

# THE ADVERTISER.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1871.

## ST. JOSEPH BRIDGE.

In company with a large number of our citizens, we set out for St. Joseph on last Friday evening, in order to attend the festival and festivities incident in the opening of the bridge—sail, foot and wagon—which spans the "Big Muddy" at that point, and was on Saturday formally opened to trade, travel and the public. The bridge is a "stone," with a 200-foot draw span, and on either side of the R. R. track are wagon road approaches well macadamized and guttied, rendering access to the bridge easy and safe.

But it is our intention to deal with the occasion and not its origin. And as are not extravagant when we declare that nothing comparable with it was ever before seen west of the Mississippi. The entire population of St. Joe was drawn in its best—every man, woman and child set that upon their shoulders ready a portion of the responsibility attending the proper going off of the celebration. Delegations, accompanied by bands of music were present from several of the leading cities of Missouri and Kansas, and some from Nebraska. The procession was grand and inspiring beyond description. Every trade and business pursuit was represented, with full compliment of employees engaged as though in their shops or farms. Then, instead of the "Boat-a-way" so common on such occasions, was a band of Modocs, mounted on horses, painted, armed with bows and arrows and looking like the devils before the end of June.

At Aspinwall we took aboard Mr. John S. Minick and Miss Lockwood, and 3,000 bushels of grain for Mr. Wetherider.

At St. Derois our company was made happy by the reception of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Walker and Mrs. Dr. Fitzgerald. A. L. Kerr & Co. sent on board 1,000 bushels of corn. We then ran down to Arago and took on 6,000 bushels of corn during Thursday night.

We left Arago on Friday morning, and after a run of five hours we tied up in St. Joseph, just above the new railroad bridge that spans the turbulent Missouri at this place. We took a stroll through the streets of St. Joe, and found the German National flag flying from every prominent place in honor of the Saengerfest, which discourses fine music, the oldest performer being 16 years old.

In the afternoon we had the honor of attending the banquet, where soups and salads were distributed with lavish hand, and where oratory held forth and the 5th Infantry band, from Ft. Leavenworth, played as perhaps no other band in the West can play. After dinner toasts were the order of the day. The finest effort was that of Hon. L. H. Kalloch, of Kansas, who, as we always have thought is the best speaker in the West. Of course his theme was Kansas. Col. W. E. Gilmore, of Springfield, Mo., ably responded to the sentiment, "Woman." Nebraska was neatly toasted and as neatly responded to by our fellow citizen H. C. Lett, whose effort was loudly applauded, and on concluding three hearty cheers were given the speaker and the State he represents.

In the evening there was a grand concert at the Opera House, which was very largely attended. On Sunday special trains run every hour to Fowler's Grove, situated about two miles from the depot, where were several fine bands, and the devotees of music and Gambino revelled in amusement from 9 o'clock a. m. to 12 p. m.

Taken as a whole, the bridge celebration was a grand success, a triumph, and we trust that the great good which the St. Joe people expect will inure to them through the workings of their bridge will be fully realized. The structure cost the citizens of St. Joseph a million of dollars, half of which was voted by the electorate of that city, and the other half raised by subscription. The sub and superstructure cost \$750,000 and the approaches \$250,000.

## THE GRANGES.

When we wrote our first article on the Granges there was not a Grange in Nemaha county, neither did we suppose there would be. The growth of the organization has been unparalleled, spreading as it has from State to State and ramifying every county, until now it counts its members by the hundreds of thousands.

We received a call one day last week from Mr. Elliott, who is establishing Granges in this county, and to him we are indebted for the following list of Granges in Nemaha, together with the names of the Masters of said Granges:

NAME.	PRESIDENT.	MANNER.
Liberty Grange, Lafayette,	J. B. Elliott.	
Chapter Oak, star of the West,	Wm. Black.	
Lafayette, Washington,	Jonathan Langford.	
Denier, Pease,	Julius Gilbert.	
Grange, Douglas,	Elizworth.	
Forest Grove, Nemaha Center, Glen Rock, Highland,	Wm. Clark.	
Rising Star, Port, London,	Nathan Meader.	
Pleasant Ridge, Rising Sun,	Wm. Bagley.	

The object and mission of the Granges is not generally understood. Many labor under the impression that it is the main object of the organization to withhold patronage from ordinary retail dealers and to patronize only large dealers, thus, by their organized influence crippling, if not wholly destroying local merchants. We are assured by members of the organization that this is an error. Indeed, we have been called upon by Grangers and requested to press upon all Nemaha County Grangers the importance attaching to their patronizing home merchants rather than those of Otoe or Johnson counties. They recognize the fact that Nemaha county merchants pay taxes into the Nemaha County Treasury, while those of other points do not, and that the policy of going away from home for what can be got at home is suicidal.

It is hard to see others enjoy the fruits of one's labor. The farmers have, from time immemorial, seen corporations spring into existence and affluence upon money wrung from them by soulless demands upon their necessities, until finally they have banded together as mutual protectors. In union there is strength. Merchants have their boards of trade, professions their clubs, mechanics their unions, why not the farmers?

## THE RECKONING.

*Nemaha County Reckoning.—The St. Joe Sagacious.*

On Thursday of last week the steamer Mountaineer landed at Brownsville. Excursion tickets for the round trip to St. Joseph and back were purchased by the following citizens of Brownsville:

Mr. and Mrs. John Blake, Mr. and Mrs. Lou Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hickney, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Church, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Rogers, Capt. A. H. Dawson and Miss Mary M. McNaughton, H. H. Dolen and Miss Lou McPherson, Otto March and sister, Miss Lizzie, Junius Carter, Shurtliff, J. H. Bauer, James R. Dye, Ben Rogers, Ed. Huddart, Jo. Hindman, J. B. Doeker, C. N. Whitman and Aaron Conner, all of whom were on board the boat as she left the Brownsville levee. We were welcomed by the following persons from Peru who were bound for the same destination as ourselves:

Mr. and Mrs. Gads, Mrs. Thomas Green, Chase, A. Way, G. A. Brown, R. H. Daily, R. T. Daily, Wash. Wilson, John Knott.

