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A HISTORY OF Tower City, North Dakota.

With a description of the surrounding
Country and a passing glance at some
of the farms located in the immediate
vicinity. * * * * *

By W. N. BUSWELL.

Dedicated to the interests of the village, the surrounding country, and the Home-
seekers of the world at large.

April 1, 1899.



Tower City, N. D., is located on the main line of the Northern Pacific Railway, forty-two miles west of Fargo, on the extreme western border of Cass county and nearly equi-distant from the north and south lines.

The town was located and laid out by Geo. H. Ellsbury, in April, 1879, and will be twenty years old in April of this year. It has never had a mushroom growth, but has grown quietly all these years. The town is located on section 19, township 140 north, of range 55 west, and is the natural trading point for two tiers of townships in western Cass, as well as two tiers of townships in eastern Barnes county, and is provided with all facilities for doing a large and flourishing business.

The village contains about 800 inhabitants, all being thrifty and public spirited. The streets are broad and well graded, and many of them are lined with beautiful shade trees of different varieties, and many of the residences are surrounded by thrifty shade trees, giving the whole town the appearance of a large park.

Immediately south of the depot on the railroad right of way there is a beautiful park with a veritable growth of cottonwood and box elder trees, in the midst of which is a fine band stand from which weekly concerts are discoursed.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company have a large depot with extensive side tracks, water tank, pumphouse, and a long well elevated platform for loading grain from wagons into cars, which is a great convenience to all farmers who desire to ship their own grain, and it is well patronized during the shipping season.

CHURCHES.

There are three distinct church organizations, each having neat and commodious houses of worship, the Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist, each holding services every Sabbath, with Sunday school after morning service.

The Presbyterian Church was erected and dedicated in the year 1881, the Rev. J. H. Baldwin being the organizer of the society, and was instrumental in building up the society and church, he preaching the first sermon in Tower City, having located a claim two miles west of town in Barnes county. He now owns the same farm, but lives in town, and although eighty-five years of age, but hale and hearty, still preaches many sermons each year, driving as much as thirty miles to attend service. This veteran preacher has formed fourteen societies for the Presbyterian church in the two counties of Cass and Barnes, and is still a good worker in the vineyard.

The first pastor of this church was the Rev. G. S. Baskerville, who labored faithfully for many years with good results. The present pastor, the Rev. F. J. Hibbard, a bright talented young man, fresh from college, is one whom any person would delight to hear discourse, and is one who is bound to make his mark in the world among the Christian churches.

The Baptist Church was built and dedicated in the year 1881. Its first pastor, the Rev. A. M. Allyn, was very active and energetic in the erection of the church, and served successfully as its pastor for about eight years, a very pious, earnest Christian gentleman, who removed in 1888 to the then Territory of Washington, and was appointed territorial Baptist missionary of that field, and is still serving in that capacity.

This church is also out of debt, and in a prosperous condition, both financially and spiritually. The present pastor, the Rev. J. R. Hall, is a faithful, efficient worker, and is doing much good, is well liked by everybody, and is an earnest Christian gentleman.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was built and dedicated in the year 1883. The Rev. E. S. Preston was its first pastor, and was a faithful worker in the vineyard of the Lord, and has labored hard at all times for the upbuilding of his branch of Christ's church. He still resides here, and although past three score years and ten, he still preaches occasionally

and is an active worker at all times. Of necessity there have been several changes of pastors sent by the conference, nevertheless the society has grown to be a prosperous one. The present pastor, the Rev. J. M. Taylor, is a young man, an earnest Christian gentleman, who labors hard and is a true and faithful worker and a logical exponent of the Gospel and of the Methodist doctrine. The church is out of debt and the society prosperous.

BANK.

The State Bank of Tower City was established in 1881, with S. H. Sherman, president; R. P. Sherman, cashier; S. F. Sherman, assistant cashier. The bank does a general banking business, sells drafts on all principal cities; is agent for steamship companies; tickets to all parts of Europe sold.

SCHOOLS.

Tower City has a graded school which is strictly first-class, with a school building costing \$8,000, which is two stories high above a fine basement, with four school rooms each, provided with anterooms, with an efficient corps of able teachers.

The principal, Prof. C. Inghert, is one of the best educators in the state, and stands high with the faculty of state university, from which he is a graduate. The assistants also have high-grade certificates, and give the best of satisfaction. In fact, the schools of Tower City are equal to those of many larger towns, and are second to none in the state.

This school has a roll of about 150 pupils.

HOTELS.

Tower City has three fine large hotels. The Park Hotel is situated 200 feet south of the depot, and is a first-class house in every sense of the word, presided over by H. A. Winans and his estimable wife, is well patronized by the traveling public, and is a regular home for the knights of the grip.

This hotel is three stories high and well ventilated and heated, supplied with bath room and barber shop, is strictly first-class in all its appointments, and is second to none in the Northwest as a country village hotel.

The Tower City Hotel, Frank Obrecht proprietor, is the most popular one dollar per day house in this part of the state, and is well patronized by the traveling public. This is the home of many of the laboring men who come to help harvest and thresh the great crops of wheat and other grains raised in the vicinity.

The Chilson House, kept by N. Chilson, is also a popular home for the traveling public, and is always crowded to overflowing, owing to the affability of the judge and his estimable lady, who are always looking after the welfare and comfort of their guests and doing all in their power to make their house a home for all who patronize the famous Chilson House.

