THE ADVERTISER.

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THE ADVERTISER

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Orders from the country promptly filled, and satisfaction guaranteed.
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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.
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Commission Merchants,
SHIPPERS,
AND DEALERS IN GRAIN AND COAL,
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"EAT AND GROW FAT!"
BODY & BRO.,
(SUCCESSORS TO J. L. CROOKS & Co.,)
BUTCHERS!
RUN TWO SHOPS.
One opposite Sherman House, on Main street, the other next door to Bratton's, on Sixth street.
Good, sweet, fresh meat always on hand, and satisfaction guaranteed to customers. 17-22-1y

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WAGON & BLACKSMITH SHOP
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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Neatly printed at this office.

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Insurance not a Privilege but a Duty.
Continental Insurance Company
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Assets over $2,000,000
Losses paid in Chicago. 1,500,000
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Farm Risks made a specialty, upon the Installment or Annual Premium plan, for five years; less than five years, stock plan.
Insure against loss or damage by Fire and Lightning buildings and contents, hay, grain and stock. GEO. T. HOPE, Pres.
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HIGHEST MARKET PRICE PAID FOR
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MAKE REGULAR TRIPS DAILY FROM
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Also with hacks to Arago via Nemaha City, Aspinwall, Hillsdale and St. Deroin.
FREIGHT AND EXPRSS of transferred on these routes at reasonable rates. All Kinds
☞ Passengers comfortably provided for. Charges moderate.
OFFICE at Daily Bros.'s Drug Store, Peru. All orders will receive prompt attention.
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OFFICERS AND TEACHERS
We invite your attention to the superiority of the
PEARD PATENT DESK & SETTEE
COMBINED.
IT HAS THE FOLDING DESK AND SEAT.
IT IS FREE FROM NOISE.
IT IS STRONG, BEAUTIFUL, CONVENIENT, DURABLE.
The castings are one-fourth heavier than those of any other desk, and so flanged as to secure the greatest possible strength. The wood is selected cherry, walnut or ash, thoroughly seasoned and kiln-dried, and handsomely finished in shellac. The seat, arm, and back, are beautifully carved and slatted. We guarantee against breakage in fair usage. It fits the school house for school or church purposes.
We also manufacture "THE GEM," as its name indicates, an elegant stationary Top Desk.
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Roche's Reading Case is rapidly supereseding the ordinary reading Tablets. 28,000 groups, phrases and sentences, based upon the word-method, admirably adapted to primary lessons in Drawing, Numbers, Reading, and Grammar. Address our nearest agent, who will call upon you without delay.
National School Furniture Co.,
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CHICAGO.
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Guests received at all hours, DAY and NIGHT. Connects with
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☞ Careful attention given to the wants of guests. We refer to the traveling public.

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BOOTS AND SHOES.
REPAIRING DONE PROMPTLY.
Call and see Samples.
NO FIT NO SALE.
ALL WORK WARRANTED.

ESTABLISHED JOHN BRUNSDON, NINE YEARS.
Fashionable Boot and Shoe
MAKER.
CUSTOM WORK ALWAYS ON HAND.
Repairs executed with neatness.
CALL AND EXAMINE MY STOCK

R. B. SMITH,
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AGENT.
Special attention given to collection of notes and accounts for non-residents.
Address Box 50, PERU, Nemaha Co., Neb.

"O. K."
Barber Shop & Restaurant
W. C. CUMMING.
All work done in the neatest and latest style. The choicest brands of Cigars constantly on hand. Delicious Confectionery. Ice Cream in season. Oysters stews on short notice. Soda Fountain in full blast.
Fifth St. opposite Brick Church.

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SOLE PROPRIETOR,
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Brownville, Nebraska.
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AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, $500,000.00
Is now prepared to transact a general Banking Business. Buy and sell Coin and Currency. Drafts on all the principal cities of the
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CAPITAL, STATE BANK OF NEBRASKA $100,000.
PAID UP CAPITAL, $100,000.00.
Transact a General Banking Business and make collections on all points throughout the West, and
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.
Exchange bought and sold on New York, and all the principal Eastern and Southern cities of the United States.
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J. L. ROY,
Dealer in
FURNITURE!

Undertaking a Specialty.
Keeps a full line of
METALIC AND WOOD
BURIAL CASES.
56 Main Street, BROWNVILLE, NEB.

J. BLAKE,
DENTIST
All Operations Performed in the best manner.
OFFICE:
At residence on Main street.

NEBRASKA'S NATURAL ADVANTAGES AND RESOURCES.

