

A Trip South of the Platte.

Last week we broke loose from our retirement, and, in company with three social, jovial fellows of this place, started for Nebraska City. We wound our way round the stylish residence of L. B. Kinney, on the outskirts of Bellevue, and struck on to the Territorial Road built by Col. Sigs; crossed over his new bridge on the Pappio, which, by the way, "is a bridge as is a bridge," we soon found ourselves in Larimer City, a place not altogether unknown in the history of Sarpy County.

Larimer City lies on an even plateau, about one and a half miles from the Missouri river, close on the north bank of the Platte river, it has an abundance of building material adjoining the site: timber, rock, sand, and all the essentials for building a "right smart" little town. We crossed the Platte river at this point by the aid of Brother Levi Kimball, and landed safe in Cass County. Speaking of Ferris we can safely say to those wishing to cross the Platte, that this Ferry is as safe and reliable as any Missouri Ferry.

We hauled up for dinner at Queen's Hotel, Plattsmouth. Here we expected to find many signs of hard times by the dullness of business, and the usual grumbling of business men; but we found the reverse. The improvements going on in many parts of the town, the stirring busy strides of the citizens, and the immense piles of freight strewn up and down the Landing, gave strong evidences of the actual prosperity of Plattsmouth. Having routed our nags a fully satisfied the innkeeper at Queen's well-spread table, we broke out for Nebraska City.

About five miles out from Plattsmouth the nicely undulating and slightly rolling prairie and the thick margin of timber on the Missouri, drew forth voluntary applause from those of our crowd who had never before traveled south of the Platte. About ten miles brought us to a large and thickly timbered grove, with a small stream running thro' it, situated about six miles west of the Missouri. Here we found an old friend, Hon. ——— Buck, a member of the second Legislature, from Cass County, living in a large and commodious new dwelling. Mr. Buck has a premium farm, and appearances indicate his taste and enterprise as a practical farmer. But on inquiry we found he had the good fortune to be born in the Empire State (our native State, as most enterprising men were,) which in a great degree accounts for the milk in the coconut.

We proceeded from this point towards Nebraska City, and three miles out from Mr. Buck's we encountered the Weeping Water, a stream much like our Pappion and about the same size, but why it was given the mournful cognomen of "Weeping Water," we cannot tell, for we are inclined to the opinion that a more clear, pure, beautiful, merry little stream does not run in Nebraska. We had to ford the stream, the water being about 4 feet deep, and about six inches of the same was found rushing into our carriage and complacently drenching our clean linen and store clothes we had in a carpet-sack, in case of a dance or a parade. Once on the top of the banks of the Weeping Water, and on the broad prairie, the ribbons were drawn tightly over Kitty and the Silver Grey, and we went charging along the line, reaching Nebraska City about five in the evening. As we descended the hill north of the City, we were struck with the reflection that less than four years ago we approached the city on the same road, three small frame buildings, a few claim cabins and a six by nine old block house, was then all of the new Star City of the South Platte. Now you behold its magnificent brick blocks, its large brick churches, with spires pointed heaven-ward, its long business streets crowded with live men, teams, carriages and emigrant wagons. In fact Nebraska City is a place of no small pretensions; besides her growing greatness, she has enjoyed since it was laid out for a city, which has already produced astonishment, she has now the re-shipping of the U. S. supplies, and an army of workmen, teamsters, overseers and laborers that go with the trains across the plains. Here, too, live many distinguished individuals, such as Speaker Decker, Judge Bradford, Hons. M. S. Reeves, Campbell, Hale, and others—men we

read about in the Omaha Nebraskan—Hon. John F. Kinney, formerly Chief Justice of Utah Territory, the eloquent Holley, S. F. Nuckols, the monarch king of South Platte, also the eccentric J. S. Morton.

