

(Continued from first page.)

well, K., and Moses M. Conner, S. At this time: Wm. T. Rogers, H. P. M. A. Handley, K., and Robt. Tear, H. Number of members 40.

About September, 1856, grasshoppers appeared and committed considerable damage in certain sections. The charter for the Brownville Lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars was granted Oct. 12, 1857. The first officers were, J. S. Church, W. C. Deale Johnson, W. V. J. W. Blackburn, Chaplain; W. D. Blackburn, Sec.; W. W. Dorsey, W. F. S. O. B. Hewitt, Treas.; R. Seaman, Marshal; Geo. F. Henderson, Asst. Marshal; Hattie McPherson, I. G., and Daniel H. Lewis, O. G. There were about 100 members, and the lodge continued in existence four years.

The Nemaha County Teachers' Association was formed at Brownville, March 23, 1868. Officers—J. M. McKenzie, President; J. S. Schenck, V. President; W. D. Blackburn, Sec., and Mrs. C. B. McKenzie, Treasurer. This association does not now exist. A Teachers' Institute fulfills the objects for which the association was formed.

Brownville High School Building was completed in 1865. The Congregational Church was erected in 1859, and sold to the Methodists in 1861. The Christian Church was built in 1859, 'thrown down by a hurricane in 1866, and rebuilt by the Baptist in 1868 and 1869.

The first number of the Brownville Journal was issued Jan. 1, 1868, published by Geo. W. Hill, S. M. Rich, editor. The office was removed to Falls City in the summer or fall of same year.

Holladay & Hill commenced the publication of the Brownville Democrat on July 11, 1868. The name of this paper was changed to Nemaha County Granger by Holladay & Whitehead, and the first number issued by them Jan. 23, 1874. It is now published and edited by Geo. B. Moore.

In the beginning of 1868, and for four years, but little else was thought of, or talked of, but railroad. Our people began to arouse to the importance of such enterprises. The "iron horse" was expected in a few months, or at most in a few years, from the points of the compass. The most liberal aid was promptly, and almost unanimously, voted to hasten the "snort" of the locomotive from the north and south, the east and west. It would be a herculean task to record the great number of routes which would be soon completed, and the different organizations that were formed almost every month. Those days will be remembered as "flush times" in Nemaha County, when almost every man thought he could build a railroad himself, and liberally subscribed for railroad stock, besides supporting every proposition aiding the construction of such improvements. Our citizens were enlisted, earnestly, in the construction of all these roads, especially the St. Louis and Nebraska Grand Trunk Line; the Quincy, Missouri River and Pacific, and the Brownville, Ft. Kearney and Pacific. As the two first were not Nemaha County companies, they do not come within the scope of the duties of this occasion. The officers of the Brownville, Fort Kearney and Pacific company were—H. C. Lett, President; Ira Moore, V. President; Jno. L. Carson, Treasurer; R. W. Furnas, Secretary, and E. W. Thomas, Solicitor. Date of organization, April 12, 1867. Present officers—H. C. Lett, Pres.; W. J. Nevins, Secy.; names of treasurer and solicitor, unknown. Soon afterwards the first shovel full of dirt was thrown by High Alderman, the oldest settler in the county, and the work of grading commenced. The date of this event was Oct. 6, 1870. Ten miles were graded, the ties and iron laid down, and the first train passed over the road Jan. 1872. The grading was completed to Tecumseh, Nov. 1873. Iron and ties taken up in 1874, and put down on the Midland Pacific road then being built to Brownville from Nebraska City, Neb. Active work has ceased on the Brownville and Ft. Kearney road at present, but will be resumed, it is hoped, at no distant day. First railroad train arrived in Brownville, Feb. 1, 1874, over the route known as the Midland Extension from Nebraska City, now called the Nebraska Railway. This road is now about graded through Nemaha County to Falls City, Neb. It will soon be ready for the rolling stock, which will complete the first railroad line through the county.

