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THE HERALD

Published every Thursday at PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

Office—On Main St., Bet. 24th and 25th. Second Story.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF CASS COUNTY.

J. A. MACMURPHY, Editor.

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ATTORNEYS. M. R. BRESSE, Attorney at Law, Office on Main Street, over Chapman's Drug Store. Special attention given to collection of Claims.

Wheeler & Stinchcomb, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, 44 1/2 N. Main Street, Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

Chapman & Maxwell, ATTORNEYS AT LAW and Solicitors in Chancery, Office in Fitzgerald's Block, Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

MARGUET, SMITH & STARBUCK, Attorneys at Law, Practice in all the courts of the State. Special attention given to collections and matters of Probate.

Physicians. R. B. LIVINGSTON, Physician and Surgeon. Tend his professional services to the citizens of Cass County.

J. W. RAWLINS, Surgeon and Physician—Late Surgeon of West's Landing Yard, Plattsmouth, Nebraska. Office at O. Johnson's Drug Store, Main Street.

INSURANCE. WHEELER & BENNETT—Real Estate and Taxing Agents, Sole Agents, Fire and Life Insurance Agents, Plattsmouth, Neb.

PHILIPS FAIRBANKS—General Insurance Agent, Represents some of the most reliable Companies in the United States. Jan 1-1873.

HOTELS. BROOKS HOUSE, JOHN FITZGERALD, Proprietor, Main Street, between Fifth & Sixth.

MISCELLANEOUS. Plattsmouth Mills. C. HESSEL, Proprietor. Have recently been repaired and placed in thorough running order.

Abstracts of Title. THE NEBRASKA SYSTEM—the best in use for describing land.

GREENHOUSE AND BEDDING PLANTS. Time and money saved by ordering of me. I have the largest and best collection of plants.

Acres Wanted. FOR A BOOK NEEDED BY ALL FARMERS!

The best books published on the Horse and the Cow. Liberal terms. Money made rapidly by agents selling these books.

FINE ART GALLERY. Photographs, Ambrotypes and copies from old pictures, plain or colored, either in oil or water color.

NEW DRUG STORE. Wholesale and Retail. Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Goods.

T. L. POTTER, Dealer in Foreign and Domestic Goods, CLOTHING, FURNISHING GOODS, HATS, CAPS, BOOTS, SHOES, TRUNKS, VALISES, CARRY BAGS.

L. GOLDING, Dealer in Foreign and Domestic Goods, CLOTHING, FURNISHING GOODS, HATS, CAPS, BOOTS, SHOES, TRUNKS, VALISES, CARRY BAGS.

E. L. ELSIER, MERCHANT TAILOR. In receipt of the finest and BEST ASSORTMENT.

Mrs. A. D. Whitcomb, DRESS AND CLOAK MAKER. Rooms three doors west of Brooks House.

CUTTING AND FITTING MADE A SPECIALTY. Patterns of all kinds constantly on hand.

J. W. SHANNON'S, FEED, SALT, & LIVELY STABLE. Main Street, Plattsmouth, Neb.

I am prepared to accommodate the public with Horses, Carriages, Buggies, Wagons, and a No. 1 Hearse.

Blacksmith Shop. CHAS. N. TIFFANY, MT. PLEASANT, NEB.

Begs leave to inform the farmers of Cass County that he keeps a good No. 1 BLACKSMITH SHOP.

All kinds of Iron Work attended to. Wagons repaired, Farm Implements carefully mended. Lowest prices, and all work done on short notice.

Grain received in payment. Give me a trial. CHAS. N. TIFFANY.

Official Directory.

CONGRESSIONAL. T. W. Tipton, Burlington, Mo., U. S. Senator. P. W. W. Wheeler, Union, Mo., U. S. Senator.

EXECUTIVE. F. W. Furness, Brownville, Mo., Governor. J. R. Keiser, Lincoln, Mo., Secy of State.

JUDICIARY. Geo. R. Lake, Omaha, Neb., Chief Justice. Samuel Maxwell, Plattsmouth, Associate Justice.

PLATTSMOUTH. Mayor, Philip Palm. City Clerk, Wm. W. Wheeler. City Treasurer, J. W. Haines.

CASS COUNTY. Probate Judge, Thos. H. Johnson. County Clerk, J. W. Haines.

Churches. Baptist—On the corner of Main and Ninth.

Catholic—North side of Public Square, Father Dolan. First Mass every Sabbath at 8 o'clock.

Episcopal—Corner Tenth and Third Streets, Minister, Services every Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Methodist Episcopal—West side of Main Street, south of Main, Rev. C. McKelvey, Pastor.

