

THE HERALD.

THE GRASSHOPPERS OF NEBRASKA Report of the Entomological Commission to Governor Carver.

OMAHA, NEB., June 15. Hon. Silas Garber, Governor of Neb.

DEAR SIR:—The wish having been expressed by yourself and a number of citizens of Nebraska that I would make known in some public manner the result of my recent examinations in reference to the locusts (grasshoppers) in your state, I herewith present to you the following brief and somewhat hasty report, made jointly with Prof. Augustus, who has accompanied me in my visits to the various parts of the State, and who has, from the first, been assisting me in this work in Nebraska. Although we have not visited every section, we have gone over a large portion of the settled area, and have obtained reliable information from almost every part. We, therefore, feel confident that the facts herein stated are correct, and may be relied upon. From these it will be seen that although the locusts remain in limited areas in the eastern counties the prospects in Nebraska are even more flattering than the most hopeful of your citizens anticipated a month ago.

With thanks for the kind interest you have taken in our work, I remain yours, Very respectfully, CYRUS THOMAS.

PORTION OF THE REPORT.

DISAPPEARANCE OF THE YOUNG AFTER HATCHING OUT.

Although precisely what might be expected from a thorough knowledge of the history and habits of the species in a season like the present, yet one of the most remarkable facts observed in reference to them this season, has been the manner in which they have disappeared soon after hatching. This remarkable disappearance has taken place not singly in limited areas, and under exceptional local conditions, but over the entire locust area of Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado, showing clearly that similar causes have operated over this extended district.

Three principal causes have operated in producing this result. 1. They have been killed directly by cold, and by the heavy rains which have fallen. The number killed directly by cold was comparatively small; still, it has been of sufficient importance to be enumerated in this connection. The heavy rains and unusual amount of water with which the ground has been flooded has destroyed immense numbers. Many caught in low, flat areas were drowned; others were washed down into ravines and draws; and occasionally others have been observed dead and accumulated in piles of considerable thickness after rains, even in places where they could not have been washed together by the flood.

2. They have died because they were diseased, and this we are satisfied has been the chief cause of their strange disappearance. The nature and character of this disease has not been fully studied, and we must confess that at present it is not well understood. Two or three facts which are important in this connection may furnish some indication of its nature. First, the natural tendency of the race to deteriorate and to decrease in vigor and vitality in this part of the Mississippi valley; second, ancient records of misdeeds on their vital organs, especially their respiratory organs, and third, abstinence caused by the rains and unfavorable weather and as a result of the other causes. We cannot present, however, the numerous items of evidence we have gathered bearing upon these points, but must content ourselves with the statement that they are sufficient to satisfy us of the truth of these positions.

3. Another and very potent agency in this destruction has been the birds. From every section of the State where locusts have hatched we have received testimony of their efficient aid in this work. Hundreds of instances in illustration of this fact have been mentioned, where, in a few hours, or a day or two at most, they have cleared gardens and even entire fields of these pests, and that where they were in immense numbers. The black birds, even east of the plover, quail, prairie chickens, larks, robins and domestic fowls, have also greatly aided in it. These facts clearly demonstrate the wisdom of the last legislature of this State in passing a law for the protection of the native insectivorous birds. Now let farmers plant trees for their preservation and in every way possible promote their increase, as many we are glad to say are now doing and you will always have an aid at hand that will save very largely in both money and labor and repay a hundred fold for the little they may destroy of the fruits and grain.

We may also add in this connection that the farmers in most of the sections where the locusts yet remain are fighting them bravely with the various implements and in the modes hereafter specified, and are destroying large numbers of them. In quite a number of places where none are now to be found their disappearance is, in part at least, owing to the efforts made by the farmers to destroy them. Unfortunately in a few places there is an apathy in this matter which is difficult for us to understand. It is true that thus far the careless have fared about as well as the active, as both have up to this time escaped any injury, but such good fortune is apt to fall into false security.