Grasshopper invasions occurred again in Sept. 1874, Oct. 1868, and Aug. 8, 1874. An unusual drouth in the summer of 1874. In addition to these red-legged insects, made many of our crops rather light. Depositing their eggs in the fall of this year, and hatching out in the spring of 1875, we had quite an army of young grasshoppers to support until their flight, which commenced about the 15th of June, and concluded about the 1st of July. They laid waste our fields, devouring crop and vegetation of every kind. Our farmers planted and replanted up to as late as the 10th of July, and owing to the unsurpassed fertility of our soil a bountiful crop was raised. Though not so well matured as past seasons, yet it was fed out during the fall and winter stock, yielding a handsome profit.

The corner-stone of the Catholic Church, at Brownville, was laid July 24, 1870, by Rev. Father Curtis, of Omaha, Neb. Rev. Father Hayes is now officiating priest. The corner stone of the Episcopal edifice was laid by Rev. Geo. R. Davis, Oct. 1857, the customary documents deposited in a place chosen in the corner-stone. First Sabbath School of this church established Aug. 29, 1866. Rector now, E. R. Richardson.

Furnas Council No. 3, R. A. M., was organized April 25, 1871. First officers—John Blake, T. I. M.; H. L. Christ, I. H. T.; H. M. Hart, C. W., and T. A. Creigh, R. Number of members, 90.

Ada Chapter No. 2, was organized

Feb. 10, 1872, with the following names as officers—R. W. Furnas, W. P.; Louisa Moore, W. M.; Mary E. McNaughton, A. M.; Lizzie Shurts, C. W.; Mary E. Gibson, A. C.; Charlotte Marohn, T.; Emma Blake, S.; Warden, Laura Sonder; Adah, Nannie Shurts; Ruth, Junie Shurts; Esther, Julia S. Porter; Martha, Susan Rainey; Electa, Rose Tisdell, and Sentinel, Thos. Galley. Officers of 1876—A. R. Davison, W. P.; E. E. Handley, W. M.; M. E. Gibson, A. M.; Susan Roy, T.; Thos. D. Shurts, S.; Lizzie Shurts, C.; Mollie Marohn, A. C.; Charlotte L. Marohn, Warden; A. L. Roy, Sentinel; Adah, Louisa Sonder; Ruth, Junie Shurts; Esther, Eliza Druey; Martha, Zora Matthews; and Electa, E. D. Nickell. Total number of members, 65.

Brownville Division No. 19, Sons of Temperance, was organized Nov. 12, 1872. Names of present officers are, W. W. Gibson, W. P.; David Adams, W. A.; John Henton, T.; H. Loranoe, F. S.; Olive Flora, R. S.; Bertha Church, A. R. S.; H. D. Snyder, Chaplain; Geo. Lanan, C.; Mary Adams, A. C.; Rachel Thompson, I. S.; M. L. Emery, O. S. There are one hundred and sixty-five members, and the order reported to be in a prosperous and growing condition. The first officers of this lodge were—W. B. Slaughter, W. P.; A. H. Gilmore, W. A.; H. H. Dolen, R. S.; R. M. Watson, A. R. S.; David Campbell, T.; J. P. Brown, F. S.; W. A. Pollock, C.; E. H. Porter, A. C.; Pat. Clene, I. S.; Henry Miller, O. S.

Excelsior Lodge No. 15, Knights of Pythias, was organized Oct. 21, 1873; chartered granted Nov. 19, 1873. The officers who first presided are as follows: John Blake, C. C.; John B. McCabe, V. C.; L. A. Bergman, P. C.; W. T. Rogers, P.; E. Huddart, M. E.; H. L. Christ, M. F.; H. H. Dolen, R. and R. S.; A. J. McFall, M. A.; T. D. Shurts, I. G., and J. C. McNaughton, O. G. The names of the present officers are as follows: J. B. Docke, C. C.; D. B. Colbapp, V. C.; W. T. Rogers, P.; F. E. Johnson, P. C.; W. M. Kaufman, K. of R. and S., and M. F. E. Huddart, M. E.; B. F. Souder, M. A.; J. H. Bauer, I. G., and Ben. Rogers, O. G. Number of members in good standing, 32.

