



PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA. WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10, 1866

STATE ORGANIZATION.

The Daily Press of Nebraska City, in its issue of the 6th inst., contains some strictures upon our remarks on this subject. We do not propose to battle for any particular monopoly, nor do we seek to tilt against the railroad interests of Nebraska, as the Press seems to infer. All we desire is to lay a fair and candid statement of the question before the people; but we are, at the same time, unwilling to permit false impressions to be grafted on the minds of the public by that portion of the Territorial press which, having committed itself to either course on the question of State Government, seeks, in direct opposition to the facts, to make good its judgment, even at a sacrifice of the future welfare of our Territory. We deny the statement of the Press that the Act of Congress fixes the line of the main track of the Pacific Railroad up the Platte valley. That line can be made anywhere between the south bank of the Republican and north bank of Platte rivers. We deny that building the main trunk on the Republican river will give Kansas a southern branch through the whole length of that State. We deny that locating the main trunk on the Republican instead of the Platte is in opposition to the railroad interests of Nebraska. We seek for no contracted ideas on this subject of railroads, and hold that Nebraska cannot lose, but must gain as a Territory, by this change of the main trunk being effected. If Omaha, with her branch, joins the main trunk on the Republican, she gets the trade of Colorado more surely than if she connects with a line that, swinging to the north-west at a distance of two hundred miles east of Denver City, reaches Salt Lake by running over one hundred and sixty miles farther than the line along the Republican and through Denver to the same point. We know, too, that there is a liberal grant of lands for the building of a railroad from this point to the main trunk, to be located either on the Platte or Republican valleys—and knowing this, we look upon it as suicidal to fight the interests of Colorado, for these are identical with our own. We look upon the passive submission of the South Platte to the dicta of any one town, or any one set of influences in a single locality, as detrimental to its own best interests on this subject of railroads. While we do not wish to detract from Omaha, and take pleasure in publishing its rapid growth and success to the world, we feel it our duty to arouse that spirit of emulation which alone can bring out rivals to its prosperity. No sane man who studies the topography of the country west of the three points of departure of the branches of the Pacific Railroad along the Missouri, can fail to see that if the main trunk is finally and permanently settled upon, and that the Republican valley is the chosen route, then the South Platte has a shorter line of communication across it than either the North Platte or Kansas branches. With the shortest line, we claim that the controlling influence must of necessity dwell; and while we wish both the Omaha and Kansas branches "God speed," we modestly but firmly hold that a branch through the South Platte counties will be built that will control; but this can be done only in the event that the route of the main trunk is up the valley of the Republican. We do not seek to retard the progress of the branch from Omaha, as the Press infers; on the contrary, we are for urging it on; but we do want the route of the main line on the Republican, for reasons that we now hope are plain to our readers. So far as the State question affects that of Railroads, we are for a full and thorough discussion; and we pledge ourselves to work for the interests of Nebraska as a whole, and disclaim being narrow minded; but think—kindly think—some of our pro State papers are short sighted as regards the future of our Territory.

The ground upon which the massacre at Fort Pillow took place has been turned over by an order of Secretary Stanton to Mrs. Booth, widow of the Major Booth who commanded the colored soldiers, for the purpose of erecting thereon a monument in memory of those butchered by Forrest and his men.

Brig. Gen. Champion Vaughan, formerly of Pottsburg, Pa., made two attempts to commit suicide recently at St. Louis.