There are also two first-class restaurants, where the weary and hungry traveler can get a first-class meal or a lunch in short order at any hour of the day.

MERCHANTS.

H. V. Smith, the pioneer merchant of Tower City, started in business here in 1879 on a limited capital in a small building, now enlarged, and carries an immense stock of general merchandise, dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, hats and caps, and notions, completing a line of everything needed with a fine line of groceries. His stock is replete with the things necessary for the comfort of the outer or the inner man.

M. H. Kiff & Sons carry a large stock of general merchandise, consisting of clothing, dry goods, boots, shoes, groceries, hardware, glassware,—in fact the settler can have his wants supplied here, even to a sewing machine or a watch or anything for necessity or comfort.

King & Co. have another large stock of general merchandise for the comfort of man, woman, or even the smallest child. King & Co. also carry an extensive line of the latest patterns of furniture, sewing machines, musical instruments, carpets, window shades, coffins and caskets.

E. B. Clark, of the corner grocery, carries a complete stock of selected groceries of the best qualities that the market affords, the finest grade of creamery butter always on hand, smoked meats and fish of all kinds, also a choice line of confectionery, fruits and cigars.

Heffron & Voorhees carry the largest line of shelf and heavy hardware in this part of the state; their stock is complete, consisting of everything in the line of hardware, oils, paints, crockery, glassware, hardwood lumber, hard and soft coal, lime, cement and wall plaster of all kinds; agency for the celebrated Jewel stoves and ranges.

The Pioneer Drug store of G. C. Ward was established in 1882, and there is always kept a full line of the best and purest drugs and medicines, paints and oils, books and stationery, and here also is located the agency of the Northwestern Long Distance Telephone Company.

MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING.

Mrs. Mary Clement keeps on hand a full line of the most fashionable millinery goods trimmed to suit the taste of the most fastidious. Dress-making also in connection.

Mrs. W. Boughton, fashionable dressmaker, has a shop at her residence on Main street south.

JEWELRY.

O. C. Hustad, the pioneer jeweler, established his business in 1881. He carries a full line of watches, clocks and fashionable jewelry of the latest patterns, and everything pertaining to a first-class jewelry store. Repairing neatly and promptly done, and all work guaranteed.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

T. H. McCulloch, the old reliable shoemaker, carries a large line of footwear of all kinds to suit the taste of the most particular.

T. H. Foster is also a manufacturer and repairer of all kinds of footwear. Order work a specialty.

MEAT MARKET.

P. C. Kanouse & Son, the pioneers in the business, keep constantly on hand a line of fresh and salt meats, sausage, fish and game of all kinds and oysters in season. Also buy and ship stock and pay the highest market price for the same.

BARBER SHOP.

E. F. Brockman, tonsorial artist, is also dealer in confectionery, fruits and cigars, and will give you a nice hair cut or a clean shave, or sell you anything in the fruit or confectionery line, or soda water in season.

F. H. Knowles is also an expert barber, and will extract teeth without pain, repair your bicycle, sewing machine or tune your piano.

HARNESS AND SADDLERY.

D. S. Weeks, better known as Uncle Dave, has the best appointed shop in the Northwest, manufactures and keeps on hand harness of all descriptions, saddles, blankets, whips, fly nets, harness, hardware, furnishings, or anything for the draft horse, driver, or saddle horse, for the most particular horseman. His store is replete with everything in this line.

NEWSPAPER.

The Tower City Topics, published every Thursday, is owned and edited by W. W. Tousley. Republican in politics. The Topics is the most prominent paper in western Cass county, and has a large circulation in the county, as well as in the neighboring counties, and is well patronized, is a bright, newsy paper, which speaks well for the management. The bright young editor was elected last fall to represent the Eleventh district in the legislature for two years, and is now serving his district in the halls of the legislature.

POSTOFFICE.

A. Shumway, postmaster, is an old soldier and veteran, accommodating and gentlemanly. The service is well rendered and the patrons well satisfied, and the department ought to be thanked for the appointment of Capt. Shumway to this responsible position.

The mail facilities of Tower City are equal to those of many larger eastern towns, as we have two mails east and west each day, so we are in receipt of the great eastern daily papers in from twelve to twenty-four hours after their issue. The postoffice annex is always supplied with all kinds of fruit in its season, nuts, confectionery, tobacco and cigars, all of the finest quality.

LIVERY STABLE.

L. L. Garret has just bought the stock and fixtures of J. H. Foster at the old Pioneer barn on the north side. First-class rigs and careful drivers ready at all times to accommodate an appreciative public. Horses and mules for sale at all times.

WOOD YARDS.

E. C. Duley always has on hand and for sale wood of all kinds sawed to fit any stove at the lowest market prices.

John Charles is also a dealer in hard and soft wood, which will be promptly sawed and delivered in quantities to suit his customers; quality always the best.

DRAY LINE.

E. C. Duley, drayman, meets all trains and delivers all freight and express.

LUMBER YARD.

E. Young, the pioneer dealer in all kinds of lumber, building paper, windows, sash doors and blinds, brick, plaster, oils, paints, and everything to build a modern house; also deals in coal and wood, machinery of all kinds, plows, wagons, buggies, bicycles, binding twine; also agent for the world renowned McCormick Harvesting machinery of all kinds. Mr. Young also buys and ships large quantities of wheat and flax, besides looking after his large farming interests.

