Nebraska Herald.

PLATTSMOUTH NEBRAKSA.,

THURSDAY, NOV. 24, 1870.

COAL.

As there seems to be considerable excitement on the subject of *coal* in this State, just at the present time, we republish extracts from the Geological Report of Prof. F. V. Hayden, which are taken from the report of the U. S. General Land Office for 1867. It will be seen that the Prof. has two strings to his bow; in some places he thinks that at a given depth workable beds will be found and in general he depends and concludes we are on the western rim of the coal basin. However, at the risk of being considered tedious, we give below such extracts as touch on the subject and leave our readers and exchanges to judge for themselves.

EXTRACTS FROM PROF. HAYDEN'S GEOLOGICAL REPORT ON NEBRASKA.

We have made earnest search for coal. This question seems to be one which now excites the attention of the people more than any other, and they are earnestly asking for a solution of the problem.

By my direction Mr. Meek passed across the State of Iowa to Nebraska City with Dr. C. A. White, State geologist, and they succeeded in tracing the coal measure rocks from Des Moines to Nebraska City, and the conclusion they arrived at was, that the workable beds of coal in Iowa occur in the lower coal measures, and that those beds would be found by boring from 300 to 500 feet below the water level of the Missouri at Nebraska City. All the facts that we have so far secured in our subsequent examinations seem to confirm that conclusion. It may so happen that the limestones and clays increase in thickness in their westward extension, and in Nebraska it may be necessary to bore 600 or 800 feet before reaching a workable bed of coal. Even at that depth a good bed of coal would be profitable.—In England coal has been mined 1,800 feet beneath the surface, and there are numerous pits from 800 to 1,200 feet in depth.

The results of our examinations north of the Platte were that the limestones of the upper coal measures pass from sight beneath the water level of the Missouri at De Soto, and are then succeeded by sandstones of a cretaceous age; that these coal measures limestones occupy about two-thirds of Douglas county; that no coal beds of workable character can be found in this county at a less depth than from 800 to 1,000 feet beneath the water level of the Missouri.

LANCASTER COUNTY.

Much time and money has already been spent prospecting and digging for coal in this region, and the almost entire absence of timber would render the presence of coal here a matter of vital importance. I would be glad to find a workable bed of coal for the good people, but it cannot be. The farmers must plant trees, and in a few years the demand for fuel will be supplied.

RICHARDSON COUNTY.

In my last communication I spoke of the coal seam at Aspinwall, Nemaha county; that about 16 feet above the water level of the Missouri a bed of coal 22 to 24 inches in thickness was observed cropping out from the bluff, and a few feet above this in the same range of hills was a second seam six inches in thickness. These beds do not appear for considerable distance down the river, until we come to Rulo, except at one or two localities near St. Stephen's. At Arago I saw no outcroppings of coal at all and could not hear that any had been observed, but there are some good quarries of limestone, beds of clay, sands, &c. The next marked exhibition of coal is at Rulo and its neighborhood, about two miles above Rulo, on land belonging to Mr. S. F. Nackolls, of Nebraska City. At this locality Mr. N. has drifted into the bank 100 feet or more, and taken thence over 200 bushels of coal, which has been used by blacksmiths with success. The outcrop was about five inches in thickness, but increased as the drift was extended in the bank to 11 inches, and again suddenly diminished to one inch of good coal, the remainder being composed of impurities or "muddy coal," as the miner called it. The coal which has been thus far taken from this mine sells readily at 35 or 40 cents per bushel. The abrupt termination of the coal seam, or "fault," is undoubtedly due to the sliding down toward the river of the superincumbent beds, a phenomenon which is very common everywhere along the Missouri.—Still the irregularity in the thickness of this coal seam is everywhere apparent, vibrating between 4 and 20 inches, thus alternating, exalting and depressing the hopes and prospects of the miner. On the farm belonging to Mr. St Louis, about 1½ mile below Rulo, the same bed of coal has been worked with some success by drifting, and a considerable quantity of coal taken out. Mr. St Louis unwisely sunk a shaft at a higher point on the hill, thinking to cut the coal seam at a more favorable point, the expense attending it exhausting his means at 45. He sunk a drill, however, into the bed of coal and found it 12 feet below the position at the outcrop, showing an extensive inclination of the beds from the river or toward the west.

