

## THE CITY OF RAWLINS. The Most Prosperous Town in Wyoming.

The Town Has Never had a Boom, and Does Not Want One.—Its Prospects for the Future are Bright.—Not a Single Business Failure for the Past Eight Years. Supply Point for a Large Territory.

From the illustrations and descriptions given herewith the reader will get an idea of the general appearance and commercial importance of Rawlins, the county seat of Carbon county. The town is supplied with the modern conveniences, including an electric light plant, and a city water system owned by the city, which cost \$40,000. The source of water supply is artesian wells. Rawlins is the natural supply and distributing point for a large territory extending over 150 miles north and 150 miles south. Stage lines carrying mail run from the city in every direction, and the Rawlins office distributes mail for more star route offices than any other point in Wyoming.

The town has two newspapers, the Rawlins Republican and the Carbon County Journal. The Republican is the official paper of Carbon county and speaks for itself. The paper was established by H. B. Fetz in 1889. The present proprietor purchased the paper May 1, 1895. The office is well equipped with power presses and plenty of material for doing first-class printing of every description. The Journal is the only Democratic paper in Carbon county, and is published by the Journal Publishing company. A. McMicken of the firm of McMicken & Blydenburgh, attorneys, is the editor.

In the matter of educational and social advantages Rawlins ranks with any eastern town of twice its population, now conservatively estimated at 5,000. The town supports a splendid graded and a high school, employing nine teachers. The religious denominations represented are the Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Methodist, their native strength being in the order given. Each denomination owns a handsome place of worship and supports a resident minister.

Nearly all the leading secret orders are represented in Rawlins, the Masons being the strongest. The town also has a large opera house with a seating capacity of about 500. The public buildings are a handsome public school building, costing \$100,000; the Carbon county court house, which cost \$45,000, and the Wyoming penitentiary, which has just been finished but will not be furnished and occupied until the money is received in the appropriation made by the legislature, which will be available at January. The building is built on the most modern plan of prison structure. It has a capacity of about inmates, but the original plans call for another cell house of the same size as the present one, on the east side of main building. Over \$100,000 has already been expended in its construction.

### IMPORTANT RAILROAD POINT.

Rawlins is a division station of the Union Pacific railroad, extensive shops being located here. About 100 men are employed in the shops. Employees in the train service on Seventh district between Rawlins and Green River reside here, and the regate amount of the company's roll at this point is between \$20,000 and \$25,000, a month which is expended in the merchants of the town. The gentlemen at the head of the several departments of the company's business at this point are: T. M. Kingsford, agent. Warren Galvin, cashier freight depot. W. Latimer, manager Union Pacific hotel. E. Hoffman, cashier. F. G. Taylor, Pacific express agent. A. Luckfield, manager Western Union office. R. Walker, night operator. M. Niland, division foreman and attendant shops. M. Tierney, shop foreman. J. Cullen, boss boiler maker. Albert Wilson, boss blacksmith. Frank Blake, foreman car shops.

### LARGE BUSINESS.

The volume of local freight and passenger business Rawlins ranks with station on the Wyoming division, in the spring and fall months when shippers are lying in their stock, the officials are kept jumping to the business.

### DR. THOS. G. MAGHEE.

Dr. Thos. G. Maghee, one of the oldest and most successful surgeons and physicians in the west, came to Wyoming in 1873 as surgeon in the United States army. Resigning in 1878, he was elected to the territorial legislature in 1879 as a member from Sweetwater county. He located in Rawlins in 1880. Since 1878 he has been Union Pacific surgeon. The number, magnitude and success of his surgical operations are excelled by none, many of the larger and more important being seldom attempted outside the best equipped



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hospitals and by skilled specialists. In the last 6,000 of his sick and injured railway employes there has not been a single death, while his obstetrical and general practice is similarly large and successful.

At the present time Dr. Maghee's brother, Dr. W. H. Maghee, recently of Evansville, Indiana, is associated with him in the practice, and together they have one of the finest equipments of surgical instruments to be found in the west.

### Waeckerlin's Cash Bakery.

Jacob Waeckerlin runs a first-class bakery on Fourth street, where fresh bread, cakes and pies are to be had at all times. He also conducts an ice cream parlor and soda fountain, and carries a stock of the finest confectionery in Rawlins also handles fruits, nuts and cigars. He has a large stock of fireworks and other goods for the Fourth of July. Prior to engaging in his present business Mr. Waeckerlin ran a restaurant, and is the proprietor of the Rawlins brick yard.

### MR. CHAS. JOHNSON.

The extensive woolgrowing, livery and feed stable and coal business of Chas. Johnson and Andy Casservan is conducted under the firm name of Chas. Johnson. Both these gentlemen have been residents of Carbon county many years. They range a large portion of their flocks in Natrona county and Mr. Johnson spends much of his time in that section, looking after their interests there. Mr. Casservan looks after the business here in Rawlins. Their



livery and feed stable is located on the south side of the track. They handle hay, grain and feed and are agents for the Union Pacific Company's Rock Springs coal.

During the shearing season this year, Mr. Casservan did quite an extensive business in buying and selling wool, and managed to clear up a neat sum as a result of his speculations. The firm is among the most successful woolgrowers in Wyoming, and are rated among the substantial citizens of this section.

### THE COUNTY BOARD.

Carbon County Has Three Conservative Business Men for Commissioners.

The comparatively low rate of taxation in Carbon county is due to the careful management of an efficient board of county commissioners. Mr. R. A. Smiley of Rawlins, one of Carbon county's successful woolgrowers is chairman of the board.

The other members are Mr. M. Haines of Saratoga and Mr. W. A. Clark of



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Dixon. Both of these gentlemen are serving their second term having been re-elected last fall. Mr. Haines has extensive ranch and live stock interests in the Platte valley and is rated as one of the most substantial men of that section. Mr. Clark is engaged in ranching on Snake river, his home being at Dixon. Mr. Clark was for five years in the employ of the Wyoming Stockgrowers' Association as stock inspector for Carbon county, after which he was with the Leavenworth Cattle company for a number of years.

Wyoming has minerals of all kinds.

Gunning is associated with Messrs. Wallace and McDaniels in several of the most promising properties in the Grand Encampment district.

### H. LARSEN.

Lumber and Coal Dealer and Contractor and Builder.

Mr. H. Larsen, contractor and builder and dealer in lumber, lime, coal, paints and glass, started in business in Rawlins in 1891. The firm was originally Larsen & Hansen, but in 1895 Mr. Larsen purchased the interests of J. Hansen, his partner, and has since conducted the business alone.

Mr. Larsen also owns a limestone quarry near Rawlins from which he manufactures a fine quality of lime. This lime is generally used in this section. He also has a stone quarry north of town from which an excellent grade of building stone is taken. The Hugus block and other fine buildings in Rawlins are built of this stone.

Mr. Larsen does an extensive contracting business, having just finished remodeling the Odd Fellows' block and P. Paulsen's store. He has been a resident of Rawlins 7 years, having come here from Nebraska City, Nebraska.

He was born in Denmark in 1867, but upon reaching his majority came to America. He learned the trade of cabinet maker and joiner in the old country, and found employment at that trade upon coming to the United States at Nebraska City, Neb.

At the recent city election he was chosen a member of the board of city trustees for a term of three years.

### Hon. Chas. E. Blydenburgh.

Hon. Chas. E. Blydenburgh, one of the leading members of the Carbon county bar, is a native of New York state. He is a graduate of Princeton, of the class of '74 and of the School of Mines of Columbia college in '78. He came to Wyoming in August of that year to establish the territorial assay

office, and located in Rawlins in October. He was elected superintendent of schools of Carbon county in the fall of 1880. In 1888 he was elected a member of the 10th territorial legislative assembly, and was one of the leaders of that session. At the May, 1889, term of court he was admitted to the bar, and soon thereafter formed a co-partnership with A. McMicken which is still continued.

In 1892 Mr. Blydenburgh was elected a member of the board of trustees of the city of Rawlins for a term of three years, and was president of the board during his entire term.

In the campaign of last year, Mr. Blydenburgh was chosen chairman of the Democratic state committee of Wyoming, and took an active part in the campaign which resulted in the election of the entire Democratic state

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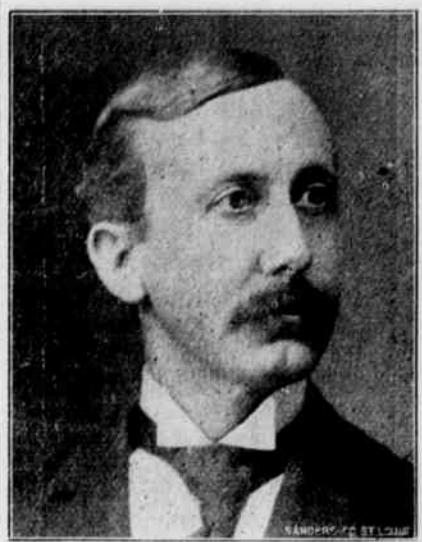
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ticket, with the exception of one presidential elector.

