

Cooperstown Courier.

VOL. 2. NO. 1.

COOPERSTOWN, GRIGGS CO., DAK., FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1884.

\$2 PER ANNUM

THE COURIER.

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By Ed. D. STAIR.

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Official Paper of Griggs County

FRIDAY, JAN. 25, 1884.

LOCAL LACONICS.

—Splendid weather.
—No cases of sunstroke to-day.
—H. G. Brown registered at the Palace, Monday, from St. Paul.
—C. L. Gilman was one of the passengers up from Fargo last Monday.
—Cooperstown now has an athletic club and "rassling" is all the rage.
—Don't fail to read Whidden Bros.' new adv. which appears on the eighth page.
—Josh Billings says: "Dear girls, this is leap year; assert yer rites; do yer july!"
—Services will be held in the Palace dining rooms next Sunday morning and evening.
—Ex-President W. A. Kindred, of Fargo, was in the county seat the most of the week.
—Fargo Argus: Iver Jacobson, of Cooperstown, is among the guests of Messrs. Lamont & Scott.
—Contractor Muir left on this morning's train for a two weeks' sojourn with his family at Tower City.
—Tower City Herald: Casselton has roller skating rink and Kilbourne, of the Reporter, is pronounced an expert-skater.
—J. B. Baldwin, a genial commercial man, representing Joylin & Merriam, Minneapolis, was in the Hub the first of the week.
—Fargo Argus: Editor E. D. Stair came in from Cooperstown last evening and graced the Headquarters' register with his autograph.
—Several settlers came down from the Red Willow district yesterday to make filings on their claims which have recently come into market.
—W. A. Kindred, sold, this week, to Andrew C. Knudson, 160 acres of land north of Cooperstown the consideration of which was \$1,400, and to Gilbert Olson 100 acres, consideration, \$1,440.
—Open winter? Yes, says one, froze and cracked open.—Midland (Mich.) Republican. If we are to judge by the weather of the past few months, Dakotians will evidently not enjoy an "open" winter.
—Two telephones have just arrived in town and will be put into immediate operation. One wire will extend from the Palace to the depot, and the other from the Bank of Cooperstown to the Cooperstown Livery.
—There is considerable wood being hauled into town now-a-days, the farmers evidently taking advantage of the excellent condition of the roads. Odegard & Thompson have over 400 cords in their yard.
—Such lovely weather as the past two weeks has brought is known only in the land of the leal. Thermometer registering all the way from zero to just above freezing, and the sun glowing in the heavens every day. Everybody is singing. "This is the place I long have sought."—Enterprise.
—Carrington News: It seemed very dismal indeed to be without a mail for almost a whole week during the recent blockade. Not a single exchange with which to stimulate the editorial brain, not a letter to bring a solitary subscription from afar, not even a flash of news along the wire, for, alas, the line once again was "busted."
—A man who will accept a newspaper, take it from the postoffice as regularly as it is deposited there for him at the publisher's expense, week after week and month after month, and then positively refuse to pay for it is to be classed with common thieves, burglars and pickpockets. It is nothing less than burglary. We have heard of a number of such men, and are frank in saying that they ought to be compelled to wear striped clothes furnished by the State.—Ex.

Growth of Dakota.

[Jamestown Capital.]

It is interesting to note the universal attention Dakota is receiving all over the world. The newspapers of the east and south, both far and near, are taking every means to enlighten their readers about this country, and there is no doubt that for several years the accessions to Dakota will continue in great numbers. The New York Times of a recent date has the following: "The marvellous growth of Dakota must excite the wonder of the world or all who have studied the movement of the population and the settling of new soil. Twenty years ago there were only a few hundred whites in the south part of the territory; in 1870 the population was only 14,000, but in 1880 the population had grown to 135,000, and now it is believed there are over 250,000 persons in southern Dakota alone. The railroad companies are rapidly pushing their lines through from north to south and from east to west. Settlements are springing up as if by magic, and they are not mushroom mining camps that die soon after birth. In one settlement which recently came into being there were, only two weeks after the receipt of the first load of lumber, a bank, a newspaper office, two hotels, a church, seven stores, a market, two saloons, a telegraph office, a postoffice with 289 call boxes and 80 lock boxes and three lumber yards. The soil is yielding enormous crops, emigrants are coming in by the thousands and congressmen who have been repudiated by their constituents elsewhere arrive here by every train."

