

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY.

BY D. C. BLOOMER.

No. 7.

(Continued from page 286.)

THE first county board of supervisors assembled in Council Bluffs on the 7th day of January, 1861. It was composed of the following members: Kane township, R. L. Douglass; Macedonia, C. Voorhis; Grove, Wm. Elswick; Knox, Josiah True; Center, J. B. Layton; York, L. J. Childs; Boomer, Robert Kent; Rockford, A. Jackson; Crescent, David Dunkel; James, Wm. Lyman; Silver Creek, John Bratten. R. L. Douglas was elected chairman, and E. F. Burdick, clerk of the district court, acted *ex officio* as clerk.

The board gave early and earnest attention to the condition of the county finances. W. D. Turner, the treasurer of the county, having filed a report of the receipts and payments made by him as such, the board declared it to be insufficient, and required him to file an additional report by the third Tuesday of February following, and also by that day to file additional bonds, with approved security, to the amount, in all, of \$17,000. On the day named Mr. Turner filed the required report, or what purported to be the one required, and at the same time resigned his office as county treasurer and recorder. This was accepted, and Thomas Tostevin appointed to fill the vacancy. In June following Mr. Tostevin made a very full and complete exhibit of the financial condition of the county. He continued to hold the office, by successive elections, for the six following years, and discharged his duties with fidelity and correctness.

The total assessed valuation of the real and personal property in the county was \$2,066,820. A tax of two mills for state purposes, four mills for county revenue, and one mill

for schools was levied. At the September session, the office of sheriff was declared vacant by the acceptance by Dr. Craig of an office in the military service of the United States, and J. P. Williams was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The number of pupils of school age in the county was reported this year at 1,745, of which number 564 were in the city of Council Bluffs.

The proclamation of President Buchanan for a day of national humiliation and fasting, on account of the troubles in the South, was duly observed in Council Bluffs by a union meeting of all the religious congregations in the city. At a conference meeting held in the evening of that day, the Rev. Mr. Goolman created quite a sensation by declaring, that in his opinion, the great sin of the nation was slavery, and that it was in consequence of its existence that the trouble of the nation had been brought upon the people. A great many people opened their eyes in astonishment, that a clergyman should venture to express such an opinion.

A branch of the Church of Latter Day Saints was organized in Council Bluffs on the 4th of January, 1861, and forty-six baptisms are reported in two weeks. This organization acknowledges Joseph Smith, son of the original Joseph, as the true successor of his father, and head of the Mormon fraternity. It repudiates Brigham Young and polygamy, and is still in a prosperous condition.

At the winter session of the State Agricultural Society the first premium was awarded to Mr. D. B. Clark, of this county, for the best crop of wheat and oats in the state.

In February wheat was quoted in Council Bluffs at sixty-five cents, corn thirty cents, and oats thirty-five cents per bushel. Butter twenty-five cents per pound, and slaughtered hogs at four dollars and fifty cents per hundred.

During the month of February there being a good supply of snow, the citizens of Council Bluffs and Omaha amused themselves with sleighing parties. First there came a team of six horses drawing a sleigh load of ladies and gentlemen from Omaha, making a fine show as they rode gaily

through the streets. A day or two after the livery keepers on our side of the river rigged up a team of eight horses, drawing the largest and finest sleigh in the place, and this, filled with a fair representation of the beauty and gallantry of Council Bluffs, crossed the river on the ice, and marched in high glee through the streets of Omaha. Next day a led team of twelve horses, drawing a load of men only, from the west side, paraded through the streets of Council Bluffs, followed by a sleigh drawn by six horses, and another drawn by four mules, the two latter being filled with ladies. After riding over the city they drew up in front of the Pacific House, where a large crowd had assembled, who received their Omaha friends with cheers which were duly returned. Preparations immediately began to return this last visit in a proper manner, but the melting of the snow stopped the fun.

