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PLATTSMOUTH, MARCH 31, 1883.

The republican primaries were well attended upon last evening, and good men were nominated for the council.

Messrs. Matthews, Eikenberry, Fairfield and Morrison are representative men, and should have the support of all good citizens.

Old John Brown is dead; not our old John Brown, but the man that became famous as the servant of Victoria. He is said to have been very rich. He has been with the Queen nearly forty-five years since the dis patches, and was a man of great personal courage, which he displayed on several occasions in the defense of her Majesty's person. He was a Scotchman by birth, a fine classical scholar, and a fine linguist, speaking several languages fluently.

It is not probable that the assistant postmaster general, Mr. Frank Hutton, will receive the appointment of postmaster general, for the reason that a very influential portion of the press of the country are bitterly opposed to him. Especially is this the case in President Arthur's own state. It is claimed by many that Mr. Hutton is not a large enough man mentally for such a position, and that the Iowa delegation in Congress are opposed to his nomination.

A TOTAL eclipse of the sun is to occur May 6th, but it will be visible as a total eclipse only to those who may be in ships in the southern Pacific, or on either Caroline or Flint Island, both small and in that ocean. Thither the zealous astronomers who wish to see the exhibition at its full will have to go, though the way is long and difficult. Two French expeditions are being fitted out, England will doubtless send one, and one is being talked up in this country. The eclipse is to be an unusually long one—nearly six minutes—and the astronomers hope to gain from it additional knowledge concerning the sun's corona, the zodiacal light and its relations to the sun's surroundings, and the small intermercurial planets that are supposed to circulate in the sun's immediate neighborhood.—Ex.

We have upon our table a copy of the American Tribune, a twelve page beautifully printed newspaper from St. Louis, Mo. We have glanced through it in order to discover if possible its mission, and conclude it is to be devoted to the "valley of the Mississippi," the removal of the national capital to St. Louis, and the choosing of a simon pure first-class statesman from Missouri as president of the United States; all of which enterprises doubtless the American Tribune considers perfectly feasible, and as St. Louis is doubtless one of the most healthy moral cities in the United States containing ambitious statesmen who would if pressed hard enough accept the Presidency of this great republic—provided the Tribune succeeds in removing the national capital to St. Louis. We conclude the Tribune has a brilliant and useful future before it.

The Inter Ocean makes note of a painful rumor that is in circulation among members of the bar at Washington that some of the honorable justices of the supreme court are in the habit of dropping off to sleep during the argument of cases, and on one occasion when the legal luminary who had the floor was not as brilliant as usual, it is said that one of the most distinguished occupants of the bench actually snored. Perhaps this fact has come to the knowledge of Chief Justice Waite, for he has ordered the temperature of the supreme court room, which has usually been about 75 kept hereafter at 68. But if he desires to keep some of the justices awake he will have to keep it so cool that it will be necessary for them to stamp around and slap their chests continually to avoid being frozen to death.—C. B. Nonpareil.

The talk, talk, talk about what the republican party of the great city of Omaha is going to do in the April election must end and the light must be made or unconditional "plumix" be had. The democracy of Omaha have commenced actual hostilities by a *Savage* attack on the right, left and center all at once—what positions have been assigned the Bash Bazooks—under the command of Gen. Rosewater and the Creightons, the Herald is not yet able to say, but we apprehend these valiant warriors will be at the front with their war paint on; recent indications, if we can judge anything by the parliamentary skirmishes which have been going on, would lead one to believe that they are no holiday soldiers. It is to be hoped that the medical director of the Herald staff will be on hand with stretchers and splints and that the staffs will be decently cared for.

It has been urged with a great deal of force that the Grand Army of the Republic set apart the 9th day of April as a holiday, to be devoted to recruiting for the Grand Army, and for celebration within the Posts by campfires and appropriate exercises, as each post may deem the most fitting and appropriate. The 9th of April is the anniversary of the surrender of General Lee's army at Appomattox court house, the true date of the final overthrow of the rebellion. The National Tribune, in speaking of this day says:

"For obvious reasons the anniversary has never become a holiday. By common consent, the people of the North and South have agreed that the triumph of brothers over brothers should not be thus perpetuated in the memory of the future generations."