Go to the New Northwest.

[The Northwest.]

Why?
Because no industrious, sober man can fail to prosper there.
Because labor applied to the virgin soil creates wealth rapidly.
Because there are new and good openings for business talent.
Because mechanics are in demand to erect new structures and establish new shops.
Because a farmer can get 100 acres of good land for nothing by homestead residence, and can buy railroad land adjoining on long credit and at a low price.
Because values of property are all the time increasing with the incoming of population, so that a small investment made now will soon become worth ten times its cost.
Because the climate is healthful and invigorating.
Because the people are energetic, hospitable and intelligent.
Because schools, newspapers, churches and railroads keep pace with the settlement of the country.
And finally, because a man counts far more than in the crowded communities of the east, and gets more enjoyment out of life.

—Harry Clark, of Red Willow, was in the metropolis Monday.

—The publisher of the Courier is still wandering in the wilds of Michigan.

—A Mr. Randall is in from Willow Lake, and has in his possession a small bag filled with gold dust picked up on his claim on section 2-148-61. Parties who pretend to know claim there is gold in paying quantities in that region.

—A young lady at Erie, Pennsylvania, is reported as having taken advantage of leap year and proposed to a young man whom she loved desperately, and on being refused, shot herself. We have not as yet heard of any similar cases in Cooperstown, and should any occur we agree to publish them at one half the usual advertising rates.

—The Cooperstown Courier gravely tells its readers that, "The Jamestown Northern branch is very hard to keep open, owing to numerous deep cuts, and it is liable to be abandoned any time. The railroaders report no trouble on the Cooperstown branch." In the same issue it protests that "the mail facilities afforded Cooperstown are an outrage. Two mails in two weeks is all we have had through kindness of the government." Also in the same issue it states that "Delegate Raymond is doing all in his power to get a daily star-route mail service between Cooperstown and Sanborn." Furthermore, it groans that its "telegraph line is down for a week at a stretch."—Carrington News. This is easily accounted for. The reason we received but two mails in two weeks was simply because the train was snow-bound on the Carrington branch, and when we did get a mail it was through the kindness of Supt. Graham who put on a special train.

ABOUT DAKOTA.

Truth Tensely Told by W. R. Whidden in a Letter to the Halifax (N. S.) Christian Messenger.

COOPERSTOWN, D. T., Dec. 31 '82.

BRO. SELDEN:—Permit me to correct some erroneous statements in that article "About Dakota" in your issue of December 12th, copied from the New York Examiner.

Having lived in North Dakota nine months, arriving in Sanborn, Barnes Co. on the 24th of last March and four weeks later moving with my family to Cooperstown, Griggs county, the present terminus of the Sanborn, Cooperstown & Turtle Mountain R. R. I claim to know something about the climate, resources of the country, social life of the people, etc., etc.

As to this being a far off region it may seem so to some people who live in some other far away land. Some people here think Nova Scotia out of the world. I do not. My native land I love these still. Bostonians claim their Boston as the Hub of the Universe, but I heard Joseph Cook deliver a lecture three years ago and he placed the centre of civilization on this Western Continent at a point a little west of Chicago, and as "westward, the tide of empire takes its way," Dakota must be nearer that point to day than Nova Scotia, and with the present tide of emigration pressing on Dakotawards that point will soon be within her borders.

