

MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT.

VOL. XXIII.—No. 49

AUSTIN, MOWER COUNTY, MINN., WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 1891.

TERMS: \$1.50 Per Annum, in Advance

MCINTYRE POST, G. A. R. Meets on the first and third Saturday of each month...

A. O. U. W. Austin Lodge, A. O. U. W., No. 32, meets on the second and fourth Friday of every month...

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, NO. 14 The stated convocations of this Chapter are held in Masonic Hall, Austin, Minnesota...

FIDELITY LODGE, NO. 39, A. F. & A. M. The regular communications of this lodge are held in Masonic Hall, Austin, Minnesota...

ST. BERNARD COMMANDERY, K. T., NO. 13. Meets first Monday evening of each month at Masonic Hall...

I. O. G. T. LODGE NO. 107 Meets every Monday evening in Conductors Hall. Strangers belonging to this order are cordially invited to attend...

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PROMINENT MEN AND WOMEN OF MOWER COUNTY.



William H. Officer.

We present to our readers this week an excellent likeness of Senator W. H. Officer, whose face was for years, so familiar to the citizens of Mower county and also to many prominent politicians and business men of the state at large. He was born near the village of Chandlerville, Ohio in the year 1822. He was the oldest of six children. His father was by trade a cabinet maker, manufacturing cabinet work of all kinds, also fanning mills and other wooden ware. He employed about a dozen hands in his manufactory. Will iam learned the cabinet trade in his father's shop and had the ordinary advantages of a common school. From his boyhood, he developed a taste for mechanics and also took a course in civil engineering while at school. He worked with his father until he was about twenty four years old when he was married to Miss Mary Ann Hannah, of Baltimore, Md., who had been on a visit to Ohio. He then removed to Seelysburg, about sixteen miles southwest of Chandlerville and established a cabinet business of his own. He employed a number of men and did a flourishing business. In June, 1856, he removed to Springville, in the town of Jefferson, Vernon county, Wisconsin. His knowledge of surveying brought him steady employment for about two years in running out the old government surveys, establishing corners, and fixing boundary lines. He then leased the flouring mill at Springville for several years and ran a saw mill in connection with it.

Here he became an intimate friend of Jerry Rusk, afterwards governor of Wisconsin and now Secretary of Agriculture in President Harrison's cabinet. Rusk had been raised in Ohio, only a short distance from Mr. Officer's early home. Rusk lived at Viroqua, the county seat, about three miles from Springville. For years, he drove stage between Viroqua and La Crosse. No railroads had come so far west at that time. When Rusk ran for sheriff of Vernon county, Mr. Officer was one of his strongest supporters. Then the war times came. Rusk went to the war, and for two years Mr. Officer held the appointment of United States Marshal, devoting himself earnestly to the filling of the Wisconsin quotas. In 1862 Mr. Officer opened a large fanning mill factory at Springville, turning out several hundred in a single season. He continued in the flouring and sawmill business until he removed to Austin in 1868.

Mr. Officer, during his residence in Wisconsin had always taken a prominent part in politics. He believed thoroughly in the Republican party and its principles. He accepted thoroughly the position which his party took in putting down the rebellion and also in regard to the reconstruction of the south. He was recognized as influential in the councils of the party. In local politics he was always an active worker, devoting himself with the most untiring energy to the aid of his political friends. Soon his friends presented his name for election to the legislature and for two terms, in the house of representatives during the sessions of 1864 and 1865 he was an active worker, serving on several leading committees and recognized as a power by all.

In 1868, he came to Austin and in company with Gov. Rusk, he purchased the flour mill on the Cedar River, five miles south of Austin. They bought of Jonathan Gregson. They learned about the property through E. P. Allis, the mill machine man of Milwaukee. They refurnished the mill adding to it and opened one of the best mills in the county. Mr. Rusk remained a partner for about ten years. Mr. Officer soon became interested in Republican affairs in this county. He was almost always a delegate to the county conventions and was looked to for advice in all important matters. In the fall of 1878 he was nominated by the Republican convention for state senator and was elected. He served for four years in the state senate, being on the committees on railroads, public lands, normal schools and other important committees.

He was greatly interested in the progress of the Austin, Mankato & St. Cloud Railroad from St. Cloud to Austin and the state line. He felt so confident that it would be a success, and that it would

be of incalculable benefit to Austin that he freely devoted time and money to the enterprise, never wavering for years in his devotion to its interests. For years he was a director in this company, and it was one of the greatest disappointments of his life that he did not live to see the enterprise successfully completed.

