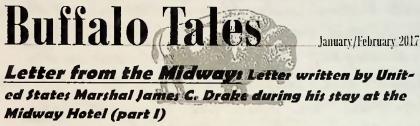
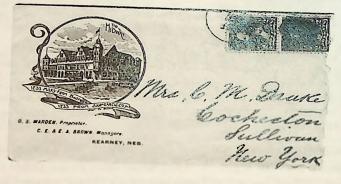
Volume40, No. 1 Buffalo County Historical Society www.bchs.us



Letter and biography donated to the BCHS by Joe DeFalco

*Note: The following is my closest estimation of what the letter says. Some words ran together, were illegible, or misspelled. Any words that I estimated are marked with * and any I could not decipher were filled in with (?).



Kearney Neb Mch 2 1890

My Dear Mother and Sister

This is Sunday evening. I am tired and weary from hard work, excitement, and heavy strain, every dollar that I can get here* or command I am putting in one our* of horses to ship to Tacoma. When one realizes that they are taking a chance that may ruin them finantionaly in off course* moves and tells on them. Kearney Neb is a beautiful in land city of thirteen thousand inhabitants with as fine buildings as can be found in any city of its size and situation just half way between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and as I stand here tonight not having met for the last three days a living face that I ever saw before my mind naturally turns to the loved ones on the peaceful shores of the Pacific coast when the grass is growing green, and the flowers, are blooming (?) (?) probably matching the reflections of the Moon on (next page)

Kearney net 7 "1840 Why Sun Mother and Sister This is Sunday enning I am tried and many from hand make, secile ment, and heavy drain, Ency dollar that I can get have on command I am putting in the Cup of house to shift to Tacoma. When in

Letter from the Midway (pt 1)

In the Oden and placid maters of Preges is to night, Und the loved ones in The grand old Empire Hale in the loved old Spot where we have all Enjoy Ece life protably looking at The Moon and its reflections on The pure White show and the maters of the old Drlawan when I placed in my boy hood days und when I maked mit a melling and a Mile full heart " he haps Thinking of him to heght - What a mold This is it the may to my mind more for cube. The more of my Smad father "M. new Know what a day mey

On the calm and placid waters of Puget Sound, and wondering where Jim and Pa Pa is to night. And the loved ones in the grand old Empire State in* the loved* old spot where we (?) all enjoyed life probably looking at the Moon and its reflections on the pure white snow and the waters of the old Delaware where I plaid* in my boyhood days and where I worked with a milling hand awl a hopeful heart. They too are perhaps thinking of Jim tonight. What a world this is comes to my mind more forecably the words of my Grandfather "You never know what a day may

pring fourth , sign he often said mas a " mun James Alphyque from the cradle to The gran" How but hat how amis-its is to us all I Cun Mr my Grand parsents in my mind by I left them and all of you and Hred the little User cheated boy unning a crosh

may bring forth" "Life he often said was a struggle from the cradle to the grave" How true but how smart it is to us all. I can see my Grand parents in my mind as I left them and all of you and Fred the little rosey cheaked boy running a cross Letter from the Midway (pt 1)

The fille user I left him is years last. The file as I left him is years last. September and my dean uncle fimme use I heft him how time role on, Thang as I heft him how time role on, Thang a hand fight me have all had moth the a hand fight me have all had moth the mald since This time; many a mustake me han made, mung a bright hope blostedy han made, mung a bright hope blostedy ful-site Mr hap done The best me could ful one lost to moth us and man his and may God to mith us and may his milling Conesis

the field as I left him 15 years last September and my dear Uncle Jimme as I left him how time rolls on. Many a hard fright we have all had with the world since that time, many a mistake we have made, many a bright hope (?) but sill we have done the best we could and may God be with us and may his

blessings rest upon us all making us broader*, greater, and wealthier,

Husings Not up on the ale ministings Hersings Not - up on the ale ministings heart bloader, greater and matthin, is my heart bilt progen Some Times I thank quite heart bilt progen Some Times I thank quite heart bilt progen Some Times & New York moving of marcing a heart for New York that I am always as infernal poor & neme but I am always as infernal poor & neme ful publified in spinding the money you is my heart follower on used To bell me about

is my heart felt prayer. Some times I think quite seriously of making a break* for New York but I am always so infernaly poor I never feel* justified in spending the money "You remember what you used to tell me about

(to be continued in the March/April 2017 issue of Buffalo Tales)

About the writer:

United States Marshal James C. Drake began swearing in deputies to guard railroad property. Deputies were easy to find: why, the pay was five dollars a day, and room and board. Drake dispatched a dozen to Puyallup where the Commonweal armies were to rendezvous; others patrolled train yards in Seattle, Ellensberg, Yakima, and Spokane.