This dip may be readily accounted for by the extensive erosion of the rock prior to the deposition of the yellow marl and drift deposits, which erosion has given rise to many perplexing local inclinations of strata. These local dips will not interfere with the miner so much further in the interior of the county.—The thickness of the coal bed at this locality is 10 to 12 inches, increasing in one instance to 17 inches. On the Iowa reserve, along the great Nemaha river, the same bed again crops out in the ravines or banks of little streams, and has been wrought with some success, several hundred bushels of the coal having been taken out from time to time for several years past. The country along the Nemaha is quite rugged, or "rough," as it is termed by the settlers, owing to the several beds of sandstone, and the overlying or cap rock of the coal bed, which prevents the water from forming gentle slopes, as in the case of the more yielding clays or marl beds. This bed of coal is probably the equivalent of the two-foot bed seen at Aspinwall, while the upper six-inch bed is not exposed at all. The rocks in contact with the coal are as follows:

1st. Underlying the coal a bed of light gray fire clay, full of fragments of plants, as fern leaves, stems of rushes, calamities, &c., the same as occur in the underlying clays in Ohio and Illinois coal fields. Above the coal there is about four four feet of very hard laminated or shaly clay, varying from black to dark ash color, all of which must be removed with great labor before the bed of limestone, or cap rock, as it is called, can afford suitable protection to the miner as he drifts into the bank. Thus the small amount of coal is obtained with great labor, and it is only the great scarcity of fuel that will warrant any labor being expended upon it at all.

PAWNEE COUNTY.

A company has been organized at Pawnee City, called the Pawee County Coal Company, with Governor Butler as president, with the object of searching for coal in this district. They had intended to commence boring last spring, but waited for my coming to advise them of the best locality to begin operations. I gave them the best information in my power, but I could not risk my reputation upon any positive statement in favor of the existence of coal at all in this region, or any workable bed in the State.

There are some reasons in favor of the existence of a bed of coal in Nebrask, at a moderate depth beneath the surface, and there are others against it. I am inclined to the belief that the coal measures of Nebraska form a portion of the western rim of the great western coal basin, and that none but similar thin seams to those now cropping out along the Missouri river, and at other localities, will ever be found. But the exact truth can never be determined except by boring. At Des Moines, in Iowa, about one hundred and seventy five miles east of Nebraska City, a bed of coal six feet in thickness was penetrated at a depth of two hundred feet.

Prof. White, of the Iowa geological survey, and Mr. Meek, paleontologist of the Nebraska survey, traced the rock in which this bed of coal is located from Des Moines, across the State of Iowa, to Nebraska City. They made an estimate, by taking into account the general dip of the rocks west or northwest, that this same bed would be reached at from four hundred to six hundred feet beneath the surface at Nebraska City.

According to a section given by Major Hawn of the Missouri coal fields, there should be a six-foot bed at a depth of five hundred or six hundred feet beneath the surface at Rulo, for the rocks rise from beneath quite rapidly in descending the Missouri. The reasons that cause me to hesitate to give positive encouragement are, the entire want of success in the borings made at Omaha and Nebraska City; the failure, or only partial success, at St Joseph, Missouri, at Leavenworth City, and all over the northern part of Kansas, where the rocks hold a geological position several hundred feet lower than at either of the points mentioned; the apparent thickening of the coal measure rocks in their westward extension from Des Moines; the fact, also, that Mr. Broadhead, a geologist and civil engineer connected with the Missouri survey, has published a detailed section of the rocks of northern Missouri, opposite Nebraska, and finds about two thousand feet of upper coal measure beds, with only the thin seams of coal already mentioned; also, that in these same upper coal measures, limestones are found thrown up by the Black Hills, and exposed fully all along the eastern slope of the Rocky mountains, without the remotest indication, even by a slate bed, of coal having existed in them. You will, therefore, readily see why I hesitate to give a positive opinion, and why I am inclined still again to express the opinion given some years ago, that the State of Nebraska borders on the great western coal basin.

I have stated to the members of the Pawnee County Coal Company that a boring may be made eight hundred feet for about about one thousand six hundred dollars, which will settle the question, for that depth, for the whole county for all time to come. It would hardly be profitable to go any deeper, and the question would arise whether it would not be cheaper to hasten the building of railroads and the transportation of fuel from Iowa or other neighboring States.

