

"LIBERTY AND UNION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE! NOW AND FOREVER."

BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, APRIL, 25, 1867.

NO. 30

D. NEBRASKA.—South Platte.—The **Nebraska Land District—Brownville.**

Nebraska is situated between the 40th and 42d degrees North latitude and between the 96th and 104th degrees West longitude. This is nearly in the centre of the Northern Hemisphere, the climate of which, for the most part, has made progress for the world. In its path Agriculture, Mechanics, Religion, the Arts, Sciences and Education have flourished and grown with a rapidly advancing of it. Hardly, energy and perseverance has been the characteristic of its people, of which no better illustration exists than in the people of Nebraska.

The climate of Nebraska differs in some respects from that of the most favored States. As it has had rivers towards the Rocky Mountains the soil becomes more pure, healthy and bracing than in other States here. The low-lying marshes are more frequent, and stagnant water becomes more plenty. Along the bottom of the Missouri river trees and grain are only slightly prevalent during the most rainy seasons.

Nebraska is now a State, possessing all the advantages which other States have, and some that other States have not. She is out of debt, virtually, having sufficient money on hand to pay all her debts, and her bonds being with the example of other States, struggling beneath a burden of debt, before our Legislators, we have good grounds to hope for a long continuance of our present financial condition. She now has about 1,000,000 acres of land to select from her rich prairie from which to realize the funds to build public buildings, and to build up her free school system; for the latter purpose each township has two sections, of 3,600 acres, at \$3 per acre, \$10,740 for each square section of territory, which adds to the fact that we have now a good school house to nearly every section within ten miles of the Missouri river, will give us a school system equalled by few and surpassed by no State in the Union. For her public buildings the appropriation is sufficient to make them fine ones, and to make the educational institutions self-sustaining.

The Railroad System of Nebraska, is based upon her geographical position, to be a through route. The Great Northern Pacific, already built three hundred miles westward from Omaha, her capital, will surely tap the railroad from every county on the river to its mouth, the 10th meridian, or at Ft. Kearney, where the great railroad center in the Union will be eventually formed. At this time, she has several roads from Leola, which will enter the Union from the Pacific over the main trunk road, will break both to be destined to the North, South, East, and over for Europe. Already are roads projected, and some under way, across Iowa and Missouri to tap the main road, which has already begun, and twenty-five miles graded, on the N. & M. Air Line Road through the northern tier of counties in Missouri, which is destined to pass through this county as far as Ft. Kearney, and the St. Joe & Denver Road will enter Nebraska on the South in Pawnee county and pass through the western portion of the Nebraska Land District.

The seasons in Nebraska, are better adapted to agriculture than those of many of the Middle West. The Great Northern Spring opens, more or less, with high winds, lasting for one or two weeks, yet seldom does it blow so strong as to prevent putting in crops early, and the soil is better and earlier prepared for receiving seed. The extra moisture being sooner evaporated, by high winds, if backward spring such as the present—Spring which passed about the 6th of April—the snow line. Summer, however, commencing in July and August, yet night generally brings with it a cool, pleasant breeze, which makes rest after a hard day's labor very agreeable, and affords healthily sleep, and the pleasure is not to be put in our year; most favorably connected on and generally liked, it is full of the luxuriance of the year, with but a mark of backward. Light rains and a balmy breeze, good roads and fine weather for gathering crops, is the general rule. Autumn season often extends, within a few weeks of Christmas. The same quality that gives us abundantly wintering animals also gives us horses, heavy, resembling Wiltshire.

The soil of Nebraska, is a light sandy loam, of a dark brown color. On the high prairie it is good soil from two to

two-and-a-half feet in depth. The poorer our farmers take to sub-soiling the better it will be for them. The soil on the bottom of a shallow river, near and such greater depth than on the high land, it does not bake hard and forms a hard top on top in places where blue clay is found, as our bottom are mainly made lands from decaying vegetation and not from deposits from over-flow. It is remarkably adapted for standing drought, although a severe trial of this has not occurred during our experience of eleven years. We have repeatedly after a warm dry spell of four or five weeks during July or August, raked up the soil to see how far down it had dried out, and invariably find the soil damp at the depth of four or five inches.

