The Independent.

J. W. ROBERTS, Editor.
JOHN W. DAY, Associate Editor.

OSKALOOSA, KANSAS.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1860

ST. LOUIS—HER TRUE POICY.

Leaving the local affairs of the territory for a time, we propose to discuss a subject intimately connected with the interests of our future state.

At present there is a powerful effort being made to divert the trade of Kansas to Chicago, and the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad opens facilities of communication with that city which renders it easy of access and attracts to it quite a considerable share of interest.

In conjunction with the railroad facilities, those interested endeavor to work for the accomplishment of their purposes by appealing to the prejudices of the free state element in the territory, and enough sympathy, in view of what Chicago did during the troubles attending the early settlement of Kansas, to enlist the feelings of her people in behalf of their city. This may be all right enough the way the world goes, which is "every one for himself;" but it will be well for our people to look about them with eyes undimmed and vision uncolored by any kind of prejudice, before they decide that Chicago shall have their trade.

We have no ill feeling towards that city; on the contrary, we respect her business men for their enterprise, and hope that they will endeavor to furnish us with as much to consume as possible, and at the lowest prices consistent with a legitimate trade; and so we wish of Cincinnati, and all other cities. But before our people invest any of their funds—of which they have none to squander—in any railroad enterprises looking to connections with distant cities, we wish them to be thoroughly posted; because a wrong move now will be sorely felt hereafter; and an unfortunate investment in our infancy sadly retard our growth or cripple us up to maturer life.

Trade is goverened by certain laws, and it will follow them in the end, as certainly as the law of gravitation attracts every thing to a common center. It is true, by a violent effort trade may, for a time, be diverted from its natural or legitimate channel, as any body by the application of sufficient force may be thrown in an opposite or oblique direction from the center of attraction; but these spasmodic efforts can only last for a more or less brief period, and then the natural course of events will follow.

Now, the first question of moment for us to consider is: Where is the natural center of trade for Kansas? And when this question is satisfactorily answered, and the attracting point ascertained, we shall at once know where to direct our efforts and in what direction to expend our means.

Now, have we any natural connection with Chicago? any river? any lake? any sea? Is there *any thing* that forms a natural link between us and that city? Plainly not. All our communication with her is artificial.

"True, but are not railways the great equalizers and regulators of trade?" Certainly they are, to a very great degree; but they cannot change the laws of trade; and where nature has made connections railways will never break them. No great city has yet been built by railroads alone; but *all* the great cities of the world have been built by the natural laws of trade. It is these that make metropolises in the commercial world, and without their aid, no large city can be built or sustained.

St. Louis is, beyond all cavil, the natural center for the trade of all this region of country, embracing Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and parts of Wisconsin, and Minnesota. This much is certainly clear—so clear that it cannot be mistaken; and all the exertions put forth to force trade into some other channel will ultimately fail of success, and those engaged in the enterprises be doomed to disappointment in the end.

What then? Shall we discountenance them? Never. Let us bid all welcome; for they will benefit us to a considerable extent, and will not prove disastrous to those engaged in them; but only fail to realize their visionary hopes. It is ours to welcome them; but let us husband our own means and only appropriate them where they will tell with the most effect and be of the most sure and lasting benefit.

The true policy of St. Louis is to get a speedy railroad communicaton with Kansas; and to make that communication the most effectual, it should reach the center of trade in Kansas, which we are quite sure is Leavenworth city. A direct railroad intercourse between St. Louis and Leavenworth city is just what the business of St. Louis is now demanding with a voice that already speaks loudly, and must become as the "sound of many waters" and "loud thunderings" until her merchants and manufacturers will be compelled to hear and heed it.

Already they feel the effect of the diversion in favor of Chicago; and they will feel it yet more and more until they awake to their own interest and counteract the influences that now make against them.

If Chicago, in the face of all natural advantages, and by sheer force of determined effort, has accomplished so much, how easy it would be for St. Louis, working hand in hand with nature, to gain all that is really desirable or valuable.

No difference what it cost her, St. Louis should have a railroad to Kansas just as soon as it can be built. Every day she delays this great work, she is robbing herself, robbing her merchants, her artisans, and shamefully neglecting her best commercial interests.

