

to unite our own states, and to extend our commerce. Secondly,—that a series of public meetings be immediately called, to recommend the peculiar advantages of the Platte Valley route, and urging Congress to appropriate money and means for its early commencement and completion. And that all proceedings of public meetings be sent to members of Congress, with the request that they present the same, and give all proper attention thereto. Then, Mr. Buckingham, of Ohio, and Mr. Fleming, of Indiana, ably addressed the meeting. And General Curtis, of Iowa, also addressed the meeting at much length, advocating the Platte Valley route, as central and national, and of easy adaptation to a rapid and permanent construction of the road. The address was, altogether, a masterly effort, combining important information, sound logic, and patriotic sentiment. Some other important matters connected therewith were also attended to.

This, as well as the two former articles relative to early history of Louisa county, without any assistance or suggestions, has been made from my own knowledge of occurrences and events relative thereto. But in case other persons may know of any matter connected with its early history that should be included, by reporting it, such matter can be included in article number four; but if none is reported, this is the end.

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HARVEY HATTON'S SERMON.

From the Unpublished History of Cedar County.

BY WILLIAM H. TUTHILL, TIPTON, IOWA.

As distinguished from the stated ministry of the orthodox churches in "Old Cedar," some singular specimens of illiterate preachers have from time to time appeared, and after a

brief sojourn, passed away, but their crude and often absurd views, had they been written out in their own peculiar phraseology, would, beyond a doubt, amuse if not instruct the reader.

One of them, known as Bro. Hinckle, remained long enough to organize a church in the southern part of the county, giving it the extraordinary appellation of "The Bride, the Lamb's Wife;" and although strongly suspected of being a renegade Mormon, succeeded in getting a small number of converts, among them a well-known resident of the county named Harvey Hatton.

Now, as Harvey was generally considered an idle, whiskey-drinking, Ishmaelitic personage, abounding in low cunning, whose character for honesty and probity stood somewhat low in the community, his sudden conversion could hardly be accounted for, unless the theory of John Finch was accepted, that as Harvey was bound over to court for assaulting and violently beating an officer who had attempted to arrest him, that fact might account for the milk in the cocoa-nut.

Be that as it may, court term came on, and the grand jury was regularly impanelled; but on the evening of the first day, and before they had fairly entered upon the discharge of their official duties, Harvey was announced to *preach* to the people of Tipton. A sermon from Harvey Hatton brought, of course, a crowded assemblage, in which appeared a goodly representation of the dignitaries of the court. Promptly at the appointed hour, Harvey made his *debut*, and after a preliminary prayer, characterised by exuberant fervency (reading a portion of scripture being omitted, for obvious reasons), gave as his text the conversion of St. Paul, somewhat shrewdly intimating that it was the type and forerunner of his own.

Of all the sermons in this sermonising land, this one of Harvey Hatton's may well be considered as truly original. He was exceedingly fluent and energetic, and his *Hoosier* language, coupled with his ludicrous misquotations from the sacred volume, were fully appreciated by his attentive hear-

ers. One of his unique renderings will long be remembered :
 " Paul ! Paul ! it is hard for you to kick agin natur."

This queer discourse produced an effect. The grand jury, sapient in their wisdom, concluded that it would be highly improper to indict a preacher who held forth with so much unction, and thus Harvey escaped scathless from the clutches of the law ; but, sad to relate, owing, probably, to his *natur*, from that time onward all his religious manifestations, by a curious coincidence, had entirely evaporated.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF NORTHWESTERN IOWA.

BY N. LEVERING, GREENWOOD, MO.

(Continued from page 282.)

The remaining three captives were forced to continue their weary and torturing journey across the dreary, snow-clad plains, which lay stretched out far beyond them, the sight of which, with the wailing of the chilling winds that came rushing over the hills, and sweeping the valleys, and moaning amid the leafless tree-tops around their camp-fires, as if to mock their suffering, and cause a deeper pall of gloom to encircle their grief-stricken hearts, shut out every ray of hope for escape. The heart bleeds and sickens, and frail humanity shudders, when we survey the suffering condition of these poor captives out on these boundless prairies, amid snow, and biting frost, and chilling winds. Those who have traversed the prairies of the north-west in the inclement weather that is common in that region in the rough month of March, can form a faint conception of the sufferings of these poor women, who were, in a measure, deprived of a sufficiency of clothing and healthy food ; but " He that tem-

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