

The New Herman

(Continued from Page Fourteen.)

traveling along on the high road to prosperity. With the coming of another season Herman people will miss the welcome shade of the many trees which were gratifying to the eye and a source of comfort to those who stopped beneath their shade. Houses can be built in a day and stocks of goods can be purchased in hours, but nature is not so much of a hustler as the genuine American when he starts out to show what he can do. When the necessities provided for another year will see this thrifty people start in to renew the work of beautifying the town and the people of Nebraska, who

enjoys it. He undertakes to instruct the Almighty. He—"How long would you have a preacher pray?" "In public, of course?" "In public, certainly." "Well, if he can't round everything up in three, four or five minutes he'd better use the printed forms. It's considerate, of course, for the preacher to wait till the congregation has sat down before he says 'Let us pray,' because people have got out of the habit of either standing up or kneeling down in meet of the churches, and, in my opinion, it's the unconscionably long prayers that have driven them to it. Ever hear Moody pray?" "Yes." "Then you must have noticed he never

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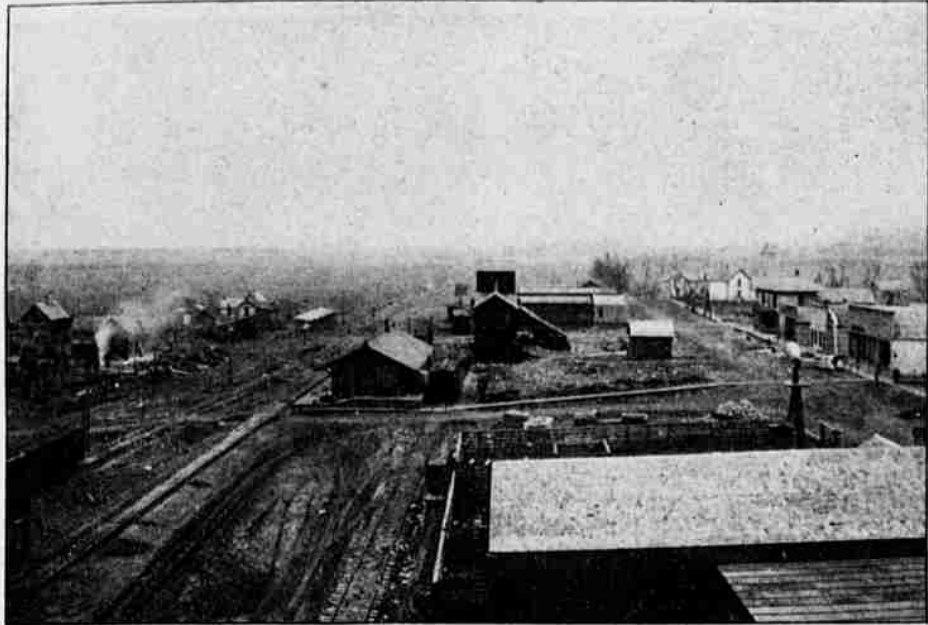
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THE NEW HERMAN—MAIN STREET AS IT APPEARS TODAY.

have witnessed their gallant struggle against adversity, will wish them all kinds of success and that they may "All live long und broser."

Fulfilling His Mission

The congregation had been dismissed and the church was nearly empty, relates the Chicago Tribune, but the tall and somewhat angular man, who had sat in one of the middle seats and listened attentively to the sermon, had had so much trouble in getting into his overcoat that when he stepped into the aisle the preacher, having shaken hands with nearly everybody else, was waiting for him. "You are a stranger, I think?" said the preacher. "Yes, sir, I presume I am. I have been in your church before, but not lately." "I thought not. I seldom forget a face. I should know you if you did not come again

