

Bashan. He stamped, he raved, he foamed and frothed, he swore he would whip the Captain, and every "domed" officer and private in the company. He was ordered under guard, but to no effect. It was not until a late hour that, from exhaustion, he succumbed to Morpheus and slumbered away his wrath. These were some of the notable and brilliant feats and strategic movements of the guards, for which they were so justly renowned.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY.

BY D. C. BLOOMER, COUNCIL BLUFFS.

No. 3.

IN April, 1854, congress passed an act authorizing the judge of the county court of Pottawattamie county to enter six hundred and forty acres of land for the benefit of the owners and occupants of claims thereon. Judge Street accordingly, on the 10th day of May, 1854, entered, under this law, 80 acres in Sec. 30, and 80 acres in Sec. 31, township 75, range 43; and 240 acres in Sec. 25, and 240 acres in Sec. 36, township 75, range 44 — forming a square mile, and comprising within its limits nearly all of the old Mormon village of Kanessville.

The parcelling out of this tract of land to the several parties claiming the same, was, in some cases, a difficult undertaking, as more than one claim was not unfrequently made to the same lot. Mr. Thomas Tostevin, a native of the Isle of Guernsey, in the British Channel, but who had lived from his boyhood in the City of New York, came to the

place this spring and commenced the business of a land surveyor. He was employed by Judge Street to make a survey of the plat thus entered by him — a duty which he performed with great care — and the survey thus made was acquiesced in by a large majority of the owners of claims, and has since been recognized in all subsequent conveyances as the original plat or survey.

During the summer and fall, deeds were made by the county judge for nearly all the lots thus surveyed, but the lawsuits to which conflicting claims gave rise, engaged the attention of the courts for several years. Bayliss' Mynster's Jackson's, Stutsman's, and Mill's additions were comprised within the limits of the one mile square thus entered by the county judge; but several other additions were soon after surveyed — that is, in the latter part of 1854 — into city lots, and brought into market. Among these, was Grimes's addition, named from Hon. James S. Grimes, who was that year a candidate for governor, and during his canvass, visited the city and thus had his name affixed to a portion of the city plat. Hon. Samuel R. Curtis, and his friend, Judge Ramsey, of Ill., purchased a tract of land of Mr. S. S. Bayliss, adjoining the original entry, sub-divided it into lots and gave it their names; while still another tract was named Hall's Addition, from Hon. Augustus Hall, who visited the city during his canvass for a seat in congress. Beer's Addition was laid out and named by Mr. J. B. Beers, one of the oldest settlers of the county.

During the summer of 1854 a number of fresh arrivals are recorded, of gentlemen who have since become well-known in the history of the county. Among these, were Addison, Cochran, Horace Everett, Robert L. Douglass, D. C. Bloomer, Jeremiah Folsom, Wm. W. Maynard, Samuel Knepper, C. E. Stone, and others. All these purchased property within the new city and decided to make it their future home. Mr. Folsom brought with him a large flock of sheep, which he drove across the prairies from the state of Michigan. The sheep did not, however, prove a very

good investment. Wolves were then abundant in the vicinity, and their fondness for mutton was too great to render sheep-raising at all profitable.

Col. ^vCochran commenced operating in real estate — a business in which he has ever been noted for fair and honorable dealing. The legal profession was strengthened by the addition of D. W. ^vPrice, A. V. ^vLarimer, and R. L. ^vDouglass, who each entered upon the practice of the law during this and the coming year, winning for themselves honorable positions in the community. Early in the previous year Mr. Marshall ^vTurley had removed to ^vCouncil Bluffs, from Galesburg, Ill., and very soon began to take an active part in the affairs of the county. During the summer of 1854, he became the lessee of the Pacific ^vHouse. He occupied this position in October, when the writer of these notes first visited the place and had the opportunity of listening to the frequent disquisitions with which he entertained his guests, on the future greatness and glory of the metropolis of Western Iowa. Many, indeed most, of his predictions have since proved realities. Mr. Turley was, and still is, a racy and interesting talker, and his vigorous and original mode of expressing his ideas always makes him a favorite at all public gatherings of the people. The records of the patent office at Washington, also show him to be no mean inventor, as several useful inventions have been patented in his name.

An important addition was made to the medical profession by the arrival and permanent settlement of Dr. Emanuel ^vHonn, during the fall of 1853. He continued to reside in Council Bluffs and practice his profession until his death, which occurred in 1870.

