

THE TRANSCRIPT

A. A. HARWOOD, Editor and Proprietor.

—AUSTIN, MINN.—

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Volume Five.

The last number of the TRANSCRIPT

was the closing leaf of the fourth volume.

Four years have wrought many changes

in the condition of Mower county

and in the affairs of its inhabitants.

The material wealth has quadrupled

and the population doubled in that

period of time. Facilities for

marketing have multiplied, educational

advantages have extended, civilization

influences throughout the county,

and the churches have contributed to

the correction and elevation of the

public morals,—thus have been promoted

wealth and good government, two

principal objects in organized society.

Politically, a complete revolution has

been wrought. Not that the county has

changed its politics, for it has ever

been reliably Republican, but that the

old corps of officers has been dispersed,

and new selectees made, with

for honesty, economy and efficiency,

commend themselves to the favorable

consideration of all honorable men—

something which cannot be said of

official labors of their predecessors.

For the new condition of things the

TRANSCRIPT is largely responsible. It

was established as the organ of the people.

It has endeavored faithfully to

represent their wishes and their interests,

and that it has succeeded, may be

judged from the fact that it has

ever been sustained by them. It

will continue to be the earnest friend

of every good citizen. It will enforce

and illustrate integrity and economy—

it will strive to promote virtue, and

diffuse useful knowledge. It will

recognize no favorites upon the theory

of wealth, position or nationality—

Equal rights shall be accorded to all

men, and special aid given only to those

who, if worthy, are the most needy—

With gratitude for past favors, and

with a determination to merit the con-

fidence of all good people, we send out

the first number of the fifth volume of

the TRANSCRIPT and bespeak for the

same favor and the same generous

sympathy with which it has been greet-

ed in other years.

The Smith Case.

The public are feeling an interest

in the suit which the County has instituted

against Sylvester Smith, and inquiries

are frequently made concerning it.

For the information of all parties we

give the following history of the matter:

The parties agreed to refer the

case for the purpose of taking testimony,

each party to choose one referee,

and to agree upon the third if an

agreement were possible, and if not

that to be appointed by the Judge of

the Court. No agreement upon a person

for the third referee was possible.

The Judge appointed a Mr. Ware

of Mantoville. Mr. Ware would not

accept upon the condition that he should

receive by consent of parties, seven

dollars per day, the statute allowing

but five in such cases. The defendant

declined the terms, and Mr. Ware

declined the appointment. The Judge

then appointed A. A. Harwood. With

this the defendant was dissatisfied and

consented to pay Mr. Ware his price.

The ideal for the County deprecated

the cause of paying one referee more

than the other were to receive, and

State News.

The ladies of Red Wing held a temperance

convention recently.

Stock to the amount of \$50,000 has

been subscribed towards the organization

of the Second National Bank in

Mankato, principally by business men

of the city, and it is expected the bal-

ance of the stock will be secured, the

organization perfected and officers elect-

ed in a few days.

The County Commissioners of Anoka

have voted \$600 for the erection of a

county jail.

The Mankato Review says that Mrs.

C. LaVine started east a few days since,

to visit some of the Central States, for

the purpose of soliciting funds to aid

the Christian church in the erection of

their house of worship in that city.

The Republicans of Owatonna, at the

Charter election, elected their ticket

excepting one Alderman. W. II Kelly is

the new Mayor.

The icy bridges that has barricaded

the Mississippi river at St. Paul for

several months past took its departure

for a more southern clime, on Friday last.

The new \$30,000 Dakota county jail

is a sad failure, being unfit for occupancy

on account of want of proper venila-

tion. Sheriff Newell notices justly of

the peace and combs, that no

prisoners will be received until further

notice, and that in case of commitment

to send to Ramsey county jail.

Temperance Items.

We are obliged to the Western

Temperance Herald for the following

items.—ED. TRANSCRIPT.

The Indiana State Prohibition Con-

vention will be held at Indianapolis, on

the 3d of April.

The Iowa Legislature has inde-

terminately postponed the bill to regulate

the sale of intoxicating liquors, which

was copied from the Illinois Law.

