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By Ed. D. STAIR.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 28, 1883.

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The local department of the the Courier has been transferred to the 12th page this week

As an enterprising, solid, up-and-doing, get-there-Eli place, Cooperstown has won golden laurels, this first year of her existence.

EVERY indication points to an immense immigration to North Dakota next spring—an influx unparalleled in the history of our nation.

The first load of lumber ever brought to Griggs county was "steered" in by our present popular machinery dealer, Joseph Buchheit, in October, 1880, and was for Cooper Bros.

EASTERN reader, are you a tiller of the soil, living on a rented farm? Have you teams and utensils? If so come to Dakota, locate in Griggs county, and in three years time you can have a good farm and be worth more than a life of toil can amass for you where you are. Come.

YOUNG man, instead of plodding slowly along on the inferior soil of the crowd-east, come west where there is elbow room. Come and make yourself a home, which you can do with half the trouble and expense required in the east, and in future years you can enjoy the fruit of your effort without being prematurely old; worn out, as it were, wielding an ax or grub hoe, while land here anxiously waits the plow.

PERHAPS one of the most marvelous features of this country to the person who comes here for the first time will prove to be the astonishing rapidity of settlement and development. Only two crops have been raised in Griggs county, and yet her population numbers from 4,000 to 5,000 souls, while neat edifices of learning and comfortable farm buildings bedeck her swelling bosom in goodly numbers and all sides.

CONSIDERING the rapid, solid march of improvement made by Griggs county the past season in respect to her agricultural development—resources that are the blood of prosperous commercial centres—it is not amazingly strange that Cooperstown has flourished so heartily. There has been a demand for just such a town at Griggs county's centre, and that demand will urge the place on to metropolitan proportions.

A DAKOTA winter is the most enjoyable season of the year. The most delicate ladies, accustomed to warmer climes, are seen on the most "severe" days in their comfortable wraps with cheeks aglow with health, and an elasticity of step that has replaced the listless tread they brought to the territory with them, going their rounds of visiting or shopping and attending to their daily avocations without thought of the coldness of the day. Ladies love Dakota in winter as in summer.

IN a social way Cooperstown is as truly Dakotan as she is metropolitan in her business aspirations. Though less than one year old our embryo city has many intellectual people with whom any person cannot help but feel it good to come in contact. Here there is no class distinction, no artificial barriers that separate people into grades and rate them according to their dress and money; here the poor man does not feel socially inferior to anyone, provided he is sensible and well behaved. Dudes and would-be aristocrats cannot thrive here; our soil is too rich for such flimsy productions. Come, ye of the formal east, and enjoy this fresh, airy, western civilization, where there is room to spare for all.

OUR CITY'S BACKBONE

A Few Words Concerning the Makers of Cooperstown and Their Industries.

Solid Growth and Prosperity of the Place.

Eleven months ago the COURIER was planted on the then snow-bedecked and blizzard-fanned prairie where now blooms and bustles brisk Cooperstown. The twenty-sixth day of last February when the paper was first issued one firm sold goods here, and to day we have the pleasure of referring to numerous prominent business men who have bent their energies during the past few months to make a town that, for its age, stands without a rival. Less than one year ago we claimed that Cooperstown would be a great distributing point—not in the dim and golden ultimately, but that it would be accomplished within a few short months. The present prosperity of the place, the throngs of customers that crowd our great mercantile institutions, proclaim better than can voice or pencil the truth that has come to pass. The two or three partly completed buildings of one year ago have given place to a beautiful busy little city that springs as if by magic from the bosom of a swelling prairie.

