

# Hillsboro Recorder.

WE'LL HEW TO THE LINE, LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY.

VOL. I.

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## FAMED GETTYSBURG

### BLUE AND GRAY FRATERNIZING ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

ELOQUENT ADDRESSES BY WAR-GOVERNORS AND GENERALS—GENS. LONG-STREET AND GORDON SPEAK.

The sun, which broke through the rain clouds on Sunday, shed its rays in no mean quantity on the battlefield of Gettysburg, Pa., but its fierceness was tempered by a gentle breeze, and save the monuments, nothing showed that this was the scene of the pivotal battle of the civil war. The night before, the streets were crowded with visitors, some seeking lodging, and others out for a good time. At half past ten in the morning, the veterans formed, and by and by the Franklin band marched across the road to the National cemetery, and on through this to the vice-clad rostrum, where religious services were held. The scene was unusually impressive, and when Chaplain Sayre had finished his sermon, more than a thousand voices joined in singing "America."

In the evening the usual dress parade was observed, and it recalled most vividly the scenes of the battle, and more eyes than one were wet with tears at the remembrance of the dead comrades who had marched in the same line. Immediately after the parade a sacred song service was held, and the band gave the usual evening concert. The camp presents a charming appearance, with the numerous electric lights illuminating it, and little knots of veterans gathered before each tent discussing the great conflict and the part they played in it. At 2 o'clock the road from town to Reynolds' grave was crowded with carriages and pedestrians on their way to witness the exercises of the first corps.

The stand was packed and the ground below was crowded with the veterans and visitors, when, just as the strains of the band leading the procession of prominent men who were to take part in the exercises was heard coming over the brow of Seminary Hill, Capt. Pond, of Wisconsin, walked up to Gen. Longstreet, who was sitting on the platform, and whispered quietly to him: "General, come quietly with me. I think the platform is giving way." The general at once walked off, and a second afterward, with a crash, the supports gave way and the structure dropped to the ground. The fall was but two feet, and fortunately no one was injured. By the time order had been restored, the procession was entering the woods, and the cannon of the light battery thundered forth a salute to Governor Beaver. As the governor appeared on the prostrate platform, the crowd gave a cheer, such as these woods have not heard since the same day twenty-five years ago. Bishop Potter made a most eloquent prayer. Major E. P. Halstead, president of the association of the first corps, in a few words introduced Governor Beaver, who delivered the address of welcome. Ex-Governor John C. Robinson, of New York, resting on his crutches, then responded on behalf of the corps. Addresses were made by Frederick Smith, War governor of New Hampshire; Gen. L. A. Grant, and Judge W. G. Beisey, of Vermont. Gen. Longstreet was then called for, and made an eloquent address. Gen. Fairchild was next introduced. He said twenty-five years had made it possible to sandwich Yankee and Confederate between Yankee Doodle and Dixie. The men of the North did not love the men of the South less, but they loved the old flag more, and the men of the South did not love the old flag less, but they loved state's sovereignty more. This, Mr. President, I think tells the whole story. The old flag still remains (cries of "amen"), and they all say amen from the Gulf to the lakes. Prof. Williams, representing Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island, followed. After him the assembly was addressed by numerous other persons of prominence in the 1st corps, and at about 5 o'clock the meeting broke up and the crowd dispersed over the battlefield to inspect various memorials. Several monuments were dedicated during the day. Great preparations have been made for the second and third days' celebration.

The second day was a beautiful one, and the town was crowded with people, a majority of them veterans of the War. The earlier part of the day was occupied busily enough in holding regimental, brigade and corps reunions, and dedicating memorials. At half past four a grand procession moved from Centre square and passed out Baltimore street along which the federal troops retreated after the bloody fight of the first day, to the National cemetery. Into this it turned and swept up Northern avenue to the beautiful rostrum. First, Colonel Gibson, followed by two United States bands, and then came the regular troops, a light artillery under Col. Livingstone, and the cavalry under Maj. Carpenter, marching only as regulars can march, when they know the eyes of major-generals are upon them. A band of sixty pieces led the ninth militia, Col. Stevens' New York crack regiment, and various posts came straggling along afterwards, many with drum corps, the whole making a noise which was perhaps only equaled by the awful artillery duel twenty-five years ago. Here, within hearing of the spot where Lincoln made his immortal speech at the dedication of soldiers' monument, November 19, 1863, the exercises of reunion between the Blue and Gray took place. On the rostrum from the front row of chairs was occupied by Gen. Sickles, Gen. Beaver and Gen. Robinson, (all with crutches), Gen. Gordon, of Georgia, Gen. Graham, Gen. Butterfield and Rev. Dr. Valentine, of

the Southern Theological seminary. Gen. Robinson arose, and in a few brief words, introduced Gen. Sickles as presiding officer, who opened the exercises with an eloquent address. When Governor Gordon appeared before the great crowd that filled the vast lawn before the rostrum, the cheers and hurrahs were almost deafening, and throughout his speech he was interrupted by cries of "Good!" "Hurrah!" and other expressions of pleasure and approval, such as must have been flattering in the extreme to Georgia's chief executive. He concluded a most eloquent address by saying: "My fellow countrymen of the North, if I may be permitted to speak for those whom I represent, let me assure you that in the profoundest depths of their nature they reciprocate that generosity with all the manliness and sincerity of which brave men are capable. In token of that sincerity they join in consecrating for the annual patriotic pilgrimage those historic heights which drank such copious draughts of American blood, poured so freely in the discharge of duty, as each conceived it to be a Mecca for the North, which so grandly defended it; a Mecca for the South, which so persistently stormed it. We join you in setting apart this spot as an enduring monument of peace, brotherhood and perpetual union. I repeat the thought with additional emphasis, with a singleness of heart and of purpose, in the name of the common country and of universal human liberty, and by the blood of our fallen brothers, we unite in the solemn consecration of these battle-hallowed hills as a holy, eternal pledge of fidelity to the life, freedom and unity of this republic. I am honored in being selected to introduce one of the distinguished representatives of that spirit of magnanimity of which I have spoken. I present to you a soldier without fear, reproach or malice; a soldier whose blood was spilt and whose body was maimed, though then but a boy, while he bravely and gladly obeyed his country's command. I introduce to you a statesman whose services are distinguished and whose record is stainless. I introduce to you a patriot, whose extended hand and generous heart are ever open to all his countrymen. Soldier, statesman, patriot, I present them all in the person of Gen. James A. Beaver, Governor of Pennsylvania."

When Governor Beaver hobbled on his crutches to the front he was received no less enthusiastically than his predecessor, and he also was broken in upon by the hearty cries of spectators. In the course of his address Governor Beaver said: "My own case is that which will doubtless illustrate many, many similar ones. My mother lived in Pennsylvania. She had three boys who wore the blue. Her only sister, and only other child of her father, lived in Virginia. Her three boys wore the gray. They served in the army of Northern Virginia, and we served, for the most part, in the army of the Potomac, our deadly shots were aimed at each other in many battles of the War in which these two armies confronted each other. Did that fact, think you, obliterate the love which those sisters bore to each other, or that which animated their sons? Nay, verily. On our side the War was one of principles, of abstract ideas largely. On your side, we admit with your views, of what was to be expected in the future, your property rights and private interests were directly involved, and hence the more intense feeling and ardor which you displayed. You, as honorable men, have stood by and are bound to stand by the decision. We, as honorable men, are bound to see to it that that decision is respected and that you shall not be called upon to admit more or to promise more, than is involved in the decision. Upon this platform we meet here to-day; upon this platform we stand as citizens of common country. In standing upon it we claim no superiority over you; you admit no inferiority to us." Gen. Sickles then read the following telegram from Mrs. General Pickett: "To the Chairman of Committee, Gettysburg Reunion, Gettysburg, Pa.: When I accepted the suggestion of kind friends that my presence would serve as a link in the chain of unity between the section broken by Civil War, I was ready and most willing to make any sacrifice to contribute to the perfect union of the survivors of the Blue and the Gray upon a field consecrated by the blending of blood of the bravest men ever upon God's footstool, and knowing that the wings of sweet peace are in unity bending so that no single person can bind them more closely, and the condition of my health admonishing quiet, I tender thanks and God's blessing instead of my presence. Mrs. Geo. F. Pickett, Virginia."

