

DAKOTA CUT-OFF.

A bill to amend that portion of Dakota Territory, lately thrown on the Nebraska side of the Missouri River, to this State, was introduced by Mr. Dyer, of Missouri, in the House of Representatives, and under a suspension of the rules was passed.

This territory occupies fractional sec. 36 1/2, 39 n. r. 48 w. and fractional sec. 1 and 12 t. 88 n. r. 48 w. of the Dakota surveys.

The accretions consequent on the abandonment of the old channel of the Missouri will probably contain the equivalent of four sections or something between 2,500 and 3,000 acres of uncovered bottom lands, which we are informed are being equally divided between the surveys of this State and of Dakota, the surveys not according, as they originated from different bases and meridians.

The propriety of this measure was urged by Hon. Jno. Taffe, our representative in Congress.

PROTECTION.

Not high frontier protection, but protection to our frontier settlements is imperatively demanded. Every spring we hear of settlers being murdered and driven in, off the Little Blue. Hardy pioneers nevertheless keep pushing westward along that stream, and homesteads have been taken as far west as Kiowa station. We call on the press of the State to urge immediate protection to these brave families. If this matter is put off too long, another Indian raid will drive them in; and discouraged in their attempts to keep a foothold in the rich valley of Little Blue River, these hardy settlers will abandon that country to the aborigines who travel under the Quaker flag; while if the military authorities will send troops down there before these raids occur, and not after them, as is usually the case, a few years will see such an increase of settlements in that locality as will insure security without military protection. Gen. Augur has placed the people of Nebraska under repeated obligations to him, for prompt aid, and while we knew that he has very few troops to spare for outposts of this character, we nevertheless entertain the hope that he will see the importance of establishing a small post in the neighborhood indicated, before the Indians make their appearance.

LARKS!

We have, in a pretty long experience, frequently seen our pointers and setters make a mistake in the field when hunting prairie chickens. We have seen a gowly crowd of excellent shootists holding their shooting irons in readiness, each one expecting the first shot, and all advancing stealthily toward the supposed game, when with a "spit"—whirr—away flew—not a prairie chicken—but an insignificant meadow-lark; then there would be a universal shout of "larks," "Pon!" and angry shouts of disappointment at being led on the wrong scent by a poor nosed canine. We incline to the belief that some of our solons, at Lincoln, are playing this part, and that some poor "smellers" will be shamed at and scolded when the birds flush. We look upon the action there as entirely uncalled for, while, at the same time, as there is a cry of "wolf" raised, it might perhaps be better for all concerned to see who is right and who wrong. It is a maxim made holy by acquiescence, through long ages, "that a man shall be held innocent till proven guilty," and therefore, we hope that the action of our legislators will be calm, dignified and impartial. It would be wrong to enter upon so momentous an investigation as that proposed in any other spirit. After the slanderous American press have made up their minds that taxes must be reduced by Congress, we feel convinced that we express the deliberate conviction of a very large preponderating majority of the nation. We are now paying at the rate of \$80,000,000 and \$100,000,000 of the principal of the public debt, an annualy. This fact shows that there is a wide margin for the reduction of taxes. There is now the most conclusive proof that, under present statutes, revenue is produced much in excess of what is required for the current expenses of Government, and for the payment of interest upon the National debt. The present generation expects to pay a reasonable portion of the principal of the present indebtedness; but it is too much to ask that generation to discharge the debt within twenty or thirty-five years. Should the present pay the principal of the public debt at the rate of \$25,000,000 annually, that is all that can be expected reasonably. Taking this rate as a basis, it is clear that we can dispense with all taxes requisite to pay off a larger portion of the principal. It is plain, then, that National taxes are at present imposed, not only to meet the ordinary cost of government, but to assist largely in discharging an accumulation of debt contracted in preserving the Union. Is it just to ask the present generation, or even the present and the following generation, to foot the entire cost of preserving civil franchises and political liberty intact?

Stock Raising in the Platte Valley.

Stock Raising in the Platte Valley. Before introducing the subject of Stock-Raising, we will say a few words about the great river of these western plains—the Platte. It was named by the early French voyagers, who called all the vast country through which it now flows, the *Plat*, or feminine *Platte*, which in a geographical sense means "plain." The second *t* in the English word *Platte* was probably added to make the pronunciation unlike that of our word *plate*, a dish. The general character of the Platte, throughout its course, is entirely unimpaired. Its banks are usually well defined, and from two to six feet above high-water mark. An overflow seldom occurs—only when the channel becomes gorged with ice. The river spreads over a great surface, is not deep, excepting in certain places, but has a bottom of shifting quicksand. It is interspersed with many islands, some of them several miles in extent, wooded and productive. More than three hundred miles from its mouth, and only a short distance east of this place, the river forks into the North and South branches, and the valley widens. The two rivers are only four to eight miles apart, for a distance of twenty miles, and then begin to diverge to the northeast and to the southwest. At Julesburg, eighty-five miles west of this town, the railroad leaves the South Platte fork, which has thither followed a winding up the valley of the Lodge Pole. The plain between the two rivers at North Platte is unobstructed for eighteen miles, or as far as O'Fallon station, where a ridge or bluff commences which makes a permanent separation of the Platte.

Reduction of the Taxes.

When we say that the great mass of the American people have made up their minds that taxes must be reduced by Congress, we feel convinced that we express the deliberate conviction of a very large preponderating majority of the nation. We are now paying at the rate of \$80,000,000 and \$100,000,000 of the principal of the public debt, an annualy. This fact shows that there is a wide margin for the reduction of taxes. There is now the most conclusive proof that, under present statutes, revenue is produced much in excess of what is required for the current expenses of Government, and for the payment of interest upon the National debt. The present generation expects to pay a reasonable portion of the principal of the present indebtedness; but it is too much to ask that generation to discharge the debt within twenty or thirty-five years. Should the present pay the principal of the public debt at the rate of \$25,000,000 annually, that is all that can be expected reasonably. Taking this rate as a basis, it is clear that we can dispense with all taxes requisite to pay off a larger portion of the principal. It is plain, then, that National taxes are at present imposed, not only to meet the ordinary cost of government, but to assist largely in discharging an accumulation of debt contracted in preserving the Union. Is it just to ask the present generation, or even the present and the following generation, to foot the entire cost of preserving civil franchises and political liberty intact?

SPEECH OF SENATOR TIPTON.

Delivered Feb. 11th, 1870.

Mr. Tipton. Mr. President, I expect to vote for the bill for the admission of Mississippi; but I do not understand that it is necessary in doing that, to should investigate the past legislation of the country for the purpose of settling any question of consistency. I have never understood that the Republican party of this country was pledged to a system on that question. They have never been pledged to the details of any system on that question.

When the new State of Nevada came to be admitted she came in here with a constitutional provision which was in regard to this question of impartial or universal suffrage. When the State of Nebraska came here we had taken one step forward; the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution had been adopted; and then the party, having no established policy on this subject except that within the Constitution of the United States, intended to protect the rights of the country, you required of Nebraska what you said had been done by the States which had preceded her.

Then, when another State from the South presents herself, and the question is how shall she be admitted, shall she be admitted as Nevada? Perhaps not, but it will depend upon the circumstances.— Shall she come in as Nebraska? Perhaps so. Who knows? You do not know, sir; I do not know; no man in this Chamber knows until he investigates the circumstances under which she makes her application; and then, without any precedent to bind us on the subject, we within the pale of the Constitution desire to do what is necessary to accomplish the grand object of final and triumphant reconstruction.

No man, therefore, in this Senate Chamber can talk to any of us with regard to preserving our consistency in what we shall vote for Mississippi. I vote in regard to Mississippi to-day as my judgment tells me would be the part of that principle to Texas to-morrow unless I thought it absolutely necessary; but when Texas comes here if her case is peculiar, standing on its own individuality, I will vote for her as I think so, or perhaps to be assured you if I believe it is that which is necessary to bring her in, tie up the interests of her people and guaranty to them a republican form of government, and then, without any precedent to bind us on the subject, we within the pale of the Constitution desire to do what is necessary to accomplish the grand object of final and triumphant reconstruction.

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Hot-House Industries.

aid to D. & N. W. R. R.

Notwithstanding the sudden change in the weather on the 16th inst., there was quite a large attendance at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the B. & S. W. R. R. Company, which was well represented by J. K. Hornish, Supt. of Construction, W. D. Scott, Gen. Agent, Mr. Sherrer, Treas., and Mr. Gerry, Engineer.

Great interest was manifested by people from every part of the Country, and every one expressing his sentiments freely, and when a vote was taken there was not a dissenting voice. That the B. & S. W. R. R. Co. mean business there is no longer any doubt. The accounts of the Board of Directors were very probable that the road will be completed to this place in less than one year.

Our railroad prospects are now clearly defined, and there is scarcely a doubt but that the people of Pawnee county will accept the proposition.

As will be seen in another column, a meeting of the County Commissioners is called for the 20th inst. for the purpose of and if that day is a fundamental law, if twenty-eight States of the Union have voted for it—and within ten days the 29 will be registered, for Nebraska will set her seal to the principle within ten days from this hour—the State of Mississippi is bound by it until it is stricken by a constitutional amendment out of the Constitution of the United States. Is there any strength in that? Suppose that is not the fundamental law, what? Then it is the deliberate expression of the people of Mississippi as a pledge to you. It was a condition precedent to their coming here, and before they should come here and occupy their place in the sisterhood of States. They complied with it; and if it is not yet a constitutional amendment by a sufficient number of States voting for it, it is still a condition precedent of the State of Mississippi to-day, and you cannot make any other binding by saying that it shall be considered a condition precedent two, three or four times over.

You say that you want her on Mississippi. I am satisfied that she has herself made it a condition precedent, and that is what I am concerned to know. If you want a condition precedent, you have got it. If you want her under the power of the Constitution of the United States, you have it, if the Constitution is really amended in that behalf.

Is she honest? She seems not to very much so. What else do you want her to pledge herself to? She has shown not only her desire to gratify the extreme of radicalism on this question, but she sends what Massachusetts cannot do and a representative of the colored race as a Senator. Is that mark enough for you? Can you stand that or do you desire something else and after she has done all that? She has lifted up the race, placed them in her legislative halls, sent them here and installed them in the Capitol of the nation, and yet you say to her, Are you in earnest? We doubt you. You seem to act rather plausibly on the subject; but really we think we will pile up some fundamental conditions on you to hold you. You are afraid to trust thirty thousand colored men in the State of Mississippi, for fear hereafter they will refuse to send you other representatives of their race, forsooth! What would you not distrust if you are not already satisfied on the basis of what the State has already done for you?

Then you say that in some future time, some time intervening between now and the sounding of Gabriel's trumpet, you are afraid Mississippi will under her charter law the subject of education. Is that any of your business? Can you say to my little State of Nebraska that she shall never change her laws on the subject of education? Will she ever change when she pleases, and she will ask nothing of you or this Congress, and after she has changed them she will be amendable only to the Constitution of the United States. And if thirty thousand colored men and colored women are not able to take the care of their own education, and leave the State until she can take care of herself.

No, sir; it is a magnificent farce; it is a consummation of radicalism run mad to say that she is to do everything that we have done everything and a little more than she desired them to do. I welcome her on the basis of her radicalism. I welcome here her representatives of both races. I claim that it is an insult to her to talk in regard to the probabilities of her going back upon herself, of these men there going back upon themselves. Therefore I would leave in her hands to-day the interests of the State and the destiny of her people and take her as an ally in the future march for the consummation of all that we have politically desired in this matter, rather than doubt her for one moment when she has done everything you require her to do, and when in your law you pledged yourself to her that when she presents herself here, having done that, she should be admitted.

You claimed no control over her further to do, but if it is put upon her to look into her action to see whether she had acted in accordance with the law. The law said "Adopt the Fourteenth Amendment." She has done it. The law said "Adopt the Fifteenth Amendment." She has done it. The law did not ask her to go so far as she has gone in showing that she is in earnest and honest in regard to this matter by sending here the joint representatives of the two races, but she has done that; and now, and now because you thought Georgia had gone back upon you, therefore you thought it necessary to put a certain bill with its conditions upon Virginia, and now to be consistent the truly loyal State of Mississippi is to be put through the same process.

I vote first against the conditions proposed, believing them to be unnecessary, but if they shall be adopted by the Senate, I shall yield to them, and vote for the bill for the admission of the State of Mississippi.

Hot-House Industries. The free-trade wit against "hot-house industries" has ever and anon, with Thrust at Thiers in the commercial treaties debate in the Corps Legislatif, that statesman thus parried the idiotic pleasantry: "A hot-house industry!—Why gentlemen, I have seen them in my country, they seek to develop labor within themselves? They are the intelligent and the free nations. The nature of a free and intelligent people is such, that when any thing is brought before them from another country, after using it for a time and proving it, they endeavor to imitate it, to produce it among themselves. What nations are they which never feel this desire?" The law is the first instinct of intelligent nations to endeavor to make for themselves that which comes to them from abroad, and not to buy from strangers what the nature of their climate does not prevent them from making for themselves.

Pawnee County Moving—\$100,000 aid to D. & N. W. R. R. Notwithstanding the sudden change in the weather on the 16th inst., there was quite a large attendance at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the B. & S. W. R. R. Company, which was well represented by J. K. Hornish, Supt. of Construction, W. D. Scott, Gen. Agent, Mr. Sherrer, Treas., and Mr. Gerry, Engineer.

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Legislative Proceedings—6th Session.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 23, 1870. Mr. