



PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1866

THE POSITION.

Although the official canvass has not yet been announced, it is known that the Constitution has carried by about 100 votes; that the Republican State ticket is all elected but O. P. Mason, who is beaten some 50 votes by W. A. Little; that the Senate is Republican by two or three majority; that the House is Republican by four to six majority; and that the whole thing was pretty close.

SPIRIT OF THE OPPOSITION.

Men and parties generally assume certain positions with a view to attaining certain ends. It may be to the end that justice may triumph, or it may be to the end that only party may triumph. We have just passed through a desperate encounter for the life of the Nation, and the great question has been what disposition shall be made with the criminals who attempted its life. The party that opposed our trying to protect the national life against the attacks of its would-be murderers have been clamorous that the parties attempting the murder should sit upon the jury that was to try them for the crime; or in other words, that the rebellious States should have a voice in saying what guarantees, if any, should be given that they would not again attempt the life of the Nation. Does the Democratic party look upon treason as a crime, and if so does it believe that a criminal should be entitled to decide upon his own case? We would be pleased to hear from such great lights as Dr. Miller upon this question. We find every Democratic paper in the land howling at Congress for submitting the new amendment, because it prevents the rebels of the South sending men to Congress to represent the loyal men of the South unless they allow these same loyal men to have a voice in selecting them. Is there anything unfair in this proposition? Is it right, is it just, that rebels should be sent to Washington to represent loyal men when the loyal men are not permitted to even protest against it? The Omaha Herald gets wonderfully rampant upon the subject, and thinks it an awful thing, and denounces it as "subverting the rights of the States," that the rebels of the South are not permitted to dictate in regard to the whole affair. Hear him:

"The recent resolution submitting a new and final amendment to the Constitution, in such form as not to allow President Johnson to meet it with a veto, is nothing more nor less than a scheme to subvert the rights of the States. "All this is negro equality and suffrage in disguise. It is obstruction. It means disunion, and nothing less than disunion. Eleven States of the Union, as our fathers made it, have had no voice in this great question. These eleven States will never adopt the degrading conditions imposed upon their return to the Union."

"The Dr. should have said that it subverted the rights of the rebel inhabitants of the States; for it is only such that he laborator. It is only the rebel portion that he considers has any rights; the men who stood by the Union should sit quietly down and allow their rebel neighbors to select men to represent them, and be satisfied with the choice. Congress, in submitting the amendment, does not even say that the loyal men of the South shall be represented at all, but proposes that if they are represented they shall have a voice in selecting the men. Can honesty and justice ask less? Is there anything degrading in this? If there is, the degradation rests upon the loyal man, in having rebels allowed greater privileges than he enjoys? This only shows the spirit of the opposition to Congress. They are not satisfied with allowing traitors to the country all the privileges which loyal men have; they are wroth because the whole question is not left to the decision of the leaders of the rebellion, and the entire government given into the charge of the men who fought four years for the purpose of overthrowing the government.

THE FOURTH.

We see some of our Democratic contemporaries are advocating a "Democratic" (or copperhead) celebration of the Fourth of July. This is characteristic of the leaders of the party. They would turn a national holiday into a partisan arrangement, as they would sacrifice the national government for a party victory. We look upon the Fourth of July as a day sacred to

freedom, and the man who would advocate making it a day for "party" aggrandizement—by a party always opposed to freedom—would sacrifice his grandmother to be elected to the office of Constable. These "Democratic" friends who are advocating a party celebration probably are acting in regard to the Fourth the same as they have by the war. They denounced the war as "a failure," and as soon they discovered it was not, the attempt was made to make its success subservient to the copperhead party. And now that Freedom's day is established on a firmer foundation in this Nation, these men would desecrate the day making it subservient to party. Thanks to the spirit of American freedom, such things will not be allowed.

Rock Bluffs precinct was thrown out. If it is, when the question comes before the Legislature, counted in, it will give the Democracy a majority in both houses. We apprehend, however, that it will not be counted in. The dominant party at the opening of the session will deem they have a good thing and will collect democratic pluck in the Health case, last winter, will doubtless keep it.