A petition, containing one thousand

names, protesting against the modifica-

tion or repeal of the liquor law of

Ohio, was sent from Portsmouth, a few

days since. The names, in single col-

umns, measured thirty one feet in length.

The temperance people of Rhode

Island are petitioning for a prohibitory

law. The Legislature has been flooded

the past month with these petitions—

astounding even the friends of temper-

ance, opening the eyes of the non-com-

mittal members, and frightening the

rumsellers and their defenders.

Noble county, Ohio, with a popu-

lation of 20,000 people is well worthy

of the name it bears. There is not a

saloon in the whole county, there is not

a case on the criminal docket, and not

a person has been arrested for a whole

year on a criminal charge. There were

only five lawsuits last year and if it

hadn't been for a meddling lawyer

three of these would not have been re-

corded.

For the Mower County Transcript.

Singing Prayers.

Perhaps no vulgar practice or cus-

tom is more noticeable in the United

States than the using of slang words,

and phrases, slang in every form.—

One is naturally led to infer that the

pure, lucid English language is infer-

ior to the vile, made-up mixture of

what is worst in all the divisions of our

country.

If we ask some question which could

very properly be answered by yes, or

no, in about three instances out of four,

our answer is something like, "You

bet." "That's what the matter!"

"You know it is yourself!" or some

other slang reply infinitely worse, per-

haps. If this were confined to any

one particular class, and that class the

most vulgar one, we would not need to

especially deplore the fact of its exist-

State News.

It was manifested, and all felt it

to be there. Several persons

were converted.

The Baptist Association that was

held with the church at

Etta Church, has been changed to that

of Etta, and will be held there on

Wednesday in June. Rev. Mr. Farn-

worth, of Spring Valley, will preach

the opening sermon.

The soldiers' household act, which

became a law on Tuesday, the 2d inst.,

provides that every private soldier or

officer who has served in the army of

the United States during the recent

rebellion for 90 days or more, shall be

entitled to 160 acres of land.

NAVIGATION has opened on the Mis-

sissippi river. The latest opening that

has been known for years.

Tax duty of Antioch, in Syria, was

nearly destroyed by an earthquake,

a few days ago.

Our Militia.

The militia systems of most of our

States—Minnesota included—have al-

ways been very imperfect. Several

years ago patriotic minds over

regular troops unlikewise conceived our

ancestors that discipline was almost

worthless. Hence resulted those un-

iformed and rabbi like "trainings"

which long made us the laughing-stock

of Europe.

Even the War has not fully taught us

the importance of this matter. A

well-armed, carefully drilled, neatly

uniformed, and enthusiastic militia is

the most effectual safeguard which a

country can possess against foreign

encroachment and domestic usurpation.

We regret that Minnesota cannot claim

to have it now. Our organizations are

few in number and unreliable in ma-

terial. There is no evidence of that

spirit which is essential to im-

provement. On the contrary, unless

some steps are taken to create a more

vigilant corps, there is every

probability that matters will grow

worse instead of better.

A certain and all proverb ears that

"the best way to improve ourselves is

to imitate the merits of others." Our

legislators would do well to adopt from

the systems of other Nations and States

such of their best features as would

enable us to do better. It is not

enough to be a good citizen, it must

be well furnished all completed organ-

izations with uniforms and necessary

equipment, and establish prizes for

superiority in drill and target practice.

There should be an all-around endeavor

to raise a spirit of competition in the

different regiments and companies. This

would probably result in greatly in-

creasing their number and efficiency—

There is no good reason why we should

lag behind other States in these

respects.—Pioneer.

Prohibition vs. License.

The 5th anniversary of the Massa-

chusetts Temperance Society was

held here. The society has for

its object the suppression of intem-

perance solely by moral and religious

influence. It numbers among its

members many of the best known and

most influential citizens of the State. At

this meeting William Lloyd Garrison

made the principal speech, reviewing

the temperance movement for the past

forty years. He gave the Bible argu-

ment on wine a notice, and discussed

the commercial advantages of the tem-

perance. He argued in favor of the

prohibitory law, and in reply to the

statement that prohibition would cri-

ple commercial interests, he gave the

following figures: From November to

May, 1868, after the election, the sale

of liquor was unrestricted. During

State News.

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