

LEHIGH REGISTER.

A FAMILY JOURNAL—NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

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VOLUME X.

Allentown, Pa., August 20, 1856.

NUMBER 47.

Farm Lands for Sale.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES OF FARMING LANDS, IN Tracts of 40 acres each, suitable for long Credits and at low rates of Interest.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile Prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The lands extend from Chicago, on the North-East, to Cairo at the South, and from thence to Galena and Danville, in the North-West extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifty miles on each side of the Road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages along the line, and the great increase in population, by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home-demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling and peculiarly fitted for raising cattle and sheep, or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating and great productiveness are the well known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stump grubbing or stone picking off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the other States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken soil, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

What there are no necessities for transporting to yield *very large profits*. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from \$2 to \$2.50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the Road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the Road at \$1.50 to \$1.00 per ton; Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind that lands there of any value, along the water courses and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no necessities for transporting to market the produce. Railroads not having been introduced there. That to send the produce of those lands one or two hundred miles to the wagon, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them, and hence Government lands there, at from \$1.25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although the lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is the greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted communications, increases the expense of transportation, which may be borne by the settlers, in the reduced prices of their products, and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course the investments, annually and every year reduce.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this Road, and others with which it connects, the operations of which are not interrupted by the low water of summer, or the frost of winter.

PRICE AND PAYMENT OF MONEY. The price will vary from \$3 to \$25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for Deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due on the first day of January, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation.

Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready fenced farm buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons. They will be 12 feet by 20 feet, divided into one living and three bed-rooms, and will cost complete set up on ground about \$1500. The Road, at \$150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Longer buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, low credit, and low rate of interest, charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands, throughout the State—also the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

J. W. WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Rail R. Co.,
Office up to the 1st of May—52 Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Ill., after that date in the new Stone
Passenger Depot, foot of South Water Street.
April 16.

HOLLO, MR. FARMER, where have you been that you have got such a heavy load. You will kill all your horses. I have been to Stopp's Cheap Cash Store, at No. 35 West Hamilton St., Allentown. I suppose you got all that load for about \$10. Yes indeed, and 25 cents change at that. Ah, yes, got Mr. Stopp's, Salt, Sugar, Coffee, Rice, Raisins, Chocolate, Teas, Molasses, Cheese, &c., all for haying and harvest.

Venetian Blinds.
The subscriber having purchased the entire establishment of Mr. Muir, is prepared to manufacture all kinds of Venetian Blinds, of the best quality, at prices as low as any in the city—at 153 West Hamilton Street. S. H. PRICE.
Allentown, January 9.

THE FATAL VISIT.

On an evening at the end of summer, when leaves were yet green and skies yet full of sunshine—though the long daylight of the year's prime had diminished somewhat more than an hour, and darkness and winter were stealing slowly forward in the distance, a small, but handsomely room, richly furnished with everything that taste could display—with exquisite carving of oak, fine pictures, velvet hangings, and with green chairs and flowers, both rare and beautiful, showed preparations for a supper party, at which two persons only were expected. The table was arranged with great taste: rich fruits, in a silver vase, formed a pyramid in the midst; and two or three dishes of the most beautiful workmanship, presented various tempting pieces of confectionery strewn over, in quaint devices, and in a regular pattern, with minute flowers. On the right of the principal table, at some little distance, was a round oak buffet covered with crimson velvet, just seen from beneath the edges of a damask napkin, on which were arranged various large silver tankards of beautiful forms, two golden goblets, and several tall glasses filled with wine. The windows of the room were open, but shaded with trees and flowering shrubs, and a green soft light spread through the interior, as the rays of the setting sun poured through the veil of leaves. That light began to assume a purple hue, showing that the orb of day had touched the verge of the horizon, when two young gentlemen entered and seated themselves at the richly laden table. The eldest was tall and well formed, long in the arm, broad in the chest, and spare in the waist and flank. The head and face were small, and the features delicate, though not effeminate; the chin somewhat projecting, and the eyes large and full, with a thick and strongly marked eyebrow. When at rest the whole countenance had an expression of gravity and decision beyond his apparent years, and there was in his eye a look of command and free thoughtful power, which seemed to bespeak one who, notwithstanding his youth, had long been accustomed to regulate his own conduct, and act upon his own views.

