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### FROM NEBRASKA.

FARMERS VALLEY NEB., May 10, 1873.

Some eastern people are thoroughly ignorant (and the farther east the more ignorantly) about Nebraska. They know to the fraction of an inch the depth of the soil in each country, from the Missouri to its western boundary. They know much more about the failure of crops from severe droughts than we do. They are much better acquainted with the climate during the winter months than are our oldest inhabitants. They are perfectly acquainted with numerous defects and disadvantages to which our settlers are entirely strangers. But we are not surprised to hear of eastern people becoming so well posted about our State, when their means of information are so extensive. They don't read papers published anywhere in the State. They never examine the agricultural reports, or land commissioner's statistics. But if they happen to live in a small town, or on a main traveled road, come in almost daily contact with men that have been to, and through Nebraska for three months or so, and they charge nothing to tell them all they know about Nebraska—which is all that can be known, for it is a remarkable characteristic of all those homeseekers, adventurers that they have traveled through every country in the State that a man could mention, and almost universally report it a barren forsaken country, composed of nothing but hills and hollows, bluffs and gulches, sand and stone, and entirely destitute of soil, timber, coal or waters. I have heard a number of men who claimed to have been all over our level prairie country, give the above report of them. And others have reported them covered with snow varying in size from a pebble to a hay stack, where ones the size of a hen's egg is a curiosity. But to come to Nebraska, our prospects, &c., &c.

The past cold winter, in all the eastern States and the general tightness of money, matters had the effect of turning the attention of thousands to the State of Nebraska. The old idea that at one time was prevalent in the eastern States, that Nebraska was a barren country, has given place to more rational ideas, and the people begin to understand that our climate is good and healthy, and that within the borders of our State is the last opportunity for the agriculturists to procure good lands cheap, or as a homestead under the laws of Congress.

It is related of a couple of boys over in Iowa, that one day they were in conversation, when one said to the other, "When the country is all settled up with people, that there is no longer room for any more, where will the people go?" The other one thought a minute, and replied, "They will go to Nebraska." The answer was suggested to him by seeing so many covered wagons going along the road, destined for this State. We think that no apprehension need be felt by any one as to hard times here, there will no doubt be from fifty to seventy five thousand people come into the State the present season, and each one will bring with him all the ready money he can, which will be paid out for various agricultural implements, clothing, provisions, &c. How will these people be supplied? By what means of conveyance? I answer that a small proportion will come in the old fashioned way, that

is in the covered wagon. But the majority will come by railroad. Looking over the map of the United States, we see the leading lines of railroads from eastern cities, all running directly to or aiming to cross the State of Nebraska, it being centrally located as to north and south as well as east and west in the republic. We have within the State the Union Pacific, which runs along the north side of the Platte River, through the center of the State, and annually distributes along its line of road thousands of people between Omaha, its initial point on the east to North Platte, near the western boundary of the State. Then the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, which begins at Plattsmouth on the south side of the Platte river near its mouth, and runs thence south westerly to Fort Kearney, 191 miles distant, then we have the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad from Atchison, Kansas, to Lincoln, and the Midland Pacific Railroad, from Nebraska city to Seward. All these roads named, with the exception of the Union Pacific, runs directly to Lincoln, the State capital at which point all trains are made up on all the various roads, for Kearney, Beatrice, Seward, Omaha, Atchison, and intermediate points on the several lines. The "feeders" to these various lines of roads are as follows to the Union Pacific and B. & M.: We see that the C. & N. W. Railroad, C. R. I. & P. Railroad, Sioux City and St. Paul and C. B. & Missouri River, and K. C. and St. Joe, and C. B. & B. & M. Railroads of Iowa. To the Atchison & Nebraska is the Hannibal & St. Joe, with its eastern connecting lines and the roads south and east. So it will be seen at a glance that the immigrants who may desire to emigrate from whatever point in the east, can always purchase, on any of the leading roads, in any principal city, a coupon ticket direct to Lincoln. This is the only interior point in the State that a through ticket can be purchased to.