This is right, but still says the Tribune, this is no reason why the Grand Army should not within its organization notice and observe this day, and so say we. It records the surrender of the capital of the confederacy, the surrender of the captain of the confederate armies. It is the anniversary of the day that ended the long, weary, waiting and watching of mothers and wives for their boys and husbands both north and south, to return from the dread field of battle.

It is the anniversary of the day that heralded the news to the waiting, anxious world, that this was a nation to be perpetuated under one common flag, in whose air no slave could breathe; and that its government was to remain in the hands of the people, to be administered for the people and by the people. There are now about 150,000 members of the Grand Army of the Republic, whose names are duly enrolled in the different parts of the country, and we hope the organization in Nebraska will take steps to recognize and observe this 9th day of April as it should be observed.

Railroads and Shippers.

The Illinois railroad commission is, under the law creating that court, having some very important questions to arbitrate between the shipper and the railroads, regarding the quantity of goods shipped and the shortage in weights. The shippers claim that the contracts the roads force them to enter into leaves the roads masters of the situation, and control of both sides of the contract, that when they fail to receive the amount or quantity of goods they ship, or the same falls short in weight, the roads deny them the right to produce evidences of such shortage. The railroads produce their bills of lading, reading "more or less," and say the law makes them the sole arbiters as to whether they shall, under the contract, adjust such losses to the shipper. Very recently in that state the shippers and the roads were before the commissioners upon complaint made by the Receivers and Shippers' association of Illinois; when great abuses were shown to exist, shortage, for instance, in weight often ran as high as 2,000 pounds to a single car. The roads stood upon their assumed rights, and denied the jurisdiction of the commissioners to either investigate or arbitrate. This policy upon the part of railroads is shortsighted and the end brings retribution and disaster.

They have no right to take property without just compensation; they cannot in the end avoid the law governing common carriers, nor can they long construe it to compel the consignee to deliver goods upon their own terms. Might does not, nor never will make right in this country.

We notice by the Council Bluffs Nonpareil that the Council Bluffs and Northern railroad is an assured fact. Our readers will recollect that but a few days ago, the Herald gave an account of a public meeting of citizens of Council Bluffs with the agent of the Diagonal; since that date the citizens of Council Bluffs, who are enterprising people, have organized and incorporated the C. B. & Northern R. R., and have their engineers already in the field, and they find the people along the proposed route, ready and anxious to help build the road. We have, during the past two years, had several conversations with prominent railroad contractors, who called attention to the feasibility and great desirability of a road running southwest from Plattsmouth, into middle Kansas, either as a feeder to the B. & M. and C. B. & Q., or as an independent line to connect with some main line, to be built northeast through Iowa; these gentlemen predicting that ultimately, such a railroad would be built. The Diagonal coming to Plattsmouth has the right to cross the R. R. bridge here, and thus it will find prepared for it a crossing into Nebraska. The Herald desires to call the attention of Messrs. Fitzgerald, Cushing and other of Nebraska's enterprising and reliable railroad builders, to this enterprise.

DAVID DAVIS' ANXIETY. The Star says ex-Senator David Davis realizes that his ponderous weight is an element of danger, requiring "eternal vigilance" to guard against a possible crash. He is as careful about putting his foot forward where the ground is unknown as an elephant, and is always exceedingly nervous when riding in elevators. He never wanted anybody else in with him when going up or down in the senate, but if there was a crowd ready

to enter, the senator would stand back and wait for the next trip rather than to risk his three hundred and odd pounds with a number of passengers. He would push into the car hurriedly and say to the conductor: "Now, do go right on; don't wait for anybody else." If one of the bells rang he would catch the conductor by the arm and say, imploringly: "Don't take anybody else out; it is positively dangerous you know. The thing might break down." The senators knew of Judge Davis' nervousness, and some of them used to follow him in a group and crowd in with him to enjoy his anxiety and the expression of relief with which he used to step out of the car at last.

MR. DORSEY is now on the witness stand in the hands of Mr. R. T. Merrick, of counsel for the government, on cross-examination. If the cross-examination is equal to the price the United States is paying for it, Mr. Dorsey is liable to have a hard time of it.

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