The above remarks are founded only on experience in southern Nebraska. The following figures from the report of the Auditor of State will show the two sections of Nebraska far better than anything we could say.

Total amount of land	5,075,000 acres
Land in the hands of the State	1,100,000 "
Land in the hands of the people	3,975,000 "
Land in the hands of the State	1,100,000 "
Land in the hands of the people	3,975,000 "
Total amount of land	5,075,000 acres
Land in the hands of the State	1,100,000 "
Land in the hands of the people	3,975,000 "
Total amount of land	5,075,000 acres
Land in the hands of the State	1,100,000 "
Land in the hands of the people	3,975,000 "

THE NEBRASKA LAND DISTRICT.

Comprising ten townships north of the Kansas line, north running west to the State boundary on the West. The following are the names of the townships and the names of the commissioners who have charge of the same:

- 1. Jones, Saline, Gage, Pawnee, Johnson, Richardson and Nemaha.
- 2. This is undoubtedly as well watered a region as any portion of the West.
- 3. In an ungrazed country water courses so evenly and judiciously scattered as over this District. Commencing with those farthest west, we find in Jones county Rose creek, rising through the southern townships, with its numerous tributaries, emptying into the Little Blue, which enters the county on the east twelve miles from the Kansas line, receiving, near the western border, the Big and Little Sandys, and passing diagonally through the county across Kansas through the southeast township of Saline, north of Jones, but two miles of townships on the south are in this District, here well watered by the South Fork of Turkey creek and its numerous tributaries. The North Fork of Turkey Creek passes diagonally through this county from the northwest to the southeast.
- 4. Gage, next east of Jones and Saline, and thirty-six miles wide is watered from the southwest to the southeast corner by the Big Blue, which is fed by the Turkey creeks of Saline; Axtell, Campbell, Wild Cat, and seventeen other creeks within its bounds. The James Blue Springs are situated near the center of this county.
- 5. Pawnee, next south of Johnson and Gage, has numerous creeks, and several other creeks, flowing west into the Big Blue. Turkey creek flows from north to south through the center of this county, fed by Rogers' and numerous smaller creeks, which rapidly and water almost every section in the county. The North Fork of the Great Nebraska passes through the northeastern and the South Fork of the same stream waters the southern portion of this county. Deep creek, Deep creek, Duck creek, and several other streams rise in the eastern portion of this county and empty into the North Fork of the Great Nebraska.
- 6. Johnson, north of Pawnee and east of Gage, has passing through, from the northwest to the southeast townships, the North Fork of the Great Nebraska. The Turkey creek heads in the northern portion of this county; Yankee creek passing from the western side of the county empty into the North Fork of the Great Nebraska near its center. The South Fork of the Little Nebraska runs in an arc on the north side of the county empty into the North Fork. Long Branch heads in this county. Richardson, east of Pawnee and south

of Nemaha, has the Missouri river for its eastern boundary. The South Fork of the Great Nebraska and the North Fork of the same enter this county, one in the southeast corner towards the center, in the central portion, passing towards the center from east to west and the Great Nebraska, the largest stream in Nebraska south of the Platte. Long Branch enters this county at the northwest corner and flows into the North Fork of the Great Nebraska; Big Muddy creek enters this county about the center on the south, passing southeast emptying into the Great Nebraska below the Falls. Nemaha—in which the Land Office is situated at Brownville—enters Johnson and north of Richardson, is bounded on the east by the Missouri river. Its principal stream is the Little Nemaha, emptying at the northwest corner. It flows diagonally through the county, emptying into the Missouri in the southeast corner towards Long Branch flows through the southern portion, and many other smaller streams rapidly through and afford live, running water to almost every section in the county.

There is not a county in this District which has not a stream adapted for turning machinery. The Little Blue and Big Sandy, in Jones; Turkey creek, in Saline; the Big Blue in Gage; the North Fork of the Great Nebraska in Johnson and Pawnee; the North Fork of the Little Nemaha, in Johnson; the Great Nemaha, in Richardson; the James Blue, in Nemaha; are all first class mill streams, holding out inducements to manufacturers and millers unequalled by any other section of the country; not simply because of the water power, but in the rich country through which they pass, and the timber along their banks, which adds to the value of the water power, and to cause a greater flow of immigration to this District than to any other district in the West.