Andrew Poe deals in all kinds of farm machinery, plows, wagons, buggies, bicycles, binding twine, and is agent for the old reliable Deering harvesting machinery. He also buys and ships wheat and flax, besides looking after an extensive farming interest.

BLACKSMITHING.

Arnold Beltman has the best appointed general shop in the state for its size, 25x50 feet, two stories high with engine room fitted with six horse power gasoline engine, lathe, drill, trip hammer, polishing stones, grindstones, circular saws, etc. He also carries a large stock of wagon timber for repair work; plow work a specialty in its season. He also manufactures the new patent hoof pincers, the Wagner patent.

Fred Daniels, the pioneer blacksmith on the north side, is another general blacksmith. Horseshoeing a specialty, repairing of all kinds in iron or steel. Mr. Daniels' motto is "what man made man can repair," and defies his customers to bring anything that he cannot repair which is made of iron or steel.

He is a well known artificer in smith work, and also owns and operates his shop, besides looking after a large farming interest in Barnes county, and believes in the great future of North Dakota. Mr. Daniels started here as a journeyman smith, and now owns, besides his shop, a section of North Dakota soil, all under cultivation, together with his stock, tools and machinery, and has his granary filled to overflowing.

CARPENTERS AND BUILDERS.

C. E. Frost is prepared to furnish estimates and material and build and finish houses and barns or any kind of buildings on short notice, at the lowest possible price, or will do your work, you furnishing the material.

H. Frederick will build houses or barns or other buildings, furnish estimates and do all kinds of work in a first-class manner; satisfaction guaranteed. Shop on South Main street next to Beltman's blacksmith shop.

STONE MASON.

Geo. W. Marsh, stone mason and brick layer, foundations and chimneys built in first-class manner, buildings raised and moved; satisfaction guaranteed.

PAINTING.

Henry Shields and John Miller, painters and paperhangers, estimates made and work performed in the best possible manner. Kalsomining done in good style.

John Lockling is also a first-class painter and paperhanger, who makes a specialty of decorative work.

GENERAL CONTRACT WORK.

W. N. Buswell is a contractor for general farm work, contracts made for seeding, harvesting or plowing by the acre. Will contract to break any amount by the acre and backset the same; if you want 80 or 160 acres or a square mile broken, he will do it for you on fair terms; satisfaction guaranteed.

Geo. P. Cowen also contracts general farm work by the acre; breaking done by the acre or section to suit customers; satisfaction guaranteed. Teaming of all kinds promptly done.

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Dr. J. W. Campbell, a young and energetic man, has located here, and has had the best of success. He is a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago, and is bound to make his mark among the medical fraternity.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Cereal Lodge No. 9, A. F. & A. M., Blue Lodge, was constituted in 1883 under the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory. When the territory was divided and North Dakota was admitted as a state in 1889, a new grand lodge was formed for North Dakota. The subordinate lodges took new numbers in rotation. Cereal Lodge came into the present grand jurisdiction as No. 9. It has at present a membership of about forty, and is in a prosperous condition, and is said to be one of the best working lodges in this new and prosperous state. Regular meetings first and third Wednesdays of each month in their hall.

Ceres Chapter No. 10, Order of Eastern Star is a prosperous order, and is well patronized by the Masons and their wives and daughters. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesday evenings in each month in Masonic Hall.

Tower Lodge No. 119, A. O. U. W., is a large and prosperous order, with a local membership of about eighty, and is fast becoming a strong and prosperous order. Regular meetings first and third Mondays in each month.

Faithful Lodge No. 35, Degree of Honor, is an auxiliary of the A. O. U. W., and is also in a very prosperous condition. Regular meetings first and third Tuesdays of each month in their hall.

John B. Raymond Post No. —, G. A. R., has a membership of twenty-two comrades. Their meetings are held twice each month, and the W. R. C. also have a membership of forty good and worthy ladies, who meet semi-monthly, and all seem to have a very enjoyable time.

The W. C. T. U. is well represented, and have a membership of forty-two doing much good. Too much credit cannot be given to the efforts of the ladies of this local union, for by their efforts Tower City has always been the banner prohibition town of North Dakota.

Tower City Cornet Band, composed of fifteen pieces, is considered one of the best bands in the state, and at different times has dispensed music from Fargo to Bismarck on gala days, rendering exceptionally good music to appreciative audiences.

Cyclone Hook and Ladder Company is all that the name implies, having at the state tournament taken for four years in succession all the principal prizes, and has beaten the world's record in the running and ladder climbing race, making each year the time of 22 seconds for a run of 400 feet and climbing the regulation 24-foot ladder, which speaks well for the young blood of the town, and they now hold the state banner.

TOWER CITY ROLLER MILLS.

The Tower City Roller mills are owned and controlled by the Tower City Milling Company. The mill has a capacity of 125 barrels of flour per day, and runs day and night. The company ships a large quantity of their product direct to Liverpool, where they find a ready market for it, which is evidence that they are making a grade of flour equal to any of the mills of the Northwest. The company pays two cents above the market price for wheat, thereby getting the choicest of hard wheat. They have on hand at all times and for sale mill feed, also ground feed, exchange flour and feed for wheat, thereby drawing trade for many miles around. The mill is a great source of income to the owners as well as a benefit to the town and surrounding country.

ELEVATORS.

The Peavey or Monarch Elevator own and control a large elevator of about 50,000 bushels capacity, buy and store wheat, oats, barley and flax; also sell hard and soft coal. The power is furnished by a ten horse power gasoline engine. The house is always open to accommodate the public.