Presbyterian—North side of Main Street, west of 9th, Rev. W. T. Burt, Pastor.

Society of Friends—On the corner of Main and Ninth, Meetings every Tuesday evening.

W. W. Wheeler, Union, Mo., U. S. Senator. J. R. Keiser, Lincoln, Mo., Secy of State.

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NEBRASKA

Her Natural Advantages and Resources.

(Continued.)

THE FIRST HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Met at the same time, (16th of June), and Mr. Popperton moved that Mr. Latham, of Cass take the chair, which he did.

THE ROLL OF MEMBERS who produced certificates of election were: John A. Singleton, Richardson. David M. Johnson. Joel M. Wood, Forney.

Wm. A. Finney, Jas. H. Decker, Pierce. Wm. B. Hall, Jas. H. Covels, Gideon Bennett, Wilson M. Maddox.

John M. Latham, Cass. Wm. Kempton, Jos. D. N. Thompson, Andrew J. Hanson, Douglas. Alfred D. Goyer.

Andrew J. Popperton, Wm. Clancy, Wm. N. Byers, Thos. Davis, Fleming Davidson, Robt. B. Whitted, J. W. Richardson, Dodge. Eli R. Doyle, Amelin Arnold, Washington. Andrew J. Smith, John B. Robertson, Burt, H. C. Purple.

They do say that many of the members lived in Iowa—temporarily, we suppose, and certainly some of them were not very familiar with the face of the country in the counties they represented; however, new territories must be started, and as all the boundaries of counties were almost imaginary lines, they may be pardoned for not having a surveyor handy, when the elections were held.

They represented the people then here, and their interests fairly and squarely, and that is enough.

It will be observed that the counties then known, except Dodge, were on the Missouri river, and that two at least have been lost sight of since, viz: Pierce, which is now part of Otoe, and Forney, now Nemaha, and other counties.

The first message of the acting Governor alludes to a Pacific Railway, and advises the Legislature to memorialize Congress for steps towards building the same. This early had Nebraska railroad on the brain.

Mr. A. J. Hanson was elected permanent speaker of the House, and J. W. Padlock, Chief Clerk. The other officers were G. S. Eyras, Assistant Clerk; Isaac L. Gibbs, Sergeant-at-Arm, and D. B. Thompson, Doorkeeper.

The new spirit of Territorial government being now fairly afloat and properly named by officers and crew, we must turn our attention in another direction, and give the History of Nebraska from different standpoints.

THE DAYS OF GLORY. There are many incidents and much information that would be both useful and highly interesting to the settlers of an early day here, that we could give regarding the political history of Nebraska during '54 '55, but it would string out this article beyond all reasonable newspaper bounds, and the intention of the committee being, no doubt, to gather useful information rather than pleasant reminiscences, we enter upon some data as to the country itself, and the class of people who settled it up.

Although the proceedings of the first Legislature looks so big in print, and the names of the actors appear in large "caps," often, and their acts cover a good many pages and make quite a sizeable volume, the eastern truth compels us to declare that there was but very little of Nebraska at that day, but what there was made a very jolly place to live in. For awhile this new Territory was really and truly a square out and out Democratic community. No man was better than his neighbor because he knew nothing about his neighbor, and oftentimes he was glad that his neighbor knew nothing about him. Money made no difference in social position, for few of the early settlers were troubled with that commodity to any great extent, and if one did have a few dollars more than his fellows it wouldn't buy him any more respect or anything else valuable, except corner lots; even brains weren't a discount, because every one of those early customers seems to have had plenty of brains and no one man monopolized more than his share. Superb physical health and strength was about the only thing that gave a man any superiority over his comrades of that day, as fine houses, fine horses and fine clothes were unknown. Every man that came to the territory was welcomed as a God-send to the country; he was accepted as another human being, able to vote and help hold a town-meeting, and no questions as to his past record or future prospects were asked or required. For once men came very near being equal, and having an equal start in the race for life, and the different and varying fortunes of those old settlers to-day will go far to prove the theory that an equal distribution of property among

all mankind would not really benefit the human race in the end, nor enrich the masses of the people for ever, even a life lost was the product of the old "Claim Laws" of Kansas and Nebraska.

Men would come in knowing the red law, and jump the squatter's old 160 acres. In such case he was warned away by the "Club" three several times, and if he did not cease his claim then, the "Club" were "turned out" under their Captain, and he was forcibly ejected, even if it cost life. They were bound to do this by oath, that effect, and they had a "Constitution and By-Laws," and Land offices, with "records" and places and times for "filling out" lands, all arranged Government fashion, except the 320 acre clause. Sometimes "Claim Clubs" came in contact on some boundary lines, and then the "devil was to pay." The "Club" was once called out to put an old man named Miller off. He lay behind the log with a loaded rifle, the muzzle of which could be seen through the thicket. As he didn't scare worth a cent they finally compromised.