Who and what has caused the achievement of such remarkable results, cautiously inquires the credulous and sedate eastern reader? Unequaled geographical position, exhaustless agricultural resources, and a good backing of indomitable, never-say-die, patriotic pioneers, is what has done it, and the object of this article is to refer briefly to the principal ones of that class, and there can be none better to begin with than

ROLLIN C. COOPER,

of the firm of Cooper Brothers, farmers and dealers in stock. A person thirty-eight years of age, he stands before man and his Maker not only a fine physical human specimen, but an embodiment of true manhood. He is not only the wealthiest resident of Griggs county in the possession of the nation's coin and Dakota's darkest dirt, but he is well fixed in honor, integrity, generosity, good-nature, and all that goes to make a man respected by his fellow being. The efforts of Cooper Bros. through him have been the prime factors that has resulted in our present prosperity. No man on earth could do more for the people of a community than he gladly did for the early settlers of this entire region. To ask a favor of him was good as obtaining the desideratum. When the first crop of grain was ready for market and no railroad to carry it away his energies were at once bent in that direction, and to-day the steam horse ploughs regularly into the midst of our fertile region. His connection with the townsite has been upright and generous; as a county commissioner he has been careful, fearless and frank with the people; as a private citizen he has been noble in his dealings. His every act has been open and for the public weal. No person, yet to make Griggs his home, will ever know how much R. C. Cooper has done for Cooperstown and its surroundings.

ODEGARD & THOMPSON

are very aptly termed the "Pioneer Merchants" for it was them who first directed trade to Cooperstown. The indefatigable resident manager of this institution, Knud Thompson, fought blizzards and adverse circumstances last winter, until finally on the 5th day of January he was able to open a few cases of goods. Three weeks later the Courier made the following remark: "In the starting of new towns quite as much depends upon the class of business men who establish there as upon the townsite proprietors themselves, when a high and lasting degree of success is the desired result. In this respect Cooperstown has unusual good luck, being the chosen field of operations for the firm of Odegard & Thompson, gentlemen of extensive business experience, who believe in the broad-gauge, liberal system." How well they have justified that item is best evidenced by their store full of eager customers and the five or six busy men attending their wants. The firm has been a great boon to Cooperstown and are on the tidal wave of prosperity, their sales being constantly on the gain. A careful approximate gives them a business of \$150,000 for the ensuing year, counting machinery, in which they propose to deal. Their sales since starting aggregate about \$60,000.

WHIDDEN BROTHERS

are a mercantile firm of mighty progress, and the chief, W. R. Whidden, has proven himself during his eight months career in Cooperstown to be a tireless toiler of trade. Push, pluck, printer's ink, fair, square dealing and just-as-represented goods has made the firm name of "Whidden Bros." a household word throughout numberless adjoining townships, for people come twenty and thirty miles to buy their supplies. To see the amount of business Mr. Whidden is doing would be like an electric shock to some of his old merchant neighbors of the east, who whistle and lament the country's condition while grass grows through the cracks of their floors. With a \$20,000 stock to keep up and with sales from \$600 to \$1500 per week this firm hardly have time to talk politics or croak. The energy, the public-spiritedness of Whidden Bros. is something Cooperstown couldn't well get along without. Plans are already making for an

addition on the east side of their large store, to be 30x60 feet in dimensions. It will then be the largest store in Griggs county.

THE COOPER TOWNSITE COMPANY

is composed of five sterling, stirring, liberal-hearted men, and their names are, T. J. Cooper, of Chicago, C. A. Roberts, of Fargo, N. L. Lenham, J. M. Burrell and R. C. Cooper. Anyone acquainted with the growth of central North Dakota will recognize in the above names an important factor of said development. The limit to the attainment of these men cannot be easily defined, and as they have individually as well as unitedly resolved that Cooperstown shall reach metropolitan proportions at an early day, great assistance in our progress can reasonably be expected from them. The deeds of these men as a company for the past year will furnish a better outline of their future course than any pencil portrait we might paint of their great magnanimity and enterprise. Sixteen months ago they resolved there should be a Cooperstown; next they proceeded to build a railroad over the forty miles of country that divided this county from the great Northern Pacific main line and the outside world; next they set to work and defeated the Hope corruptionists and helped the honest settlers settle the county seat question, and besides all this they have expended \$30,000 in advertising and building up the place. This they have done as a townsite company; as individuals they have done much more. Mr. Lenham being largely interested in the elevator, lumber yard and coal business; Mr. Burrell being a prime figure in our bank, and Cooper Bros. being interested in various ways in town improvement. Are these men in earnest when they promise much for Cooperstown, queries the distant reader? Well, how would you conclude from their record?