BY W. S. M'GOWEN.

I approach the penning of this article with a full appreciation of the responsibility that rests upon me. The consequences that may result either for weal or woe to many readers at a distance who contemplate making this country their future home, and *might* make their final decision upon statements made here. To start fairly with my readers I will say that I have no Nebraska lands for sale, I write for the purpose of making the climate, productions and resources of this beautiful country known to the toiling millions of over crowded and inhospitable regions, where the family circle is kept together by the severest economy, and by dint of the hardest labor, from one year's end to another.

Thousands of people in many parts of the world are asking themselves, how can we better our condition and fortunes? Where shall we go to procure the luxuries and necessaries of life with greater ease? to lay by a competency for old age, and an inheritance for our children? Such is the universal inquiry all over the old world.

The necessity for a change of population from countries where it is in excess to countries sparsely settled is the same as that for the transfer of produce or commodities from countries where they are not wanted. They are without value until they are transferred, but become of great value when removed to where they are wanted. The excess of population in most parts of Europe not only causes great suffering from want and destitution, but is often a heavy burthen on the government, requiring the expenditure of millions annually for the relief of indigence and distress. And yet these thousands of suffering people, when transferred to a country like this, are at once made happy, contented and prosperous, and instead of being a burthen to the country where they now are, they become a source of great national wealth and prosperity. These considerations prove beyond all doubt that this transfer of population from countries which are suffering from its great excess, to countries which are suffering for the want of it, is an object of great national concern, and there is not, perhaps, a single question more imperatively demanding the attention of the governments of Europe and America, than that of immigration, for this very means of relieving the necessities of the former will supply the wants and necessities of the latter. But in the absence of proper treaty regulations by governments for thus relieving their mutual necessities, there is the greater demand for individual enterprise and associated capital to accomplish the same end: hence the organization of immigration associations, more or less comprehensive in their scope, embracing neighborhoods, counties, and even States, is now admitted to be one of the great instrumentalities of promoting the prosperity and increasing the wealth and population of our glorious country. It is an established rule that a poor man has more advantages in a new country than in one which is old, for the reason that labor is more valuable in the one than in the other. Nebraska is a new country, large areas of her domain have never seen the plow, the prairie wolf and deer go from their lair unscared, the "noble red man" paddles his light canoe along the rocky shores of her sylvan streams, or pursues the panting elk unmolested. Thousands of wild buffaloes feed upon her broad acres every year. She has an empire of territory exceeding in extent 15,000 square miles, more than all New England, to-wit: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Nebraska forms a part of the tract which formerly went by the general name of the Great American Desert, lying between the 40th and 43rd degrees of north latitude, and extends from the Missouri River west to the 27° of longitude from Washington, or through about 8° degrees of longitude, and is therefore nearly 425 miles in length. It was organized as a territory in 1854, at the same time with Kansas, prior to which period it had not over one white individual to every 300 square miles of its surface. In 1867 Nebraska became a State in the Union, with about 80,000 population. Her population in 1860 was 28,842, and in 1870 it was 122,993. In the same year there were about 1,500,000 acres of improved land in the State, and the domestic animals were valued at more than $8,000,000, showing an increase of population and wealth over the census of 1860 of about 330 per cent., or 33 per cent. per annum.

The Missouri River forms its eastern and part of its northern boundary. Along the margin of this river bluffs rise hundreds of feet above its level, back of these the prairie resembles the waves of the ocean suddenly arrested in their swell and changed into soil and rock. It is beyond the powers of my feeble pen to describe the wondrous beauties of these prairies. Go where you will, at every step enchanting views meet the delighted eye. The high undulating prairie, the lovely valleys luxuriating in perennial green and watered by bright, sparkling creeks and rivulets, mirroring the blue vaults of heaven in their bosoms, living photographs of eternal beauty. And then the nights, where in all the world can you find such lovely moonlight nights, liquid light, so softly bright that you can read by it as well as by day, and then the cool, refreshing breeze that comes down after the heat of the day, for although we are on the extreme east of Nebraska yet the "mountain breeze" finds us out, and leaves its home on the snow capped peaks, to nestle awhile among our beautiful hills and valleys.

SOIL.

