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Article Summary: The names of Army generals, millionaires, engineers and Indian chiefs appeared on the register of the Herndon House. Martin explains why many of the better-known guests visited Omaha in the 1860s.

### Cataloging Information:

Names: William Lewis Herndon, James T Allen, John J Roe, Edward Rosewater

Herndon Hotel Guests: Pierre Chouteau, R W Furnas, Henry Fontanelle, Joseph LaFlesche, Henry Kuhl, Robert B Mitchell, Eugene Ware, James E Boyd, John Heth, Jack Gilman, William Kellogg, P Edward Connor, Smith Samuel Caldwell, Alvin Saunders, Saint A D Balcombe, Francis A Hoffman, John M Thayer, Nathan P Dodge, Grenville M Dodge, William B Ogden, Ben Gallagher, Phineas Hitchcock, William Tecumseh Sherman, Thomas C Durant, James Sweet, James Sawyers, J Sterling Morton, Herman H Heath, Jack Morrow, Frank North, Phillip St George Cooke, George Francis Train, Dan and Jack Casement, Ridgeway Glover, Thomas Wistar

Nebraska Place Names: Omaha, Dog Town (Valley City)

Keywords: Herndon House, Union Pacific Railroad, *Deer Lodge*, *Benton*, *Bertrand*, Harmonion Vocalists, Yankee Robinson's Big Show

Photographs / Images: page from Herndon House Register including name of George Francis Train, page including names of Colonel Robert W Furnas and a delegation of Indians, James T Allen (proprietor of Herndon House), exterior view of Herndon House

# HERNDON HOUSE REGISTER

## 1865-1866

BY CHARLES W. MARTIN

**T**HE years of 1865 and 1866 were eventful in the history of our nation and particularly in the history of the West.

The Civil War ended and thousands of returning veterans headed west to seek their fortunes in the Colorado and California gold fields.

Veteran troops released from the war were sent west to quell the Indian uprisings that had been flaming fiercely all along the frontier.

The construction of the great transcontinental railroad, the Union Pacific, was begun. Stage coaching, which had been the method of transportation, was about to decline.

The greatest two years of steamboating on the Missouri River occurred as thousands took passage on the

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boats and headed for Fort Benton, Montana Territory, to the Montana gold fields.

In May of 1862 President Lincoln had signed the Homestead Act allowing free land to those who would file their claim on unappropriated government land. After the Civil War the rush of ex-soldiers to the West to file for these free lands became tremendous.

Omaha at this time was a town of about four or five thousand population. It was growing fast and was an important river port and a supply and shipping center for the western mines, a stage coach terminus and the gateway to the railroad west. It was the capital of Nebraska Territory and a new capitol building had been built.

There were three-story skyscrapers. Horse cars would soon be coming. Streets were not paved and were usually dusty or muddy.

The Herndon House was the important hotel in Omaha during this period. Anybody that was somebody, and who traveled into the West, came through Omaha, and generally stayed there. It was the stopping place of army generals, millionaires, of great engineers and Indian chiefs.

The Herndon House was built in 1858 by Dr. George L. Miller, Lyman Richardson, and George Bride. The hotel was named in honor of Lt. William Lewis Herndon of the United States Navy, who was killed while commanding the United States Mailship *Central America* which was wrecked and sunk between the Isthmus of Panama and New York in 1857. Herndon was the father-in-law of President Chester A. Arthur.

James T. Allan, the manager, was a genial gentleman and an experienced hotel man. He had been brought up from the hotel in Bellevue to manage this hotel.

Donald B. Allan, son of the proprietor James T. Allan, wrote as follows:

Visualize this modern western hotel of 1865 if you can. A "best" hotel in its day. It was a brick four story building,

with no elevators, no telephones, no electric light or power, no running water, no heating plant, no stationary wash bowls, no bathtubs worth mentioning. A hotel dependent on kerosene lamps. A hotel heated entirely by wood-burning stoves. If the guest desired a bath, the porter carried water in buckets to the one public tub located on each floor. This was the "best" hotel, the Herndon House, located at the northeast corner of Ninth and Farnam Streets.

In later years the Herndon House was known as the International Hotel. In 1870 the Union Pacific Railroad leased the property and established its general headquarters in the building. In 1875, the Union Pacific purchased the property outright for \$42,000 and in 1884 remodeled and enlarged the building.

The building was vacated in 1911. The old building was used for a storehouse for a few years, then, in June 1922 it was torn down.