We called upon Mr. Reynolds of the News and found him on the square and flourishing like a Green Bay horse. On our departure from said city we drove to the handsome residence of Hon. J. S. Morton. After taking a sharp and piercing glance at the bottom of a glass from Morton's side board, we passed to the rear of his residence to get a bird's-eye view of his celebrated trotting horse, "Pete," we think he called him. Pete is a stallion, coal black, five years old, and estimated at \$1,000; goes in a harness—less than three minutes—and for beauty and carriage, we never saw his superior. Morton is evidently proud of Pete, as he well may be, for the horse will do his master's bidding in most every intelligent maneuver except we do not remember to have heard him speak a single word.

As we were about to start we noticed a small specimen of the canine species which we admired, and on proper presentation by said Morton of this young "Dorg," according to law and custom, we seized said animal and stowed him away under the carriage seat, making a music box of the same until we arrived at Plattsmouth again. Here we found our friends, true to the promise they had made us on our downward trip, had gathered up the ribbons, silks, and crinolines for a social dance, which if we are any judge, was properly had at the Platte Valley House, Mr. McCarty proprietor. This was the scene of our pleasure and with nimble feet and a hearty good will we whirled thro' the giddy mazes of the dance, and the house was redolent with life, wit, and beauty, and all persons, things and considerations were enveloped in the Terpsichorean art.

"And when music rose with its voluptuous swell, Soft eyes looked love to eyes that spoke as well."

Strength and manhood were led willing captives, chained to the chariot of beauty, whilst its wheels revolved to the exhilarating strains of music, the bright lights shone resplendent upon the assembled pride of Plattsmouth.

The next day we found our way to this place and in due form baptizing the dorg with an euphonious name, of all which the world will be advised in due time. S.

The Attempted Assassins of Louis Napoleon Guillotined.

Orsini and Pietri, who attempted to assassinate Louis Napoleon, were guillotined on the morning of the 13th of March, in the presence of a vast concourse of people and 5,000 troops. De Rudio's punishment was commuted into penal servitude for life, and it was reported that he was to be sent to London to give evidence against Dr. Bernard, who had been fully committed for trial. The feeling manifested by the spectators is thus described by an eye-witness:

"Such had been the alarm of the Government that an entire division was had out, under the personal command of a general officer, who assisted at the execution. Fifteen thousand soldiers were ready to act on the slightest signal, and every issue and outlet was guarded as in times of insurrection. In my estimation, between 90,000 and 100,000 men of the Fasbours, workmen in blouses, were assembled in the spaces and in the streets near the Place de la Roquette; but they were so grouped by the way in which the troops were stationed, that they could see little or nothing. When the dead, dull sound of the falling of the knife upon Orsini was heard, it was responded to by an immense but smothered reply of 'Vive la Republique.' I cannot properly describe this; it was like a gigantic mutter; it was not a cry or a shout, but it sounded like the breath of the sigh of thousands of human beings. It was well appreciated by the authorities, for, on the instant, the soldiers raised the most disorderly clatter imaginable, struck their horses, so as to make them plunge and kick, shook their arms, and contrived that the popular whisper should be stifled without being literally put down. But the words 'Vive la Republique' must have been clearly audible to every one. I purposely went home on foot, threading my way slowly through the groups wherever I found them thickest. I am bound to admit that everywhere I heard expressions of sympathy and admiration for Orsini, whose crime seems utterly forgotten, while only the effect produced by his courage and generosity toward his associates remains. Pierri's name I did not hear once. The attitude of the populace was, I should say, extremely menacing, for it had a hate and a thirst for vengeance seated too deep for words. All the remarks I heard were made in an under tone, as though a police spy were dressed at every instant."