This is one among the youngest secret organizations in the county, whose object is for the fostering and promotion of the noble principles of Friendship, Benevolence and Charity. Their shield, on which these words are written, is without stain or spot. Not only these divine principles shine out among themselves, but everywhere, in the hour of distress and want among the poor and afflicted of the human family, regardless of nationality or sect. Whenever and wherever such doctrines are carried out, the outside world must be convinced that there is a reality that underlies external demonstrations. None can doubt, who have eyes to see, or ears to hear, that the Knights not only teach relief to the bowed down sufferer in mind and body, but carry it out, as many a cast-off, anguished, poverty-stricken voyager over life's dark billows, can testify. Although but recently organized in this city, it comes forward to-day to show its appreciation for, and devotion to, this ever hallowed occasion. I hope I may be pardoned, should any think I am departing from the path assigned me, when I assert the Knights of Pythias deserve all honor, and all praise, for reawakening an interest in celebrating the Nation's Birth Day among the inhabitants of Brownville. And I hope that the fire of patriotism that has been kindled in our hearts through their efforts, may never become so nearly extinguished as it has been for several years past. May each returning Fourth be welcomed, as it has been on this occasion; and long may the Knights live to unfurl the Stars and Stripes at the head of future celebrations of the Anniversary of Freedom and Independence.

State Bank of Nebraska organized Oct. 1st, 1870. Officers—David Remick, president; Theo. Hill, vice president, and Geo. P. Eaton, cashier.

Present officers: W. H. McCreery, president; H. E. Gates, cashier, and Thos. D. Shurts, teller. It will be remembered that the Legislature of Nebraska located the county seat of Nemaha county, at Brownville. The people of the county petitioned for an election for relocation, which came off Aug. 1858, and resulted as follows: Brownville, 60; Glen Rock, 75; London, 84; Nemaha City, 3; St. George, 164; Peru, 66; Middleport, 1; Centre, 35; and St. Frederick, 1. Second election for relocation of county seat, June 8rd, 1876. Result: Brownville, 825; Nemaha City, 66; and Sheridan, 658.

State Agricultural Fair was held at Brownville, Sept. 1870, and Oct., 1871. New building erected on county farm summer and fall of 1874. It has been, and is now, under the management of John Maxwell, superintendent. Number of papers, 11.

Nemaha Driving Park Association organized Sept., 1871. F. A. Tisdell, president; J. S. Hietzel, treasurer, and W. H. Hoover, sec'y. Present officers: E. Huddart, president; W. H. Hoover, secretary and treasurer.

First graded or high school, organized at Brownville during the term commencing April 6, 1868. Principal, Geo. B. Moore; teachers, John S. Schenck, Miss M. Morey and Miss D. Johnson. Total number of pupils, 261. Present principal, W. Rich. Teachers: Miss E. Darling; Mrs. Fannie J. Ebright; Mrs. Frank Osborn, Will Tipton, Moore Hulbert, Miss Maxey, and Miss Viola Coffin. Total number in attendance during spring term, 350.

While recording the history of temperance organizations, I omitted to mention the Berry Washingtonians, not being in possession of the date and facts connected therewith. I take pleasure in producing them here, as follows: The Oath: I, who hereby solemnly swear, in the presence of God and these witnesses, that I will abstain from the use of all spirituous and malt liquors, for the period of at least one year.

First meeting, Sunday, Oct. 26, 1868. The following are the names of the founders of the Association: W. H. Small, President; James Perry, J. B. Berger, Joseph O'Pelt, Michael Barady.

