



THE  
**SUNFLOWER**  
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RENO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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## November 1879

*At one time Reno County was served by the Hutchinson News, a Republican paper, and the Hutchinson Herald, a Democrat paper. Publishing rivals were political foes as well, and often sparred with each other on their pages. The local elections of November 1879 and the anticipation of a Republican Presidential win in the November 1880 elections insured that The Herald wouldn't have their best Thanksgiving that year. At least in those days the Reporters were honest about their politics and didn't "pretend" to be neutral....*



**From The Hutchinson News. Thursday, November 27, 1879. Page 3.**

A large number of people will eat so much white meat, stuffin', celery, cranberries, mince pies, etc., etc., that their rest to-night will be broken and to-morrow they will suffer from dyspepsia.

Episcopal services were held in the Baptist Church on thanksgiving evening.

The Hutchinson brass band and orchestra gave a sheet and pillow case ball at the court house on thanksgiving evening at which a couple of dozens of couples "tripped the light fantastic" till the "wee sma' hours" of the night. Some of our boys got roaring drunk on thanksgiving, which is a bad way to celebrate the

goodness and mercy of the Creator, to say nothing of the disgrace to a "temperance town." We did not learn their names for they were too drunk to tell them.

Among the pleasantest occurrences of this thanksgiving was the presentation of a gold watch and chain by Mr. J.P. Theobald to his wife, which took place at their residence, about three o'clock in the afternoon in the presence of a few friends. After the presentation they sat down to the usual thanksgiving dinner.

The regularly advertised and usual thanksgiving services were held in the Presbyterian Church Thursday morning, and owing to the usual causes were not well patronized. The ministers of the city joined in the effort and their

part was as usual, well done but the people were too busy to attend, in any overwhelming numbers.

The Baptist dinner and supper, given by the ladies of that society, on thanksgiving day and evening was a grand success in every way. In addition to feeding the hungry generally they gave a supper to the Hutchinson Gun Club, and guests, and also to a wedding party of which Mr. Fred Russell, and wife, formerly Miss Mattie Smith were the central figures. The proceeds, we are informed, netted the society about seventy-five dollars.

The News man and wife accepted an invitation of Capt. Hauser, of the Howard House, to take dinner at that hotel, on Thanksgiving. We went and found there, in addition to the regular guests, Mr. and Mrs. A.R. Scheble and son, of the Herald, and Mr. J.W. Kunaga, of the Interior, and lady, who were especially invited as people most likely to enjoy something good to eat. And we did. We sat down to one of the finest dinners it has ever been our good fortune to eat. We came away impressed not only with the hospitality of Capt. Hauser and family but of their entire competency to get up a good dinner.

THIS ISSUE: THANKSGIVING 1879

## THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION

President Rutherford Hayes' proclamation for another national Thanksgiving is surely very becoming to us as a Christian people. We profess to believe in the being of a God who controls largely in the affairs of this universe, but outside of this, the present year has been one especially within the limits of our own country that is most pleasing to contemplate and for which we ought to be thankful. Our crops have been abundant in almost every State, and with our surplus of provisions are now feeding millions abroad with no danger of exhausting these supplies.

By the wisdom of our public men who control the moneyed interests of the country, a wise and successful policy has been inaugurated that has more than met the expectations of the most sanguine. Gold and silver in unprecedented amounts are coming from Europe, and manufacturing and commercial activity such as the country has not realized for a long time is upon us, and still brightening. Every phrase of society has felt the quickening of this fresh inspiration in the increase of wages of the poor man and plenty to do, to the rich man with numerous openings for safe investments for his surplus funds, to the farmer getting better prices for all his produce, and to the man of trade with a large increase of business and less credit, and mostly on a cash basis which is a healthy feature in all those matters.

