



PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29, 1866

EARS AND ARGUMENTS.

The Omaha Herald says that the B. & M. R. R. land grant is of "momentous importance to the whole people of this Territory," but is engaged in trying to unseat said grant in accordance with instructions given it by Morton during his last visit to Omaha. We agree with the Herald that the grant is of "momentous importance to the people of the whole Territory," and we believe the people of the whole Territory will hold those responsible who would endeavor to cause so great a damage to the Territory as to in any manner throw obstacles in the way of the early completion of the road. We showed, a few days since, the utter falsity of the position taken by the Herald (in accordance with Morton's instructions,) in regard to the effect of this grant upon the people of Nebraska, and now, to make like, instead of attempting to answer what we said in regard to it, he retorts upon us by personal abuse and an attempt at sarcasm upon the paper. We presume the editor has expended the stock furnished by Morton upon this subject, and is compelled to fall back upon his natural element—blackguardism. He is not satisfied with trying to injure the B. & M. R. R. Co., and venting his spleen in epithets upon the Herald, but must needs drag in the name of one of our most respected citizens, for the reason that he once served the country in the capacity of a soldier—and a such have incurred the eternal displeasure of all such ranting, raving apologists for treason as the Herald. If you have anything to say against the B. & M. R. R. say it; and we are willing it should stand or fall upon its merits. But we advise that you spare your readers the mortification and humiliation of witnessing another such a display of "ears," which is nothing more than a virtual acknowledgement that your first assertions in regard to the aforesaid grant were for the sole purpose of injuring the Railroad Company. If ears were arguments, you would be considered another Webster.

NEBRASKA AT WASHINGTON

In the Senate on the 19th the bill to admit Nebraska was taken up. Howard made a speech favoring its passage. The debate was protracted five hours, the last two hours mainly occupied by radical opponents in preventing a vote. Johnson, of Maryland, made a long speech against the admission, because the population was insufficient, and especially objected to imposing conditional suffrage. He said this condition was not necessary to constitute a Republican government, and Congress had no power to compel States to abide by it. Wilson, of Massachusetts, moved an amendment that the Legislature of Nebraska may establish universal suffrage, and thereby expedite the admission. He had voted to admit Colorado last session, believing how important her vote would be on said freedom; but the elections have resulted so largely against the President that the necessity for that vote no longer exists, and he believed it proper to impose conditions. It is evident, however, that the friends of our admission are sanguine of success, for it is now reported that the territorial project for the South will be postponed, in consequence of fear of its failure in the present Senate, and four Senators are counted on from Nebraska and Colorado to assist in carrying it through.

A movement is on foot to prepare charges and specifications against President Johnson. A Washington dispatch of the 19th says the Senate Judiciary Committee have decided to concur with the House bill for the assembling of the 40th Congress on the 4th of March.

The South Carolina Legislature has deputed a Committee to proceed to Washington and confer with leading Republicans of both Houses to ascertain whether, in case they adopt the Constitutional Amendment, their representatives will be admitted.

A bill has been offered in the Senate to make National Bank notes legal tenders the same as greenbacks, and limit greenbacks to one million per month by the Treasury during the year 1867, instead of 4 millions as under the present law.

THE CONTRACT LET.

The following item from the Burlington Hawk Eye shows that the contract is let on the B. & M. R. R. to Afton, and that it is the intention of the Company to push the Road through to the Missouri river as quick as possible. The Hawk Eye is not in the habit of exaggerating upon such things, and its statement that the work will be pushed along rapidly may be considered official.

We find the following in relation to Plattsouth and Cass county in a recent number of the News. When the papers of Nebraska begin to recognize the fact that there are other places of merit than the immediate vicinity where they are published, we may begin to look for increased prosperity throughout the whole Territory.

During a recent trip up the river we were pleased to note the activity of the County Seat of Cass county. The rich farming country tributary to that point makes trade lively and gives great satisfaction to the merchants. They advertise liberally in their local papers, and are securing thereby a large amount of trade from Saunders and Lancaster counties.

The hotels in Plattsouth are creditable to the place. Geo. W. Crow, a constant reader of the Nebraska City News, and a very agreeable gentleman is proprietor of one of them, and the other is well managed by Mr. Tut. J. I. Early is editing the Democrat and H. D. Hathaway the Herald, and both journals are well supported. The former is weekly and the latter daily.

ALL ABOUT IT.