CONSISTENCY OF DEMOCRACY

Just before our autumn elections the Territorial Democracy were loud in their praises of "Andy Johnson"—they claimed him as "their man"—they sought by a desperate struggle to cling to him, in the hope that such a course might lift them out of the filth and mire they had lain and wallowed in throughout the late manly struggle for national existence; but lo! a change came o'er the spirit of their dream. The President talks kindly and encouragingly to the "inevitable nigger" whom they have so long kept manacled in slavery, and therefore they indignantly let go the presidential coat-tail, preferring the slaughter of despond to anything that supports the Ethiopian. Grown and nursed upon the slave question, Democracy now floats like a ship without a rudder and without ballast. The chains which bound four millions of human beings in slavery, also bound the Democrats of the North and South to one another. These have been riven by the heroic efforts of Freedom, and now the soured Democracy eagerly grasps at any straw which floats along the tide of public affairs, only to let go and try another. In the Omaha Herald of the 4th, appears the following: "Something must be done to arrest this usurped and unconstitutional despotism, now being forced upon us, or all is gone." Poor fellows; is there not some bright particular genius in the party who can organize a "something" for them? Where is that prophet, Vallandigham? or his abettor and confederate, Morton? We advise the Herald to consult George Francis—no doubt in the multiplicity of his schemes he can point the way out of the mire.

"NO VOTE, NO TAX." Under the above heading the Nebraska City News, of the 6th inst., says: "That citizen who is denied the privileges of a citizen, should be relieved of the duties and responsibilities of a citizen;" or in other words, that representation and taxation should go together. To use the language of the News as applied to us on the State question, "while we rejoice that the editor of the News has independence enough to advocate this doctrine, which is in direct opposition to a majority of his own party, we regret to see that the reasons given for this course are of a purely local and selfish character." The News only applies this principle in Nebraska, and only for those in Nebraska who have been in the rebel service. If it is justice in Nebraska, is it not justice everywhere in the United States? If it is justice for ex-rebels, is it not justice for Union men and Union soldiers? Let us have a fair understanding, friend Morton. We know you are on the "broad gauge" principle, and above any "sectional" policy, and we may be mistaken about your only applying this principle to ex-rebels. Are you in favor of this measure of "No Vote, No Tax," as a principle, or do you only advocate it for "purely sectional and local purposes." Let us hear from you at your earliest convenience.

HERD LAW. The question of a herd law in Nebraska has been pretty generally discussed for the past two years, and our legislators are probably able to act intelligently in regard to the wishes of the people by this time. There is one feature in the present mode that does not seem to us to operate very well; that is, the plan of passing a herd law for some localities and leaving others without any. This leaves an opening for trouble and contention along the boundary line that is unavoidable. Let us either have a judicious herd law for the entire Territory, or else have none at all, and allow the people of the different localities to regulate the matter by common consent. We are naturally inclined to believe that a good herd law for the entire Territory would operate favorably toward increasing our population and wealth; yet we believe in allowing the farmers and stock raisers—those who are more directly interested in and acquainted with the operations of such a law—to say what kind of a herd law, if any, we shall have. This question will undoubtedly come up during the present session of the Legislature, and it is a duty that farmers and stock-raisers owe to themselves and to their representatives to let their wishes and preferences be known. Send in your petitions and remonstrances, or else prepare your minds to quietly accept whatever action may be taken by the Legislative assembly.

During the four years in which the depots for the reception of Southern prisoners were kept up in many Northern cities, there accumulated a fund of upwards of three millions of dollars from the sale of rations issued to and not consumed by prisoners. More than half of this sum was used while the war was progressing, in the purchase of wines and jellies for the occupants of the prisons and hospitals.

LEGISLATURE.

The Council organized yesterday by electing Hon. O. P. Mason, President; Wm. E. Harvey, Chief Clerk; and W. W. Watson, Assistant Clerk. The Republican says: The Hon. Jas. W. Chapman, of Cass, was the nominee of the caucus of the Union members of the Council, and the election of Mr. Mason, we understood, was with the hearty concurrence of Mr. Chapman.

Gen. Butler's celebrated tower near Bermuda Hundred, from which, for so many months, lynx-eyed sentinels pried into the movements of the rebel troops, was the other day sold at public auction for the sum of five dollars. There were at least thirty cords of good timber in the structure. All the other Government property brought remarkably high prices.

During the war the Government fed its horses 20,000,000 bushels of corn, 79,000,000 bushels of oats, 1,500,000 tons of hay, and 21,000 tons of straw, besides what was gathered out of rebel territory. The cost of provisioning the stables of the Government was \$155,000,000.