If we were a citizen of that city, the subject should be agitated and not left to rest until some action were taken to carry out this great and *vital* work.

The Pacific road might be extended with rapidity; but its terminus should be Leavenworth and not Kansas City; or, if it goes to Kansas city, from some good point a branch should be run to Leavenworth, as this latter city has the run of trade and will keep it, because natural advantages give it to her.

We speak thus not because we have an interest in Leavenworth; for we have not an inch of ground there nor a foot of land in the territory; but because from an impartial and unprejudiced survey of the field, we believe what we say; and as a true friend of Kansas, and of all concerned, express our honest convictions, and endeavor to have the *best use made of our capital.* We should be a traitor to the territory and future state were we to pursue any other than an open and honest policy.

We expect to be differed with by interested parties, and shall be sorry to disagree with them; but we feel sure our opinions, maturely formed, will bear the scrutiny of investigation in the present, and be demonstrated by the unerring decrees of time in the future; and thus believing, as the friend of all, we point out what seems to us the wisest course to pursue.

St. Louis should wake up and shake herself; if she continue to act the sluggard millions of dollars will be lost to her that she might have. Now is the time for her to work, and work with a will. She should strike for empire, and let her blows ring out on the great anvil of enterprise and progress and be characterized by telling effects.

And Kansas should work to the same great end—a union of the natural and artificial avenues and outlets of trade. Let there be thought and action on the subject.

FIRING PRAIRIES.—Several times, recently, we have observed the prairies burning in different directions from town and have every time been pained to think there are so many wanton, thoughtless, carless persons among us who will—without a single thought of the consequences, set the prairies on fire. In the first place it is a direct violation of law, and every person committing the offence lays himself liable to be punished for it. Besides, hundreds, yes, thousands of dollars worth of property is destroyed in this way every year, by the burning of grain, hay, fences, houses and barns. And when the habit is wantonly practiced, no farmer knows the day when he may be made a victim of the "devouring element." Many men have their all unavoidably exposed to its ravages, and persons should be careful not to do that which is likely to result in damage to them. But this year, in particular, should individuals refrain from setting fire to prairies. Feed for stock the coming winter will be very scarce—indeed many of our citizens will not have enough to feed their stock till spring if compelled to commence feeding now. But there should be no necessity for putting up stock so early, if the prairies are not burned. If boys are so wanton as to fire the prairies, their parents ought to punish them for it; and if persons who are amenable to the law willfully, or even thoughtlessly, commit the same violation of the stautes, they should be punished by the legal authorities. We have no doubt that persons who *think* before they *act*, will refrain from committing such depredations, and we hope all will do so.

A GOOD PAPER FOR EVERY FAMILY.—All our readers may not be acquainted with one of the most valuable agricultural and family journals in the country, now in its nineteenth volume. We refer to the *American Agriculturist*, which is a large and beautiful journal, devoted to the practical labors of the Field, Garden and the Household. It is prepared by practical men (and women) who know what they write about, and it gives a great amount of valuable information, useful not only to the farmers, gardeners, stockraisers, fruit growers, and those who have little village plots, but also to every family. We advise our readers to send $1 to the publisher, ORANGE JUDD, 41 Park Row, New York, and try the *Agriculturist* a year. A specimen copy can doubtless be had by sending to the publisher. Those subscribing now for the twentieth volume, (1861,) will get the remaining numbers of this year without charge.

☞ We see that our friend, WALTER C. DUNTON has been nominated by the Republicans of Riley and Clay Counties for Representative to the Territorial Legislature.

Also, our friend, David H. Baily, of Leavenworth City, has been nominated for the same position by the Republicans of Leavenworth County.

They are both worthy young men, and, without wishing any body else any harm, we hope they will be elected.

Communicated.

COUNTY RELIEF MEETING.

PROCEEDINGS.

Pursuant to previous call, a meeting was held at Newell's Hall, in Oskaloosa, on the evening of October 17th, 1860, to adopt some measures for the relief of the destitute families of Kansas. The meeting was organized by calling Richard Hull, of Jefferson Township to the Chair.

After some speeches were made, and statements given by several persons of the destitution in Jefferson County, Henry Buckmaster moved that, as it was evident relief must be had from abroad for the poor of Kansas, this meeting proceed to organize a County Relief Society, for the purpose of procuring assistance from our fellow citizens in the States. The motion carried.