The railway and telegraph lines have annihilated distances so that to-day we have no foreign shores, no far-off lands. Taking the train this afternoon at our depot reaching Sanborn in time to take a palace car East over the Northern Pacific, I reach St. Paul at seven to-morrow, a. m., Chicago in fifteen hours, Boston in about thirty, and be with you in Halifax within five days providing the trains through Maine, New Brunswick or Nova Scotia are not snow-bound, or I can wish you "Happy New Year," which will reach you before it leaves me.

The climate, according to a writer in the Aroostook (Me.) Times, is beyond the endurance of man unless he adopts the habits of the Esquimaux. Strange that such false statements ever get into print. Strange that so many people leave good, comfortable homes in the East and come to this terrible country and take up with the habits of an Esquimaux. We are living in the upper part of a two-story building (the lower part being used as a store) built after the fashion of wooden structures in the east with the exception of it not being plastered. We have suffered nothing from extreme cold yet, and the thermometer has registered 38 below zero more than once, and we have nothing to rear even should it run down to 50, that being as cold as it ever gets. We use a cook stove and "Stewart Burner No. 4," using wood most of the time to heat a surface 20x46 divided into six apartments. Last April and May for the want of proper sized glass we lived in this building three weeks with only half our complement of windows in, and the place where they should have been all open, exposed to the raging elements, and still no cold rain was driven in upon us, neither did a tornado carry off the roof. We only put up our storm windows last week, and have just three months and a half in which to use them to the time next spring when we slept with open windows last spring.

We have had less cold weather and more even temperature, more cloudless days and brighter nights than you in old Nova Scotia can give a record of in same length of time, or ever I experienced there. The first seeder went over the ground covering in the golden grain the second week in April and the last furrow was turned the 10th of November.

"It is true that the surface of the land in some of the best farming regions is flat and there are no stones nor timber, and in some sections it may be interspersed with bogs and marshes. The bogs and marshes are easily converted into the best meadow and haylands and will in time become more valuable than the present rich rolling prairies. Stones are not needed, either for the foundations of buildings, cellar walls or wells; we could use them if here, but their absence costs less than their presence, and the same may be said of timber. All the timber and lumber wanted for building purposes is brought in by rail from the wooded lands east, in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and sold at reasonable rates. If the land is not worth more, vastly more, as it is, all ready for the plow, than were it covered with stones and wood, and people had to cut and dig and delve for half a life time before they take off their first crops; if the land is not worth more, will some person rise and explain.

Our grandfathers in Nova Scotia and Maine had to put up with infinitely more hardships and inconveniences when the country was first being settled than any one has yet experienced in Dakota, or ever will. Water is not so hard but what it can be used, and in many places is soft. I struck a vein of as good water as anyone need want at a depth of 26 feet, and the water has stood ten feet deep ever since, and at this time supplies over 50 head of stock, and is never lowered more than six inches, neither has it frozen, and it is not covered even with a horse blanket.

The writer from Sanborn ought to relinquish his 40 acres back to the government to whom it rightly belongs as it was never intended to give the quarter sections of the golden Northwest to men who ought to be at home with their mammas. As he ought to consider it worth but little, he can easily dispose of it by placing the matter in the hands of some responsible land agent at Sanborn,

there being hundreds of people who come and are coming to this country too late to get choice lands in choice localities.

Stock can be raised here cheaper than in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, or Maine, our winters being six to eight weeks shorter, and hay costs less.

Some people always try to jump a stream before reaching it, and very often tumble in. Such will be the case with those who are already figuring as to what will become of Dakota when her wheat crops fail, after the land gives out. No one has ever reached the bottom of her rich black loam, except when they dig deep for water, and during this and the next, and the next generation Dakota will provide bread for the thousands who live in a less favored land. What about drought? some one says, and the past season answers, a dry season, that in any other country would have wilted every green thing up—a dry season that may not again be repeated for years—and North Dakota stood the test and came out ahead with from 15 to 25 bushels of No. 1 Hard to the acre.

