereat the bucks usually get enough additional horns to make them stag-ger.

A religious community in Northampton, Mass., asks its members why the use of tobacco should not be ruled out as utterly opposed to Christianity? If this is meant for a conundrum, the answer is obvious: Because it converts the Chews to the ways of salvation.

Saginaw Co., according to a Chicago paper, prides itself on its infants. The latest arrival kicks the beam at 18 pounds, and when he enquires for paregoric during the watches of the night, he can be heard ten blocks off.

Taxation and Exemption.

Editor Nebraska Advertiser.

In your last issue appears an article headed "Taxation and Assessment," in which the writer very fairly shows that one cause of just complaint on the part of a large class of our citizens in regard to the inequality of taxes, is occasioned by the method adopted by the assessors for determining the value of property for taxable purposes.

It is also very clearly shown, in that article, that the method of assessing property upon arbitrary valuation, must be not only very unjust to certain classes, but is also contrary to both the spirit and letter of the law, even supposing the standard of value fixed high enough to equal the average valuation. It has been shown that the method adopted by the "Board of Assessors," is a fraud, both upon the law and the people. It is a direct violation of their official oath, and renders them liable to the penalties imposed by the statute for a wilful neglect of duty.

But the writer saw fit, unnecessarily, to offer an apology for the exemptions allowed by the Statute for farm improvements, trees, etc. There is no excuse for these exemptions. They are contrary to sound policy, unconstitutional, a burthen and a hinderance upon the revenue system of the state.

These, however, would occasion but little cause for complaint, if our wise "Board of Assessors" was as careful to observe the requirements of the law in estimating the value of property for taxation, as it has been liberal in estimating the value of what has been claimed for exemption.

The "Board" purposes to assess the real estate at certain fixed rates of value per acre, for each precinct, and at a rate, on an average, of less than one half of its real value. A moment's consideration will show that this, practically, exempts from taxation, more than double the amount allowed by law, and doubles the burdens of taxation upon those who have to pay.

For instance, Sec 4, of Chapter 46, of Revised statutes, entitled Revenue provides that "In all assessments of real property, used or occupied exclusively for agricultural purposes * * * the assessor shall not value the same higher, by reason of any improvements thereon made exclusively for agricultural purposes, unless such improvements exceed the sum of one thousand dollars, when such excess only, shall be assessed."

There is also a later statute which exempts fifty dollars in valuation for every acre of fruit trees, and one hundred dollars for every acre of forest trees.

There are several farms in every precinct whose exemptions under the method of valuation proposed, will, not only pay all tax upon the farm, but entitle the owner thereof to a large credit upon the tax of any other property he may have. Take as a convenient illustration, Col. Furnas's farm of 320 acres, which to-day could not be bought for fifty dollars an acre, and would doubtless be appraised under legal appraisement, at that value, at least. The assessors purpose to value that farm at $12 per acre, or less than one-fourth its actual value. Let us consider how this will work. At a valuation of twelve dollars per acre, 320 acres gives $3,840. Deduct for improvements $1,000, leaves $2,840 value to be assessed. But the Col. has a large quantity of fruit and forest trees—we will say for illustration, and as a fair estimate, thirty acres of each. Thirty acres of fruit trees entitles him to a deduction of $1500, and thirty acres of Forest trees entitles him to $3,000 from his valuation. This wipes out the remaining $2,840 of the valuation of his farm, and leaves a credit in his favor of $1,660 to be deducted from the valuation of his other unimproved real estate, or any other property.

On the other hand, let us consider how it would be if the law was complied with, and the Col's farm was assessed at its true value. Its true value, at $40 per acre, for 320 acres, would give $12,800 valuation—deduct $1000 for improvements leaves $11,800. Deduct for thirty acres of fruit trees, $1,500—for thirty acres of forest trees, $3,000, leaves $6,700 valuation of the farm for tax, making a difference in one single instance of $11,100 in the valuation and assessment of a single farm of 320 acres. And there are many such examples.

With this glaring inequality and fraud upon the law and the people, who is there that will feel like paying his taxes, unless he is compelled to.

Other facts force themselves upon the attention in considering this subject, which to those who understand them afford a sufficient answer to the query so often made, "why cannot the taxes be collected by distraint and legal process?"

H.

ASSESSMENT.

MR. EDITOR.—If our aggrieved city friend does not know the difference between "averaged at a certain price per acre," and "each acre shall be prized at a certain figure," I do not wonder that he is dissatisfied with the action of the Assessors. And if averaging land in Brownville at $12 per acre has anything to do with city taxes, we are at a loss to know how it is. Are not the Assessors better able to decide the true average per acre than any one man?

Our city friend reminds me of a boy who, after having brain fever for three months, was taken with the *non compos mentis*. If the gentleman has any reasonable objections to the meeting of Assessors prior to assessment let us hear them; and if he knows any way by which a more equal assessment can be made, I, for one, would like to have it presented.

ASSESSOR.

A Mississippi Romance—A Reminiscence of Aaron Burr.

