

Ancient Records Show How to Have Been the Practice.

NEBRASKA VETERANS BANQUET

The Celebrated Organization Meets Around the Festive Board—Full Report of the Proceedings—Affairs in the Lodges.

Ancient Scotch Authority

Interest in the legendary history of operative masonry was excited in 1901 by the publication by Brother Matthew Cooke of a fac-simile of the "M.S. History and Articles of Masonry" (A. D. 1490), preserved in the British museum.

"In other than Brother Hushba's hands the appearance in the manuscript of the name 'shee' might have been all the veterans in Nebraska present and to see the list of the members would be to see the list of the members who were to be initiated.

Robert C. Jordan, inspector general of the southern jurisdiction A. S. R. conferred the sublime degrees of the lodge of Perfection on several candidates at Grand Island last night, assisted by a number of prominent Masons.

Macfarland lodge No. 135 was instituted at Armada last week by D. G. C. Omar L. Green of Kearney.

A request for application blanks for the organization of a new lodge has been received from Juniata, Adams county.

The new lodge No. 135 is to be organized at Juniata, Adams county, Nebraska, with 250 members.

Grand Patriarch I. P. Gage of Fremont, who visited Omaha encompment at its next meeting on the 10th inst.

At a meeting of Omaha lodge No. 529, Knights of Honor, January 20, the following officers were installed for the present year.

The Nebraska Veterans' Association held their annual meeting in Freemasons' hall last Thursday evening.

A short business meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. L. S. Anderson, on Wednesday night at G. A. H. hall on Fifteenth street.

The entertainment of Vesta chapter announced for February 19, has been changed to February 7, on account of the 19th being Ash Wednesday.

After the business had been transacted the party adjourned to a banquet given at the residence of Mrs. L. S. Anderson.

Union Pacific chapter will give a reception and musicale at its lodge room in the Continental building tomorrow evening.

VIEW OF THE PACIFIC COAST

Three Undertakings Boasted of by Santa Clara County, California.

AS THE GREATEST ON EARTH.

The Leland Stanford, Jr. University—Lick Observatory—The New Alameda Quicksilver Mines—An Enchanting Country.

Omaha Men Alured.

The holiday number issued by the San Jose (Cal.) Mercury, which, by the way, is a very attractive and creditable publication, contains a large amount of information which from its generally interesting character is entitled to the widest dissemination.

THE LELAND STANFORD, JR. UNIVERSITY.

When during last year the cable informed us that Leland Stanford, the great Russian railroad king, had expended a million francs for the establishment of a school throughout Russia for the education of Hebrew children, the intelligence created a sensation.

The aim, as set forth in the grant made to the trustees, is to establish a university with such seminary of learning as shall make it of the highest grade, including mechanical institutes, museums, galleries of art, laboratories and conservatories, together with all things necessary for the study of agriculture, horticulture, forestry, and mechanical training, and the studies and exercises directed to the cultivation and enlargement of the mind.

The grant includes the Palo Alto ranch in Santa Clara county, twenty miles from San Jose, California, and from San Francisco, the country home of the donors and one of the finest private properties in the United States, comprising 7,200 acres, 300 of which is a beautiful park and garden.

The corner stone of the university was laid by the people of the city on May 14, 1887, since which time a force of 500 men has been steadily employed on the buildings, roads and parks under the supervision of some of the ablest architects and engineers in the country.

The building, which is valued at \$1,300,000, the university buildings are being erected. Other donations of land are the Gridley ranch of 21,000 acres, one of the great wheat farms of California, valued at \$1,000,000, and the Wind ranch, 50,000 acres, planted with millions of grape vines, the largest vineyard in the world, valued at \$2,500,000.

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IMPERIES

The way of the transgressor is hard, yet good people tell us it is the easiest thing in the world to follow.

MORTGAGING FURNITURE.

When a poor man who is out of work needs money to whom shall he apply for it? He is perhaps acquainted with very few people who will loan him a dollar or two, and his associates are generally those who are like himself, in hard circumstances. But it is a case of necessity and financial aid must be had. He reads the papers. Ah! here is a column of advertisements—"money to loan on chattels," etc. He can mortgage the furniture and straightway he goes and does it. He pays very dearly for his loan sometimes, yes always, for the rate of interest required is an exorbitant one, ranging from five to twelve per cent per month.

A reporter made a tour of some of the leading money offices a day or two since. He was a poor man and needed money for the same wished to place his earthly effects in the hands of some one who would advance him the sum required to keep the great wolf of hunger from crossing the threshold.

The first application was made at the office of a firm whose sign "money loaned on chattels" attracted his attention. The gentleman stated his errand to the manager. That worthy eyed the applicant steadily for a moment and remarked:

"How much do you want?" "What have you got in the house?" The numerous articles including a \$75 bed room set, a heating stove, cook stove and a fine folding bed, carpets, etc., were enumerated and the length of time they had been in service explained, after which the cheerful informant that the whole business wasn't sufficient to warrant a loan of \$75 was offered. But if the stuff was in good condition \$25 would be put up in interest free for three months, or \$50 would be \$1.25 per month, which, by the way, was the kindest offer of the day. But 5 per cent a month is not a bad rate for the lender. When did the applicant have more money? The next day he would call and see the stuff, and thanking him for his generosity, the impecunious scribe bowed himself out and took the elevator in the Paxton building to see another man.

This man was willing to service out a cabinet organ and a sewing machine, offered an oil painting or two and was informed that he could get the loan, provided every thing was as represented. He also made arrangements for three months in the same way.

The "manager" of an exchange with a rifle shot of the corner of Sixteenth and Broadway was very particular about ascertaining all about the stock of goods to be mortgaged. The date of each purchase was required and the condition of each article carefully noted. They were not very particular about the additional notes. On a loan of \$75 they required a note for \$80 due in ninety days and two notes for \$5 each due in thirty and sixty days. They would give an extension provided they thought it safe.

A south Thirteenth street firm would make a loan "sometime" provided the security was good and a request for a list of things to be placed in pawn would be taken by one of the firm. In this case the interest charged was \$2.50 for the first month and \$5.65 for each succeeding month. But the furniture must be good.

An investment company which is located far enough to lend a loan to enable the borrower to walk to their meals, offered the money on the list submitted at a rate of \$7.50 for the first month and \$6 for each succeeding month, \$15.50 for 90 days, \$75.50 interest for one year, and yet some people write books entitled "How to Get Rich" or something of that sort.

The manager of one concern was very anxious regarding the health of one applicant. He inquired if he was ever sick. How many children there were in the family, and sadly shook his head as he remarked that the risk was too great, the borrower might die before the loan was paid off, and in that event the taking of furniture from a widow would be indeed sad. But when informed that a \$3,000 policy on the life of the applicant was in force he brightened up and asked in what company. The answer was entirely satisfactory, for an order of a loan at 5 per cent per month was made.

The four ended here, and the would-be borrower for \$75 retired convinced that when a man needs money it is safer to

AFTER THE POUND OF FLESH.

The Rates Asked by Man Who Loan Money on Chattels.

ONE HUNDRED PER CENT A YEAR

The General Rate is from 5 to 8 Per Cent Per Month But if You Really are in Need They Will Make it More.

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ATTEND BARR'S

Great Linen Embroidery and Muslin Underwear

Sale to be continued until February 1st.

Special Prices During This Sale.

Wm. Barr Dry Goods Co.

16th and Douglas Sts., Omaha.

OMAHA MEDICAL & SURGICAL INSTITUTE

TRUTH AT THE WELL'S BOTTOM.

To Be Shown by a New Electrical Photographing Appliance.

There is likely to be a revolution in the treatment of oil and gas wells, says the Pittsburg Chronicle.

Mr. F. P. Cobham of Warren, Pa., is in the city perfecting an invention which, should it prove successful, will revolutionize the entire system of well fishing.

The invention is nothing less than an electrical appliance for photographing the interior of oil or gas wells at any depth. By the aid of the invention it is expected that perfect views can be obtained of the bottom of the well showing exactly the effect of the torpedo on the oil or gas bearing horizon. It is also intended to show the exact position of drilling tools lost or fastened in a well.

The invention is now almost practically completed, but considerable security has been observed throughout by everyone connected with the machine. To get an exact description of the invention at present is impossible, yet the people interested freely admitted that the end to be reached is that described.

Mr. Cobham was seen by the Chronicle and refused to have anything to say on the subject. He is an old oil driller, and this idea occurred to him after spending considerable time in fishing for lost tools. He has interviewed several oil firms in the city, and one of the most prominent electricians has taken hold of the matter and expects to have a machine completed in a few days. Recently this electrician tested the invention on the well in question and says that as soon as the machine is completed a public trial will be given at some well in this neighborhood. A prominent oil man was spoken to on the subject. He said: "I do not quite understand the principle of this invention you speak of, but if your idea of the matter is correct, why it will be a great thing for our business. No one has ever yet seen the bottom of an oil well, that much is certain. Now if we can get a machine that will bring the bottom of a 2,000-foot well up to the plain view of the people at this end of the hole, why, the benefit to be derived from it is incalculable. If it were possible to locate our tools should anything happen to them, and if even this were all it would do the saving in time and expense would be great."

At the Exposition Universelle, Paris, 1889.

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AND THE CROSS OF THE LEGION OF HONOR, WAS CONFERRED UPON NATHANIEL WHEELER, The President of the Company.

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