Now Mr. Editor if I did not fear this article was already too long for your columns and patience I would like to write you about this particular locality—about Cooperstown scarce a year old, about her founders, Cooper Bros., the Bonanza farmers who the past season ran 25 self-binders three weeks, to cut their immense crops—about her \$10,000 school house, her \$22,000 Palace Hotel, the Union and restaurants, about her bank and its capital, her 50,000-bushel elevator and grand railroad depot, about her four general stores and her business transacted in one season, about her land agents, lawyers and doctors—her post office, drug store and printing office, about her livery stables, butcher shops, and last but not least her church society and its work—not forgetting her Glee Club and social institutions. Yes, if time permitted I should like to tell you something of Griggs county, with the Sheyenne river meandering south through its eastern half—well wooded and settled with an enterprising Norwegian population—about the beautiful lakes of clear water, too numerous or small to name, except as some settler may name from fancy, or I might tell you of Lake Jessie and its scenery, of the pleasant time spent there with a picnic party—boating, playing croquet etc., but it might all seem as some fairy tale after what you have heard, and doubtless believe of the other side of the picture.

When you consider that ten years ago no white man lived between Fargo on the Red River of the North and Bismarck our present capital on the Missouri, where then naught but herds of wild buffalo or wilder Indians roamed across those plains—and now the iron horse wends his way toward the setting sun, and on every side thousands of acres have been broken in, and give to the world the result of labor and enterprise.

When you consider this, is it to be wondered at that some inconveniences have to be met, some hardships to be encountered, and it may be somebody suffer.

Hoping Mr. Editor that if any of your readers have anticipated coming to this part of Dakota, they may be permitted to do so, and afterward bless the day they directed their steps to this far off land.

I am sincerely yours,
WITTER R. WHIDDEN.

The hypocrite is the man who tries to be pious and can't, with a preponderance of can't.

The obituary editor of the Moscow, Idaho, Mirror says: "Those contemplating dying will save money by leaving their measure with Mr. Ball and get a coffin to fit. The dead are requested to read his new coffin ad."

A patent medicine manufacturer died in New York last week. Before he died his friends asked him how he would like to be buried. He had just strength enough left to say: "Insert me top column next to reading matter, fifty-two times, electro by mail," and then he closed his eyes and passed away to that bourne where there are no omissions or wrong insertions.

The editor and the reporter: "Though unfortunate vicissitudes flow circumjacent to thy intuitional personality, permit no sesquipedalian argumentation to sever the contiguity existing between the equestrian feruginous crescent and the portiere." (Blue Pencil)—Cut this down a few lines.—Editor. "Eternally refrain from removing the equestrian foot-gear from the portal." (Blue Pencil)—Make it breezy.—Editor. "Never take the horseshoe from the door." (Blue Pencil)—Correct!—Editor.—N. Y. World.

"Oats make a boss luff," says Josh Billings. "Laughter makes fatness," says the proverb, and we say that any horse in Griggs county will giggle 200 pounds of meat onto his frame over a load of our oats. Davis & Pickett.

Go to the old Pinkerton & Shue stand on Burrell Ave. and "fill up"—with a load of our first car of feed. Davis & Pickett.

Take your teams to the old Pinkerton & Shue building and give them a "smile" of our "straight"—feed. Davis & Pickett.

A car load of first-class feed oats now in bin and for sale at Davis & Pickett's.

Old newspapers for sale at the Courier office.

Valuable Publications.

Ballou's Monthly Magazine for February contains a large installment of Mr. William H. Thomas's amusing and instructive story of "On Land and Sea, or California in the Years 1843, '44, and '45." The author of "The Gold-Hunters" and the "Belle of Australia" never wrote anything lighter than his autobiography of a boy's life at sea, and the funny and serious adventures that that he experienced on the passage around Cape Horn, on his way to California in search of hides. This yarn is something for old and young to read, and there is no fear of a person tiring of it. The frightening of "the doctor" (the black cook) by the French lad is lively reading. Besides the leading story, there is a clever illustrated article on submarine diving, a large number of poems and stories, amusing matters, a puzzle department, a ladies' page devoted to fine and fancy work, comic pictures, household matters, wonders of nature, and many other things which we have not room to mention. Ballou's Magazine is only \$1.50 per annum, post-paid, but it is the best of its kind in the world, as anyone can judge by sending in a subscription, or only 10 cents for a sample. It is a favorite household serial and is instructive and useful. Published by Thomas & Talbot, 23 Hawley Street, Boston.

