THE HERALD.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1873.

J. A. MACMURPHY.....EDITOR.

CORRESPONDENCE

From all parts of the State and country respectfully solicited for the HERALD.

We do not read anonymous letters and communications. The name and address of the writer are in all cases indispensible, as a guaranty of good faith.

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We call attention to the splendid Club List offered. It is our desire to place before the people of Cass Co. every opportunity for information and instruction. To all those who wish to take any of the publications mentioned below we offer them at the following low rates:

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To those owing back subscriptions on the HERALD we make the following offer to continue from now until the first of January.

To any who will pay us two years subscription, that is, their back subscription, and one year in advance we will give a handsome chromo, a picture worth two dollars, called, The *Easter Cross*. It is a cross enwreathed by a wreath of flowers-colored. Or, if they prefer it, Woods's Pocket Magnifier, being a magnifying glass suitable to slip in the pocket, worth $2.50.

To any one paying two year's subscription as above stated and seventy-five cents in addition we will give The Globe Microscope worth $3.50 or a gold pen with silver case worth the same price.

We make the above liberal offers because we are very anxious to collect in our subscription list and start on an entirely cash basis, which we shall endeavor to make our rule hereafter.

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We will send the HERALD and Demorests' Monthly, which is $3 for one dollar, to any person who pays us $2.50

In addition to both Periodicals at the price named, a choice from a list of extraordinary Premiums is given to each subscriber to Demorest's Monthly. Among these are a fine pair of Chromo Pictures (Falls of Niagara and Yosemite Falls), worth $50; or a good Stereoscope with a series of views; besides numerous other valuable premiums worth from two to ten dollars each.

The best boys' and girls' magazine, and the NEBRASKA HERALD at greatly reduced rates. We will send NEBRASKA HERALD and DEMOREST'S YOUNG AMERICA, which is $1 00 for one year, to any person who pays us $2.50. Demorest's Young America is always sparkling with entertaining Stories, Poems, Music, Puzzles, Games, Leaves, and other pleasant features. It profusely illustrated, and cannot fail to amuse, instruct and elevate, and assist to make the lives of youthful Americans useful, truthful and happy.

Messrs. Edwards and Driscoll, of the Committee of Architects who examined the Penitentiary, are both Democrats and yet the Omaha *Herald* howls about *whitewash*.

The Omaha *Herald* has cost, the tax payers of this State $100,000 by foolish and useless bawls about frauds, which weak kneed Legislatures must investigate. Remember this, voters.

We have just any amount of English papers, from 16 South Castle street, Liverpool, and from which we shall quote more or less as soon as Legislative matters give a little space.

We're informed on the eve of going to press, that the capital moving question received its complete *quietus*, for this session on Wednesday. So mote it be.

The Poor farm of Lawrence county, Missouri, was let last week to a contractor for one year. He is to board and clothe the paupers for $5 *each per month* and to repair the farm, which contains thirty two tillable acres, for the use of it. Cheap enough.

ITEMS ABROAD.

An extra session of the United States Senate is called to convene the fourth of March. There is important business requiring the attention, of that body which cannot be transacted the present session.

The first thing the HERALD heard on arriving at Lincoln was that Watters, the *Chronicle* man, had been up there, and fixed the Temperance bill so it would go through all right. Bully for Waters! Just the name for a temperance man and brother.

The feeling against the Resolution of expulsion presented by the Poland Investigation Committee, seems to be on the increase in Washington. It is now thought that only a resolution of severe censure, on all who held Credit Mobilier Stock, will be favorably received by Congress.

Kearney Junction, with about three hundred inhabitants, is now blessed with a daily newspaper, while Plattsmouth and Brownville, with five times the population, cannot afford such a luxury. —Omaha *Bee*.

You just hold your buzzing till you get a new spring stinger in your tail, and we'll show you a "Daily" in Plattsmouth for you to nip at.

POLAND'S REPORT.

The excitement in Congress when Poland's Credit Mobilier report was read was intense. House and galleries were full.