"Nota Bene," (Col. John F. H. Claiborne,) contributes to the Natchez *Democrat* the following romance in which the eloquent, accomplished, and fascinating Aaron Burr played a conspicuous part:

The arrest of Aaron Burr, at the mouth of Cole's creek, by the order of Cowles Meade, Acting Governor of Mississippi Territory, and his arraignment in the old town of Washington on the charge of treason, the self-possession, ability, and tact he exhibited, and the favorable impression he made on the community, are all well remembered historical incidents. He was discharged on giving bonds for his appearance, and the principal bondsman was Col. Benjamin Osmun, a native of New Jersey, and a comrade of Burr in the revolutionary war. He was an old batchelor, of handsome fortune, a high toned Federalist in politics, retained his military habits, and was held in great esteem. Colonel Osmun was one of the most practical and successful planters of the Territory—was the first who commenced to improve our breed of horses, and was renowned for his table and his wines. His beautiful estate extended to the Half-Way Hill. His lands, on his death, were purchased by the late Gerard Brandon, and were given to his sons-in-law, Col. James Smith and William Stanton, two of our most valuable citizens, now deceased. Here Colonel Burr resided some weeks after his discharge, receiving the visits of influential sympathizers, but passing his afternoons in the woods. The Half-Way Hill, when clothed with majestic trees, was his favorite resort. But its refreshing shade and charming prospect were not the only attraction. There lived at that time, near the summit of the hill, in a little vine-covered cottage, a widow lady from Virginia, whose small farm and two or three slaves were the only remains of a large fortune. Her husband had converted his property into money, and on his way to this Territory had been robbed and murdered by the notorious Joseph Thompson Hare, a more blood-thirsty villian even than the celebrated Mason. She had but one child, Madeline, who must still be remembered by a few of our older citizens as a miracle of beauty. In form and feature, in grace and modesty, she was all that the old masters have pictured on the divine Madonna, or that artists ever dreamed of human loveliness. Those that saw her loved her, yet she was never conscious of the sentiment until she listened to Aaron Burr. The family were Catholics, and there Col. Burr went to meet by appointment, one of his numerous agents and correspondents, the Abbe Viel, a Jesuit priest of remarkable ability. He was born in New Orleans in 1739, studied at Paris, and became a member of the Congregation of the Oratory. At the dissolution of that body by the French Government he returned to Louisiana, and exercised the priestly functions in the parts of Attakapas. He subsequently returned to France. It is probable that Col. Burr, in his projected invasion of Mexico, contemplated securing the influence of the religious orders, and for that purpose had opened a correspondence with the Abbe, and met him by appointment at this secluded place.

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At length, after canvassing his situation with Col. Osmun and six other confidential friends, Col. Burr determined to forfeit his bond and make his way to Pensacola. One stormy night in February, 1807, he set forth, mounted on the favorite horse of his host, and attended by Jerry, a faithful groom, who had orders to go as far as Pearl river. Urgent as was the necessity for expedition, Col. Burr halted in broil daylight at the widow's cottage, pleading with the beautiful Madeline to be the companion of his flight. He promised marriage, fortune, high position, and even hinted at imperial honors, not realizing, even then, a fugitive and a branded traitor the crushing down-fall that impended over him. The maiden had given him her heart; she had listened to his whispers of night after night, and fired him with all the fervor of her Southern nature. She would have followed him to the end of the earth, and to the scaffold, and her aged mother would freely have given her to the most captivating man—for they looked on him as a demigod—but, as with most of our Southern women virtue and propriety were stronger than prepossession and passion, and the entreaties of the accomplished libertine were finally rejected. Baffled and disappointed, he was compelled to proceed, but promised to return, and carried with him the convention and pledge of the beautiful Madeline. She was wooed by many a lover. The young and gallant masters of the plantations on Second creek and St. Catherine's strove in vain for her hand. Flattery and the homage of devoted hearts were laid at her feet; but the maid of the Half-way Hill remained true to her absent lover; the more so because of the rumors that reached her of his misfortunes and his guilt. She lived on the recollection of his manly beauty, and the shades he had most affected were her constant haunts. At length, when he fled from the United States, pursued by Mr. Jefferson and the remorseless agents that swarm around power and authority—when he had been driven from England—and an outcast in Paris, shivering with cold and starving for bread—he resolved to have felt, for the first time, the utter hopelessness of his fortune. And then he wrote to Madeline, and, in a few formal words, released her from her promise. Stating that he would never return to the United States, he advised her to enter a convent should she survive her mother. A year or two after this she went to Havana with Mrs. W., a highly respectable lady who then owned the property where Mrs. St. John Elliott now resides. Her extreme beauty, her grace and elegance, produced the greatest enthusiasm. The hotel where they put up was besieged. If she appeared on the balcony a dozen cavaliers were waiting to salute her. When her *valant* was seen on the Paseo or the Plaza de Arms it was escorted by the grandees of the island. She was fêted by the Governor General, serenades and balls followed in rapid succession, and the daily homage to her beauty never ceased until the evening bells sounded the Angelus.