The following questions from a gentleman in Mississippi will serve to show that Nebraska is attracting attention in all parts of the country. We learn that a large number of persons intend emigration from Mississippi to Nebraska early in the spring, and these were asked of a resident acquaintance here in order that they might obtain as much correct information as possible before starting. We have asked of him the privilege of publishing them and answering them for the reason that thousands of others, in different parts of the States, are anxious to obtain the same information sought by this man. He asks:

- 1. What Railroad facilities, present and prospective, at Plattsouth and adjacent country?
2. How often do boats pass up and down?
3. What is the freight on corn, wheat, potatoes and pork to St. Louis, or Columbus, Ky., and market price of same now?
4. Is Plattsouth situated immediately on the river, and what kind of river bottom is it in regard to elevation, timber and soil, and how wide is the bottom?
5. What is the population in number and kind?
6. How does town property sell with or without improvements?
7. What is farm land selling at in cash in the adjacent country—say from two to 15 miles.
8. Is the prairie land productive as the wood land?
9. What kind of timber in the country.
10. Is there much maple sugar made, and the price?
11. What kind and quality of water away from the streams?
12. Can lands or town property be bought on time in part?
13. Can grain, potatoes and pork be bought in quantity in first hands during the winter, and what the probable cost of preparing and hauling oats, wheat, corn, rye and pork?
14. Can plenty of timber be had for wood and posts convenient to prairies?
15. What is the cost and convenience of timber for building?
16. What the cheapest fence?
17. Do any kind of stock do well there in winter without shelter?
18. How many months do they have to be fed, and what kind of range or pasture in summer?
19. What months is navigation suspended from cold?
20. Steamboat passage from Plattsouth to St. Louis?
21. Do persons coming up in winter suffer much inconvenience from cold?
22. How much does it raft in winter?
23. At what time and how long are the roads muddy or in bad order for traveling?
To the above questions we make answer as nearly correct as we are able to as follows:
1. We have a railroad within three

niles of Plattsouth, on the opposite side of the river, which is completed to within three miles of Council Bluffs. The Chicago and North Western Road is completed to within fifteen miles of Council Bluffs on the east. Both the above roads will be completed within four weeks, when we will be directly connected with Chicago. The C. B. & St. Joe. Road, (the one mentioned on the opposite side of the river) is being rapidly pushed through to St. Joseph, and will be completed inside of twelve months, giving us direct communication with St. Louis and the South. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad is now contracted to within eighty miles of this city, and will probably be pushed through to this city next season. It will be immediately pushed through from here west to connect with the Pacific road, thus giving us a direct line east and west. Besides these roads, the Afton Road will be built on this side of the river within a few years, making this city its northern terminus. These are the roads in which Plattsouth is directly interested. The Union Pacific Road is already completed 300 miles west from Omaha, and the Iowa & Missouri State line Road is being built towards Nebraska City, lying 30 miles south of this place.

2. Boats pass up and down almost every day during summer season, and sometimes four or five in a day.
3. Freights are from 25 to 50 cents per hundred to St. Louis. The present market price of corn is from 35 ct. to 40 ct.; wheat \$1.35; potatoes \$1.25 per bushel (very scarce this season); pork \$7.00 per hundred.

Plattsouth is situated immediately on the Missouri River, two miles below the confluence of the Platte and Missouri. There is but little bottom land on the Nebraska side, anywhere in the Territory; but there is a broad expanse of bottom land on the opposite side—from 3 to 10 miles wide,—what would be called low bottom, partially timbered with cottonwood, hick, (or basswood), sycamore, elm, hackberry, walnut, burr-oak, and several other varieties, but principally cottonwood. The soil cannot be surpassed, unless it is by our rolling prairies.

5. The population of Plattsouth is between 2,000 and 3,000, all white, and as fine a lot of people as can be found anywhere in the world.
9. Town lots, without improvements, can be had at from \$50 to \$2,000, owing to location. Improved property can be had as above with cost of improvements.

7. Farm land can be had at from Government price to \$30 per acre; owing to location &c.
8. The prairie land of Nebraska cannot be surpassed, in point of productiveness, by any part of the world, as the last ten years bear witness.

9. The timber in the country, away from the large rivers is mostly oak, walnut, hickory and ash.
10. No maple sugar.
11. The water is limestone and fresh. No such thing as bad water known in Nebraska.