Mr. Butler offered a substitute for Mr. Poland's report, but Judge Poland declined to receive it. When the report was finished the Clerk of the House read Ames' reply—a masterly document, it is said—and the peroration was splendid, drawing tears from members' eyes. At 10 o'clock at night they had come to no conclusion, but were debating the expulsion clause. February 25th.

LATEST FROM LINCOLN.

Special to the Nebraska Herald.

LINCOLN, Feb. 25.

Constitution Bill vetoed. Veto sustained by vote of 19 to 16, and Orborn's resolution passed by the House by nearly a unanimous vote. The capital removal question quiet. The Legislature has accepted an invitation of the Kansas Legislature to visit Topeka next Friday.

Waters on Furnas.

Between the two houses is the Governor's office, and just opposite is the Supreme Court room. We stepped into the handsomely furnished rooms of our new Governor, and were cordially greeted. Gov. Furnas has already become very popular, and receives everybody in his pleasant and good natured manner, regardless of their politics or their station in life.—*Chronicle*.

The "third House" at Lincoln seems to have two Governors, both from Plattsmouth. That burg is imitating the great city of Brownville. One of them should be impeached or "excused" because the State is too small for two Governors.

Who is the other, we don't know him; there may be an ex-Governor here, but no two incumbents.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of St. Louis *Globe*.

EXCITING SCENES EXPECTED.

The Capitol promises to be crowded to-morrow in expectation of scenes in both Chambers over the expected reports from the Caldwell and Credit Mobilier Investigation Committee. The attempt to break down members of the Republican majority from the inside in order to enable ambitious gentlemen to take leading places, and the hue and cry against individuals, who, however weak in evading charges, have committed no legal wrong, is fostered by those who desire to divert public attention to individuals rather than to a system which has grown up without men's being conscious. The recommendations for censure in the cases of Caldwell, Ames and Brooks are to be fulminated against the others—Dawes, Garfield and Kelly. These are rumors, but no one really knows.

AMES AND BROOKS.

In the House the feeling against Ames and Brooks, even as to the latter among Democrats, is marked. If however, no one else is included on the Republican side, Brooks, party associates may rally to his aid.

NOTICEABLE FEATURE.

The present session is noticeable for one marked fact—no measure of a political bias has been introduced in either House or from either party.

HOW IT LOOKS TO A MAN UP SALT CREEK.

The following letter was picked up on the classic banks of Salt Creek, near Lincoln, under the balmy shade of a plum bush. It is entitled

A LETTER

From Johnny Chauporsin, in America, to his cousin, Harry Rosbifter, in Hold Hengland.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 14, 1873.

DEAR HARRY:—In the language of the immortal bard of Avon: "thus far have I marched into the bowels of this land of freedom."

I am now at Lincoln, which is the capital of the State of Nebraska, and the chief town on the line of the B. & M. R. R. from Liverpool to San Francisco.

'Arry, this is the queerest country you ever did see. You know how Australia is—folks say everything is turned upside down there—birds have four legs, and mules walk on two; that acorns grow on vines, and pumpkins on trees; where they build the wall inside the houses, and the rooms all around outside the house. Well, this place beats that a'l hollow—as the "Yanks" say. Nothing is what it looks like, everything is something else; hollow walls are solid, and solid walls are hollow. No man knows his neighbor's mind for two days at a time, because the neighbor don't know his own mind more than fifteen minutes "new onct"—(that's another Americanism I have learned 'Arry). Is this owing to the climate or the soil; or is it because the peoples are radically different from ours. Is Darwin really right, and are these people devel-oping into something else? To a stranger, at first sight, it might seem so; but to one who knows the cause, it is more easily and less naturally explained. All these people live on newspapers. Every town has a newspaper, every church has one sometimes two, every politician several, and there's hardly a man so poor that he can't own a small piece of a share at least in a newspaper.

The first thing when they start a new town is to build a grocery store, a saloon a meeting house, and then start a newspaper. After that, folks come there and live on what the newspaper says about the town. It's a big thing, I tell you 'Arry—these newspapers do the thinking, preaching, voteing, praying, cussing; eat, drink and smoke for the people; in fact, perform almost every function of life for them, but that of reeeating newspaper readers, and that they have to perform for themselves.