John W. Day then moved that a committee, consisting of one person from each township, be appointed by the Chair, to draft a plan of organization that will best facilitate the objects of the Society, and that said committee be instructed to report to an adjourned meeting to-morrow night. The motion prevailed, and the following persons were appointed to serve on that committee: John W. Day, of Oskaloosa, David Dickinson, of Jefferson, Judge Azel Spalding, of Grasshopper Falls, Joshua Taylor, of Rock Creek, S. A. Kaufman, of Kaw, Alex. Bayne, of Kentucky, ———, of Osawkee.

The meeting then adjourned until Thursday night, October 18th.

RICHARD HULL, Prest.

Oskaloosa, Kansas, Oct. 18th, 1860.

At the adjourned meeting of the citizens of Jefferson County for the relief of the destitute, J. L. SPEER was called to the Chair, and JAMES MONROE was elected Secretary.

The Committee appointed at the previous meeting, to recommend a plan of organization, made the following report:

The undersigned, a committee of one from each township in Jefferson County, Kansas Territory, appointed by a meeting of the citizens of said county, assembled for the purpose of adopting some plan, for the feeding and clothing of the destitute and necessitous families of the county,

Respectfully report, that, notwithstanding the opinions of some who have full stomachs and well clad backs, and have means in hand or at command to supply future wants, we, both from our personal knowledge and from information from reliable sources, are fully satisfied, that there is now great want, and if relief is not speedily obtained there will be *famine* in our midst.

We submit a few facts: It is known to all who have examined into the matter, that there has not been raised the past year, as much wheat or potatoes as was sown and planted. The wheat and potato crop is therefore admitted to be an entire failure.

The corn crop, the great staple—emphatically the "staff of life," is but little better—not averaging five bushels to the acre—and not one bushel in ten of that fit for bread.

Of breadstuff and vegetables, there is not, we are firmly convinced, enough, if equally distributed, to supply the people three months; and yet there are from nine to twelve months to come and go before we can expect provisions from our own soil.

Even our most thrifty farmers, have but little, if any, to spare. There are among us men of property, who are disposing of their stock at a sacrifice, in order to procure food and clothing for their families.

And, finally, there are very many poor laboring men, with large families, out of employment and out of means—willing and ready to toil for a living—but no one hireth them, there being no demand for labor and no money or provisions to pay for it.

Lastly, there are poor widows, with helpless, ragged and destitute families of small children, to whom haggard want is an unwelcome guest, and to whom gaunt famine will be a stern and inexorable visitor before the winter shall have half passed away, unless they are supplied, and *supplied speedily.*

Relief at home is absolutely impossible. We therefore recommend an organization, to be called the "Jefferson County Relief Society;" whose business it shall be to send agents to the more favored portions of our mighty west, to solicit aid in *money, provisions* and *clothing*; and have them shipped to the nearest and most accessible point as soon as possible.

We further recommend, that said society consist of three members from Oskaloosa Township, and two members from each of the other townships.

That one of the members from Oskaloosa Township be the president and one the secretary of said society.

That the members of the society for each Township, shall be the persons to whom all applicants for aid shall apply—and it shall be their duty in their several Townships, to enquire and diligently examine into the wants of the families in their bounds—and whenever they shall ascertain that a family or families are proper subjects of relief, to give to the head or representative of such family a written statement of the number in family—and the amount of provision or clothing which is needed.

That said statement shall be presented to the president of the Society—who shall thereupon draw an order for the amount of provision and clothing to which the applicant is entitled.

It shall be the duty of the members of said Society, in their several townships, immediately to thoroughly canvass their township and ascertain the amount of provisions and clothing on hand and the amount which will be needed.

We finally earnestly entreat our fellow citizens who have to spare—that they divide with their needy brother man—*even to the last loaf*, until we shall receive supplies from the granaries of our *humane* countrymen of the States.

JOHN W. DAY, Chairman,
DAVID DICKINSON,
AZEL SPALDING,
JOSHUA TAYLOR,
S. A. KAUFMAN,
Committee.

The report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

On motion of Noah Leaverton, the persons present from the several townships were requested to present to the meeting the names of the persons they desire to be placed on the Committee, when the following persons were named and elected:

Henry Crabbs, G. B. Carson, and James Monroe, of Oskaloosa twp.; Hiram Webb and J. C. Todd, of Jefferson twp.; Joseph Rogers and J. L. Speer, of Rock Creek twp.; James H. Jones and S. A. Kaufman, of Kaw twp.; Dr Peterson and P. A. Reed of Osawkee twp.; Alexander Bayne and John C. Bailey, of Kentucky twp.; and William Crosby and James Campbell of Grasshopper Falls twp.

At this stage of the meeting it was announced that Gen. S. C. Pomeroy was at the Dutton House; when on motion the President appointed John W. Day, Mr. Gray and Geo. M. Dix a committee to wait upon Gen. Pomeroy, and invite him to this meeting to advise as to the best mode of proceeding.

In a few minutes the committee returned, and presented Mr. Pomeroy to the President, who stated to him the object of the meeting, and asked him to give his views on the subject, when he was introduced to the audience, and in a clear practical manner discussed the subject under consideration. The following is a synopsis of his remarks.

His calculation of the extent of the destitution in Kansas was based on personal observation and the statistical reports of the different townships and counties. In company with Thadeus Hyatt, of New York, and W. F. M. Arny, of Kansas, he had visited several counties south of the Kansas river, and found the destitution much greater than they had anticipated—that there was almost a total failure of corn, potatoes, buckwheat, &c. Judge Arny proceeded immediately to Illinois to solicit contributions of corn to supply the immediate wants of the people until they could raise a crop.

Mr. Hyatt and Mr. Pomeroy continued their journey, calling meetings wherever they could get a few farmers together, to ascertain the amount of old corn on hand, and to organize societies in every county, and they to form auxillary societies in each township, to report a statistical exhibit of the crops for 1859 and 1860, with the probable amount of corn there would be needed for consumption, and for seed in 1861. They had traveled more than 1300 miles, and visited every county south of the Kaw river.

On their return to Atchison Mr Hyatt remained there about three weeks, waiting for the statistical reports to come in, that he might have something on which to form a basis to operate upon. When the reports were received and footed up, the want and destitution of the Territory was seen to be much greater than was before anticipated.—Mr. Hyatt gave Mr. Pomeroy $1500 of his own money to expend to the best advantage, and left for New York to raise funds to relieve the necessitous families of Kansas. The Gen. had spent the $1500, left by Mr. Hyatt, and about $400 of his own, in addition, and had sent the provisions—flour, meal, &c.,—to be distributed in the southern counties, where the destitution seemed to be the greatest. He had also purchased about 50,000 bushels of corn in Illinois, which would be shipped as soon as possible.

He made some estimate as to the effect the drouth has already had on the territory. At the single ferry at Atchison they had crossed 32,000 hogs this fall, and a considerable number had gone out at other places. That at that place, as at others, large numbers of cattle had been taken out of the territory. That both hogs and cattle had been sold at extremely low prices.—From information gathered from reliable sources, he estimated that about 7,000 persons had left the territory to winter, some of whom could not return until they could raise a crop where they go to.

He stated that there was another project on foot for assisting the people of Kansas, but that it was not in any way, directly or indirectly, connected with the present benevolent movement in Kansas, as some of the newspapers charged. It was a new Railroad operation, designed to build a road from Atchison to the Kansas valley, at some point on the river from Lawrence to Topeka; and as soon as $100.000 could be raised the work would be commenced, and the money paid out for the labor, that it might soon get into the various channels of trade in Kansas.—That many men would prefer to labor for wages than to receive charity from their fellow citizens, and this would give them such an opportunity, besides doing a permanent good for the territory.

He approved of the meeting and of its plan of operations. He thought it was best to send agents to the States to solicit contributions of provisions, clothing, and money to pay freight. If enough could not be raised that way to supply Jefferson County, she could come in on an equal footing with other counties for a share of the means raised thro' Mr. Hyatt's movement.

On motion the Committe was requested to convene again at a public meeting to be held in Oskaloosa on Monday, October 29th, at 1 o'clock P. M., to report the wants of the several townships, and to transact such other business as may come before them.

Meeting adjourned to 1 o'clock P. M., October 29th, 1850.

J. L. SPEER, President.
JAMES MONROE, Secretary.

General News.

The Result in Oregon.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 10.

On the 8th, news reached San Francisco by telegraph that the Oregon Senatorial election took place at Salem on the 2d, in due legal form.

J. W. Nesmith (Douglas Dem.) was elected for the long term, and E. D. Baker (Rep.) for short term, five years. Baker is a non-intervention Republican, with views similar to Eli Thayer's.

The news electrified California Republicans, many of whom think the State may go for Lincoln if Baker can be induced to take the stump here.

From New York.

NEW YORK, Oct. 20.

The obsequies of Ephriam L. Snow last evening, at the Green street Methodist Church, were largely attended by various temperance societies. Addresses were made by Dr. Chapin, Mathew Hale Smith and others.

'The Times' Washington correspondent telegraphs the Nicaraguan Minister notified the State Department that a plot exists in the Southern States, to invade Central America, for the purpose of extending slavery, under the auspices of a powerful combination, to which Gen. Walker was simply an agent.

The Vanderbilt and City of Baltimore sailed to-day—the former taking 181 passengers and $857,000 in specie—the latter 265 passengers and no specie.

The Representatives of the Great Atlantic and Western Lines of Railroad, have been in session at the St. Nicholas Hotel, during the past few days. The meeting yesterday adopted a uniform tariff of freights for the Western roads, which, it is believed, will prevent competition in business between the various lines.

Movements of the Royal and Popular Sovreigns.

BOSTON, Oct. 20.

At 9:30 this morning, the Prince and suite left the Revere House under the escort of the Lancers, and proceeded to the Eastern depot, where they took a special train, splendidly furnished, for Portland. Their departure was amid loud cheers by the assembled crowds.

The three parties opposed to the Republicans have united in the Fourth and Fifth Congressional Dastricts on Messrs. Bigelow and Appleton for Congress, against Rice and Burlingame.

Fatal Accident.

We learn from the Star, that the son of Christian Miller, near Springboro, was instantly killed on last Wednesday morning. The boy, his father and an older brother went out in the morning to haul rails with a pair of mules.—While the father and older brother were loading the rails, the boy went out on the tongue of the wagon to adjust the lines, and, while doing so, the mules started off at a furious rate, throwing the boy under the wagon, breaking his neck.—*Miami (O.) Visitor.*

THE remains of Geo. Hank and wife who lived alone, about one mile and a half from Marion Ind., were found amid the ruins of their house, on Sunday last, which had been consumed the night before. Indications showed that the old people were the victims of a cold mercenary murder. They were known to have a considerable sum of money in their possession, and it is thought to secure this the murderers first killed the old people, and afterwards fired the house that evidences of their guilt might be destroyed. He served seven years in Bonaparte's army, was in Spain under Marshall Ney, fought battles in Italy, and traversed the whole continent of Europe to Moscow as an infantry soldier.—*Miami Visitor.*

THE DROUTH IN KANSAS.—In an article upon the above subject, the New York Tribune makes the following sensible remarks:

"The drouth which has devastated so large a part of the Territory is quite an exceptional misfortune. Others have preceded it, but none, we believe, so general nor so serious; and while it creates a necessity for organized charity in the more fortunate States, it does not prove that the fair land beyond the Mississippi is an undesirable place for emigration. Such a disaster may not be repeated in a generation, and should no more effect the prosperity of the Territory than the severe drouths which have this year visited the Southern States, and parts of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri, should destroy the prospects of those sections."

The Territory.

THE Republicans of Douglas County have nominated the following excellent Representative ticket: Geo. W. Deitzler, Paul H. Berkau, Hermann Thonan.

