

# THE FRONTIER.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY  
THE FRONTIER PRINTING COMPANY.  
W. D. MATHEWS, Editor.

## STILL ANOTHER.

Two New Members of The Frontier  
Printing Company.



CLYDE KING. D. H. CRONIN.

It is a chilly week when O'Neill newspapers do not experience a change. This has been a very pleasant week. With this issue the "Kids"—of Item fame—greet FRONTIER readers with a likeness of each youth, and with the honesty displayed on those noble brows above state that they are "here to stay." The new members of The Frontier Printing Company will sling the local quill and manage the affairs of the office. Business will be carried on at the old stand, where we will be pleased to meet anyone who may have business with a newspaper or job office.

"We are the people and must be respected."—Mr. Harrington.

A box of Holt county supervisors would make a valuable addition to Nebraska's exhibit at the World's Fair.

In their efforts to clean the Augean stables, our demo-alliance friends should be very careful that there is no manure in their own stalls.

SCOTT to Hayes: "Rhody, I charge thee, fling away ambition; by that sin fell the angels; and how can man, the image of his maker, hope to win thereby."

WELCOME to Doc Mathews, who has returned to his first love—the newspaper field. The two O'Neill republican newspapers—THE FRONTIER and the Item—have been consolidated and Doc is the editor-in-chief. He will make things hum for the republican party this summer.—Hemingford Guide.

THE two republican papers at O'Neill, THE FRONTIER and the Item, have been consolidated and W. D. Mathews will be the editor. Doc has always been considered one of the brightest and most successful newspaper men in this part of the state, and by this consolidation finds himself at the head of one of the best newspaper properties in the state.—Neligh Leader.

THE reaction in establishing two newspapers in towns where but one could exist with profit, or one where none should be issued, is setting in as an inevitable consequence of such digression of judgment. At O'Neill last week two of the best newspaper plants in Northern Nebraska—THE FRONTIER and the Item—were consolidated and will now be issued under the management of The Frontier Printing Company.—Randolph Times.

MILTON E. FREE has deposited \$100 with the Bee as the nucleus of a fund to be used in providing treatment of men addicted to the alcohol habit who are unable to pay the expenses for themselves. He has set an example worthy of emulation and the Bee hopes other persons who believe in extending a hand to the victims of dipsomania will send in contributions. This is a practical charity and the instances in which habitual drunkards have been cured are so numerous in our midst as to relieve the charitably disposed from all doubt as to the efficacy of the treatment proposed.—Omaha Bee.

This paper will pay a liberal price for one of those large, round, juicy tears which was shed by Farmer Harrington last Saturday afternoon, when, in one of his sympathetic paroxysms, he pictured the suffering of the starving and ragged tax payers of Holt county in their pitiful efforts to pay their taxes into the county treasury, only to have them appropriated to the personal speculation and aggrandizement of the county commissioners. The only condition that we wish to stipulate is that it be mounted on the gentleman's railroad pass, which this paper is informed is given on "account employee."

WHAT means all this fuss about Treasurer Scott? With a bond sufficient to cover the loss of every dollar of the county funds, what can the county hope to make by impeaching and disgracing a county officer. If in the wisdom of our county board Mr. Scott's bond is not large enough or good enough, let them demand an additional bond. It evidently concerns the average tax payer but little whether the funds are locked up in the county vault or whether they are in the banks, so long as the county is secure from loss. To the scheming politician, however, whose only object is to advance his own interests, or blacken the character of a political opponent to further partisan ends, it seems

to make considerable difference. And is this not the real animus that has prompted the impeachment and trial of Mr. Scott? Is this not the milk in the cocoanut? Chagrined at their defeat at the polls last fall, disappointed at Mr. Scott's promptness in presenting the cash at his settlement a few days ago, the same crowd has now abused the power vested in them by a confiding constituency and a generous law, to still further persecute and persecute their victim. What matters it to this class of people if a man's happiness is destroyed, his reputation smirched and his bondsman bankrupted, if only their hyena appetites for something sensational can be satisfied and their own personal and political interests advanced? If Mr. Scott is a defaulter and his bond is sufficient, the bondsman will be the losers and not the county. If said bond is not sufficient and the county loses, then the blame is upon the board that approved it, or knowing it to be insufficient, neglected to demand more. As THE FRONTIER understands it, there has been no complaint as to bond, and in fact there has been no complaint from any of Mr. Scott's bondsmen. It has been imagined on the part of some of the vicious "reformers" that Mr. Scott is a defaulter, and on this imagination mainly a case has been predicated, his vacation of the office demanded and a successor chosen. It reminds THE FRONTIER of the story of the girl who was found weeping bitterly and when asked for the cause of her tears replied, that she was thinking how awful it would be if she should get married, have a baby and the poor little thing should die, boo, hoo! Mr. Scott's enemies, like the girl, seem to be terribly exercised over the fear that in case such and such is the case something awful may happen to the exchequer of the county some two years from now when Mr. Scott's term expires.