Now you see, 'Arry, that unless a man keeps himself posted in what the newspapers tell, he would get a very wrong estimate of things, in fact no estimate at all.

To show you how much I was mistaken, when I landed here I thought this place was a very decent little village, but the *Journal* soon set me right, and I now know that it is the most wonderful city on the face of the earth. There is a long, low, curious swale, below here, which is covered with white crystals, and I, in my innocence, supposed—this being represented as a land freely flowing with milk and honey—that these crystals were chunks of the milk frozen solid, the newspapers informed me that it was nothing but salt—(not, however, until I had bit through a big piece), broke a good front tooth, and caught a thirst that lasted a week, and took three kegs of Gen. Otto Funke's best beer to assuage. But these are minor deceptions and ignorances—I merely mention them to shew you how easily one can be deceived out here unless he reads the newspapers. To come

TO LARGER POINTS,

This is the capital of the State. It is finely situated. It is in a fertile region. There are many fine residences and hotels here, a great valley of salt close by. They have built a large and substantial building called the State House, with a preponderance of dome, that ought to settle anything on a solid foundation.—With all these advantages you would naturally suppose that the thing was a settled fact, that the citizens would be proud of their Capital building, and that if any one proposed to move the same they would shout *en masse*, be dome'd if you do. 'Arry, if you think so, that shows that you don't read the newspapers. The big guns of new papers say that the salt is sham, the State House of paste-board, and that Capitals were made to move, and so they propose to set this on a Pullman palace train with commissary and sleeper attached and haul it around from county to county. Think of moving Lincoln that way, 'Arry. Maybe you think I am joking, old boy; just read the newspapers, I tell you, and you will find that I am speaking the words of truth and soberness, a resolution to that effect having been raised in their parliament, which represents the people, or the commonest house they have, and speaking of their Parliament or Legislatures as they are called here. I visited the one sitting in this place, the other day, and I certainly thought I never saw a finer body of men. The *Senate* (which corresponds to our House of Lords, you know(?)) especially seemed to me to be a handsome, circumspect body of citizens, honest in striving to do their duty, and able in point of intellect to hold their own with any similar body of men.

'Arry, what was my astonishment to learn from the Omaha *Herald*, and other newspapers which I read, the next day, that all these men were feeble in intellect, morose in disposition, thieves by nature, corruptionists by desire, swindlers by trade, and Legislators for fraud or rascality every day of their miserable lives. I never was so astonished in my life, 'Arry, and I'll never trust my heyes again as long as I live in this country.

They have one curious character here; he has several names; but his plainest one in English is: William the contractor, though the newspapes dub him with all sorts of names, and accuse him of all sorts of things. They say he gobbles everything, carries off whole Legislatures in his hands, hooks valleys and mountains with his toes, steals railroads, corporations, town lots and salt works, with his eye-winkers; and in short, nothing is safe from his clutches, he reaches so far and so wide. Cutest trick of all, fearing some day that he might get old and his hands cramp, (with carrying a big lobby so long) his toes curl up, and his eye winkers drop out, and so on; he took the contract for building the

STATE PENITENTIARY,

a place where they put fellows for murder, rape, theft, and such other little jokes, out here. It is a large, massive structure, with walls as solid looking as those of Fleet street Prison, London; but would you believe it, 'Arry, those walls were all hollow or filled up with old papers, crusts of bread and things, so that William could walk round inside of them and creep out of the windows some day if he should ever get shut up there. The newspapers say this is a fact; and when the men were building the walls, instead of filling them up with stone, solid, they let drop in lit'e bags, old hats, cheap shoes, old pant-buttons, and any kind of small insect that came along and lit on the work was instantly drowned in mortar and plastered up. Once upon a time a poor Donkey that was grinding mortar inside the building, jumped up on the wall to get some fresh air, and instantly a bed full of loose stones and mortar was dumped over his head; swift and ready hands very soon walled him in, and there he remains to this day. On the first gush of the mortar the mule humped his back to kick, the under portion of his body made such a good arch that he was pointed up that way, and the bottom of the mule's abdomen forms the arch of the window, thus saving the contractors valuable stone which had been laid aside for that purpose. (Hon. Campbell told me that).