The bottom lands along the larger streams, especially as we approach the Missouri river, are thickly covered by persons who have lived on both, for twenty to thirty years, and have a fine farm land between of Ohio. With reasonable cultivation they produce 100 bushels of corn to the acre; and we have known 50 bushels to be raised upon and land without any manure.

The timber along the larger streams and nearest the Missouri river is principally Cottonwood, white, as you go back from the Missouri to the Little Blue and along the streams in the interior hard wood, such as Walnut, Oak, Hickory, etc., is plenty. Cottonwood is peculiar to the bottom of the Missouri, yet is done well when planted upon upland. We have a sufficient supply of timber in this District to cover present necessities, and where the fire is kept out young timber can be raised rapidly. We are pleased to see that the practice of planting out groves of timber upon this territory, and the coming general among the farmers of the District.

For stock raising the West offers no better section than this District. Water is abundant and fine upland grass super-abundant. We have heard of no mountain, with sick or other diseases among the cattle in this section. For sheep raising we have heard old sheep raisers from Illinois and Ohio recommend southern Nebraska, and prove their faith by bringing out their flocks. 8000 worth of sheep are exempt from taxation in Nebraska.

The crops most generally raised are Corn and Wheat, the former is certainly the main dependence so far, the latter is a good crop four out of five years, and has never within the past eleven years been near a complete failure. Heavy produce as well here and with as fine a fiber as in any portion of the United States. Oats is a sure crop and produces well. Sorghum does well. Experiments with Tobacco, Cotton and Flax have shown our soil and climate favorable to their cultivation.

Geologically this District has never been fairly examined, private enterprise and fact have been so far the only means to develop its resources. In Pawnee, Johnson, Richardson and Nemaha Coal has been discovered in numerous places. Companies for working coal beds have been formed in York, Richardson county and at Diggins City, Pawnee County. As to the workings of the formation we have heard little of late, the company at Pawnee City have opened up a vein of three feet thick near the surface and are working with great activity to make this discovery productive in the whole District. Coal has been discovered in twenty places in this county. Good building stone is found in abundance in

almost every neighborhood. There is now appropriated \$40,000 for a Geological Survey of Nebraska, and this District, we predict, will be immensely benefited thereby.

The Fishes and Population of the Nebraska Land District we give as far as we can collect at present:

Big Sandy is the County Seat of Jones county, of its fisheries and population we are not informed; the population of the North Fork of the Great Nebraska; Big Muddy creek enters this county about the center on the south, passing southeast emptying into the Great Nebraska below the Falls. Nemaha—in which the Land Office is situated at Brownville—enters Johnson and north of Richardson, is bounded on the east by the Missouri river. Its principal stream is the Little Nemaha, emptying at the northwest corner. It flows diagonally through the county, emptying into the Missouri in the southeast corner towards Long Branch flows through the southern portion, and many other smaller streams rapidly through and afford live, running water to almost every section in the county.

There is not a county in this District which has not a stream adapted for turning machinery. The Little Blue and Big Sandy, in Jones; Turkey creek, in Saline; the Big Blue in Gage; the North Fork of the Great Nebraska in Johnson and Pawnee; the North Fork of the Little Nemaha, in Johnson; the Great Nemaha, in Richardson; the James Blue, in Nemaha; are all first class mill streams, holding out inducements to manufacturers and millers unequalled by any other section of the country; not simply because of the water power, but in the rich country through which they pass, and the timber along their banks, which adds to the value of the water power, and to cause a greater flow of immigration to this District than to any other district in the West.

The bottom lands along the larger streams, especially as we approach the Missouri river, are thickly covered by persons who have lived on both, for twenty to thirty years, and have a fine farm land between of Ohio. With reasonable cultivation they produce 100 bushels of corn to the acre; and we have known 50 bushels to be raised upon and land without any manure.

The timber along the larger streams and nearest the Missouri river is principally Cottonwood, white, as you go back from the Missouri to the Little Blue and along the streams in the interior hard wood, such as Walnut, Oak, Hickory, etc., is plenty. Cottonwood is peculiar to the bottom of the Missouri, yet is done well when planted upon upland. We have a sufficient supply of timber in this District to cover present necessities, and where the fire is kept out young timber can be raised rapidly. We are pleased to see that the practice of planting out groves of timber upon this territory, and the coming general among the farmers of the District.

