



"If any man attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot."—JOHN A. DIX.

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 I am prepared to furnish all who may favor me with their gettings, with bottles, single meals or board by the week.

NEW
Boot & Shoe Shop.
 The subscriber would respectfully call the attention of the citizens of Plattsmouth and the vicinity to the fact that he has located his store east of Douglas' Drug Store, where he intends keeping on hand all kinds of shoes, boots, and every article in his line. His stock being selected by himself, and having seen the most of his life in the business, he feels confident that he can give satisfaction. Give him a call.
 April 19/66. J. THORNTON.

BY TELEGRAPH

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Gen. R. C. Crawford, who is reported to be at Brownsville, raising an American division for Mexico, is a citizen of Tennessee, and about a year ago was dismissed the service by court martial on the charge of stealing money from a bank in Rogersville, Tenn. His chief of staff was a Lieutenant Colonel of a colored regiment, and was dismissed some time last summer, by court-martial, for a gross offence. It is not believed by those qualified, that Crawford or Reed have recruited a single man.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—An order has just been issued mustering out 222 regiments of white and black troops.

New York, Jan. 12.—The Tribune's Washington special says that Gen. Spitzer, of the United States Treasury, has mentioned several banking companies for designation as depositories of Government funds, that it is the policy of the Government not to establish any more depositories than the necessities of the Government demand, and when no actual necessity exists for establishing such depositories he must decline to authorize them.

Gen. Grant expresses his opinion that the necessity of maintaining a large military force in the southern States no longer exists. He believes that a material reduction in the number of our troops there may still safely be made.

New York, Jan. 12.—The Iron Molders held a secret session yesterday morning, and transacted business of a routine character.

An immense mass-meeting in honor of Fenian delegates was held in Cooper Institute last evening. Addresses were made by several delegates from various States, and by Col. Mahoney.

The Herald's Georgetown, Nicaragua, correspondent states that on the trip of the steamer Moses Taylor, from San Francisco to San Juan, with California passengers for this city, an Irishman came on deck with a revolver and declared he would shoot any man who was not a Fenian. Two Englishmen at once denied having any Fenian propensities, and he shot them both; he also wounded himself in turn, and jumped overboard, but was rescued by the crew.

Times' Washington special says a party of prominent gentlemen from New York, headed by Gen. Strong, arrived here this morning for the purpose of presenting the name of Henry A. Smith for Collector.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS.
 Every item of news in regard to the position of our Government toward the invaders of the Republic of Mexico has been eagerly devoured by the American people, and the conjectures as to what would be the final result, has been as varied as the different reports about what was actually being done. But upon one point there has been the greatest unanimity; and that was the desire to have Maximilian sent back with a conviction that the Monroe doctrine was a principle of our Government, and not a mere hobby. How near the consummation of this desire is at hand, we are unable to determine; but that he will be compelled to abandon Mexico at no distant day is inevitable. Napoleon sees no profit in engaging in a war with the United States, and consequently has been awaiting a favorable opportunity to withdraw his support of Maximilian's government. The opportunity has at last presented itself, and he will not be slow to avail himself of it. Maximilian has failed to pay him for the use of the French bayonets that have kept him on his throne, and he will undoubtedly make this the pretext for abandoning the cause. It is stated that the French Secretary has already said—in reply to a complaint lodged with the French government, through Mr. Seward, in regard to Maximilian's decree for putting to death all Republican prisoners falling into the hands of the Imperialists—that his government has nothing to do with Mexican affairs; and intimates that, if we have grievances to be redressed, we can do as the French did under similar circumstances—that is, send an army to enforce our demands. Our Government should profit by this suggestion of the French Secretary, and show to Max. that we mean what we say about

allowing a monarchy to be established at our very doors. If this intruder was taught a lesson, the experiment would not likely be tried again very soon.