The other was very different, yet handsomer; much darker in complexion, with a keen, sharp, black eye, under a wide and slightly projecting brow, marked gracefully by a dark arching, and somewhat raised line of eyebrow. His lips were thin, and the line from the wing of the nose to the corner of the mouth was strongly marked, so as to give the ordinary expression of the countenance a slight touch of severity; and yet there was a sort of sparkling juvenescence about it whenever he spoke, although the cast of the mere features are thin and strong.

The younger and fairer of the two gazed at his companion with a thoughtful, yet happy expression, as if he were brooding over some idea that occurred to him. He had a fine, intelligent face, lighted up with a friendly smile, that radiated over his happy countenance, as he joyously exclaimed, "Oh, how fortunate, how happy, how contented you should be, Orville!"—he paused a minute, and then enthusiastically added, "by heaven! the love of such a being would!"

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was a connoisseur and admirer of beauty; and this, with the embarrassment of his affairs, made him look to Alice, as the sole means of avoiding bankruptcy and ruin. His advances were encouraged by her father; and her consent was forced, rather than granted, for their union. She feared her father, and dared not openly oppose his will, although her future happiness was the stake. As the time for their wedding approached, Orville sent for his cousin, Germain, to officiate as groomsmen for him, as his numbers had created a coldness between himself and the surrounding gentry. Germain had arrived, been introduced to his betrothed, and as we have seen, was preparing for the gala. Orville's quick mind was struck with the impression made upon him, at this first visit; he felt some indistinct fear that would mar his arrangements, and he resolved to keep them separate, and hasten the marriage.

After completing their toilet, they started for the entertainment. Upon entering, the scene which was presented to them was exceedingly brilliant and attractive. Every color of the rainbow was displayed in the bright tints of the gorgeous costumes. Neither was there any lack of lace and embroidery, plumes and fluttering fans.

On the right under a wide arcade, supported by graceful columns, was a large and skillful band of musicians, making the air musical with the sounds of their instruments. Upon the left, was a pile of architecture, the light and graceful lines of which, betokened an epoch of the most beautiful workmanship, presented various tempting pieces of confectionery strewn over, in quaint devices, and in a regular pattern, with minute flowers.

Alice was standing near this spot, in all the beauty and splendor of female loveliness. It is very difficult to convey in language any just idea of those various distinctions and shades of beauty, which the eye catches in a moment, but which escapes from words; and it would be almost doing injustice to the fair girl, to attempt a detailed description. To give some idea, however, of her person, it may be enough to say, that she was not above the middle height, but every limb so exquisitely formed, that she looked taller than she really was. Her rich brown hair, with chestnut gleams upon it, fell in profuse abundance down her neck. Her eyes were neither blue nor brown, nor gray, but of that soft and soul speaking hazel, so rarely seen, and yet so exquisitely beautiful; while the long dark eyelash and arched brow lent themselves to every shade of expression, from deep and pensive thought to light and sparkling gaiety. The features were all small and delicate, the skin pure as alabaster, with a sunset glow upon her cheek. And the slightly parted lips, showing the nearly teeth beneath, seemed to thrill with emotions all; but yet her eyes, they might fly to other subjects, how anxiously soever they might strive to withhold their thoughts from anything that might agitate or overpower—still those emotions presented themselves in vague and indistinct forms, mingled with thought, seizing upon fancy, and giving a tone and color to all that was said, without either of them being aware that they deviated from the ordinary course of conversation between persons of their birth and station.