We clip the above from an editorial in the Statesman, merely as a Democratic view of the case. While we do not believe the Rock Bluffs vote will be counted unless it is just that it should, neither do we believe it will be rejected merely because the Republicans are the "dominant party" at the opening of the session. We look upon the above extract as showing exactly what the Democracy would do again—as they did last winter—if they had the ascendancy in the organization.

BE ON HAND.

Let every Republican member of the State Legislature be at the Capital in good season. The Fourth day of July is the day appointed for the Legislature to convene, and we trust the occurrences in the Legislature last winter are too fresh in the minds of the people to permit any one to be negligent in his duty. Do not be deceived by rumors and letters similar to those used by some of the opposition last winter to prevent Republicans being on hand at the organization. We doubt not similar means will be resorted to this time, therefore we press upon Republicans the necessity of "coming to time." The legislature will be close, although we have a clear Republican majority if our members but do their duty.

UNHEALTHY.

We would suggest that the following figures show rather an unhealthy condition of things in our neighboring country. It certainly would be much better for the city and country surrounding it if larger proportion of the votes were in the country. While the city polls over a 1000 votes, the entire county, exclusive of the city, polls about 350 votes. The figures are from the official returns of the late election:

Table with 2 columns: Location and Votes. Nebraska City Precinct, 1,046; Wyoming, 97; Otoe, 77; Syracuse, 53; Delaware, 42; McWilliams, 31; Hendricks, 25; Palmyra, 24.

Total vote cast, 1,395

THE HONEST VOTE.

The Omaha Herald continues to denounce the vote of the soldiers, claiming that Morton is only beat one vote of the honest votes only are counted. It counts the Falls City affair "honest," but sets the vote of our veteran heroes down among the dishonest. It does not consider it dishonest for men just out of the rebel army, with their hands red with the blood of our friends and brothers, to vote, but would brand the vote of the Union soldiers as "dishonest," and say that it should not be counted.

COAL IN NEBRASKA.

Professor Robinson publishes an article in the Nebraska City News, in which he argues, scientifically, that Nebraska contains large deposits of coal. He takes the different strata passed through by Croxton & Co., at Nebraska City, and compares them with those of the Missouri and Iowa coal fields, which gives a fair showing for Nebraska. We hope to see the question thoroughly tested at an early day, as the finding of coal in large quantities in Nebraska would do more to develop our new State than any one thing we know of.

SOUTH PLATTE AND CONGRESS.

We find the following sensible communication in a late number of the Glenwood Opinion, and heartily endorse the sentiment which would give these route an equal chance with any other and allow each to flourish or fail on their merits. We take "F" to be a very sensible man—hear him: GLENWOOD, June 16, 1866. MR. EDITOR— I was amused, yesterday, as I hap-

pened to pick up a Nonpareil, published June 24, to see that the attaches of that office had put their heads together, and made a combined effort to counteract the effect of a statement made in Opinion, some time ago, regarding the matter of representation in Congress, by those who had been elected to represent this Congressional District. They say if the communication was intended "for a joke, it is a pretty good one, but if intended to be taken seriously, it is superlatively ridiculous."

Now, Mr. Editor, if I were sure they were all sober at the getting up of that response, I would ask them to point to time and occasion when Gen. Curtis or Kasson ever asserted on the floor of Congress that the Platte river had a south shore; or that there was any chance to cross the Missouri river south of that stream; or that it was possible for emigrants or freighters to reach Ft. Kearney by going up south of Platte; or that there was any such place as Plattsmouth; or that the arm of the Pacific railroad might have been constructed from the latter point to the junction of the 100th parallel of longitude at ten million dollars less expense to the Government, and to an advantage to the country at large, over the Omaha line, when the swindling foolery is being enacted, to the amount of hundreds of millions.