A banking house was first opened in Council Bluffs in the fall of 1854, by ^vGreen & Weare, the business being managed by ^vJohn Weare, until the spring of 1855, when ^vThomas H. Benton, Jr., was added to the firm, and he continued to direct its affairs until its dissolution, in the summer of 1857.

The Council Bluffs and Nebraska Ferry Company was organized during the winter of 1853-4, by Enos Lowe, S. S. Bayliss, J. A. Jackson, S. R. Curtis, W. W. Brown, S. M. Ballard, Jesse Williams, and J. H. D. Street. Its object, as declared in its articles of incorporation, was to establish and operate a steam ferry across the Missouri river at a point opposite Council Bluffs. This ferry has been regularly maintained, with a good class of steam ferry-boats, from that time to the present. During the great seasons of emigration, two boats have frequently been required for the transaction of the business at this point. The company secured a large tract of land on the east bank of the river, which it proceeded a year or two later to lay out and subdivide into lots — the tract since known as Ferry Addition to Council Bluffs.

On the west side of the river, on a beautiful plateau, a town was laid out and platted during the summer of 1854, and named Omaha, from a tribe of Indians that had long occupied that vicinity. Its projectors were mainly the incorporators of the Ferry Company, whose names are given above. All, with one or two exceptions, were residents of Pottawattamie county at the time, but several of them, with A. J. Hanscom, H. D. Johnson, and a few others, thenceforward became residents of the new city. For several years its Council Bluffs projectors and proprietors continued to take an active interest in the growth and prosperity of the new town; but they gradually sold out their interests to new proprietors, but the old residents of Pottawattamie county continue to look back with a great deal of interest to the early days and early history of the flourishing city on the west bank of the Missouri.

During the fall of 1853 and the following winter, G. M. Dodge, then a resident of Iowa City, and who had previously been employed as an engineer in the construction of the railroad from Chicago to Rock Island, surveyed a line for a railroad across the state from Davenport to Council Bluffs. The line surveyed was known as the Mississippi

and Missouri, and was the one mainly adopted in the final construction of that road across the state. Mr. Dodge continued his surveys across the river, and up the valley of the Platte, and was, in fact, the first one to trace out the line of the future Union Pacific Railroad, with the construction of which his name has since been so honorably associated. Mr. Dodge crossed the state again in the summer of 1854, with his family, and was followed soon after by his father, Sylvanus Dodge, who with his sons, Granville M. and Nathan P., took up their residence for a brief period on a beautiful tract of land on the Elkhorn river, in Nebraska. They remained there, however, but a year or two, and all finally settled in Council Bluffs.

The eyes of the more sagacious and far-seeing were, at that early day, looking forward to the time when Pottawattamie county would be traversed by numerous trains of cars, all centering in Council Bluffs, as the prominent railroad center of the far west. Samuel R. Curtis, in the fall of 1853, had traced out a line across the state, to which was given the name of the Philadelphia, Fort Wayne, & Platte Valley Railroad, and commonly known in later years as the "Air Line," and sometimes facetiously as the "Air Tight." His arrival in the county and his presentation of the subject created a good deal of interest among the people. Mr. S. S. Bayliss made a contract with Mr. Curtis for depot grounds, which he agreed, with his usual liberality, to donate to the road in the event of construction to the Missouri river. On the 2d of January, 1854, at a special election, held for the purpose, it was decided by a small majority, that the county would subscribe \$100,000 to the capital stock of this company, to be paid for in the bonds of the county; this vote the electors refused to rescind, by a large majority, at the election in April of the same year. Of course, as the road was never built, no stock was ever subscribed or bonds issued to the company. Col. Curtis, however, continued to take a warm interest in the prosperity of Council Bluffs, often spending a large part of his

summer in the place, with his family, and finally dying here. As a member of congress and chairman of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, he was enabled to greatly aid in the development of the whole western country, but in no section of it is his name and memory held in greater respect than in Pottawattamie county.

At the August election that year (1854) the whole number of votes cast in the county for governor, were 422, of which Curtis Bates received 215 and James S. Grimes 207. Grimes ran a number of votes ahead of his ticket, having made many friends by a visit to the county during the canvass. The vote for congress was 268 for Hall and 140 for Clark. Bates and Hall were Democrats and Grimes and Clark, Whig or Anti-Nebraska. At the same election, James D. Test was elected to the senate, and John T. Baldwin and Daniel S. Jackson to the house of representatives, of the State of Iowa. Test had come to the county early in the year from the eastern part of the state. He was admitted as an attorney, but soon became engaged in the land business with H. D. Johnson and J. P. Casady, but continued to practice law for several years. He was an energetic and active citizen, and for many years took an active part in the current events of the county. Jackson was a Mormon but never removed to Salt Lake, preferring to remain with the Gentiles in his old home. Baldwin was engaged in trade at Council Bluffs. At the same election the following county officers were chosen: W. D. Turner, Treasurer, and Recorder, Edward Cutler, Sheriff, Thomas Tostevin, County Surveyor, and S. M. Smith, School Fund Commissioner.