Only two survivors of all those who participated in the war of the Revolution, so far as known by the Commissioner of Pensions, remain—namely: William Hutchings, of Penobscot, Hancock Co., Me., aged 101 years, and Lemuel Cook, of Clarendon, Orleans Co., N. Y., aged 99 years. And only five widows of revolutionary soldiers draw pensions from the Government, at a yearly amount of \$293.

THE HIGHEST MASONIC COUNCIL.—The Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the thirty-third and last degree of Masonry, Ancient and Accepted Rite, assembled in the city of Charleston, S. C., a week or two since. In the Brother General Albert Pike, of Arkansas, presided as Sovereign Grand Commander. Many distinguished Masons were present from all parts of the country. Several of the European crowned heads were elected honorary members. The Council adjourned to meet in Washington on the third Monday of March next. This Council is the Mother Council of all the Supreme Councils of the world, and comprises among its members some of the most distinguished men of this country and Europe.

The bill prohibiting the importation of cattle has passed both houses of Congress, and only awaits the President's signature to become a law. The bill absolutely prohibits the importation of foreign cattle, and the Secretary of the Treasury is instructed to make such regulations as will give the law full and immediate effect. After the President has given thirty days' notice that no further danger is to be apprehended from the spread of foreign infectious or contagious diseases among cattle, the prohibition is to cease.

The Chicago Republican publishes a statement of the commerce of Chicago. There are now in that port 303 schooners, 30 barques, 15 propellers and 22 tugs, with an aggregate capacity of 101,825 tons.

The St. Louis Republican says that Gen. Mitchell, of Kansas, has been appointed Governor of New Mexico.

"Petroleum V. Nasby," one of the best funny writers of the day, has joined the editorial staff of the Toledo Blade.

The population of Chicago is 226,000; that of St. Louis is estimated at 210,000.

"Now children," said a school inspector, "who loves all men?" A little girl, not four years old, and evidently not posted in the catechism, answered quickly, "All women!"

A western farmer who wished to invest the accumulations of his industry in United States securities, went to Jay Cooke's office to procure the Treasury notes. The clerk inquired what denomination he would have them in. Having never heard that word except to distinguish the religious sects, he, after a little deliberation, replied: "Well, you may give me part in Old School Presbyterian, to please the old lady, but give me the best cut in Free Will Baptist."

The Richmond Enquirer asks the Tribune to tell it "What constitutes a loyal press?" The Enquirer's loyalty being of very recent date, the question is highly proper, and it has evinced sagacity in deciding from what quarter to seek the necessary information. We will answer the question to the best of our ability. A thoroughly loyal American journal, then, in the view of the Tribune, is one which holds that, in the pending reconstruction or restoration of the Southern States, that portion of their people who were for the Union in our late struggle shall be accorded at least equal rights and privileges with the portion who were against it, and fought for its overthrow and destruction. Such, frankly expressed, is our idea of a thoroughly loyal journal. How does it suit the Enquirer? And if it be not satisfactory, why not?—N. Y. Trib.

BY TELEGRAPH

TO THE DAILY HERALD.

Latest Despatches.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The Senate met at 12 o'clock, and was called to order by the President pro tem.

Mr. Foster presented a petition of the citizens of Boston, from the British Government, for the loss of a ship burned by the Alabama. Referred to Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Sumner presented a petition from the colored citizens of Mississippi and Alabama, asking for their judicial rights before the law, which was referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

Mr. Sumner presented a protest from the colored citizens of Colorado against the recognition of that State, on account of injustice done their race in the newly formed Constitution.

Mr. Chandler presented a protest of citizens of Michigan, against a renewal of the reciprocity treaty, except on terms that will protect American commerce.

Mr. Morgan offered a memorial of the Union League Club of New York, asking Congress to give to the widow of the late President, the salary for the full Presidential term. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

New York, Jan. 6.—The Times' telegram says the counsel for Semmes were to-day to ask the President for the release of their client, upon the plea that having been paroled by General Sherman, both as an Admiral and General, he cannot be held to answer for anything prior to said parole.