The scene, too, at the season, the hour, the atmosphere, the circumstances, the events that had lately taken place, the prospects of the future in their very indefinite security, all had an influence, seemed to combine to nourish a growing passion in their hearts. The moon rose bright from behind the trees upon the mountain tops, shining like the bright, pure vision of young and innocent love. The stars themselves were there extinguished in the flood of splendor; but on the station, the scene, too, at the season, the hour, the atmosphere, the circumstances, the events that had lately taken place, the prospects of the future in their very indefinite security, all had an influence, seemed to combine to nourish a growing passion in their hearts.

Germain gazed upon her, with a look of admiration and surprise; and the keener and shrewder eye of Orville ran over her face and figure, but with a very different expression. It looked upon her as if he were brooding over some idea that occurred to him. He had a fine, intelligent face, lighted up with a friendly smile, that radiated over his happy countenance, as he joyously exclaimed, "Oh, how fortunate, how happy, how contented you should be, Orville!"—he paused a minute, and then enthusiastically added, "by heaven! the love of such a being would!"

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and that she had better escape from such topics, treating them gravely, whilst she was obliged to treat of them at all. Her conversation, in short, was like a gay pleasure boat which quits the shore in sunshine and merriment, but finding itself far from land makes its way back with earnest speed with the first cloud that gathers on the sky.

Her altered manner recalled Germain to himself, and as the dancing being over for the time, and the heat of the saloons had become oppressive; the glare of the lamps and tapers had dazzled and fatigued the eyes; the moving objects, the brilliant dresses, the beaming jewels, the straining race after pleasure, had become fatiguing to many; and some forty or fifty pairs, huddled in ball, or arm in arm, had wandered out to seek the refreshing coolness of the garden, to repose the mind, and invigorate the body in the fresh night air of August, or else to tell the tale of love and seek its return, under the broad green foliage of the trees, or the twinkling eyes of the deep blue sky of night, he proposed joining them, and Alice joyfully consented.

Orville Hamilton in the meantime had been watching them with the utmost feelings of jealousy and chagrin. All the worst passions of his nature were aroused, and contending in his bosom. He could barely contain himself, and had to use his most powerful efforts to avoid rushing upon Germain, as he left the crowded ball. As it was he sought the cool night air to allay his phrenzied feelings; and hastily pleading indisposition to one of the attendants, he mounted his horse, and after getting some distance from the mansion, gave the rein to the spirited animal with foolish exultation, as if trying to outstrip his unbridled passions. After riding for some time, and his overtasked steed had become exhausted and weary, he grew calmer, and turned into the long avenue leading towards his own home, in order to recruit his strength for the morrow.

Germain was still at the ball. Alice lay on his arm, her heart beat against his, her breath fanned his cheek. What were his feelings? He would not ask himself, but surrendered, body and soul, to the ecstasy of the moment. Each had at heart feelings of many a varied character sufficient to fill up long hours of dull life, and each was disinclined to dwell upon the same.

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den danger, which she felt, but could not express. It was with a faltering voice, and Germain started as she made the inquiry: "Why, where is Orville? He has been absent near all the evening." And a rich glow, followed by a deadly pallor, overspread her face, as she thought of the cause.

"True, true, he has been absent. Do you remain here a few moments, and I will seek for him," and Germain, slowly and thoughtfully, started upon his mission. Upon inquiry, he heard of his evasive departure, and but too well divined the cause of both. Still he returned to Alice, who was impatiently expecting him, and gave Orville's message, which had been left with the attendant. She would have made some remark, but was prevented through embarrassment. Germain reassured her by a look; bade her a long and affectionate "good night," and ordering his horse, he started to his cousin's mansion. As he rode slowly along, his mind was filled with the most bitter thoughts. With Alice, he had forgotten everything but the happiness of her presence, and the love into which he had steeped his very soul. But now, when he was alone, without a sound to break the silence of his solitude or musings, he remembered all. His position, the intention of his visit, his misplaced love, all would come with startling force upon his mind.