wastes any time in preliminaries. He plunges into the midst of things at the start, and it seldom takes him longer than two minutes to file his petition. Moody, I believe, is counted a fairly successful preacher—" "Mr. Moody is hardly what you would call a regular preacher—" "Maybe that accounts for his—" "May I ask how the sermon struck you?" "Well, it was a nice little sermon, a comfortable, reassuring sort of little sermon, well written, read with all the graces of oratory possible in a written sermon, the sentiment was lofty, the voice was natural—I'll do you the justice to say you didn't put on the 'clergyman tone,' as if there were any peculiar sanctity in throwing an artificial and unnatural strain on your vocal organs—and it was about the proper length. I can't undertake to say how long a man should preach, for that depends on the quality of the sermon." "You will pardon me for saying, my friend,

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THE NEW HERMAN—IN THE PATH OF THE TORNADO.

for a year, but I hope to see you oftener than that." "Thank you. You are very kind. You will not take it amiss, however, if I say it's doubtful?" "Sorry to hear that. I hope there was nothing in the sermon to offend you?" "Oh, I never take offense at anything. It isn't worth while. Still, I have some rather positive ideas about things. I don't suppose, now, that you have the least idea your opening prayer was fifteen minutes long?" "You astonish me. Was it?" "Fifteen minutes, by the watch." "That is too bad. If it occurred to you to hold a watch on me I dare say you didn't join with much heartiness in the exercise, and so far as you are concerned I may consider that prayer wholly wasted." "I hope not. I learned a lesson in patience, and I didn't yawn, as the brother sitting next to me did." "You were not so absorbed in devotion, then, as to prevent you from noticing the brother yawning?" "Well, I shouldn't have noticed it if he had not made such an effort to suppress it. But he couldn't. It had to come. You can't expect an audience to maintain a devotional strain for a whole quarter of an hour. It's different, of course, with the minister. After he has fairly begun, and the fervor of extemporaneous oratory comes upon him, he

that you speak with considerable assurance, not to say conceit." "Oh, that's all right. Don't apologize. I have a younger brother who tries to preach. I have to talk to him the same way sometimes. Well, good day. Glad to have met you." He looked at his watch, shook the ministerial hand with much heartiness and walked out of the church with his chin held a little above the level.

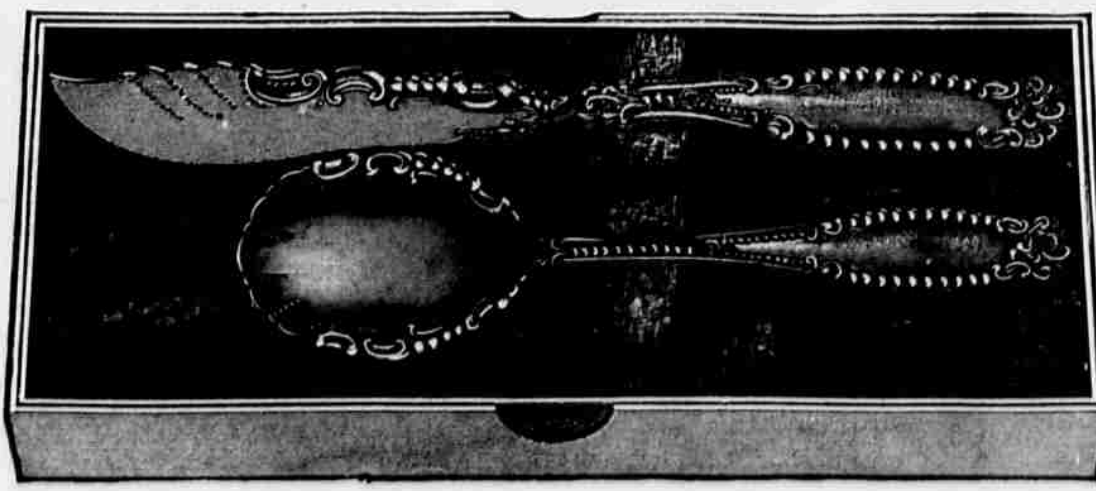
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