The Odd Fellows were the first to organize a secret benevolent association in the county. Council Bluffs Lodge, No. 49, began its existence early in November, 1853, its first recorded meeting having been held on the 25th day of that month. The charter members were J. B. Stutsman, B. R. Pegram, J. T. Baldwin, J. P. Casady, H. R. Hall, H. D. Johnson, and Anson Belden. Several other members were

soon after added, among whom were M. F. Shinn, George Doughty, J. D. Test, and N. T. Spon, the last named having been the first person initiated into the order in the city. The degree of Rebecca was first conferred upon members and their wives on the 7th of December, 1853. During the summer of 1824, a frame building was erected in the eastern part of the city, by Messrs. Pegram and Stutsman, for the use of this lodge, known as the Odd Fellows' Hall, and it was occupied as such, and also for a school house, for several years.

During the fall of 1854, considerable attention was drawn to an alleged discovery of rock a few feet below the bed of the river, at a point opposite old Winter Quarters station, in Nebraska. Here, it was thought, the future railroad bridge across the Missouri river, which already loomed up in the imaginations of the more sanguine, would be built, and the belief led to the laying out of a new town, of which J. C. Mitchell and J. B. Stutsman, of Council Bluffs, were the principal proprietors, on the Nebraska side of the river. It was called Florence, and for a time was a place of considerable pretensions, and enjoyed, for a brief period, the luxury of a steam ferry. It continued to be the starting point until the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad for the Mormon caravans that annually moved across the plains to Salt Lake City.

In the summer of 1854, J. B. Stutsman purchased the mill property with a large tract of land adjacent, situated in Macedonia township, at the point where the stage road crosses the West Nishnabotany river. He proceeded, soon after, to greatly improve the mill, and erect a toll bridge across the river, which was continued for several years.

The passage of the Kansas and Nebraska bill in the summer of 1854, turned the attention of the people of all sections of the country to these territories. All along the western borders of Iowa a large number of the more adventurous settlers crossed the Missouri river and made their rude homes in the latter territory. The officers for the new

territorial organization were all appointed in August or September in 1854, and very soon made their way toward the future theater of their official duties. Francis W. Burt, with one or two others, came up the Missouri, and stopped at the Presbyterian minister's house at Bellevue, in Nebraska, nearly opposite the southwestern point of Pottawattamie county. T. B. Cuming, of Keokuk, the newly appointed secretary, crossed the state and stopped at Council Bluffs. With him were Ferguson, Chief Justice, Izzard, U. S. Marshal, and one or two other officials, and just about the same time, G. L. Miller, M. W. Thayer, C. B. Smith, J. S. Morton, and several others whose names have since become famous in Nebraska history, arrived at the Pacific House, and were provided for by its host. Immediately an earnest and most active canvass was begun in relation to the location of the future seat of government of Nebraska. The competing points were Bellevue and Omaha. Of course the citizens of Council Bluffs actively favored the latter place, and lots in it were sold by the Ferry Company at exceedingly low rates to all persons who were supposed capable of wielding any influence in its favor. Cuming was soon won over to the interests of Omaha, but Gov. Burt and his friends were supposed to favor Bellevue, and had he lived there is little doubt that he would have designated it as the capital. But just at the crisis, when the question was about to be decided in favor of Bellevue, Burt sickened and died. This settled the question, for very soon a proclamation was issued by Cuming, as acting Governor, calling the first session of the legislature at Omaha, and although strenuous efforts were afterwards made for the removal of the capital from that place, yet they were entirely unsuccessful during the existence of its territorial government. It was late in the fall before suitable buildings for the accommodation of the officers could be erected on the east side of the river, and the Pacific House in Council Bluffs, therefore, practically remained for several weeks the capital of Nebraska. From it the proclamation for the Territorial Leg-