JOHNSON COUNTY.

The prospects, therefore, for workable beds of coal in Johnson county are no better than in the neighboring counties already examined. The evidence against any important bed of coal being found within the limits of Nebraska diminishes in force continually. I have already presented a portion of the evidence in former reports. The fact that all efforts in searching for coal in neighboring districts have resulted in failures, renders the prospect very doubtful. All the rocks at St. Joseph, Missouri, Leavenworth and Atchison, Kansas, hold a low or position geologically; yet borings have been made about 500 feet at Atchison and St Joseph, and a shaft has been sunk about the same depth at Leavenworth, resulting in the discovery of a bed of very impure coal three feet thick, quite unfit for use. The evidence is quite strong that, as I have before suggested, Nebraska is unfortunately located on the western rim of the western coal basin, and that workable bed will ever be found in the State at a reasonable depth.

CASS COUNTY.

Near the mouth of Stove creek, section 12, range 10 township 10, indications of coal were observed, and Mr. E. L. Reed, residing at Weeping Water, sunk a shaft through the following beds:

9. Sandstones which form the bed of the creek, 10 feet.
8. Slate and clay, 3 feet.
7. Coal, 9 inches.
6. Whitish fine clay, 2 feet.
5. Crystaline quartz, 3 inches.
4. Bluish clay, 4 feet.
3. Whitish fine clay, 6 feet.
2. Red clay, 3 feet.
1. Soft, white lime stone, —.

The coal above, although so thin a seam as to render it unprofitable for working, is of good quality, and is useful to the blacksmiths in the vicinity.

We must therefore conclude that neither in Lancaster nor Cass counties will there ever be found any thick bed of coal, but in the valleys of all the streams and in numerous other localities there are low, boggy places which seem to promise peat, especially on the broad, low bottoms of the Platte.

The basic rock which underlies the surface of the greater portion of Sarpy and Douglas counties is carboniferous limestone. These limestones are evidently of the age of the upper coal measures, as their fossil remains indicate.

SARPY COUNTY.

Like all other portions of the State, the interest in the discovery of workable beds of coal in this region is very great. Along the Platte a seam of carboniferous shale crops out, occasionally twelve to eighteen inches in thickness, and wherever it occurs it is regarded by the settlers a sure indication of coal. I have examined all the indications with care, and I see no evidence of any coal at a reasonable depth. I hold the same opinion now that I expressed in a scientific paper in 1858, that I was "inclined to the belief that it was a geological impossibility for a workable bed of coal to be found within the limits of the Territory of Nebraska. A bed of coal, to be really valuable for economical purposes, should be at least three feet in thickness; and even then it would not prove profitable, if a large amount of labor were required in opening the mine."

A California paper tells a terrible story about a man who was frozen to death near Oroville. When the body was raised "it cracked like an icicle, broke in two in the centre and one of the arms snapped off at the shoulder joint." Unfortunately for the story the man's name was Adam Selle.

It is said there is no church choir in the world free from jealousy.

Piling it on too Steep.

The Railroad Orators of our day need a brake applied to the rapidly rolling wheels of their imagination. Their perceptive organs are too greatly distended. They see too much and comprehend more than the ordinary mortal can digest.—Every prospective railroad is to be a Grand Trunk Line. This is especially true in the West where railroad construction has become a mania and the chief end of man, to extend the system of rapid inter-communication. The ambition is a commendable one, but to an observant person the question arises whether the advocates of this system do not "overdo the thing" occasionally in their glowing descriptions of the functions, and the benefits arising from such enterprises.