THE PRESENT SITUATION. Although the locusts hatched out quite numerous in various localities as far west as the west line of the egg deposit, they have almost entirely disappeared from all parts west of the meridian of Lincoln, and even east of that there are large areas in which there are none to be found, or at least so few that the farmers apprehend no danger whatever from them. Even in the sections where they are considered most numerous up to the present they have been limited to isolated spots. An examination made at one of the most infested spots, showed that the number of acres over which they then spread, as compared with the number of acres in cultivation, was so limited that it was evident that with a reasonable effort their destruction might be rendered certain if made in time. It is true that enough might hatch out on five acres to overrun and destroy the crop on 100 acres, if the season should favor them, but at the same time it is equally true that if all on the five acres are destroyed before they spread, the rest of the 100 acres, at least, will be saved.

MIGRATING SWARMS FROM THE SOUTH. That a few swarms from the south have recently passed over the western part of the State, going north, is undoubtedly true. So far but few if any have come down to the settled districts, and have done no injury whatever. Heretofore the swarms moving from the south northward toward their native habitat have not, so far as we are aware done any injury in the State. We do not apprehend any danger from them; in fact, this is precisely what the commission anticipated and predicted, and is one of the strongest corroborations of the theory that they can never become permanent residents of this part of the Mississippi valley; and we as well reaffirm, in this connection, our oft repeated conviction from what we know of the history and habits of these species, that it is impossible for it ever to become a permanent resident of these border States, and hence that the race must run out here, and that it can only be continued by repeated invasions from its native habitat in the far distant Rocky Mountain region. This disposition to return, also confirms our repeated assertions, that it can never progress eastward, as did the potato beetle; that its line of eastward progress is as firmly fixed by climatic and physical causes as though its way were barred by an insurmountable wall of adamant. We therefore maintain that the people of these states ought to confide in these conclusions of science, which have been so signally borne out by the facts.

CONCLUSION. In concluding this brief and hasty report, we have only to repeat what we have already said, that we consider the danger from the young hoppers which have hatched out this season in Nebraska, over; and this part of the problem is solved. We also believe that the long series of visitation has come to a close. There may be and doubtless will be, at irregular periods, visitations by migrated swarms, but it is not at all likely that the present generation will witness another such series as that which has just passed. We append hereto, as a part of this report, a brief account of the means of destroying the young and unhatched locusts, which we have just issued in the form of a special bulletin for Nebraska. Very respectfully, (Signed) CYRUS THOMAS, SAM'L AUGHEY.

County Commissioners Proceedings.

Concluded.

Thos. Pollock, s't'm't of col. of taxes by Wm. L. Hobbs late Treasurer 8 00 State Journal, blanks 1 00 Fox & Glover, printing Treasurers statement 15 00 D. E. Babington, repairs court House 1 00 J. C. Cummings sundries 10 00 Levi Goding witness fee state vs. Bricker, 11 40 G. B. Grippin's services for April 100 00 J. A. MacMurphy, printing court calendar and sundries 102 50 Chas. of the State Journal Co. for \$13 33, for discount on bills heretofore passed on, was examined and disallowed. Geo. E. Pronger for building a bridge over Weeping Water, was allowed on bridge fund, \$770 18, less discount, \$25 18; the following accounts were allowed on land Road fund: W. D. Hill, assessing damages on road 2 00 J. Valley, laying out public road 2 00 J. F. Polk, surveying " 5 00 M. L. Polk, carry chain " 1 50 Mr. Ruby, " " 75 Sum Fos, " " 75 On wood district, No 22, H. A. Waterman was allowed for lumber 33 98

THURSDAY, June 7th, 1877.

Board met, officers all present: The contract for bridge building was awarded to Messrs Raymond & Campbell of Council Bluffs, Iowa, giving bonds to the amount of \$1,600, and entering into contract for the completion of said bridges on or before the 1st day of September 1877, payment to be made in cash or warrants, on bridge fund, at the option of the Board. On motion of Mr. Ramsey, all applications for the refunding of taxes on school lands, were laid over indefinitely.