## BANKER—EDITOR.

"Doc" Mathews, who has resumed editorial control of the O'Neill FRONTIER, is as interesting a writer as there is anywhere and that he will make a success of the paper is beyond question. But this department cannot understand why Mr. Mathews should resign the presidency of a bank to take charge of a newspaper. It must be fun to be a banker; it must be simply immense to sit in regal grandeur and watch clerks and other hirelings shovelling gold coin into the groaning vaults, while at the little brass windows corporation comorants, vandals and janizaries deposit their rolls for safe keeping? There is no exhilaration in the thing of sitting at a desk in the waning light of a winter day trying to extract a forty-five calibre thought from a twenty-two calibre brain, as the author of this is frequently doing. An explanation from Mr. Mathews would be timely and interesting.—Walt Mason in Fremont Tribune.

As something like a thousand individuals have asked us the same impertinent questions during the past few weeks, much to our distress of mind and the trying of the Job-like patience for which we have always been noted, we have concluded that the best thing to do for the relief of the public, and ourself, is to succinctly promulgate in cold type the reasons for the change above referred to.

Like every newspaper man of the country persuasion, we have always looked upon the banker as the man above all others to be envied and the banking business as the easiest, most elegant, and withal the most independent on earth. In fact Mason pictures the business just as we did. "It must be fun to be a banker," and the height of our ambition was to some day be at the head of a bank. The time came, perhaps sooner than we expected, Dame Fortune smiled on our business matters, and by working everything to one object we two years ago organized a bank, built an elegant block, fitted up as fine bank quarters as there is in the state, outside of the cities, and opened for business smilingly happy, with plenty of money in the vaults and more in reserve. The sensation of handling gold by the handful and currency by the \$500 packages was for a time exhilarating, intoxicating and most pleasurable, but that feeling soon wore off, and we began to realize, figuratively speaking, that "all is not gold that glitters," in other words, that the management of a bank was not so funny after all—that to be responsible for the placing and looking after nearly a hundred thousand dollars was work of the hardest kind on both body and mind. It was fun the first two or three months. It was so easy to get the money out. The president soon learned to talk finance glibly, and imagined himself a great success. Oh, yes, he was a good judge of men! It would be a hard matter to fool him when it came to arranging the preliminaries of a loan. And besides he flattered himself that his long residence in the county, with an almost universal acquaintance, made him familiar with the financial condition of the people. Oh, yes! Well, as before remarked, the money was loaned in small and large lots, and it was remarkable how many friends the president had scattered over the great county of Holt, who dropped in to see how the new bank prospered and before leaving wanted to borrow a few dollars. In our good nature we did not consider that any of "the boys" would let us down. They might not be financially responsible for any great amount, but they were all right and good fellows. Yes! Well, we believed all this, and when our associates in bus-

ness questioned a loan we would get hot under the collar and just to prove our confidence would write "W. D. M." on the corner of the note, remarking that "I'll see to that myself." Now that we have a couple of thousand dollars of this kind of paper among our assets, which we felt in honor bound to take up, we have somewhat changed our mind in this regard.

For a long while the president esteemed himself a good banker, and thought he had found a calling commensurate with his natural ability, that he would grow rich, live long and be happy. He could draw up a note and chattel mortgage with great dexterity, and when the applicant said "one horse eight years old, weight 1200, color bay, worth \$150 easy," he believed it, and figured that the security was good, etc., etc. Don't call the president an ass, because it made him blush and stammer to charge big rates of interest. He was human, that's all, and it hurt to tie a man up and exact big interest. But this same president in time learned that all men are not honest—that some men borrow money with no intention of paying at all, misrepresenting everything to get the loan; others are quick to borrow and awfully slow to pay; others have bad luck and cannot pay, etc., so that with a worry here, a defiance there, a threat to the right, a kick to the left, a skip out north, a death south, a cheat east and a fraud west, the life of a banker is anything but pleasant.

