

ever, when, on the next day, mother was quite ready to leave again for the prairie, Rosa and Henry had made up their mind to come along, after all. Mother had her stuff unloaded again and their's substituted. John went ahead with the stranger. The cow was tied behind the wagon. Thus, they left Rosthern.

They soon found that the cow could not walk, tied behind the wagon, and mother had to lead her, while Mary urged her on with a switch. A little ways past Fish Creek the cow refused to go at all, and they were forced to leave her with a Ruthenian farmer. They found it very difficult to make the man understand what they wanted. In other respects the trip proved uneventful, as the roads had dried up and the new trail offered few obstacles to their progress.

After things were straightened out in the prairie home, Henry returned, to Fish Creek to haul the cow out in the wagon. Four, or five days later he was back again with the cow—and a pretty red heifer calf at her side. Of course the cow's dignity and honor were re-established, because, under the circumstances, she could not be blamed for refusing to go very far, and she did not deserve the "bad name of having shown herself a stubborn and bullheaded cow that did not want to go into the wilderness." Henceforth, we were plentifully provided with milk.

During the next few days we began to prepare for building stable homes. Henry and John, and I also, rode out to a big timber wood a few miles to the southwest, where big, long poplars were chopped down and trimmed of their branches and tops. A horse then pulled them out into the open, one by one, and when a load was gained, we loaded them on the wagon truck and drove home. This kept us busy for some days.

CHAPTER 14.

OUTSIDE THE LINES

At last there were piles of logs lying on the site, where mother wanted to build, and not far away, also, where Henry and Rosa wanted to put up their cabin. Henry had also hauled many logs for John's cabin on the latter's place in return for his help. During this time Henry went back to Rosthern with the horses for a load of household goods and supplies. Anna, seeing us, at last, settled and busy, resolved to go along back with Henry to find a position there, as mother thought it a good plan and had approved of it, especially since there had been more or less friction between Anna, on the one side, and Rosa and Henry, on the other. The cause for this was Anna's complaint that Rosa and Henry were not treating mother with due consideration and loyalty. Anna returned to Rosthern, therefore, and helped Henry to load up the most useful and valuable furniture, while she stored, what was still left over, in an empty shack and locked the door. Considerable of the smaller articles had either been stolen, or had been smashed up. Anna paid a man to haul out her organ as Henry refused to load it. She took a position as waitress at the Queen's hotel. In due time Henry arrived at our camps again.

The work of cutting and hauling logs was then resumed again and a start made on mother's house. The logs were sized and fitted into walls enclosing a space 14x24 feet and making two small rooms. The work had progressed to a height of 10 or 11 feet, ready for the gable joists and for a gabled roof. It was now Henry's turn to log up his cabin of about the same size as mother's. He had already dug a shallow well on the site of his building which was to stand on the southeast side of a grove of poplars and about 1/4 mile distant from our

location. We were greatly perplexed, when it came to the question of finding the materials for the roofs and floors. Though we knew that lumber and shingles could be gotten at Rosthern, we, for one thing, lacked the funds to pay for them. Hence, we made up our minds that sod, long grass and hay would have to do for the roofing, and hard, tamped down clay for the floors. I have to mention yet that we broke up a patch of sod and planted potatoes under the long, tough slices about the 10th of June. In the fall, however, when the potatoes were harvested, they were not much of a crop, chiefly because, as we discovered later, we had chosen the wrong kind of soil.

I cannot remember any more now, how it came about, but at any rate, doubts were raised in different quarters that we were not on homestead land and were building on the outside. These rumors that were current among our neighbors, of whom there were several now, had their effect on mother, Rosa and Henry. One Sunday, while attending Divine Services at the monastery, mother questioned one of the Rev. Fathers—I think it was Father Peter, Father Prior Alfred being absent—on the subject of the approximate lines and of our location. In the course of that afternoon, or perhaps it was on the following Sunday, Mr. Eimer and another gentleman came out to see us. On their way out they had taken a rough survey from the township line. They told us that by their findings they believed that both mother and Henry and Rosa were with the camps and buildings outside the lines of their respective homesteads.

This information acted like a bomb shell on us all, but especially so on Henry and Rosa. This new disappointment finished Henry who had never had much faith in the venture, nor in Canada, nor in the coming of the railroad. He predicted only a most gloomy future and from that day on he changed all his planning; thinking only of ways and means to quickly get away from his claim and from the wilderness with his family and to get out of inhospitable Canada the sooner the better. For mother the things lay different. She had put her last dollar into the venture and she would not and could not, even if she had wanted to, abandon the task of creating new conditions for a fixed family hearth. Furthermore, no great loss was entailed aside of the work of tearing down the uncompleted cabin and putting it up again in some near-by place that gave safety. The land was still there and would remain there. All that was needed was that we shift our camps a good 1/2 mile further east and find new sites for the building.

Mother reconciled herself comparatively easily enough to this new set-back, but she abstained from encouraging Henry anymore. She now considered it her duty to help Henry and Rosa back to civilization and to the States, because she had been more or less instrumental in their coming to Saskatchewan and had borne all the expense of the undertaking. Mother had no ill feeling or grudge against Henry, but she had come to the simple conclusion that her son-in-law was lacking in those qualities which were a necessary element for pioneering, though he was inferior to no man in other respects. Naturally mother felt sad and troubled in her heart about the turn of affairs that had come about in this fateful parting of ways. She realized that, henceforth, she must all alone with Mary and myself, two young children, take up the fight against all odds, such as the wilderness, poverty and an uncertain future, foreboding little good. Once again, she sought help and strength in prayer, her only weapon, and

she was comforted and refreshed for the struggle that awaited us. When the day came on which Rosa, Henry, and little Albertina were to return to Rosthern, she engaged John to do the driving. She also wrote a long letter to our brother in Nebraska, informing him of the state of affairs and the changes that had taken place.

To be continued.

Fifteen Years Ago

From No. 36 of St. Peters Bote

The Rosthern correspondent writes that last Friday evening, Oct. 14, Father Meinrad returned from his vacation spent in Minnesota. With him came Father Prior Alfred who had been in Winnipeg on business, the Rt. Rev. Abbot Peter Engel, O.S.B., President of St. John's University, and two students for the Order, Joseph Wolf and John Gosiorowski. Last, but not least, arrived a young lady who is to marry a young Leofeld bachelor. A day previous Dr. Sylvester Hone, who intends to settle in Muenster, had arrived from Vancouver, B.C. Next morning the entire party left for Leofeld. The Rt. Rev. Abbot wishes to inspect the Colony, which was named St. Peter's Colony in his honor.

A Ruthenian priest, Father Stutzki, took up his residence near Fish Creek, a little over a week ago. He is still a young man and belongs to the Basilian Order. He hopes to start a Ruthenian newspaper in Saskatchewan in the near future.

Thos. Corkly has obtained the contract for the bridge which is being built across the creek east of town. He will do the work for \$3000.00

At the agricultural fair at Duck Lake, the Catholic Indians obtained 17 of the 20 prizes. This certainly shows that the Indians there, who are being trained by the sisters and the Oblate Fathers, make good farmers.

A correspondent writes from St. Benedict on Oct. 5 that they are still using the so-called "Hoodoo House" as a church.

Saturday, October 8, parliament for the North-West Territories, which was in session only two weeks, was closed by Lieut.-Governor Forget. Thirty-four bills were passed. Among them was the incorporation of the Order of St. Benedict of Muenster.—This year buildings were erected in Winnipeg to the value of \$8,000,000.00.

It is reported that the entrance to Hudson Bay is closed to shipping since the beginning of October. Many snowstorms were experienced towards the end of September.—During August 2,363 free homesteads were taken up in the Canadian Northwest.

ADDENDA:

On the 31 of Oct. Father Chrysostom celebrated High Mass at Fuch's, Sec. 20, Tp. 39, Rg. 23. The next day, the feast of All Saints, he sang the first High Mass at St. Joe. (Fulda) in the new log church. On All Souls' Day he sang a Requiem High Mass in Assumption church, Dead Moose Lake.—The warmest day at Muenster during October was on the 11th, with 64° in the shade. On the 22 during the day it was 43° above zero; but in the night the thermometer fell to 18° above.

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