I am not aware, Mr. Editor, that either of those representatives—Curtis or Kasson—have ever mentioned at headquarters, that such a place existed as Plattsmouth; and I am anxious for it to be named, and generally known; and without waiting upon the Bluffs at all. I wish to have the same facilities extended to that route that have been given to that of Omaha, and let the two routes flourish or fail on their merits, and truth and justice prevail. The Nonpareil seems to think I am making war upon the Bluffs because I desire some place besides that to be spoken of in Congress. I am pleased with the prosperity of every place in the State; and more especially those places which have no timber, factories, nor cultivated land in sufficient quantities to be comfortable, thereby making a market for our "butter and eggs," and other abundant surpluses of the various products of Mills county.

WHO IS HE?

We charge, re-assert, and are able to prove by a cloud of witnesses, that officers and soldiers of the army, in the Nebraska First, and out of the Nebraska First, everywhere throughout the great and small armies of the Union who have dared to be Democrats, have been persecuted, deprived of promotion, subjected to petty punishments and orders, insulted, and called hard names. There are officers in this very city to day belonging to the regiment which Col. Livingston commanded, who have felt these things; one in particular, belonging to the Nebraska First, who came here to this office to explain certain political conduct, and told us unless he did so and so, at the beck of a certain officer, he would be ordered from certain light duty to that which was most severe. Our attention is called to the foregoing which appeared in last Wednesday's Herald. There are many who would like to know who the officers referred to, are; and particularly who that one is who laid his grievances before the Editor of the Herald and compromised his manhood and his position as an officer and soldier so far as to do "so and so," at the beck of a certain officer? rather than "be ordered from certain light duty to that which was most severe?" There is a very ungenerous reflection here upon somebody besides Col. Livingston, and as the Editor of the Herald "charges, re-asserts, and is able to prove" his allegations he ought to comply with the usual rules in such cases. As he has made the charge it is certainly due to the officers of the regiment and the public, that he should make the proof which he says he is abundantly able to do. We think there is a misander standing, and hope to be excused from believing that there is or was so great a tyrant, or so great a tyrant as the Nebraska First, as the Herald would have the public suppose until we were something a little more conclusive. The regiment is about being mustered out now, and a disclosure of the kind mentioned will not damage the public service; so let us have it.—Omaha Republican.

MASONRY.—The Masons assembled to day in front of their Hall, and marched to the Methodist Church, when an oration was delivered by Col. O. H. Irish, Grand Lecturer, after which the officers of the Grand Lodge were installed publicly, and also the officers of the Nebraska City Lodge.

The oration by Col. Irish was a well written composition, and set forth the history, beauty and intrinsic worth of Masonry, in an excellent manner. The Church was filled with ladies and gentlemen who went away impressed with the value of Masonry, after the installation the procession was formed and marched to McLennan's Hall to partake of a dinner prepared for the occasion.—Press, 23d.

A man whom Dr. Johnson once reproved for following a useless and demoralizing business, said in excuse, "You know, doctor, I must live." The brave old hetero of every thing mean and hateful, coolly replied, "I do not see the least necessity for that."

Gen. Sherman, during his visit to Minneapolis made a pleasant little speech, and was about to retire, when cries of "go on" resounded from all sides. The General added: "I have studied politicians, and have learned by imitating them to talk a few minutes without saying anything at all." The statement was received with great laughter and cheering.

THE DEMOCRATIC GAIN.

The Democratic papers of the Territory have been blowing heavily about their vast gain in Nebraska county. On this subject the Brownville Advertiser says: "Let us see as to the 'Democratic gain.' Last fall Saml Campbell was brought out by the Democracy against Wm. H. Hoover, Union nominee, and a thorough canvass made by the Democracy. Hoover's majority then was 202. At the election just past, Rich's majority over Bedford was 197, while Butler's majority over Morton was 227!"

It will be seen from this showing that Morton claims a Democratic gain when he only falls behind his ticket about thirty. That indicates a gain of two hundred in Nebraska? In this particular he seems to have a pretty correct estimate of himself. "Grand Commanders" and salt land sharpers do not run well in this Territory. We admonished Julius that if David Butler got after him on the stump that would be the last him. Our prediction has been verified. He took our counsel finally and attempted to retreat, but it was too late in the fight. The sledge-hammer licks of honest David had done the work. Peace to his ashes.—Omaha Republican.

The Report of the Congressional Committee.