The register of the Herndon House has been preserved and is the property of Mrs. Alvin Goeser of Omaha. She has loaned it to the Greater Omaha Historical Society. Its pages not only reflect the activity of a busy hotel but also illustrate that Omaha was an important gateway to the frontiers of 1865 and 1866. The following paragraphs are a discussion of some of the entries and their significance.

The notations appear announcing the departures of steamers *Deer Lodge*, *Benton* and *Montana*. The *Deer Lodge* was a brand new boat, having been built in 1865 in Pittsburgh. It was owned by the Montana and Idaho Transportation Line. It was a light draft steamer and was used only on the upper river in Montana, between Fort Union and Fort Benton, as a lighter for other boats.

The steamer *Benton* was owned by Pierre Chouteau, Jr. & Company. Chouteau had the contract to supply the Indian agencies from Omaha to Fort Benton, Montana Territory. His trade was also based on the transportation of miners and mining equipment and also the transporting of small quantities of furs. In March of this year Chouteau sold out to James Hubbell and Alpheus Hawley, gov-

ernment contractors and Indian traders of Mankato, Minnesota.

On Wednesday, March 29, 1865, Col. R. W. Furnas, Henry Fontenelle, Joseph LaFlesche and many Indians signed the register. There are names such as Little Chief, Standing Hawk, Young Crane, Little Hell, Little Decorah, Whirling Thunder, White Breast and Young Prophet. The newspaper, the *Nebraska Republican*, reported that Colonel R. W. Furnas, agent of the Omaha Indians and the entire delegation of the chiefs of the Omahas and Winnebagos, with their interpreters returned on the (steamer) *Denver* from a trip to Washington, D. C. The item explains that "After the Minnesota outbreak, the Winnebagos were located upon a reservation in Dakota Territory about ninety miles above Fort Pierre, and becoming dissatisfied, and as they claim, afraid of the Santee Sioux, they broke ranks about a year and a half ago and stopped temporarily upon the Omaha Reservation by permission of that tribe. Since that time the government has subsisted them there. The purpose of the visit of the delegation mentioned above, was to make some arrangements for the permanent settlement of the Winnebagos upon the Omaha Reservation. We understand that a treaty was made substantially to the following effect . . ." Then the paper explains how the Omaha Indians ceded a portion of their reservation to the Winnebago.

Henry Fontenelle was a brother of Logan Fontenelle and made his home on a farm just outside of Decatur. He was government interpreter, and for two years was the government farmer on the Omaha Reservation. He was chief of the tribe for a short time.

Joseph LaFlesche (or Iron Eyes) was the last recognized chief of the Omaha Tribe.

On April 1st Captain Henry Kuhl of Cottonwood or Fort McPherson registered into the hotel. Henry Kuhl enlisted from Plattsmouth. He was captain of Company C, First Battalion Nebraska Veteran Cavalry which was

Time.	Name.	Room.	Residence.
	L Frank Taylor	7	Brice City S.D.
	L James H. Anderson	4	Columbus Ohio
	L Corace W. Keupston	30	Boston Mass C. Ave
	L R. M. Hancock	4	Columbus Ohio
	L Robt Miles	7	Deer Lodge M. J. Miles

Saturday Dec 16<sup>th</sup>

D	J. F. North	A	Omaha
D	J. Lewis	38	Omaha
D	C. Auer	2	Bobford
D	Gov. W. Carter		Marengo Iowa
D	Fred Cromer		U.S. Express
S	Saml B. Reed	51	
D	L. W. Frost	14	New York
D	G. Francis Train	14	Do
T	Geo. W. Bailey	37	Fort Reuss. S.D.
T	<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>	41	Fort Kearny

Sunday Dec 17<sup>th</sup>

D	Corace Newman		Omaha
L	James W. LaFare	27	Agency City Iowa
L	A. Hancock	27	Columbus
L	Daniel Follett	11	Biddeford Me
L	The Weston	9	Ills
L	William Reed	59	Springfield
S	Aaron Slack	59	Chicago

Page from Herndon House Register including name of George Francis Train

Time.	Name.	Room.	Residence.
	J. R. C. Clowry	Capt & 25m	no vol. Missouri
	J. C. McComfield	51	St. Louis
	J. W. A. Souther	51	St. Louis
	J. A. S. Townshend	18	St. Louis
	H. H. Wood	45	Ohio.
	Col. W. Furnas	12	
	W. Balcolin	12	
	Wm. Redet Child	25	
	A. Chase	19	
	Alex. Payne	21	
	W. Fontenelle	19	
	Louis Sawyer	21	
	Nichel Dusew	21	
	Joseph Lafleche	19	
	Little Chief		
	Standing Hawk		
	Argey		
	Ho Kufe		
	Young Brave		
	Little Hell		
	Little Decorat		
	Whirling Thunder		
	White Breast		
	Young Prophet		
	James A. Brown		Columbus Ohio
	John Macmurray		decoration 1871.