As to the soil it is all the farmer can desire. It will grow anything and everything peculiar to this climate. Corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, potatoes, buckwheat and sorghum are the principal productions as yet, but it is believed that cotton, tobacco, and the sugar beet would flourish and attain the highest degree of perfection. Irish and sweet potatoes grow to a size and delicacy of flavor rarely seen or equaled. Turnips, cabbages, beans, peas, and all the small vegetables do well here. The soil is all black loam, not stickey and stiff, but friable and easily worked. There are fields in the eastern counties which have been in cultivation for the last fifteen years, and which now, according to the statement of the owners, produce nearly, if not quite, as well as when first fenced and broken by the plow. 80 bushels of corn and 40 of wheat have been raised to the acre without the use of fertilizers, and when it is considered that these heavy yields are obtained with imperfect cultivation, there is no reason to doubt that such splendid results may be obtained for many, many years, by more thorough and improved modes of culture. We know that to make a good crop of wheat in New York, Pennsylvania or Ohio, that the ground is first plowed deep with two, three and sometimes four large horses; it is then cross-plowed, thoroughly harrowed, planted with a seed drill, and then well rolled. If a piece of Nebraska land was to receive such attention as this it would blush like a maiden in her first love. The truth is our farming until very recently, has been of the rudest description, with here and there an exception, and it is worthy of mention that these exceptions, all good farmers, have rarely, if ever, failed to make good crops.

FRUITS.

The country is not, as yet, stocked to any great extent with the different varieties of fruit; there are, however, enough to give every assurance that fruit culture in time will enter largely into the occupation of our people. Peaches are now so common in the river counties that nearly every family have an abundance. The trees grow without any attention whatever and upon any variety of soil. Fifteen years ago it was the general opinion that apples and pears would not do well here, and very few went to the expense of planting. The few however who did are now reaping a golden harvest, and all are now planting to the extent of their ability to procure the trees, as no further doubt exists as to their adaptation to our soil and climate. We have eaten as large, luscious, juicy and as highly flavored apples and pears here, as we ever saw in any State. All kinds of small fruits grow here to perfection. Grapes grow wild in an abundance, and it is doubtful whether there is a country on the earth's surface better adapted to grape culture than this. Gentlemen who have lived upon the Rhine pronounce it equal to that famous region, where, be it remembered, land set in grapes is worth two thousand dollars per acre, and pays twenty-five per cent. upon that sum. The vine in Nebraska is never killed by frosts, or troubled by mildew, blight, worms, bugs or rot. As it is now decided that Nebraska is a good fruit growing State, and that fruit growing is a pleasure and a profitable employment, and fruit eating to be more healthy than to do without it, is ample apology for making the subject one of paramount importance, and to bring into view everything bearing upon the subject towards its perfection. Of apples and peaches a number of superior varieties have already been produced in our young State, but the supply of fine varieties of the pear is yet inadequate, more especially of late keeping varieties. To supply this deficiency we would recommend the trial of such varieties as the Chaumantelle, the Colman and its subvarieties, Brune, Rance, Bergamot, Fortune, and probably some of the fine old varieties which have decayed at the east may, in more genial climates, have their existence so far prolonged as to be among the most desirable.

The importance and value of our calling in developing the resources of our State, in the occupation of unimproved lands, adorning our homesteads, enhancing the value of real estate, multiplying the blessings and comforts of life, and promoting a great source of national wealth, cannot be too highly appreciated. The more I reflect upon the progress we are making, I am confirmed in the belief that this branch of culture will, ere long, be second only to the growth of the bread and meat of Nebraska, and the time will soon come when every man can sit under his own vine and fruit tree, when all our hill sides will rejoice in the burden of the vintage, our valleys teem with the golden fruits of the orchard, and the passing breeze become vocal with songs of gratitude and praise for these benefactions to posterity.

STOCK RAISING.

Western Nebraska forms one of the most remarkable grazing countries in the world. It is watered by clear, running streams, broad fertile valleys, comprising thousands of acres covered with nutritious native grasses, upon which stock will subsist in excellent condition during the entire year. The grasses of the high plains and slopes, when ripe, dry upon the stalk, forming uncut hay, superior to that prepared by the most careful curing in the agricultural States. Along the bluffs skirting the numerous valleys, are canyons or hollows often heavily timbered, which furnish protection and shelter for the stock during storms. Disease among stock is entirely unknown. The per cent. of annual loss of stock herded upon the plains without hay, grain or artificial shelter is less than among the carefully fed and sheltered stock of the Eastern States. The meat is rich, sweet and tender. It is estimated that during the winter of 1871-2, upon the line of the Union Pacific railroad, that 140 000 head of cattle, 75,000 sheep, and 7,000 horses were wintered, and notwithstanding the severity of the season, exceeding that of any winter previous for twenty-five years, the stock did remarkably well with but comparatively few losses. This immense region, once the home of countless herds of buffalo, elk, antelope and deer, and capable of feeding summer and winter millions of head of stock, has become available by means of the great Pacific Railroad that now crosses it from east to west. Here is a grand opening to the stock man, wool grower, and dairy farmer to follow his chosen occupation, with but little labor and the certainty of realizing an immense profit, on the line of a great railroad where exists facilities for shipment of stock and supplies unknown in any other grazing country.