EQUAL SUFFRAGE.
 We extract the following from an address delivered before the National Equal Suffrage Association of Washington, by Hon. George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts:
 "I have observed that those people who are most strenuous in resisting the advancement of other persons are those who apprehend indistinctly, though they would not care to exhibit, if those other persons are permitted opportunities to make progress they will come into competition with themselves. I think the white race of this country, if they are that superior race they claim to be, and I am one of those who believe they are, on the whole, much superior to the black race, at any rate with the experience and education they have, nearly thirty millions strong, and with no more than four millions of colored people, they ought certainly to be willing to accept the contest on equal terms. If we are beaten, if they make more rapid advancement than we are able to make, I think we ought, gracefully as we can, to yield the superiority to them. It is an imputation upon the white race; and that man who fears the elevation of the colored race lest he come to an equality with the white man, I apprehend instinctively feels he is not that superior being he would have other men think he is."

"The essential difference between our Government and the aristocratical and monarchical governments of Europe is in the fact that by theory, if not yet in practice, our Government is a popular government, while theirs is in a greater or less degree exclusive. Therefore, for what reason are we to exclude any portion of our citizens from the practice of the elective franchise? Whenever we do it, whether it be in a large or small degree, we admit our theory of government is wrong, and theirs is right. Our theory is, that the whole people are better and wiser and stronger than a minority, however large. The theory of their government is, that the whole people are not to be trusted with the administration of affairs—that some, for one reason or another, are to be excluded. Do you not see, if you are to exclude men for any reason except crime or dependence on the public for support, if you are to exclude men for one reason, when you commence there is no line upon which you can stop? Is it not the old organization of monarchical governments, inasmuch as the mass of the people were not to be trusted, power must be put into the hands of the wisest or bravest to be found amongst them?"

According to the last census, the little State of Vermont produces more horses, milk cows, sheep, butter, cheese, wheat, oats, hay, hops, maple sugar and wood, than any other State in New England; and it produces, according to its population, more butter, cheese, wood, hay and maple sugar, than any other State in the Union.

How do our political friends feel about the Legislature framing a Constitution since discovering that the Cops have a majority in the House, and that the vote of the Council being a tie on President, that detestable party secured the voting majority by permitting a Union President to be elected, giving the balance of power to the opposition? How are you State organization? The wisecracks who have forced this question before the public are entitled to great credit for being long headed. We fear, that in their indecent hurry they omitted to count political noses. We for one, want no Constitution that tastes or smells of the old scent. When the time comes, let us have a convention, and let us see to it that Freedom has a majority therein.

Judge Rorer, of Burlington, sent a present of a few bottles of his celebrated Iowa Catawba wine, through Senator Grimes, to the French Minister at Washington City. The Minister was so much pleased with it that he sent a bottle of it to the Emperor Napoleon. The Emperor could hardly be induced to believe that such a superior article of wine came from America, and sent an order to America directing the purchase of all of Judge Rorer's wine on hand if he would sell it.

THE CONTENTED SEAT IN THE HOUSE.

We regret that the strenuous opposition of the Democratic portion of the House has thus far prevented Gen. H. H. Heath taking his seat therein, as a representative of a portion of the loyal electors of Nebraska. To us, this course savors more of the prejudice which that stubborn old fogey concern yept Democracy has persistently manifested towards our soldiers, than of any reason founded in law. Mark it well, electors of Nebraska—bear in mind that the Democratic representatives of this Territory have tried to oust a loyal gentleman from his seat as one of your representatives, because he is a soldier of the Union! And remembering this, forget not that such as he, whom they now seek to deprive of his rights, gave their time, their money and their blood to secure the peace which you now enjoy.

They claim law for their action; but though we are no lawyer, we deny their right to do so. The Organic law of this Territory never contemplated a rebellion—nor did it provide for the emergency which might call out volunteers to serve in the army of the United States. We hold that the intention of the excluding part of Section 5, of that law, merely provided against the voting, or holding office, of the garrisons which the Territory necessarily required for its defence at the time said law was enacted, and which were at that time composed of the forces of the regular army, none of whom were, or ever intended to become, bona fide citizens of our Territory. The language of Sec. 5 is: "And provided further, That no officer, soldier, seaman or marine, or other person in the army or navy of the United States, or attached to troops in the service of the United States, shall be allowed to vote, or hold office in said Territory, by reason of being on service therein."

Mark the language—by reason of being on service therein. Now, it is not by reason of being on service therein that the General claims his seat—but as a bona fide citizen of the Territory. His family resides in Kearny county, he has a large interest in a leading journal of the Territory, and is its editor. No one can successfully contest his right to citizenship, nor can they, in our belief, seeing that he is a citizen of the Territory, successfully contest his seat in our House of Representatives.