Capt. McCabe, of Virginia, who was to have responded to Governor Beaver in behalf of the Southern men, was, owing to railroad delay, unable to be present, and General Hooker, of Mississippi, took his place. Although he spoke extemporaneously, his effort was a splendid one. He said in substance that he did not go there to say anything, but he had been moved by the generous spirit which extended the invitation to the soldiers of the Gray to meet those of the Blue on this occasion. When they laid down their arms with Leo they did it in good faith and came back in the Union to serve it. He did not know a man who wore the Gray who did not rejoice that the monuments were being erected to the gallant Union men who fell here. And as long as memory holds its sway the heroes of battlefields will start into our minds and their utterances as they fell will ring through our ears. While the applause was still going on General Longstreet came quietly on the stand and after shaking hands with Generals Sickles and Gordon, took a seat near the latter. General Sickles then, in a few fitting remarks, introduced the venerable War governor of Pennsylvania, Andrew G. Curtin. Gov. Curtin walked feebly to

the rail which runs along the edge of the rostrum. His short talk convulsed the crowd with laughter. After General Curtin, General Longstreet spoke a few short sentences and then Gen. Bloom, of the 13th corps, addressed the audience for a short time. General Curtis, commander of G. A. R. of New York, followed and Rev. Dr. Valentine closed the exercises with a benediction. The final exercises of the re-union of the Army of the Potomac were held in the National cemetery on the following day, where George William Curtis delivered an oration and George Parsons Lathrop read a poem.

### TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

The little city of Water Valley, Miss., which, until noon Wednesday, was one continuous round of enjoyment, was in mourning in the evening. The Yallahs fire association had made the usual preparations for their annual meeting, and an immense crowd from neighboring towns and villages had assembled to witness the sport. At 1 o'clock, when about four hundred had taken seats on the grand stand, the building gave way and fell into a crash, burying in its ruins men, women and children. Indescribable excitement and confusion followed. Strong men turned pale at the scene; mothers screamed for their lost children, and whole families were pinioned, as it were, in a solid mass under debris. Those who were so fortunate as to be on the outside rushed to the rescue, and in a short time the imprisoned victims were released. Seventy-five people were taken out with broken arms and limbs, bruised bodies and almost every conceivable wound. But it so happened that no one was killed outright.

### HEAVILY GUARDED.

Menacing letters reached Bismarck and Emperor William, warning them that the beginning of the reign of repression of the people would be signalized by an act of retaliation. Arrests of suspects have been made at Hamburg, Leipzig, Berlin and elsewhere. The police watching the chancellor's residence on Wilhelmstrasse have been quadrupled. The official expectation is that the emperor will authorize some striking severity against socialists. Every socialist leader resents the report as a mere pretext for reactionary measures. Leading socialists say they have no desire to shorten the days of the chancellor or the emperor. They wish to pursue a peaceful propaganda in the hope that the events of the Emperor William's reign will tend naturally to develop their cause.

### COTTON.

The New York *Financial Chronicle* says: The total receipts from the plantations since September 1, 1887, are 5,460,823; in 1886-7 were 5,184,284 bales; in 1885-6 were 5,331,847. Although the receipts at the ports of the past week were 15,026 bales, the actual movement from the plantations was only 2,599, the balance being taken from stocks at the interior towns. Last year the receipts from the plantations for the same week were 2,483 bales, and for 1886 they were 3,873 bales. The increase in amount in sight as compared with last year, is 483,463 bales, increase as compared with 1885-6 is 396,041 bales, and the increase over 1884-5 is 1,214,126 bales.

### PERILOUS VOYAGE.

A balloon which ascended from the Boston common at 6 o'clock Wednesday evening, descended in the harbor off Point Hillyer. The occupants were submerged, and for three miles or more were dragged through the water at a rapid pace by the balloon, which was impelled by a strong gale. They were signaled by the steam yacht, *Rose M.*, and the latter, after a stern chase, succeeded in overtaking the balloonists and making fast the drag rope to her capstan. After much trouble the party were taken aboard, and all were safely brought to this city. The journey was a most perilous one, and the escape from death of the excursionists miraculous.

### NO WAR.

The Berlin *Quous Zeitung* says Prince Bismarck has induced Russia to abandon definitely the idea of making an alliance with France. The Berlin correspondent of the *London Daily News* says: "Prince Bismarck, in conversation with several members of the upper house of the Prussian diet, expressed the conviction that peace would not be disturbed unless the other powers provoked war. He had no such fear of Russia. He was firmly convinced that the former differences between Germany and Russia would be completely settled. He wished he could feel the same confidence in France. In France, however, he added, the unexpected might open at any time."