To show how this can be managed, I will take one or two examples: Suppose the party desiring to come to Nebraska lives in Pittsburgh, he has the choice of two through routes; one we will call the Central and most direct, that by the Pittsburgh Fort Wayne & Chicago, to Chicago; thence to Plattsmouth via Chicago, Burlington & Missouri River Railroad; thence to Lincoln via B. & M. R. Railroad in Nebraska. His ticket will cost him, at Pittsburgh, about \$39, and will be what is called a coupon ticket, that is it will read "P. Ft. W. & C. R. R. Pittsburgh to Lincoln." One coupon will take him from Pittsburgh to Chicago, the next takes him from Chicago to Burlington, the next takes him from Burlington to Plattsmouth, and the next to Lincoln. Thus has he used five coupons, or he may take another route from Pittsburgh to St. Louis, through Columbus, Ohio, thence on the Missouri Pacific to Atchison, thence to Lincoln. All the lines of roads in the country are each day carrying people en route to Nebraska. All are constantly bringing new settlers into our State, and it will not be long before our prairies will be dotted all over with the farm houses of the industrious from all parts of the east, and our cities already begins to feel the impetus, in trade given to them who have already settled in them. Colossal fortunes can and will be made by those possessing energy, industry, and means, and we look to see our salt interest fully developed ere long as well as the coal and peat interests thoroughly worked up.

The great snow storm Sunday evening, April 13th, after a severe wind storm from the south for two days, the wind changed and came down from the north, bringing in its train, first, a thunder storm, then a sleet, which was followed by a snow storm that surpassed in length and severity anything we ever witnessed. From Monday morning until Wednesday evening it was positively dangerous to venture out of doors. The wind blew a perfect hurricane and the snow filled the air so that objects two or three rods away were invisible. No one imagined that such a storm could visit Nebraska in the month of April. Under the warm sun, the grass had begun to sprout, and the signs of an early spring were numerous. There were three human lives lost in this county. Mrs. Kaley, of Farmer's Valley, and her little son of five years, died of exposure. It would seem almost as if her husband, Mr. Fred. Kaley, had been singled out for the signal vengeance of fate. But a short time since, during the absence of both, their house and its contents were burned. Friendly neighbors at once set about replacing the house, and supplying their necessities, and in a wonderfully short time, they were again settled, with clothing, breadstuffs, etc.,

even more than they had lost. The house, of logs, owing to the weather, had been only chinked, not plastered, and the snow came in at every minutest crevice. They tried in all ways to stop it out, and might perhaps have partially succeeded, but for the roof, new, and built of willows with dirt above. The fire only melted the snow, and they remained most of the time in bed, from Sunday night till Tuesday morning, when finding that the snow only increased, and even the beds were wet, they concluded to make the attempt to reach a neighbor's house.

Charley White, a brother of Mrs. Kaley, his wife and young child, started for Wm. Kaley's, half a mile away, and Mrs. Kaley and her little son to another house, but a quarter of a mile from their own. All but Mrs. Kaley took something to eat, but feeling unwell, she refused anything, and sick, and weak from fasting, wrapped herself in a blanket and started out. Her husband, unable to get on his wet boots, went in his stocking feet. Mr. and Mrs. White, after some wandering, reached their destination, the latter, however, owing her life to the judicious harshness of her husband, for wearing out, she insisted upon lying down, and falling in every persuasion, burdened down with a heavy baby, the old hunter knowing inaction to be death, went deliberately to work to make her angry, swearing like a trooper, or a westerner, until with flash of temper, came renewed circulation, and she was saved. But Mr. Kaley being of different metal, could not resist his half crazed, and almost dying wife's entreaties, and almost perished with her. Losing their way again and again, thirty rods from their own door, as it was afterwards found out, the wife sank down helpless, clinging to him and saying it was useless to try longer; Oattie, the child, was dying, her brother and his wife must be dead, and they had better die together, for die they must. Wet, chilled and exhausted, he succumbed, and covering themselves in the blankets, they deliberately waited for death. For eight long hours they sat there, he holding his almost dying wife, the little child nestled between.