In the fall of 1860 the Rev. John Hancock resigned his pastorate of the Presbyterian Church in Council Bluffs, in which he was succeeded by the Rev. William McCandlish. Religious services were held in a room in Keller's frame building, on Broadway, during the winter and following spring, and until a frame building had been erected on Pearl street by the congregation, which was done during the following summer. This winter the now almost universal practice of holding church sociables was introduced into the city. These occasions were almost uniformly well attended. Tableaux and musical entertainments were frequently introduced, and the *Nonpareil* notices one of unusual interest of this character, held at the residence of Mr. John W. Ross in January.

During this winter Mr. Rue's select school was changed into a seminary for young ladies, and was continued as such for about three years.

At the city election held in March, 1861, the following officers were elected: Mayor, L. W. Babbitt; recorder, W. G. Crawford; marshal, C. P. Smith; assessor, J. M. Palmer; aldermen, B. Winchester, J. P. Williams, W. L. Biggs, N.

S. Bates, H. C. Nutt, John Hammer. The opposing candidates for mayor and recorder were C. E. Stone and James Craig. All the officers elected, with one or two exceptions, were democrats. At the school election, held on the same day, Samuel Clinton was elected president, J. A. Jackson, vice president, Joel Tuttle, secretary, C. W. Boyers, treasurer, and E. McBride and J. B. Lewis, directors. Four teachers were employed this year in the city schools, and about two hundred and fifty pupils were in attendance upon them. Toward the close of the year a high school was organized, and placed in charge of Mr. J. C. Lininger, and proved highly successful.

April 26, 1861, William W. Maynard entered upon his duties as postmaster of Council Bluffs, to which office he had been appointed by the president. He held the office for eight years.

The land officers in Council Bluffs were changed May 20th, when Frank Street became register, and D. C. Bloomer, receiver. The former held the office for eight years, and the latter is still in the discharge of his official duties.

July 13, the annual meeting of the Council Bluffs & St. Joseph Railroad was held in Council Bluffs. The report of the board of directors was quite encouraging. It stated that the grading of the whole road in Iowa had been put under contract, and fully completed in Pottawattamie, and partly in Mills, counties. Timber for twenty-five thousand ties had been delivered. The following board of directors were elected; viz: J. A. Jackson, J. T. Baldwin, Horace Everett, J. P. Casady, Samuel Knepper, Edward Gilliland, W. C. Sipple, and S. F. Nuckolls.

In September the annual session of the Methodist Episcopal Conference for Western Iowa was held, for the first time, in Council Bluffs. The occasion brought together a large number of clergymen of that denomination, and the people generally freely opened their houses for their accommodation. Bishop Scott presided over the meetings of the conference,

The agricultural fair was held as usual, this month. It was not, however, very largely attended. The minds of the people were so much occupied with the incidents of the great war drama going forward at the south, that they had little time or leisure to give to anything else.

On the night of the 9th of September the Ocean Wave building was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. It had been noted for many years, far and wide, as the worst liquor saloon and gambling den in this region, and very few were found to mourn its loss.

On the 12th of October Edward Chapman, a resident of Fremont county, was shot and instantly killed, on the streets of Council Bluffs, by William Kelsey, an officer in a detachment of the first Nebraska cavalry, under command of Captain Patrick, then on the march through the city. Chapman's wife had followed Kelsey to the city, and intended, as supposed by the former, to leave the state with him. The parties met on the streets and an altercation ensued, resulting in the shooting and death. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Kelsey, but the sheriff was prevented from serving it by the military officer in command, and Kelsey left on the following day with his company. The affair excited a great deal of interest, and caused not a little excitement at the time.

For county officers this year the democrats made no nominations, but a "people's ticket" was put in the field and generally supported by them. The republicans also omitted to make any formal nominations, but with the war democrats formed a "union ticket," which proved successful. Gov. Kirkwood and J. F. Wilson, candidates for governor and congress, visited the county and addressed the people during the canvass. The result of the election on some of the principal officers was as follows: Governor—Kirkwood, 405, Merritt, 189, Samuels, 186. Congress—Wilson, 404, Neal, 359. Representative—William W. Wilson, 461, Wm. Garner, 329. County Judge—Jackson, 461, Crawford, 329. Sheriff—J. P. Williams, 406, David Dunkle, 264.