Podunk Hollow resolves to have a railroad to Juliforth City, in a neighboring county. Forthwith articles of incorporation are published, an organization perfected and the Podunk *Eagle* announces that "a corps of engineers will be put upon the new route immediately." A Grand Mass Meeting is placarded in flaming bills and the good people of Podunk meet and pass high-toned resolutions favoring the project. Hon. Ichabod Hiflyer addresses the people, lauding the new enterprise in the highest terms. It will be the crowning glory of Podunk. It will make a market for the produce of Podunk farms, bringing thither gigantic quantities of Eastern capital for local investment, build up manufactories and send everything kiting." It will make Podunk the centre of the Mississippi Valley and the Grand Mecca of manufactories, capital and commercial prosperity. The P. H. & J. C. Road is projected upon a magnificent scale. It becomes a part of the Great Union Pacific Road, and it is an eastern outlet of the Northern Pacific. It is also the chief connection of Gen. Fremont's Great Memphis Elapso Trans Continental Pacific Railway, and a Grand Trunk between the Great Lakes of the North and the Gulf of Mexico. Over the P. H. & J. C. will flow the vast hordes of European Emigration, and the great circumfluent tidal wave of traffic between Europe and the Pacific Isles, Asia and the newly discovered Diamond regions in Africa; in fact, the Company already has a corps of engineers on a feasible route to build a branch to the latter fields of wealth, and it is expected that the transportation of Diamonds alone will afford business enough to liquidate both interest and principal of the bonded indebtedness in five years, or even less time.—Another branch will be run to the seal fishery of Alaska, thus enabling the company to buy up the celebrated "fish joint" for the track, while a third branch to China will enable the Company to monopolize the transportation of the famous "T" Rail.

But space forbids a further synopsis of the magnificent foreshadowing of the projected new road. Perhaps some of our readers are almost familiar with the style; suffice it to say it is almost without a parallel even in Iowa, where some people are so eminently practical and seldom undertake that which they do not accomplish. It is barely possible that one of our exchanges is amenable to this criticism when it says: "The people of Graham now have a chance to determine whether or not they want a great through line to the east, and to the Southwest, connecting the Gulf of Mexico with the Atlanticocean at New York and by the St. Lawrance river." "The people of Graham" will probably see about as much through traffic and travel from the Gulf of Mexico to the St Lawrance river as the Arabs along the sandy banks of the Suez canal.

Another company just organized in a village in the western part of Iowa to build a road to the Missouri river starts out with the pretentious title of "Chicago, Southwestern and Nebraska railway company." A little modesty in organization would be as appropriate as anything we can think of and equally as acceptable with practical common sense people. As it is, if we had to stake our reputation upon any of this class of railroads, we would bet our bottom dollar on the Podunk Hollow & Juliforth City road as the most practicable, because it has at least, the one merit of confining its pretentions to its own locality without sinking all its capitol in its name.—*Burlington Hawk Eye.*

Nebraska City papers please copy.

Bearer than Usual.

A pair of rural lovers, as rustic in their style as a log cabin, called in at a drug store on Felix street, evening before last, to enjoy a refreshing drink from the Arctic fountain therein. Having an eye to business, the laddie, "Say, Mister, what do you ask for soda water?" To this interrogatory the affable taperer replied, "Ten cents a glass, sir."—"Well," replied the young man, "that's kind o' dear, ar'nt it? we used to get it for five cents a glass." The fluid was drawn, and the young man, after having drank about half of it, passed the glass to the girl, smacking his lips and remarking as he did so, "Jist try that, Moll, it's darned nice, you bet!"

A Good Borrower.

"Mrs. H." exclaimed a little urchin on running into a near neighbor's house, "mother wanted me to ask would ye please lend 'er yer candle-moulds?"

The moulds were given him, and he ran home. In a few minutes he returned with this query:

"Mother wants to know if ye'd be kind enough to lend 'er some wicking?"

The wicking was measured off, and he again departed. But he soon appeared again, and said:

"Mother would be so thankful if you had a little taller ye'd be so kind as to lend 'er?"

Mrs. H. good naturedly produced the desired article, and as the boy started for the door, she said:

"Wouldn't your mother like to have me come over and mould the candles for her?"

"Wal, yis," replied the boy, "I reckon she'd like it fust rate, cos she sed she didn't understand it very well; but she don't like to be troublin her nubors, so she wouldn't ask ye."

SAD ACCIDENT.

A letter from Gage county to the Omaha *Republican* contains the following:

"A sad accident happened here on the 4th instant, through what the majority of people would call carelessness. A young man named Henry Muchmore was instantly killed by his foot slipping from the cock of his double-barrel shot gun, whilst he was blowing in the muzzle in order to see if it was loaded. He had taken off the cap, yet it is thought that some of the per-cussion remained on the nipple, enough to discharge it into his mouth, the whole charge taking effect in the large joint of the neck. He was the mail carrier between Pawnee City and Otoe Agency—a fine boy and much respected by all who knew him. It was a sad blow to his parents, as he was an only son."