In time "Claim Clubs" were discontinued, along with revolvers, butcher knives, cards and whiskey.

LAND SPECULATING. Out of this grew the wildest and most savage speculation the world ever saw. Many pages of valuable books and magazines have been covered with accounts of the curious and often incomprehensible vagaries that have possessed the minds of human beings in different parts of the world in regard to the real and assumed value of certain articles for the time, such as the collection of old coins (at fabulous prices); the gathering together of old books (at immense expense); the value of certain old persons.

The Tulip magazine writers to this day, and is a wonderful instance of the hallucinations that fashion, personal magnetism of ideas, or universal custom can throw around the clearest mind and most acute intellects. Kings and Princes bought Tulips at thousands of dollars apiece (what a chance for Hesser) and the world went mad over a bulb, a root.

There may be just a slight shade of better reason for the wild speculation in lands and lots in Nebraska during '56 and '57, because it could not be said of them that they were mere bulbs, roots, but on the contrary, would always raise bulbs, roots, grain, &c., and it may therefore be compared to the tulip speculation as the goose that lays the eggs to the eggs themselves.

Nevertheless it has always seemed to us that the enormous prices paid for these lands and the crazy and excited state of mind that the owners exhibited in regard to their value was more singular, more intense than any of these former excitements that have made succeeding generations laugh with wonder or gape in astonishment.

No pen has yet done justice to this feature of the country at that time. It is safe to say that not less than four hundred town sites were laid out between the Kansas line and a point opposite Sioux City on the Missouri river, and the owners, each one, were as sanguine that their town would be the Chicago of the Missouri slope as that little apples were bound to grow.

Fabulous prices were paid for corner lots; streets, avenues, college grounds, central parks, grand parks, court house squares, and seminary grounds without stint or limit were surveyed and resurveyed, and depots, warehouses, universities, elevators and castles de Espagne were erected—on paper—with a looseness that beggars description by pen or pencil. Money was borrowed at 40 per cent per annum to invest in new lots, new towns and new claims. Up the river the tide swarmed, the prairie was literally covered with town stakes; they backed your shins, split your toes, burst your buggy wheels, lamed your horses, and still the game went on—Towns and cities sprang up by the magic wand of little stakes, a piece of chain, a compass, and a long-legged surveyor, in every nook and cranny of the land. All that was necessary was to arrange a "company" under some one, and from one man to a dozen comprised a company—"chalk out" a map, "write up" some certificates of shares, and then "away," to sell our Eastern friends a fortune and a home.

It was thus that Woodville and Central City, on the river, were laid out; and one fellow came on in the winter of '56 and froze to a piece of ground which he called "Hudson." He mapped her down in the style, and then "lit out" for New York, where he sold lots enough to clear \$20,000, it is said. All this time he had not a shadow of title to the land. After it was surveyed and he did obtain a title, we believe, but not until it had become a by-word among the people—"Have you any a lot in Hudson?" His town site along with the two others above mentioned, are now in the Missouri river, or over in Iowa. A single, solitary, long wooden warehouse, half hanging over the bank, long marked the spot where "Woodville" was expected to sprout and grow.

This is no exaggerated account, and now if any of your tulip fever ever recalled this furore, this Nebraska land fever, we should like to hear of it or see it written up.

During the whole of 1837-8 squatters moved in and settlers (?) came from the East; but the wildest speculation reigned, and real or very lasting improvements were seldom, if ever made. Very little ground was broken up, no fencing built, and no small grains of any account sown. Corn was raised in patches; but trading corner lots, playing checker, and "filling" on claims for speculation, were the principal occupations of the inhabitants, and the fine arts languished.

Numbers of young men, "bachs," they were called, hordled together in the towns, but very few men of means, or with families, came into the country during these years. Then came the crash of hard times, from '57 to '60. All who had money enough left to get home, did so; and the rest, like "lone buffalo," straggled around awhile, and then hunted up some man's daughter, of the few that were here, and made her his wife, or else went "East" and got one somehow. When he returned he generally settled down to legitimate work, opened up a farm or learned (?) a trade, and from this time the real improvement of the country began, though it was very hard times, but a rough work with many during all the years up to about '63, when they seemed to make one gigantic jump to life and vigor, and from that time to this, first class prosperity seems to be the lot of the inhabitants of the State that would prosper under any circumstances. The country was just one grand prairie of unexplored and unknown regions beyond the valley of the Missouri, and was a continual source of wonder and strange excitement to the new comers as they dropped in, but few seemed to think of pushing out to live, or had any idea that it would ever be settled twenty miles back from the river except by ranchmen.