IN ATCHISON County, Robert McBratney and A.S. Speck are the Republiban candidates for election to the Legislature.—*Leav. Times.*

AID TO KANSAS,—We are well convinced that the real condition of Kansas is well understood abroad, and appreciated. The donations for the relief of the suffering poor have thus far been liberal, and even magnificent. In another article we mentioned a donation by Thadeaus Hyatt, and it affords us pleasure in being able to state that the first shipment of provisions from the States was received in this city on yesterday. Two car loads of excellent potatoes reached here by the morning train in charge of Albert M. Burdett, of Knoxville, Knox county, Illinois. This we are assured by that gentleman is the first of the heavy shipments of produce to follow from his county. As evidence of the promptness with which the farmers of Knox county respond to the calls of the local committees, twelve in one Township contributed twelve hundred bushels of corn, to be forwarded as soon as arrangements are made here to receive it. An active, efficient and responsible agent should be appointed at once to recieve and distribute the produce that is coming forward, on the order of like agents in the several counties of Kansas. The agent located at this point should be furnished with funds to pay charges on the freight when it arrives. Mr. Burdett informs us that he has made contracts with the various Railroad Superintendents to transport this freight at greatly reduced prices.

We trust that the meeting which is to be held at the Recorder's office, this evening, will take such action on the subject as its importance demands.—*Atchison Union.*

It is reported that, on the 15th, Mr. Hyatt called upon the President at Washington, and urged him to postpone the sale of the New York Indian lands. He made a strong appeal to the President, in behalf of the sufferers by the drouth in Kansas, and asked him to call the attention of Congress to the matter in his forthcoming message.—The President listened to him attentively, and assured him that he would do all in his power to aid the people of the Territory. Mr. Buchanan said he had received several letters from poor women in Kansas informing him of the derable condition of things there.—*Leavenworth Times.*

SAD ACCIDENT.—On Monday last a son of Mr. Frank Elijah, while feeding a sugar-cane mill, accidentially got his left hand caught in the cogs, and before the horse could be stopped his hand was torn off at the wrist, and most of the muscles and skin to above the elbow-joint. The arm was skillfully amputated by Doctors Northrup and Potter.—*Grasshopper Falls Gazette.*

J. COOPER, has been oppointed Receiver of the Land Office at Lecompton, Kansas.

POPULATION OF KANSAS.— the census returns to the U.S. Marshall for this Territory, show a population, within the boundries prescribed by the Wyandott Constitution, of 109,421.

The inhabitants of the Pike's Peak region will number about 75,000.—*Times.*

Married.

October 24th 1860, by Rev. S. Brooks Mr. ELIAS COBERD, to Miss HANNAH CRONE. All of Jefferson County, Kansas.

Candidates.

EDITORS INDEPENDENT:—Please announce the name of T. D. Kuykendall as an Independent candidate at the Nov. Election, for Representative from Jefferson County to the Territorial Legislature, and much oblige

MANY CITIZENS.

EDITORS INDEPENDENT:—Please announce the name of John W. Cawlfield as an independent candidate for the office of County Assessor at the November Election.

MANY CITIZENS.

New Advertisements.

DIOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of August, A. D. 1860, the partnership heretofore existing between William McCarty and Franklin Finch, under the firm name and style McCarty & Finch, was dissolved by mutual consent.—The business of the firm will be settled jointly.

WILLIAM McCARTY.
FRANKLIN FINCH

ELECTION NOTICE

In compliance with law, notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of Oskaloosa Township, Jefferson County, Kansas Territory, that at a General Election to be holden in and for the said Territory and the various counties thereof on Tuesday after the first Monday in November, A. D. 1860, there are to be chosen by the electors of the Territory at large, one Territorial Superintendent of Common Schools, for the term of one year from the 1st day of January A. D. 1861. By the electors of the 4th Representative District composed of the County of Jefferson, two members of the House of Representatives of the Legislative Assembly of Kansas Territory for the term of one year from the first day of January A. D. 1861. By the electors of Jefferson County three County Commissioners a County Assessor to hold their respective offices according to the provisions of the law. The Polls of Oskaloosa Township in the County and Territory aforesaid, will be held open at the usual place of holding elections in said Township, on Tuesday November 6th A. D. 1860.

WM. C. BARNES,
Township Trustee,
Oskaloosa, Oct. 20th 1860. 16-1w

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Passengers by this route have the advantage of wide and spacious cars, with greater liberality of room both in seats and in aisles, than can be found on any other Railroad in the West, and the comfort afforded by

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ATTORNEY AT LAW & NOTARY PUBLIC
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Physician and Surgeon,
OSKALOOSA, KANSAS.
Office South side of Public Square, adjoining Crawford's Store.
Residence in the stone dwelling house North Liberty street. 12-tf