The Report of the Congressional Committee upon Reconstruction is so able and conclusive that we wish it might be universally read. It is the Constitution and common sense applied to the situation; and after the passionate and pettifogging spirit in which reconstruction, the most important of our present questions, has been so often discussed its tone is manly and dignified. There is nothing exactly new in the arguments of the Committee, but the Report is an unanswerable statement of the conclusions to which the common sense of the loyal part of the country had arrived, and upon which, as we believe, it now reposes.

These conclusions are in brief that the rebellious States were left, at the close of the war, without valid government than the military authority of the United States, directed by the President as Commander-in-Chief; that the civil government of those States could become valid only upon recognition by Congress, and that the resumption by those States of their relations in the Union can occur only upon such conditions as Congress may prescribe. The folly of the assumption of Alexander H. Stephens and the late allies of the rebellion, that the moment a rebel State was forced by arms to surrender it regained untouched and without condition every right and privilege it had enjoyed as a part of the Union is conclusively exposed by the Committee.

To admit such a principle for one moment would be to declare that treason is always master and loyalty a vassal. Such a principle is void by its very nature and essence, because inconsistent with the theory of government and fatal to its very existence. To know the condition of the late rebel States it was necessary either to take the opinion of the President solely, or to sift the evidence upon which that opinion was founded and enlarge the range of testimony. This latter course was adopted, and the impression left upon the Committee is again that of the great mass of Union men in the country. The condition of the States in question is precisely what was to be expected. It is a feeling of intense regret that the struggle could not be prolonged, and of bitter hostility toward the Government. But while this is natural to any party defeated in so fierce a contest, the Committee find that it is peculiarly strong in the States in question. "The conciliatory measures of the Government do not seem to have been met half way. The bitterness and defiance exhibited toward the United States under such circumstances is without parallel in the history of the world."

It is remarkable that Mr. Seward in his Auburn speech states the situation exactly the other way. "The work of reconciliation," he says, "has outrun expectation. Indeed, it has never had a parallel in human affairs." We presume that the private conviction of most of us, based upon all the various public and private evidence of the year, will confirm the Committee's judgment rather than Mr. Seward's. After the most careful consideration upon ample evidence the Committee believe that adequate security should be required for future peace and safety, and they suggest, as the result of mutual concession, the amendment determining civil rights, equalizing representation, disqualifying certain persons for office under certain conditions, and disowning the rebel debt. This amendment has been already adopted by the Senate in a moderate and generous form, and will undoubtedly be approved by the House. As there is nothing in it which is not strictly in consonance with the views which the President has often expressed, we hope that for the sake of harmony he will not oppose it. If, however, a bill should be offered for his signature, postponing the admission of any late rebel State to Congress until the amendment had become a part of the Constitution and had been ratified by the State, he would undoubtedly veto it. It seems to us, for many good reasons, advisable that each suspended State should be restored upon its individual acceptance of the condition, and we hope that such may be the final judgment of Congress.

This is the most important Committee concludes its labors, and concludes them worthily. It has been fiercely derided and insulted by the most malignant enemies of the Union and Government at the North and South; and even the President's impatience has betrayed him into vituperation of it. But we challenge any cavalier to produce from history an instance of a settlement by a victorious government so honorable,

so reasonable, so free from vengeance, so tenacious of the spirit of a truly free government. There is no lately rebellious citizen of the United States who "acquiesces" honestly in the situation who can declare it ungenerous or unjust, while every faithful citizen will heartily commend it as the true popular platform. The substance of this Report is sure to be filtered through editorials and speeches, so that it will become familiar to the country. But Union clubs and committees could do no better service to the good cause than to multiply legible copies of it.—Harper's Weekly.

FLOOD AT NEBRASKA CITY.

The rain of last night gave us a very life-like representation of the deluge of Noah's times. The water came down in a perfect torrent, entered down by the roofs, chimneys, sides, floors, or "any other way." Soundings taken in the streets this morning, showed from "two feet scant" to "no bottom." The North and South Table creek rose higher than ever known to the memory of the "oldest inhabitant."

