

**A HISTORY OF ANTELOPE
COUNTY NEBRASKA, FROM ITS
FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1868 TO
THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1883**

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A history of Antelope County Nebraska, from its first settlement in 1868 to the close of the year 1883 by A. J. Leach

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A. J. LEACH

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THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1883**

A HISTORY
OF
ANTELOPE COUNTY
NEBRASKA

FROM ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1858 TO
THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1883.

BY
A. J. LEACH
SECRETARY AND HISTORIAN OF THE ANTELOPE COUNTY
PIONEERS.

*Corrected and revised by the advice of a committee of five
elected for that purpose.*

DECEMBER, 1909

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Dedicated

TO THE PIONEERS, WHO WERE NOT DISMAYED BY
WINTER STORMS NOR SUMMER DROUGHTS;
BY INDIAN RAIDS NOR THE SCOURGE OF GRASSHOPPERS;
BUT WHO HAD THE GRIT AND
COURAGE TO ENDURE UNTIL THEY HAD CONVERTED
THE GREAT AMERICAN DESERT
INTO A FRUITFUL FIELD.

I have carefully examined the statements of historical facts of a general nature in this volume; and, some changes having been made at my suggestion, I believe that they are substantially correct according to the best available data and authority. The painstaking industry of the author in collecting and compiling the local data of the history and the scope and form of his work are, in my opinion, highly commendable.

ALBERT WATKINS,

Historian of the Nebraska State Historical Society.

LINCOLN, NEB., *November 2, 1900.*

INTRODUCTION

IN the month of January, 1886, a number of old settlers held an informal meeting in Neligh for the purpose of taking into consideration the feasibility of organizing an old settlers' association.

After considerable consultation it was deemed advisable to organize without unnecessary delay, and the 22d day of February, 1886, was named as the date for another meeting, and a committee was appointed to draw up a set of rules to be presented at that meeting, for the government of the proposed association.

Accordingly, on the 22d of February, 1886, a large number of the Pioneers met at the court-room in Neligh and proceeded to organize by adopting certain Rules of Government, and by electing a full set of officers. These Rules of Government have been amended slightly from time to time as occasion required. At the present date — October, 1909,— they stand as follows:

RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION OF ANTELOPE COUNTY, NEBRASKA. ADOPTED AT THE MEETING FOR ORGANIZATION, FEBRUARY 22, 1886

ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this Association shall be "THE PIONEERS."

ARTICLE II — OBJECTS

The objects of this society shall be to establish and maintain fraternal relations between the citizens of different parts of the county, to promote good-will, to revive and cherish old associations and recollections, to work for the general good, and to compile and preserve a correct history of the county from its first settlement to all future time.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP AND QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS

Any person of either sex, who is a resident of the county, and has attained the age of 18 years, may become a member of this