

# PLATTSMOUTH HERALD.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY

The Plattsmouth Herald Publishing Co.

## TERMS:

DAILY, delivered by carrier to any part of the city

Per Week.....\$ 15

Per Month.....\$ 40

Per Year.....\$ 450

## WEEKLY, by mail,

One copy six months.....\$1 00

One copy one year.....\$ 2 00

Registered at the Post Office, Plattsmouth, as second class matter.

PLATTSMOUTH, APRIL 9, 1883.

Another sensation in the star route trials is the condition of juror Hughes, who has been on the jury long enough to have a cancer develop which is rapidly growing worse. The dispatches say that it is only a question of a short time before this juror will have to leave the box, which will destroy the present trial. This would be a singular of these famous trials, and even Bob Ingersoll, we think, would recognize the finger of Providence in favor of his clients.

We see from our exchanges that Mo. Pacific officials have recently been in Omaha looking after the location and building of their branch line to Lincoln. Berlin, a station four miles below Avoca, with Avoca and Weeping Water, are the embryonic cities, one of which is to be selected as the starting point for the new line. We trust Weeping Water or Avoca may be successful, as the probabilities are, that that they would get the shops of the company and quite a boom for one of Cass county's towns would be the result.

The reported losses by fire in this country during the last eight years, aggregate \$593,447,000, making an annual average of 74,180,000. This would very nearly pay interest at 3 1/2 per cent. upon the whole national debt, and the tax is constantly increasing. In 1875 it was \$78,000,000, but in 1876 it fell to \$61,000,000, and then began an increase to \$81,000,000 in 1881 and \$81,000,000 in 1882. The insurance companies pay about 55 per cent. of the whole, and of course thereby merely distribute the loss to that extent and a further heavy charge.—Exchange.

The estimated receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, under the operations of the new tariff act, are \$405,000,000, of which \$230,000,000 is from customs; \$143,500,000 from internal revenue, and 31,500,000 from miscellaneous sources. The revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1882, were: From customs, \$220,310,000; internal revenue, \$146,197,000; from miscellaneous sources, \$36,618,000; total, 403,525,000. The total number of manufacturers of cigars and dealers in smoking and manufactured tobacco and snuff, cigars, cheroots and cigarettes for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1883, (the special tax year) as estimated at the internal revenue bureau, is 435,904, of whom 429,000 are dealers and 15,000 manufacturers of cigars, and 900 manufacturers of tobacco and snuff.—Ex.

From the census of the municipal election in Chicago, where Carter Harrison ran to his standard every bad interest in that great city because the whisky question was agitated and the free saloons threatened. The Inter-Ocean grows despondent and calls upon the legislature now in session at Springfield to pass a good license law and settle the question. In discussing this matter the Inter Ocean truly says that the party in power must take the lead in these matters and the Herald certainly thinks that public sentiment in Illinois will uphold a good strong license law; further discussing this matter the Inter Ocean speaks healthily and heartily as follows:

While making an appeal on the ground of party duty and expediency, it is not to be forgotten that the conscientious legislator owes allegiance to a higher power than any party. The public good, apart from strictly political considerations, must be paramount. And the importance of checking the ravages of intemperance cannot be over estimated. Every jail and every brothel is in a certain very real sense a temple of Bacchus. Wherever crime and vice are found, intemperance is also found. They are the witches who mix the hell broth of society. Pandering to one is upholding all. The folly who defeats the attainable by straining after the impossible and the cowardice which truckles to bummerism are both, if not alike, to be condemned. The time has come for rendering feasible service in the cause of temperance, and if any republican fails to do his whole duty in this crisis he should be, and he will be, held up to public scorn and execration.

The April number of the Eclectic Magazine is at hand, and contains the usual rich and varied store of good things. Its table of contents comprises something for every variety of taste, and is as follows: "Gambetta," by a Friend and follower; "Gambetta," by a German; "The Art of Rossetti," by Harry Quilter; "Adventures among the Austrians at Bosnia," "Church-going Tim," a poem by A. Mary F. Robinson; "The Creed of Christendom," by Rev. James Martineau; "Poets and Nightingales," "Fireside Musings on Serious Subjects," "Mexico and her Railways," by J. Y. Sargent; "Hours

of Rest," by Anna H. Daury; "Lord Richard and I," a Story, by Julian Sturgis; "The Violin's Voice," by Beatrice Harraden; "The Photographic Eyes of Science," by Richard A. Proctor; "Anthony Trollope," by Mrs. Oliphant; "Dr. Henderson's Romance," "The Beginnings of Art," by Stanley Lane Poole; "Dr. John Brown of Edinburgh," "The Odd Looking Man," "Curiosities of the Telephone," "By Feighor's Well," Literary Notices; Foreign Literary Notes; Science and Art; and Miscellany. Published by E. R. Pelton, 25 Bond Street, New York. Terms \$5 per year; single copy 45 cents; Trial subscription for three months, \$1.