The Andrews & Gage Elevator is also one of the latest improved houses of modern style, having a capacity of about 30,000 bushels.

There has been marketed at this point from the crop of 1898 over 350,000 bushels of wheat. And there is now left in the granaries of the farmers in this vicinity that will naturally come to this market about 150,000 bushels, making a total of half a million bushels raised in the season of 1898. What will the amount be when all this land is improved and brought under cultivation? We estimate that it will exceed 2,000,000 bushels that will find a market in Tower City, and that, too, before ten years roll round.

PUBLIC HALL.

Sherman Hall is the only hall we have at present, and it is not sufficiently large to meet the demands of the town, but no doubt the day is not far distant when some public-spirited man will erect a hall or opera house of more commodious proportions, and one that will be the pride of the people, as well as a good investment for its owner.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The town can boast of having the best and largest library in the state, consisting of some two thousand volumes of the best selection of books of history, and standard works of some of the best authors of England and America. This library was a present to the town by Mrs. C. Tower of Philadelphia, in whose honor the town was named, Mr. Tower at one time being the owner of the section of land on which the town was located by its promoter, Mr. Ellsbury.

ARTESIAN WELL.

This is one of the strongest flowing wells in North Dakota. It was put down by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in 1882, but owing to the quality of the water it could never be used by the company in their locomotives on account of mixing with other water. The well is about 900 feet deep and flows a very large stream with great force. The village has secured the use of the water at a nominal sum each year, and the water is conveyed to large tanks on each side of the railroad track, furnishing soft water for washing as well as for watering stock, and is used for threshing engines with great success. It is also piped direct to the flour mill and also to two of the hotels.

The medicinal qualities of this water are of no trivial nature, many people using it for kidney troubles. Thousands of barrels of it are being shipped every year. Nearly all train men are using it.

The analysis showing the great medical properties are as follows:

We append the analysis of water made by Charles M. Cressen, M. D., of Philadelphia.

	Grains in One U. S. Gallon.
Solid matter upon evaporation to dryness.....	180,000
Sediment	None
Scale deposited on evaporation to 1-10 bulk.....	4.894
Silicia	0.194
Alumina and oxide of iron.....	0.374

Lime	3.604
Magnesia	0.114
Carbonic acid.....	Not det.
Sulphuric acid, free.....	None
Sulphuric acid in combination.....	21.990
Chlorine, free.....	None
Chlorine in combination.....	6.880
Potash and soda.....	Residuum

The surrounding country is a beautiful undulating prairie, just rolling enough to make good drainage without any abrupt hills, and is dotted here and there with groves of trees planted by the hand of man, many of these being the original tree claims planted by the early settlers under the timber culture act, by which the settlers filing under that act could become the owners of 160 acres of the best land the sun ever shone upon, simply by breaking, cultivating and planting ten acres of trees with continuous cultivation for seven years. He would then get a patent from the government. Many thus became successful and are now enjoying the fruits of their labor. Others were not as attentive and changed their claims to homesteads, others got disgusted and left for other places, while those who stayed and battled with the hard times that follow the first settlement of all new countries are now enjoying their reward. Among the most successful of those I will mention a few.

Hon. E. Young, who has a beautiful grove on his farm two miles south of town; the farm entire contains 480 acres under a high state of cultivation, with good buildings. Three miles further south we come to the Brown & Wagar farm, with extensive buildings protected on the north by a large grove of trees. The middle branch of the Maple river runs through this farm, which contains four sections of rich alluvial soil, which has always since its opening up in 1880 been a source of great profit to its owners, under the personal supervision of John M. Wagar, one of the proprietors. Here we find a large herd of the finest cattle to be found in the Northwest, also a large stock of the fine grade of Percheron horses and colts.

Still going south two miles we come to the elegant half section farm of E. Wood, who, with his most estimable wife, settled on this farm early in 1879, and have each year been adding to their comfort from its excellent productions. Beautiful shade trees surround their buildings, which would do justice to any of the best farms of the Eastern and older states. This is one of the best managed farms in western Cass county.

On our return we go west one mile and pass by the half section farm of I. M. Hill, who settled here in 1879. This is a good farm of the medium size, well stocked and watered with a good well of pure water, wind pump, water tanks, etc. Mr. Hill has a good equipment of farm buildings.

Passing this elegant property we come to the 640-acre farm of G. W. Earl. This farm is commonly known as the Wilson farm, and has a large modern house and barn surrounded by a grove of thrifty trees. This fine property lies on the south bank of the Maple river, is well drained by that river and is well situated for stock, as well as grain raising.

Passing by this magnificent property, across the Maple, we next come to the neat little farm of John Greeno, which is well watered by the Maple. Here we find a man with the comforts of life around him, and year by year adding more to his possessions. We leave Mr. Greeno and come upon the property of A. O. Ramer, who is also an early settler, and has a large grove of trees sheltering his buildings from the north winds. This farm contains 640 acres of fine land watered by one branch of the Maple and is well situated for stock raising. Mr. Ramer has a fine herd of young cattle, and is constantly adding to the same.

Passing through this man's princely possessions, we next come upon the farm of W. W. King on the west and L. E. Stevens on the east side of us for a full mile. These fine properties are both well cultivated and

furnished with buildings complete, and each year bring forth crops of wheat, oats, flax and barley, making a profit to their owners.