We have had enough of it, and when a man tells us that the banker in this country is the happy man we will tell him to keep right on thinking so, but if he is a friend we will advise him to let the business alone. There are men who can be good bankers, that is successful bankers, but they must be particularly trained by nature and long experience, they must of necessity be fair lawyers, have some knowledge as detectives, have the powers of a constable, the facial appearance of saints, the nerve of Jesse James, hearts in which there is no compassion, and even then they are liable to get livid.

Do not be envious of the banker. You do not know his trials and tribulations, his sleepless nights, his torment, and the cause of the wrinkles and gray hairs. Be happy in the vocation you are familiar with, even if it is simply running a country newspaper or a Keeley institute. It is hard work writing copy, to be sure, but the after-effect cannot be as injurious or annoying as writing or signing notes and chattel mortgages." Which come due with such remarkable suddenness. And then as an editor you can say so many good things that it makes you pleased with yourself and you can sleep good all night. If you do get sour occasionally and say something mean you can take it all back and smooth the matter over so that no scars are left. You can't do that in a bank where dollars and cents are figured. Of course there isn't as much money in the newspaper as in the bank, but there is a whole lot more contentment and more fun, especially in a political campaign when the lightning is flashing in every direction and liable to hit any one except a banker. See?

## THE REPUBLICAN CLUB.

There were just one-third the number of republicans present at the club rooms Saturday night that should have been there. After the regular business of the meeting had been taken up and disposed of, Vice President Shanner took the chair and Hon. A. L. Towle addressed the members upon the "Tin Plate Industry and the Present Tariff." He said:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: Shall we manufacture our own tin plate? The art of tinning plate iron was invented in Bohemia about the beginning of the Sixteenth century, although the tinning of copper was known at an earlier date. England just begun to make tin in 1670, and from about 1740 the industry had taken permanent root and from this time up to a very recent date England possessed a monopoly of this industry. Before she became skilful in this art she imported her tin plates from Hamburg, they being hammered, while the English improved upon their methods by running them through a rolling mill, thereby producing a plate of fine gloss and much superior to the imported plate. She then placed a protective tariff upon tin plates and kept her money at home instead of sending it abroad.

Tin plate is composed of from 95 to 97 per cent of iron or steel and from 3 to 5 per cent tin. Tin plates are composed of iron or steel sheets covered with an alloy of tin and lead varying from 1 of lead to 2 of tin and vice versa.

Tin ore is found in Cornwall, England, and yields about 2 1/2 per cent metallic tin; in Capalico, California, about 13 per cent; in Rockbridge county, Va., from 14 to 65 per cent; in the Black Hills from 3 to 65 per cent; in the Harney Peak region the veins are as wide as 50 feet and yield better than the Cornwall mines, "and in Custer and Pennington counties as reported by the British Consul at Chicago, there are veins in width from 1 to 300 feet and in length from a few yards to five miles, from which 4 per cent can be depended on everywhere." Tin ore is also mined in the Terrestrial mines of Cal., and one half the metallic tin of the world is exported from the Malay peninsula, where the mining is carried on almost entirely by Chinese. To be more explicit I will

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state the amount of metallic tin imported into the United States for the year ending June 30, 1890:

| Countries from which imported:                              | Tin bars, blocks or pigs, granulated or granulated. | Pounds.    | Dollars.  |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| Germany.....  | .....   | 5,233      | 1,534     |
| England.....  | .....   | 14,230,875 | 2,880,411 |
| Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and the north-west territory..... | .....   | 364        | 80        |
| British East Indies.....                                    | .....   | 16,372,540 | 3,138,759 |
| British Poss. in Australia.....                             | .....   | 3,526,570  | 690,824   |
| Netherlands.....  | .....   | 937,467    | 182,199   |
| Total.....  | .....   | 24,993,099 | 4,868,908 |

Probably much of that credited to England was mined in other countries and merely transhipped hither.

