

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

WILL E. STOKE, Publisher.
OFFICE IN OPERA HOUSE BLOCK.

GREAT BEND, KANSAS.

Mrs. R. C. Goit's brother has been here on a visit.

Al. Whitcomb is putting quite an addition to his house.

The frame work for the second story in the Grand Central hotel is up.

Charlie C. Reeder, our friend from Clarence township, made us a pleasant call to-day.

A new stone pavement is now being put down in front of the Moser-Buckland building.

Michael Giddings, living west of town, had a colt killed by lightning in his pasture Sunday night.

Elmer Epperson, of just west of town, says his folks will have roasting ears out of their field corn this week.

The hum of the threshing machine and the whistle of the traction engine are the most prominent noises of the country just now.

The work on the water-works goes steadily on. The stand pipe is now being erected and ditching will be begun this week.

Waterworks pipes are now strung along Main street almost the whole length, and work will soon commence on putting them down.

Through the kindness of Mr. Howard Soule, ye editor was to-day presented with some fine peaches, gathered from trees which we planted in Kansas City in 1884.

Remember ye Olde Folk's concert Friday night, July 15th. Admission, 50 cents; children under 12 years, 25 cents. Tickets for sale at Shaw & Wilson's. No extra charge for reserved seats.

The street-car company has a force of men working on the car stables. The stables are located adjoining Richie's barn. The cars, if not already here, will arrive this evening or in the morning.

The School Board will award the contracts for the two new school buildings at a meeting held at the brick school house on next Saturday, at 3 p. m. All bids should be handed in before noon of Saturday, the 16th inst.

The sidewalk is now completed on the east side of Main to the north of Jas. Savages property, and along the north side of his property to the right of way of the Missouri Pacific. The railroad should now build the sidewalk from Savage's corner to the depot, and make a continuous walk up town.

The seasonable rains have caused a wonderful growth in Kansas; the \$1 and \$2 bills that the farmers had pressed deep down into their purses to provide against a dry day have sprouted, and innumerable \$10 and \$20 bills give great promise of arriving at that degree of perfection that delights the eye and heart of him who grows a bountiful crop.

The court house is now receiving the last coat of paint, and it is a Milwaukee brick color and no mistake. It has been painted almost every color known to this scribe, and each time he was assured that it was being painted the color of Milwaukee brick. Mr. John Zaeller, the contractor on the work, will eventually turn the job out in the most artistic style.

G. N. & E. R. Moses and Mr. Joseph Weiner have just had put up in their business houses the Lamson Rapid Transit Railway Cash system. The clerk loads a little wooden box in almost any part of the store, puts it on a wire, pulls a string and zip! she's gone! The little car carrying the box travels to the cashier's desk, where it is emptied, the proper change made, put into it again, and, upon pulling another string, is back again as quick as thought, almost.

The propagation of silk worms is likely to become one of the valuable industries of Kansas in the near future. Wherever started the business has proven a successful one in this vicinity. We talked this morning with Mr. C. A. Weltner, who has been experimenting in the business for a couple of years, and he says that he has been very successful this far. He has now about 15,000 eggs and a large number of cocoon on hand. He has fed the worms on osage hedge, but is raising mulberry trees for the purpose.

Woman may be a puzzle, but a man is not willing to give her up.

Judge no man because the disposition of his mind is not like your own.

Kansas will eventually rank as one of the cotton states. Barber county has 380 acres of cotton this year.

Butler county boasts of a corn stalk just forty-seven days old that stands twelve and one half feet high.

A mirror is a friend that a woman turns her back on when it tells her that she is growing old.

"There is more pleasure in giving than receiving." This is particularly true in the matter of advice.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooker have moved to Great Bend from Hoisington, and will make their home here.

The School Board has decided that no children under 6 years old will be admitted to the city schools until the new buildings are completed.

We notice some of the streets are badly in need of a sickle or scythe along the walks. Weeds are not always the most beautiful ornament, and we would like very much to see them laid low.

In Minneapolis the girls have formed a society, with the motto: "The lips that touch wine shall never touch mine." The young men will henceforth suck it through a straw, for they will never, never, give up the latter alternative in the ultimatum of this society.

Wake Up, Gas Company!