This organization ceased Oct. 26th, 1869. J. B. Elliot, Deputy Grange Master, organized Feb. 14th, 1873, the first Grange in Nemaha county. June 28th, 1873, first county association of Patrons of Husbandry was organized with George Crow, President; J. T. Neal, vice President; T. J. Majors, Recording Secretary; H. O. Minick, Corresponding Secretary; S. W. Kennedy, Treasurer, and E. D. Rogers, Gate Keeper. Number of members, 800. Officers now: President, Church Howe, vice President, Wm. Hannaford, secretary, C. G. Mearler, Treasurer, J. H. Peery, Gate Keeper, A. W. Paris. Membership, over 1,000.

The Brownville Dramatic Society gave their first performance in McPherson's Hall, April 23rd, 1876. The plays produced, to a crowded house, were Buckstone's comedy, "Everybody's Friend," and "Bombastes Fuzioso." Members: J. C. McNaughton, W. T. Rogers, E. Huddart, T. C. Hacker, Mrs. E. Huddart, Mrs. F. A. Tisdell, Mrs. W. T. Rogers, Mrs. Helen Holladay, and J. B. Docke, manager. Tuesday June 27th, 1876, this association received five new stage scenes.

A great number of towns during the early history of the county were located and staked off, among which were Nemaha City, London, Glen Rock, St. George, Peru, St. Frederick, Middleport, Aspinwall, San Francisco, St. Deroin, Glowing Ring, and others not remembered. Many of these aspirants for the position and honor of being the leading towns of the county have long since been vacated as town sites. I will only notice those in existence now whose early history I have been able to obtain.

NEMAHA CITY. Allen L. Coate was the first white resident of Nemaha City in the summer of 1854. Dec. 1854 the town was laid off by Drs. Hoover and Wyatt, incorporated by the Legislature 1856. First location of the post office July 1st, 1856. Dr. Jerome Hoover, P. M. The Methodists was the first religious organization, Rev. Philo Gordon, pastor. First school taught by D. C. Sanders. This school is in a flourishing condition now, and taught in the second best school house in the county. The I. O. O. F. organized Oct. 1873. Good Templars organized March, 1873. Methodists organized Sabbath School 1858; A. D. Williamson, supt. First Mayor Joel W. Wells elected in 1857. S. Belden issued first number of the *Nemaha Valley Journal* Jan. 1858. Geo. W. Fairbrother and T. C. Hacker commenced the publication of the *Nebraska Herald* in Oct. 1859.

The first white child born in the precinct was a son of Alexander Weddie, June 23d, 1855, and is at this time a resident of Douglas precinct in this county. Titus Bro's, J. B. Hoover and K. S. Keen are the merchants. There are two blacksmith shops, one shoe shop, one hotel and one physician. Dr. Kay, Rev. D. B. Lake, pastor of the Methodist church; E. B. Richardson, pastor of the Episcopal church. This organization has a prosperous sabbath school.

ASPINWALL. The land occupied by Aspinwall was within the Indian Reservation alluded to heretofore, and belonged to Louis Neal, of whom it was purchased by I. T. Whyte & Co., in 1856. It was surveyed as a town site in 1857. Hoblitzell & Co., opened first store in the building now occupied by Edward Welsensider. First sermon preached by Rev. Mr. Taylor, now a resident of St. Deroin, in 1860. Darius Phipps, Wm. Thurman, Henry Hart, Hegler, Mill Paullin and others were among the first settlers. First school taught in the fall of 1861 by Clara Parker. Good Templars organized a few years ago and now have as good a working lodge as could be desired; officers, W. C. T. S. Gilbert; W. V. T. Miss M. J. Stiers; W. S. A. L. Stiers; W. T. Sec, G. W. Culp; Treasurer, John S. Minick. Aspinwall was incorporated in 1870. Town Board: B. F. Harnes Chairman, J. S. Minick, Henry Hart, John Crim and Charles Fog. Merchants, J. S. Minick and Ed. Welsensider. One blacksmith shop, one wagon shop; Sabbath school prospering; preaching occasionally by the Rev. Thos. McKinstry; and as physician Dr. John Crim.