12. Lands and town property can be had on time, in part or in whole, by giving proper securities.
13. The products named, except potatoes, can be had in quantities in first hands, and prepared and hauled at reasonable rates, owing to the labor required.

14. Timber can be had convenient to a large proportion of the prairie land, although some portions are remote from that necessary article.—Cottonwood timber, however, can be cultivated successfully on the prairies, and there are already large groves of it in various parts of Nebraska.
15. Cottonwood lumber for building can be had convenient at \$25 to \$30 per thousand feet.

16. The cheapest fence is the "Herd Law," but where a visible fence, is desired either wire or boards is generally used on the prairies.
17. All kinds of stock will do reasonably well without shelter, but do better with sheds made of prairie grass (which, by the way, is the very best of hay, and can be had everywhere for the cost of cutting) or straw is used generally for the protection of stock, unless where there is a large herd, and then they are left without shelter.

18. Stock generally have to be fed from four and a half to five months.—The pasture in the summer is the broad and extensive prairies, which are covered with rich and luxuriant grasses—equal to the clover fields of the old States.
19. Navigation is generally suspended from about the first of December to the first of March, though sometimes not so long.

20. Steamboat passage to St. Louis, about \$25.
21. As a general thing persons can travel without suffering from cold if warmly clad. The winds are the worst rank in the service.

22. No rain of consequence in winter.
23. The roads are seldom muddy. The soil is sufficiently sandy to prevent mud. It may rain all day and night, and by 10 o'clock the next morning the soil will be sufficiently dry to plow, and the roads will hardly show a sign of mud.

We have endeavored to answer the above questions in as brief and truthful a manner as possible, and believe there is sufficient good in this country to largely overbalance the bad qualities. There are many other things of which we would like to write and propose to do at different times in future. Let all who desire to emigrate to a good country come and see for themselves.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The following are the resolutions adopted by the recent National Convention of this popular Union Soldiers' organization at Indianapolis:
1. That the Grand Army of the Republic is organized to maintain in civil life those great principles for which it stood in arms under the national flag; that it stands pledged to crush out active treason, to advance and support active loyalty, to secure sound constitutional liberty to all men, and to vindicate everywhere, and at all times, the full and complete rights of every loyal American citizen against all combination of force or fraud that may attempt to deny or deprive them of any such right.

2. That we pledge all the power and influence which, as individuals or as an association, we can legitimately wield in the most especial manner to those gallant men who stood fast by the country in its hour of agony, in the rebellious States, and who, through all manner of losses and injuries, persecutions under color of law, maintained their integrity and vindicated their loyalty; and we solemnly declare that no power that we can use should be neglected until they are thoroughly and completely protected in the active exercise of the rights of American freemen, through the entire country over which our flag floats.

3. That Congress, in justice, and in aid of charity, should pass a law, equalizing in a just manner the bounties of all Union soldiers and sailors.
4. That we now, as heretofore, pledge ourselves to use our best endeavors to procure appropriate State and national legislation for the education and maintenance of orphans and widows of deceased comrades and named brethren, and to enforce a speedy adjustment and payment of all lawful claims against the Government due soldiers and sailors and their heirs.

5. That in our opinion no man is worthy to be a free citizen of a free country who is not willing to bear arms in its defense, and we therefore suggest to Congress the passage of a law making it the inexorable duty of every citizen to defend his country, in time of peace, in person and by substitute.
6. That as a matter of justice and right, and because the sacrifice made and dangers encountered by the Union soldiers and sailors who served in the late war for the preservation of the country can never be fully repaid, we respectfully ask that those in authority bestow upon needy and worthy soldiers and sailors such positions of honor and profit as they may be competent to fill, and while we seek for nothing for our comrades who are able to maintain themselves, we do earnestly recommend this request to the consideration of all in authority, and we especially ask the attention of the President to his policy heretofore declared on this subject.

The following are the results to be attained by the organization, as stated in the Constitution:
1. The preservation of those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together, with the strong cords of affection, the comrades of many battles, sieges and marches.
2. To make these ties available in works and results of kindness, favor, and material aid to those in need of assistance.
3. To make provision, where it is not already done, for the support, care and education of soldiers' orphans, and for the maintenance of widows of deceased soldiers.

4. For the protection and assistance of disabled soldiers; whether disabled by wounds, sickness, old age, or misfortune.
5. For the establishment and defense of the rights of the soldiery of the United States, morally, socially and politically, with a view to inculcate a proper appreciation of such services and claims by the American people.

