

Reprints From the Iowa Star

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The Black Hawk War is also a well-documented and excellent resource book for genealogy purposes. The names of all the Illinois Volunteers are listed alphabetically in the Index and the corresponding page numbers contain the Company, Battalion, Company Commander, Rank, Remarks, Muster Dates, Sutlers Bills and Inspection Remarks for the men involved in the Black Hawk campaigns. The book does a thorough job of giving order and meaning to a quite extensive and complex military effort which took place in the 1830's.

REPRINTS FROM THE IOWA STAR

The Iowa Star, edited by Barlow Granger, was the first newspaper published in Des Moines. The following reprints were taken from the September 21st and October 5th, 1849 issues of *The Iowa Star*.

September 21st, 1849.

TO MAKE GOOD COFFEE

First procure the best coffee in the market; wash it very clean, and roast it to the color of a golden brown, but not a deeper shade by any means. Then take the whites of three eggs to each pound of coffee, mix very carefully with the coffee while warm, and immediately transfer to earthen vessels, tying them over with bladders to render them air-tight. Take from these vessels sufficient coffee for one making only at a time, grind it, place it in a fine muslin bag, suspend it about midway in the pot, turn on the boiling water, and put on the cover to prevent the escape of steam. By this mode the coffee will become very strong, but it is best to reduce it by the addition of boiling hot milk, when it will form a most delicious beverage, very different, indeed, from that which is produced by boiling the ground coffee in water. And to be convinced of the fact, that, by the above method, which is simply infusion, all the virtues of the coffee may be obtained, it is only to take the dregs left in the bag, and boil them in water for a considerable time, the result will be black, bitter, nauseous feverish, woody

extract, without a trace of the fine flavor of the coffee, and answering to the name by which it was known on its first introduction into use, according to the account published in the eighth volume of the "Harleian Miscellany," namely, "the devil's black broth?" The making of tea is by infusion, not decoction. Who ever thinks of boiling tea?—*N. O. Cour*

SELLING CORN ON THE COB

We have noticed for the last few years a custom coming into general use, of selling corn on the cob. During the late fall we witnessed many deliveries in our city of this kind. This custom (sic) we hold to be "more honored in the breach than in the observance," and, therefore, should be reformed. The cost of transportation, a costly item of expense, is thereby at least doubled—the *merchant purchaser* gets the cobs for nothing, while the farmer unnecessarily imposes a heavy tax upon himself. Setting aside this view of the subject, there are others of vast moment to every farmer who looks upon economy as a virtue. The cob of corn crushed into meal, or broken into sized pieces, and cooked, is worth as a matter of nutriment, two-fifths as much of grain as food for milch-cows or working oxen, while it improves the quality of manure made by the beasts fed upon it, imparting to besides a very sensible portion of nitrogenous matter, other certain mineral salts, which would be otherwise lost.

To the man who may not have paid attention to economy, this may be a small matter, but if he will reflect that everytime he may sell two hundred bushels of corn in the ears, he pays the transportation upon a hundred bushels more than he receives any consideration for—that he gives away one hundred bushels of excellent food—that he removes that quantity of manure from his farm, and to that extent impoverishes his land, he will see at once that he is warring against his interest, and that justice to himself requires that he should no longer pursue a practice at once so ruinous and impolitic.—*Am. Farmer.*

October 5, 1849

HINTS TO LADIES

If you dance well—dance but seldom.

If you dance ill—never dance at all.

If you sing well—make not puerile excuses.

If you sing indifferently, hesitate not a moment when you are asked, for few persons are competent judges of singing, but every one is sensible of a desire to please.

If in conversation you think a person wrong, rather hint a difference of pinion, than offer a contradiction.

It is always in your power to make a friend by smiles, what folly then to make enemies by frowns.

When you have an opportunity to praise, do it with all your heart.

When you are forced to blame do it with reluctance.

If you are envious of another woman, never show it but by allowing her every good quality and perfection, except those which she really possesses.

If you wish to let the world know you are in love with a particular man, treat him with formality, and every one else with ease and freedom.

If you are disposed to be pettish or insolent, it is better to exercise your ill-humor on your dog, your cat, or servant, than your friend.

If you would preserve beauty, rise early.

If you would preserve esteem, be gentle.

If you would (*sic*) obtain power, be condescending (*sic*).

TAXES! TAXES! TAXES!

Notice is hereby given to all those who have not paid their taxes for the years 1846-1847-1848—that unless the same are immediately paid, with the interest thereon, (*sic*) I shall proceed to collect the same by distress and sale of property

according to law. I am peremptorily directed by the County Commissioners to settle up the books for those years, and unless the taxes are promptly paid me before the 1st day of December next, I shall be under the necessity of making costs to the delinquents without respect to persons.

Benjamin Bryant, Treasurer
and Collector of Polk Co., Iowa

Ft. Des Moines, Oct. 5th, 1849

Advertisements which appeared in the October 5th, 1849 issue of *The Iowa Star*:

(Shoot Luke or give up the gun!)
J. H. POSEGATE

Gunsmith, shop on second street, between Vine and Market; Fort Desmoines, Iowa. Having permanently located himself in this place, would respectfully inform the citizens generally that he is now fully prepared to manufacture all kinds of Rifles, Pistols, &c., to order. Repairing done in the neatest manner at reduced prices.

ESTRAY NOTICE

Taken up by Nathan Brown, in Des Moines township, Jasper county, Iowa, on the 2nd day of August, 1848, a dark bay or brown horse, supposed to be eight years old last spring, with some white on his left hind foot, and a scar on the left side of each fore foot at the edge of the hoof, supposed to be sixteen and a half hands high, appraised to Fifty Dollars by Robert C. Brown and Daniel Boon and certified to by Benjamin F. Brouse J. P.

Jessie Rickman, Clerk B.C.J.C. Iowa.
Newton, August, 1849

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