

# BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

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THROUGHOUT this broad land of Kansas, the center of liberty enlightened new world, the voices of the best orators of the day, (and some of the poorest ones, too,) were heard on Monday last. The tall feathers of our national bird were spread in the faces of eager, sweltering audiences, and the smell of burnt powder was wafted on the south winds.



With each and every true American citizen we rejoice, and with the Kansas man and his whole family we unite in a loud and long hurrah! While the citizens of Great Bend and Barton county had not arranged for a united effort to join in a grand gala day exposition, we know their failure to do so has not been for lack of patriotism or a proper appreciation of the day which we commemorated.

IN VIEW of the proposition that is before our people in relation to the new college to be located here, we desire to say that nothing we can do will more surely benefit our town and county than to secure this institution. As one of our exchanges truthfully remarks, "the church and the school house are about the first things a man looks for when he approaches a town with a view of locating. He wants his children to have an opportunity to become educated and intelligent men and women, and whether a church goer or not himself, he wants the restraining influence of church teachings in the community where he trusts his wife, and invests his money."

HERE is what the Chicago Inter-Ocean has to say of Kansas and California:

"It is 'nip and tuck' between California and Kansas. They are both young, but among the most prosperous states in the union. Kansas is 4 years younger than California, is about one-half the size, but it has to-day over 1,000,000 residents. It produced last year 14,000 bushels of wheat, 126,000,000 bushels of corn, and hogs and cattle unnumbered. California produced more wheat, 36,000,000 bushels, and her vineyards and citrus fruits are just beginning to add largely to her wealth."

LYONS and Sterling are each expecting additional railroads. Great Bend ought not to be behind her neighbors. Some town very near here will soon be recognized as the metropolis of central Kansas. If Great Bend can secure more roads there is no doubt that it is the coming town. And when Great Bend prospers so will the whole county.

#### A PUBLIC BENEFIT.

The people of Barton county will soon be called upon to decide whether they wish another line of railroad to pass through the county. The election has been fixed for August 23d, and at that time it is the duty of every voter to decide by his ballot whether he desires the road or not. This is a subject of vital interest to every man in the county, and it should be discussed in a spirit befitting its gravity.

That we need the road, the county as well as the city, no one will deny. Every farmer knows full well that each road built through the county will benefit him individually. The only pertinent question is, "Are the railroad people asking too much and would they not build it for a less sum?" This is the proper way to discuss the matter. Let us lay aside unreasoning prejudice and look at the question as a people

whose interests are mutual. We have always contended that the prosperity of Great Bend depends vitally on the prosperity of Barton county. And were we convinced that if this road would militate against the farmers of the county we would oppose it. But we do not. We are convinced that the road will be worth more to the people than the amount of bonds asked, and for that reason we favor it.

#### Wedding Anniversary.

The handsome grounds of Mayor A. J. Buckland, on west Forest avenue, were illuminated last Friday night, and the happy voices of many people were sounding in the moonlit evening air until a late hour, the occasion being the tenth anniversary of Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Buckland. A large company of Great Bend's best citizens were present comprising most of the old settlers of the city. A number of estimates were made as to how many people were present, and they ranged from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and twenty-five. The numbers of the city council presented Mayor Buckland with a handsome gold headed cane, councilman D. R. Jones making the presentation speech. Ed. G. Buckland did the honors by introducing the bride and groom, "and all went merry as a marriage bell." The Citizens' Band came up during the evening and favored the company present with a few choice selections in their usual thoroughly artistic style. Ample refreshments were served during the evening. The occasion was one long to be remembered by all who were present.

#### Concerning Natural Gas.

The following letter to a lady friend of the DEMOCRAT will be of interest to our readers on the subject of natural gas. We give it in the hope that it will help to assist our natural-gas company in this much-desired project:

KOKONA, IOWA, June 30, 1887.  
MRS. STELLA AYRES:  
MY DEAR FRIEND:—I take pleasure in answering your inquiries on the subject of natural gas. We find this treasure in Indiana usually from a depth of 920 to 950 feet. Our wells are 914, 920 and up to 930 feet. We now have five wells, all successful, but the last one is the strongest well in the state, discharging about 10,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day. The cost of drilling our first well was \$2 per foot, including casing. The other four have averaged about \$1,500 per well, also including casing. We here go through the following formations: Drift or soil, from three to fifteen feet; upper silturean limestone, 400 feet; slate and Lake Huron shale, about 500 feet, when we reach the lower silturean, or Trenton limestone, in which the gas is found, in this we only have to go a few feet. We drill about an eight-inch hole down to the shale, and this has to be cased with six-inch iron piping to keep out surface water. The balance of the way down is dry, and remains so down to the Trenton limestone, where we get either gas or salt water. I will send you some of our Kokona papers, which will give you other information.  
Respectfully,  
A. F. ARMSTRONG.

