VII.

TWO WEEKS AT OMAHA—WILD GEESE AND DUCK SHOOTING—ADVENT OF CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD AGENTS ON THEIR WAY TO DENVER—PARTING SPEECH OF MR. TAPPEN—ANTICIPATED ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT PACIFIC RAILROAD EXCURSION—ITS ANTECEDENTS AND OBJECTS—DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK—ARRIVAL AT CHICAGO—ST. JOSEPH, AND OMAHA—RECEPTION AND BALL AT OMAHA.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, Oct. 23, 1866.

The difficulties at the Hernden House, heretofore alluded to, were amicably arranged on the Monday following our arrival from the Rocky Mountains; and Mrs. Brownson, the new lessee, was fully installed in quiet possession.

A favored few of the guests were allowed to retain our rooms in the gloomy, half-deserted house; and vegetate, as best we could, among the restaurants, until the hotel could be renovated and refurnished.

Mrs. Brownson will not only prove herself to be a public benefactor, but do much towards establishing the doctrine of the social and business equality, and vested rights, of women, if she succeeds in the hazardous undertaking of keeping a good hotel. She certainly has the best wishes of her numerous friends in the town, as well as of the railroad people and travelling public generally.

But the city of Omaha should boast of several firstclass hotels. The town is growing, and will continue to grow rapidly. It has the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad; and is the half-way point between Chicago and the Rocky Mountains. No finer site was