### QUARANTINE SERVICE.

The bill now before the House establishes quarantine stations as follows: At the mouth of Delaware bay, near Cape Charles; at the entrance of Chesapeake bay; on the Georgia coast; at Key West; in San Diego harbor; in San Francisco harbor; and at or near Port Townsend, Puget Sound. It appropriates \$543,000 for the construction and maintenance of the above named stations. An appropriation of \$15,000 is made for the maintenance of the gulf quarantine station (formerly Ship Island) for the fiscal year 1889.

### SKIPPED.

A. M. Duhama has absconded from Longville, Canada. He had charge of that town of the collection of water rents and supervision of auctions sales, and was also corporation bailiff. The amount of his defalcation is about \$30,000.

## NATIONAL CAPITAL.

### WHAT THE SWELTERING PUBLIC OFFICIALS ARE DOING.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS—IMPORTANT ACTS OF PRESIDENT CLEVELAND—APPOINTMENTS AND REMOVALS, ETC.

### CONGRESSIONAL.

The Senate bill, explanatory of the act to settle certain accounts between the United States and Mississippi and other states, was reported from the Senate committee on public lands and placed on the calendar. The House joint resolution, extending to the states of Florida and Louisiana the joint resolution of the 14th of May, 1888, relating to the disposal of public lands in certain states, was reported from the same committee and passed with an amendment continuing it in force till the adjournment of the present Congress instead of till the adjournment of the present session, Mr. Plumb, who had charge of it, stating that Congress would undoubtedly adjourn within a few weeks. The river and harbor bill was taken up and Mr. Call moved to increase the appropriation for St. John river, Florida, from \$150,000 to \$250,000. After argument in favor of amendments by Messrs. Call and Pasco, it was agreed to—yeas 23, nays 20. Mr. Call also moved to insert an item of \$10,000 for Indian river, Florida. Disagreed to. Mr. Sherman said he would not insist on his motion to reconsider the vote agreeing to the Hennepin canal amendment, although he was opposed to it. Mr. Daniel called for a separate vote on the amendment reducing the appropriation for James river, Virginia, (below Richmond) from \$225,000 to \$200,000, and argued against the amendment. It was disagreed to. The bill was then passed. The bill, as originally reported from the Senate committee on commerce appropriated \$21,562,783.77. As it finally passed the Senate it appropriates \$22,474,783.77, having been increased by the Senate \$912,000.

In the House the following bill were introduced and referred: By Mr. Herbert, of Alabama, granting the right-of-way through Fort Morgan military reservation to the Birmingham and Navy Cove Harbor Railroad Company.

### GOSSIP.

Senator Edmunds reported back the nomination of Judge Fuller to the Senate without recommendation, and it has gone upon the executive calendar. The President nominated Peter F. Knight, of Florida, to be United States marshal for the southern district of Florida, vice Fernando J. Moreno, resigned. The Postmaster General has telegraphed instructions to the postmaster at Plant City, Fla., to fumigate all outgoing mails on account of the reported presence there of infectious fever. Gen. Sheridan has sailed for Nonquitt, Mass., where he has a seaside cottage. The U. S. S. Swatara, conveyed him there, and the sea voyage will do much to assist him to recover his health. Senator Vest presented petitions from the merchant's exchange of St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville, Nashville, Chattanooga, Atlanta and Tampa, asking an appropriation for improving the harbor at Tampa, Fla. The petitioners represent that the improvement of this harbor would be of immense value to the South and West, as it would enable goods to be shipped to Cuba and South America via Tampa, and thus greatly shorten the distance over which they have to be transported.

The weather crop bulletin issued by the Signal Office says: The weather during the past week has been favorable for all growing crops in the wheat, corn and tobacco region of Ohio, upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys and Tennessee. Heavy rains doubtless, interfered with harvesting from Missouri eastward to Virginia, and the continuous cloudy weather over Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas is reported as having been unfavorable to the cotton plant, but an improvement is reported in that section during the latter portion of the week. In North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia the weather is favorable, and all crops will doubtless improve during the week.