N. W. Edwards, 113. Treasurer—Thomas Tostevin, 491, C. W. Boyers, 301. For superintendent of schools, James B. Rue and F. A. Burke had each 396 votes, but the former, on casting lots, got the office.

On the 8th of October the stables and wheat stacks of James Weston, of Kane township, were destroyed by fire in the night time. Circumstances pointed strongly to Miss Sylvia Gardner as the person who had communicated the fire to the property. She was arrested, indicted, and finally, after a prolonged trial, found "not guilty." Other criminal trials growing out of the affair succeeded, and it was several years before the names of the parties connected with it disappeared from the district court.

On the 9th of November Mr. J. W. Morse, since so well known here, first made his appearance in Council Bluffs. He came for the purpose of making arrangements for extending a line of telegraph across the state, and he was, therefore, well received by our citizens. Only five or six weeks were necessary to complete the work, and on the 18th of January, 1862, a telegraph office was established in the city, and on the 28th of that month the *Nonpareil* began the issue of a daily edition, which, with a few interruptions, has been continued to the present time.

The commencement of the war this year excited intense interest in our county, as elsewhere. The sentiments of the people were far from unanimous on the subject. The county had always given a decided democratic majority, and beside, was largely settled by emigrants from Missouri and other southern states. These latter especially, were unwilling to sanction a war which seemed to them wholly unjust and unnecessary. Col. Babbitt, who conducted the *Bugle*, had a natural horror for abolitionists, and believing it to be an "abolition war," he denounced it in unmeasured terms. As early as the 6th of March, the *Bugle* contained an article, under the head "Where Shall Iowa Go," which commenced in these words: "We believe that the compact which holds these states together is irremediably broken, and the

Confederacy will be, before many years, divided into four republics." And it then goes on to argue, that Iowa shall cast its lot with a Western Confederacy, having its outlet to the ocean by the way of the Mississippi river and the Gulf of Mexico. The *Bugle* did not advocate this position long, but insisted that the only way to preserve the "Union as it was" was through peaceable means. It denounced all interference with slave property, and to the last opposed the emancipation policy of the president. But strong as was its opposition to the war, yet it must, in justice to the *Bugle*, be said, that its columns never contained anything to discourage enlistments in the army, or throw any real obstacle in the way of the government, further than a general opposition to its political course and tendencies. In looking over its files now before me, there is nothing to show that it rejoiced over Confederate victories, or was at all anxious to spread before its readers the record of defeats that befell the Federal armies from time to time. But its denunciation of the administration and its measures were bold, decided, and unremitting to the last.

On the other hand, equally determined supporters of the government were not wanting in the county. The republican party was unanimous and decided in sustaining its measures, and when the first battle was fought at Sumter, were aroused to intense activity in their efforts. The national flag was cast to the breeze from their offices and places of business. Early in the spring, when two companies of United States troops passed through the town, the occasion was seized to tender them an ovation, and a dinner was given to the officers and men of the detachment in the largest hall in the city. When the raising of volunteers for the army began the work was aided in every available way, and no occasion was suffered to pass by without some manifestation of this feeling. Nor were these demonstrations alone confined to republicans, but a large number of their former political opponents, now known as "war democrats," gave them their warm assistance, and a new party, known as the

