

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

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By A. C. Hosmer.

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H. E. POND.

A GOOD RECORD.

A Terser Historical Sketch of Red Cloud's Volunteer Fire Department.

The editor of THE CHIEF being somewhat familiar with the workings of fire departments and knowing that the Red Cloud Fire Department ranks second to no department in the state in the volunteer service took it upon him self to corner two or three of the old charter members and in conversation gleaned a few of the following facts and figures:

The department was organized as a Volunteer Fire Department for the protection of life and property on the second day of December 1887 on the evening of that date, 50 of the men who had signed the rolls as charter members met over the Postoffice which was then located in the building now occupied by Ducker & Co's Dry Goods House, and then there adopted the constitution and by-laws under which they have been governed for the past five years. To show that a Fireman's life is not a milk and honey life, out of the 50 members on active list who entered five years ago only seven were left to receive their exemption on the evening of December 23, 1892. Since the organization of the department Dec. 23, 1887 there has been one-hundred and eighty-one members enrolled, and out of the 181 who joined the department during the past five years only 34 names are still on the Department books and of those only 25 are in good standing, and seven of those are charter members. As to the loss and damage by fire the estimates according to adjustment shown for the past five years is \$19835 00. Insurance on same \$16865.00. Leaving a loss over and above insurance of \$2970 which no business man who is familiar with or has a remembrance as to the location of the fires in the past five years will deny the fact, that were it not for the efficient service rendered at the fires the loss would have been upward of \$40,000. Our scribe in looking over the financial workings of the Department found a remarkable showing for a volunteer organization. The receipts and disbursements by the fifth annual settlement were shown to be as follows: Total \$5337 47, total expenses \$4574.47, leaving a balance held by the Department of \$763 of which \$360 is in stock certificates of the Red Cloud Volunteer Firemen's Association \$397.35 in uniforms, supply and extra apparatus and balance in cash \$5.65. Which should the department disband there would be a credit to each of the 25 members by the inventory that shows the assets at \$763, of \$30.52 for each.

Now aside from this there is something of as much importance to our readers. On the regular meeting of the department on the first Monday in last May it was decided that an auxiliary association be organized to further the interests of the Red Cloud Fire Department Chief A. J. Tomlinson was authorized by the Department to take necessary steps and put the same into execution. He thereupon selected from among the live and active members L. M. Vance, J. O. Butler, Harry Sower, E. J. Pulsipher, W. W. Gilbert, and J. B. Carr, Henry Diederich, T. W. Hatfield, C. L. Winfrey, the ten which includes Chief Tomlinson, at once drew up articles of incorporation which were filed according to law with the County Clerk and Secretary of state and thereby perfected what is known as the Red Cloud Volunteer Fireman's Ass'n. As soon as every

thing was in running order, stock in the association was offered to the active members of the Department where upon those who had the interest of the department at heart subscribed for stock. Through the purchase of the same the Association was at once permitted to make investments, it was decided to purchase the W. D. Forrester property of four lots and two houses situated at the north-west corner of 4th Avenue and Cedar street, which was done by the Association paying one third down, one-third in one year and one-third in two years which would make including interest and taxes close to \$1700, how well the boys succeeded it is only necessary to say that since the organization last May they have paid about \$1150 of the purchase money and without any assistance except what was received from the city, by its purchasing the fire alarm system from the Department at less than the cost of construction with the understanding that the department keep the same in continuous running order.

when called upon, to which the boys have always appreciated their kindness and extend their thanks for the same, certainly there are some among the residents although they are few, who have always stood ready to kick at every effort made by the department toward bettering their condition and efficiency. As to kicks the department has passed them just the same as if they had not been made.

The 18 members in good standing should they remain so, will receive their exemption and will be allowed to retire or be re-enrolled at the rate of one each month commencing on the first regular meeting in March 1893, as the oldest member in the department outside of exempt or re-enrolled members, expires on that date.

It is the intention of the department to send a full delegation to the next Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association to be held at Kearney on January 17-18-19-1893 provided the department can raise the necessary amount required to defray the ex-

Communicated.

Gide Rok the 13ly 1892os.

mister Edater:
2 let u no that we wuz awl well an hoap u air the same.
mister cars fokes hed comp ny the 4 part of this weak. a mister j. clark that used 2 live in illinoy wuz there, he dont live there now. the epweth leeg went out 2 mister elingerms in a lumber wagen an so 4th last fryday nite. i dont no what we air goin 2 do fur krismas down hear. ile let u no later. the kwles teachers went up 2 blew hill saterday 2 the asosheashun. they had lots of fun an oisters an pep corn an a good time generly. i didnt go. the krischun church had a fare last weak. it wuz quite gratafen considerin the object had in vue, viz: 2 make money which is a good skeme. mister jaycups an his wife went down 2 amboy last saterday an lu an james which is their marrade dawter an soninlaw came home with um. lu an her man is goin to cal. j. k. sanburn is visitin with his wife out in

For Old Bachelors.