The following notice has been issued by the Signal Office: On and after July 1, there will be but two regular telegraph reports received daily at the signal office in Washington, in place of the three tri-daily telegraph reports, which previously have been received. These two reports will be made at 8 a. m. and 8 p. m., and indications will be prepared from these reports and issued to the Associated Press as promptly as practicable, probably about 10 a. m. and 10 p. m. The weather indications will be for a period of thirty-six hours from the time of each report. The indications issued in the morning at 10 a. m. will cover the following day until 8 p. m., and those issued at 10 p. m. will cover the following day and night. Three p. m. indications will be discontinued, and in place of the 3 p. m. reports the chief signal officer has provided special reports to be made to the central office whenever weather changes are decided and indicate an approaching storm.

### SEVERE STORMS.

Reports of very disastrous storms occurring during the last few days have been received from several points in Iowa, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Many houses and barns have been blown down, trees uprooted and stripped of their limbs, fruit destroyed, horses and cattle killed, crops laid waste, and great damage done generally, but fortunately there are no human lives reported lost thus far.

## SOUTHLAND ITEMS.

### PARAGRAPHS, SAD, PLEASANT AND TERRIBLE.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS—THE EXCURSION FEVER—RAILROAD ACCIDENTS—SUICIDES—DEFALCATIONS—COTTON REPORTS, ETC.

### Alabama.

Seven hundred thousand dollars was placed in the bank at Birmingham, to be used in the erection of three new blast furnaces in that vicinity. The furnaces are to be seventeen feet each. The promoters of the enterprise are H. F. DeBardeleben, of Birmingham, and parties from Charleston and Savannah. A petition was filed with Governor Seay by a large number of the citizens of Elmore county, asking his excellency to instruct the attorney-general to institute impeachment proceedings against Hon. John A. Lancaster, probate judge of Elmore county. In April an official examination of Lancaster's books and accounts showed that he was behind with the state. For several weeks a band of desperadoes have been operating in the lower end of Blunt county. Last Sunday they went to a church where services were being held, ran out the congregation, turned over the pulpit and broke the windows of the church. They have destroyed considerable private property, and have served several citizens with written notices to leave the county at once or they will be killed.

### Arkansas.

Cotton worms have appeared in five counties in the southern part of the state, and it is feared that they will do as much damage to the crop as in 1867, when the crop was a total failure.

### Florida.

The Jacksonville *Times-Union* announces two light sporadic cases of suspicious fever at Plant City, which have been isolated. Precautions have been taken to prevent its spread. Diligent inquiry discovers no other suspicious disease at any other point in the state. The sanitation and health is almost perfect, and the weather is delightful, except in the sunshine in the middle of the day.

### Georgia.

Illicit distilleries were destroyed recently in Murray, White, Clay and Randolph counties. The Columbus & Western Railroad Columbus to Birmingham, Ala., has just been completed. Sixteen acres of land have been donated by the Tybee Beach Improvement Company, of Savannah, for a site for a new hotel. The building is not expected to cover quite that much ground however. A charter has been applied for. C. C. Nelson, president, secretary and treasurer, cashier and teller of the North Side Savings bank, in Atlanta, has disappeared, together with about \$50,000. Several Atlanta banks, and a good many depositors in the North Side bank are mourning his departure, and are very anxious to have him return.

### Kentucky.

Near Pineville, James McGeorge and Bill Smith, special sheriff deputies, shot each other to death. They were sent to arrest some violators of the local whiskey law. Returning they stopped at a floating saloon on Cumberland river. While drinking there they got into a wrangle over a pistol taken from a prisoner. Smith had the pistol. In a scuffle to keep it he shot McGeorge through the neck. McGeorge drew his own pistol and shot struck Smith in the head, killing him instantly, and the other two wounded Bill Hoskins and a bystander.

### Tennessee.

The corner stone of the Catholic church of St. Peter and Paul was laid in Chattanooga with appropriate ceremonies. The Knoxville postoffice has been made a first-class office. The receipts for the fiscal year just closing foot up \$43,895, against \$32,820.23 for the previous year. While a little son of Policeman Diek Turner was playing in the second story of Posey's block, in Chattanooga, which is now being built, he fell through the elevator shaft, a distance of twenty-five feet, and landed on top of his head, fracturing his skull. A strike of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia system was imminent several days ago because Engineer Monahan, chairman of the grievance committee of the Brotherhood at Knoxville, presented himself at the office of Superintendent Garrett, and stated that as chairman of the said committee he had some minor business to transact. It is claimed that Mr. Garrett answered him rather gruffly, when Monahan invited Mr. Garrett out upon the grassy lawn, ostensibly to engage in a pass at the many art. Instead of accepting the challenge, Mr. Garrett brought about Monahan's discharge. Chief Arthur, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, is in Knoxville investigating the case.