May 1871



James T. Allan, proprietor of Herndon House



organized in 1864. He won high praise for conduct in the Indian campaigns.

Just below him on the register is John Snyder from Dog Town, Nebraska Territory. Dog Town's proper name was Valley City. It was located eight or nine miles east of Fort Kearny. Mr. M. H. Hook ran the Overland Stage Station there. The city of Dog Town consisted of three buildings—the stage stable, a store and the home of M. H. Hook, the stage keeper.

Captain Yore of the steamer *Bertrand* signed the register on April 2nd. It is interesting to note that this boat snagged and sank a few days after being in Omaha. The boat was owned by the Montana and Idaho Steamship Lines and was operated by John G. Copelin and John J. Roe. John Roe was one of the most prominent men in St. Louis. He operated a commission house, a boat line and the largest pork packing business in the country. He was also interested in banks and insurance companies. The Albert Roe who signed the register is no doubt part of this same family.

On April 4 General Robert B. Mitchell registered along with Lieutenant Eugene Ware. Mitchell was born in 1823 in Ohio. He practiced law in Mansfield, Ohio. He migrated to Kansas in 1856. During the Civil War he became chief of the Cavalry of the Army of the Cumberland. In 1864 he was sent west to the Department of Kansas and was named commander of the District of Nebraska. In July of 1866 President Johnson appointed him governor of New Mexico.

Lieutenant Eugene Ware wrote the book *The Indian War of 1864*. In his book he states that General Mitchell's application to be sent south had been approved by President Lincoln and on March 30, 1865, General Connor replaced him. On March 31, Lieutenant Ware started for Omaha with General Mitchell. He writes, "There was General Mitchell, his Adjutant-General, John Pratt (the handsomest man in the army), two aide-de-camps, Lieu-

tenant Schenck and myself; a medical director by the name of McClelland, and a couple of officers of the First Nebraska." It was a cold windy night April 4th when they rode in and dismounted at the Herndon House.

Ware's book is one of the classics of early frontier history.

On Friday, April 7, 1865 James E. Boyd registered in from Fort Kearny. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland in 1834. He arrived in Omaha in 1856. After being in the contracting business here, he, in December 1858, established a stock farm on Wood River, Buffalo County, and also engaged in the mercantile business near Fort Kearny. Subsequently he carried on a freighting business across the plains and in 1866 took a contract for grading on the Union Pacific Railroad. He amassed a considerable fortune and returned to Omaha. Here he was involved in the Omaha Gas Works and then in the building and operating of the Omaha and Northwestern Railroad. He pioneered the meat packing industry here. He was a patron of the arts and constructed Boyd's Opera House at 15th & Farnam, present location of the Nebraska Clothing Co. building. He was a member of the Nebraska constitutional convention, a member of the first state legislature, mayor of Omaha, and governor of the state.

On Sunday, April 9, John Heth registered. In 1856 he was post sutler at Fort Kearny. He was a brother of Captain Harry Heth of the 6th U. S. Infantry through whose influence John Heth got the sutlership. Captain Harry Heth was afterwards a major general in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. John Heth was relieved of his sutlership early in the war because of his Southern political opinions, he being a Virginian. He never left Nebraska, and went into the hardware business in Nebraska City. Afterwards he moved to Omaha.

On April 24, 1865 Jack Gilman registered in. The Gilman wayside ranch was 15 miles east of Cottonwood Station or Fort McPherson. It was owned by J. K. Gilman

and Jud Gilman, brothers. Lieutenant Ware in his book, *The Indian War of 1864*, says they were capable, intelligent men who would make good citizens anywhere. J. K. Gilman told Lieutenant Ware he was from Portsmouth, New Hampshire and had been a sailor. He started for California with his brother. Their team got wrecked and they stopped. They got to trading with the Indians and travelers on the road and finally built their ranch.