"Union party," composed of the two elements, was soon formed, which, at the first opportunity, was enabled to gain the political control of the county and elect the county officers and representative to the general assembly. The first collision between these opposing elements occurred at a meeting called in June, 1861, to make preparations for the celebration of the Fourth of July. At this meeting a resolution was offered, inviting the citizens of the county to unite in a union celebration of the national anniversary. To this an amendment was offered by J. D. Test, to invite all citizens to join in the celebration, leaving out the word "union," which it was then said was used in a party sense. An earnest and exciting debate followed, the amendment was rejected, and the original resolution adopted. The preparations then went rapidly forward for a free barbecue and dinner for all. Col. Babbitt as mayor of the city wrote a long letter to the chairman of the committee of arrangements declining to attend the celebration on account, as he alleged, of its partisan character. He however, afterward, and when a resolution had been passed inviting all citizens who were in favor of the preservation of the Union, without reference to the means by which that preservation could be secured, to attend, changed his mind, and advised all persons to unite in the exercises. The celebration went off successfully. The number in attendance was very large, and the procession, headed by a detachment of military, under Capt. English, was, in all respects, quite imposing. Orations were delivered by J. D. Lockwood and W. G. Crawford. The former was a bold, outspoken defence of the administration in carrying on the war, and was received with rounds of applause by the audience assembled. From this time forward the position of parties and individuals was well understood, and the Union people of the county did not fail to put forth their utmost efforts to uphold the hands of the government. The city of Council Bluffs, however, at the elections held in 1861, 1862, and 1863 continued its devotion to the democratic party, and elected its

candidates over those of the Unionists by considerable majorities.

The first military company organized in the county was the Council Bluffs Guards, consisting of about fifty members. Its officers were elected on the 11th of April, and consisted of G. M. Dodge, captain, John F. Hopper and C. C. Rice, lieutenants, and Ira Hoffman orderly sergeant. The Council Bluffs Union Cavalry was next organized, and elected its officers on the 14th of the same month. S. H. Craig was captain, J. T. Oliver and P. A. Wheeler, lieutenants, and F. M. Davenport, orderly sergeant, of that company. A few weeks later the Council Bluffs Flying Artillery came into existence, with about forty men on its rolls. Samuel Clinton was captain. In May, William H. Kinsman visited the capital for the purpose of procuring arms and accoutrements for these organizations. He was partially successful, and on the 6th of June returned, bringing with him a six-pound brass piece, with a supply of sabers and other articles for the artillery company. It was about midnight when this first real engine of war arrived in town, drawn by the horses of the Western Stage Company. Kinsman planted his cannon on Broadway, in front of a small building occupied by a German cigar maker. The discharge which followed not only thoroughly aroused the sleeping citizens, but smashed in the windows of the honest German, and brought him and his wife to the front in a state of utter amazement and bewilderment.

Steps were soon after commenced for the enrollment of a regiment of volunteers in western Iowa for service in the Union armies. Council Bluffs was designated as the place of rendezvous for the different companies composing it. Company A was organized in Mills county, mainly, with Wm. A. English, captain. Company B was raised almost entirely in Council Bluffs. I find in the adjutant general's report the names of forty-five men and officers belonging to it from this county. Its officers were elected on the third of July, and it went into quarters on the tenth of the same

month. S. H. Craig was captain, and P. A. Wheeler and Wm. H. Kinsman, lieutenants. As the company contained so large a number of our own citizens, its record through the war was watched with a great deal of interest by the people of Pottawatamie county. It was presented with a handsome flag before leaving for the field by the ladies of Council Bluffs. It was commanded successively by Captains Craig, Wm. H. Kinsman, and George E. Ford. When the 4th was reorganized in 1864 as a veteran regiment, the following named members of company B re-enlisted for another term of three years, or during the war; viz.: George E. Ford, George W. Lloyd, Christian Weirich, Henry Bradshaw, C. A. D. Clarke, Lawrence Doran, Levi Jones, Henry C. Layton, James D. Lewis, John W. Nesbitt, Curtis O'Neil, George W. Tucker, Jonathan West, Isaac V. Maynard. Of the members of this company, two were killed in battle, twenty-one wounded, and four—Maynard, Reed, Jones, and Ennes—were captured, and died in prison at Andersonville. The other companies of the regiment were from the following counties: Company A, Mills county; company C, Guthrie county; company D, Decatur county; company E, Polk county; company F, Madison county; company G, Ringgold county; company H, Adams county; company I, Wayne county; company K, Page county. On the 9th of July Col. G. M. Dodge, who had been appointed to the command of the regiment, returned home. He was received by companies A and B and the Council Bluffs Flying Artillery, and escorted in handsome style to his residence, where he made a neat speech, thanking them for their kindness, and complimenting them on their soldierly appearance. A few days later the headquarters of the regiment was established on an elevated tract of land about a mile and a half south of the city, and named in honor of the governor of the state, "Camp Kirkwood." This point for the next five or six weeks became the center of attraction, not only for the residents of Pottawatamie county, but of all parts of western Iowa. The camp was established and maintained in true