GLEN ROCK. At this date has one store kept by Jonathan Gill, who is likewise postmaster. One physician, Dr. Collins. Early history not obtained.

PERU. Is a new town. It has the following business houses, shops, etc.: J. M. Campbell, dry goods and groceries, and postmaster. John H. Brown proprietor of hotel; two physicians, Dr. Brooks and Culbertson, and one lawyer B. C. Parker. R. C. Morgan and Wright, blacksmiths; one wagon shop, one tin shop, one boot and shoe shop and one grist mill.

LONDON. Has one physician, Dr. S. W. McGrew; and a post office, presided over by Mrs. Jennette Harding. Once aspirations were entertained by her early settlers that she would become the commercial centre of the county. The most of the town site has long since been vacated; and where towering blocks of brick, mortar and frame-stood, in imagination, now wave the green blade and growing grain. Although these early dreams are gone, perhaps, never to return, London has not lost an educational and devotional interest as two neat houses of worship and a well constructed school house clearly demonstrate.

ST. GEORGE, Middleport, St. Frederick, Glowing Ring and Centre have not a vestige left of their existence, and are also now devoted to the purposes of agriculture and grazing lands for innumerable herds of stock. ST. DEROIN. Joseph Deroin, an Otoe Chief, owned the land now known as St. Deroin, after whom it is called. In 1854, Deroin, Robert Hawk and others laid off the town. Sometime afterwards it was re-surveyed by Grever, Neukille and others. Sometime in 1855 Joseph Deroin was shot and killed

by a man of the name of Beddoe. Beddoe was tried and acquitted. Judge A. J. Ritter opened a stock of general merchandise at St. Deroin in 1859 and still continues in the same business. Through Judge Ritter's efforts a postoffice was established at this town in 1861. The Judge was at once appointed postmaster, which office he holds to-day, and is no doubt longer in office than any postmaster, or other official, in the county or Nebraska. St. Deroin cannot be excelled for its good morals and temperance status. It has a fine brick school house, one first class flour mill, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one cabinet shop, and the various professions ably represented.

THE TOWN OF SHERIDAN. The site of this place was surveyed for its owners, A. P. Cogswell and A. W. Morgan, and recorded, October, 1868. First building erected same month. Postoffice established November, 1869. October 1869, Wesley Dundas was elected first Justice of the Peace. He also opened the first store of general merchandise, October 1869. First physician to locate in Sheridan was Dr. A. Opperman, May, 1871. A blacksmith shop was built and operated in the spring of 1872. In 1874 A. W. Morgan built the first hotel. School house was erected in 1874. First school was taught by E. E. Savage Nov., 1874. M. E. Church was organized in 1874, and the Baptist in 1876. Wesley Dundas and A. W. Morgan opened first family grocery store Sept. 1874, which they sold to W. T. Reed in 1875, and is now owned by him. Wesley Dundas continues the business of general merchandise at the same place where he first opened. A. W. Morgan is Justice of the Peace, and C. D. Dundas, constable.

Sheridan, at this date, is not an incorporated town. She has only recently entered the race for municipal honors and fame. The youngest town in the county; yet, judging from her central location, and unrivaled natural surroundings, associated with magnificent scenery in all directions, the prediction is not unfounded that the anticipations of her citizens will be realized at no far off future.

Falling to obtain an early history of Peru, I can only give a description of the town as it now find it. Peru, at present, has a population of about 500 inhabitants, at which place the State Normal School is located, with a corps of six teachers—one principal and five teachers, viz: Professor Thompson, principal; Profs. Nielson and Stone, Miss Morgan, Miss Burt and Miss Dickerson, as teachers; and having an average attendance of about one hundred and fifty scholars.