### PHILADELPHIA VS. BOSTON.

A Philadelphia lady, visiting friends in Boston, complained much of the crooked streets. "Now Philadelphia," she said is so beautifully and regularly laid out." "Yes," responded her Yankee host, "but if Boston were as dead as Philadelphia, doubtless it would be as decently laid out."—*Detroit Free Press.*

## THE WORLD OVER.

### CONDENSATION OF FACTS BY PHONE AND TELEGRAPH.

SOMETHING ABOUT CONVENTIONS, RAILROADS, WORKING PEOPLE, CAPITALISTS, EUROPEAN CROWNED HEADS, ETC.

Several cases of cholera are reported at Messina, Italy. The weather is favorable for the Egyptian cotton crop, which is equal to that of 1887. A band of Apaches went on the war path in Southern Arizona and butchered many settlers. Herr Furth, under secretary of state, will succeed Puttkamer as Prussian minister of the interior. Premier Crisp, of Italy, will shortly visit Prince Bismarck at Friedrichsruhe. He will bear an autograph letter from King Humbert. Two colored men, named Risale and Lee, who shot City Marshal William Benkley and Deputy Martin, at Chetopa, Kan., were taken from jail and lynched. Eviction notices have been served on thirty tenants on Vandeleur estate in County Clare, Ireland. Police and military, armed with battering rams, will assist the evictors if necessary. The factory and warehouses of the Reading Hardware works, at Reading, Pa., several buildings five stories high, covering several acres of ground, burned recently. Loss estimated at \$350,000, with an insurance of several thousand dollars. Public opinion in Austria has grown alarmed at the rapprochement of the Emperor. It appears to dread breaking up the alliance, which event would leave Austria to face Russia alone. These fears are not shared by the Austro-Hungarian ministers. The Irish bishops have published a series of resolutions, explaining in detail the present position of the land question, and expressing the opinion that, unless Parliament immediately applies really effective measures to protect the tenants from oppressive actions and arbitrary eviction, the most disastrous consequences to public order and the safety of the people must almost inevitably ensue. The failure of the iron manufacturers and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers at Pittsburg to agree upon a wage scale for the coming year necessitates the closing down of the North Chicago Rolling Mills Company's plant at Bay View, Wis., and the few mills that have not been closed already, will shut down soon for an indefinite period. A desperate fight between United States officers and two notorious desperadoes took place at a green corn dance near Eau Claire in the Indian Territory. United States Marshals Phyllis and McLaughlin attended the dance with the expectation of arresting some escaped outlaws. They found two whom they wanted—brothers named Barrett. The Barretts refused to surrender, and in a fight which followed, Phyllis was instantly killed; McLaughlin and one of the Barrett brothers were riddled with bullets so both died shortly; an outsider, named Mcintosh, was shot by the surviving Barrett, who terrorized the gathering for some time.

### EXPPELLING JESUITS.

The Ottawa, Ont., *Journal* says it learns, on good authority, that Bishop Ladéche, of Three Rivers diocese, signed a decree on Tuesday evening ordering the expulsion of the Jesuits from that diocese on the ground that they have unduly influenced Catholics to change their wills on their deathbeds in favor of the Jesuits.

### A Unique Telegraph System.

There has grown up among the farmers of a county in Michigan a telegraph system which might be generally extended throughout the rural districts everywhere. The system began by two farmers connecting their houses with a wire for their own convenience and operating their line with the ordinary Morse instruments. Gradually other farmers extended the line to their own houses, and after a time the wire was run into the neighboring village. Seven years ago the combined farmers and a few village merchants organized themselves into a company and it has since been extended until now it has sixty-five miles of wire and ninety offices, two-thirds of the latter being in farm-houses and nearly all the rest in stores where these farmers do their trading. One or two newspaper offices, as many more railroad freight offices, the County Telephone Exchange and the larger post-offices are all connected. Every farmer is his own operator, battery man and line repairer. Of course, any quantity of private communication is kept up between the stockholders of this independent system. There are two or three independent systems of these lines in operation in the country, arranged so that they can be connected with each other at intersecting points, and the whole scheme is being worked very cheaply and successfully.

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