'Arry, I say, what curiosities that wall will show thousands of years hence when it crumbles to dust, and the Philosophers examine all the little bugs, nits, old hats and things that have gone to make up its composition, through their microscopes, and tell each other what a curious people this must have been; but I say, 'Arry, when they come to the window they will exclaim: This beats the age of stone, iron, brass and all, and must have been——the age of—Jackasses.

Before I close I must tell you something about a wonderful class of people out here called

THE HOMESTEADERS.

They come from all parts of the world, in ships and railroad cars, that Gen. Harris and O. F. Davis charter in Europe and America for their use, then send them out here in a country called "the Prairie"—"Land all sold on 10 years at 6 per cent. interest,"—and dump them out opposite a gopher hole.

In fifteen minutes from landing they are hunting after a "dug out" to live in. Twenty-four hours after that they cease to be *aliens* to anything and are duly enrolled on the books of the Squatter Governor as citizens of Prairie-dom and don't care a cent for any man.

What's a dugout, you ask? Why, 'Arry, a dug out is a house dug out of the ground; walled in with the ground, roofed over with the ground, and floored under with new ground. That's the way you make it first. You then hunt round for a hole of the right size, rush off to the nearest tin shop and get sheet iron put around it, rush back, force the hole, and the sheet iron through the roof for a chimney, and you have it.

The next morning you hang up a cottonwood slab for a door, take a solemn oath to support Gen. Harris and the B. & M. R. R., the constitution of the United States, and squatter law generally, and the thing is done.

George Tucker then sets down on the books of the United States the number of your door, the street, and alley where you live, and forever after you are an established man in the household troops of the Great West, as the resident proprietor of one-quarter section.

'Arry, come and be a Homesteader, now do. One thing more, old boy: send me by mail £50 to pay my way out of here, and be sure you don't send it to me by mail, in such a way that any one will know there's £50 in the letter, or these fellows will gobble it. Wm., the contractor, goes through the mails every day and if he finds my little old 50 pounds, it's gone up. He'll put it in that penitentiary wall, sure, and I'll have to turn lobbyist to get a living out here.

I'll tell you, 'Arry, send the "scads" by express to me, under cover, to President Gwyer, or Dan. Wheeler, Sec'y of the Senate. They're all right, they'll only open the package, read the news from England, take out their little old 25 per cent. commission, and give me the balance.

And now, 'Arry, good bye, don't forget, and believe me your cousin now and forever, JOHNNY CHAUPORSIN.

To HARRY ROSBIFITER.

[The HERALD thinks the above was meant for a Valentine.]

Resolutions of Expulsion.

The results of the Credit Mobilier Investigation is summed up in the following resolutions which it is expected will be offered:

1. WHEREAS Mr. Oakes Ames, a representative in this house from the State of Massachusetts, has been guilty of selling to members of Congress shares of stock in the Credit Mobilier of America for prices much below the value of such stock, with intent thereby to influence the votes and decision of such members in matters to be brought before Congress for action; therefore,

Resolved, That Oakes Ames be and is hereby expelled from his seat as a member of this house.

2. WHEREAS, Mr. James Brooks, a Representative in this House from the State of New York did procure the Credit Mobilier company to issue and deliver to Mr. Chas. H. Neilson, for the use and benefit of said Brooks, fifty shares of stock of said company at a price much below its real value, well knowing that the same was issued and delivered with the intent to influence the vote and decision of said Brooks, as a member of the House, on matters to be brought before Congress for action, and also to influence the action of said Brooks as a government director in the Union Pacific railroad company; therefore,

Resolved, That Mr. James Brooks be and is hereby expelled from his seat as a member of this House.

The Epic of Topeka.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune:

I never made a poem before in my life, but on reading in the *Tribune* this morning the joyful news of the fall of our old friend Pomeroy in Kansas, I found prose utterly inadequate to the expression of my emotions, and burst forth in the following lines, which strike me as evincing great promise:

The subject of this sonnet
Is a Senator called Pom,
Who in the public pudding
Put a long and crooked thumb,
And from the same extracted
A plump and precious plum—
The truth is he had realized
A very tidy sum;
But while he cried "Eureka"
He found his hour had come,
They scooped him at Topeka—
This injudicious Pom.