military style, and daily drills of the men kept up. Col. Dodge was untiring in his efforts to bring his regiment up to a high state of efficiency.

On the 30th of July a detachment of twenty-five men from each of the eight companies then in camp, together with the flying artillery, made a forced march to the Missouri line, on a report that the state was about to be invaded by a large body of "secesh." No enemy was found, however, and after proceeding as far east as Page county, the force returned to camp tired and dusty with this first taste of the hard work yet in store for it. Early in August the regiment left for the south, and was mustered into the service of the United States at Jefferson Barracks, on the 15th of that month. It would be a pleasant duty to trace the history of this regiment during the war, but this our limits will not permit. It took an active part in the stirring battle scenes in the west, "won immortal honors" under Curtis, at Pea Ridge, was ordered by Gen. Grant to inscribe "First at Chickasaw Bayou" on its banner, was under Grant through the entire Vicksburg campaign, marched from thence to Chattanooga, fought at Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and Ringgold, was under Sherman through the Atlanta campaign, and marched with him to the sea, and thence to Washington, and finally, after having fought in more than thirty battles, was honorably discharged from the service at Louisville, Ky., on the 24th of July, 1865. Its record of casualties gives 119 killed, or died of wounds received in battle, 240 died of disease, and 309 were discharged for disability. In addition to those in company B, the 4th regiment also contained fourteen men from Pottawattamie county enlisted in other companies.

The Second Iowa Battery of Light Artillery went into quarters at Camp Kirkwood on the 4th of July, 1861, and was mustered into the service of the United States on the 8th and 31st of that month, its last section having left the county with two companies of the 4th infantry on the 27th, all under command of Capt. Craig. The officers of the bat-

tery were: Nelson T. Spoor, captain, and Charles T. Reed, second lieutenant, of Council Bluffs; Joseph R. Reed, of Dallas county, and David Watling, of Cincinnati, were senior and junior first lieutenants. Eight privates were in the ranks from this county when it entered the service, and eleven recruits were afterward added from Pottawatomie. This battery did good service during the war, and was finally discharged at Davenport, August 5, 1865.

Company H of the 15th Iowa infantry was enlisted at Council Bluffs in the fall of 1821, by D. B. Clark. The officers of this company, elected in November, were D. B. Clark, captain, Stephen W. King, first lieutenant, both of Pottawatomie county, and John A. Danielson, of Harrison county, second lieutenant. Twenty-four non-commissioned officers and privates of this company were enlisted in Pottawatomie county. It suffered severely at Shiloh, a large proportion of the officers and men being either killed or wounded. Before the battle closed, owing to the sickness or disability of all the other officers, the command devolved on Sergeant Edwards, who was soon after commissioned captain. When the regiment was veteranised the following men of company H re-enlisted for a second term: N. W. Edwards, E. W. Crawley, Joshua Gilbert, A. Heaghney, Otto C. Hoffman, Levi J. Laflesh, Wm. Moorhead, Benton T. H. Marshall, Frank N. Martin, John D. Slocum, Amos A. Van Winkle, Joseph Whaley. The record of this company shows four killed and thirty-three wounded in battle.

