



victimized about two months before by a tombstone agent and who had a habit ever afterwards of hiding his spare change under the steps of the back porch every time a stranger came in the front gate. The old fellow held the door half open and peered at me suspiciously as I came up the front steps, and his attitude indicated that he was ready to close and bar the door the second I made any attempt to grab his pocketbook. I explained matters the best I could but after finding it would be impossible to get any cash out of him I attempted to put his name down for a year's subscription in advance, but the moment I pulled out pencil and paper, visions of the tombstone man's promissory note came up before the old man's eyes and he began to dance around and swear in Dutch and shake his fists under my nose and said that if I

"But his name down on dot bapers he vood shake me mit mine breeches oudt, py chimminey."

I traveled all day through the mud and at night came into the office with 27 names, who had promised to take the paper a year on time, and 50 cents in cash. One of the editors told me to take the promissory list down to the butcher shop and see if I couldn't trade it for a ham, as he wanted some more tangible evidence of prosperity than a long list of titles to a host of German hop growers. The next day I went down to the Chinese part of town to get



a laundry ad, but the Chinamen would not listen to anything of the kind. They said that:

"Melican man alee time foolem China boy."

These Chinamen have been rather sore at the white population of Aurora ever since they hired the brass band to play



at one of their funerals last summer. A rich Chinaman died last July and his friends wanted to give him a grand send off, so they hired the Aurora band to play the funeral dirges. The band boys are rather a reckless lot of fellows and didn't consider a dead Chinaman very sacred, so instead of leading the procession with a dirge, they played

"A Hot Time,"

as far as the grave, and while the remains were being lowered they played

"Down Went McGinty, Etc."

One old Chinaman a little more acquainted with United States music, began to smell a mice along towards the last that everything was not as it should be, and he walked up to the leader and said:

"Got tam! What's to mattah? You play Chineese funeral alee same Melican man o'ath of July."

I held out against perversity of fate until last night, when I threw up my Princely position on the paper, and my place is now filled by an invalid whose



doctor has prescribed a strict diet for him to follow for the next year. If he lives on his salary there is little doubt that he will follow the doctor's orders to the letter. Several years ago I read of Dr. Tanner going 40 days, without food and I wondered what lasting benefit he expected to impart to science and humanity by his experiment, but lately I have come to the conclusion that he was not attempting to prove anything to science at all, but simply had a job in a country newspaper office in view, and was getting his stomach in shape so he could sit on it and hold it down.

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS.
Official Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners of Steele County.

Sherbrooke, N. D., Jan. 3, 1900.

Board of county commissioners convened in regular session at 10 o'clock a. m. as provided by law.

Present, G. O. Johnson, H. J. Rindy, E. G. Erickson and H. N. Horner.

H. J. Rindy duly qualified and filed his oath of office as county commissioner for the third commissioner district.

On motion of H. J. Rindy seconded by H. N. Horner Commissioner G. O. Johnson was elected chairman of the board for the ensuing year.

The minutes of the meeting of Nov. 11, 1899, were read and upon motion approved.

The auditor's statement of salary warrants drawn for quarter ending Dec. 31, 1899, was presented to the board, and after consideration, was approved as follows:

O W Williams, treasurer's salary 3 months.....	8345 00
P H Gilbertson, clerk of court, salary 3 months.....	200 00
W I Warrey, county judge, salary 3 months.....	250 00
W H Butler, superintendent's salary 3 months.....	267 51

T S Hunt, county auditor, salary 3 months.....	342 52
C S Shippy, county attorney, salary 3 months.....	250 00
Oscar Barrett, register of deeds, salary 3 months.....	350 00
Jennie Barrett, clerk for register of deeds, salary 3 months	100 00

The following bridge petitions were presented to the board:

Petition of Andrew O. Ficher and others, asking that a bridge be built across branch of the Goose river on section line between sections 4 and 5, Enger township.

Petition of Wm. Dormier and others, asking that a new bridge be built across the south branch of the Goose river, between sections 3 and 10 Edendale township.

On motion the bridge petitions were laid on the table.

On motion the board adjourned till 1:30 o'clock p. m. of same day.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Board reconvened at 1:30 o'clock p. m. pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Chairman Johnson and Commissioners Rindy, Erickson and Horner.

On motion the Hope Pioneer, Steele County Tribune and Finley Golden Slope, were designated official papers for the publication of commissioner's proceedings and such other official or legal notices, as it may be necessary or desirable to publish during the ensuing year.

On motion the Steele County Progress was designated as an official paper for the ensuing year, for the publication of such notices as it may be desirable to publish in said paper.

On motion the county auditor was authorized to draw salary warrants on the first day of each month, for one-twelfth of the annual salary of county officers, viz: County treasurer, clerk of the district court, county judge, county auditor, superintendent of schools, register of deeds and county attorney.

Said annual salaries being fixed by law as follows:

County treasurer' (estimated)	\$1,380 00
Clerk of district court.....	800 00
County judge.....	1,000 00
County auditor.....	1,464 51
Superintendent of schools....	1,060 00
Register of deeds.....	1,400 00
County attorney.....	1,000 00

In accordance with chapter 67, session laws of 1899, the county treasurer's salary for the year 1900, was established at \$1,380.00.

The committee appointed at the meeting of Nov. 11, 1899, to investigate necessity for additional clerk hire for the register of deeds office, made verbal report to the effect that such investigation had been made, that the business of the office had materially increased during the past year, and that the amount actually expended for clerk hire during the year was \$550.00. The committee recommended that the register of deeds be allowed \$150.00 additional clerk hire for 1899, said amount being the excess expended over and above that previously allowed for that office during the said year. It was also recommended by the committee that the register of deeds be allowed one clerk at a salary not to exceed \$40.00 per month, during the year 1900, and that the total amount of clerk hire for the office be fixed at \$600.00; provided the work of the office require the expenditure of said sum.

On motion the clerk hire for the register of deeds for 1900, was fixed at \$600.00, said office to be allowed one clerk regularly, at a salary not to exceed \$40.00 per month.

On motion the clerk hire of the county treasurer for 1900, was fixed at \$150.00.

On motion the clerk hire of the county auditor for 1900, was fixed at \$250.00.

The monthly statement of fees collected by the register of deeds and clerk of district court, for quarter ending Dec. 31, 1899, were on motion approved.

The application of Adam Major for the purchase of Steele county's interest in lots 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20, block 17, original townsite of Hope, and agreeing to pay for same, the sum of \$64.33, was presented to the board.

On motion said application was granted and the chairman directed to execute and the auditor to attest a quit claim deed of Steele county's interest in said lots to Adam Major.

The quarterly justice report of C. G. Boise, was on motion, approved and fees ordered paid from the county general fund as follows:

C G Boise, justice fees in case of state vs. T J McMahon, charged with embezzlement..	\$ 3 50
Samuel L Linn, sheriff's fees in case of state vs. T J McMahon.....	4 00
T. S. HUNT, County Auditor.	

[Continued next week.]

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