The little one roused once enough to talk, and the poor mother said she did not suppose it took so long to freeze to death. Then Oattie died, and giving up entirely, she consented to the father making one more trial, which seeing that she was dying, he urged himself to do, and covering her as well as possible, he left her with her dead child, and on his hands and knees started on his hopeless quest.

Barfooted, bareheaded, half clothed, with frozen and swollen hands and feet, he at last reached his brother's door, and with failing breath told his story. The brother of the two unfortunate started at once, and found the poor lady just as she was left, and still alive, but just as they reach the door, her spirit fled to join the little one and the bereaved man received only his dead.

On Thursday the un pitying sun shone out once more, and looking down upon bright little Oattie in his dead mother's arms, both seeming to smile from the coffin, as if the grave were but the open door to their recovered home.

There was also a large amount of stock suffocated throughout the State. We did not lose anything having good houses and stables for everything. All that was lost was through carelessness in not being on the lookout for a storm.

The gardens are all made, and most of the corn planted, the wheat looks splendid and there are every appearance of good crops this season.

Next time I will try to write a more interesting letter than this one. With my best wishes, I remain yours as ever,

BANCH.

### THE LOUISIANA TROUBLES.

Proclamation by the President.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The following proclamation was issued by the President to-day:—

By the President of the United States of America:

#### A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, Under the pretense that William P. Kellogg, the present Executive of Louisiana, and of the officers associated with him in the State administration were not duly elected, certain turbulent and disorderly persons have combined together, with force and arms, to resist the laws and constituted authorities of said State; and

Whereas, It has been duly certified by the proper local authorities, and judicially determined by the inferior and Supreme Courts of said State, that said officers are entitled to hold their offices respectively, and to execute and discharge the functions thereof; and

Whereas, Congress, at its late session upon a due consideration of the subject, tacitly recognized the said Executive and his associates, then, as now, in office, by refusing to take any action with respect thereto; and

Whereas, It is provided in the Constitution of the United States that the United States shall protect every State in this Union, on application of the Legislature or of the Executive, when the Legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence; and

Whereas, It is provided in the laws of the United States that, in all cases of insurrection in any State, or of obstruction to the laws thereof, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, on application of the Legislature of such State, or of the Executive, when the Legislature cannot be convened, to call forth the militia of any other State or States, or to employ such part of the land and naval forces as shall be judged necessary for the purpose of suppressing such insurrection, or causing the laws to be duly executed; and

Whereas, The Legislature of said State is not now in session, and cannot be convened in time to meet the present emergency, and the Executive of said State, under section 4 of article 4 of the Constitution of the United States, and the laws passed in pursuance thereof, has, therefore, made application to me for such part of the military force of the United States as may be necessary and adequate to protect said State and the citizens thereof against domestic violence and to enforce the execution of the laws; and

Whereas, It is required that whenever it may be necessary, in the judgment of the President, to use the military force for the purpose aforesaid he shall forthwith, by proclamation, command such insurgents to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective homes within a limited time:

Now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby make proclamation, and command said turbulent and disorderly persons to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes within twenty days from this date, and hereafter to submit themselves to the laws and constituted authorities of said State, and invoke the aid and co-operation of all good citizens thereof to uphold the laws and preserve the public peace.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 22d day of May, in the year of our Lord and of the Independence of the United States the ninety-seventh.

U. S. GRANT.

By the President: J. C. BANCROFT DAVIS, Acting Secretary of State.

### FROM WASHINGTON.

The Captured Modocs—An Elephant on our Hands—What Shall be Done About It—A Speck of War—Col. McKenzie's Raid into Mexico—Route of the Kickapoos.

Correspondence of the Radical.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26, 1873.

