

Historical Society

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FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1905.

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Society News.

Miss Clara and Elta Boose will entertain the Presbyterian Kensington this evening.

Mrs. B. I. Reavis entertained the married ladies Kensington and their husbands yesterday evening.

Misses Kate and Bess Heacock and Sara Hutchins are in Humboldt to attend a house party at the home of O. A. Cooper.

Mrs. Ed Fisher entertained a number of her friends at a Kensington on Wednesday afternoon. The event was of a very pleasant social nature.

Ed Fisher and wife entertained L. C. Mauger and wife, Rev. W. T. Cline and wife and H. P. Custer and wife at a six o'clock dinner Tuesday evening.

Florence Wylie was hostess at the regular meeting of the H. S. M. club on Saturday evening. A fine program was rendered and the members were very pleasantly entertained.

The Methodist ladies Kensington spent Tuesday afternoon at Dr. Fast's grove north of town. In the evening they served their husbands and gentlemen friends to a first class picnic supper.

On Tuesday evening about twenty-five of the young people of the Presbyterian church planned and executed a pleasant surprise on W. Hill Griffin and Miss Mabel Moore of Kansas City who are guests at the home of Rev. Griffin. The plans were well carried out and resulted in a general good time for all who were there.

Wednesday being Mrs. Margery Grants sixty-seventh birthday, her children and grand children planned and carried out a most pleasant surprise for her. They brought their dinner with them and all enjoyed themselves. Mrs. Grant was the recipient of a number of very useful presents.

On Friday afternoon at the home of John Wilson in this city was a very pleasant lawn party in honor of Miss Bessie's eleventh birthday. About thirty-two little folks were present and enjoyed the afternoon. Many pretty gifts were presented Bessie by her little friends. A nice lunch was served.

The members of the Epworth League of the M. E. church completely surprised Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fisher at their home Monday evening. The evening was most pleasantly spent. They presented them with a large water painting. The picture is a beauty and was painted by Mrs. Mason.

Lillith A. Mead and Glen M. Campbell were married on Tuesday at Council Bluffs, Iowa and will be at home after July 25 to their friends at 2734 Caldwell St., Omaha. The bride was raised at Salem in this county and has many friends here to wish she and her husband much prosperity and happiness.

At the residence of S. B. Hoffnell in Falls City, Neb., July 19, 1905. Henry W. Walker and his wife Mrs. Martha Walker celebrated their golden wedding. The aged couple are among Richardson county's honored and respected citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker were united in marriage in Johnson county, Ky., near Prestonsburg, July 19, 1855 where they resided for a few years. 39 years ago they came west and located in Northwest Kansas and later to this county where they have resided for nearly thirty years.

The following children and grandchildren were present, Mrs. S. B. Hoffnell, husband and

daughters, Mrs. J. H. Nunns and two daughters, William Walker, and J. D. Walker, Hannibal, Mo., A. A. Walker and family, Salem, and J. P. Walker, Hoisington, Kansas. Following were the guests: Mrs. Owens, Harrisonville, Mo., D. H. Hoffnell and wife of Rulo, Nat Auxier, wife and daughter, Sam Auxier and wife, John P. Walker and sons of Verdon, Jos Pritchard and wife C. N. Pritchard and wife, Mrs. Gardner and son Harry, Rev. and Mrs. W. T. Cline, and Mrs. Wentworth of this city, W. L. Turman of Denver, and Lydia Marsteller of Salem.

At the noon hour the guests were gathered about the tables spread with good things when Rev. Cline in a short address presented Mr. and Walker \$84 and a gold berry spoon the gift of children and friends. All enjoyed a delightful day. Mr. Turman and wife favoring the guests with several appropriate selections. All united in wishing Mr. Walker and wife many happy years to come.

On Wednesday evening, in honor of three young ladies who are visiting her, Nelle Cain entertained about thirty-five of our young people. The evening was most pleasantly spent in games and music. Elegant refreshments were served.

Maud Graham entertained at a Kensington on last Friday afternoon in honor of Miss Wetherald of Hebron, and Mrs. W. A. Stuart of Okmulgee, I. T. A special feature of the occasion was the musical numbers, piano selections being rendered by Misses Graham and Schoenheit and vocal selections by Miss Rothenberger of Leavenworth. Dainty refreshments were served and the afternoon was very pleasantly spent by a large number of guests.

What the Moon Saw.

One of the summer maids who is visiting one of our society girls was sitting in Henry Smith's park with a local youth Sunday night. The girl was singing, in a low, rich contralto, "draw me nearer," and the man in the moon knows the youth was obedient. (This is no joke.)

Falls City Humane Society.

Falls City has organized a local humane society with the following officers: H. C. Davis, president; Rev. E. E. Haskins, vice president; Mrs. Ida Ransom, secretary-treasurer. C. Hershey was elected humane officer. Suitable by-laws were adopted and the membership fee placed at fifty cents per annum. No doubt much good work will be accomplished.