The new winter muffs have small looking glasses inserted in the under side, which makes them very convenient, and in the next edition of the style we shall have apartments for rouge and lily white, with an automatic hair-brush attached.

Real Estate.

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MAXWELL & CHAPMAN,

A Large List of Unimproved

Lands in Cass County

On Easy Terms,

DESCRIBED IN PART AS FOLLOWS:

	Section.	Township.	Range
w hf s e qr	1	11	11
s hf ne qr	33	12	11
ne qr ne qr	33	12	11
se qr se qr	28	12	11
s hf sw qr	24	12	11
w hf se qr	24	12	11
sw qr	4	11	11
nw qr ne qr	5	10	12
s hf ne qr	30	10	14
nw qr se qr	30	10	14
sw qr	30	11	12
s hf se qr	32	11	12
sw qr sw qr	33	11	12
n hf sw qr	4	10	11
sw qr sw qr	4	10	11
s hf ne qr	9	11	11
s hf nw qr	9	11	11
sw qr	9	11	11
ne qr	17	11	11
se qr	17	11	11
s hf nw qr	18	10	12
nw qr nw qr	18	10	12
se qr ne qr	18	10	12
ne qr	21	10	12
sw qr	21	10	12
s hf ne qr	30	10	12
e hf nw qr	30	10	12
sw qr	3	11	12
n hf se qr	3	11	12
sw se qr	3	11	12
all of	4	11	12
nw qr	9	11	12
se qr	9	11	12
ne qr	10	11	12
nw qr	10	11	12
ne qr	19	11	12
e hf nw qr	19	11	12
e hf sw qr	19	11	12
se qr	20	11	12
se qr	21	11	12
e hf sw qr	22	11	12
nw qr sw qr	22	11	12
ne qr	28	11	12
e hf se qr	28	11	12
ne qr ne qr	29	11	12
w hf ne qr	29	11	12
nw se qr	29	11	12
ne qr	1	10	12
n hf sw qr	14	10	12
sw qr	23	10	12
ne sw qr	23	10	12
e hf se qr	7	10	13
sw qr	14	10	13
e hf ne qr	18	10	13
s hf nw qr	25	11	12
e hf ne qr	35	11	12
e hf se qr	35	11	12
sw qr	5	11	13
ne qr	25	12	10
ne qr	21	11	11
nw qr	24	12	12
se qr	24	12	12
se qr	14	12	12

ALSO,

Improved Farms in Cass Co.,

Large and small—some very desirable ones—and a large amount of

CITY PROPERTY,

IMPROVED AND UNIMPROVED.

Please call on us, and learn particulars as to price, terms, &c.

BARNES & POLLOCK

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A GOOD CHANCE

FOR A

GOOD BARGAIN!

Having completed the platting and recording of my Duke's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, I am now prepared to sell

400 LOTS

in the Addition at reasonable rates. Terms are one half cash down; the other half payable one year, at ten per cent. interest, per annum from date of purchase until paid. To be secured by mortgage on the property.

S. DUKE

Donation to Churches.

I will give to the following religious denominations, viz:
To the Baptist Church, lot 12 in block 27;
To the Congregational Church, lot 10 in block 26;
To the Methodist Church, lot 1 in block 12;
To the Catholic Church, lot 6 in block 30;
To the Episcopal Church, lot 12 in block 19;
To the Presbyterian Church, lot 1 in block 21
To the Christian Church lot 12 in block 5;
To the Lutheran Church lot 1 in block 26;
in my Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, upon the following conditions, viz: That they shall erect on said lots, as above donated, a suitable building for public worship, within five years from this date; and, in case of failure on the part of said Church or churches to comply with above condition, then and in that case the lot or lots shall revert to me.

S. DUKE

Donation to Public Schools.

I hereby donate for the use of Public District Schools, Lot 10 in Block 6, on the north side of Main street, and Lot 10 in Block 22, on the south side of Main street, in my addition to the City of Plattsmouth.

S. DUKE.

5,000 Acres of Land for Sale

in this county. Also, Houses and Lots in this city, at low prices.

Particular attention given to the buying and selling of real estate, examining titles, and paying taxes for non-residents.

S. DUKE,
Real Estate Agent.

Lot for Ten Dollars.