We have drawn an elephant. About half of Captain Jack's band of Modocs, including some of his most noted warriors, have surrendered, and now the question arises: what shall we do with them? There are not very many answers to be suggested, but the different characters of different men will be indicated in their answers to this question. Some say, "Take them right out and shoot them," others say, "Give them a trial before the civil courts;" but nobody says, "Let them go." It is perhaps, the universal opinion of the community that the magnitude of the crimes and the safety of peaceable white settlers require that they should be punished and that severely. A long and earnest discussion on this subject between the humanitarians and the opposite school is inevitable.

There is one feeling that should be entirely left out of consideration in deciding this question, and that is the feeling of revenge. Revenge is properly an attribute of the character of the savage, and would be more becoming in the Modocs than in a civilized, enlightened people. It was revenge to past ill-treatment, for the treachery of the whites, that moved them to the atrocious murder of General Canby and Dr. Thomas. It is this feature that makes the savage character most barbarous. We, as a people, profess to have advanced beyond the barbarous stage. We profess to be actuated by higher motives than mere brutal revenge. Of course there are men, scores of them, in every neighborhood who clamor for the blood of these savage warriors. Some men even go so far as to favor the exter-

mination of the entire tribe, including women and children. Did I say men? No, such are not men; they are fiends, who, for the gratification of the absurd and vicious passion of revenge, would unnecessarily shed the blood of their fellow creatures. But, there are many of our best people, many of our most intelligent and respected citizens, who advocate the hanging or shooting of the larger number of the surrendered warriors. This is no unimportant question. The country must think about it, and in the light of past experience and of our boasted civilization must seek out the best means of tempering justice with mercy. We must act in a manner that will distinguish us from these savage red-skins, now in our power. We must show that civilization is superior to barbarism.

The War Department is not likely to come to any hasty decision as to the best method of disposing of our Modoc elephant. This is something that will not spoil from keeping. No evil can result from waiting till our blood cools down. Yet it is scarcely possible that these prisoners will be given a trial before our civil courts. If they are tried by a military court it will go hard with them, for, as a general thing, army officers are not much inclined to favor Indians of any tribe. But the reader will hear enough about the various methods of getting these braves off our hands, and I will not wear out his patience at the beginning.

A speck of war. It is not bigger than a man's hand. But it may grow till it spreads all over the heavens. Yes, there is a speck of war in the horizon. Some of our people are alarmed, some unconcerned, and some welcome a little shindy with our Mexican neighbors. Some would like an excuse for appropriating another slice of our neighbor's land.

But is there any danger of war with Mexico? If it had been the case of some other nations, the excursion of Colonel McKenzie would have been sure to bring on unpleasant difficulties. It is not likely we could "put ourselves in their place" and keep our temper. Whatever justifications there might be for the punishment of persons taking shelter on the soil of the United States, we would certainly get very angry if a squadron of British cavalry should make a raid eighty miles into the interior of New York or Vermont for the purpose of breaking up a camp of Fenians who had been disturbing the peace of Canada. Should there be organized a regular band of thieves and cut-throats, having their headquarters on the south side of the St. Lawrence, and making monthly forays upon the Canucks, under no consideration would we consent that British troops should cross the line for the purpose of bringing them to justice. But circumstances alter cases, we are a powerful people and the Mexican government is weak and distracted by internal dissensions. If they were as strong as we, Colonel McKenzie and his men would have never set foot on the south side of the Rio Grande.

However, there may be a complete justification for the act even if it is an act of war. It seems that a set of Mexican and Kickapoo-Indian thieves have been for years preying upon the herds of the Texan stock-raisers. Our Department of State has repeatedly called the attention of the Mexican government to the fact that these outlaws were in the habit of taking refuge on Mexican soil whenever pressed by our troops, and of taking with them stolen stock and goods of every description, which they sold to Mexican citizens. There can be no doubt as to the facts in the case, and the officials at the State Department have made various attempts to induce the Mexican government to put a stop to these outrages. Either from unwillingness or inability on their part nothing has ever been done, and the marauders have been constantly growing more and more audacious. Colonel McKenzie, commander at Fort Clark, Texas, having sent out several expeditions to put a stop to these depredations, and having as often been foiled by their escaping across the line, whence he was not permitted to pursue them, at last determined on desperate measures. He decided that he would end their thieving operations, whatever might be the cost or consequence. Thereupon he ordered out all the available cavalry under his command—about six hundred men—crossed the Rio Grande, rode eighty miles into the Mexican country, surprised a camp of Kickapoos, and almost annihilated them. This he did on his own responsibility, but it is believed that the War Department will formally approve his action.