LEGISLATURE—GOV. IZARD. Having thus given some idea of the country and people at that time, return we to the Legislative Assembly for a few pages and glance at their proceedings.

On the morning of the 29th of February, 1855, both Houses received the following curt message: EXECUTIVE OFFICE, TERRITORY OF NEBRASKA, OSAMA CITY, Feb. 29, 1855.

To the Honorable House of Representatives and General Assembly of Nebraska: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your message of the 28th inst., and in reply to inform you that I have received the same, and that I have given it my careful consideration.

It is with much satisfaction that I observe the progress of your session, and the interest which you have manifested in the various measures which have been introduced, and in the manner in which you have conducted the same.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant, T. B. CUMING, Secretary.

AN ORIGINAL STORY FOR BOYS. CONTINUED. That old schoolhouse and the surrounding hills and dells constituted a place of which no one had more thorough knowledge than Van Boyd. From infancy up he had been accustomed to meet the young of the district there, and many a game of "ball and bat" or "fox & goose," had he played on that little, classic playground.

But a new leaf had been turned over in Van's history; a new scene of action now opened to his view; he was just on the eve of entering the pathway that leads to a peerage with Sturm, Pestalozzi, Francke and other eminent educators. It was only natural then that when Van entered the school room that morning, he should reflect profoundly, upon the great responsibility which he had already assumed, and the very tender line which connected his action now, with ultimate success: "I will do my best, and I do not think I shall fail"—soliloquized Van—but just then his reverie was interrupted by our old friend Tom Burden, who was the first to greet the young teacher that morning: "Good morning, Van—Mr. Boyd, said Tom, while he carelessly proceeded to deposit his books, arithmetic, grammar, geography, &c., in one of the desks. "Thought I would come early, and make you would let me have my old seat in the corner; it's not so near where the classes read, and I thought if I should make a little more noise than I ought to, why, make it wouldn't terrupt you."

To this request of Tom's so ingeniously made, Van soon replied: "Well, Tom, I should be glad to oblige you, but I had thought of seating the scholars after a new method, and I can only promise to grant your request, if the seat will fall to you, by the new arrangement." Tom took the courteous reply of Van good naturedly, and proceeded to assist the young friend and teacher in arranging blackboard, maps, &c., and which he called "Hudson." He mapped her down in the style, and then "lit out" for New York, where he sold lots enough to clear \$20,000, it is said. All this time he had not a shadow of title to the land. After it was surveyed and he did obtain a title, we believe, but not until it had become a by-word among the people—"Have you any a lot in Hudson?" His town site along with the two others above mentioned, are now in the Missouri river, or over in Iowa. A single, solitary, long wooden warehouse, half hanging over the bank, long marked the spot where "Woodville" was expected to sprout and grow.

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This is no exaggerated account, and now if any of your tulip fever ever recalled this furore, this Nebraska land fever, we should like to hear of it or see it written up.

During the whole of 1837-8 squatters moved in and settlers (?) came from the East; but the wildest speculation reigned, and real or very lasting improvements were seldom, if ever made. Very little ground was broken up, no fencing built, and no small grains of any account sown. Corn was raised in patches; but trading corner lots, playing checker, and "filling" on claims for speculation, were the principal occupations of the inhabitants, and the fine arts languished.

Numbers of young men, "bachs," they were called, hordled together in the towns, but very few men of means, or with families, came into the country during these years. Then came the crash of hard times, from '57 to '60. All who had money enough left to get home, did so; and the rest, like "lone buffalo," straggled around awhile, and then hunted up some man's daughter, of the few that were here, and made her his wife, or else went "East" and got one somehow. When he returned he generally settled down to legitimate work, opened up a farm or learned (?) a trade, and from this time the real improvement of the country began, though it was very hard times, but a rough work with many during all the years up to about '63, when they seemed to make one gigantic jump to life and vigor, and from that time to this, first class prosperity seems to be the lot of the inhabitants of the State that would prosper under any circumstances. The country was just one grand prairie of unexplored and unknown regions beyond the valley of the Missouri, and was a continual source of wonder and strange excitement to the new comers as they dropped in, but few seemed to think of pushing out to live, or had any idea that it would ever be settled twenty miles back from the river except by ranchmen.

LEGISLATURE—GOV. IZARD. Having thus given some idea of the country and people at that time, return we to the Legislative Assembly for a few pages and glance at their proceedings.