We next come to the Dan McKay farm on either side of the road for half a mile, with a flourishing grove on the east side, and spreading acres of glorious soil on the west.

We leave this fine property and pass on, coming to the fine property of Hiram Frazier on the west side and the home farm of L. E. Stevens on the east. Mr. Frazier was one of the first to locate here in 1879, adjoining the townsite, and has been very successful in getting his share of this world's goods, and has a palatial residence and outbuildings. This is a home any man would be proud of.

Mr. Stevens on the east side has the original homestead of Geo. Ellsbury, and a fine property it is, with a large house and barn. This farm adjoins the townsite, and here we are again back to the village in time for dinner.

After partaking of a bounteous repast furnished by "mine host" of the Park Hotel, and our horses being fed and cared for, we light a fresh cigar and start on another half day's trip southwest of town in Barnes county.

Passing out of the village at the southwest corner we come upon the farm of Dan McKay, which we had passed through on the east just before dinner. We now pass through the west part with one-quarter on each side of the road, with his buildings in Barnes county. Here is an elegant property containing 480 acres of good land, all under cultivation, and being a great source of profit to its owner.

After leaving this property we angle diagonally through a large tract of unbroken prairie for about two miles, and next come the property of Louis Stine with everything having the appearance of an Eastern farm. Here is a farm of 480 acres under the best state of cultivation that can be gotten, and this fine property has produced grain enough in three years to pay for itself, being worth at a moderate estimate about \$9,000.

Turning south we next come to the farm of G. W. Melton with its complete equipment of buildings, barns all well filled with horses and cattle, all in the finest condition. The buildings set on a moderate rise of ground. We look about us and view the country around for miles; we almost speak the word Eureka; we stop our team and gaze and wonder at the beautiful sight before us and we say to ourselves, why does this scene please the eye? There can be no other answer but because of the wonderful advantages of this new country. Here we see this broad prairie dotted over here and there by splendid farms in high cultivation, and the owners all prospering even under the low price of wheat. Almost any of these farms will produce enough to pay for themselves in three years, besides paying expenses, if properly managed. Surely these settlers, although scattered, are a happy people. What will this same country be when all this wild land becomes tilled and made to produce and bloom?

Continuing our reverie we pass on and next come to the 320-acre farm of Guy Robison, the boy farmer from the Buckeye State, with the Buckeye grit; this young man is just opening up a new farm, has already got a neat house and barn, has his land all broken and ready for the seed in the spring of 1899, and if the elements favor him will have enough to pay for all his land, besides his living expenses, and this is what any young man who has the three virtues, integrity, energy and perseverance can do in a few years by paying one-half of the crop each year as a payment on his land at the stated price.

We now turn southwest again for a mile over unbroken prairie as rich in alluvial soil as the foot of man ever trod upon, and come to the farm of Henry Nelson, one of Barnes county's noblemen, having been here since the first settlement of the country. He has his farm well cultivated.

After talking with this prosperous farmer for a few minutes we turn north to make our way back to the city of Tower. We pass the snug home of J. P. Weber, the typical Dutchman, with his pipe and dog. He takes pleasure among his colts and cattle, raises good crops of wheat and

barley each year, and as the years roll by he becomes more and more independent, but we must pass on leaving on either side of us plowed fields, and come to the home farm of the Hon. G. W. Earl, consisting of 480 acres of North Dakota dirt. Here we find an elegant two-story house and large barn and granaries, surrounded by an elegant grove of trees with a regular driveway to pass through to the buildings. One would think that we had stopped at one of the best farm houses in Iowa or Illinois, where the country had been settled for fifty years or more.

Across the road from this elegant possession we find Comrade Barret from Michigan, who has the neatest, most tidy place in the two counties, with a place for everything and everything in its place, three-quarter sections of the richest land the sun ever shone upon, and everything to work with. No wonder Mr. Barrett feels good. He came here in 1880 and started without anything but his energy, grit and faith in the country, and is now the happy possessor of about \$10,000 worth of property. Think of this, you young men of the crowded East; and the trials of a new country are all over here now, for if you come you will find plenty of cheap wild lands to be bought on the deferred payment plan, with a small payment down and the balance bearing only a low rate of interest in a settlement with all the benefits of schools, churches and all kinds of societies. We old settlers have borne the brunt of the battle, but will welcome you here just the same.

But we must turn back one mile and north again one mile and come to the elaborate furnished farm owned by Dr. R. L. Howell, consisting of three sections of the world renowned North Dakota soil, all under a high state of cultivation, with the most elaborate set of farm buildings in Barnes county and hard to beat in any state, all furnished with the most modern improvements, everything under the watchful care of an experienced superintendent, W. J. Sansburn, under whose direction this elegant property is made to pay a handsome profit each year to the owner. We proceed to look over his extensive barns, sheds and granaries, which are filled to overflowing with stock, hay, machinery and grain, everything in its place.

We leave this lovely home and turn our faces toward the village of Tower again. We are now only one-half mile from the track of the great Northern Pacific Railroad, which connects the great lakes of North America at Duluth and Superior with the Pacific ocean at Tacoma and Seattle.

With such thoughts in our minds we drive on thinking of the advantages we have in living adjacent to this great thoroughfare over which the best trains of the West are drawn by enormous engines of modern makes. And we wonder why people go out on branch roads while we have plenty of good land yet to be settled up.

We have now come to the farm of George Griffin, who settled here in 1879. He has a fine farm within two miles of the elevators. A happy man surely, as such advantages are not within the reach of all men.