Advertisements appeared throughout the register book. On May 2nd an enterprising salesman wrote "Use Seely's Catarrh Remedy."

Judge William Kellogg from Peoria, Illinois, registered on May 7. He was appointed in May 1865 to be Chief Justice of Nebraska Territory Supreme Court as well as judge of the First District.

Brigadier General P. Edward Connor signed in Tuesday, May 9th. He was born in Ireland on St. Patrick's Day and came to America at an early age. He served in the Mexican War and later joined the Gold Rush to California. With the coming of the Civil War he offered his services and in 1861 was appointed colonel of the 3rd California Infantry. In 1862 he assumed command of the military district of Utah, protecting the Overland Trail in Utah and Nevada. Later he was ordered to protect the trail between Salt Lake City and Fort Kearny, Nebraska. In March of 1865 when the Military District of the Plains was created, he was named commander.

On the 17th of May S. S. Caldwell registered. Smith Samuel Caldwell was born in New York. He studied law and came to Omaha in 1859 where he became a member of the banking firm of Barrows, Millard & Co. After a couple of name changes, in 1883 the institution was reorganized under the national banking law and took the name of United States National Bank. S. S. Caldwell was the mainstay of the Academy of Music. He was a railroad builder, being president of the Omaha and Southwestern Railway which went from Omaha to Lincoln and later be-

came a part of the Burlington Railroad. He was a member of the syndicate that started the Union Stockyards.

Saturday, May 20, 1865, Governor Alvin Saunders and family were assigned three rooms. Saunders was a native of Kentucky. When 12 years old his family moved to a farm in Illinois. He came west to Mount Pleasant, Iowa. He was a member of the Iowa Senate and a member of the Republican Convention in Chicago that nominated Abraham Lincoln for President. In 1861 he was appointed governor of Nebraska Territory. Later he was United States Senator from Nebraska.

On June 17, 1865, Saint A. D. Balcombe was registered. At that time he was moving his family to Omaha from Winona, Minnesota. He had formerly been agent for the captured Sioux and Winnebago Indians and in 1863 removed them to St. Louis and thence to North Dakota where he established an agency for the representatives of the two tribes. In 1865 Mr. Balcombe took the Winnebago and Omaha Indian chiefs to Washington, D. C. and the Winnebago bought one-half of the Omaha Indian Agency. Balcombe later bought the newspaper, the *Omaha Republican*. In July 1873 this newspaper published a scurrilous article regarding Edward Rosewater of the *Omaha Bee* who responded with a note demanding a public apology and declaring that if it was not forthcoming at once he would "seek reparation and redress as in his judgment he might deem proper under the circumstances." "Balky"—as Balcombe was sometimes called, replied as follows, "If E. Rosewater will apply to the proper person he will get his fill of satisfaction for the article that appeared in these columns yesterday."

Arming himself with a cowhide whip, Rosewater sallied forth to meet the enemy and properly castigate him. They met at 14th and Douglas Streets, and Rosewater at once began vigorously applying the whip. Balcombe, who was a very tall man, soon wound himself around the diminutive Rosewater and with a scissors hold, landed him

on the sidewalk, and sat down on him. The accounts of this battle as given by the two papers differed widely.

The register on Tuesday, June 27, 1865 listed Francis A. Hoffman. The newspaper *Omaha Republican* reports, "the Honorable Francis A. Hoffman, late Lieutenant Governor of the state of Illinois, arrived in this city yesterday afternoon on the steamer *Denver* and is stopping at the Herndon. Mr. Hoffman visits Nebraska for the purpose of making a personal examination of the lands open to pre-emption, sale and homestead settlement, with the view, if they be found desirable, of locating a large number of German immigrants."

On July 1st A. J. Phelps, Miss S. M. Martin, Mrs. W. D. Addington and G. B. Hartson known as the Harmonion Vocalists, put on a sing at the Herndon Hall. The *Omaha Republican* reports as follows: "We mean just what we say when we assert that in our poor judgment this troupe possesses more real merit than any which has ever visited the Missouri Valley. We have attended music concerts in most of the eastern states and cities—have listened to the Alleghenians, the Hutchisons and many of the leading bands of vocalists and we have rarely, if ever, listened to a concert with more pleasure than that given by the Harmonians last night. The various pieces elicited the praise of all listeners. 'The Tempest' by Miss Minnie Martin was most beautifully executed. 'The Rain on the Roof,' 'Name in the Sand,' 'Come where my Love Lies Dreaming,' were all that could be wished for."