Three fourths of the metallic tin used in the manufacture of tin plate in England comes from other countries. England has been shipping into this country "for years tin plate to the value of about \$17,000,000 per year and the total quantity of tin plates imported into this country in the 20 years from 1871 to 1891 was 3,622,750 gross tons, foreign value \$306,341,404 and in addition to this sum our people paid freights and importers' profits, making a conservative estimate and allowing heaps in production, we have paid in these 20 years \$100,000,000 more than if we had produced our own tin plate, and instead of paying 300 millions to the Welch tin trust we would have paid 200 millions to American manufacturers to be paid to American laborers, while the \$100,000,000 that we have been paying to the trust in the form of higher prices would have remained as additional savings in the pockets of American workmen. The manufacturer of this tin employs 50,000 persons in England and Wales besides the men employed in producing the iron ore, limestone, coal, coke and pig iron which enter into the manufacture of tin plate, 254,951 gross tons of tin plates represent 870,000 tons of iron ore, 300,000 tons of limestone, 1,800,000 tons of coal and coke, 360,000 tons of pig iron, 5,000,000 pounds of lead, 25,000,000 pounds of tin, 12,000,000 pounds of tallow or palm oil, 35,000,000 pounds of sulphuric acid, 11,000,000 feet of lumber besides fire brick, clay, oil, lubricants, hemp, etc. It would require 68 large works of five trains of rolls, involving an outlay of over \$30,000,000 capital and giving employment to about 24,000 workmen in the rolling mill alone, who would earn at least \$12,000,000 per annum," and this was less than the shipments of tin into this country from England between 1871 and 1891 for two years. With such a saving, should not every true American wish for and work for the establishment of this industry in the United States?

The question is, can it be successfully established? We will proceed to investigate. "In 1875 a specific duty of 1-10 cents per pound was put on tin plates. Following that at three places in this country, certain Welchmen started three factories, one at Willsonville, O., and two in Pennsylvania; one at Leadburg and the other at Demler. The result of this was that whereas in 1873 the best quality of tin plates commanded \$14.75 per box, after these factories started the best quality of tin plates could be bought in 1878 for \$6.25 a box and second quality which was \$14.50 per box could be bought for \$5.18 per box, "but as soon as the English manufacturer found we were in the field against him they cut the prices, that, with the small tariff existing the infant industry could not survive, and why could they fall so quickly? Because the whole tin manufactures of England are controlled by less than 100 men. But now under the healthy influence of the McKinley bill with its tariff of 2-10 cents on tin plates (the old tariff being one cent) we find the following manufacturers of tin plate in the United States existing and doing business, and among them we find the Demler tin plate works again on deck with a capacity of 3,000 boxes of 1C tin per week.

The following list is furnished by the Tinned-Plate Manufacturers' Associa-

tion of the United States and is corrected to January 9, 1892:

| Name of company.....  | Capacity in boxes 1C, 14x20..... | Capital invested..... |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| American Tin Plate Company, Elwood, Ind.....                          | 2,000                            | \$300,000             |
| Anderson Tin Plate Company, Anderson, Ind.....                        | 1,000                            | 100,000               |
| Blairsville Rolling Mill and Tin Plate Co., Blairsville, Pa.....      | 1,000                            | 75,000                |
| The Britton Rolling Mill Co., Cleveland, Ohio.....                    | 2,500                            | 200,000               |
| Cincinnati Corrugating Co., Piqua, Ohio.....                          | 500                              | .....                 |
| Coxes & Co., Lunest Point, Baltimore, Md.....                         | 1,000                            | 200,000               |
| Kieckhefer Bros. & Co., Milwaukee, Wis.....                           | 3,000                            | 250,000               |
| Marshall Bros. & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.....                           | 2,000                            | 150,000               |
| Norton Bros., Chicago, Ill.....                                       | 5,000                            | 300,000               |
| Pioneer Tin Plate Company, Joliet, Ill.....                           | 1,000                            | 75,000                |
| Pittsburgh Tin Plate Works, Strawbridge & Beaver, Kennington, Pa..... | 1,000                            | 75,000                |
| St. Louis Stamping Co., St. Louis, Mo.....                            | 3,000                            | 300,000               |
| P. H. Laufman & Co., Apollo, Pa.....                                  | 1,000                            | 150,000               |
| Somerton Tin Plate Works, Brooklyn, N. Y.....                         | 5,000                            | 250,000               |
| Summers Bros. & Company, Struthers, Ohio.....                         | 1,500                            | 100,000               |
| United States Iron and Tin Plate Mfg. Co., Demler, Pa.....            | 3,000                            | 250,000               |
| Wallace, Baudell & Co., Ironville, Ohio.....                          | 1,000                            | 75,000                |
| Cleveland Tin Plate Company, Cleveland, Ohio.....                     | 500                              | 12,000                |
| Fleming & Hamilton, Pittsburgh, Pa.....                               | 600                              | 15,000                |
| Griffiths & Caldwell, 2nd Ward, Pittsburgh, Pa.....                   | 300                              | 5,000                 |
| Wm. T. Simpson & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.....                           | 1,000                            | 50,000                |
| Record Mfg. Co., Conneaut, Ohio.....                                  | 2,500                            | .....                 |
| N. & G. Taylor Co., Philadelphia, Pa.....                             | 700                              | .....                 |
| Columbia Tin Plate Company, Piqua, Ohio.....                          | 450                              | 10,000                |
| Union Tin Plate Co., Allegheny, Pa.....                               | .....                            | .....                 |
| Western Tin Plate Co., Joliet, Ill.....                               | .....                            | .....                 |
| The American Tin and Terno Plate Co., Philadelphia, Pa.....           | .....                            | .....                 |