Mr. Officer had a wide acquaintance with public men outside of this county. His friendship with Gov. Rusk continued. He was a personal friend and an ardent supporter of Senator Windom, who recently died. In our state conventions, and in other ways, he was often called upon to assist in shaping the policy and plans of the republican party in the state. He took a great interest in our national politics and watched the development and growth of Republican ideas with intense delight.

On Friday, Jan. 28, 1887, he was taken suddenly ill with acute pains in the stomach and bowels, and grew rapidly worse until Sunday afternoon, the 30th, when he died. The announcement of his unexpected death was a shock to the whole community. He had a large circle of friends who loved him because he was true and trustworthy as a friend. He was one of earth's noblemen. Mower county sustained a great loss in his death.

He was twice married. His first wife died in Wisconsin, in 1866. By this marriage he had three children, who are still living: Timothy C. E. Officer and William W. Officer, who are still carrying on the milling business, and Mrs. Sarah J., wife of W. T. Spencer, of Minneapolis. He was married again in 1870 to Matilda Ross, of Ohio, who is still living. His aged mother died a few days since at her home south of the Varco schoolhouse. The full account of her life was given in the last TRANSCRIPT.

News From an Old Settler.

Many of our readers well remember Augustus Rose, who lived southeast of this city in Austin township, and they will enjoy the following letter just received from him:

DIAL, Osborn County, Kan. Feb. 13, '91. As Minnesota friends might like to hear from us after twelve years absence I will say we are all fat and hearty. John Rochford is in the livery business in Osborne. The Vague boys are ten miles south of Osborne in the stock and farm business. John and Lee are married and happy, multiplying and replenishing the earth. Tom takes care of the mother and is single; Kate is married and lives two miles east of the home nest. I think we are all satisfied with Kansas. I know that I am, but I am not satisfied with Kansas politics, but now that the rebs are in power, or nearly so, I hope they will make laws to suit themselves, that will open the masses' eyes. Then good bye to the southern alliance. Then good bye to the weather here has been the same as the TRANSCRIPT reports it up there,—no storms of any kind until the 8th of January. We then had about 8 inches of snow. It has been snowing and raining ever since,—the first wet January since 1878. A big crop followed that, and we are looking for another next summer. When it is in splendid condition now; stock in good shape, but feed scarce for a very long season. A. ROSIE. P. S.—I think Deacon Marsh's picture a perfect copy as I remember him.

Echoes of the Carnival.

Austin's ice carnival and winter festival is reported a big success by those present from Rochester.—Rochester Democrat.

The recent cold wave in this section can be intelligently accounted for. The lively little city of Austin had an ice palace and winter carnival in progress, with King Boreas as master of ceremonies, and no other condition of temperature could be expected.—St. Paul News.

The Austin ice carnival "closed in a blaze of glory" the papers say. Glad it closed in some shape. Altogether too cold up this way, caused by reflection from that ice palace. Just a big picture of it, on a big hand bill, sent up here by Gordon of the TRANSCRIPT, and hung in our office, caused ice to form in the coal scuttle back of our large coal stove, Wednesday. And there was no relief till we pitched the blue thing out with a pair of tongs.—Waseca Radical.

The Austin carnival was a success, but the ice palace was unnecessary. The ski slide and "bouncers" furnished enough entertainment for a common man. It was more fun to see Dr. Allen of Austin come down the ski slide than it was to see Dr. Johnson ascend skyward after striking the "bouncers." The latter had hardly got off the train before the "bouncers" had him. J. D. Farmer no sooner saw Dr. Johnson in the hands of the "bouncers" before he became minus.—Spring Valley Mercury.

—Call at the Robinson hotel and consult the great Magnetic Healer, the seventh son of the seventh son, the man with the greatest unknown power of the age. The doctor agrees to locate all diseases without one question being asked, and if he fails to do this he charges you nothing. Don't beat your head against the rock and cry humbug, for it only hurts yourself. Tom Payne died in the greatest of agony because he was skeptical and an unbeliever. Don't be like him. Go and investigate for yourself. Write to some of those that have been cured and who have given their testimonials and see what they have to say of the doctor. See the letter of W. H. Orr, of Osage, dealer in farm machinery. Call on the doctor, he has a list of about one hundred patients within forty miles of Austin, who have regained their health by treating with him—cases of all kinds. The Doctor has returned to Austin for the fifth time since last spring, which shows that he means business, and that he is all that he represents himself to be. Health is wealth, and without health there is no wealth.

IMPORTANT MEETING.

A Flax Fibre Manufactory and a Racing Circuit For Austin To Be Discussed.

Agricultural Society Meeting.

A meeting of the Mower County Agricultural Society is called at the court house in Austin Friday, Feb. 20, at 2 o'clock p. m. There will also be an evening session and a meeting on Saturday. A full attendance of the officers and all members of the executive committee is desired, and the time has been arranged to accommodate members of the committee, and others who have farthest to come. The presence and help of the farmers and business men of the county is especially desired. While the main object of the meeting will be to consider and plan for the society's work for the year, to revise and arrange the premium list, and plan for a successful county fair, there will be presented a plan for holding one or more meetings during the spring and summer months, in the nature of a market day and horse fair.

An effort is also being made to arrange a trotting circuit, and hold a June meeting in connection with La Crosse, Preston, Albert Lea, Mankato, Owatonna, and other points, and they will send representatives to this meeting. The co-operation and help of Hon. J. C. Easton, La Crosse; Hon. M. T. Grattan, Preston; Col. Clark Chambers, Owatonna, and others is promised.

The business will be taken up in the following order: Friday, 2 o'clock p. m.—Horses, cattle and other stock at the fair, with revision of premium list. Evening session, 7 o'clock, June meeting and horse fair conference with delegates of other societies relative to arranging a trotting circuit. Saturday, 9 o'clock a. m.—Vegetables, grain, and dairy interests at the fair. 10 o'clock. Household manufactures, fine arts, pantry and kitchen, with report of committee of ladies on revision of premium list in above departments. 11 o'clock. School exhibits at the fair, with report and suggestions of the county superintendent. 1 o'clock p. m. Mass meeting of farmers, business men and others in the court room for general consultation and discussion; short talks on farm topics: "Flax straw and fiber—how to get some money out of it" Mr. Arthur Cole of the Kansas City Railway will present a paper on the above topic, to be followed by questions and discussion. Mr. Cole has been in correspondence with parties relative to starting a mill here, to work up the flax straw, and is prepared to give us facts, to help us save what we now waste. Mr. John Mathieson of Lansing will present the subject of "The Sugar Beet—can we grow them at a profit" to be followed by others. Everybody invited to the mass meeting.

A. KIMBALL, Pres. Mower Co. Agricultural Society. R. E. SHEPHERD, Secretary.

Washington Letter.

(From our regular Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 13, 1891.—Speaker Reed and his able lieutenants are working like beavers to get the regular appropriation bills through the House and they expect to pass the last one this week, or at the outside by the first of next week. The first bill to be taken up after the disposal of the appropriation bills in the house will be the shipping bill, or as it is more popularly known the subsidy bill. This is the bill proposing to encourage American shipping by the granting of subsidies based upon the tonnage of vessels. Representative Farquar, of New York, who is in charge of the bill, tells me that he is confident of its being passed by a decisive majority, but the opponents of the bill appear to be equally confident that it will be defeated.

The House coinage committee has informally decided to report the free coinage bill to the House next week. It is expected that the majority of the committee will recommend against any further silver legislation instead of presenting a substitute for the free coinage bill, as it was supposed would be done. This change of programme was probably made for two reasons: First, the President has given several prominent republican senators to understand that he would refuse to sign any silver bill, no matter what its character might be, at the present session, because he thinks the present silver law has not been in operation long enough to demonstrate the necessity for further silver legislation. Second, this method will prevent the bill going on the House calendar, and will make it impossible, without the adoption of a special rule, to call up the bill unless a majority of the coinage committee give their consent.

The free coinage men who hooted at the very idea of any modification of the bill a few days ago are now trying to make a combination in support of an amendment limiting free coinage to silver of American production. Ten days ago they might have succeeded, but now it is almost impossible. It is about as certain as anything in the future can be that

there will be no silver legislation at this session.

Secretary Blaine has concluded another reciprocity treaty, which will open the markets of Venezuela to our products and manufactures, and there are several other treaties well advanced which will probably be sent to the senate before the end of the session.

Mr. Blaine denies most emphatically that he has written any letter to any person in Canada or elsewhere on the subject of Canadian reciprocity, except his note to Representative Baker, of New York, stating that this government would not consider any limited proposition from the Canadian authorities. This is in answer to statements that have appeared in Canadian papers.

Representative Dingley, who is chairman of the committee engaged in investigating the alleged silver pool, says that the statements made by Owenby in a Chicago interview to the effect that he was hampered by the committee and prevented from telling what he knew when he was here last week are absolutely false and without the slightest foundation. Representative Dorsey stated under oath before the committee that if he was the Nebraska Congressman who Owenby stated in the same interview had offered him \$2,500 to forget what he knew when he went on the witness stand that Owenby was an infamous liar in all that the term implied.