I will sell to parties desirous of building and improving, any of the lots in the subjoined list in my addition to Plattsmouth, at ten dollars per lot, under the following conditions, viz:

The person purchasing will be required to build on the lot purchased a dwelling house of the following dimensions, to-wit: The house to be not less than 14x24 feet, with story not lower than 8 feet. The frame must be good and substantial; house well shingled; foundation either of brick or stone. There must be a kitchen, of not less than 10x14. Building must be completed on or before January 1st, 1870. I will give a deed for a deed to the party who buys as soon as purchase is made, and upon complying with the above conditions, will give a good and sufficient Warranty Deed.

Selections may be made from the accompanying list:

Lots 3 and 8 in block 3; Lot 8 in block 4; Lot 14 in block 12; Lot 9 in block 18; Lot 12 in block 20; Lots 2, 9 and 14 in block 21; Lot 8 in block 22; Lots 2 and 8 in block 23; Lots 5 and 11 in block 26; Lots 5 in block 27; Lots 13 and 17 in block 28; Lots 4 and 7 in block 29; Lot 2 in block 30.

S. DUKE
Plattsmouth, Aug. 26tf. Office in Court House

EAST.

The Burlington & Missouri River Rail Road,

In connection with the

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Offer to the people of Plattsmouth, and all the portion of Nebraska lying

SOUTHR OF THE PLATTE,

the most direct, and the best Route to the Eastern, South Eastern, and Northern States.

Passengers desiring to travel luxuriously should take the Atlantic Express, which runs through to Chicago without change of Cars, equipped with elegant Day Coaches, Pullman's Palace Day and Sleeping Coaches, and

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In addition to the fact that this is the direct route by which time may be saved in reaching any point in the Eastern or Middle States, it may truthfully be said that it possesses the best track and the finest equipment of any Western Line, ensuring to the passenger

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Rates always as LOW as the LOWEST. Baggage checked through to any point East.

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Stoves, Tin, Hardware & Farming Tools;

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Roofing, Guttering, Spouting and Repairing done.

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DOUBLE ANCHOR WHISKIES, &c.

Best quality of Cigars and Tobacco always on hand.

All orders promptly attended to.

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The 'SUNNY SIDE" has removed to rear of the Wholesale Rooms.

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Hats, & Caps, Boots & Shoes,

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Dry Goods,
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Agricultural Impliments of all kinds, Weir and "I X L" Cultivators, Union Corn Planters, Grandetour and Princeton Plows, &c. &c. *notice*, all of which we offer to the public at the owest retail prices.

All Goods Warranted As Represented,

☞ Our constant aim will be to sell so low that it will be to the positive advantage of every farmer in the western and central portion of Cass county to make this their headquarters for trading.

Weeping Water, August 1st, 1870. REED, BROS.

☞ We are also agents for Mowers, Reapers, and Threshing Machines. apr wtf

A. A. Sargent & Co.

Soap Manufacturers.

WE would invite Dealers and the Public generally to call and examine our stock of

SOAPS,

before purchasing elsewhere.

Mr. Sargent having had the experience of twenty years in manufacturing all kinds of Soaps, we are confident of giving entire satisfaction to all who may favor us with their patronage.

Soap exchanged for grease, and delivered in any part of the city.

Cash paid for rendered tallow and clear grease.

Soap Works, Kearney Ward, near Ferry St. Bridge, Nebraska City.

June 15d&wtf.

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Thos. W. Shryock,

CABINET MAKER,

And dealer in all kinds of

Furniture & Chairs

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Repairing and Varnishing neatly done.

☞ Funerals attended at the shortest notice.

Tootle, Hanna & Clark,

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Gold and Silver Coin,

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Drafts drawn on all parts of the United States and Europe. Deposits received, and special attention given to collections.

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Repairers of Steam Engines, Boilers, Saw and Grist Mills,

Gas and Steam Fittings, Wrought Iron Pipe, Force and Lift Pumps, Steam Gauges, Alance Valve Governors, and all kinds of

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furnished on short notice.

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ATTENTION FARMERS!!

If you want to buy an A No 1.

REAPER and MOWER

Call On

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At the *NEW YORK STORE* and examine their *Much Improved*

Cayuga Chief Reaper & Mower for 1870!

Also, their large stock of BREAKING AND STUBBLE Plows.

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— DEALERS IN —

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