On Monday, July 3, 1865 Yankee Robinson's Big Show registered in. The week before on June 30th the *Omaha Republican* reporter wrote, "Yankee Robinson's Great Show will exhibit in Omaha on the 3rd and 4th. The entire concern will be here, having one chariot drawn by forty horses, and many other amusements never before seen in Nebraska. This is pronounced a superb show, and fulfill all they promise." The show created some extra-curricular excitement because the next week's issue of the

paper reported: "Two men belonging to Yankee Robinson's Circus got into a fight today and one of them received a severe wound with a knife. His recovery is very doubtful. The other party is lodged in jail."

General John M. Thayer of the First Nebraska Regiment registered on July 8. In December of 1854 acting governor Cuming commissioned him as major general of the Nebraska Militia organized for the protection against the Indians. When the Civil War broke out, Thayer was commissioned as colonel of the 1st Nebraska Regiment of Volunteers. Thayer returned to Omaha with the rank of major general. In 1867 he was elected U. S. Senator. He was elected governor in 1886 and reelected in 1888.

Monday, August 14th Nathan P. Dodge registered at the Herndon House. He came to Nebraska in 1855 with his father, Sylvanius Dodge, and his brother, Grenville M. Dodge, from Peabody, Massachusetts. They settled on the Elkhorn River just northwest of Elk City. Their location near the crossing of the Elkhorn was the last white man's habitation on the transcontinental highway for hundreds of miles. Later on account of the depredations of the Indians, the family had to abandon the homestead and seek safety in Council Bluffs, where they made their permanent home.

Thursday, August 17th William B. Ogden and John J. Blair signed the register. On July 1, 1862 President Lincoln approved the bill creating the Union Pacific Railroad Company. In September 1862 the board of directors met in Chicago to organize. William B. Ogden was elected first president. He served until October 1863.

John J. Blair was a member of the Board of Directors of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Sunday, August 20th S. D. Barkalow came for lunch and Casper Yost registered.

On April 4th, 1865 the Barkalow Brothers started a book and stationery store. When the Union Pacific Rail-

road reached Columbus this firm started in the railway news business and put boys on the trains of that road. As the road was extended, the firm's traffic grew as it controlled all the news business for the railroad. The headquarters in Omaha was managed by S. D. Barkalow.

Major General S. R. Curtis checked in on September 11, 1865. He was a member of the Council Bluffs & Nebraska Ferry Co. who made the first plat of Omaha. He was born in 1803 in Champlain, New York. He graduated from West Point in 1832. He worked in Ohio as an engineer. He fought in the Mexican War of 1846. In the fall of 1856 he was elected from Iowa to Congress where he served 3 terms. At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 he resigned his position as congressman to join the Union Army. He was an ardent advocate for the building of the Union Pacific Railroad and was tendered the presidency upon its organization but he declined in order to continue to serve his country in the war.

Ben Gallagher of Cottonwood signed on September 15. He had been engaged in the grocery business in Ottumwa, Iowa, when in 1863 he received appointment as sutler at Fort McPherson (also known as Cottonwood). He remained there three years. Later he established a wholesale grocery in Cheyenne and then joined William A. Paxton in the cattle business. Later he returned to Omaha where he and Mr. Paxton operated the Paxton & Gallagher wholesale grocery firm.

Phineas W. Hitchcock came to Omaha from New York in 1857, engaging in the real estate and insurance business. He was a delegate from Nebraska to the Chicago convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He was appointed United States Marshal for the territory in 1862. In 1864 he was elected to Congress. In 1871 he was elected to the United States Senate. On September 20, 1865, he stopped at the Herndon.

General William Tecumseh Sherman registered in on October 10, 1865. (His signature has been cut from the

register by an autograph seeker.) A big party was held for General Sherman when he came to Omaha in October.

The *Daily Republican* of October 10, 1865 reported his visit as follows:

Omaha turned out her thousands to greet Major General Sherman at the Herndon House last night. Before the hour announced, a great throng had gathered in and about the house, and by eight o'clock the hotel was crowded by a dense mass of all classes, who seemed almost unable to restrain the impatience they felt for the moment to arrive when the doors should be opened which separated them from the great Captain. At last, however, the hour arrived—such a rush we have seldom, if ever, witnessed. It was most pardonable enthusiasm and right hearty were the greetings given the crowd by General Sherman as each member of it passed in review. We were gratified to see the fair ladies of the city so largely represented, and confess with pride that beauty ruled the hour after the dancing began which was as soon as the pressure of the crowd abated.