Peace at home and abroad, no sweeping scourge in the way of disease. Political issues especially in the Northern States have been active and party lines have been closely drawn, and a great victory has been achieved, not so much for party as for principal. Are we held together with ropes of sand, or are we a confederacy of States linked together by an indissoluble Union? Are we a nation founded on Republican principles, with the acknowledged sovereignty of every man in his individual rights? These are some of the principles that stir the public mind to-day. We are thankful that the great heart of the nation is right on these points. *The Hutchinson News. Thursday, November 13, 1879. Page 2.*

## THANKSGIVING IN KANSAS

The Governor has to-day issued the following proclamation to the people of Kansas: Recognizing the obligations to God for all the blessings that we



enjoy, and feeling that is meet in thanks to Him, therefore I, John P. St. John, Governor of the State of Kansas, do hereby designate Thursday, the 27th of November, 1879, to be observed throughout the State as a day of thanksgiving and praise to God for His kind and watchful care over our State during the past year, and for the peace and good order

that has prevailed within our border, for the bountiful harvest which He has pleased to bless us, for the settled and prosperous condition of our national finances, the increasing demand for and value of our products, the abundant evidence of our growing faith in devotion to our government and its flag, the great increase of our population and material wealth, the prosperity of our educational interest, the manifest devotion to our people to all things that tend to elevate the moral and religious development, all giving us the cheering assurance of an era of general prosperity for which we should not only feel gratified, but which should impress us with the fact that it becomes our duty on that day to abstain from all secular labor and unite in devoutly and reverently thanksgiving to Almighty God for these and all other blessings bestowed upon us, and to earnestly appeal to Him to continue to watch over, guide and protect us and help us to be kind and true to each other and benevolent to the poor and oppressed, and put forth an honest, faithful effort to make our government, as well as ourselves, purer and better than ever before, and thus be worthy of a continuance of His mercy, kindness, and protecting care. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State at Topeka, this 11th day of November, A.D. 1879. By the Governor. John P. St. John. *The Hutchinson News. Thursday, November 13, 1879. Page 2.*

*THANKSGIVING IN THE HERALD HAD A DIFFERENT TONE:*

**By virtue of the proclamation of a fraudulent President, and by the grace of a gushing Governor we are authorized to gormandize again on the 27th inst. and call it, "Thanksgiving."** *The Hutchinson Herald. Saturday, November 22, 1879. Page 3.*

**President Hayes has gained the ill-will of more of his subjects by appointing such a cold day for Thanksgiving.** *The Hutchinson Herald. Saturday, November 29, 1879. Page 2.*

## THANKSGIVING DANCE

We were sorry to see any difference of opinion about where the dance should be on Thursday evening. We think there would have been none if the orchestra had, on former occasions, consulted a few young gentlemen as to what they should play when they were not dancing a regular programme. We are sorry to learn that some young clerks in town accuse the senior of the Herald of bull dozing the orchestra on one occasion, when they wanted to air themselves to the tune of the "Highland Scottish." If the young men had told us that they were high steppers, and that unless they were permitted to dance a string halted step, that they would have to have their shoes pulled and be turned out to grass - well we would have put the case in our hat and decided it later. But seriously we think it mean to try to break down an orchestra that is a credit to the town. It is composed of men who do not depend on it for any part of their living, all of their earnings arising from the orchestra is used in buying instruments and music. They are always in attendance at Church entertainments and never charge a cent for the services. We are glad that we can say that the gun club had nothing to do with the second dance. *The Hutchinson Herald, Hutchinson, Kansas. Saturday, November 29, 1879. Page 2.*

## THE PARADE

Such a conglomerate medley mass of mules and jackass as appeared on the street Thursday, was never witnessed before. It was a particularly expressive Thanksgiving. *The Hutchinson Herald, Sat. November 29, 1879. Page 3.*

## LOCAL NEWS

We heard a couple of fellows on the street Wednesday talking stoutly about shooting each other. They shot off nothing, however, but their mouths. It was disgusting but harmless. *The Hutchinson Herald. Nov. 29, 1879. P. 3.*

Four soiled doves, last Saturday rented a house in the south part of the city, intending to run a bagnio, but at the suggestion of **Marshal Helland** they left the city on Monday. *The Hutchinson Herald. Nov. 15, 1879. Page 3.*

**Nearly all of this term of court has been consumed in the trial of trivial criminal cases, while civil suitors have been compelled, at great expense, to stand aside and look on. We are indebted to the last foot-rot legislature for this state of things, as they refused us an additional judge, and yet knew that Judge Peters had more work than any one man can, or ought, to do.** *The Hutchinson Herald. Nov. 15, 1879. Page 3.*

**Harry Stevens**, who was tried last week on a charge of assault with intent to commit a rape, was convicted of assault and battery only. We apprehend that in future cases of this sort in the community, the culprit will need a coroners jury to sit upon him, for if courts fail to mete out proper punishment, the people will look to it. *The Hutchinson Herald, Saturday, November 15, 1879. Page 3.*

At present **Mr. Alfonso** gets up in the morning to build the fire, but in a few weeks he will insist that his wife shall attend to that duty. They all do it. *The Hutchinson Herald. Dec. 6, 1879. Page 3.*

**From The Hutchinson Herald. Saturday, Dec. 6, 1879. P. 3.**

**John Sherman** booms too much when he sits down to write an annual report.

The Baptist Church of Burrton is advertised for sale by the sheriff of Harvey county, says the *Burrton Telephone*.