The only official information received in this city relating to the affair was a dispatch from General Sheridan, stating that General Augur had reported to him (Sheridan) that the Kickapoos had been routed, etc., "about eighty miles from Fort Clark," but the dispatch says nothing about its having been on Mexican soil. Therefore, it may be said that the government has no official information whatever as to any affair that is likely to bring about unpleasant relations with our sister republic, and, of course, can take no official action in the matter.

The history of this affair is of several years' growth. It is a very complicated case. A great deal of correspondence between the Military and State Department officials, between our government and the government of Mexico, has taken place. A great deal of space would be required for even a fair synopsis of the case.

In official circles here the necessity for such action is very much deprecated, but as the circumstances would admit of no other method of affording protection to the Texans, Colonel McKenzie's conduct is regarded as perfectly justifiable.

This country was startled on Saturday night by the information, flashed across the wires, that President Thiers and his entire cabinet had resigned, and that Marshal MacMahon had been elected to succeed him.

They have strange ways of doing things in Europe; at any rate, their proceedings seem strange to Americans. No President of the United States would have ever thought of taking such a course as that adopted by M. Thiers. Perhaps he thought his resignation would not be accepted, but, if so, he was mistaken.

Yesterday being Sunday it was impossible for me to learn how this bit of news is received here. Of course it makes but little difference to our government, but the matter has an important bearing on the progress of republicanism.

M. Thiers, though at one time one of the most prominent advocates of progress in France, was always supposed to be possessed of a considerable degree of ambition, and for a number of years, has been quite conservative in his tendencies. He was a sort of hang-on at the court of Louis Napoleon, and is charged with a considerable share of the responsibility for the recent war with Germany. Since his elevation to the Presidency of the French Republic his conservative tendencies have become more and more marked.

Now, a shade of conservatism is generally regarded as a good thing in a French republicanism, but it has become a matter of doubt for some time whether he is in reality a republican at all. He certainly has his full share of egotism and vanity, as he has more than once hinted his belief that the success of the republic rested altogether upon his shoulders. A great many of the best friends of France in this country have felt disposed to believe that M. Thiers cared more for his own personal aggrandizement than for the interests of the republic.

Marshal MacMahon is an avowed conservative, if not a monarchist. He it was of all Napoleon's generals who held out longest and refused to recognize the provisional government organized after the surrender of the Emperor. He has been an eventful life. One day the chief marshal of the armies of the empire; the next day in prison and on trial for treason for the surrender of Metz; the next day released; now he is President of the republic.

I shall not make myself ridiculous by making predictions concerning the future of the republic of France under the magistracy of MacMahon. I have little or no idea of what is to come next. I hope for the best. I would love to hear of the firm establishment of a government in that country as free and prosperous as our own. I love the very name Republic, and will never despair of the final triumph of the cause of liberty everywhere. The opposite press have tried hard to amuse themselves at the expense of President Grant because of his remarks, in the late inaugural address, concerning the influence exerted by our institutions, and the probable future of the spirit of liberty. I confess that I share in his hopes. France may know much sorrow and trouble, perhaps much war and bloodshed, before attaining to a firm and united republic, but I have all faith to believe that France will some day have her institutions so firmly established that no tyrant will attempt to oppress her people. I believe the people of France are honestly and thoroughly desirous of having a republican form of government. I believe them to be a liberty loving people, and with them I throw up my hat and shout "Vive la Republique." SAM.

—The Republican State Convention in Virginia is called to meet at Lynchburg on the 30th of July to nominate candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.