Would it be honorable to seek the guest of one he had so wronged? Should he seek shelter and fell into a deep, but painful reverie. He was aroused by an exclamation of hate from Orville, who unable to rest, seized a pair of pistols, and resolved to meet him. He noticed his motionless form as he was passing. He advanced towards him, "And so you have left your new conquest; torn yourself away from her lovely arms. How could you part from the—?" But he wasted words; you know my object, prepare yourself," he exclaimed, with a piercing tone of voice which shows the passion of fierce determination. His horse became cloudy, and gathered thick over his deep, keen eye; his lips quivered; and his hand slowly closed over the pistol, as if he strived to crush them into the flesh. Germain, although brave, shuddered as he gazed upon his cousin's form. It seemed the very personification of hate. He leaped from his horse, and approaching Orville, was about to throw himself upon his leniency, explained all, and professed to leave the scene of his happiness and joy of his life forever. But he was rudely repelled by his cousin, who made a pace back and passionately bid him off.

"Back! back! You can only approach me to meet your death."

"I would expiate—appeal to you—"

"Not a word; they avail nothing. You came to me as a friend. I did all to please, to amuse and entertain you. You repay me by scheming, an hour would cost me the responsibility by cowardly excess and appeals."

"I am no coward."

"Then defend yourself, and give me the satisfaction in your power—your life!" and with the words, he threw a rapier at his feet. There was no other recourse, and Germain reluctantly took it up. He was very expert in the use of the weapon, and hoped to be able to disarm him, and with this intention, he prepared for the contest. He took three off their coats, and Orville sobbed with grief.

"Are you prepared?"

"I am," was calmly replied, and they advanced towards each other. Orville had a cold, exulting smile upon his face, while Germain only grasped his weapon with a firmer hold.

He staggered up, raised his weapon, let it fall, and crouched slowly on the ground.

However cool and self-possessed a man may be—though he may think himself fully justified in what he has done, though he may have been acting in self defence, though the act may have been inevitable—yet no one can inflict a real and serious injury upon another without feeling a certain degree of regret, and remorse, unless his heart be as adamant. It is at such moments that the strange link of consanguinity which binds the whole human race together is first known to us; it is then that we feel we are brothers, and that we have raised a hand against a brother's life.

The moment that the deed was done—and it was evidently more than he had intended to do—Germain felt a pang shoot through his heart, and he said internally: "Would that he had not driven me to it; would that he had not provoked it!" but, casting down his sword at once, he knelt by Orville's side, and, raising his head, and shouting on his knee, exclaimed in kindly and eager tones: "I hope you are not much hurt!"

"Curses you, you have slain me; but I shall be able to go on presently; I grow faint," he replied slowly and painfully.

"Never! what! renew this combat with you, and you wounded? Oh! why did you not listen to me? I would have explained all. My combat was unpremeditated. I did not seek to injure, insult, or offend you. No! I will fight no more; alas! alas!" and he sank upon the form of his cousin, which was now a corpse.

"Mounting his horse (which stood with distended nostrils and flashing eyes at his side, snarling the earth as if he had some knowledge of the occasion and his master's danger), he spurred rapidly on to Orville's villa for assistance. They used the utmost haste, but it was too late—the body was cold and inanimate. It was conveyed to the mansion by his domestics, and Germain surrendered himself into their hands.

Upon Germain's trial, everything was explained, and he was fully acquitted, both by the jury and public opinion. Orville's estate was entirely absorbed by the mortgages and liabilities upon it; and among his papers were found a marriage certificate, and several letters from his wife, who still lived. Many other acts came to light, which were carefully kept hidden by Germain; who did all in his power to atone for his unintentional deed.

Two years elapsed, laden with their joys and sorrows. Germain was standing with his arm around Alice's waist; her hand was clasped in his, and her head leaning on his shoulder, narrating the earth as if he had some knowledge of the occasion and his master's danger), he spurred rapidly on to Orville's villa for assistance. They used the utmost haste, but it was too late—the body was cold and inanimate. It was conveyed to the mansion by his domestics, and Germain surrendered himself into their hands.

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