They were armed with .45s and Winchester rifles requisitioned from Tacoma sporting goods stores, and they carried copies of a restraining order issued by United States Circuit Court Judge C.H. Hanford of Seattle. It prohibited any action which would deprive the receivers of the bankrupt Northern Pacific from the regular use of the line's locomotives, cars, and equipment.

2017 Calendar of Events

February 29: Don't Come Event-This is the most amazing, fun event that you WILL miss. We send you an invitation about all the fabulous things that WON'T be happening and you absolutely will want to attend, but instead, you get to RSVP and then stay home and enjoy your family. Sunday, April 23 from 1-3 pm: BCHS Annual Meeting-A great gathering of BCHS members to reflect back on the past year's accomplishments and enjoy an entertaining program while eating yummy food. The general public is welcome to join us for the program, too!

***150 Nails * Contest:** Enter your piece with the completed entry form to the Trails & Rails Museum office between the dates of May 30 and June 7 of 2017 during regular business hours. There will be a \$5 entry fee, which must be paid when the registration form and item are delivered to Trails & Rails Museum. Anyone is eligible to enter. Prizes are gratefully sponsored by an anonymous donor and by BD Construction, E-mail bchs.us@hotmail.com for more information.

Sunday, June 11: 10th Annual 1/2 Marathon/10K/5K: Buffalo County Stampede-registration is at 6 am-race begins at 7

Saturday, June 17 from 10-1 pm: 32nd Annual Wagons West Celebration-Live music, delicious food, exhibitors, demonstrators, archive researchers, kids' games, and contests. FREE admission/donations are appreciated. "150 Nails" Contest pieces will be unveiled and winners will be announced during this event!

Prairie Blacksmith Association's Fall Conference-Date TBD First two weekends in Dec. (Dec.2/3 and Dec. 9/10) from 1-5 pm: Open to the public: 30th Annual Christmas Tree Walk *** Saturday, December 2 from 12-1pm: Members Only Preview of the 30th Annual Christmas Tree Walk.

Education notes (see website for additional details): *Fabulous Fridays are held on the 2nd Friday monthly at 2 pm. Locations vary, so check the web site.

*Listen to Mardi Anderson on KGFW 1340 AM at 9 am on the last Friday of each month for a fabulous story about Buffalo County!

*Join the Trails & Rails Museum Blacksmiths (time/dates TBD) to learn about blacksmithing and/or possibly join in the fun!

The Archive Department will be open on Mondays from 1:30-4 yearround or by appointment.

*Trails & Rails Museum will be closed to the public for two weeks at the end of April/beginning of May for Kearney Public Schools' "Pioneer Days". Actual dates are TBD.

Volunteers, chairpersons, and sponsors are still needed. Please contact the office for more information on supporting your Buffalo County Historical Society!

PO Box 523, 710 W. 11th St., Kearney, NE 68848

(308) 234-3041 www.bchs.us bchs.us@hotmail.com We hope you enjoy these stories about Buffalo County. We would love to have a stock pile of Buffalo Tales ready so they can go out in a more timely manner. Please submit your memories and stories to us by e-mailing them to

bchs.buffalotales@hotmail.com or sending them to the post office box: BCHS, PO Box 523, Kearney, NE 68848.

We appreciate your support!

Director's Report

We came in 3rd place for the Kearney Area Community Foundation's Give Where You Live event for 2016, bringing in \$19, 347. This means we will get a monetary bonus along with our check in a few weeks.

The archive department has been incredibly busy both with incoming inquiries and preparing the items for the upcoming move.

-The BCHS volunteers are truly amazing and we couldn't make the Society move forward without all of their time, talent, and effort. A big thank you to each one of our volunteers!

Be our friend on Facebook: "BuffaloCounty HistoricalSociety"

Engineers & Board

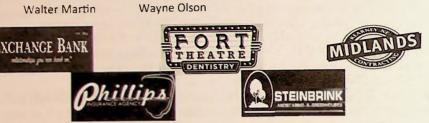
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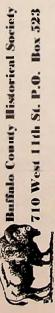
A lluge Thanks to our Silver and Gold Engineers for their support of the BCIIS/Trails & Rails Museum

(Contact Trails & Rails Museum for more information on becoming an Engineer)

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Trails & Rails Museum



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