Without surrendering her heart, or being carried away by universal admiration, she returned to the cottage on the Half-Way Hill. She was followed there by Mr. K., an English gentleman, the head of the largest commercial house in Havana, and to him, on his second visit, she gave her hand.

The vine covered cottage, its trellises and borders have crumbled into dust. The gentle lover and the innocent maiden are long since dead. But the old hill still lifts its aged brow, wrinkled all over with traditions. A favorite lookout of the Natchez in time of war—the scene of a daring conspiracy against the Spanish authority—the rendezvous of lovers—the hiding place of brigands and a depot for their blood-stained treasure—mute, but faithful witness of the past!

How Gunpowder is Made—A House Where Men Never Laugh.

How do you think you would like to live, feeling every moment to be blown up; not daring to speak loud, to jar anything, for fear of starting an explosion that would send you in an instant to another world?

You don't think it would be very pleasant? Well it isn't; yet hundreds of men live in just that state, work, receive pay and live, year after year, in the very sight of death, as it were; all that the world may have gunpowder.

You can easily guess that those men go about very quietly, and never laugh.

You know that gunpowder is very dangerous in a gun, or near a fire, but perhaps you don't know that it is equally dangerous all though the process of making. A powder mill is a fearful place to visit, and strangers are seldom allowed to go into one. They are built far from any town, in the woods, and each branch of work is done in a separate building. These houses are quite a distance from each other, so that if one blows up, it won't blow up the rest. Then the lower parts of the building are made very strong, while the roofs are very lightly set on, so that if it explodes only the roof will suffer. But in spite of every care, sometimes a whole settlement of the powder mills will go off almost in an instant, and every vestige of the work of years will be swept away in a few seconds.

But though you feel like holding your breath to look at it, it is really a very interesting process to see. It is made, perhaps you know, of charcoal, saltpeter, and brimstone. Each of these articles is prepared in a house by itself; but the house where they are mixed is the most terrible one. In this building is an immense mill stone, rolling round and round in an iron bed. In this bed, and under the stone, are put the three ingredients of gunpowder. There they are thoroughly mixed and ground together.

This is a very dangerous operation, because if the stone comes in contact with its iron bed, it is very apt to strike fire, and the meerest suspicion of a spark would set off the whole. The materials are spread to the not four inches thick in the bed; the wheel, which goes by water power is started, and every man leaves the place. The door is shut, and the machinery left to do its terrible work alone. When it has run long enough, the mill is stopped, and the men come back. This operation leaves the powder in hard lumps or cakes.

The next house is where these cakes are broken into grains and, of course, is quite as dangerous as the first. But the men can go away from this place and need not be constantly on the watch as in the mill. Not a word may be spoken, no laugh or joke is ever heard within its walls. Every one who goes in has to take off his boots, and put on rubbers, because one grain of the dangerous powder, crushed by the boot, would explode the whole in an instant.

The floor of this house is covered with leather, and is made perfectly black by the dust of the gunpowder. It contains a set of sieves, each one smaller than the last, through which the powder is sifted; and an immense ground and tumboring mill, where it is ground up, while men shovel it with wooden shovels. The machinery makes a great deal of noise, but the men are silent, as in the other houses. The rattle-crashing of the machinery even seems to give great horror, and once is very glad to get out of the house.

The glazing house comes next. Glazing is done by mixing black lead with the powder, to give it a black and shiny look. The powder is put into barrels, which revolve for several hours. This polishes the grains by their rubbing together. The black lead is put with them and they revolve several hours more. Of course the men who do these operations, and the workmen, silent, like the rest, look like very black negroes, working in the blackest of powder, if possible. It has a very singular look to a stranger, and added to the horrible silence, makes one feel that the whole world has gone into mourning. Often, the gunpowder, revolving so rapidly in the barrels, gets very hot; so this, too, is a dangerous operation.

The stoving house is the next on the list, and there the gunpowder is heated on wooden trays. From there it goes to the packing house, and is put up in barrels, kegs and canisters. Safely through all these houses, it goes at last to the storehouse. One feels like drawing a long breath to see the fearful stuff safely packed away, out of the hands of men, in this curious house.

You've heard of things being as dry as a powder house, but you wouldn't think this house very dry. It is almost imbedded in water. The roof is one big tank, kept full of water. Did you ever hear of a water roof before? Instead of steps to go in, there are shallow tanks of water, through which every one must walk to the door.

In none of these powder houses is any light ever allowed except sunlight. The wares are good, the day's work is short, ending always at three or four o'clock. But the men have a serious look, that makes one think every moment of danger, and glad to get away.

Though curiosity may take a man once to visit a powder mill, he has no desire to go the second time; he feels all the rest of his life that for once once he has been very near death.—*From the American Sportsman.*

A rural Tennessean resented the kind offices of a Memphis publican who gave him vermicilli soup, wishing to know "if you'uns eat those infernal wurrums."

The fortune of A. T. Stewart, is estimated at between fifty and sixty millions.