The following account of the behavior of the convicts on the morning of their

execution, is by a correspondent of the London Times:

"Precisely at 6 o'clock Orsini and Pietri were awake from their sleep by the governor of the prison, who announced that their last hour was come. The Abbe Hugon, chaplain of the Roquette, and the chaplain of the Conciergerie, were present. I do not profess to give particulars of what passed within the walls of the cell, but I may observe that the wretched men appeared calm when the news, which could not have taken them by surprise, was announced to them. I am assured that they heard mass and received the communion with respect, if not devotion. Soon after they were taken to the room called 'de la toilette,' for the change of dress. It is not large. On the present occasion it contained, besides the chaplain and the governor of the prison, about 30 persons, the principle among whom were the greffier, or clerk, representing the Court of Assize and the usher, or usher, who was charged with reading the sentence on the scaffold. The remainder were apparently police agents. When the convicts entered the chambre de la toilette they were placed at different extremities of it, with their backs turned to each other. There were two assistant executioners—one from Rouen, the other from Caen—besides him from Paris. These lost no time in preparing the convicts for the scaffold. During the dreadful operation Orsini remained calm, and though he was not so loud or contradictory as during his trial, Pietri was somewhat excited. The strait waistcoat interfered with his gesticulations, but he hardly ceased speaking for a moment. When the executioners were pinning him he asked that the fastenings should not be drawn too tight, as he had no intention of escaping. The cold touch of the steel on his neck, when the scissors cut of his hair so as not to interfere with the guillotine, for an instant appeared to thrill him through; but he recovered himself when he found that his beard remained untouched. He thanked the executioner for letting him die with his face as became a man. When the hood, to which the veil which covers the features of the paricide is suspended, was put over his head, he is said to have laughed, and attempted a joke about the figure he must cut. At this moment he turned his head and perceived Orsini; he saluted him gaily, and asked how he was getting on. He was interrupted by Orsini who was himself undergoing the same operation with the same sang froid as if he were under the hands of a valet dressing for a party, with the words, 'Be calm, be calm, my friend.' Pietri's tongue ran on, however. The assistant proceeded to strip him of his shoes, for in persistence with the sentence they were to proceed to the scaffold bare-footed. The man appeared to hesitate, but Pietri encouraged him to proceed, and assisted him as much as he could, still talking. The operation being over, and the toilette complete, he turned toward the turkey and asked to be allowed to embrace him. This request was complied with. The moment of moving now came, and the Abbe Hugon cried out, 'Courage! O! I am not afraid—I am not afraid,' he said, 'we are going to glory,' and in a sort of feverish excitement he repeated to himself, 'Calvary, Calvary.'

Orsini was, on the other hand, as calm and tranquil, as his fellow-convict was excited. He spoke little, but when the governor of the prison and some of the officers approached him he bade them in a low tone of voice farewell. The turkey of his self announced to him in a tone of regret that his last moment was come. Orsini thanked him for his sympathy. His hair was also cut away from his neck, but he underwent the operation without flinching. At the moment when the hood was placed on his head, his face, which up to that moment was calm and impassible, became flushed for a moment and his eye lighted up.

The prison clock struck 7; before the last sound died away the door leading to the scaffold opened as if of itself. The Abbe Hugon entreated Pietri to profit by the few moments still left to collect his thoughts and assume a calmer attitude. He promised to be calm, but said he should chant a patriotic hymn; and it is said he actually began to sing the well-known 'Mourir pour la Patrie.' Learning on the Abbe Hugon he mounted the fifteen steps of the scaffold, still repeating the verses of the song.

Orsini was supported by the chaplain of the Conciergerie, and his calmness never abandoned him for a moment. When he appeared on the platform it could be seen from the movement of his body and of his head, though covered with a veil, that he was looking out for the crowd, and probably intended addressing them. But they were too far off. The greffier then directed the usher to read the sentence of the Court condemning the prisoners to the death of arricides. The usher, who was an old man, over 60, was evidently much moved at having to perform this duty, and he trembled as much from emotion as from cold as he read the document, which no one listened to.

After this formality was terminated Orsini and Pietri embraced their spiritual attendants, and pressed their lips on the crucifix offered to them. They then gave themselves up to the headman. Pietri was attached to the plank in an instant. He was executed first. The moment his veil was raised, and before his head was laid upon the block, it is affirmed that he cried, 'Vive l'Italie—Vive la Republique!'