We pass on and next come to the farm of T. M. Crawford on both sides of us with splendid buildings and good improvements. Here is an elegant property, almost in the shadow of the town and within fifteen minutes' walk of schools and churches.

We have now passed the last farm house on our way back to the village, and we drive along at a lively gait, passing fields of plowed land and fields of unbroken prairie, and soon enter, as it were, the gates of the beautiful city of Tower at the same point we left it only a few hours before. And as we alight at the door of our hotel and bid our driver a pleasant good evening, the bell rings for supper; and, hastening with our bath and going to the dining room of the best hotel in the Northwest, we do justice to a luxurious meal and meditate on the beauties of the different farms and wild lands which have come under our notice during the day's drive. And as we are smoking our evening cigar, we think to ourselves how the energy and industry of the early settlers have been rewarded and how the

many thousands of people in the East who are struggling with the vicissitudes of life would like to be as comfortably situated in life as many of these poor North Dakota farmers whose farms we have visited during our short day's drive, and we run the matter over in our minds and think of the many thousand acres of unbroken prairie we have passed over in our day's drive, only waiting for the cultivation to make it as productive as these farms we have described, and try to imagine the effect it will have on the business when this land shall all be broken up and cultivated with a good settler on each half section, and the thought comes to us, if the young men of the thickly settled states could realize the advantages to be had here with the price of these lands in consideration, they would surely be the owners of some of these fine possessions, and at length we retire for the night.

Getting a good breakfast the following morning, and it bidding fair to be a good day, we conclude to take a view of the country north of town. Securing our team we start north on Main street. The first place we come to is E. Chapman's, adjoining the village on the north. He was one of the first to take a homestead claim in the early 1879. Mr. Chapman opened the first store in Tower City and was the first postmaster here. He now gives his attention to farming and has a palace of a farm house, two story, surrounded by fruit and shade trees, and it is a most imposing place, only half a mile from the depot.

Deflecting east half a mile and then north, we pass the farm of F. A. Lowrie on the east and W. A. McLean on the west, both under good cultivation. Passing on through a half mile of uncultivated land, we come to the fine 480-acre farm of B. F. Hood, who has just purchased this fine property of Capt. L. J. Allred, and is one of the best pieces of property in western Cass county, well stocked with fine horses and cattle. Here we find a large pasture on the left of the road, mostly timothy grass, on the right we find the farm buildings protected from the north winds by a large grove of cottonwood and box elder trees, many of them being thirty feet high. This claim was taken in 1879 by Capt. Allred, who added to the original plat until he had 480 acres.

Passing this magnificent estate we come to the farm owned by E. W. Clark with its splendid buildings. This is a 320-acre farm, at present rented to Walter Smith.

We next come to the 320-acre farm of Levi Rice, all under a first-class state of cultivation; here we find a man who always has something to sell and is always able to hold his crop of wheat for the highest price. His 1897 crop brought him \$1.50 per bushel. How is that at twenty bushels to the acre?

One mile east of here is the farm of Dr. Hinebauch, state veterinary surgeon, whose fine set of modern buildings standing on a rise of ground can be seen on a pleasant day for miles around. The doctor is a scientific, model farmer, as well as a prince of the land, and takes great interest in excelling in fine stock and poultry. He has a large herd of fine stock. This is the renowned Fair View farm, and is thoroughly modern in all of its appurtenances. Crossing a mile of virgin soil we come upon the 620-acre farm of M. F. Bogart with its complement of fine buildings, protected on north and west by a large grove of trees. Mr. Van de Bogart settled on this farm in 1880, six miles from the station, and with four oxen began to open up this splendid piece of nature's wilderness, and has made it to blossom like the rose, and it has brought forth fruit many times ten fold, so that the proprietor of this choice property is now independent and holds large granaries full of North Dakota hard wheat. He also has a large herd of cattle.

One mile east is the great stock and grain farm of W. A. Scott, which is under the supervision of Robert Watt. We drive over and take a partial inventory. We find full blood Percheron horses, grades, also the full blood Shetland ponies, raised, bred and for sale here. Cattle of the finest Short-horn breeds, sheep of the best varieties for the buyer to select from,—in

fact here is a farm equipped with stock and all modern improvements equal to any that can be found in the older states. This farm contains about 2,500 acres of the famous North Dakota soil, and in connection with all this stock it raises large crops of wheat, flax, oats, barley, corn and potatoes and other crops, and in fact stands at the head as one model large farm in North Dakota.

We turn north and after we leave this large farm we travel two miles across unbroken prairie in the state of nature. Deflecting Northwest, we come to the farm of Clarence Carroll, who owns 320 acres of rich alluvial deposit. Here we find a farmer who started with integrity, energy and perseverance as his sole capital and is now the actual owner of this fine property and a large stock of cattle and horses, with a neat set of farm buildings and a fine grove of trees which serves to break the wind as well as the monotony of the continual stretch of prairie.

Passing this splendid farm we travel over unbroken prairie for two miles and come to the 640-acre farm of G. W. Kelly, one of nature's noblemen, and a thorough farmer. Mr. Kelly located here in 1879, and has made a grand success in life. Although yet a young man, he has gained a competency for himself and family, which would have taken a lifetime to accumulate in most parts of the East, where lands are high in value. And here is another proof of what this soil will do for one with perseverance and frugality in this new and growing commonwealth, and shows Horace Greely was right when he said go West young man and grow up with the country.