STEVENS & ENGER

are the jolly chaps that deal out hardware at lowest living prices to the denizens of some 250 square miles of territory that is adjacent to Cooperstown. Stevens & Enger are rustlers, keep a splendid tin-smith, obliging salesman, buy in car load lots and sell at wholesale or retail. Next to Odegard & Thompson they are the oldest business house in town, having started up in temporary quarters during the month of January. It took fortitude in order to secure the field in that line, but they had it in sufficient quantity and now have the field, which their every-day-alike, honorable dealing will always hold. In building up Cooperstown Stevens & Enger have contributed their full share of enterprise, and now occupy a magnificent store building. Long may their bright star of prosperity continue to shine.

NELSON & LANGLIE

in their model store keep a large and well selected stock of general merchandise and clothing. The local management of the concern is vested in the efficient P. A. Nelson who, with his able lieutenants, seem equal to the magnificent and healthy patronage enjoyed. This firm pride themselves particularly upon their ability to buy goods at ground floor prices, and we guess they have just cause for congratulation in that respect. Nelson & Langlie have demonstrated by their cash system that it is not necessary to trust in order to do a fine business, but that goods and prices draw the trade. The careful, conservative transactions of this institution are among the things that impart vigor to our place, and they occupy a position to the community that would be hard to supply should it ever be vacated.

LENHAM ELEVATOR & LUMBER CO.

Is the title of a gigantic corporation with a \$500,000 capital whose operations are not confined to Cooperstown but extend along the line of the S. C. & T. M. railroad to Sanborn. Of the total immense volume of business they transact we will not attempt to speak, but simply refer to their interests at this place, which are under direction of that very efficient and hard-working manager, Maynard Crane. The operations here are vested in a magnificent elevator and a coal and lumber yard. They have some \$15,000 in buildings, besides they never have less than \$10,000 to \$12,000 worth of lumber, coal and builders' supplies in stock, and often these figures are nearly doubled. Their elevator is round in style, has a capacity of 50,000 bushels—which is a model for convenience and the handling of grain. The local business of the lumber yard this season aggregates \$70,000 to \$75,000, and the elevator will have handled up to the close of 150,000 bushels of the golden No. 1 Hard. The instrumentality of such men as Nate L. Lenham, Geo. L. Lenham and Louis S. Lenham (the spinal column of the Lenham Elevator and Lumber Company) as a value in the upbuilding of the region from Sanborn to this place, cannot be calculated nor hardly fully appreciated. The successful operation of such immense concerns not only directly benefits the locality but inspires confidence in eastern capital as to the stability of the country's resources. Having always displayed a readiness to assist heartily in the development of Griggs county and Cooperstown the L. E. & L. Co. are deserving the high esteem in which they are held as public benefactors.

THE BANK OF COOPERSTOWN,

As its name implies, is a concern in and for the capital of Griggs county in all times. The industrial superstructure of a city can only be constructed on the foundation of solid financial backing, and this place has that necessary underpinning in the Bank of Cooperstown, which, though but six months of age has under the conservative guidance of Cashier Pickett built up a big volume of business and proved itself a power of

good for Cooperstown. Two accountants are worked constantly by the customers of the bank, which is owned by Geo. L. Lenham and J. M. Burrell, whom it is said command capital limited only by several hundred thousand dollars, and who also conduct the Barnes Co. Bank at Sanborn. A new community, where industries are often started on meagre capital, feel the need of good banks, and it is gratifying to know that abundant capital always awaits the financial demands of this place and the surrounding country. The Bank is opening a mortgage loan department, from which they will place money for eastern capitalists on first-class real estate at western rates of interest and on long time. Cashier H. G. Pickett, especially solicits the correspondence of men desirous of No. 1 long-time securities or of non-resident tax payers.