Peru has the following business houses, to-wit: General merchandise, 4—Barnes & Martin, H. M. Mears, Geo. A. Brown and Mr. Fort. Drugs, medicines, etc., 2—John Reseigue and John Patterson, Confectionery, etc., 2—John Berlin and Whison. Harness shops, 1—P. Coursey Richards. Boot and shoe stores, 2—John Brunson and George Patterson. Millinery stores, 2—Mrs. Ball and Mrs. Hadesell. Meat markets, 2—Wm. Compton and Chas. Wey. Blacksmith shops, 2—John Scott and John Wvne. One brick yard, L. Winkel. One large three story flour mill, owned by Gilkinson & Sloss, of St. Louis, Mo. One manufacturing establishment, owned by the Peru Manufacturing Co., and composed of the star mechanics and capitalists of the town, claiming to be able, and having the facilities to do, all kinds of iron and woodwork. Dr. J. F. Neal is the oldest physician, having located at this place in 1857.

There are several church organizations, viz: Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Christians, Protestant and Episcopalians, only two of which have church buildings, the Methodist and Episcopalians. Union Sabbath school conducted by the Methodist church. One Masonic lodge, The village school is a good one, having good building and apparatus.

Peru is the second town in the county in business and population. From that point during this and last year there have been shipped a great many car loads of corn, that section escaping the ravages of the late grasshopper raids to a considerable extent. Her trade for the past year, and at this time, is quite satisfactory. As a part of the early history of Peru I will state that Jacob Noffsinger erected the first house in 1854, on the land occupied by Mt. Vernon, adjoining the town site of Peru. Mt. Vernon is now among the abandoned town sites having long since been vacated or absorbed by Peru. R. W. Frame built the first house in Peru in 1855, at which time he opened first stock of goods. It is claimed, and no doubt is true, that the second entry of land at the Land Office in Nebraska was made by W. B. Horn situated near Peru and being the south-east quarter section 22, town 6 range 15.

The future of Peru is altogether auspicious, and no influence can prevent her from becoming a town of no ordinary importance in the course of a few very years. Furnas Council No. 3, Royal and Select Masters was organized April 25th, 1871. First officers were John Blake, T. I. M.; H. T. Christ, I. H. T.; H. M. Hart, Conductor of the work and T. A. Creigh, Recorder. Present officers are A. R. Davidson, T. I. M.; H. M. Hart, D. I. M.; J. B. McCabe, Principal Conductor of the work and B. T. Rainey Acting Recorder. Number of members, 27.

Mount Carmel Convent No. 3, Knight Templars organized Sept. 22d, 1872. Officers at present are, Sir H. M. Hart E. E.; Sir J. M. Hacker, G.; and Sir W. T. Rogers C. G. Number members 18. Royal and Imperial Conclave of Rome, the red cross of Constantine was formed December 11th 1875, chartered from London. First officers who still hold their illustrious positions, are T. A. Creigh, Sovereign, and C. W. Wheeler, Viceroy. Members number 12. Centennial Memorial services were

held on Wednesday, July 28, 1876, at Brownville in the Methodist Church. The church was decorated with wreaths of flowers, flags and oak leaves. Portraits of Washington and Lincoln were displayed. Sermon by Rev. Wilson in the forenoon, and speeches made in the evening by Revs. Lemon, Lake and Rodabaugh. The population of Nemaha County to-day is 10,864. Assessment, \$2,473,797. Number of schools, 73; number of teachers, 111; five water mills and three steam mills; 100,000 acres of land under cultivation; all kinds of stock too numerous to mention, in which the wealth of the county largely consists. A beautiful tract of land, known as the county farm, on which are erected sufficient improvements required for many years to come. Substantial bridges have been built over all streams or water-ways. There are 13 precincts, 17 postoffices, 33 granges, and the Nemaha County Agricultural Society. The whole county is in that condition which prognosticates the early dawning of an era of unprecedented prosperity for all classes of our people. With such a soil of inexhaustible richness and adaptability to agriculture, and with the smiles of Providence, our county must remain entitled to the name of the "Banner County of Nebraska."