Destroyed the Fish.

On Tuesday when Geo. Abbott made a visit to Crystal lake, the artificial body of water on his place northwest of the city, he found the banks strewn with dead fish, including hundreds of the fine large catfish and croppies with which the lake had been stocked. All indications point to the fact that the lake had been visited during the night by a party or parties unknown and that dynamite or other means had been used to destroy the fish. Mr. Abbott is justly incensed at the outrage and offers a reward of \$25 for the arrest and conviction of the offenders. A strict watch will be kept in the future and it will be a sorry day for the vandal, should he be caught in the act of again attempting to molest the fish in Crystal lake.

Henry Patterson was down from Humboldt township on business Wednesday.

WHAT PUBLIC SPIRIT HAS DONE FOR FALLS CITY



STONE STREET, FALLS CITY IN 1866

The above picture is a drawing made from an old photograph in the possession of Anderson Miller that was taken on Stone street in the summer of 1866. The Tribune attempted to secure a cut of the photograph, but it had so faded with years that it was impossible. Consequently the above drawing was made as is here reproduced.

The hotel building on the left of the picture is the old Minniek hotel, which was situated where the Richardson county bank building now stands, and was for many years the political and social center of the little village. No old resident of Falls City can speak of the "good old times" without repeated reference to the old hotel. In and about this old building clusters many memories precious to those who knew it in the days of its popularity. It was the home of courtships and the scene of marriage celebrations. Within its walls the tables of the law have been broken as murder was at one time committed there. The building next to it was the old Joe Burbank store whose chief clerk was George E. Dorrington, now of Yuma, Arizona.

The first building on the opposite side of the street was the newspaper office of the old "Broadaxe" which led a somewhat precarious life and was edited at different times by Ned Burbank, Judge Dundy and others of the then prominent citizens. This old building was situated about where the G. E. Hall shoe store now stands. The next is the little brick law office of Judge Elmer S. Dundy, afterwards U. S. district judge for the district of Nebraska. This was the only brick building in the city and was the pride of all the hardy pioneers who called Falls City their home. The next building, the chimney of which can be seen through the trees, was the home of David Dorrington, familiarly known as Squire Dorrington. This homestead was situated where the buildings now occupied by D. W. Sowles, Chas. Hargrave and P. S. Heacock now stand. The building adjoining the Dorrington homestead was the law office of Isham Reavis, this building was constructed jointly by Mr. Reavis and Augustus Schoenheit and was considered very unpretentious in those days. This building occupied the site now occupied by V. G. Lyford's store. The old "white saloon" comes next and immediately beyond that is the residence of Bob Cain. The building farthest down the street was the palatial residence of Dr. Hannu which stood on the present site of Samuel Wahi's store. This residence was the finest in the state and was always pointed out to the occasional visitor as a sight of great interest. The building remained on its original location until Geo. A. Abbott disposed of it to Mr. Wahi, when it was removed to the south end of town. We have found no one who remembers the taking of the very interesting picture owned by Mr. Miller and from which the above drawing was made. There are several figures about the old hotel, but time has so faded the photograph that identification is impossible. The faces are as dim as is the memory of many of those who made Falls City their home in 1866. Some who lived here at that time are still with us, but the vasty greater portion have traveled other roads, some to the east, some to the west and many, very many to the country "from whose bourne no traveler returns."

If this paper should reach the eyes of anyone who remembers that taking of the picture, we would greatly appreciate information concerning it. Falls City in 1866 bears little resemblance to the present city. It is hard for the generation now reaching middle life to appreciate the fact that the town ever looked like the above picture. Not a sidewalk in town, no street save where the wagon wheels had cut into the buffalo grass. No luxuries, very few comforts was the lot of those who made the present beautiful city possible, and yet, withal, to hear the tales of forty years ago, one would imagine that it was a pretty good old place to live, that life contained about its usual proportion of joy and sadness, and that those who then lived here had hopes of greater things to come with the passing year, "even as you and I."

Married.

Miss Grace Belpere, of Rulo, and Max Guesser, of Nebraska City, were united in marriage Wednesday at high noon at the home of the bride's parents, C. L. Belpere and wife.

At the appointed hour the happy couple marched into the parlor to the strains of the wedding march played by Vesta Vanvalkenberg, and stood under an arch of ferns and carnations, that had been decorated for the occasion, and the ceremony performed by Rev. Kincaid of the south M. E. church. The bride wore white silk and carried a beautiful bouquet of white roses. The groom wore the conventional black. After the ceremony all partook of a sumptuous wedding dinner. The presents were numerous and beautiful. The young couple will make Rulo their future home. Their many friends wish for them a happy future.

John Joseph Injured.