THE PALACE HOTEL

Is something of which every citizen is justly proud, not only of its elegant appointments but of the manner in which it is conducted. This spacious hostelry is the result of public-spirited motives on the part of the Cooper Townsite Co., who had it constructed and furnished at a cost of \$21,000, knowing full well that no institution could be established here of more importance and benefit to the place than a first-class hotel. A full description having once been given in these columns we will only state that it is a beautiful specimen of architectural beauty, being constructed with a frontage of 75 feet on two streets—150 feet front in all—and in the shape of a square angle. It is virtually three-stories high, the upper story being a dormer-windowed one, and contains some 42 rooms, all of which are elaborately furnished. The Townsite Company had upon its completion applications without number for its occupancy, but being very desirous of a thoroughly competent tenant waited until they were able to close with the present popular landlord, Mr. H. C. Fitch. The Palace is conducted on strictly first-class principles, and no one is better calculated for the hotel business than Mr. Fitch, who has given the house a reputation among travelling men as being the best kept hotel in North Dakota. Capitalists coming to Cooperstown to look land will find public accommodations that equal the luxuries of an elaborate home.

THE UNION HOUSE

classes among the hotels that are within the reach of everybody, and yet it is not cheap in its appointments. Mr. H. H. Retzlaff is the proprietor and his exceedingly large patronage denotes that he is an eminent success as a caterer to the public. The hotel is very conveniently located, has nicely arranged rooms, the tables are always well supplied with clean, hearty food, and the transient rates are but \$1.25 per day, while board is proportionately reasonable.

WILLIAM GLASS, ESQ.

does a land and real estate business, and is one of the very first men of the county. Mr. Glass practices before the various land departments of the United States, pays rigid attention to the interests of his clients and is a person who can safely be trusted, as he has acknowledged and established integrity. Being one of the early settlers of Griggs county, in which he has great and unlimited faith, he has secured for himself a couple choice farms and is now willing to help others along in the matter of settling on or investing in rich returning dirt. He makes a specialty of collecting, paying taxes, investing, making loans and transacting all kinds of business for non-residents, and he particularly solicits correspondence with those desiring to place money on gilt-edge realty. The people of Griggs county have manifested their faith in Mr. Glass by electing him clerk of peace and school township clerk. He stands to-day one of Griggs county's most highly respected, public-spirited citizens, and is fully entitled to the fine business he enjoys.

JACOBSON & SERUMGARD

are a firm of energetic land and law attorneys, and do the largest business in Griggs county. Mr. Jacobson, a lawyer by profession, attends to all matters coming before the judicial courts, while Mr. Serumgard, who has had extensive experience in real estate and land business, rustles around and guards the interests of their clients in that department. These gentlemen are perfectly stable, and non-residents having business in their line to entrust will find them faithful and competent. They buy and sell improved and unimproved farm lands and claims on commission, besides which they will place eastern capital in safe investments. No class of business men are of more importance to the new arrivals of this rapidly growing county than just such men as Messrs. Jacobson & Serumgard, who will honestly and conscientiously locate a settler unacquainted in the land, or will place the capital of others as if it were their own and carefully look after it.

JOHN N. JORGENSEN,

our popular clerk of the district court, is also engaged in the land business. That is, in locating settlers on choice quarters, buying and selling, loaning money on final proofs, and attending to all branches of the land business. Mr. Jorgensen has a complete set of abstracts for Griggs county which enables him to give new comers quick and positive information as to what land is vacant and what taken. He is considered by those who are competent to judge as one of the very best land office men in Dakota, and from virtue of his long experience can serve his clients to the best possible advantage. He is conscientious, honorable, reliable and withal a very safe person in whom to put trust.

BYRON ANDRUS, ESQ.

is one of North Dakota's solid land and law attorneys and real estate brokers. He has been a resident of Griggs county

some twenty months, being one of the very first to engage in the business at Cooperstown, and the result of his close application to the interests of his clients has resulted in a fine land practice and real estate business. With an extended knowledge of law and a life-long experience in legal work he is peculiarly and well fitted for his present calling. The fact that he is local agent for Griggs county of the Northern Pacific land department is sufficient recommendation to strangers as to his responsibility and integrity. Anyone desiring to purchase land or town property will subscribe their own interests by giving him a call before closing any deal. He also attends to all kinds of land office business, makes final proof, loans money for eastern parties, and does all descriptions of office work. That Mr. Andrus is a prominent man in the affairs of Griggs county is evidenced by the fact that he was chosen at the last general election to fill the responsible position of Judge of Probate, which he does with credit.