JEFF DAVIS was present at the ceremony of decorating the graves of the confederate dead in New Orleans, April 6th, and also at the laying of the corner stone of the monument to be surmounted by an equestrian statue of Albert Sidney Johnson, of confederate fame, upon which occasion he delivered an oration. In speaking of Johnson and other confederate leaders, he said: "In Johnson he recognized a strong pillar to the confederacy, and when he fell on the field of Shiloh the mightiest column which sustained the cause had fallen. He died in the moment of victory, and had he lived half an hour longer he would have made Grant a prisoner or a fugitive. The Confederacy had three great leaders—Lee, Jackson and Johnson—who would compare with leaders of antiquity or modern times." As this was at the commencement of the "wah" when one Southern man could lick five mudsills from the North; we presume Mr. Jefferson Davis must be correct. However we apprehend there are but few military men living on either side who participated in the battle of Pittsburg Landing who would wish or care to make any such statement. What Albert Sidney Johnson would have accomplished during the war, had his life been spared, no one can more than give his opinion. So far as Lee and Johnson are concerned they won their fame with their swords in a bad cause; and proved themselves great leaders. Had Jefferson Davis either during the period that he was the acknowledged head of the Southern confederacy, or since and during the day of reconstruction, proved himself half as great a man or leader as either of these two confederate chieftains did, both in war and in peace; people might have some interest in what he says or patience with his pratings about the lost cause.

The democratic party is in a dilemma which is extremely amusing. It is emphatically a political organization, held together without an issue to present and expose as an excuse to the public for its presence. It has no defined national policy. It is simply the outs clamoring to get in; each head fugleman is anxiously whispering to his boon comrade in the crusade for loaves and fishes, "what shall the issue be?"

It is comical to hear the great doctors who sit in the democratic synagogues, dispute. Dr. Watterson, the very editor of the Courier-Journal, is just now engaged in reading the eastern leaders out of the party; he says such unorthodox democrats as Sam'l J. Randall shall not ship; the policy of the party for '84, but that free trade must be the battle word. The New York Sun and other democratic journals are protesting against the Courier-Journal idea and warning the party of the certain defeat such folly would bring; even in our state, the authorized head of this party, Doctor Miller, is protesting against Mr. Randall's leadership, and while the Dr. doesn't exactly say he is in favor of the abolition of all duties, he insists that free trade must be the issue.

The Herald mentions these particular organs, simply as an evidence of the comical dilemma this great party of outs finds itself. There is no doubt but there is a strong Adam Smith element in the democratic party, but not enough to dare attempt to force the issue of absolute "free trade" as against reasonable protection. An old political party without a record that it can point back to with satisfaction to itself and assurance to the public as an earnest of what the policy of the organization will be in the future, should it be clothed with power, is a sorry sight; and herein lies the great obstacle to this party's ascendancy to power in this country; the bleak desert behind it, strewn with empty vows and violated pledges, is a discouraging inducement to hold out to the American people. A hungry robber making the circuit of public opinion on the scent of a policy or issue to present upon which to ride into power, is a forbidding spectacle, which creates distrust of the party placed in such a predicament, and is bad on its face.

It is unfortunate for the democratic party of today that this country, so vast in territory and population possesses such widely diversified interests. The democrats of the free trade issue find themselves already compelled to insist upon that portion of their party in the manufacturing regions laying aside their personal and local interests for the sake of party success in '84. They say to the democratic protectionists of Pennsylvania or Indiana, "You must rise above the personal considerations of your localities, no matter what may be the sentiments or interest of your people, in order that the democratic party of '84 may present an unbroken front." To men of sagacity, of course this

means but one thing for that party in the next presidential campaign, and that is defeat. The democratic party of this country can never be forced upon the platform of free trade as at present constituted; and to harmonize upon any platform without that hobby so long as it contains so many impracticabilities as it does, like Mr. Watterson, is the great feat in which the Herald has but little faith in its ever accomplishing.

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