MAJORITY REPORT OF THE PENITENTIARY INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER:—The committee elected by your honorable body under resolution of the same, for the purpose of investigating all matters pertaining to the investigating all matters pertaining to the building of the State Penitentiary, beg leave to submit herewith the following report:

Under the act approved March 4th, 1870, entitled, "An act to provide for the erection of a penitentiary and for the care and custody of state prisoners," section three of said act appropriated fifty sections of land, and provided for the selling of the same, and also sections five of an act approved February 10, 1871, entitled, "An act to amend an act to provide for the erection of a penitentiary and for the care and custody of state prisoners," approved March 4th, 1875, appropriated twenty additional sections of land.

Said acts define the manner of appraisement, advertisement and sale of said fifty and twenty sections of land by the state prison inspectors.

This committee have exercised great care and consumed much time in thoroughly investigating the manner in which these lands were sold. In doing this we employed experienced accountants to thoroughly examine the books of the inspectors and other state affairs.

The itemized statement of such investigation is herewith submitted, marked "A." We also submit a complete abstract of the sales of these lands carefully compiled and compared, with the records of the treasury department and the inspector's office. Said abstract is marked "B."

We have also experienced, reliable architects, and they have made a careful examination in detail of the plans and specifications, and the entire work completed and in course of construction; said statement is herewith submitted, marked "C."

We applied to the attorney general of the state for his opinion as to the legality of the contract between the state and W. H. B. Stout for the erection of a penitentiary; said opinion is herewith submitted, marked "D."

In addition to the evidence above referred to, the committee have taken great pains and made every effort to procure all the testimony available upon all the questions submitted to us for investigation.

To this end and purpose we have subpœnaed a large number of witnesses from different parts of the state to enable us to get all the facts connected with the matter, so we might arrive at a just and impartial conclusion.

We find that the inspectors contracting for the building of the penitentiary did not extend their authority in letting the same, as the act creating the board of inspectors also defined their duties as to building said penitentiary, and did not limit the amount to be expended for that purpose, but left the amount of said expenditures to the discretion of said board of inspectors, to be governed only by the interests and necessities of the state. See opinion of attorney general marked "D."

That they have complied with the provisions of said acts, in appraising, advertising and selling of the seventy sections of lands, and that their books and accounts show an honest disbursement of the moneys arising from the same, as appears in the itemized account marked "A."

In relation to the building material and quality of work done, from all testimony taken and reports of the architects, we substantially concur in the report of the architects heretofore referred to, marked "A."

We further find that the time fixed by the contract for the completion of said building was extended from one year to five years, from the 4th of March, A. D. 1870, by an act of the legislature approved February 10, 1871; therefore to avoid any question that might arise as to the liability of the bondsmen for the faithful performance of said contract by this change as to extension of time, we would recommend that the contractor file another bond as required by law, to be approved by said inspectors for the faithful performance of the contract as changed.

We also submit an itemized statement of the expenses incurred by this committee during the investigation, marked "E," all of which is respectfully submitted.

SILAS GARBER, Chairman.
W. B. BABCOCK,
M. DUNHAM,
L. M. HOWARD.

The minority report rendered will be given in the future. It was too late for the mail.

TELEGRAMS BOILED DOWN.

Friday, Feb. 21.

The Utah Central and Central railroads are again clear. Snow still very deep in mining canons.

The Republicans had a grand celebration at Saragosa, Spain, on the 15th. Monarchial members of the city government have resigned, and their places are filled by Republicans.

Saturday, Feb 22

The President will defer his southern trip on account of the business incident upon the incoming of the new administration.

STATE ITEMS.

A shooting affray occurred near Kearney Junction, on a homestead, owned by Charles Walker deceased, called Walker's ranch. A man named Polley, attempted to jump the claim, and being resisted by one John Smith, who was in charge of the place. In the fracas Smith shot Polley through the head, and there are no hopes of his recovery.