The boat was out a few minutes in reaching Nemaha City, where our party was reinforced by Mrs. Hoover and Charley Whitman. Mr. Bush Hoover sent aboard some 8,000 bushels of grain for St. Louis market. The river is washing away the bottom farms at this point rapidly. Over one hundred acres of land at the Neumah City landing has gone into the river and on its way to the Gulf within the last twenty days. Farms are entertained that the old toll bridge will go before the end of June.

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CHARLES H. CHURCH.

LETTER FROM MR. SAM. MICHAEL.

LOWELL, May 28, 1871.

Editor Nebraska Advertiser.

Your correspondent had a very pleasant journey from Brownsville to Lincoln. Enjoyed the trip from Nebraska City to Lincoln over the Midland, with the exception of the usual annoyance experienced by all travelers from train boys, the greatest pest and annoyance of modern travel.

If from moment you should presume to look out of the window to enjoy the prospect of a new and varied country, the inevitable train boy punches you in the side or small of the neck with a cigar box or hawis lastly in your ear, "apple five cents, last daily paper, dime novels, illustrated almanacs." We heartily wish Capt. Jack had every mother's son of them.

At Lincoln we met a number of old friends, who were extremely glad to see us as long as our fine cut held out. Gere and Hathaway, of that sterling Republican sheet, the State Journal, kindly conducted us through their establishment, which, in all its various departments, is the most complete and perfect of any institution of the kind this side of the Mississippi River.

Everyone was busy preparing for the great Railroad Bridge Celebration which was on the programme for Saturday. We returned to the Mountaineer and made it our hotel during our stay in the city.

Saturday morning was ushered in by the firing of cannon, and the streets of the city were packed with the city and country people at an early hour.

At eleven o'clock the great procession of all the industries of the city began to move through the streets on wagons outlined for the occasion with men, women and boys, plying their several occupations in the wagons as they were passing along. The dinner was making up innumerable black hats and white gloves, the cooper was making barrels, the tinsmith was making cans, the several sewing machine companies were sewing away upon their machines, and so on through the whole list of actual industries in operation in St. Joseph. The procession occupied about two hours in passing a given point, and was estimated to be six miles long.

In the afternoon a banquet was held, at which Gov. Lett, of Brownsville, responded to the toast, "Nebraska," so happy a strain as to elicit rounds of applause.

It was announced that the Captain of our boat was aiming to give us an excursion at three o'clock through the draw of the bridge and back. Dr. Crane came aboard of the boat to go with us. Being weary, he laid down in a state room to rest until the boat started. In due time we got under way and left our landing and went up the river to the foot of First street to take on the bridge committee and the hand. As soon as landed thousands of people came running to the boat. The Captain, finding that he was likely to be swamped by the populace, ordered the boat until, and the boat swung out into the river and whistled the draw of the bridge open. We went down through under a heavy pressure of steam and a swift current, at a high rate of speed. The immense number of people on the bridge and the banks of the river cheered us to the echo. The boat returned and repeated the trip with the same success. After she had tied up at her landing, Dr. Crane came out of his room, rubbing his eyes and saying, "I wonder when the boat is going through the draw?" The laugh that came from all sides was all the evidence the Doctor needed to convince him that the show was over.

In the evening we all went to the Saengerfest to hear the bidding of a thousand members of the German Bands. Those who appreciate instrumental music pronounced it good; others held back on Miss Kellogg, who they pronounced the star performer of the evening. We left St. Joe as soon as we returned from the Saengerfest, Saturday evening, and arrived in Brownville Sunday at 8 p. m. When near Brownville, at the close of our last supper, Dr. Blake at the head of the table, was made chairman and J. S. Church secretary.

Mr. Church offered the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, In our attendance at the St. Joseph Bridge Celebration and at the Saengerfest at the same time and place, we availed ourselves of the generous offerings of Capt. Crane, and the Mountaineer, and the packet boat, the Mountaineer, from Port, Brownville, Nemaha City, Atchison and St. Derois, in Nebraska county; and,

WHEREAS, We are now nearing our second homes after a sojourn of four days upon the steamboat Mountainer, waiting for a favorable wind to bring us home.

Resolved, That we are under many obligations to Captain Chapter the master of the boat, to J. B. White the accommodating clerk, to W. W. Ashby and to Mr. Baldwin the accompanying pilot and to the other offi-

cers for the kind, gentlemanly and generous treatment which we have received at their hands during the round trip.

Resolved, That the social, intellectual and aesthetic enjoyment of the trip was of the highest order, and extremely beneficial as well as gratifying to us all.

The adoption was moved by Capt. Dawson. They were removed from all sides. Speeches were made by W. T. Rogers, Mr. Blake, Dye, Minick and others, after which they were adopted unanimously and ordered printed in the Brownville papers.

The excursion was one of the phenomena on record and was highly enjoyed by all. The company became more attached to each other as they became better acquainted. Prof. Dye had a splendid new organ aboard and Sunday was spent in playing and singing Anthems and religious songs. The Captain and all the officers done all that could be asked and more than was expected to make the company one of enjoyment and comfort. We found in St. Joseph the following citizens who came down by railroad:

Major Caffey, Gov. Lett, T. C. Fletcher, Phil Deuer, Ed. Gibson, Dr. Crane, A. F. Cohn and Prof. Smith.

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