The Cherokee delegation, headed by the chief John Ross, arrived at Washington yesterday, for the purpose of arranging treaties that could not be consummated during the recent visit of the Indian Commissioners to their vicinity. Of all tribes which sided with the rebels, the Cherokees is the only one not reconstrued.

Yesterday a treaty was concluded between the Shawnees, Black Bobs and the Government, by which the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to sell lands held by these Indians in Kansas, and apply the money to the purchase of new homes for these Indians in the Indian Territory.

The trial of Detective Baker is set for Monday next. Gen. Baker is one of the officers who, by direction of the Secretary of War and Gen. Grant is to be mustered out of service.

Numbers of delegates who were appointed from Virginia and Maryland to visit Washington on behalf of the colored people, have issued a circular calling for a meeting in that city on the 12th inst., of all delegates appointed from all sections of the country to visit Washington in behalf of their race, for the purpose of organization and consultation.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day decided to make a further issue of \$320,000 in bonds to the Union Pacific Railroad, for 20 miles of road now completed westward from Lawrence, Kansas.

The World's Washington special gives an account of an American enterprise for the destruction of the Spanish blockading fleet in Chilean ports, by means of torpedoes. The scheme was suggested by Senor McKenna, Chilean Agent, who received letters from high officials in the Navy Department to a prominent engineer in New York, who were formerly in the Federal service, and invented and superintended the manufacture of all torpedoes used by the Government during the late war. The engineer at once set about preparing an expedition. Orders for the construction of torpedoes were given to a prominent iron merchant in New York. A steamer sold by the Government at public auction, was subsequently purchased by the Chilean Agent and refitted out; a ship was also purchased as a tender, and the torpedoes were delivered on board and regular clearances for Chilean ports obtained. Carrying the Chilean flag, and manned by crews selected for the purpose, the vessels sailed away. Several weeks have elapsed, and in a short time the success or failure of the undertaking will be received. The leading spirit in the scheme is a prominent filibuster in this city; he is to receive \$30,000 in gold when the flag-ship of the Spanish Admiral is blown up, and a proportionate amount for the destruction of other vessels. He receives a salary of \$500 in gold per month during the term of his service under the Chilean Government. The same amount, monthly, is paid to his chief associates. All engaged in the enterprise are under the protection of the Chilean government. The leaders have commissions signed by the Chilean authorities, declaring they are citizens regularly employed in the military service of Chile.

Yesterday the Peruvian Minister and an officer of the Peruvian navy visited the monitor Miantonomah, now at the navy yard, for the purpose of inspecting it. The Peruvian government has already one double-turreted monitor, and her neighbor, Chili, has two being built in England. The Peruvian Minister is anxious to purchase one of our monitors for his government.

Portland, Me., Jan. 6.—The steamer Moravian, from Liverpool, December 21st, via Londonderry 22d, has arrived.

New York, Jan. 6.—The steamer Arago, from Havana, has arrived.

The Tribune's Washington special says the Cabinet meeting of yesterday was of short duration. The latest positively asserted Cabinet change is that Secretary Welles is to be succeeded by Senator Dixon.

The pirate Semmes has had his quarters changed from the Navy Yard to the Marine Barracks to insure greater safety. He will be immediately put upon his trial, and doubtless court-martialed, although his ultimate pardon is said to be already assured.

The Herald's Washington special says the detectives who have been so long engaged in ferreting out the origin of the \$100 counterfeit Treasury notes, have made a startling report to Secretary McCulloch, who has given the parties implicated by this report a few days to prepare rebutting evidence. One of the sensible moves of the present session of Congress is the introduction of a bill for the relief of volunteer officers of the army who, not experienced in the ways of war at its commencement, got behind on their ordnance and accoutrements, and thus became nominally indebted to the Government.

LEAVENWORTH, Jan. 5.—About 10 o'clock last night a fire broke out in some old wooden buildings on the levee between Delaware and Cherokee Sts. Three buildings were destroyed. A woman was so badly burned that she died this morning; of her five children, three were injured, though not fatally, and two perished in the flames; their bones were found this morning in the ruins. Her husband was severely burned about the head. The loss of property is small, the buildings being old.

