

IN OKLAHOMA.

A Descriptive Account of the Indian Country.

McKINLEY, Dec. 16, '93.
ED. PILOT:—I have received quite a number of letters of inquiry in regard to this country and what I am going to do, etc. I will say that I didn't start out to hunt a job, nor rent a farm, nor buy one, or take a claim. I started out to spend a winter in the south. Railroad travel is expensive, and on a train a man only gets a glimpse of the country, but by wagon he gets to see the country and crops satisfactorily. December 1st was our first snow and cold. December 5th the sun shone out and a coat was unnecessary. Cold blasts here indicate a blizzard in the north. As to crops here: The long wet spring and summer and the dry, hot fall, they were a partial failure. All kinds of grain and vegetables grow here. East of Guthrie, cotton is the surest crop, west of Guthrie corn and wheat, but, as a whole, corn is the surest crop a man can put out in Oklahoma.

The third class of emigrant have absolute possession here now. Nearly every claim has three houses. The first settler dug a hole in the ground, threw some poles and brush across and covered it with red dirt. The second put up a small log hut, the third has a frame house and the last named are farmers who know no other way of getting a living, but by tilling the soil. A great many are mortgaging their claims. The time has come to prove up and it requires \$200 per quarter section to pay to the government and they have to mortgage to get it.

The products of Oklahoma were very low this year, there not being a sufficient amount of money in the country to do the business. I know that Oklahoma will be the worst mortgaged land in the United States. I spent some time in Guthrie investigating, and nineteen out of twenty have to mortgage to get the \$1.25 per acre which goes to the United States. This is why nearly every claim holder wants to sell. Every day proves that the circulating of money is so limited and the population so great that there is not money enough to do the business of the country. The soil here is capable of producing most all kinds of grain as you may know by the timber—ash, oak, black walnut, pecan and hickory. Shumac, grape vines, green briar, and paw paw grow immense here.

I saw three acres of wheat threshed that made 126 bushels. McKinley post office was named after Gov. McKinley, of Ohio, and is kept by a widower, Mr. Mooney, from Pennsylvania. The building is a two story one, and has a stock of goods and the post office in the lower room, the up-stairs being used for a dwelling. The population is three. Mr. Mooney, daughter and son-in-law. McKinley stands in a valley between two big hills, and is the half way place between Guthrie and Chandler, and has a daily mail, carried by stage. Dan Campbell, an old resident of Benton county, keeps a feed stable and boarding house one-half mile west of McKinley, where the stage stops to change teams and get dinner. And, by the way, Mr. Campbell has the finest farm I have seen. He raised some of the finest peanuts I ever saw. There are some springs here. The depth of wells is from 20 to 70 feet, all drilled with an 8-inch drill and needs no casing. It costs forty cents per foot for drilling. This is called free stone water. Our cattle are doing well on grass, with no other feed. There is considerable green grass and some bunches of green leaves. Poultry is dull sale, at \$1.25 per dozen. The Indians are in the bottoms along the creeks—some in tents, some live in huts. They are intelligent, and can talk on any subject, political or otherwise, and are up with the times in living and dress. They are sociable and like white company. The Indian does no kind of work. He draws his annuity every three months from the government. Chief Keyabolt informed me it amounted to \$83,000 per quarter. So the Indians have got to be the most favored class of men in the United States. They have reservations or allotments, as they call it, in every township. Wherever there is a good piece of bottom land the Indian holds it. They have 900 acres in Bear Creek bottom, one mile west of where I live. Keyabolt visited me in a day or two after I arrived, and asked me to come and see him. In short, the Indian

has adopted the white man's ways in everything but work. He won't work.

All kinds of merchandise is as cheap in Guthrie as it is in Indiana. As to malaria: Yes, this water has some malaria in it. My son, Mahlon, had an attack of malaria in ten days after we got here. After the second attack, Dr. Underwood advised him to go north. He left here Dec. 13th for Rensselaer. The car fare via Wabash to Lafayette, Ind., is \$22.35. Myself and wife have good health and are enjoying such nice weather. The Owens boys are engaged in carpenter work with their brother-in-law, Lem Robinson. As for stores, every third house has a one horse store in it, and most all necessities of life are near at hand. About every fourth farm has a shop on it and the owner is a roving Jack of all trades. Fix anything from a watch to a locomotive, in metal, wood or leather. So you see we are near some conveniences. As for schools, I don't know of any being kept here. As to the citizens: Mostly from the states of Kansas, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio, and the "darkies" are mostly from Texas. One-third of the population of Oklahoma consists of colored people.