John Joseph is nursing a very sore finger which he is carrying as the result of a peculiar accident. He was attempting to lower an awning when his finger was caught in the joint of one of the rods. A heavy gold ring which he was wearing was crushed and the sharp edges thereof badly lacerated the flesh of the finger. It was found necessary to have a jeweler remove the ring before a surgeon could dress the injury. The wound has proven very painful but ultimate recovery is certain.

Storm at Rulo.

One of the worst rain and wind storms of the season visited Rulo Wednesday afternoon at 2:40. The rain fell in torrents and the wind was almost a hurricane. Great damage is done to the corn and apple crops.

Barada Liquor Cases Again.

Judge Wilhite's time was again taken with the Barada liquor cases yesterday. The case of Arthur Nixon was dismissed for the lack of material evidence. Jim Smith was bound over in the sum of \$250, which bond he gave. Barada as a prohibition town is not a howling success.

A Severe Storm.

On last Thursday evening the whole of Richardson county was visited by a severe electrical storm and considerable damage has been reported. The storm seems to have reached its worst in the vicinity of Shubert, and in that neighborhood several wheat stacks were burned and in the town lightning struck a church and a livery barn. W. B. Boyd, the Salem liveryman, had sent two teams to Shubert that day and three of his best horses were killed when the bolt struck the barn. Jim Metz, of this city, had several head of horses in the barn at the time, although none of them were killed.

Mary Sinclair and Mrs. Will Williams of Preston were in town Wednesday.

Mabel Clark arrived from Chicago this week for a visit with Mrs. Tom McKiever and family.

James McKiever was in Hiawatha Wednesday visiting friends and attended a base ball game and a band concert.

W. E. Kentner came up from Coffeetown, Kansas Wednesday and will spend a few weeks with parents in this city.

Fred and George Cleveland walked down to the muddy Wednesday after the storm and in a few hours returned with fifteen pounds of fine fish.

Mrs. John Wertz of Nashville, Michigan, relative of Mrs. W. S. Korner is visiting in this city. Mrs. Wertz was accompanied by her son and his wife.

Mrs. Chas Sherman of Kankakee, Ill., and Mrs. D. C. McLeod of Council Bluffs spent a part of last week in this city with their sister, Mrs. H. C. Davis. The three sisters left Saturday for Hamburg Iowa where they spent a few days with relatives.

Harry Cain, Carl Sedlameyer, Guy Crook and Fred Cleveland, jr returned Wednesday from the Missouri Lakes. Fred and Guy have been there more than a week and returned with twenty five pound of fine black bass. They report more than a pleasant time.

Judge Babcock Dying.

Word reached here Thursday that Judge A. H. Babcock, of Beatrice, was in a dying condition. Judge Babcock was taken ill at Auburn during the June term of court and was compelled to adjourn the court and return to his home. He has gradually grown worse until his heart is affected and his demise is a question of a few hours. The many friends will learn of his condition with great sorrow. He was a just judge and a christian gentleman.

A Trio of Accidents.

On last Sunday Mrs. G. W. Inskeep had the misfortune to fall down an open cellar-way and the result was a number of very severe and painful bruises.

The infant son of Henry Fehr, a farmer living near this city, fell from a high porch last Saturday and sustained a broken arm. Surgical aid was summoned and the fracture reduced. The little fellow is doing as well as could be expected.

While engaged in her household work last Saturday morning Mrs. Wm. Boose had the misfortune to get a quantity of concentrated lye in her eyes. The injury resulted in considerable pain, but the ill effects are not expected to prove permanent.

DIED.

Miss Eulea Friend died at her home in Lawrence, Neb., last Saturday the cause of her death being consumption. Miss Friend will be remembered by many as a teacher at Ursuline convent in this city. About two years ago she went to mother house at York where she took the veil and was yet serving her novitiate when she was summoned to higher duties in the house of eternal life. During her residence here she impressed all who knew her, by her piety and christian character and the tidings of her death will bring to many, the most sincere regrets.

Albyn Frank, a son of M. A. Frank of this city, died in Omaha last Sunday, his demise having been caused by chronic stomach trouble. The deceased was well known to most Falls City people, having been raised here and having made frequent trips to this city to visit his father. The funeral was held in Omaha on Wednesday and Mrs. Frank and son, Tom, went to Omaha to attend the services. Mr. Frank was at one time deputy clerk of the federal court under Judge Dundy and had occupied other positions of similar responsibility.

Grandma Mellhorn, as she was known to her friends, passed peacefully away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George A. Schock, Thursday, July 13, 1905, aged 76 years, 8 months and 14 days.

She is survived by four children and they were all present at the funeral, Martin, coming from his home in Denver, Colo., Charles Madaies from Fairview, Kan., and Mrs. George Schock and Mrs. Kate Schock residing here. There are four living grandchildren, Mattie, Jennie and Fred Schock and William Mellhorn.

Grandma Mellhorn was a member of the Brethren church and the pastor, Rev. E. E. Haskins conducted the funeral services at the home of George Schock on Saturday and interment was made in Steele Cemetery.