The following accounts were allowed on bridge fund. Hugh McReynolds store for bridges 52 00 Jas. Leuchtwitz, rent west 1/2 jail lot 12 00 C. P. Moore, compiling census, and sundries 126 40 J. E. Barnes, digging grave for a pauper 2 50 On general fund, P. L. Wise was allowed for redemption of erroneous sale of land 810 00

FRIDAY, June 8th, 1877. Board met, officers all present whereupon Mr. Campbell, of the firm of Reynolds & Campbell appearing before the board, they formed and entered into their contract (which is too long to give). Order allowed Mm. Coleman, Superintendent No 6 825 00 C. R. Andrus dist No 51 50 00 The following funds were allowed on general funds: Henry Wolf, services as Co. Com. June 813 10 The following accounts were allowed on the inquest of the body of Chas. Brooks. E. Battery, Coroner 810 40 A. Cunningham, Juror 1 00 Geo. Edgerton, " 1 00 B. Hempel, " 1 00 Wm. Knight, " 1 00 C. M. Mahoney, " 1 00 W. P. Bennett, " 1 00 W. F. Morrison, Constable 24 Wm. Parry, Witness 1 00 Thos. O'Connor " 1 00 J. W. Shannon, " 1 00 Wm. Fleming, " 1 00 Fred Fredericksen, Juror 1 00 Mike Mulligan, " 1 00 G. W. Holdrege, " 1 00 Mike O'Connor, " 1 00 On motion Board adjourned to meet on Monday the 2nd day of July 1877.

The real gentleman never outrides upon others his fine sense of politeness; indeed his great charm, and test of his perfect manners is that he assumes nothing.

The training of children must begin with the very cradle to be perfect. This saying that man is a bundle of habits is as true of babies as it is of grown children.

NEW SHOP. on Fifth St., between Main and Vine Streets, just across the corner from the NEW HERALD OFFICE.

[For the NEBRASKA HERALD.] High and Low Water in the Missouri River.

BY A. L. CHILDS.

In April of 1873, under the direction of the Chief Signal Officer of the U. S. Army, I placed a gauge in the Missouri river near the foot of Main street. On the 18th of March 1874, the ice broke down the pile to which the gauge was fastened, as well as several others, by which I had made reference marks, by which to reset the gauge in case of removal by ice, drift, &c.

I replaced it as nearly at the same level as I could; and subsequent observation satisfies me that the level was not essentially changed. The zero point was placed at the low water of 1873, Dec. 6.

From the Daily Record made since April 19th, 1873, I extract the following: 1873. Highest water, July 3d, 16 ft. 5 in. Lowest water, Dec. 6th, 0 (zero), range 16 feet 5 in.

1874. Highest water, June 16th, 7 ft. 8 in. Lowest water, Nov. 25 and Dec. 19th—0 ft. 9 in., range 8 ft. 9 in.

1875. Highest water, (April 28, 13 ft. 3 in.) June 23th, 13 ft. 4 in. Lowest water, Nov. 22d—0 ft 7 in., range 13 ft. 10 inches.

1876. Highest water, June 21st and July 4th, 13 ft. Lowest water, Dec. 2, 0 ft. 3 in., range 11 ft. 9 in.

1877 (up to June 17th). Highest water, June 13th, 13 ft. 11 in. Lowest water, March 19th—0 ft. 9 in., range 14 ft. 7 inches.

SOME OF THE READERS OF THE HERALD seem to doubt the correctness of the amount of rain fall, as published in the monthly Meteorological Summary. They have had a tub, bucket or other vessel out, and exposed to the storm, which has measured sometimes more, and sometimes less than I have reported.

There are two sources of misunderstanding in the matter. First, our rain storms are seldom general, or equally spread over the country, but travel mostly in veins; often very narrow. A few years since while coming into Plattsburgh from Glendale, in a distance of twenty rods, I passed from a drenching storm, where probably nearly one inch fell; to a dry dusty road where not a drop fell.