All the bridges on North Table creek have been washed away, some of them having been newly erected this season. This morning at 6 o'clock with a load crash, down came the Cemetery bridge; it had been built only last summer at a cost of \$1,200.

At this time the only passable bridges in the city corporation are the Main street bridge and the one on Thirteenth street; for quite a while even the latter was threatened with destruction, as the timbers of the Cemetery bridge lodged against the superstructure of the same, by the help of a couple of citizens the dangerous obstruction was removed and the bridge saved, notwithstanding the water was running over the same to the depth of two feet. This is the only wooden bridge on Main street that withstood the flood successfully.

It is estimated that the damage done to our City Treasury last night amounted to \$5,000, and that to private individuals, by settling of foundations, caving and filling up of cellars, bursting and running over of cisterns, caving in of wells, &c., &c., at least \$10,000.—Nebraska City News, 23d.

Fire in St. Joseph.

Corly's Block was burned to the ground this morning, 21st inst.—William Wyeib, Kahn and a dozen others burned out. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

GAS FROM WOOD.—The Journal of Mining says, Mr. Ensel, of Canada, has discovered a method of obtaining gas from wood. He has taken out a patent in this country and the British Provinces. It is claimed that 4,500 feet of gas can be produced from half a cord of wood and a barrel of bones, and that the substances remaining in the retort after this result is obtained are also of commercial value; the wood being transmuted into charcoal, tar and turpentine; the bones into ivory black, phosphorus, ammonia of a superior quality. The apparatus is said to be exceedingly simple and easily worked.

Our Consul at Liverpool writes under date of May 15: "Some two weeks ago I advised you of the shipment from this port to New York of some 15,000 bushels of wheat. I now have to inform the Department of State that the City of Cork, which sells to-morrow, takes as freight 498 casks of French wheat flour, valued at \$1,046. I think this is the first instance of the shipment of French flour from this port for the United States, and probably the first time that flour has ever been shipped as merchandise from Europe to America."

The ladies of Lansing, Michigan are adopting a new style of dress. It appears to consist of cloth pants like those worn by men, and an old-fashioned Indian "wampus" or sack, which comes just above the knees. Everything is said to hang from the shoulders, doing away with tight lacing, and alleged to be very conducive to health. It does away with hoops and skirts and decreases the lady in quantity about two hundred per cent. It is an easy custom, and will probably be better liked when custom makes it fashionable.

Vallandigham proposes to continue on the stump until victory perches on the copperhead banners. If he holds to his purpose and life is vouchsafed to him, he will excel Methuselah as much in longevity as he now does Ananias in falsity. What a pretty Wandering Jew he will make? Imagine him a hundred or two years hence making his appearance like another Rip Van Winkle, at political meetings, and in his impudent manner shouting, "I glory in the name of copperhead."

We are reliably informed that a vigilance committee has been organized in our city to make a few examples of the villains prowling our streets of nights, knocking down and robbing citizens generally. This is a good move and we only hope that one of these fine mornings some rascal will be found hanging by the neck to one of our lamp-posts.—St. Joe Herald.

The United States overland mail travels from Julesburg to Fort Laramie, one hundred and sixty five miles, in twenty-four hours. The mules are kept in a light canter from one relay to another.

Highwaymen and malicious cut-throats are taking the place of the Indians on the road. Several attempts have been made to rob and stampede western bound trains, but with poor success thus far. These renegade nuisances better look to their picket ropes, and beware of Oleander's swing!—Kearney Herald.

General Thomas W. Sweeney.

This officer, who has just been arrested at Boston, was born at Daumand, in the county of Cork, Ireland, in 1822. His father died in 1827, leaving his mother with a family of small children, of which Thomas was the youngest, and they all soon emigrated to the United States, where he learned the printing business. When the Mexican war broke out he was one of the first to volunteer, and joined the First New York Volunteers, in which he was soon afterwards made a Second Lieutenant.