Recruits presented for enlistment in the Grand Army of the Republic, shall be soldiers and sailors honorably serving, or honorably discharged soldiers or sailors of the United States Volunteers or Regular Army or Navy; and shall exhibit their discharges on enlistment or shall produce satisfactory evidence of having been honorably discharged. No soldier or sailor who has been convicted of desertion or any other infamous crime shall be eligible to membership.

The association is composed of National, State, County, and Precinct organizations. Of the National Organization, Gen. S. A. Hurlbut has been chosen Commander in Chief, Head quarters at Springfield Ill. Each State organization is called a Department, each a Post, each State, District and Post has its own officers, including a Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster. Each Department and Post has, in addition, one Surgeon and Chaplain, and each Post an Officer of the Guard and Officer of the Day. All officers are selected without regard to previous rank in the service.

PROPERTY IN NEBRASKA.

We are indebted to Auditor Gillespie for the figures showing the valuation of property in Nebraska in the year 1866. They are as follows:—\$17,835,881 57. For 1865, the valuation was \$13,663,022 00—showing the increase for 1866 to be \$4,272,859 57. We venture to say that this is a greater ratio of increase than any other State can show in the same year.

It should be stated that this does not include the immense railroad property which has been added to our wealth in the present year.—Omaha Republican

Dr. Frehman, an ex-Jewish Rabbi, of Quebec, who has become a convert to Christianity, has been lecturing at New Albany, Ind., on the manners and customs of his race. In a lecture on Monday evening he believed the 8,000,000 Jews, recognized as such religiously, were the descendants of only two tribes. The descendants of the other ten tribes which were led into captivity were Germans, Irishmen and Englishmen, to say nothing of the other nationalities. He believed that every man of these three nations was a genuine Jew, a descendant of one of the ten tribes. The New Albany Commercial says that his argument on this point was exceedingly interesting and ingenious.

The U. S. Circuit Court in the case of T. W. Kennard against B. H. Holiday, for \$10,000, which was set by Holiday's Express for Colorado, was destroyed by an attack of Indians. Was decided in favor of Kennard for the full amount. The Court ruled that the Express was as liable as common carriers, and a verdict was accordingly rendered.

GOING TO THE ROOT OF THE MATTER.—The reckless man who frequently possesses men while in battle is well illustrated by a soldier, who landing and firing with all his might, while his fellows were falling around him, exclaimed, "boy ain't this hell; ain't it bully!" A certain German took a different view, on the occasion. After a series of hardships and reverses, and while the battle was in hot progress, he belched forth: "Got dem Christoph Columbus, die discover Ameri kee!"

John Pardee, who bought the Lafayette (Ind) Journal, and spent \$80,000 in trying to get to Congress, in which he did not succeed, has turned up in a new speculation. During the canvass, in order to secure the Methodist support, he invested \$10,000 in a donation to the Battle Ground Institute, an institution of learning under the auspices of the Methodist Church. Instead, however, of absolutely donating the money, he prudently subscribed it as stock; and since the election, believing that the Methodist "went back on him" he has assumed entire control of the Institute, which his majority of stock enables him to do, and announces his determination to reorganize the Faculty under one Baptist, one "Catholick," one Presbyterian and one Methodist, with himself as Grand Tutor and President of the Board. The Methodists are, of course, deeply exasperated, and the citizens of Battle Ground have set up a school of their own, leaving Mr. Pardee to run his "Institute."

The "grand finale" of the Mercer expedition to Oregon, in which several New England young ladies went into the wilderness, is reported by a Pacific correspondent, to have been the finding of a "ladger" by most of them, with a man in it.

It is announced that a site for a new Presidential Mansion at Washington has been determined upon. It is to be located about two miles northwest of Washington, and will be surrounded by a park. The land in that neighborhood is valued at about \$1,500 an acre, but before any final action can be taken upon the subject an appropriation must be had from Congress.

A New Orleans dispatch states that although a financial crisis has been feared on account of the comparatively failure of the cotton crop and other depressing influences, there had been no failure of consequence, one cotton factory and a few small dry goods merchants only having suspended, making no impression in business circles.

A clergyman lately addressed his female auditory as follows:—"Be not proud that the blessed Lord paid your sex the distinguished compliment of appearing first to a female after the resurrection for it was only done that it might spread the sooner."