The county government is admirably conducted. No time is lost in a healthy financial condition, taking into consideration the peculiar and unusual circumstances of the last two years. It is undeniable, a fact beyond cavil or doubt, that Nemaha county stands to-day the peer of any county in Nebraska, or the west, in all the elements designed to render a people wealthy and great. A soil that is capable of producing such a variety of crops with such ease and certainty, is now, and must be for ages to come, a source of unbounded prosperity. There is no such word as fall attached to the career of Nemaha county. Indomitable will, energy and pluck, that have marked the past history of her people, augur a future as bright as the most sanguine can desire, or the imagination of the enthusiast portray.

I herewith present, as correctly as the time would allow, the commercial, benevolent, religious, mechanical, professional and other phases of Brownville on July 4, 1876. It may fall to attract much attention now, but will be read with interest one hundred year hence.— Details in general merchandise, 10; hotels, 3; boot and shoe stores, 2; bankers, 2; hardware and agricultural dealers, 4; tobacco factory, 1; saloons, 5; livery and feed stables 3; undertakers and furniture dealers, 1; flour and feed stores, 3; millinery and dress makers 4; stock dealers, 2; gun shops, 1; newspapers, 2; blacksmith shops, 5; photographers, 1; harness shops, 2; wagon shops, 2; jewelers, 1; restaurants, 2; 3 tailors; 1 miller; 3 drugstores; 2 meat markets; 2 grain dealers; 1 marble yard; 2 lumber yards; 2 bakeries; 2 barber shops; 3 cigar factories; 10 secret societies; 5 churches; 3 Sabbath schools; 1 high school; 1 dramatic association; 7 physicians; 10 lawyers; 7 carpenters; 1 machinist; 2 brick yards; 3 brick and stone masons; 4 plasterers; 2 painters; 2 tinners; 2 engineers; 1 steam ferry; 1 bus line; 1 transfer line; 1 brass band; 1 bible society.

Notwithstanding the occurrence of repeated checks to the growth of Brownville during the last two decades her progress has been commensurate with the progress of other towns in Nebraska, or the western States.—The prospect at present is auspicious of a revival in all departments of business, and of another start in improvement and the extension of enterprises, which must build up a city of immense wealth and influence. Her population is over 1,500, and steadily augmenting.

I have condensed the history of Brownville and Nemaha county into the smallest compass possible. I have simply glanced at what I considered might assist the historical reader at the next Centennial. If it fulfills this purpose the object of my labor will be accomplished, and I will be fully rewarded in the consciousness of having relieved that gentleman of the somewhat laborious work of searching for incidents and dates of our early history. While I have had only about twenty-two years to review, he will have one hundred. It will here tender my sympathy for the man who accepts the invitation, as I can assure him he will need it before his work is done.

The dawning of the Fourth of July, 1876, at Brownville, was welcomed with the ringing of bells, the booming of cannon, flinging the "stars and stripes" to the breeze, and with other demonstrations of joyous emotions that only swell the hearts of the sons and daughters of freedom on the ushering in of such an hallowed anniversary.

To-day Nemaha county, from valley to hill-top, illuminated with the fire of patriotism. Besides these ceremonies, conducted by the Knights of Pythias, the Grangers and Temperance orders at Harmon's Grove, on the Nemaha River, the citizens of Peru, of Lafayette Precinct at Howard, of Benton Precinct, and of Nemaha City, are assembled at their respective places to commemorate the Nation's Centennial Birth-day, and to renew the solemn pledge to transmit to future generations, untarnished, the rich inheritance of Liberty and Independence, bequeathed to us by the immortal Washington and the patriot heroes of the American Revolution, whose glorious names and deeds will ever remain fresh in the grateful memories of the American people.

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