What has become of the natural gas company? If they don't get to work before long the people will arrive at the conclusion that they are non est de bustibus absquatulum. The greatest confidence is expressed that gas can be found in this vicinity should the attempt be made, and we hope to see it done at once. If any thing will boom a country this discovery of natural gas certainly will. As an instance we cite the case of Findley, Ohio, at and in the vicinity of which a number of our citizens formerly lived. A few years ago it was a small village and considered dead. But gas was discovered and look at the metamorphosis. Now nobody knows how many inhabitants it has, but the corporation lines have been extended until the city is 4x6 miles in size, enclosing 24 square miles or 12,260 acres. Corner lots three miles from the court house, but inside the city, are worth \$1,000, and if you go to look at them they make you clean your feet before you leave the premises so as not to carry any valuable real estate away with you. Farm lands sell at \$1,000 per acre. These are not asking prices, but actual sales are being made at these and in some cases larger figures. The gas lies in the Trenton rock, which the borings show is 1,000 to 1,600 feet below the surface here, and 200 to 1,300 below tide-water. A very large flow of gas may be found in a place and another well a few hundred feet away may be a dry hole. So a failure in the first case may be no cause for discouragement.—Garden City Democrat.

The Great Doris & Colvin's Shows.

Here is what the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette has to say about the show which is to be here on the 18th of August:

There never was such a Wild West show in Cincinnati as was seen last night. Indians, Indian slayers, cowboys, scouts, trappers, Mexican vaqueros, chulo, capas, matadores, etc., actually metamorphosed the interior of the show with a section of the Rockies, so to speak. There were lasso throwers, Texas steer riders, and Texas steers who bucked and kicked in a manner that equalled anything in the kicking line ever seen here. Captain Elmer E. Stubbs, the most expert of marksmen, used his rifle in sportively destroying glass balls in a manner that was truly astonishing. It is no wonder that the captain is entitled "The restless spirit of the plain" by the untutored aborigine "Never-Miss," though it wouldn't be a bad name for the captain. It is dead certain that he was a dead shot last night and hit the objects every time.

But to return to the circus. There are just thirty-two circus acts, and it is safe to say that every act is a scene, and every actor an artist. Such ground and lofty tumbling, such aerial gyrations, and such riding it would indeed be hard to equal.

Mr. Wm. Dalton, better known in Cincinnati as his former home by the name of "Billy" Dalton, gave an exhibition of bareback riding that eclipsed anything that we have had for a long time. Billy throws somersaults on the back of a flying steed with as much ease and facility as most tumblers do on terra firma. All the riders were good, especially so the Indian hurdle riders, who do an act that is fearfully wonderful, dashing around the charmed circle in an absolutely reckless way. But, speaking of riding, the real down-right riding is done in Roman hippodrome. How the horses do it—! Hey, Rubel!

THE COUNTY PRINTING.

Ellinwood, Kans., July 12, 1887.

EDITORS BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT:

As you are aware that the board of county commissioners met in regular session last January and proceeded in accordance to law, and made contract with the Barton county DEMOCRAT to do all the legal printing over which the board of county commissioners have control, and they then declared that the Barton county DEMOCRAT should be the official paper of the county one year and they demanded a bond of \$500 which was given for the faithful and correct performance of all duties of official printing, for which they agreed to pay the official paper 33 1/3 cents per square. The law says they shall not pay more than \$1 per square. So they saved the county under contract, 66 2/3 cents, which they might have paid the official paper without any violation of law. And I want to say right here that they have fully complied with the law and all that the law requires of them as far as the official printing is concerned and over which the board of county have control, and for which the county is responsible to pay. But the controlling member of that board was not satisfied by complying with the demands of the law and the board made in additional contract with the Great Bend Tribune at the same rate per square, 33 1/3 cents, which would have cost the county fully one hundred dollars extra per annum, which extra expense does not benefit the county nor tax payers. Now I claim that this second contract is illegal, and a gross insult to the official paper and tax payers of the county. For the law plainly says that all the official printing shall be published in the official paper and paid for by the county. When the law says "all" I understand that it includes "all," and don't mean anything but "all," and that includes the delinquent tax list and all advertising for contracts, such as bridge building, and repairing bridges, or any county buildings, notice of special elections and commissioner proceedings. And the way the contracts have stood up to our last regular meeting the county has been paying for two papers, and had all the official printing done in two papers. Now I would like to know how the county could make the sales of delinquent tax lands hold good in the courts under these two contracts. I am positive in my own opinion that not a single tax sale certificate would stick or hold good in a case tested by law. Or have the commissioners of this county got more power than what the law gives them? I say they have not. The commissioners are placed in their office to perform all such duties as the law requires of them, and protect the tax payers as much as possible. That board of county commissioners in regular session in January could have just as legally divided the 66 2/3 cents between themselves and put it their own pockets as to pay another additional paper besides the official paper. Yours,

C. A. WILLEMS.

ELLINWOOD ITEMS.