Goder's Lady's Book for February is a veritable valentine, being the most beautiful number ever published of this magazine. Its steel engravings, colored plates, and other illustrations are truly handsome. Its literature, we notice, is being increased in quantity as well as improved in quality. The opening poem "Sub Rosa, a Valentine," by Mrs. de Bulna, is rendered very attractive by its pretty border. "Tam," by Mrs. Ella Rodman Church, increases in interest, and the second installment promises well for a good story. "A Stray Valentine" and "only a Primrose," both valentine stories, quarantined in New York Harbor, and the new "Arm Chair" are all good. Taken all in all, the February number is very interesting, well worthy the attention of the ladies. Especially so as it is the only magazine that allows its readers the selection of a full-size cut Paper Pattern of its own choice from any fashion illustrated in the magazine.

Nelson & Langlie are closing out their line of winter goods at bottom prices.

Will pay 90 cts. in trade for Griggs county orders. Odegard & Thompson.

One car load of Diamond-Tooth Harrows received at Odegard & Thompson's. Call and see them soon.

Every farmer in Griggs county wants to visit our new feed store. Davis & Pickett.

We are receiving lumber of every description daily. Lenham Elevator & Lumber Co.

We have just received a car load of that genuine Fargo roller Mill Flour and it will be sold cheaper than ever. Odegard & Thompson.

The blizzards may blow; the train may stop, but Whidden Bros. have stock and to arrive 5 cars flour, 1 car pork, two cars groceries, and everything needed for a month's shut-up.

Our goods will bear inspection with any stock in this market, and all we ask is a call to convince you that by buying goods of us it is money in your pocket. Nelson & Langlie.

Farmers clean your seed wheat. The Lenham E. & L. Co. will sell you a machine for \$25.00 that will take out all foul seed.

We have too many knit underwear and will give you some cheap if you call soon. Odegard & Thompson.

Call at Whidden Bros. for horse blankets, bed spreads, comforts and quilts. Marked low.

For mens' fur goods go to Nelson & Langlie's.

Fine line of fresh confectionery at Odegard & Thompson's.

Nelson & Langlie "only" keep the celebrated "Acorn."

Talk is cheap, but we won't be undersold. You can hear it in mind all day. Odegard & Thompson.

We will not be undersold in North Dakota. Lenham Elevator & Lumber Co.

Have you got a yoke of oxen, sheep, hogs, etc.? We will always give you goods for them. Odegard & Thompson.

Prices that compete with Fargo. Lenham Elevator & Lumber Co.

Wm. Glass loans money for final proof, and on titled land. 50ft.

Anything in the line of Farm Machinery at Buchheit Bros.

Call and see the celebrated Household Sewing Machines at Buchheit Bros.

Our immense and growing trade satisfies us that the people appreciate our efforts in dispensing the best goods at lowest possible figures. Nelson & Langlie.

We sell pure sugar goods, not glucose. Nelson & Langlie.

We can sell you a team of mules or horses, a yoke of oxen, a cow, hogs, chickens, etc. You see we buy anything and sell everything—soft soap excepted. Odegard & Thompson.

We can just discount our competitors every time, both as to quality of goods and price. Fifteen years' experience in purchasing goods in eastern markets. "That's what knocks." Nelson & Langlie.

Our goods are not old goods shipped in from old stocks east to be closed out. Bear that in mind when you want goods in our line. Odegard & Thompson.