During the winter of 1861-2 William S. Burke enlisted eighteen men in Pottawatomie county for company H of the 17th Iowa infantry, of which company he was elected and commissioned first lieutenant. Four men from this county were mustered in company K of the same regiment.

John C. Lininger, who had previously been engaged in teaching in Council Bluffs raised twenty-five men in the summer of 1862 for company E of the 23d regiment, of which he was afterward made captain. All were from this county. Willham H. Kinsman, of Council Bluffs, com-

missioned lieutenant colonel of the 23d regiment August 2, 1862, and colonel September 19, 1862, and commanded it until stricken down while bravely leading his regiment at the battle of Black River Bridge. He was a man of indomitable perseverance and energy, a true patriot, a vigorous writer, and by his many sterling qualities had endeared himself to a large circle of friends. His death, which took place on the 23d of May, 1863, from wounds received in battle, was seriously lamented.

Joel Tuttle, another young lawyer, who entered the service from Council Bluffs, died of typhoid fever, in St. Louis, in May, 1862. As second lieutenant and adjutant of the 2d Iowa, he led his regiment at Donelson, and also participated with high credit in the great struggle at Pittsburg Landing. Spared on the battlefield, he yielded up his spirit to disease while in the service of his country. His loss was mourned by a large circle of attached and devoted friends.

Company E of the 6th cavalry was recruited mainly in Council Bluffs, and chiefly through the influence of William G. Crawford, Esq., who was prevented, on account of ill health, from entering the service. Twenty-five men of this company were from this county. It was commanded by Daniel F. Eicher, of Council Bluffs, during its whole term of service. Joseph C. DeHaven, of the same place, was one of its lieutenants. The company was raised in the fall of 1862, and mustered into the service in January, 1863. Two privates in company H of this regiment were also from Pottawattamie county. This county also furnished a number of men for other regiments: For company A, 4th cavalry, nine privates, enlisted in 1862, and for company B in the same regiment, one private. For company A of the 9th cavalry, one private, and company B same regiment, eight privates. In the first Nebraska cavalry, two privates in company E, one in company F, and four in company G.

The twenty-ninth regiment rendezvoused at Council Bluffs early in August, 1862, and remained in quarters at Camp Dodge, in the southern part of the city until the fol-

lowing December. Its officers were: Thomas H. Benton, colonel; William S. Grimes, surgeon; William W. Wilson, quartermaster; and Joseph Lyman, adjutant; all of Pottawatomie county; and the other field and staff officers were nearly all from western Iowa. Company A of this regiment contained one hundred and eight officers and men, who were residents of this county. Its first officers were: John P. Williams, captain, George A. Haynes and R. R. Kirkpatrick, lieutenants. Captain Williams was sheriff, but resigned in order to raise the company and enter the service. Ill health prevented his remaining with his regiment, and he was succeeded in the summer of 1863 by C. V. Gardner, who filled the office until the close of the war. The regiment did not leave Camp Dodge until December, when it proceeded down the river to Helena. It took part in several important engagements, those at Arkansas Post, Helena, and Mobile being among the number. Its last service was performed in Texas, and it was finally discharged at New Orleans on the 10th of August, 1865. Its list of casualties shows thirty men killed in battle, or died of wounds, two hundred and fifty-three died of disease, and one hundred and thirty-four discharged for disability.

Only one draft was made in the county during the war. This came off in Council Bluffs, on the 5th of November, 1864, when sixty men were drawn from Kane township, four from York, six from Knox, four from James, four from Walnut Creek, four from Silver Creek, four from Macedonia, two from Grove, eleven from Crescent, ten from Rockford, and ten from Boomer. The drafted men were speedily furnished with clothing, and left for the field on the 17th of the same month. They proceeded across the state to Davenport, thence to the armies in the field. A number were assigned to duty in the second and third batteries and in regiments raised in the western part of the state. Very few of them were either killed, wounded or died in the service, and they nearly all returned to their homes in the following year.