Mat. Dick is visiting friends in Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. William Misner, our P. M., and family were down to Bushton last week.

Geo. Ashton and family returned from their visit in the eastern part of the state last week.

The town was crowded with people and teams Saturday.

106 degrees in the shade without wind, last Saturday.

A cheap John wagon was seen on the streets last week.

S. B. Deupree has been quite ill the past week.

John Ludwig attended the Fourth in Hutchinson.

Mrs. Geo. Hauser is very seriously ill.

M. Laur, of Illinois, is in the city, being the guest of Dr. J. H. Campbell.

Mr. F. Sieben, representing Spengler & Runyle, of Kansas City, was in town Tuesday and Wednesday.

The ponds on the other side of the bridge seems to be pretty deep. For further particulars see George Klein.

Thomas Towers, formerly of this city and old pioneer, now living in McPherson, was seen on the streets this week shaking hands with his many friends.

City Marshal James Redmond has been doing some good work in the way of repairing crossings.

George Homer has sold his restaurant to Mrs. Nicholas, formerly of Stafford county.

The two beautiful new store buildings of our enterprising townsman, M.

Rader improve Washington avenue greatly in looks. One building is already sold to Mr. Meisner for the post office, and the other is rented to Dunn & Riegle, druggist. We understand that the Masonic hall will also be in one of these buildings. Brickwork will also soon commence on J. Meyer & Sons' building.

Another wedding is to occur before another moon passes by. We will give particulars in another letter.

The time will soon be at hand when the good people of Lakin township will decide upon the welfare or downfall of our township and beautiful city. Ellinwood has now one thousand inhabitants and is now commencing to enjoy quite a boom. If the people wish to make Ellinwood a city of three or four thousand inhabitants they can do so at a very trifling cost. If this city would have two more railroads the people of this town and Lakin township would certainly enjoy such a boom as ever visited the beautiful state of Kansas. H. H.

PAWNEE ROCK ITEMS.

J. B. Hardy, of Sun City, is sojourning with the Rockites.

Mrs. Kate Coleman was in town on Monday, looking after her business affairs.

Mrs. J. V. Allison, who is on the sick list, is improving. Her age and nervous affections make her recovery slow.

The family of Ed. Riggs, who at one time were in a very critical condition are now convalescing, and will soon be about again.

L. Johns and J. B. Hardy were to Larned on Monday looking after their Barber county real estate.

S. P. Weaver and R. Thomas, of Lincoln, Stafford county, were in town on Monday.

W. H. Bowman had a severe tussle with the measles; but came out first best at last, and is now seen on our streets again.

It is more than probable that the Pawnee Rock Mills will be refitted and remodeled, and put in operation right here in a short time again.

The city council met on last Monday night and ground out another gist of city ordinances, and our editor rejoiceth accordingly. Thereby cometh his bread and butter.

L. Johns sells the lumber that builds up Seward City, in Stafford county.

N. W. Hussey and Co. went south last week to hold down a certain claim much to the chagrin of our old friend David.

Our marshal is at work on the streets and crossings of our city, and is doing a very commendable work under the direction of the city council. Money spent in properly grading and draining our public thoroughfares is wisely invested.

The M. E. Church social will meet at the residence of Lem. Johns on Friday night of this week. Everybody invited.

Mayor Will Bunting has been in Larned ever since the burial of Grant Lewis, who died at his residence last week.

Rev. Vicker of Sterling, preached to thin congregations at the M. E. church on Sunday morning and evening. During the "heated term" people don't seem to relish preaching that savors of a still hotter climate.

J. H. Hepler insists on measuring lumber with the yardstick, the same as he used to do the dry goods behind the counter. John gives good measure and lots of it.

The billiard tables of Smith & Kehn, after meandering about over the western end of Kansas and the east half of Colorado, have returned, and can now be found in the old hall, by the knights of the cue. But Barney says he don't know whether he will remain here with them or not.