islature was issued, although, of course, dated in ^vOmaha; and here all the plans were canvassed and prepared for holding the election. The population of Nebraska was as yet very small, but it secured large accessions from Pottawattamie and other river counties in Iowa, a few days previous to opening the polls, so that when the votes came to be counted, quite a respectable showing was made. A large number of voters, however, re-crossed the river a day or two after the election and resumed their old homes in Iowa. Several of the former citizens of Council Bluffs were elected to the first legislature of Nebraska, among whom was H. D. ^vJohnson, A. J. ^vHanscom, A. D. ^vJones, J. C. ^vMitchell, and H. C. ^vPurple. The location of the seat of government at Omaha proved a fortunate event, alike for that place and ^vCouncil Bluffs, as it has eventuated in building up important and influential communities at this point on the river, whose influence has been widely felt and acknowledged in the future legislation and history of the country. Although the citizens of the "twin sisters" — as the two towns have sometimes been called — manifest pretty decided feelings of rivalry toward each other, and although the editors of the newspapers published on each side of the river are especially fond of writing squibs, more or less personal, caustic, or denunciatory, of their rival cities, and although strong antagonistic interests upon various public and business questions have frequently sprung up, yet on the whole the people of Omaha and Council Bluffs have always been especially proud of each other and of their peculiarly fortunate location on the great line of internal communication midway between the Atlantic and Pacific.

The winter of 1854-5 was one of unusual mildness. Scarcely any rain or snow fell to the earth, from October until late in April. The roads were hard, dry, and dusty, and as smooth as a house floor, and out-door work went on as usual during nearly the entire winter. Cattle were kept on the Missouri bottoms with very little other food than

was found among the timber and high grass. In many subsequent years the people of the Missouri valley were accustomed to look back to this winter as the finest within their experience of the beauties of the western climate. The sun shone bright and clear, and as it fell below the western prairies, it left behind it in the golden horizon above a scene of beauty and magnificence hardly equaled in any other land less remote than the sunny climes of Italy. The people of the little city nestled among the bluffs enjoyed the beautiful weather with peculiar zest, and hunting, horse-racing, and horseback-riding were the every-day amusements of its not very numerous population. Social gatherings and dancing were frequent, and some of the latter, where the Mormon element predominated, were opened and closed according to the old customs that prevailed in the days of Orson Hyde, with singing religious hymns and with prayer. On one occasion in the latter part of December, a number of ladies crossed the river to Omaha, and visited the new state house, where the grave legislators of Nebraska were engaged in making laws for the new territory. Pausing in one of the lower rooms, they sent up a messenger to inform their friends of their arrival, and of their desire to witness their deliberations. Very soon a tremendous cheer and shout were heard proceeding from the legislative halls, and on inquiry it was soon found that both bodies, upon the announcement of the presence of the ladies, had adjourned, and had moreover resolved to have a good time, generally. Very soon all parties, ladies and gentlemen, governor, secretary, marshal, and judges, re-crossed the river to Council Bluffs, where many of them resided, and spent the night in an old-fashioned ball, at the Pacific House, keeping it up — as one lady, who was present, recently informed the writer — until five o'clock the following morning. But it was determined that more visits from the ladies of Council Bluffs to the legislature could not be permitted, earlier than Friday afternoon in each week, from fear of seriously interfering with the proper transaction of business.

The practice of horseback-riding by the gentler sex led, on Christmas Eve, to a most distressing accident, which, for a time, threw a gloom over the entire community. Miss Ann^v Floyd, a beautiful young lady, adopted daughter of Mr. James C.^v Mitchell, while thus engaged, fell from her horse, was taken up senseless, and soon after expired. Her obsequies were attended by nearly the entire population, who sincerely mourned her loss.

But little progress was made during the year 1854 in the erection of new buildings. A few store-houses were erected in place of those burned at the beginning of the year, but these also were destroyed by fire as stated in our last number, early in January, 1855. Besides these, hardly half a dozen frame buildings were erected during the year. The main portion of the inhabitants still resided in the log buildings which had been erected by the early Mormon pioneers, improved in some cases by a covering of boards or planks. Instead of being plastered in the usual mode, they were lined with cotton goods, and in many cases, presented quite a cozy and comfortable appearance. It was not until the following year that the embryo city really took a step forward in substantial buildings and population.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

SKETCH OF FRANKLIN COUNTY.

BY NETTIE SANFORD, MARSHALLTOWN.

FRANKLIN county is a very fine section of land, situated between Butler and Wright counties, and in 1870, had only 4,710 population, the scarcity of timber being a drawback to its early settlement in great numbers. At present railroads are building in the vicinity. The Central

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