Orsini was then taken in hand. His veil was raised, and his countenance still betrayed no emotion. Before he was fastened to the plank he turned in the direction of the distant crowd, and, it is said, cried 'Vive la France!' It was but five

minutes past 7 o'clock when the second head fell into the basket. A cold shudder ran among those whose attention was fixed upon what was passing on the scaffold, and for an instant there was a deep silence. It passed off, however, very soon. When all was over men went to their work, and parties who had gone together to the spot from distant quarters of the town hastened home to breakfast. The morning was becoming clearer every moment. The troops began to move as if about to leave the ground. The guillotine was lowered and taken off; the crowds gradually thinned; some few groups still lingered about the spot; but the cold was bitter, and the snow began to fall, and in a few hours the place was deserted.

The number of deaths from the attempt for which these wretched men suffered now amounts, I am assured, to fourteen.

Death of Thomas H. Benton.

Old Ballian, the coadjutor of Clay, Webster and Calhoun, is no more. He died at Washington, about 12 o'clock, April 9, of cancer of the stomach. We extract the following from the St. Louis Republican: The telegraph apprised us, about 4 o'clock last evening, of the death, in Washington City, of THOMAS H. BENTON. No other particulars were then communicated, except that both Houses of Congress, in token of respect for the deceased, immediately adjourned. This was an appropriate testimony of respect inasmuch as Mr. Benton was a member of the Senate for thirty years, and afterwards served two years as a Representative from the St. Louis District. The eminent condition of his health had to some extent, prepared the public mind to hear of his death, but it occurred at a somewhat earlier period than was expected. His disease has been termed cancer of the stomach, and a vigorous constitution could only be interposed to postpone, not prevent his dissolution. In the 74th year of his age, calmly, with a full knowledge of his condition, he "put off this mortal coil," and even now he is at rest.

There are those who knew Col. Benton long, in his social and political relations, who will be summoned and will do ample justice to his memory and character. For nearly forty years he filled a large space in the public eye. Even before his election as Senator from Missouri, he was not unknown to fame; but it was only after his election in 1820, that his name became associated with the names of the most illustrious men in the country. His Senatorial career, for two-thirds of that period, was undoubtedly a brilliant one, but that brilliancy was not such as we all accord to Clay, or Webster, or Calhoun, or Barton, or any of those Senators who are regarded in the public esteem as his contemporaries. He was a man of great labor, of indomitable will, impelled in every action of his life by a desire of success, and tasking every faculty of his mind to bring about that result. What he has done for Missouri, what he has done for the country, what he has done for his own fame, is matter for the historian, and we shall not encroach upon his province. Undoubtedly, in the last years of his public career, he aspired to a higher position in the general esteem than attached to him while he was a partisan Senator, and one common voice has accorded to him high praise for his devotion to the Union of these States.

In his family relation, Col. Benton, is said to have left behind him all the reserve, if not the austerity, which distinguished his political associations, and this will be regarded as a beautiful trait in his character. Looking to his death as likely soon to take place, it is understood that he directed in his will that his remains should be laid beside those of his wife in Bellefontaine Cemetery, and this wish will, of course, be complied with. It may be some days before his body is received in this city for interment.

Congress.—The Bill for the admission of Minnesota passed the Senate, after a short debate, on the 7th, by a vote of 48 to 3. The bill provides for two Representatives.

The Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Republican, alluding to the financial matters now before Congress, says: "The House, in my opinion, will not even agree to appoint a committee of conference, and thus insist upon their amendment. The Senate is equally firm, and between these contending, and if you please, stubborn elements of opposition in the two houses of Congress, Kansas will fall like a brick from a carrier's hod, to the ground."

The Deficiency Bill was defeated in the House, on the 9th, by a vote of 124 to 106.

The Steamer Sultan, on her way from St. Louis to New Orleans, was burned to the water's edge, on the morning of the 9th, five miles above St. Genevieve. From twenty to thirty lives are supposed to have been lost.