Doc Miller went to the "Bend" Monday. He, like Saul of old is kicking against the pricks, and says it's hard.

Our city attorney has found a formidable rival in the person of H. R. Lewis, who has been his opponent, practicing before our justice courts; and in two or three recent cases left him to come off second best in the contest. N. H.

Drowned In A Well.

A German named Skelant, who lived in the John Pasco neighborhood in the north part of the county, yesterday afternoon went down into a well for some purpose. He had a son of Mr. Pasco and a son of a Mr. Harper to let him down into the well. When about half way down he called to the boys to pull him out, as he could not get his breath. They began drawing him up, and when near the top, he let go and fell back into the water, drowning before he could be gotten out. The Harper boy immediately started down to the rescue, but, upon reaching the spot where the man had been, he, too, called to be drawn up quick, and was almost exhausted when brought to the surface.

ESTABLISHED MAY, 1872.

A. S. ALLEN,

The youngest man, but

The Oldest Druggist in the Arkansas Valley.

Dealer in

Drugs, Paints, Glass, Stationery & Corner Lots.

7 PER CENT. LOANS!

WITH PRIVILEGE TO PAY AT ANY TIME!

NO DELAY MONEY PAID THE DAY PAPERS ARE SIGNED!

A. H. BAKER,
HOISINGTON, KAS.

FOR A SQUARE MEAL, CALL AT THE BARTON COUNTY BAKERY & RESTAURANT.

FRESH BREAD, PIES, CAKES

And a full line of Confectioneries constantly on hand. Also a full line of Fresh Groceries, which we sell at the lowest prices.

DAY BOARDERS WANTED. GIVE US A TRIAL. **FELDKAMP & COMPANY**

Palmer & Moore, Real ESTATE Brokers,

Loan and Insurance Agents.

HAVE FOR SALE

Improved Farms and City Property. Farm Loans a Specialty.

At 6 per cent.

With Privilege to pay After One Year.

Main Street. GREAT BEND, Kas.

Coming In All Its Overpowering Majesty

And Universally Acknowledged Greatness, Immense Amplitudinous and All-Overshadowing Magnificence.

Drawn by its own huge locomotives and filling its own great trains. The greatest, grandest, and in all things best amusement enterprise ever organized

Dorris & Colvin's Colossal Shows Combined!

Circus, Menagerie, New Wild West and Roman Hippodrome.



Will Exhibit at Great Bend, Kas.,

Thursday, August 18.

Wild West Scenes; Hippodrome Races; Circus acts without number; Aerial Gymnastics, Contortionistic, Acrobatic and Athletic; Six Simultaneous Acts on Hippodrome track in Rings on Elevated stage, and high in the ambient Air.

Mr. William Dutton,

Champion Somersault Bareback Rider of the world.

Miss Ella Stokes,

Champion Lady Bareback Rider of the world.

Wm. O'Dell, the Great, and 20 other celebrated bareback riders. Mr. Chas. Lowry, Senior Bareta and Mons. Lerona, the Prince of Hurdle riders and 15 others. Miss Lotta, the Queen of the upper air, who is shot from a canon, the entire length of our huge tent, and who dives head foremost from the top of the center pole. Miss Lizzetta, the flying woman, in trapeze feats extraordinary. Lou and Ruge, the greatest contortionists in the world. The Boneless wonders, in amazing serpentine convulsions contortionistic. Louis Inson; Miss Snoot; The Great Tatsuma; the Prince of the Wondrous Isle, in ambidextrous Juggling and gravity-defying equilibrium exercises extraordinary.

The Greatest and Grandest Roman Hippodrome

ever seen "neath God's blue sky." Dashing steeds with blooded, reckless riders. Dashing drivers in furious whirlwind Roman chariots. Standing Centaurs in Roman Standing Races. Hippodrome heroes and heroines in running, trotting and all kinds of races.

Capt. Elmer E. Stubbs, the champion shot of the world. The wild west heroes and heroines in our grand menagerie.

Our Grand Free Street Parade

The most superlative scene of splendor ever beheld by the eye of mortal man. More Golden Chariots, Blazing Vans, Mythological Tableau Cars, Brilliant Band Wagons, Elephants, Camels, Moose, Zebras, etc. More sights than tongue can tell, FREE to all every morning at 10 o'clock.