The following companies are able to furnish tin plate bars:

Shoenberger & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Bellaire Nail Works, Bellaire, Ohio.  
Etna Iron and Steel Co., Bridgeport, Ohio.

The question is not a political question so much as it is a question of love of country. Will you stand up for British industries or will you stand up for American industries. We can, we are and we will manufacture our own tin, the howlings of the tin liars to the contrary notwithstanding. We have all the materials to make the tin and with the lively competition created by the much abused McKinley bill, we will manufacture our tin all here, give employment to thousands of men, pay higher wages than England and prove to the free trade cranks that they are not in it, and that we are out of sight.

Let us see for a moment how badly the terrible McKinley bill has affected prices of tin. In view of the tubs of tears which have been shed by free traders over the increased price of tin plate since the new tariff act passed, it will not be amiss to look up the subject of prices of the same article in previous years. According to the supplement of the Iron Trade Circular (Ryland's) of January 16, published in Birmingham, England, the highest price of tin plate in each year from 1877 to 1891 has been as given below. We have added a column giving also the foreign price plus the duty:

| Year..... | Foreign price per box, plus duty..... | Domestic price..... |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1877..... | \$5.36                                | \$6.44              |
| 1878..... | 4.87                                  | 5.95                |
| 1879..... | 6.69                                  | 7.77                |
| 1880..... | 8.28                                  | 9.36                |
| 1881..... | 5.23                                  | 6.31                |
| 1882..... | 5.23                                  | 6.31                |
| 1883..... | 5.11                                  | 6.19                |
| 1884..... | 5.11                                  | 6.19                |
| 1885..... | 4.51                                  | 5.58                |
| 1886..... | 3.83                                  | 4.91                |
| 1887..... | 4.01                                  | 5.09                |
| 1888..... | 4.01                                  | 5.09                |
| 1889..... | 4.28                                  | 5.46                |
| 1890..... | 4.20                                  | 5.28                |
| 1891..... | 3.04                                  | 5.42                |

\*New duty added.  
It will be seen that it was in the years before the McKinley tariff that the Welchmen prospered most, when we were at their mercy and had to pay as high as \$9.36 a box for the plates which are now selling in New York for several dollars per box less. Yes, if you want to discover when the Welch tin plate monopolists were in their glory and fleeced their American victims according to their own sweet will, you must go back before the McKinley tariff appeared on the scene and started into life an American tin plate industry to curb the rapacity of the foreign makers. At the

present time prices in Wales are at the lowest point ever reached in the history of tin plate making. We do not pretend that protection increases profits of foreign manufacturers.

Let us also at this time examine into the wages of the tin plate workers of the two countries. Mr. Wilkins Frick, formerly secretary of the Wales Tin Plate Makers' Association, of Swansea, gives the rates of wages paid to labor in tin plate making in Wales and in the United States, as follows:

| English rates.....  | U. S. rates..... |
|---|------------------|
| Roller and catcher (combined) per day.....  | \$3.14           |
| Doublers, per day.....  | 1.92             |
| Furnacemen, per day.....  | 1.75             |
| Greasing, per day.....  | .82              |
| Shearer and assistants (paid for product of four mills in both countries) total earnings per day..... | 10.13            |
| Ore men, per week.....  | 7.20             |
| Boys, rolling, per day.....   | .40              |
| Catching, per day.....  | .28              |
| Foreman and roll turner, per week.....  | 14.49            |
| Mason, bricklayer, per day.....   | 1.44             |
| Blacksmith, per day.....  | 1.32             |
| Millwright, for repairs.....  | 1.44             |

Now if there is anything that will make a free trader smile it is to sing to an audience the song of the workman's dinner pail and tin cup, and I presume there are thousands of men who really think they are telling the truth, but did you ever investigate? Did you ever know how much tinware you owned? You don't know, do you?

(Concluded next week.)

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