He participated in many engagements fighting always with bravery, and lost his right arm at Cherubusco, besides receiving a severe wound in the face at a previous engagement. On his return from Mexico he was entertained by the New York printers at a reception ball, and the Government recognized his services by making him a Second Lieutenant in the Regular Army. He served in many important positions, and at the outbreak of the late rebellion he was in command at St. Louis, where he participated in Gen. Lyon's seizure of Camp Jackson, and his subsequent campaign in Southwest Missouri. He was in the battle of Wilson's Creek, and was noted there, as always, for his great gallantry, and was again wounded.

After this campaign he was made the Colonel of the 524 Regiment of Illinois Volunteers; was also in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, where he was a third time wounded. In September, 1862, he was made a Brigadier-General of Volunteers and raised to the rank of Major in the Regular Army, receiving afterwards two brevets in the Regular Army for gallant and meritorious service. He served under Grant, Sherman and Thomas with great distinction, and at the close of the war was brevetted Major-General of volunteers. Sweeney tendered his resignation and was subsequently mustered out of the United States army, since which time he has been busily engaged in Fenian affairs.

"Democratic Gains."

Vallandigham, the irrepressible, attended the recent Democratic State Convention in Ohio, and of course he made a speech. Here is his horseshoe for next October:

"He would not promise that the Democratic party would be triumphant in the approaching election, but as the Republican majority of 60,000 in 1864, had been reduced to 30,000 in 1865, so he believed it would be diminished this year to ten or fifteen thousand." Val. might have made out a better case but for that exaggerated modesty which will yet be the death of him. Had he merely recalled the facts of his own career for Governor, in 1853, his logic would have been irresistible.

"In 1863, when I was your candidate for Governor, we were beaten by the magnificent majority of 100,000. In 1864 I was not on your ticket and you were beaten but 60,000. In 1865 I was still kept off, and you went under by a profit of 30,000. Now, if you can only manage to keep me wholly in the background this year, so that the people will have a chance to forget me, I think you may whittle it down to 10,000; and, if you could persuade the voters that I was dead or had followed my friends to Mexico or Brazil, might even stand a chance to win—who knows?—N. Y. Tribune.

An Irish editor in speaking of the miseries of Ireland, says: "Her cup of misery has been for ages overflowing, and is not yet full."

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 20.—The Republican State Convention nominated Wm. H. Smith for Secretary of State, and Josiah Scott for the Supreme Court, and Jno. M. Barer for Board of Public Works. All of these are present incumbents.

The Convention then unanimously adopted the following platform, given herewith in full: Resolved, That the Union party of Ohio having sustained the General Government during the last four years of successful war against the united efforts of rebels South and partisans North, now demand peace established upon such basis that rebellion and secession will never again endanger our national existence.

Resolved, That the Convention fully endorse the amendment to the Constitution proposed by Congress to the Legislatures of the several States, as a wise, liberal and patriotic adjustment, and that the Union party of Ohio pledge for their hearty and united support.

Resolved, That the nation owes a lasting debt of gratitude to the heroic men of the army and navy for their patriotic services in the defense of the Constitution and Union, and we urge upon Congress the duty of equalizing bounties, and while we cherish with tender affection the memories of our fallen bravest, we pledge to their widows and orphans the nation's care and protection.

DES MOINES, June 20.—The Republican State Convention has nominated Col. Ed. Wright, of Cedar county for Secretary of State. The Convention adopted resolutions declaring that it is the duty of the Government to secure to all men, without distinction of race or color, equal rights before the law.

Another resolution adopted declares that the reconstruction of the rebellious States belongs to the people who subdued the rebellion, through the representatives in the Congress of the Nation, and not to the Executive alone. The resolution further recommends the ratification of the Constitutional amendment, passed by Congress.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—A prize fight between Barney Aaron, of New York, champion light weight, and Sam Collier, of Baltimore, took place to-day, on the Virginia side of the Potomac, 23 miles below this city. The fight lasted 47 rounds, lasting two hours and 15 minutes. Collier was declared the victor. Both Collier and Aaron were so exhausted and so nearly blind at the end of the fight that it was requisite to carry them to the boats on stretchers.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

Chicago, June 22.—The following was the vote by which the Senate last Tuesday passed the amendatory act to the Pacific Railroad bill:

Yeas.—Anthony, Brown, Backus, Conness, Cowan, Cragin, Davis, Guthrie, Henderson, Hendricks, Howard, Howe, Nye, Sherman, Sprague, Stewart, Van Winkle, Wade, Wiley, Williams. Total, 20.