### COUNTY TREASURER F. M. BAKER

Carbon county's good-natured county treasurer is a resident of Carbon, but makes his home in Rawlins while discharging the duties of his office. Born in Vermont, he graduated from Middleburg college, and came west when a young man and located at Carbon,



where he has lived 16 years. Mr. Baker's avocation is a photographer, having galleries at Carbon, Hanna and Saratoga. Two years ago he was elected county assessor, and his office being consolidated with that of treasurer he naturally succeeded to that office.

### DR. H. M. BENNETT.

Dr. H. M. Bennett has been a resident of Rawlins since 1895, coming here from Indianapolis, Ind., and although a young man has succeeded in building up a large and increasing practice. He is a graduate of the University of Denver and the University of New York.

Prior to his residence in the east where he went to take a course of lectures, Dr. Bennett was located in the Platte valley, where he practiced medicine for several years. He was also engaged in the live stock business, owning a fine ranch on Brush creek.

Within the past year Dr. Bennett and Mr. F. Geddes of Saratoga have engaged in the sheep business on quite an extensive scale. Dr. Bennett is looked upon as one of the rising professional men of this section, and many friends wish him success and prosperity.

Many of the finest public buildings in Wyoming and Nebraska are built of the Rawlins stone, among them the Wyoming capitol building at Cheyenne which cost \$750,000; the Wyoming University at Laramie; the Wyoming Penitentiary, the Public School building and court house at Rawlins, pictures of which appear in this edition; the court house at Beatrice, Neb.; Boyd's opera house and the Downing-Bartlett block at Kearney, and many other handsome blocks throughout this section.

Mr. McPherson is now figuring on furnishing the stone for the Montana capitol and government building at Helena, and the federal buildings at Boise City, Idaho and Cheyenne.

Anyone contemplating the erection of a business block or large residence would do well to correspond with Mr. McPherson before letting the contract for material.

### J. G. RANKIN.

J. G. Rankin came to Rawlins in 1872 and started a livery stable, and has been continuously engaged in that business since that time.

Mr. Rankin served two terms as sheriff of Carbon county, being first elected to that office in 1878. In those days it took a man with nerve to make a peace officer, as many desperate characters were abroad in this country. Mr. Rankin was several times placed in a most trying position. In 1879 a gambler named Murray killed a man in a dive in Rawlins. Sheriff Rankin started out to arrest him. Murray made a run for a government wagon train which was camped near where the opera house now stands, and securing a carbine opened fire on the officer. It was a pitched battle for a few minutes, Murray firing five shots at Mr. Rankin. The officer then opened fire on Murray with a shotgun and the desperado fell mortally wounded. The grand jury at the next term of court exonerated Sheriff Rankin and complimented him for his bravery.

He has always been a Republican, and is a Mason, being one of the charter members of the Rawlins lodge, which was organized in 1875. No man in Carbon county has spent more money to develop her mineral interests than Mr. Rankin, and he has sufficient property in the Encampment district to make him independently rich if the district develops into a large producer as all expect it will. He is a public spirited citizen and no one has done more according to his means to build up the country than Jim Rankin. May he live to have a million.

To the prospector who is looking for an inviting field we would say, Come to Rawlins. There are many rich gold deposits almost at our doors.

### THE RAWLINS SANDSTONE

Extensive Quarries Four Miles From Rawlins.

An Inexhaustible Supply of the Finest Building Stone in the West.—James McPherson the Owner of the Quarries.—Has Supplied Material for Many Large Buildings in Wyoming, Colorado and Nebraska.

Very few of the citizens of Rawlins have any idea of the extent of the Rawlins sandstone quarries, or their importance to the commercial interests of the town.

It is a superior quality of light gray sandstone of a uniform color, and there is a great ledge of it over a mile in length and 200 feet high, over sixteen million cubic feet in sight.

The quarries are located four miles south of Rawlins. They were opened by James McPherson, who has had many years' experience in the stone business in this country as well as in Scotland, and are still operated by him.

The quarries are fitted up with the most improved machinery, including two steam derricks, steam drills and electric appliances for splitting the stone into blocks of any dimensions desired. The size of the blocks of stone without a defect is only limited by the capacity of the cars to transport them. When operated to their full capacity ten cars of stone a day can be taken from the Rawlins quarries with the present equipment.

Wherever the freight rates would permit the Rawlins stone has been chosen in preference to any other stone in the western country. Notwithstanding Colorado has extensive stone quarries of her own some of the finest buildings in that state have been built of the Rawlins sandstone, among them the magnificent residence of John F. Campion in Denver, costing over \$100,000. Mr. McPherson has just finished quarrying the stone for a \$75,000 residence in Colorado Springs.

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