The House has passed an amendment to the civil appropriation bill forbidding the payment of salaries to Internal Revenue officers until they are confirmed.

A gambler who was recently shot in Chicago, is said to have been worth \$50,000. The bullet that killed him did no injury to the property.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 21.—The Congressional Committee of investigation of the riots, require Mayor Monroe to furnish the names of all the policemen and all city officials on duty at that time.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—There was a debate between Fessenden, Doolittle and Hendricks whether the Southern States were competent of ratifying the Constitutional Amendment and entitled to admission when done. Fessenden said he wanted this unhappy controversy ended, but would not yield.

The House had an animated discussion of items of the civil appropriation bill and adopted an amendment to forbid the payment of salaries of Internal Revenue officers until confirmed.

Hughson said, we are charged by the Constitution and our oaths, in case it comes before us to decide whether the President has for corrupt personal ends created vacancies in any places hitherto filled in accordance with provisions of the Constitution by joint acts of the President and Senate and I report that in case the House upon full investigation and inquiry come to the conclusion that the President, for corrupt personal ends and purposes, had removed competent and faithful officers from the President is guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors within the terms of the Constitution, and the decision of the question belongs to the House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Congress adjourned to day until the 31 of January.

In the Senate Pomroy introduced a bill for the speedy construction of the Union Pacific Railroad Southern branch via Forts Riley and Smith. The Government has issued six per cent bonds for 20 years, at the rate of \$16,000 per mile.

The Senate debated the Nebraska bill. In the House Delano introduced a resolution forbidding the payment of any claim against the Government accruing prior to April 1861, in favor of any person who assisted the rebellion.

Siemens introduced a resolution requiring the Comptroller of the Treasury to report the bill establishing free schools in the District of Columbia, and no child to be excluded except for improper conduct. The schools are to be supported by tax on property in the District.

Lawrence, of Ohio, urged the passage of bills reducing salaries and mileage of Congressmen which was under discussion when the Executive message was received transmitting the correspondence of Santa Anna.

OLD TIMES RETURNING. During the recent Rebellion, when the General Government was cut off from the valuable privilege of carrying the papers and letters of the Southern people, the income of the Post Office Department for the first time in its history actually equaled, and we think exceeded, by a small sum, its expenditures. Now that we have recommenced the postal business in the Rebel States, we seem to be fast getting back into the old ruts of deficiency in the Post Department. According to the recent Report of Postmaster General Randall, the deficit for the past year was \$965,693, and the estimated deficit of the present year is considerably larger. So we are getting back to the good old times when we fixed up the postal deficiencies of the Chivalry to the tune of four or five millions per year.—Iowa Register

New Advertisements. STAR MILL. We have put into our Mill lately several important improvements and are now prepared to MAKE THE BEST QUALITY OF FLOUR. THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICE PAID FOR Wheat and Corn. ROHWER & SIEB. Plattsouth, Dec. 10th, 1866. 4w

Probate Notice. Samuel H. Bazz, Guardian of the minor children of the late Wm. W. Plattsouth, dec'd. The next of kin and next of blood of the said children, or either of them, are hereby notified that the said children, or either of them, are entitled to a share of the said estate, and that the said guardian is ready to pay the same, or to execute any other act in relation to the said estate, as may be required by the court. JOHN W. HARRIS, Clerk of the Court.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS. NEBRASKA. Post Office Department. PROPOSALS will be received at the Post Office at Plattsouth, Nebraska, on Monday, the 29th of December, 1866, for the purchase of the following articles:—One hundred and fifty (150) copies of the Constitution of the United States, bound in cloth, and one hundred (100) copies of the Declaration of Independence, bound in cloth. The bids must be accompanied by the cash or a check on a bank, payable to the order of the Postmaster, for the amount of the purchase money. The bids must be opened at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the 29th of December, 1866, at the Post Office at Plattsouth, Nebraska. The Postmaster reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to purchase of any bidder at a price not exceeding the amount of the bid. The successful bidder must execute a contract for the purchase of the above articles, and must deliver the same to the Post Office at Plattsouth, Nebraska, on or before the 31st of December, 1866. The successful bidder must also execute a contract for the purchase of the above articles, and must deliver the same to the Post Office at Plattsouth, Nebraska, on or before the 31st of December, 1866. The successful bidder must also execute a contract for the purchase of the above articles, and must deliver the same to the Post Office at Plattsouth, Nebraska, on or before the 31st of December, 1866.