You can buy a claim cheap. I don't know of a single claim but that is for sale. All along the road through Illinois and Missouri I got tired of seeing boards nailed up: "This farm for sale cheap," and in every town the same kind of a board met the eye: "This property for sale." Guthrie is no exception. You can scarcely get down a street in some towns for the bulletin boards, advertising farms and town property for sale and at the bottom, "Money to loan on real estate." This is the case in general in any sized town in the States, north or south, for I receive advertisements by the dozen.

We expect to stay here till spring opens up and return to our home in Jasper, by way of Kansas and Iowa, stopping a few days at some noted places on the route, and want to arrive home between April and August, roads, weather, health, etc., taken into consideration. When we left we expected to winter in Arkansas and return by Tennessee and Kentucky.

Oklahoma, when admitted, will be the strongest People's party state in the Union. That special session of congress that met Aug. 7th was an eye opener, and John Sherman's silver scheme and the movements of the present congress all goes to make People's party votes for '96.

There is no stir being made here over the opening of the Kickapoo lands to take place March 4th. We understand that is the set time. Fully one-fourth of the claims in the strip that opened last September have been deserted. The \$2.50 per acre at the time of proving up is what caused so many to leave. Success to the PILOT.

REV. PETER HINDS.

Electric Humor.

One of the Columbian guards on the Wooded Island, whose business it was to drive intruders off the flower-beds and keep them from eating dinner on the grass, tells of a woman who accosted him about noon with the interrogatory:

"Can you tell me where to get an electric lunch?"

The guard at once surmised that she meant an electric launch, and began to explain to her that these launches ran on the lagoons and were propelled by electricity; but she declared she had read all about them, and knew a gondola when she saw one. What she wanted to find was the place where they cooked things by electricity and gave them away, and she believed it was in the electrical building. The guard finally directed her to the gallery of the Electricity Building.

There was exhibited in the Electricity Building an "electrocution chair" for executing criminals by electricity, similar to those used in New York. In some way or other the impression got out among the country-people that this was "General Washington's chair," and a man who had an exhibit in this building states that scarcely a day passed that several country-men did not sit down in it so that they could go home and say they had sat in "Washington's chair."—From "Undercurrents of Humor from the Fair," in Demorest's Family Magazine for January.

If you have to bite at every bait you see, you had better have a guardian appointed.

SEBASTIAN.

A Night With Ancient Romans.

Sebastian, or a night with ancient Romans given by the students, of St. Joseph's College, in the College Auditorium, Dec. 12th 1893, will be reproduced in the Opera House, Wednesday, Jan. 10th, 1894.

The drama is founded on Cardinal Wiseman's celebrated tale, "Fabula" which treats of the introduction of Christianity into Rome and especially of the persecution of the Christians under the cruel Emperor, Maximian. Sebastian, the hero of the play, was captain of the imperial guard and a staunch Christian, his faith, however, being unknown to the Emperor. He was a man of the highest principles and though a natural inclination gave him an aversion for military life, yet to be better able to assist the Christians in their trials and sufferings he joined the army of Maximian and soon won by his bravery the heart of even the cruel Emperor who made him chief officer of his body guard. Finally Sebastian's faith was made known to the Emperor by Fulvius, a Syrian spy, and flattering courtier, who hated Sebastian because he worsted him in an argument about the Christians and also because he stood higher in the Emperor's favor. On learning Sebastian's faith the Emperor severely reproached him with ingratitude and delivered him to Hyphase, the captain of the famous Numidian bowmen, to be shot to death. His body was covered with arrows, avoiding, by imperial orders, the vital parts, and left for dead. He soon recovered, however, from his wounds but refused to flee, nay he even placed himself by a staircase where the Emperor passed and reproached the latter for his unjust cruelties against the Christians. For this liberty of speech he was beaten to death with a cudgel.