DAILY ST. JOSEPH GAZETTE.—We are in receipt of the Daily St. Joseph Gazette, published by Pfout & Cundiff. It makes a respectable appearance and is well filled with the latest news, which shows an enterprising spirit that is truly commendable. Those wishing a St. Joe paper cannot do better than to subscribe for the Gazette. Terms, \$5 per annum for the Daily and \$2 for the Weekly edition.

Local & Territorial.

FARMERS ATTEND.—The members of the Agricultural Society of Sarpy county, are requested to meet at Bellevue, on Saturday, the 24th inst at 1 o'clock P. M. Important business connected with the interest of the Society, will be transacted, and a large number of seeds, from the Patent Office, will be distributed on that day. Let every farmer in Sarpy county attend.

An address will be delivered before the Society by B. P. Rankin. By order of the Executive Committee W. H. C. OK, Sec.

The Presbyterian Church, now being erected in this city is under the supervision of D. E. Reed. The walls are built of concrete, and are 15 inches thick, and when completed will make a substantial and elegant building. Mr. Reed has had considerable experience in this style of building, having erected the Mission house at Blackbird—a very large building, costing \$20,000—R. v. Wm. Hamilton's commodious dwelling, in this city, and we believe other smaller ones. Mr. R. prefers the concrete wall to brick, as they are more substantial when completed, and can be built from 6 to 8 cents per cubic foot cheaper.

The well intended for the use of the Court House, on Elk Hill, has been sunk to the depth of 127 feet, but as water has not been reached and the prospects being doubtful, it has been thought best to relocate the Court House. It will now be built on the corner of Mission Avenue and Hancock Street.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.—The Steamer EMIGRANT, made her first trip to this point Saturday evening, April 17th, and discharged passengers and freight.

The fleet and elegant steamer FLORENCE arrived at our landing, Sunday, April 18th, and discharged a quantity of freight. Her officers have our thanks for late St. Louis papers.

The MOSES GREENWOOD from the Ohio River, arrived Monday, April 19th, and discharged freight.

The ASA WILGUS came up on Monday afternoon, April 19th, and discharged a large number of passengers for our city. Papers received.

Richard Hogaboom has been appointed Post Master at Larimer City, in this County. He is a reliable Administration man, and his appointment gives satisfaction to the constituents of Judge Ferguson, who was instrumental in procuring Mr. R.'s appointment.

Read Wm. Rawitzer's advertisement. He advertises with us to-day his stock of fruits are fresh and have just been received.

C. C. Goss will return on the Omaha, now due at this port.

RETURNED.—The Steamer Asa Wilgus, landed at our levee, last Monday, several old residents, who have been east during the winter. Among them we noticed C. K. Mark, who since he left Nebraska, has secured a better half, and now returns with her, in the meridian of the honeymoon, to his western home, in our beautiful city. May he and his good lady, have an agreeable time in their new home, on the west-rn bank of the mighty Missouri.

We also noticed P. Widman, who has been sojourning in the Empire State several months. He looked hale & hearty, and we presume will soon be at his old post, ready to put on the fancy touches, to the many new buildings, that has gone up, in his absence.

S. M. Pike has sold his stock of goods to Samuel B. Wright, and will leave in a few days for Nebraska City, where he will join the supply trains going to Utah. In what capacity he goes out we are not informed; but believe he has had a first rate berth tendered him. Mr. Pike is a right clever fellow and we wish him a pleasant trip, and a quick return.

The Wyoming Telescope has been changed to the Wyoming Post, and is now edited by Cressy & Hathaway.—J. Dawson, editor of the Telescope having retired from the concern. Cressy & Hathaway are both practical printers, and have already made great improvements over their predecessor. The columns of the Post are well filled with local news, a feature that is too often neglected by country editors. The Post deserves a liberal support, and we have no doubt the citizens of Wyoming understand that it is for their interest to keep the "gudgeons" well greased. Give us the "locals," "Minnesota," and we shall take pleasure in reading the Post.

