

# SUPPLEMENT TO THE TRUE LATTER DAY SAINTS' HERALD.

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PLANO, ILL., JUNE 15th, 1871.

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## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE FIRST UNITED ORDER OF ENOCH.

Some time having elapsed since the partial organization of the Order, the Directors think it just that the Stockholders, and the church, should be informed of what has been done.

The Committee appointed last fall, for the purpose of selecting a location, travelled through Fremont and part of Page counties, Iowa, and Nodaway, Genry, and Harrison counties, in Missouri; and from thence into Decatur county, Iowa, and, decided to locate in Fayette township, in the south-western part of the last named county, provided that a sufficient quantity of land could be obtained to justify a settlement there.

The purchasing of land began last fall but much of the land being held by speculators, made the process of buying and securing proper transfers, tedious and slow. The Committee continued their efforts until this spring; when the purchases of land having reached twenty-five hundred acres, twelve hundred of which lies in a body, the remainder as detached

portions of from forty to one hundred and sixty acres, within three miles of the center of the main body, it was thought advisable that the Board of Directors should meet upon the ground and effect, if possible, a permanent organization by complying with the statutory provisions of the State.

The Board met upon the ground, on the eighteenth and nineteenth of May last pursuant to a call of the President to that effect, and proceeded to a survey of the country, with the view of laying before the stockholders a description of it, and to give some instruction through a report to those of the brethren desirous of aiding the great work by making homes in that country.

The face of the country throughout Southern Iowa, is in most places broken and rough, but varies in its character of roughness from the abrupt and steep hills of the borders of the streams to the long sweeping roll of the elevated land.

That portion of Decatur county through which Grand and Little rivers

run, is in many parts hilly, and covered with timber of good quality. Here and there, however, on alternate sides of the stream, are spread wide tracts of bottom land; in some places abounding in a dense growth of the trees indigenous to the center of Iowa and Missouri, in other places offering the smooth meadow land to the tiller's hand.

To the west of Grand River, lies the town of New Buda, a small hamlet of some years standing; but as lifeless and dull as the new state of the country there will admit of. It is built upon a beautiful site, just on the rising ground between the highland and the wide bottom of the river valley.

Not far from New Buda, still westward, the land rises to the general level of the Missouri slope, and the country is a sweep of wide prairie, intersected here and there by small water courses scantily timbered.

The township of Fayette lies with a part of its southern extent in the State of Missouri; in fact, the northern line of that state did originally run to the north of the township, but when the boundary was ultimately settled the line passed through the second southern tier of sections about one and three-fourths miles north of the south township line.

The soil throughout the country is good; not so rich as the bottom land of the Boyer, Soldier, Maple and the Nishna Bottoms; nor the great alluvial deposits of the Big Muddy, but quite as good as any of the uplands of either of the small streams above named.

Wheat is raised; but has not been

made a staple for lack of market. Corn, potatoes, oats, timothy and clover are here as good as the average in the countries where these flourish; and vegetables and small fruit may be had for the trouble of cultivation.

A fair quality of water is obtained by sinking wells from twenty to forty feet.

The prices of land vary from five to ten dollars for unimproved, and from twelve to twenty-five for improved farms, and land can be obtained in any amounts, from twenty to one hundred and sixty acres and more.

The Board is now prepared to say to all concerned in and for the good of Zion, that the location is made; and to advise all who wish to seek and make homes in that vicinity, that they can now feel safe in purchasing there, as there is now a sufficient amount of land held to ensure a settlement.

Those who wish to look at the country with a view to settle with us, are referred to Messrs Jordan and Robb, of Leon, the county seat of Decatur county, the land agents through whom the most of the land has been purchased, and the only agents the company has there.

The brethren are advised to look well to the title of lands they propose to purchase, as some confusion in titles, both those held by residents and non-residents, has been created by carelessness in stamping and recording deeds, with other omissions. To be careful is to be safe; to be careless is to purchase care and anxiety with unsafety.

By obtaining an abstract of title, it can be easily tested whether good or

**faulty.** Application to proper agents and county officers will secure those who purchase. Br. E. Banta will also be in the county a part of the time, and when there, will do all in his power to aid those making inquiries, or purchases.

The company does not begin the active business of settlement this spring for the following reasons.

They have not yet filed their articles of incorporation in the offices of the Secretary of State, and the County Recorder; nor have they published their intentions in the newspapers of the county where they expect to do business, as the statutes require. See Iowa Code, page 197, sections 1154, 1155, 1156. Without doing this the company could not become a legally organized body.

The Board of Directors, when assembled upon the ground, in their meeting of the 18th and 19th of May, last, were of the opinion that it would not be wisdom to so publish their intentions, for the following considerations:

*Firstly.*—The Subscriptions to the Capital Stock, have only reached the sum of Forty Four Thousand dollars; whereas the Constitution of the Order says it shall be Fifty Thousand.

*Secondly.*—There is being surveyed through the township of Fayette a line of Railway; which it is thought wisdom to wait a few months for the permanent location of, before the actual labor of settlement is entered upon.

*Thirdly.*—It is thought that much land can be bought this summer, by individuals desiring to make homes, without wanting so much excitement

as the publication of our intentions is sure to do. As the matter now stands persons desiring to buy can go in and purchase without being subjected to much questioning, as the people do not clearly understand what it is proposed to do. When the incorporation is published as completed, this uncertainty will be removed, and all persons buying will be questioned and advantage may be taken of the circumstances of such publication.

The line of railway referred to is proposed to run from Chariton, on the Burlington and Missouri River Road in the county of Lucas, Iowa, to Cameron in the county of DeKalb, Mo., on the line of the Hannibal and St. Joseph R. R., the distance being about ninety miles. Should this be accomplished, it will put the dwellers in Decatur county within some five or six hours' ride of Jackson county, Mo.

There is an abundance of good stone within from four to eight miles from the supposed center of the land now purchased. Timber land in great plenty lies contiguous, within from five to ten miles.

There are no towns of any size nearer than from fifteen to eighteen miles, and should the proposed road be built, the location selected could not fail to secure ample railway facilities.

Any one wishing so to do, may find good locations in Missouri as near to the settlement as they see fit, or if they please, anywhere on the line between there and Jackson county, Mo.

The Board has so far acted for the best according to their wisdom; and now it is desired to impress upon the

stockholders and all others, that the capital stock must be increased by new subscriptions, or the constitution must be so changed as to permit an organization with a less sum.

Sandwich, Ill., June 1, 1871.

E. BANTA, <i>Pres.</i> ,	} Board of Di- rectors.
D. DANCER, <i>Vice Pres.</i> ,	
I. L. ROGERS, <i>Treas.</i> ,	
D. GANET,	
P. CADWELL,	
C. Beebe,	

[Director Alexander McCord was absent from home when the call for meeting was made by the President, and for the reason that he was not present at the meeting, and for lack of time to send him the written copy, his name does not appear to this report.]

NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given to the stockholders of the United Order of Enoch, that a meeting will be held on Saturday, the 23rd day of September, 1871, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, for the purpose of electing seven Directors of said United Order of Enoch, to fill vacancies occurring by the expiring of the term of the present Board. All shares must be represented either by persons holding them, or by proxy properly accredited. Blank forms will be forwarded to stockholders by filling out of which they may empower others to cast their votes for them if they so desire.

Sandwich, Ill., June 1, 1871.

E. BANTA,

*Pres. of Board.*