DAVIS & PICKETT

are a pushing young firm, through whose veins courses the powerful blood of young manhood. They conduct an immense grocery, feed and sale stable business, having ample stable accommodations for all the stock in seven regions. Their livery department is stocked with 20 to 25 head of stock and a complete outfit of paraphernalia. Attached to this branch of their business they conduct a dray and general teaming line on the broad-gauge plan, clearly evincing that they don't need competition to prompt them to treat the public fair. Davis & Pickett are rustlers, and are proving important citizens as well as prosperous ones. They have this week taken a new departure by opening up a well supplied feed store on Burrell Ave., the announcement of which can be perused on another page. It is just such invincible energy as this firm possesses that makes our Dakota towns blossom and bloom, therefore everybody likes to see them reap the rich rewards of their sublime enterprise.

ANDREW JOHNSON

conducts a truly first-class meat market on Roberts Avenue, besides which he attends to the duties of sheriff, of which office he is the present incumbent. Mr. Johnson is an old and time-honored citizen of Griggs county, and moved to the county seat from Mardell last winter, immediately supplying the urgent demand for a meat market. He has by careful management, and using care to slaughter none but first-class stock built up a lasting reputation and a good trade. Ever on the alert to meet any demand of his customers Mr. Johnson now supplies his patrons with fresh fish of the choicest varieties, poultry, splendid sausage, and all the little etceteras of a No. 1 market. The Cooperstown meat market is an industry that could ill be dispensed with, and the man who conducts it is entitled to a fine business. Long may he wave.

BUCHHEIT BROS.

are dealers in all kinds of farm machinery, from drags to threshers, and right honorable dealers, too. The senior of the firm, Joseph Buchheit, is a staunch pioneer of the county, coming here at the time Cooper Bros. did, and he has besides his business a very fine farm in operation at Willow Lake. F. H. Buchheit, the junior, is an experienced man in the business having been employed by the McCormick Company as an expert before coming here. They are a strong team and handle reliable goods, such as the Plano and the Esterly binders, the Skinner sulky plow, Mishawaka wagons, etc.

BOYUM & HOLLAND

are an energetic firm who did a mammoth business last season, which they even propose to increase next year. This firm has formerly held their headquarters at Mayville, maintaining their business here as a branch, but are now closing out entirely there with a view to uniting their entire forces at this place, to which end they have bought lots and are arranging to build suitable quarters for the traffic they will conduct. This firm will make a specialty of harvesters, seeders and plows, and solicit a consultation with all intending to buy.

DR. G. F. NEWELL

conducts one of the neatest and best arranged drug stores in the Northwest. He carries an exclusive stock of drugs, and does not dabble in a dozen different lines of goods, thereby establishing a metropolitan custom in a town less than one year old. Dr. Newell is an experienced practitioner of medicine, but does not ride any exception in such cases where his surgical skill is required, for which branch of practice he is exceedingly well prepared with a full set of instruments. The doctor is a genuine Dakota boomer, a right royal citizen and a man Cooperstown and Griggs county is glad to claim as a resident.

MOORE & SANBURN

are a firm of practical blacksmiths, who can do the finest kind of work known to their trade. They are diligent workers, honest-hearted men, and enterprising citizens. The immense patronage they enjoy is a strong attestation of the satisfaction the public feels with their efforts to turn out first-class work at honest prices.

MUIR & CHRISTIE

are the leading and most skilled contractors for many miles around. They are both practical mechanics and can do a job in the finest style of workmanship as well as plan the finest kind of structure. Their trade mark is seen on much of the best work in Cooperstown. The man contemplating to build can find none better than them to consult.

FRED. A. SABIN,

transacts a large land, loan and real estate business, and a dozen other citizens might be referred to whose work tends to the upbuilding of Cooperstown, but as our space is exhausted we must stop now and here.