One of the Churches of Sterling left their minister so destitute that he was compelled to sell his only cow to get something to eat. Mr. McDonough, one of the citizens who hadn't so much religion, but some charity, (though he kept a saloon), offered the preacher \$15.00. The preacher preferred starvation to such money and refused it: the pious frauds of the town are now howling down the charitable saloonkeeper, for attempting to buy up the gospel with whiskey money.

Now comes the season when the young man on an eight dollar salary bothers his brains to raise the stamps to get his girl a twenty dollar holiday present.



**The last Herald will be a first-class certificate of lunacy, for both editors, if they can prove they had a hand in getting up the slush it contained. In addition to a lot of twaddle on the greenback question, from the pen of D.J. Cole, they print three columns of idiocy from what purports to be an article in the Chicago Express, by one A.J. Grover, on Grant. The number convicts the boys - or whoever got it up - of being most egregious asses.** *The Hutchinson News, Hutchinson, Kansas. Thursday, December 4, 1879. Page 3.*

**Are There Pioneers In Your Reno County Ancestry?  
Tell Their Stories Here!**



# Vive L'Empereur The Nefarious Designs of The Man on Horseback

Former President Ulysses S. Grant was a general, probably, but as a military man he certainly had bulldog insensibility and bull-head luck. These qualities helped much to win his fame and rank over much better men. He also had judicious friends to look after his interests in Congress and in the Cabinet. He was apparently discrete in holding his tongue, but he kept his mouth shut from natural lack of the power of speech. His silence passed for wisdom, and served the better purpose, politically, of a counterfeit discretion, which stood for the genuine article. This was hereditary luck, not brains; the luck that comes from mental inertia. In the exultant and generous joy of the nation, when Lee surrendered to Grant, to him was ascribed all praise. At that glad moment the people would have made a hero of a donkey if he had been at the head of the army and had received Lee's sword. Grant was the lucky man. An ass might draw a prize as well as a philosopher, if he should hold the lucky ticket. Grant held the lucky ticket, great general or small, and drew the lucky prize of the war - the Presidency. As President, Grant's mouth continued shut, or open only at the call of appetite. Want of thought and emotion locked his tongue. Silence passed for wisdom, and stupidity for discretion. He never had a thought, he never had a policy, except nepotism and an inordinate desire for personal gain....  
*The Hutchinson Herald, Hutchinson, Kansas, Saturday, November 29, 1879. Page 1.*



The Republican press is now claim that the South favors Grant for the next President. We fear it will soon grow so audacious as to claim the Northern Democratic press for him too. Don't do it. Call us copperheads, butternuts and unregenerated traitors, black-legs, horse thieves and liars, tell us we stink like wolves; but, for God sake, don't claim us for Grant.

*The Hutchinson Herald, Dec. 6, 1879*

The Hutchinson News is for Grant. The News hopes to get a little bit of a public teat to lay its flabby lips to if Grant is elected. We would like to consider the News honest, but its support of Grant proves conclusively that it wants an opportunity to steal. Grantism, Thievery, and jobbery are synonymous terms. *The Hutchinson Herald, Saturday December 6, 1879. Page 2.*

We believe in fighting the Devil with fire. The Republican party is planning to carry doubtful States at the next Presidential election by colonization. This is the true secret of the negro exodus. The negroes are being shipped north to vote, just as we ship cattle east to slaughter. Let us do likewise and they can't beat us. Send thirty thousand Missourians into Kansas; twenty thousand Kentuckians into Ohio; a few thousand Virginians into Pennsylvania, and we've got 'em. This is our scheme and all we lack to accomplish it is the money. What Presidential aspirant will furnish the needful? Don't all speak at once. *The Hutchinson Herald. Sat. December 6, 1879. Page 2.*

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## RENO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO BOX 5 HUTCHINSON KS 67504  
<http://tinyurl.com/RenoCoGenSoc>

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