The other day while our devil was perambulating throughout the city, he saw forty old bachelors who, looking forlorn, concluded to hys themselves sold cheap before leap year expired, and while thus engaged he scribbled the following poem and dedicated it to the boys:

I dreamt a dream in the midst of my slumbers,
And as fast as I dreamed it was coined into numbers;
My thoughts ran along in such beautiful metre,
I am sure I never saw any poetry sweeter.
I thought that a law had been recently made,
That a tax on old bachelors passes should be laid,
And in order to make them all willing to marry,
The tax was as large as a man could well carry.
The bachelors grumble, said 'twas of no use,
'Twas cruel injustice and horrid abuse,
And that to save their heart's blood from spilling,
Of such a vile tax they would never pay a shilling.
But the rulers determined their schemes to pursue,
So they set all the bachelors up at vendue.
A crier was sent through the town to bid fro,
To rattle his bell and his trumpet to blow;
To cry out aloud to all he might meet in the way,
'No! forty old bachelors to be sold her today.'
And presently all the old maids in the town,
Each one in her very best bonnet and gown,
Some young, fair, red and pale,
Of every description, all marched to the sale.
The auctioneer then in his labor began,
And cried out aloud as he laid up a man,
How much for a man? Who wants to buy?
And in a twinkling every maiden responded I-I-I.
In a short and extravagant bargain price,
The bachelors were all sold off in a trice,
And forty old maidens, the younger, some older,
Each hugged an old bachelor home on her shoulder.

Independence.

(Written for THE CHIEF.)

"Thank you; but I only want payment for work." - ohn Halifax.
The lad was parentless, had just recovered from a long spell of sickness and had, but a few hours before, left his bed of straw.
He was suffering the pangs of hunger, such as none of us perhaps have ever felt, excepting our soldiers who marched on slender rations and especially those who were penned up in southern prisons. Already had this boy been called a beggar that morning by a haughty servant woman who passed him upon the street as he sought shelter from the cold, pitiless rain. Abel Fletcher soon afterwards engaged the boy to wheel his invalid son to the family residence, for which he agreed to pay him a groat. After a little while, Able Fletcher came in contact with young Halifax near the residence and offered him a shilling extra for the service he had rendered, which was then and there rejected in the manly yet respectful terms as given above.
John Halifax was at the time in a starving condition. But few of my readers can appreciate the real condition of one who feels the pangs of hunger; that indescribable gnawing, all consuming desire for food.
What pen can portray the feelings of one whose dissolution is as surely taking place, for the want of food, as though he had been wounded and his life blood were slowly ebbing away. The boy must have had a wonderful spirit of manly independence to reject that with which he could have satisfied his hunger. Read the history entitled "John Halifax, Gentleman," and you will form higher conceptions of true manliness, and bless the day such a history was written. True, the book is classed with works of fiction; but who dare assert that the author founded her fiction not upon the solid facts! Our greatest authors have employed both the phantasmic and romantic style in the work of moulding public sentiment, and yet were dealing in truths of the most substantial kind. But my object being to prepare for publication a few papers on the subject of Independence, I shall make as few digressions as possible, and treat the subject in a plain, straight-forward manner, hoping thereby to enlist the sympathy and influence of good men and pure women in the work of building up a strong, manly, self-reliant class in the community. It is a fearful thing to contemplate that, when the present generation of noble men and women shall have passed away, their places may be filled by a generation of non-descripts. Now, the writer hopes not to be considered as a mere alarmist, and yet there are indications of society losing in the transition from the old to the new regime.
Farm loans at lowest interest. Strictly first-class loans at lower rates than has ever been given in this country before. Option to pay part or all at end of any year.—C. F. CARRER.



A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

The boys are thankful to the citizens and business men who in the past have contributed to the support of the department although they have received no assistance from outside of members of the department for over one year. No person unless he has served five years in a volunteer Fire Department can tell the amount of gratuitous work done, clothes destroyed and money out. If you doubt this assertion then join the department and respond to every call, do whatever work is assigned you at any time or place regardless of all else and without any kicking and for five years, then you will be convinced of the trouble, trials, and vicissitudes incident to a fireman's life. A majority of our business men and quite a number of ladies have always responded liberally in assisting the boys

penses. This should be done as all live and well organized departments make it a point to be represented at the state meetings as they only meet once a year and as a school towards the advancement and the making more efficient of all departments. These meetings must be attended to be appreciated. Extend your hand to our Fire Laddies and you will not regret it.
J. O. Lindy has on hand for the holidays; fine cider, splendid mince meat, lots of apples, \$1.50 per bushel; candes and piles of oranges, bananas fish, oysters, &c. See him.
To cook a Christmas turkey, remove the exoskeleton and the contents of the haemal cavity, which latter stuff with dry sage brush stuck together with stale bread, soaked in mustard water, and bake with the feathers in a wash

ub.
They went some time ago an aint got back yet.
missis king is home now. she has ben a visitin back east.
agents is newmerus round hear. ive heard that dory matthuses skule is out an she is 2 home. please excuse haste an a bad pen.
yures respectfully,
x. y. z. and so 4th.
Clerical permits, 1893. We will issue for the year 1893 half fare permits, good on all Burlington lines to regularly ordained or licensed ministers or missionaries who are engaged solely in religious works. Requests thereof year 1893 should be made as soon as possible. It is our desire that permits be in the hands of clergymen by Jan. 1st.
A. CONOVER.
J. H. Ramsburg has renewed his CHIEF to '93. Thanks.