General Sherman entered the dancing room about 9 o'clock, with Mrs. Governor Saunders on his arm, and very soon became lost in the enchanting mazes of the quadrille.

The whole affair was a splendid success, and did honor alike to him and for whom it was prepared and those who gathered to enjoy it.

That morning Mr. Thomas C. Durant had invited a party of prominent people to the end of tracks. The excursion train was pulled by the locomotive *General Sherman*. They proceeded to Papillion where they alighted to witness the process of laying the track.

Before starting back "a beautiful collation" was spread for the guests of the road, amidst the flow of champagne. General Sherman made a short speech.

They returned at 2. P. M.

Thomas C. Durant of New York registered on October 11, 1865. He had been a physician in his early days and while practicing his profession in Davenport, Iowa he became connected with the Mississippi and Missouri Railroad, now the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific. He became a vice president of the Union Pacific. He was responsible for centralizing the Union Pacific shops, terminal facilities and headquarters in Omaha.

Public registers attracted would-be jokers in 1865 as now, and on September 12th we find that President Andrew Johnson, Washington D. C. is registered.

Mr. Reynolds and wife were registered and following their names is noted "fire." The hotel was unheated but some rooms had stoves. It cost extra to have a fire.

On October 25, 1865 the Honorable James Sweet of Nebraska City registered in. He was the United States Collector for Nebraska and was in Omaha attending the United States Court.

All Missouri River towns wanted to become outfitting points for the Montana mines. Congress was pressured into passing an act March 3, 1865 for four wagon roads to be constructed, among which was one from near Sioux City up the Niobrara River to Virginia City, Montana Territory. James Sawyers was appointed to construct the wagon road. His party consisted of 53 men with 15 wagons pulled by 45 yoke of oxen. They had a military escort of 143 men with 25 wagons drawn by 6 mules each. Accompanying the expedition were 5 emigrant wagons and a freight train of 36 wagons. After many hardships they arrived at Virginia City on October 12, 1865. Mr. Sawyers returned east by stagecoach, traveling south to Salt Lake City and thence eastward by Overland Stage. He stopped overnight at the Herndon House on November 29th while enroute to Washington to make his report.

In 1866 Sawyers again went over the road, improving it. But after that, it was never used.

General Grenville M. Dodge, older brother of Nathan P. Dodge was at the Herndon on December 21st. He was born in Danvers, Massachusetts. He was educated in Partridges Military Academy and Norwich University. He served with distinction in the Civil War. He was a member of Congress from Iowa in 1867-1869. General Dodge was made chief engineer in charge of construction of the Union Pacific Railroad May 1, 1866.

Tuesday, December 26, 1865 found J. Sterling Morton at the hotel. He was secretary and acting governor of Nebraska Territory. He was founder of Arbor Day and Secretary of Agriculture in President Cleveland's cabinet. Arbor Lodge in Nebraska City was his home.

On January 3rd Herman H. Heath registered in. A native of New York, he fought in the Civil War and was moved west to fight against the Indians on the frontier. He was a brevet major general. In 1867 President Johnson appointed him Secretary of New Mexico Territory.

Jack Morrow of Cottonwood registered on January 7th. He was proprietor of the famous Junction House Ranch near the present site of North Platte, Nebraska and a freighter. He accumulated a considerable fortune and moved to Omaha. He further added to his fortune by furnishing ties and timber to the Union Pacific during its construction. He dissipated his fortune through gambling and liquor.

On February 20, 1866 Michael Sutein and a companion registered. After their names is the clerk's notation "kicked out."

Frank North and wife registered on February 25th. North wrote "Pawnee Scouts" after his name. The summer of 1862 North worked as clerk at the trading post at the Pawnee reservation. In 1864 he was requested to enlist 100 Pawnee Indians as scouts. He and his Pawnees went west in February 1865 with General Connor on the Yellowstone Expedition against the Sioux. The Pawnee Scouts were used by the army until 1870. In 1876 the Pawnee Scouts were again mobilized and went with General Crook's expedition against the Sioux. Later Frank North and Buffalo Bill Cody had a ranch together in Hooker County. Still later he was a member of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.