We saw the man who don't take a newspaper, the other day. He wanted to know if "Furnas had got into the Governor's chair yet."—*Brownville Advertiser*.

Dakota county carried railroad bonds by 108 majority.

FROM LINCOLN.

The bill, known as Webster's Constitutional bill, passed the Senate on Monday, by a vote of 7 to 6. (It had passed the House before) and only lacked the Governor's signature to become a law. The Governor vetoed the same, as will be seen by our special telegram, and the House failed to carry it over the Governor's veto, the vote being 19 to 16 sustaining the veto.

Osborn's bill which calls for a Constitutional Convention at the regular time and in the regular way, was then passed.

This disposes of the Constitutional question for this session, we opine, and if somebody will kick the capitol kettle over in the fire we may have a few hours of sensible and much neglected Legislation at the close of the term.

THE CAPITOL MOVERS

Have received a check from somewhere, it would appear, as Tuesday, the day set apart for another trial of the same, passed off quietly, on this question. Its friends are sanguine, however, that they can make her go before the session is over, and the matter will be tried once more, no doubt.

THE PENITENTIARY.

Reports are all favorable. We give the majority report in full in another column, and Mr. Wheeler, who makes the minority report, cannot object to the work nor the amount of money asked for, but says the contract was let in violation of the letter and spirit of the law.

The Architect's report sums up as follows:

Estimated cost of the entire building according to plans and specifications, $313,153.82

Amount for which the contract was let, $387,950.

In favor of State, balance, $5 203.22.

Value of work done, and materials in the building erected and commenced, including materials at the quarries as specified, $147,975.56.

Amount required to finish and complete the work according to plans and specifications as by contract, $165,178.26.

Balance in favor of State, by proposed changes in the garden wall and cell house, $9,626.07.

* * * * * * *

Stone measured in the quarry are of fine quality in every particular, and of large size.

We find on comparing the plans and estimates with the value of the buildings erected and begun, an excess of work and material to the amount of $12,891-84, which we would recommend should be used as an offset to the items mentioned as not conforming with the requirements of the specifications.

In view of these reports we presume an appropriation of one half will passed the House, and will probably be allowed.

Another great bug-bear having been swept away and forever settled, we hope, perhaps our faultfinding newspaper men can hatch up some other troublous swindle to vex future legislatures with, for it would be utterly impossible for a Nebraska legislature to be allowed to meet in a quiet and orderly manner to pass sensible laws. They must investigate somebody or something, if it is only the right way to spell Smythe. T. T.

Dennison, Texas, seems to be coming out, the St Louis *Globe* says:

Dennison is now five months old, just in transformation from a wilderness, and bids fair at no distant day to become *the great* city of Northern Texas. It is about six miles south of Red River, and nine from its would-be rival, Sherman. It is well laid out, with streets 100 feet wide, and has already a population of 4,500 people from all parts of the world. It is a bee-hive. Houses are going up in all directions. The vacant lot of to-day is covered by a building to-morrow. A new hotel containing 100 rooms, is completed.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, February 26, 1873

Money—Active at	1 64@1-32
Gold—Firm at	114¼@114⅝
Governments—Strong	

CHICAGO, February 26, 1873

Flour—Quiet	$5 00@5 75
Wheat—Dull	1 19@1 21
Corn—Less active,	30@31
Oats—Easier	25@26
Rye—Dull	63@64
Barley—Dull	70@72
CATTLE—Good,	$4 95@5 87
Hogs—Live,	$4 40@4 95

Underwriter's Agency.

Consolidated statement of the Germania, Hanover, Niagara and Republic Fire Insurance Companies of the City of New York, on the 31st day of December, 1872.

CAPITAL.

Cash Capital and Surplus	$4,229,798 84

ASSETS.

United States Securities	$1,830,267 50
Loans on Bond and Mortgage	845,840 00
Cash in Bank and hands of Agents	574,042 81
Loans on Stocks, payable on demand	270,750 00
Real Estate	144,067 85
State Bonds	184,620 75
Other Securities	293,143 93
Total,	$4,229,798 84

LIABILITIES.

Losses in process of adjustment	$937,919 98
All other claims	15,799 29
Total	953,719 27

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