Two equally correct, and properly exposed gauges, but a short distance apart, will register very different quantities of rain, unless placed in the axial line of the storm, and even then may differ. Hence no one gauge can make any pretence to register for any area, beyond its own locality. Still there is a general average of rain over certain sections of the country, and any one gauge will report nearly the rain fall of the district. The Signal Office has sixteen observers in Nebraska, and average of the sixteen reports is taken for the State.

The second source of error is in the location of the vessel, by which the party judges of the rain fall. It is rare that we have rain without more or less wind, and every building, tree, fence, &c., that obstructs the free course of the wind, causes deflection, eddies, &c., by which the rain is unevenly distributed. Two vessels in different positions, as regards these obstructions, will receive larger or less amounts of rain. Hence it is very difficult except in a large open field to so place a gauge, as to make it entirely reliable.

From Salt Lake, June 14th, 1877.

FRIEND MACMURPHY.—I received a copy of your valuable paper yesterday for which please accept thanks. I have shown your article on Utah to quite a number of leading men—Mormons as well as Gentiles—and they all pronounce it the most correct representation of affairs in Utah they have ever read. Of course there are fanatics on both sides that would say you were wrong, but 'tis that class of men that are trying so hard to ruin Utah. The very ones that are shouting danger of war with the Mormons are the ones that want war, in the hopes thereby to get some lucrative position, or get away with the plunder, but they can rest assured there will be nothing of the kind, Brigham Young and his followers think too much of their scalp to try anything of that kind, even if they had the disposition. Any one that takes Brigham for a fool will get left, all he wants is a severe letting alone, but under no circumstances could he be induced to resort to arms. There are, no doubt, a few hummers among the Mormons, as well as in all other classes, that would like to create a disturbance, but they are so few that were they ever to make an attempt at an insurrection they would be choked down by their own Church before they could do any harm. What Utah wants most is an army of men armed with picks and spades, with grit and muscle to use them, and a few years would not only wipe out the obnoxious part of Mormonism, but would develop the richest mines in the world; and in addition to this kind of an army, pass a law compelling every man to show some visible means of support or leave the Territory. There would then be no more talk about war and an uprising of Mormons. In a few years Utah would be famous for her rich mines and not for Mormonism.

And the C. C. C. man published pen photo's of the editors, which are very good.

Our exchanges come to us now loaded with fearful accounts of that Salt Lake trip, but as yet we believe Ed. Howe, in the Falls City Globe-Journal, is dashing off the liveliest serial we have encountered.—Central City Courier.

And the C. C. C. man published pen photo's of the editors, which are very good.

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Farmers Ahoy!

Fred. Gorder's Implement Emporium. THIRD STREET, NORTH OF MAIN.

Is the place to buy every kind of Agricultural Implement.

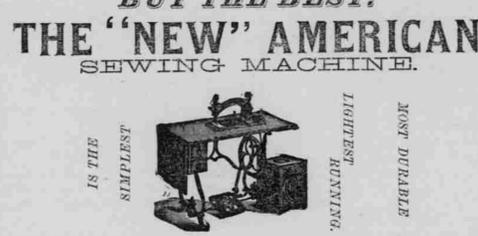
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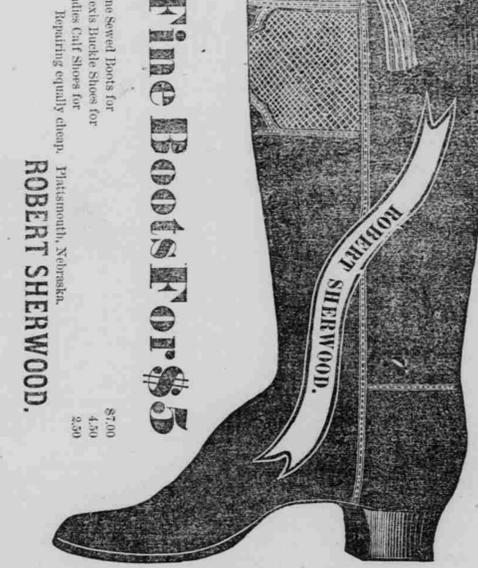


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To say nothing of groceries by the acre, boots and shoes till you can't rest hats and caps till you must buy.