W. W. Dryden and M. Dryden of North Point, Holt County, Missouri made use of the register on April 11, 1866 to advertise 100 yoke of oxen and 26 wagons for sale.

General Phillip St. George Cooke registered on Tuesday, April 24, 1866.

General Phillip St. George Cooke was assigned in March 1866 to the newly formed Department of the Platte with headquarters in Omaha. He arrived in Omaha in April and set up his headquarters. His military career ranged over 46 years. It started with his service under Major Bennett Riley in the 1829 Santa Fe Caravan escort. He had service in the Black Hawk War, expeditions in the Mexican War of 1846 and continued with his leadership of the Mormon Battalion. He was in the Apache and Sioux campaigns in the 1850's and later was in the Civil War.

On April 28th George Francis Train and party checked in at the Herndon. In early manhood George Francis Train was a very successful merchant and shipping magnate. He introduced street railways into London and other European capitals. He became an author, writing several books. He became an assistant to Thomas Durant who used him to help in the organization to finance the Union Pacific railroad construction. He later became involved in real estate promotion in Omaha.

George Francis Train tells this story about the Herndon House. He had invited a number of prominent men to a breakfast meeting at the Herndon. While seated in the dining room a strong wind came up. Their table was near a large window. Train told a waiter to stand with his back to the window as security for his breakfast guests against the storm. Mr. Allan, manager of the Herndon hurried over and protested. George Francis Train was thereupon insulted and vowed he would build a hotel and run the Herndon out of business. As a result the Cozzens Hotel was built by his order one block away.

Dan and Jack Casement registered on April 29th. The entire track and a large part of the grading on the Union Pacific Railroad was done by the Casement Brothers. General Grenville Dodge stated that their force consisted of 100 teams and 1,000 men living at the end of the track

in boarding cars and tents and moving forward with it every few days.

General Jack Casement had been a prominent brigade and division commander in the Army of the West. General Dodge said of the Casement Brothers construction crew—“It was the best organized, best equipped and best disciplined track force I have ever seen. They could lay from one to three miles of track per day, and one day they laid eight and one-half miles.”

On Tuesday, May 15, 1866 Ridgway Glover registered. An early Omaha newspaper wrote, “Ridgway Glover Esq., Photographer of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, arrived in this city last night. He accompanies the Fort Laramie Indian Commission for the purpose of taking solar and stereoscopic pictures of the various Indian chiefs who participate in the Treaty of Fort Laramie. He brings with him a complete apparatus for that purpose. Mr. Glover is also engaged upon the pictorial staff of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated* newspaper and we understand that he proposes to take several views in and about this city, with a view of forwarding them to New York for publication in that widely circulated journal.”

Ridgway Glover, a Philadelphia boy, had left home in the summer of 1866 for the purpose of securing photographs “to illustrate the life and character of the wild men of the prairie.” On June 30, 1866 he was at Fort Laramie. On July 29, 1866 he was at Fort Phil Kearny in Wyoming. On the way they were attacked by Indians who killed an officer of the party. “Our men with their rifles held the Indians at bay until we reached a better position on a hill, where we kept them off until night, when Captain Burroughs, coming up with a train, caused the redskins to retreat. I desired to make some instantaneous views of the Indian attack, but our commander ordered me not to.”

In September this report was received from Fort Phil Kearny, “Mr. Ridgway Glover was killed near Fort Phil Kearny on the 14th of September by the Sioux Indians.

He and a companion had left the Fort to take some views. They were found scalped, killed and horribly mutilated."

On May 17, 1866 Thomas Wistar registered. He was a member of the Society of Friends and was on the commission appointed by the President to negotiate a treaty with the Indians at Fort Kearny.

It was in 1856 that the Reverend Barker, his wife and his two sons Joseph Jr. and George E. arrived in Omaha. A few years later, in order to settle an estate, they returned to England. In 1866 Joseph Jr. returned to Omaha to be followed by the rest of his family.

Joseph writes, "The stage carried us to Omaha and set us down at the Herndon about half past three. (In Omaha) I found board and lodging as scarce and as high as in the worst of times—or I should say, the *best* of times. They charged me \$3.50 for my day at the Herndon. The living was very good, but the house crowded and dirty."

The history of a place is composed in part, of the history of the many individuals who lived and passed through that place. Certainly the history of Omaha as portrayed by those who stayed at the Herndon House, was one of tremendous interest and excitement.