Here we partake most heartily of a fine dinner, during which Mr. Kelly informs us that he had a very fair crop the past season—wheat averaging over 20 bushels, oats over 50, barley 40, and corn was a very fair crop the past season. During our conversation Mr. Kelly informs us that one estate in Maine owned ten sections in this township, or 6,400 acres, all being as good land as his, and all for sale at less than \$10 per acre, and that, too, on deferred payments and at low rate of interest. Think of this, you Eastern farmer, with your 40 or 50-acre farm of poor land which is valued at from \$50 to \$100 per acre. Where do your profits come in raising wheat, cattle, sheep or hogs? Think of this. Come out and buy a square mile of this elegant soil for about what your 80-acre patch is held at. Come out and see for yourselves; look at the granaries full of wheat, oats and other grains; examine the cattle and be convinced of the truth of the statement. Mr. Kelly informs us that he raised last season 10,000 bushels of wheat, 2,500 bushels of oats, 1,500 bushels of barley. He says, of course, prices are low this season, but he thinks he can get along by using economy.

Here we bid our host and his estimable wife good bye, and drive straight west over a mile of virgin soil, coming to the farm of W. C. Gray, just across the line in Barnes county. Here, too, we found an old settler, coming here in 1879, locating his homestead and building his claim shanty right here where he now has a large farm house and good out buildings. He, too, has added to his first possessions, and now owns a mile square of this wonderful soil, all under cultivation.

Passing through this farm, which would make an Eastern farmer green with envy, we next come upon the farm of J. N. King, a settler of 1880. He also has added to his acres, and is now the happy owner of 640 acres of this rich land, with large buildings that would grace a farm in Ohio or New York. Mr. King has a large herd of fine horses and cattle.

But we must turn our faces toward Tower City, as time flies, so we turn south and pass through plowed fields on one side and unbroken prairie on the other for two miles, and come upon the farm of Charles Smith, 320 acres of nature's best. These fine buildings, all stock and machinery to work with, are what this young man has made in fifteen years, starting with nothing but energy and grit as his capital. He is now owner of all this property, and is looking for more fields to conquer.

We next come to the farm of P. F. Soule, a quarter section of elegant

domain, good buildings, good water, something to sell all the time, happy man, with two miles of wild land to the east of him, waiting for the settler to plow and cultivate.

We next come to the homestead of Walter Young, 160 acres, a new, comfortable house and nice barn. He is bound to succeed.

We here enter upon the three sections of farm owned by that prince of good fellows, G. O. Goulet, and as we drive through this magnificent property, we think Mr. Goulet worthy to be a marquis or a count of the realm. Here we find one of the best managed farms in Barnes county, with elegant buildings fit for a Napoleon; and this magnificent property all managed by a Frenchman from Quebec, Canada, for such is Mr. Goulet's nativity. After being entertained by the gentlemanly Frenchman he informs us that he threshed last fall a fine crop of 25 bushels of wheat per acre and 18 bushels of flax, 50 bushels of oats, 40 of barley, and has sold 80 acres of corn, which yielded 100 bushels of corn per acre. He thought he would be able to live through the winter, provided he could sell 200 fat hogs at a fair price. How is that for a country that the Eastern fellows tell you corn and hogs cannot be raised in—too cold?

Well, we must leave my jovial friend for this time and make our way towards town before the shades of night fall. We shake hands cordially, bid good bye to the gentlemen, and, putting our team upon their mettle, we drive on two miles, coming upon the Mayo farms, the son Charles upon the left, with an elegant three-quarter section of the commonwealth; on the right the father, an old sea captain from Massachusetts, who has sailed to all parts of the world.

These people came here early in 1879, filing claims upon which they have since lived, constantly adding to their acres, and have weathered the storm of hard times, and now lay claim to as well rigged a four-master as ever floated on the sea of wealth, the captain owning 640 acres of the best land the world affords. As we pass we observe the captain on the quarter deck, as usual, guiding this magnificent property, which he always brings into port every fall with a heavy cargo of the best wheat, oats and barley the country produces. We wave a salute to the noble old tar and speed along through a section of soil the plow has never touched, and next come to the half section farm of A. H. Burnham on the left and the section property of Henry Ernst on the right. Driving past this magnificent estate we enter the village from the west just as the sun disappears behind the horizon, and are driven to our hotel, where we find a good supper ready for enjoyment.

After satisfying our hunger we return to the office, light our evening cigar and meditate on our trip, and are satisfied that our time and money were well spent. After a good night's rest, and the morning being fine, we prepare to put in another day of inspection.

Taking a southeast course for about three miles, we arrive at the snug residence of Frank Cowen, the possessor of 320 acres of fine soil, all well improved and ready for the seed in the spring.

Passing this farm, we drive on about two miles and come to the plantation of James Gorman and son, which comprises three sections of land all under cultivation, well stocked with cattle, horses and machinery, all under the personal supervision of the owner. Their name attached to any enterprise assures it of success. This enormous property has all been acquired in less than ten years.

Driving east we come upon the farm of John Bairey. Here we find a half section farm with a garden like cultivation. We drive still farther east, coming to the beautiful Maple river farm of George Stoltz with his neat buildings, surrounded by elegant shade trees. Surely we murmur to ourselves, this man must be happy to be the possessor of such a lovely place as this.

Turning north crossing the Maple river, passing over unbroken prairie by fields of plowed land, we next come to part of the Bond property.