But he is a Republican—he has thrown many a destructive shell among the Copperheads of the North through the press, as well as that more persuasive shell more familiar to their allies of the South during the last four years. Hence comes the opposition and ungenerous course of the mis-representing members of the Copperhead faction in the House—hence their unwillingness to meet him on the floor of that House to which the loyal voters of Kearny have legally sent him. Hence too, the ostracizing of those electors, simply and solely through the despotic means of might—a despotism that in the teeth and eyes of justice boldly seeks to deprive Kearney of its just share of representation.

We hope the loyal Union members of the House will stand by the General and see that he gets his seat, for in our opinion he is far more justly entitled to it, than some Cops we wot of in that collection of Solons.

"No State," says President Johnson, can be regarded as thoroughly reorganized which has not adopted irrevocable guarantees for the rights of the freedmen. This is true; and judged by it, there is not a rebel State which merits restoration. Not one of these States treats the emancipated slaves as freedmen. In some of them the law decrees that colored people shall be allowed neither to buy nor to lease land. In none of them are they allowed to contract for their labor in the same manner as white men. In none of them are they allowed to testify in courts except when colored persons are parties. In none of them is any provision made by law for their education. In all of them vagrant laws have been enacted intended to perpetuate over the freedmen the barbarous power which the master exercised in slavery. Not a single Southern State has been reorganized in accordance with the principle laid down by the President.—Chicago Republican.

The safe in the new Exchange in New York is one hundred feet long, twenty feet wide, and nine high.

SYNOPSIS OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Owing to the small amount of space we are able to devote to reading matter in our daily, we only give a synopsis of the Governor's Message. We give, however, such portions as are of greatest interest, believing it will be satisfactory to our readers. In speaking of the Indian War, he says:
 "Emboldened by success, the savage tribes who have committed these outrages upon the lives and property of emigrants, and upon the Overland Stage Line and Pacific Telegraph, have become exceedingly reckless and daring in their murderous forays; and outrages the most atrocious and wanton in their character, are of frequent occurrence. Nothing will, in my judgment, give us reason upon the Plains, but the employment of the most vigorous measures to hunt out and severely punish the authors of these outrages. And I trust and believe, from the information in my possession, that it is the purpose of the General Government, early in the coming spring, to send a force against them sufficient to compel them to sue for peace, or drive them from all the great lines of travel between the Missouri river and the Rocky Mountains."

The entire outstanding indebtedness of the Territory, as shown by the Auditor's report, was on the 25th of December, \$91,767.80; deducting therefrom \$37,800—the amount of bonds issued to pay the militia, which will probably be refunded by the General Government—and we have \$53,967.80 as the entire indebtedness; \$3,894.56 less than the amount due in 1864. The amount of resources to meet the above is \$91,935.70.

In calling your attention, at the last session, to the homestead law, I recommended that you memorialize Congress to prohibit the sale of the public lands to any except such as shall make proof that they propose to acquire them for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation. I cannot too strongly urge this subject upon your attention at the present session. The object of the law was evidently to open up the public lands to the cultivators of the soil, free of charge, except the small sum necessary to pay the actual expense of survey, &c. Under the present law, which allows speculators to enter all the lands they may desire, those seeking homesteads are often deterred from taking them, fearing that as soon as they shall have made valuable improvements, thus enhancing the value of the adjacent lands, that speculators will at once purchase all the better portions in the vicinity, and thus deprive these pioneer settlers of the advantages of neighbors. The true policy of the General Government is to give these lands to the homeless, and the Legislatures of the new States and Territories should continue to memorialize Congress on this subject (as they did for the passage of the homestead law) until their prayer shall be granted."