Caleb Baldwin, a prominent lawyer of Council Bluffs, acted as aid to Gov. Kirkwood in the early days of the war, and it was through his prudent management that the first volunteers were enlisted. He was succeeded by Henry C. Nutt, who acted as aid both for Gov. Kirkwood and Gov. Stone until the contest closed, and made an active and efficient officer. H. H. Field was provost marshal and deputy United States marshal for the county, and discharged his duties with zeal and fidelity.

Although the population of the county was small, and public feeling divided perhaps more evenly than in any other in the state, yet the patriotic instincts of the great mass of the people could not be suppressed. Every possible effort was put forth to aid the government in its efforts to maintain the Union. Large sums were voluntarily raised for the support of the families of volunteers who entered the service, which was faithfully distributed by committees appointed for the purpose. The county board of supervisors also made liberal appropriations for the same purpose, and also bounties to those who enlisted. The ladies were not behind the other sex in their patriotic endeavors. Early in 1861 a soldiers' aid society was organized, which held frequent meetings, and did a great deal of work in fitting out the companies of soldiers that left the county, and supplying them with needed articles after they entered the service. March 22, 1862, the soldiers' aid society was dissolved, and a branch of the "Army Sanitary Commission for Iowa" organized in its place, which continued until the close of the war. In 1864 a branch of the Christian Commission was also established in Council Bluffs, and these two organizations vied with each other in earnest efforts and liberal contributions for the boys in blue that were so nobly fighting the battles of the Union in the distant battlefields of the south.

In January, 1862, Messrs. A. J. Bump, from Kane township, and John Hatch, from Walnut, took their seats in the board of supervisors, being the only new members added

this year. On the 8th of the same month final payment was made to the Council Bluffs & St. Joseph Railroad Company, under the forty thousand dollar contract. An effort was made to sell the county stock in this road, but it proved unsuccessful. At the April session the old "Cottonwood Jail," so famous in the early history of the county, was ordered to be sold, and being purchased by the city of Council Bluffs, was used for some time as a "lock-up."

The number of persons of school age reported this year in the county was one thousand eight hundred, of whom five hundred and eighty were in Council Bluffs. The amount of money paid from the county treasury for support of schools was \$3,103.

The Southern Railroad made no progress this year. Its assets were reported to the meeting of stockholders at \$568,733.35. J. S. Andrews was continued as agent, and the old board of directors were nearly all re-elected in July.

The *Nonpareil* of January 25th, 1862, was filled with a long advertisement of mail route letting, and also a report of the county treasurer. The editor told his readers they might not think the contents very interesting, but he was of a decidedly different opinion — in fact, he regarded it as a "big thing." On the 1st of March, Wm. S. Burke resigned his position on the paper, to enter the array.

February 20th, the Union men had their first jollification and rejoicing over the news from the war, the occasion being the capture of Fort Donelson and surrender of a large confederate force.

March 15th, the annual election in Council Bluffs occurred, at which J. M. Palmer was chosen mayor; W. G. Crawford, recorder; C. P. Smith, marshal; C. W. Boyers, treasurer; J. L. Freeman, assessor; and J. B. Rue, John Dohany, H. C. Fredrickson, L. W. Babbitt, and J. B. Lewis, aldermen — all democrats except the last named. The school officers elected in Council Bluffs the same year were: Samuel Clinton, president; J. A. Jackson, vice president; C. W. Boyers, treasurer; J. S. Hooton, secretary; and J. B. Stutsman, director.

At this time (March, 1862), the price of wheat was quoted at 40 to 45 cents per bushel; corn, 15 cents; oats, 20 cents; hogs, \$2.25 to \$2.50 per hundred; flour, \$2.00; and corn meal, 35 cents. These prices remained substantially unchanged during the year.

The Missouri river was again very high this spring. Col. Test, Jesse Williams, and Bernhard Henn started in April to make the trip from Sioux City to Council Bluffs, but, on account of high water, could get no farther than Onawa by land. They therefore embarked at Decatur in a small boat, in which they came down the river to Council Bluffs. They described their voyage as having been perilous in the extreme, and Test declared that nothing in the world could induce him again to undertake river navigation on the Missouri in so frail a bark. For several days the operations of the ferry between Council Bluffs and Omaha were suspended in consequence of high water.