Nays.—Fessenden, Foster, Grimes, Harris, Kirkwood, Morgan, Merrill, Tranklin, Wilson and Yates. Total, 12.

This bill was telegraphed in detail during the debate upon it. Pomeroy offered the amendment that inasmuch as the Kansas branch of the Union Pacific Railroad was to be allowed to change its route, then the Hannibal & St. Joe Company should be allowed to change the route of their extension, and have additional lands and lands for that purpose.

This amendment was roughly handled by Howard, Conness, &c., and then withdrawn. Kirkwood said, it was the original understanding that the three Eastern branches were to meet on the 100th meridian and then unitedly push westward. Now the efforts seem to be to divide and conquer; for when the Kansas branch goes to Denver it will ask for an independent route through

He was in favor however of the 21 section, which authorized the California company to approach us from the West as rapidly as they can. He therefore moved to strike out the 19th section.

Henderson said that if this motion prevailed he should appeal to the Senate to repeal all laws providing for any branch from Missouri. He bitterly inveighed against that legislation which had made the Omaha branch the main stem, to the injury of all other interests.

Guthrie advocated the bill, saying the route up the Smoky Hill Fork was not only shorter and better than the Republican, but it was the only route the Government ought to let the Company build upon. He said the road open to Denver, the Company would commence profitable business; but if built on the 100th meridian, the Omaha main stem would absorb all the business and there would be no local aid or assistance to the Kansas branch because of the worthlessness of that country.

Wilson said that this bill was intended to disturb the construction of the Pacific Railroad. The Union Pacific Company from Omaha have already expended \$16,000,000. They have completed 110 miles, have graded 200 miles, have bought iron for 300 miles, they have mortgaged their road over the whole line, and are now trying to borrow \$20,000,000 in Europe on the faith of no hostile legislation. The Omaha Company so called for distinction, claim that they have received only \$1,400,000 from the Government, and they have vested rights over the entire line, which the bill jeopardizes. It is a violation of their rights to pass either the 1st or 2d section of this bill. It was agreed that the Colorado Company should come 150 miles east of the Colorado boundary, now it is proposed they may come as far east as they please and work sections ahead of their continuous line. They cannot get 150 miles under four or five years. Therefore, it is not only proposed to elop the Omaha Company at its western end, but make the Kansas branch a competing line, and there is not a man in the United States who believes investments in the main road are as safe as they would be without this legislation.

Howard replied that the Company could not mortgage their road farther than built and then in amounts not exceeding Government bonds received. If they have made a mortgage covering the entire line, and taken it to Europe, they have acted by no means in accordance with the plain provisions of their charter.

Conness made statements showing how rapidly the Colorado end was being built, and said, "we are not legislating to secure the Pacific R. R. charter to a single Company, none others being allowed to build. He said of the provisions in law 1864, that the Colorado company might build only 150 miles eastward, that this provision was corruptly inserted in the Conference Committee's report by the clerk of the Committee, and being done on the last day of the session was not discovered. Now we propose to correct that.

Stewart said that the Omaha Company had not yet discovered where it would cross the 100th meridian, much less had it determined where it would cross the mountains, and yet its surveys were in Nevada making surveys for the purpose of mortgaging the line to foreign capitalists. The Colorado Company had not struck a spike in the 10 miles between Colfax and Dutch Flat or in any 10 miles in that region and there is more than 120 miles as the Omaha end. The Colorado Company are coming East; the people of the Pacific coast demand a railroad, and they don't care who builds it, but they do not care that its progress at either end shall be encumbered, and that no man like Durant shall manipulate this great national interest for the gain of favorite operations.

Wilson said that Gen. Dix was President of the U. P. R. and no man can question his character. The Government has also five directors in that company, and he (Wilson) thought we must have confidence in them until proved otherwise.

After further debate the final vote was taken and the bill passed as above.