For stock raising the West offers no better section than this District. Water is abundant and fine upland grass super-abundant. We have heard of no mountain, with sick or other diseases among the cattle in this section. For sheep raising we have heard old sheep raisers from Illinois and Ohio recommend southern Nebraska, and prove their faith by bringing out their flocks. 8000 worth of sheep are exempt from taxation in Nebraska.

The crops most generally raised are Corn and Wheat, the former is certainly the main dependence so far, the latter is a good crop four out of five years, and has never within the past eleven years been near a complete failure. Heavy produce as well here and with as fine a fiber as in any portion of the United States. Oats is a sure crop and produces well. Sorghum does well. Experiments with Tobacco, Cotton and Flax have shown our soil and climate favorable to their cultivation.

Geologically this District has never been fairly examined, private enterprise and fact have been so far the only means to develop its resources. In Pawnee, Johnson, Richardson and Nemaha Coal has been discovered in numerous places. Companies for working coal beds have been formed in York, Richardson county and at Diggins City, Pawnee County. As to the workings of the formation we have heard little of late, the company at Pawnee City have opened up a vein of three feet thick near the surface and are working with great activity to make this discovery productive in the whole District. Coal has been discovered in twenty places in this county. Good building stone is found in abundance in

Two Milling Shops—Mrs. Howett and Martin D. Gunn.
One Book and News Depot, Mack & Co.
Three Canteenkeepers: Wm. Russell, Phil Deener and Allen.
Three Restaurateurs: Wm. Roush, Allen and H. H. Gunn.
Two Wagon Shops: Prins H. Gunn, Lockhart, Back; John L. Gunn.
Farm Implement Depot: F. A. Thiel & Co.
Flax Factory: A. W. Morgan.
Brewery: Bridget & Son.
Paint Shop: L. Waldner.
Marchant Tailor: J. Marbo.
One Tailor shop: C. Johnson.
Exchange Bank: John L. Gunn.
Two Livery Stables: Ben. Roper and A. V. Cogwell.
One Clock, Watch, and Jewelry Store: Joseph Sauer.
One Distillery in the suburbs with a capacity of producing 15 barrels per day. J. L. Gunn, Paul Perkins, and Glad D. Hovey & Co.
One Rectifying and wholesale Liquor Store: Perkins & Co.
Three Hotels: American House, Wm. Robinson, proprietor; Claret Hotel, City Restaurant, L. Claret, proprietor; the new hotel on the levee, which will be built and opened next year, by Stevenson & Cronin.
Barber Shop: J. L. Roper.
Saw Mill and Grist Mill: Dr. John McGowan, proprietor, on the Missouri.
Farmers Store: McCall & Co.
The First Cash Billiard Room: Wm. Worthing and J. O'Neil.
Two Meat Markets: C. H. Gunn, one drug store, two blacksmith and one wagon shop.
Three Carpenters shops, one a bakery are in the suburbs.
The Hotel: American House, Wm. Robinson, proprietor; Claret Hotel, City Restaurant, L. Claret, proprietor; the new hotel on the levee, which will be built and opened next year, by Stevenson & Cronin.
Barber Shop: J. L. Roper.
Saw Mill and Grist Mill: Dr. John McGowan, proprietor, on the Missouri.
Farmers Store: McCall & Co.
The First Cash Billiard Room: Wm. Worthing and J. O'Neil.
Two Meat Markets: C. H. Gunn, one drug store, two blacksmith and one wagon shop.
Three Carpenters shops, one a bakery are in the suburbs.
The Hotel: American House, Wm. Robinson, proprietor; Claret Hotel, City Restaurant, L. Claret, proprietor; the new hotel on the levee, which will be built and opened next year, by Stevenson & Cronin.
Barber Shop: J. L. Roper.
Saw Mill and Grist Mill: Dr. John McGowan, proprietor, on the Missouri.
Farmers Store: McCall & Co.
The First Cash Billiard Room: Wm. Worthing and J. O'Neil.
Two Meat Markets: C. H. Gunn, one drug store, two blacksmith and one wagon shop.