Spring and Summer Goods ever and ever so cheap. Note is your chance—bound to sell—and undersell anybody. Hurry up. I want to go East again next month.

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GOODS SOLD WITHOUT ARBITRATION! 7 to 8 or 8 to 7, just as you like, and

The cash is always counted out for there is no Intimidation at the

'Philadelphia Store!'

As it is generally our custom to give you our prices for goods so that you can calculate at home what you can buy for your money, we will give you prices below which will be lower than ever and 10 per cent. cheaper than you can anywhere in this City or State. We have the advantage of any merchant in this city—buying direct from the manufacturers. We have opened a Wholesale Store in St. Joseph Mo, which will be attended by Mr. Solomon.

30 yards prints for one dollar. Summer Shawls, 75c up. " " Brown and black muslin, one dollar. Hankerchiefs, 3 for 25c. " " Blue and brown denims, one dollar. Ladies Silk Handkerchiefs, 35c each. " " Bed ticking, one dollar. Ladies Hose, 3 pair for 35c. " " Cheviot, one dollar. Men's Socks 5c up. " " Grass Cloth, one dollar. Cuffs and Collars, 25c a set, and up. " " Malt Shades, one dollar. Bed Spreads, one dollar up. " " Table Linen, one dollar. Corsets, good, 50c up. " " Crash Toweling, one dollar.

As it is impossible to give the prices of our enormous Dress Goods Department

we will only state that it is the largest and finest stock ever brought to this city and consisting of the following new styles

Poplins, Double Silk Pongees Japanese Silks, Matelasse-Zephyr Suitings, Lawns, Grenadines, and Percales, at prices ranging from 1 1/2 cts. up; also a fine line of HAMBURG EMBROIDERIES from 5 cents up.

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Ready-made Men and Boys' Clothing, from \$4.50 up for whole suits. Jeans Pants from \$1.00 up. An unexcelled line GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, fine White Shirts \$1 up; Calico Shirts, 40 cts. up; Cheviot Shirts, 50 cts. up; Overalls, 60 cts. up; Paper Collars 10c.

MEN AND BOYS' HATS AND CAPS. Hats, 75c up; Caps, 10c up; Boots, \$2 per pair up; Shoes, \$1 per pair up; TRUNKS and VALISES, a good assortment. We do not keep a little of everything, from an Axe Handle to a barrel of salt, but what we do carry we have in full and complete stock. JEWELRY, PLATED WARE, CLOCKS, TABLE and POCKET OUTLERY, etc.

Our Millinery Department. We would inform the ladies of Plattsburgh and vicinity that we are in receipt of the finest

Pattern Heads and Bonnets Direct from Paris. We have an Accomplished, Fashionable Lady Trimmer who understands the business thoroughly and can suit all your tastes; also a full line of SILK TRIMMINGS, Ribbons, Flowers and Ornaments. Sash Ribbons from 50c up; Ladies Trimmed Hats, \$1 and up. We have a large and complete stock Canvas, Perforated Card Board, Zephyrs, Zephyr Needles, Mottos, and Silk Floss of all shades.

CARPETS. An immense stock of Carpets, Oil Cloths, Rugs and Mats. Hemp Carpets 25c per yard; Ingrain Carpets, 50c per yard. Standard Carpet Chain, 5 1/2 bundles only \$1.25.

We have also, for the accommodation of our friends, added to our already extensive assortment a large stock of Oil Window Shades in all colors. Lace Window Curtains 35 cts per yard. We present our annual price list satisfied that our customers will see that we can do better for them than ever before and thankfull for past patronage we most respectfully ask a continuance of the same. Plattsburgh, Nebraska, March 22d, 1877. SOLOMON & NATHAN.

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