The flow of emigration to the west through the county this year was very large, and the merchants in Council Bluffs did a large and profitable business in supplying the emigrants with goods. The Salmon river gold mines were just then drawing thousands from all parts of the country to seek wealth in their auriferous deposits.

The steamer Florence arrived at Council Bluffs June 9, with nine hundred Mormons on board, all of whom soon after set out on their long journey across the plains for Salt Lake City.

In July, Captain Kinsman returned home for a few days, and addressed the people on the subject of the war, in front of the Pacific House. Other war meetings were held about the same time, and zealous efforts were made to fill up the quota of troops required from the county, so that a draft might not prove necessary.

Horace Everett was appointed this summer to the office of collector of taxes for this congressional district, under the new internal revenue law, and F. A. Burke received the place of deputy assessor for the county, which he continued to hold for several years.

August 30, the Pacific House stables were struck by lightning and entirely burned down, together with seven horses, a number of cows, and several carriages, and other contents.

In September, there was quite an alarm about Indian depredations in the country around and above Sioux City. A public meeting to devise means of defence was held in Council Bluffs, but nothing practical was done by it. Three companies of the 29th regiment, then at Camp Dodge, together with the artillery squad, marched north, and remained in the vicinity of Sioux City for several days, but finding the alarm had subsided, returned home.

In November, W. W. Maynard retired from the *Nonpareil*, and was succeeded by W. S. Burke, who had resigned his position in the army.

The office of sheriff of the county having become vacant by the resignation of J. P. Williams, in September, Mr. Cornelius Voorhis was appointed to fill the post for the unexpired term.

The political campaign was inaugurated in this county on July 12, by the democrats, who on that day held their county convention, and appointed Samuel Jacobs, Jesse Williams, A. V. Larimer, and William Garner delegates to the state and congressional conventions. The resolutions denounced "abolitionism and secessionism as twin enemies of our glorious Union."

The republicans met on the 16th, and appointed Thomas Tostevin, Frank Street, Thos. H. Benton, L. W. Ross, and W. W. Maynard delegates to similar conventions. Their resolutions were clear and decided in sustaining the national administration and the war.

Only one county officer was elected this fall—clerk of the district court—and for this office E. F. Burdick and J. S. Horton were independent candidates.

September 6th, J. A. Kasson and D. O. Finch, opposing candidates for congress, held a joint discussion in Council Bluffs. C. C. Nourse also addressed the people of the

county during the canvass. The election, which was held October 14, resulted as follows: Secretary of state—Wright (republican), 347; Sylvester (democrat), 382; for congressman—Finch, 384; Kasson, 348; district judge—Clinton, 488; Day, 246; clerk of the district court—Burdick, 452; Horton, 282.

The Rev. Philip McMahon took up his residence this year in Council Bluffs, as the first regular pastor of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Francis Xavier. This church was fortunate in securing at an early day, mainly through the wise foresight of Dr. P. J. McMahon, several valuable lots, for future use. On these a brick structure was erected in 1859, which was done principally through the influence of the Rev. Father Tracy, a zealous missionary priest, but it had been used for a school room and other purposes until this year, when, through the zeal of the pastor, seconded by the liberality of his flock and the citizens generally, the church was plastered and prepared for occupancy. It has been improved and enlarged in subsequent years, and is now occupied by a large congregation.

The other pastors of churches in Council Bluffs at the close of this year, were: Rev. J. H. Clark, Presbyterian; Rev. Harvey Adams, Congregational; Rev. J. W. Todd, Methodist; and Rev. Faber Byllesby, Episcopal. The congregation of this latter church had finished their small building on Pearl street late in the fall, having held a successful fair and concert to raise funds for that purpose.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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