

12.180  
the  
1871  
Add. O.T.C.  
Pottsville

① It was claimed at this time that the N.P. would have gone into O.T.C. but that the owner, one Thomas Cathcart, of Crow Wing, would not give the company any part of the land. It was through the stubbornness of this man that the railroad was caused to leave the village many miles from its line and eventually resulted in the county seat being transferred to F.F. In 1871 the legislature proposed the removal of the seat of justice to the latter place, and in a very short time O.T.C. was as truly a deserted village as any goldsmith ever ~~declared~~ dared to depict.

It was recognized as the county seat until the legislature of Feb. 28, 1872 passed the act establishing the boundary line of O.T.C. and naming F.F. as the County seat.

Otter Tail County was such a big territory that legislature wanted to <sup>divide the territory &</sup> add six townships from Wilkin county and provide an organization of the county of Holcomb to have a county seat at Fergus Falls. Madena <sup>1913</sup> county tried twice to annex the townships bordering Madena county, but legislature never agreed. But the six townships were annexed from Wilkin county and the ~~entire~~ population was <sup>great</sup> intense around F.F., so the voters voted in favor <sup>by a majority of 154</sup> of having the county seat at F.F. The records, jail and officers were literally stolen overnight from Otter Tail City and moved to F.F. Thus O.T.C. became a deserted village in 1872.

Michael Anderson, sheriff of O.T.C.  
Marcus Shaw, Treas.

Agitation began in 1871 & continues today.