I recommend to you for your candid consideration, the propriety of amending your present session, an amendment to the general election law, so as to require the registration of all legal voters prior to the day of election. Such laws have been for many years in operation in several of the States, and so far as my information goes, they have met with the approval of all good law-abiding citizens. If we would preserve our political liberties we must guard well the ballot-box; for in no other way could the rights and liberties of the people be so easily undermined and finally destroyed, as by allowing impostors to be extensively practised upon the elective franchise. Fraudulent voting is nothing short of a species of treason—follow it up and give it free scope, and it will break down and destroy the purest government on earth. There is in my mind no question about the propriety of such a law—as it seeks not to interfere with the rights of any man, but simply to protect the legal voter from having his influence destroyed by impostors.

In your work of legislating for the people, you cannot be too careful of, and attentive to whatever may conduce to the interests of those who till the soil. Nebraska is emphatically an agricultural country. In her extensive and beautiful valleys and prairies, we have the bank of deposit from whence the wealth, not only of our present population, but of the teeming millions who are hereafter to inhabit our country, must be drawn. Whatever, therefore, you can do to further the interests of the Agriculturist, of Agricultural Societies, or Agricultural Fairs, should, in my judgment, receive your earnest attention and consideration."

In speaking of immigration, the Governor recommends the formation of a chartered immigration society, and the sending of one or more agents to New York for the purpose of showing to foreign immigrants the advantages of our Territory, and giving them the ne-

cessary information in regard to homesteads.

In speaking of a Geological Survey of the Territory, he says:
 "If our financial condition will not warrant a general survey of the entire Territory at the present time, I respectfully suggest the propriety of making provision for such partial survey as will be most likely to develop our mineral resources with the smallest possible cost to the treasury."

He recommends that laws be made to take effect at some specified time subsequent to their passage, instead of "from and after their passage," in order that time may be given for the printing and distribution of them before people are required to obey them.

RAIL ROADS.
 In my annual communication to you at your last session, I informed you that the work on the Union Pacific Railroad, from the capital of your Territory west, was progressing with commendable zeal, and expressed the opinion that before the period of your present meeting, at least fifty miles of that road would be completed. I am happy to inform you that that prediction has been fully verified by the facts. Already the track has been laid, including side tracks, for a distance of 55 miles, and the graduation and bridging of the road have been fully completed as far west as Columbus (95 miles distance by line of the road). Beyond Columbus the graduation has been completed for a distance of twenty-five or thirty miles. I am informed that it is the purpose of the company to construct the abutments and piers of the bridge over the Loop Fork the present winter. The bridge is already framed, and ready to put up as soon as the mason work can be completed, so that it is reasonable to suppose that at least 150 miles of the road will be ready for the cars within twelve months from this date, and it is not improbable that Fort Kearney may be reached within that period.

The importance of this great National Throughfare to all the material interests of our Territory—agricultural, commercial, mechanical and financial—must be apparent to every intelligent citizen. As a National enterprise it is equally important. Constituting as it will, when completed, the highway of commerce between two oceans—uniting as it must, the business interests of New York and Boston with those of San Francisco and Sacramento by a continuous line of railway communication, and shortening, for all practical purposes, the distance between London and Paris on the one hand and Pekin and Canton on the other, it will make America the very centre of the world's commerce, civilization and progress. The business which has sprung up, as if by magic, between the commercial cities of the East and the vast mining districts of the West, can no longer find adequate accommodation and facilities through the modes of conveyance heretofore employed. The Union Pacific Rail Road, with its numerous branches—all converging at a common point (the 100th meridian of west longitude) within the limits of our Territory—will supply these much needed facilities, both for travel and traffic, and render Nebraska the gateway of commerce, not only for our own country, but for the civilized world. The main line of this great road passes from East to West through the geographical centre of the Territory. Upon the north, Congress has provided for a branch from Sioux City, and to the south of us the same just and liberal policy has endowed two other branches with liberal donations, thus insuring their construction at an early day. One of these branches is the extension of the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad, now permanently located, to run west from Plattsmouth to the 100th meridian; the other is the extension of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad from St. Joseph, in a north-westerly direction, uniting with the main line (in the language of the bill), at the 100th meridian "in the Territory of Nebraska." This last named branch will afford easy facilities for a Western connection by mail, to the southern and southwestern counties of our Territory. A western extension of the St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad from Nebraska City would complete a connection between all the principal commercial points on the Missouri river, within our Territorial limits, and the mining regions of the West, which draw their supplies almost exclusively from the Missouri river. As such a branch would constitute a feeder to the trunk line, constructed almost exclusively by Government aid, there can be but little doubt that upon the proper application, Congress would grant to it the same aid which has been so liberally and so wisely extended to the other auxiliary branches.