A very prominent figure in the play is Panceratius, a Christian youth of 14. He was the son of a rich Roman nobleman who suffered death for his faith. When graduating from school he defeated Corvinus, the son of the Prefect of Rome, in a dispute on philosophy. This humiliation so exasperated the proud Roman that he swore bitter vengeance and soon found occasion to vent his spleen on the gentle youth. The Emperor had put up a severe edict against the Christians. Panceratius with the assistance of Quadratus, a Christian soldier, considered one of the strongest men in Rome, tore down the edict. Corvinus who had to see the edict put up and guarded was made responsible for it and punished by the Lictors. This added fuel to his grudge against Panceratius whom he suspected, or rather knew of, having torn down the edict. At last he found and captured him. The Emperor condemned Panceratius to the arena. A lion was let loose on him but the noble animal refused to touch the gentle youth. Upon the martyr's own request a leopard was let loose upon him and consummated his glory. Corvinus did not long enjoy his apparent triumph over Panceratius. A mania seized him and he perished miserably.

Special mention must yet be made of Calpurnius, the philosopher, who pretends to be well versed in history and liturgy of both Christians and Jews, but in his argument produces the most flourishing nonsense, i. e. confounding Peter and Paul with Moses and Aaron and numberless similar errors. Anyone acquainted with the history of the Old and New Testament will find his explanations very amusing. The play is elevating in conception and execution and lovers of classical lore may expect a treat.

The Christmas tree at the Missionary Baptist church last Monday evening was a very pleasant affair. There were recitations, dialogues, songs, etc., by the young folks, and after that presents were distributed to those present.

There will be a joint installation of the G. A. R. and W. R. C. officers at the post hall, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 2nd. All members are expected to be present.

LOST.—In Rensselaer, last week, a pair of fleece-lined gloves. Finder will return to R. H. Purcupple or leave at Abe Long's drug store.

B. F. Ferguson has received about \$20,000.00 this month all of which has been loaned on farm securities.

The County News.

CARPENTER TOWNSHIP.

BY DON'T TELL.

Wednesday evening, Curtis Tedford, of Effner, and Miss Fannie McDougale, one of Remington's fairest daughters, launched their boat on the sea of matrimony. May the sailing always be smooth, with no wave of sorrow to cause a ripple in the stream upon which their boat is launched, is the wish of their many friends.

Mrs. Mary Jones, Ellis Jones' mother, who lives in Newton county, has been sick for some time, but we understand she is improving.

We understand that Lou Apper, town marshal of Goodland, is going to move on the farm now occupied by Mel Hecock.

Geo. H. May went to Parr the 21st inst. His baby has been sick, but is better at this writing.

The Literary at No. 3, Thursday night, was a grand success. A large crowd and good order.

Fred James, who was sick nearly all last winter, is again under the doctor's care.

Messrs. Wm. and Lee Sayers have gone to Missouri to look at the country.

Mr. Kaufman is making preparations to move to Iowa in the spring.

The teachers of this township will have vacation during holidays.

Will Flatt is the champion horse trader of Carpenter.

Miss Carrie Goodrich has been visiting at Lee.

Changeable weather and muddy roads.

NEWTON COUNTY.

BY DEW DROP.

Literary at Union School house December 8th was good for the beginning. There will be another one December 22nd and a better time is expected.

The weather is cold at present. It looks like it was going to freeze to hard for tiling for a while.

There will be a spelling school at Iroquois School house on the evening of the 21st of December.

Mr. Hudson has some fat cattle he will ship when the prices suit him.

Ben Thompson shipped a carload of cattle to Chicago last week.

Poultry is plenty. Every body can eat turkey for Christmas.

A shooting match at Henry Putt's on December 23rd.

SOUTHEAST MARION.

BY ROXY.

Alvin Dunn, of Benton county, was the guest of John Penright, the first of the week.

Wm. Haley has purchased a car-load of tile to be used on his farm in the spring.

The turkey roast at Mrs. Penright's was generally enjoyed by all present.

Miss Nellie Havens is staying at Mrs. Penright's and going to school.

Health in these parts has improved since the bad weather left us.

Mr. Mitchell intends to enlarge his barn.

BUCKLIN'S ARNICA SALVE.

The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by F. B. Meyer.

A very pleasant time was had at the home of Henry Wood last Friday evening. There were a number of invited guests present and the feature of the evening was a Christmas tree. The little folks entertained with recitations, songs, etc.

Dr. I. B. Washburn, the optician, handles the celebrated Trolley's Kohinoor eye glasses, the best made. Attention is called to the ad, "See Again as in Youth," in another place in this paper.

Rev. A. M. Simonton is at home with his family for a few days. He has been holding revival meetings in Ripley and Dearborn counties.

He who permits his farm machinery to rot in the fence corners makes a first class "calamity howler."

We wish our many readers a

Happy

New

Year!



FOR 1894!

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT

And

THE CHICAGO EXPRESS!

(Henry Vincent's Paper)

Both papers one year for the remarkably low price of

\$1.40!

Single Subscriptions to the Chicago Express will be received at Fifty Cents each.

Read S. Fendig's ad in another column.

Smoke the Mendoza cigar. For sale everywhere.

A camp of Sons of Veterans is being organized here.

Don't forget the Farmers' Institute Jan. 25th and 26th.

Subscriptions for the Nonconformist taken at this office.

The city schools are having their regular holiday vacation.

Just received. A carload of blacksmith coal. C. W. COEN.

The public schools over the county are having a regular vacation.

The sewer in front of Dal Nowel's building was repaired last week.

Bring your baby to town and have its photograph taken at the PAVILION.

We can furnish you job work at lower prices than you can get in Chicago.

W. H. Coover and family spent Christmas with friends at Remington.

The Chicago Express is one of the papers you need during this coming year.

We duplicate Chicago prices on job printing. Come in and see if we don't.

Orders for job work or advertising in Wheatfield may be left at Fendig's drug store.

Some men are poor because there is a shady side to a hedge row in the summer time.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Parcels and son, Rue, visited friends in Monticello the first of the week.

The time to pray for good crops is when you are vigorously stirring the soil with good plows.

Do you want a handsome steel engraving? If so, take advantage of our offer in another column.

Sanford Bowman, the young man who was accidentally shot on Thanksgiving, is slowly improving.

B. F. Ferguson received the check for a \$1,200.00 loan in just three days after mailing the application.

NOTICE TO BLACKSMITHS. All orders for blacksmith coal sent to C. W. Coen will be filled promptly.

Parcels & Wade are running three chairs now. No more waiting. Can accommodate all that come.

Parcels & Wade send laundry every Wednesday and returns on Saturday morning. Best laundry in the state.

Not one minute elapses between the taking of One Minute Cough Cure and relief. Why shouldn't people take One Minute Cough Cure? They should. They do. A. F. LONG & CO.

Strayed.

From my place at Rensselaer, Ind., on or about Dec. 15th one fine yearling Bronze turkey hen, weighing 20 lbs or more. A liberal reward will be given to any person returning said turkey or any information leading to her recovery. D. A. STONER.

No better aid to digestion, no better cure for dyspepsia, nothing more reliable for biliousness and constipation than DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous little pills. A. F. LONG & Co.

All a Mistake.

I am still at the old stand, notwithstanding the report that I had quit business. I have a complete stock of goods, and will be found at my place of business day or night ready to attend calls. T. P. WRIGHT, Undertaker.

Early Risers, Early Risers, the famous little pills for constipation, sick headache, dyspepsia and nervousness. A. F. LONG & Co.

Do You Want to Die?

No, of course not, but you may have some old garments that do. Parcels & Wade can have it done for you cheaper and better than any house in the state. Call and get their prices.

B. F. Ferguson has the best and most direct source to obtain money for you of any loan agent in the country.

Mrs. Houser and two daughters, of Michigan City, are spending the holidays with I. A. Glazebrook's family.

Parcels & Wade, the barbers, can have your clothes cleaned, repaired and dyed to look like new ones. A trial will convince you.

Miss Maggie Healy returned home last Tuesday evening, from Chicago, where she has been visiting friends for the past three months.

A chimney burned out in the Makeover House last Monday, and caused a little excitement for a few minutes, but it resulted in no serious damage.

DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cleanses, purifies and heals. It was made for that purpose. Use it for burns, cuts, bruises, chapped hands, sores of all descriptions, and if you have piles use it for them.

A. F. LONG & Co.