TIMBER.

Nebraska is a prairie State almost exclusively. It contains no pine forests, or black swamps heavily timbered, requiring a life of toil to clear up in order to make a farm. Here broad prairies and beautiful valleys are at once ready for the plow, and to reward its owner for his first labor with a bountiful crop. Yet there is plenty of timber for present use. In the interior towns of the State and along the line of the railroads, wood is sold at prices lower than in many towns of the same size in the older and timbered States. On the banks of every stream, on the bluffs, and in the ravines timber is found in considerable quantity, often extending back from the streams and expanding into beautiful and extensive groves. Where the country has become settled and the fires kept out timber grows up profusely and with great rapidity. Hundreds of acres which but a few years ago contained not a single shrub have become thickly covered with a thrifty growth of fine young timber. The principal indigenious trees are the cottonwood, ash, elm, box elder, soft maple, and different varieties of oak, black walnut, hackberry, cedar and willow. Cottonwood is of remarkable growth. It grows everywhere and under all circumstances. It is much used for building purposes, and when seasoned makes a quick hot fire. It should be the first care of the settler to set apart a portion of his homestead for the growing of trees. Fifteen acres of cottonwood and black walnut planted ten feet apart each way and well tended for six years, will supply all the fuel and fence posts required for any ordinary farm for all time to come. Those who came to Nebraska a few years ago and had the foresight and care in this respect are to-day abundantly supplied with timber, from groves of their own planting. The farmers are of late turning their attention to the cultivation of the Osage Orange hedge, and they are invariably meeting with splendid results. This plant is easily cultivated, grows rapidly and will in three years make a hedge sufficient to turn stock. These hedges form a beautiful shade and shelter for stock, and gives the most delightful appearance to the farm.

GEOLOGICAL.

That coal exists in the southeastern counties is now established beyond a reasonable doubt, and in Richardson county, along the Atchison & Nebraska railroad line, several drifts have been made, and two veins are found, one measuring 22 and the other 27 inches in thickness, separated by four inches of shale of slate. These coals are of the most superior quality. They ignite easily and burn with a bright mellow flame, emitting no unpleasant odor. They generate heat easily, and are generally popular as a fuel. Announcements of other discoveries of coal have been made. A four foot vein is reported in Dakota county; one of about the same thickness is reported in Lincoln county, and on the Republican River it is asserted to exist in considerable quantities. That these coal beds underlie the larger part of the State, it cannot be doubted. The veins in the eastern part are found at no great depth and can mostly be worked by means of drifts, and can be supplied to consumers at from four to five dollars per ton, and still leave a large margin for profits to the company working the mines. The discovery of these vast deposits of coal will greatly enhance the facilities for manufactures, and it is destined to exert a powerful influence in the speedy settlement and development of other resources of the State. Salt is found in great quantities in Lancaster county. The salt region is a great basin through which Salt Creek flows. Salt springs rise in great numbers in salt marshes. The brine, when unmixed with surface water, is of great strength and purity, containing but five per cent of foreign mineral matter. Peat, marl and gypsum are found in considerable quantities. Quarries of excellent building stone have been opened at different points, and good brick material is found in every portion of the State. Marble, granite and limestone are among the varieties of stone. Manufactures furnish one of the most excellent fields for investment in Nebraska. Our State should not only manufacture all that is required for home consumption, but a large surplus for exportation. The State supplies excellent water powers, good building material and cheap fuel; all that is required is capital and skilled labor.

RAILROADS.