New York, Jan. 9.—The Herald's Washington special says the Secretary of the Treasury is continually in receipt of communications from purchasers of cattle in Canada, asking for permission to import them to this country, but he invariably replied that such permission would be in direct violation of law. A large number of United States Revenue officers met at the office of the Commissioner of Customs in Washington yesterday, to deliberate as to the best method of preventing smuggling on the frontier. Large numbers of collectors from the Canada frontier were present. The U. S. Consul at Havre, under date of December 15th, informs the Department of State that there have been eight cases of cholera in that city. Elijah W. Purdy, of this city, died at 12 o'clock last night. The World's Washington dispatch says James D. McBride, who assaulted Gen. Sol. Meredith at that city, on the 17th of last August, was convicted of assault and battery in the Criminal Court of this city yesterday. The Tribune's Washington dispatch says the evidence submitted before the Committee on Contested Elections in the Dodge-Brooks case, has been sent to the printer and will soon be given to the public. The Secretary of the Interior has caused a list of clerks of his Department to be made out with a view to an equal distribution of clerkships among Congressional districts of the several States. The Treasury Department is preparing plates for the new issues of fractional currency, the denominations of 25 and 10 cents. The design will be entirely original, and the notes will be nearly oval in form. The Times' Washington dispatch says efforts are being made here for the pardon of Solomon Kolbstown, the notorious criminal who was sentenced by Judge Nelson to ten years imprisonment in Sing Sing. Kolbstown was indicted by the grand jury on 48 counts, and convicted in the first and only trial.

Herald's Washington special says a provost marshal recently stationed in Texas corroborates the account of the desire of the inhabitants that the soldiers now being mustered out of service take up their residence among them. He represents the condition of the State as being as quiet and orderly as before the war, and general good feeling existing between soldiers and citizens.

New York, Jan. 9.—The American Foreign Joint Stock Company, an association of colored capitalists, held its annual meeting last night at Hope Chapel. The attendance was large, the audience consisting of both white and colored persons. Rev. Sila Martin delivered the annual address.

At the Chess tournament, yesterday, Capt. McKenzie won the first game after a spirited contest of three and a half hours; his opponent was Stanley. Times' Washington special says that during the rebellion the Government has paid \$9,000,000 of prize money. The business in this branch of the 3rd Auditor's office has been kept up so promptly that new prizes are paid in a week after the presentation of the petition therefor. In November and December last twenty-six prize cases were disposed of.

An ex-general, who served under Gen. Sherman, has made a proposition to the Government to take off its hands the entire land transportation of the army in Texas, to furnish them and do the whole thing, and furnish his own mules, for a less number of dollars in greenbacks than it has heretofore cost the Government in gold dollars.

Last night the friends and supporters of Jim Kerrigan, who is expected to fight Morris Phelan in the ring, on the 16th inst., for \$1,000, gave him a benefit at the Bowery, at 11:30, which was numerously attended.

Two sons of Erin were standing by a hydraulic press superintended by a friend of mine, when one called out to the other: "Jim, I'd like to put ye under and squeeze the devil out o' ye." "Would you, indeed, my boy?" was the answer. "Squeeze the devil out of you an' there'd be nothing left!"

Artemus Ward says that shooting is not as popular in Nevada as it once was. A few years since, they used to have a dead man for breakfast every morning. A reformer despatched told me that he supposed he had killed men enough to stock a grave-yard. "A feeling of remorse," he said, "will sometimes come over me. But I'm an altered man now. I haven't killed a man for over two weeks. What'll yer person yerself wait?" he added, dealing a resonant blow on the bar.

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ESTRAY NOTICE

Taken up by the undersigned, 15 mi. S. of Plattsmouth, one half mile west of the Union depot, one cow, one horse, one pig, one sheep, one dog, one cat, one rabbit, one squirrel, one chipmunk and one weasel, all of which are white. No marks or brands. A. D. TAYLOR, Dec 26th, 1865. Plattsmouth, Mo.

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