The Sioux Indian delegation has had its last interview with the officials of the interior department. Yesterday they were received by the President, and today they left for Philadelphia, where they will attend a public meeting. From there they will go to visit the Indian school at Carlisle, and thence home. The Indians don't want to be transferred to the war department, but in the eyes of a great many that is just why they ought to be.

The international copyright bill is regarded as dead. Cause, too much amendment. Its friends are working over the corpse in the hope of bringing it into the house.

Watterson's letter to Governor Hill advising him to get out of the way of the Cleveland locomotive has been the subject of numerous jokes at the capitol this week. I haven't seen a single man, Democrat or Republican, who believed it had any effect upon Hill, or that it was the cause of his taking the senatorship. It is generally regarded as a bit of the grossest impertinence on the part of Watterson.

Both House and senate have given nearly the whole of this week to the appropriation bills, and great progress has been made. The night sessions of the senate have not proved a brilliant success, owing to the seemingly impossibility of getting a quorum of members to attend them.

The first practical results of Mr. Blaine's labors for reciprocity were seen last week when the proclamation of the President announced a reciprocal treaty between this country and the United States of Brazil. Nor is Brazil the only country with which Mr. Blaine has been in diplomatic conference. The treaty of today will be followed within a short time by agreements with Mexico, and it is expected further arrangements for partial reciprocity between Cuba and the United States will be made. Before Congress adjourns Mr. Blaine hopes to have so far progressed in his work with the other South American republics that by March 4, treaties for reciprocity will be signed with all the South American republics, save Chili and Peru.

The Brazilian treaty will deserve careful study, as being in the general scope an indication of what the treaties with the remaining republics will include. Coffee, tea, sugar, molasses and hides remain on the free list. It is expected that under the stimulating influence of free imports, Brazil will send this year at least 200,000 tons and next year 500,000 tons of sugar, and within five years Brazil will send the greater part of the sugar consumed in the United States. The result ought to be a reduction of the price of sugar to every consumer. There is already a fine trade between our country and Brazil in flour, but under this treaty, if followed up by proper business enterprises and energy, this ought easily to be increased many fold.

After these treaties have been satisfactorily disposed of Mr. Blaine, it is said will endeavor to unite all the American republics into an alliance, offensive and defensive, against European nations. A monetary conference of the American republics is now in session in this city looking to international bi-metalism and the adoption of a standard coin for trade which shall be acceptable from California to Patagonia.

—Mr. O. Norton, 1355 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill., in writing to Dr. T. W. Wood, of McGregor, Iowa, says the bottle of his Worm Destroyer given to his child has done it a wonderful good. He wishes to know where he can get a new supply in Chicago. The Fuller & Fuller Co., and all the wholesale druggists of Chicago will supply all retail druggists.

BRONCHITIS

Is an inflammation of the bronchial tubes—the air passages leading into the lungs. Few other complaints are so prevalent, or call for more prompt and energetic action. As neglect or delay may result seriously, effective remedies should always be at hand. Apply at once a mustard poultice to the upper part of the chest, and, for internal treatment, take frequent doses of

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

C. O. Lepper, Druggist, Fort Wayne, Ind., writes: "My little sister, four years of age, was so ill from bronchitis that we had almost given up hope of her recovery. Our family physician, a skillful man and of large experience, pronounced it useless to give her any more medicine, saying he had done all it was possible to do, and we must prepare for the worst. As a last resort, we determined to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and I can truly say, with most happy results. After taking a few doses she seemed to breathe easier, and, within a week, was out of danger. We continued giving the Pectoral until satisfied she was entirely well. This indisputable evidence of the great merit of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral has given me unbounded confidence in the preparation, and I recommend it to my customers, knowing it cannot disappoint them." "Ayer's Cherry Pectoral cured me of a bad cough and my partner of bronchitis. I know of numerous cases in which this preparation has proved very beneficial to families of

Young Children,

so that the medicine is known among them as "the comfort of the afflicted."—James Rufus Vidal, San Cristobal, San Domingo. "A short time ago, I was taken with a severe attack of bronchitis. The remedies ordinarily used in such cases failed to give me relief. Almost in despair of ever finding anything to cure me, I bought a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and was helped from the first dose. I had not finished one bottle before the disease left me, and my throat and lungs were as sound as ever."—Geo. B. Hunter, Altoona, Pa.

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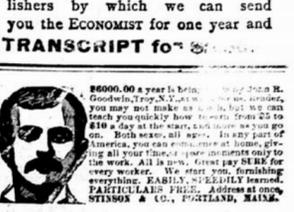


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