The importance of this enterprise is not surpassed by any other State in the Union. Nearly 1,500 miles have already been completed. The Union Pacific, starting at Omaha on the west bank of the Missouri River, crosses the State, making over four hundred miles of railroad running in a direct line west, through a part of Nebraska's finest agricultural and grazing lands, connecting the immense timbered regions of the east and north with the prairies of the west. There is no railroad in the world with a more magnificent country than this from which to draw its sustenance. To aid in the construction of this great national road the government conferred upon the Union Pacific Railroad Company large tracts of land, contained in alternate sections of one square mile each, within a breadth of twenty miles on either side of the railroad and extending along the entire line. These lands have been placed in market by the company and are offered to purchasers at low prices, and upon very favorable terms of payment. Finer facilities for obtaining pleasant homes and acquiring an independence have never before been presented to the immigrant and settler. The Burlington & Missouri Railroad extends from Plattsmouth west, through the finest country in the United States. It connects with the Union Pacific at Kearney Junction, nearly two hundred miles from the Missouri. Rare opportunities are here offered to the public for homes in a section of country unsurpassed for productiveness and healthfulness. The State Capitol, State University and State Agricultural College are located along its line. For the pleasure traveler or invalid, a varied and charming landscape is presented, and the delightful air of Nebraska will give renewed life to the weary, and restore health to the sick. Those who are looking for homes in the west should not fail to take a trip over the B. & M., and if you want a good home settle along its line. The Atchison & Nebraska enters the State in the southeast corner, and takes a northwest direction thro' Richardson, Pawnee, Johnson, Gage, and Lancaster counties, and connects with the B. & M. at Lincoln. The Midland Pacific road starts from Nebraska City and is completed about ninety miles west. It runs through Lincoln to Seward, in Seward county. The Denver & St. Joseph road finds Nebraska about 100 miles west of the Missouri River, follows along the Little Blue and connects with the Burlington & Missouri at Hastings. The Brownville & Ft. Kearney has its eastern terminus at Brownville, it is graded and bridged to Tecumseh in Johnson county. From Blair, in Washington county, starts the Blair & Fremont road running to Fremont, in Dodge county, where it connects with the Union Pacific. The Elkhorn Valley runs from Fremont to Elkhorn Valley, and will shortly be built to the mouth of Niobrara on the Missouri River. The Omaha & Southwestern is built from Omaha to a junction with the B. & M. The Omaha & Northwestern is built to Tekamah, in Burt county. These two roads will soon become a part of the Trunk road which will run along the eastern side of the State, from the mouth of the Big Nemaha, in the southeast corner of the State, to the mouth of the Niobrara on the north, and finally connect with the Northern Pacific.

Among the roads in prospective are the Grand Trunk, St. Paul & Nebraska, Sioux City & Denver, Grand Island & Montana. The last two extend through the northern part of the State, and if built will extend through fine grazing and farming lands, watered by innumerable streams of clear, crystal waters, and abounding in myriads of the finest fish in the world. With the development of our young State by the various railroads now in course of construction this country must increase in wealth, population and commercial importance, as our resources are brought into market, and as our means of communication multiply. The railroads now built and in course of construction will not be less than 2,500 miles in extent. That they will be completed is insured almost beyond a doubt. Estimated at the ordinary average cost of railroad building—$30,000 per mile—these roads will be a substantial and permanent investment in our State of $75,000,000.

This, taken in connection with the value of the necessary machine shops, depots, &c, the increased value of the property in the immediate vicinity of the stations, towns and cities that will be created along the various routes, and the enhanced value of all the lands that will be brought into communication with these highways of trade, serve to convince us that the career of wealth and prosperity our railroad interests are about to inaugurate for Nebraska cannot be over estimated. Increase, in wealth and population, and a development of the highest type of enlightenment, must attend a complete system of communication between all parts of Nebraska and the commercial world.

RIVERS.

The Platte is the largest in the State. It is formed by a junction of the north and south forks of the Platte, nearly 300 miles west of the Missouri, they having their sources amid the snow-capped peaks of the Rocky Range in Colorado. It empties its turbid waters into the Missouri, at or near Plattsmouth. It has a fine, broad, level valley, abounding in rich grasses.—There are many settlements along this stream, and room for untold numbers more. In the whole of the United States, north or south, east or west, can there be found a better watered, or finer or healthier climate, nor better and more reliable feeding grounds, than in the valley of the North and South Platte.

Wood River, has its source in the west part of Dawson County, and flows south through Buffalo and Hall Counties, and empties into the Platte at Grand Island.

The principle tributary of the Platte is Loup Fork. It has its source in the extreme western part of the State. It is formed by three forks, which connect in Howard County, and flows east, receiving on its course the waters of Beaver and Cedar Creeks, and finally deposits its clear and pellucid waters in the Platte, nearly 80 miles from the Missouri River. It drains a region of country nearly 25,000 miles in extent.

Niobrara River, has its source in the extreme north-west corner of Nebraska—flows east, and empties into the Missouri River near Niobrara city, in Knox County. This river and its tributaries drain a vast extent of fine grazing and agricultural lands.