#### The Wet Umbrella Joke.

The old practical joke of a bald dozen young fellows raising dripping wet umbrellas in the main doorway of a public hall at the close of an entertainment before a crowded house on a starlight night was played with entire success a few evenings ago in Harlem, says the New York Times. The news of the unexpected and most unwelcome storm was communicated to others by those of the audience who first saw the umbrellas, and in that way it became the exciting and exclusive subject of conversation throughout the building. Gentlemen carefully covered their silk ties with their handkerchiefs, rolled up the ends of the legs of their trousers and turned up their coat collars. Ladies prepared themselves in the conventional way for a prouking walk to the cars, and others sent their gaudy escorts flying after umbrellas, coaches and waterproofs. In about ten minutes the real state of things, ho-to-do, had been discovered, and then came unbounded hilarity and a

resolve on the weatherbound boys to try it on somewhere themselves.—Kansas City Times.

#### Communicated.

RICHWOOD, O., June 28, '87.  
Notwithstanding the big boom in this state over natural gas, I am, by distributing a lot of advertising matter, attracting considerable attention to Kansas, and especially Barton county. The people are nearly crazy to hear something of "bleeding, starving Kansas," and you may expect a big rush from this locality to old Barton later in the season. Yours, etc.,  
W. E. CARR.

#### Exchange Gleanings.

Mrs. Hetty Green, of New York, is said to be the wealthiest woman in America, holding \$40,000,000 in her own name.

Many preachers say that a man is not religious because he had no morals. Nonsense! One man gets religion and he jumps up and shouts the praises to God. Another man gives \$1,000 to a mission next Sunday, but never shouts. Now, which would you bet on, if you were a betting man?—Sam Jones.

If you are not interested in seeing the town in which you live, grow and prosper you should move out of it. You talk about colleges, factories and railroads but when you simmer every thing down in search of the boom you will find that a few enthusiastic, hard-working citizens started into it and are keeping it going. It is the work of those who have faith and are thoroughly imbued with the idea that a town is going to grow and outstrip its neighbors that keeps it in the front.—Garden City Democrat.

The Dunkards, who form a subject of especial interest in Kansas at present, trace their existence as a denomination to Germany, where, in the year 1707, one Alexander Mack, with seven others, combined themselves together in reading the Scriptures and evolved the theology of the Dunkard church. Having come to an agreement on the doctrines of the new church they withdrew from the fellowship of other churches in which they had a membership, and baptised one another in the river Elder and began to teach others. They were persecuted, of course, and came to America, settling in Germantown in 1729. Their proper church name is German Baptist. Dunkards is a nickname given to them, at first by their pedo-Baptist enemies, on account of their mode of baptising. The word is derived from the German "tunken," to dip.

Frank Kerns, of south of the river, says he had in 100 acres of wheat from which he will get 1,600 bushels. As quite a good deal of the 100 acres was not cut, this brings the average bushels per acre up to a very good standard for a short year.

The Board of County Commissioners, after carefully canvassing the petition asking the proposition of the Midland to be submitted to a vote, decided that two-fifths of the tax-payers in the county had signed the call. They, therefore, made the call.

Mr. N. R. Holmes reports that his son at St. Louis, who, it will be remembered, was seriously ill a week or two ago, is much better and his physicians think he will soon be well. He will remain at St. Louis until he completes his course in the commercial college.

#### Chicago Excursion.

We will sell round trip tickets to Chicago for \$22.45 on account of the National Educational Association. Tickets will be on sale July 4th to 11th inclusive, good returning, July 15th to the 19th inclusive. An extension can be had until Sept. 8th, 1887. This is a fine opportunity to visit in the east as it is quite probable that low round trip rates will be made from Chicago to many eastern points for the convenience of excursionists from the west.  
W. TORREY, Agent.  
A. T. & S. F. R. R.

#### A Family Blessing.

Simmons Liver Regulator, the favorite home remedy, is entirely vegetable, and is the purest and best family medicine that is compounded. No error to be feared in administering; no injury from exposure after taking; no loss of time. It is the best preventive medicine and safe to take no matter what the sickness may prove to be, and, in any ordinary disease, will effect a speedy cure. Demand the Genuine, having the Z-stamp on wrapper.

## GLASSWARE, QUEENSWARE,

Immense new stock, the largest in the country.

## WNE and ELEGANT DESIGNS

If you are in need of any kind of dishes from the common to the more costly, you can hardly fail to be suited by calling at my place.  
Respectfully,

W. H. H. KEENEY.

J. V. BRINKMAN & CO.,

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ESTABLISHED IN 1874.

DOES A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.

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On long time, with the privilege of paying at any time.

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A Large and Well Assorted Stock of QUEENSWARE, GLASS and WOODENWARE.

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BLACKSMITH AND ANTHRACITE COAL A SPECIALTY.

ALL KINDS OF

GROUND AND CHOP FEED

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Agents For the U. P. R. R. Lands, also

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AT THE VERY LOWEST RATES.

Long list of property in all parts of the City at Great Bargains.

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WILKE DUTSMAN,

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CARRIES A FULL LINE OF

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Goods in exchange for produce.

ALBERT, Barton County, KANSAS.

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Near the Depot. Best accommodations in  
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day. Day board per week, \$4.00. A good  
feed stable attached.

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