STATE GOVERNMENT.
 Now that the great rebellion has been put down and peace once more restored to our country, the subject of a change of government from a Territorial to a State is being freely discussed by our people. Nevada, with a much less permanent population than Nebraska, has already become one of the independent States of the Union, and the people of Colorado have also made

and adopted a State constitution, and in all probability will be admitted into the family of States, within a very few days. The question with the people of a Territory should not simply be "Shall we change our form of government?" but, "Is it for the best interests of her people for her to be admitted as a State?" This question answered in the affirmative, and the people of all parties would be interested in making the change.

The argument against the change of form of government, is that it would require more money to be paid by the people of the Territory to support a State government than that of a Territory, for the reason that the salaries of such Territorial officers as are appointed by the national administration are now paid out of the United States Treasury, and also a great portion of the legislative expenses. The next question would naturally be, "How much does this amount to?" In Nebraska it amounts to some where between twenty and twenty-nine thousand dollars. The latter sum is the highest amount appropriated by Congress, and of course the expenses cannot exceed that sum. Now, if biennial sessions of the Legislature be provided for instead of annual, as at present, (and nearly all the Western States have adopted this course,) nearly one-half of this sum could be saved to the State. Consequently the additional sum to be paid by the State ought not to exceed at the outside figure the sum of twenty thousand dollars per annum. Now, leaving out of view all the advantages of increased influence that a State always has over a Territory, let us see whether in a pecuniary point we would not be benefited by the change.

At present, the funds with which our public schools are supported are raised by a direct tax upon the people of the Territory. The sum assessed for 1865, for this purpose, as will be seen by the report of the School Commissioner, is over twenty-six thousand dollars—a greater sum of itself than would be required to pay the additional expense of a State Government. And I am informed by that officer that it is his firm conviction after examining the subject closely, that the income from the sales and rents of the 16th and 36th sections of land to which our State would be entitled, and the five per cent in cash of the net proceeds of the sales of our public lands, would more than pay the expenses of supporting the public schools without taxing the people a single dollar. In this one item then, we would have the whole amount of our additional expense saved to the State. But this is only a small part of the appropriations that would be made to the State. She would at once be entitled to the sections of land, with the proceeds of which to build up and endow a State University; 60,000 acres of land for the erection of a State Penitentiary, a large appropriation for the erection of a State capital building; 90,000 acres would be donated to support an agricultural college, and seventy-two sections, or over 36,000 acres, for the erection of machinery for the manufacture of salt. This last mentioned, if properly applied, ought to go far towards defraying the whole expense of an economical State government. In addition to these donations, we might reasonably expect to receive the usual grants of land, given to new States, for internal improvements, and the swamp land for the improvement of the counties. These lands would, in my opinion, if judiciously selected now, while first class lands are subject to be taken under such grants, more than compensate the State for all the extra expense she can reasonably be subjected to, in consequence of the change of form of government.

While I have called your attention to a few of the advantages which I believe would grow out of a change of government, and while I have the assurance of many of the most intelligent and influential men of both political parties that the people of the Territory are anxious to have this subject acted upon as early a day as practicable, yet I would in no wise wish to be understood as urging this subject upon you, or in any way dictating in what manner you shall proceed to present the subject to the people. A constitution, by whatever body or by whomsoever made, whether by the Legislature or by a constitutional convention, ought and must, before it takes effect, be submitted to a fair and direct vote of the people, so that they can have the opportunity to adopt or reject it as they may think best. With this safe-guard left in their hands, you will of course feel yourselves privileged to take such action upon the subject as you may feel assured will agree with the wishes of your constituency. I have no hesitation, however, in giving it as my candid opinion that the resources of Nebraska would be sooner developed, and her wealth and population increased by becoming a State, than if she remains as a Territory.

A Washington correspondent describes Senator Saulsbury on a "big drunk" riding down Pennsylvania Avenue in an open carriage with two boozey friends and a big dog, making faces at passers by, and disgusting all who were aware of the position he disgraced.