The Elkhorn, is a tributary of Platte, and finds itself in the north part of the State, in the western part of Holt County. Its meanderings are south-east, through Antelope, Madison, Stanton, Cummings, Dodge and Douglas Counties, and looses itself in the Platte, about 40 miles from its mouth. It is over 200 miles in length, and with its many tributaries drains 6,000 square miles.

Salt Creek, rises in the south-west part of Lancaster County, flows north-east, and empties into the Platte. Oak, Wahoo, and Cottonwood are its principal tributaries

The Republican River, has its source in Colorado, and enters Nebraska nearly 35 miles east of the south-west corner. It flows north-east for about 75 miles, then flows east and south-east, and enters Kansas 160 miles east of where it crossed into Nebraska. The great Valley of the Republicnn is well watered by innumerable streams, the principle ones being Turkey Creek, Red Willow, Stinking Water, White Man's Fork, Prairie Dog Creek, Sappe Creek, Spring Creek, Muddy Creek, Deer Creek, and many others—all are tributary to the Republican River These streams, with their small feeders, intersect this great Valley in every direction. It is from 10 to 15 miles wide, lies between great rail roads, and has one or two in prospective. The smaller streams have narrow valleys, but they all afford luxuriant blue-joint grass for hay. There are no streams in Nebraska which compare with the Republican and its tributaries for the timber which they produce. The winter grazing cannot be excelled anywhere, not even excepting Texas. The altitude being much lower than that of the Platte, and other rivers of Nebraska, it is therefore much warmer. The mean annual temperature of this Valley is not more than 53° Fahrenheit. It is the favorite grazing ground, summer and winter, for untold herds of buffalo, elk, and deer.

The Big and Little Blues have their source near the Platte, flow south across into Kansas, where they unite, and finally empty into the Kansas River.

The Big Nemaha rises in Johnson County, flows through Pawnee and Richardson Counties, and empties into the Missouri River near the south-east corner of the State.

The Little Nemaha has its source in Cass and Lancaster Counties, runs a south-easterly direction, and empties into the Missouri, near Aspinwall, in Nemaha County.

The Muddy River, commences in Johnson County, flows south-east through Nemaha and Richardson Counties, empties into the big Nemaha, in the south-east corner of the State.

These streams have nearly all deep channels, and are subject to overflow in comparatively few places and at distant intervals. The banks of the rivers being generally high, usually afford good drainage for the bottom lands, and make them very healthy and free from malarious diseases, as well as valuable for farmers. They are the richest lands in the world, being nearly all alluvial to the depth of fifteen or twenty feet.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

Omaha is the largest city in the State. It is the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific Railway, and is a place of great commercial importance. Here Iowa and Nebraska are connected by a railroad bridge, a facility unknown to the overland emigrant a few years ago, who received his supplies at Council Bluffs. Population in 1870 was 16,083. An Institution for the education of the Deaf and Dumb has been established here, and is in a flourishing condition. In this city are some fine church edifices, and excellent schools, both public and sectarian. The High School building is equal in size and architectural beauty to any public school building in the United States.

Lincoln is the Capital of the State. It is 80 miles south-west of Omaha, and is situated in the midst of a fertile, open prairie. Here are located the State University, and State Agricultural College. Population is nearly 7,000.

Nebraska City is on the Missouri River, and it is the eastern terminus of the Midland Pacific. It has two fine public school buildings, and several private ones. Population 6,050.

Plattsmouth, as its name imports, is situated at the mouth of the Platte. It is the eastern terminus of the Burlington & Missouri Road.

Brownville, is in Nemaha County, on the Missouri River. It has a magnificent High School building, and several fine churches. It is the eastern terminus of the Brownville, Ft. Kearney & Pacific R. R. Here, too, is situated the most extensive and best selection of fruit and forest trees, and evergreens, for the State. The Nursery is owned by Governor Furnas and sons.

Falls City, Rulo and Salem, are situated in Richardson County, and are on the Atchison & Nebraska R. R.

Beatrice and Tecumseh are places of rapidly increasing importance. At the former place is published the NEBRASKA TEACHER, a monthly journal, devoted to the cause of education.

Bellevue, Fremont, Schuyler, Columbus, Grand Island, and Kearney Junction, are situated in the Platte Valley, and are all places of considerable importance.

EDUCATIONAL.

When we consider the comparative youth of the State of Nebraska, its immense expanse of territory, and the sparseness of its population, it will scarcely be expected that, as yet, we should have the best digested public school system in practical operation.