FOR UTAH.—Several young Men of this city have, and are about to leave here for Utah, going with the supply trains, which leave Nebraska City in a short time. They will probably be absent from six to eight months. Among them are M. W. Stoddard, D. Hoag, Geo. A. Oliver, William Clark, waiter at the Barton House, last summer, Henry C. Chubuck, Ed. F. Brown, John W. Crosby, and several others whose names we are not familiar with. The two last are brother typos, who print r-hike, have set out for a little adventure, and purpose treading the golden sands of the Pacific ere they return. May they find their trip across the Plains, more pleasant and profitable than sitting type.

SAMUEL SKYDER, Sr., is about to erect a large two-story building, for a dwelling, on Franklin Street. Also a large store-room on the same street.

WM. ROBINSON has resumed work on his two-story brick dwelling, and it will be completed ere long.

LAND SALES IN NEBRASKA.—The Washington Union of the 2d, says:

"In our columns this morning will be found the President's proclamation No. 602, for sales in Nebraska, to commence on Monday the 6th day of September next. The quantity of lands to be offered at these sales amount in the aggregate to 2,258,970 acres, as follows:

At Brownville, 905,685 acres; at Nebraska City, 593,636 acres; and at Omaha City, 653,634 acres."

Rev. Moses F. Shinn, of Keokuk station, has been selected as financial and building agent for the Simpson University, at Omaha, which is to be commenced this coming summer.

The Plattsmouth Ferry landing has been removed to the upper end of town, making it much more convenient crossing than heretofore.

We learn from the Florence Courier, that on Sunday, the 1st inst., the house of Benjamin Bates, living near that place, was entirely consumed by fire, together with all the furniture, a lot of potatoes, and his farming implements.

Thomas McDonald, Esq., has received the appointment of Postmaster of this place, vice Jacob Dawson. The office is removed to Mr. Wasson's store.—Wyoming Post.

NEW POST OFFICES.—LeCount Lambert has been appointed Postmaster at Syracuse, in this county.

S. Batschelder has been appointed Postmaster at Delaware City, in this county.—Wyoming Post.

FREE LABOR TRIUMPHS IN MISSOURI.—Oliver D. Filley, Free Labor candidate for Mayor of St. Louis, has been elected by upwards of 1,000 majority. The vote was as follows:—Filley, 7,024; Taylor, 6,000. Wimer, the Free Labor candidate for Mayor, last spring, was elected by a plurality vote, lacking 282 votes of receiving a majority.

At a recent municipal election held at Jefferson City, the whole Free Labor ticket was elected by an average majority of sixty votes.

At Florissant, George Aubuchon, was elected Mayor of that city by twenty-seven majority.

GREAT HURRICANE AT BENTONVILLE, AR.—25 LIVES LOST.—A brief note dated at Bentonville, Arkansas, on the 2d inst., informs us of a terrible disaster: that town. On the 27th March, a dreadful hurricane passed over the place, by which nearly every house in town was blown down, and twenty-five lives were lost. The wounded could be heard for twenty-four hours after the storm, under the ruins of the buildings, where they suffered the most intense agony. No other particulars of this accident have reached us.—St. Louis Republican.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.—Connecticut has gone largely Republican. Buckingham is elected Governor by 3,000 to 5,000 majority over Pratt (Dem.). The Republicans have both branches of the Legislature by a large majority.

A POTATO FARMER.—Mr. Geo. Shoecraft, of White Pigeon, St. Joseph County, Mich., is likely to become the greatest pot to raise, digger, and merchant of the country. Last year he raised 316 acres of potatoes. Now we notice that he is contracting with the farmers throughout that and the adjoining counties, for any number of acres of potatoes to be grown by them and delivered at the different railroad stations. He contracts for not less than five years.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION AT JEFFERSON CITY.—We learn that Jas. B. Gardner, Esq., was elected Mayor of Jefferson on the 5th inst. The contest was between Emancipationism and Democracy. Mr. Gardner, we understand, is a "free labor" man, an avowed emancipationist and free-soiler. We presume that his equipment at this had much to do with his success.—St. Joe Gazette.