This section, 27, is rented by our friend, August Kruesel, who, by his energy, makes it pay well on his investment.

Crossing the road we come upon the property of Neil McPhedran. Here we find one of the best flowing wells in North Dakota, flowing a stream of actually pure water from a depth of about 60 feet. This is a valuable farm of about 320 acres of land all under good cultivation, with the railroad running through it. Here we cross the railroad, and driving north one mile and east one mile, we come upon the Willard property of one-half section on the left with a two-story residence and out buildings and wonderful grove of trees.

We next come to the home property of Mrs. Gertrude Talcott, who is the owner and manager of a three-section farm with fine buildings, her son, Frank S. Talcott, being the owner of two sections on the right. Here we find one of those princes of good fellows.

We turn north, passing miles of the best dirt imaginable, and come to the Sargent farm, consisting of five sections of land, all under the finest cultivation that can be given it, and one of the best all round stock and wheat farms in the Northwest, under the skillful management of Frank Court, who takes great pride in showing this property of Mr. Sargent and explaining the methods used in their successful operations of this royal property.

We next turn west, and driving one mile through this farm we next arrive at the cosy little farm of John Swang, with buildings almost hidden from view by a thick grove of trees, planted by this young man, who has gained for himself a competency of this world's goods, all from this 320 acres of land.

One-half mile south we come upon the half section of Tim Curren, with a grove of fine trees, ten acres in all, an actual tree claim of cottonwoods and box elders, many of the cottonwoods attaining the height of thirty feet, thus forming a landmark for miles around.

We drive on west across the Maple river, passing fields of plowed land and unbroken prairie. Leaving the farm of Peter Donohue to the south a short distance, we come to the snug little home of G. J. Robbins, which contains 200 acres of fine alluvial soil, with fine buildings. Mr. Robbins came here about eight years ago from Minnesota without a dollar of capital, and by his energy and faith in the country is now the possessor of 320 acres of good land, all improved, besides stock and machinery to work the same, this whole property being worth, at a low estimate, not less than \$3,000, all accumulated in about eight years. Think of that, you laboring man of the East, working by the day's work to make both ends meet, how long will it take you in your present condition to accumulate this snug little fortune? And the best of it is that Mr. Robbins is independent, or in other words his own boss, and is not subject to strikes and lockouts.

We next come upon the section farm of John Schmitz. Here we find the first blacksmith who ever shod a horse or mended a plow in Tower City, where he built a shop early in 1879, and commenced work, also filing a homestead on the land where he now lives. He worked at his trade a few years, at the same time making improvements on his claim, and becoming convinced of the benefits of farming in North Dakota, sold out his shop and moved onto his farm, to which he has added from time to time, until he is now the possessor of a magnificent section of the world renowned North Dakota dirt, all under fine improvement; fine buildings, pasture thoroughly equipped with a herd of Polled Angus cattle of full blood, and is a breeder of same. Also excels in Poland China pigs, which he breeds for sale, as well as for his own use.

We next come to the 160-acre farm of S. V. Lowrie. He has tried Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska, and falls back on North Dakota as a

to make a home, and is well satisfied to be here. and ourselves back within three miles of Tower City, and the day we glide along past fields of plowed land and meadows

of unbroken prairie and enter the city from the northeast. We have now put in three days viewing the country and some of the farms adjacent to Tower City, although in a very cursory manner, and have put our thoughts upon paper, together with the facts we have gained. We humbly beg pardon for all errors which may occur in this hurried description of the country and a few of the farms and their owners and managers. We have concluded our description of the small section of country adjacent to Tower City, and the reader may infer that we have not passed over much wild unbroken prairie, but not so, gentle reader. We have hurried over many fine tracts of virgin soil, mostly owned by Eastern capitalists, most of whom are willing to sell at least a part of their possessions; some on the half crop plan, others require a small payment down with deferred payments for the balance at a low rate of interest. We can also specify small tracts, partly improved, that can be bought cheap, or rented at a fair rental.

We would here call the attention of the readers of this little pamphlet to the fact that now is the accepted time to buy some of these magnificent lands, as they are now on the raise and can never be bought for as little money as at present.

To the young man who wants to build up a home, this section of North Dakota that we have described offers superior advantages. To many others you will find here a fine quality of land, good water, the benefits of good schools and schoolhouses already built, churches, good society, and the best class of settlers in the whole country, with communication with all parts of the country by mail, telegraph, telephone and rail, and land contiguous to a great transcontinental railroad that can be bought at a price from six to ten dollars per acre. Is it not cheaper than to get a homestead at a long distance from all these benefits?

Yes; we who have tried know these to be facts, and we know that you have only to investigate to satisfy yourself of the truth of the matter.

A committee of the responsible business men have been appointed to act as a corresponding medium for those wishing to avail themselves of the golden opportunity which the present time affords, and any correspondence that may be addressed to them will meet with prompt and courteous treatment.

Signed, W. W. KING,
H. G. VOORHEES,
N. CHILSON,
H. S. SMITH,
Tower City, North Dakota.

W. W. HEFFRON,
Secretary, Tower City, N. D.

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

We have listed on our register a large number of the most magnificent properties in wild lands to be found in Cass and Barnes Counties, North Dakota which we will be pleased to show to homeseekers, we are authorized to offer at a remarkably low price for cash, or on time with a small cash payment, the balance on deferred payments at a low rate of interest in tracts of

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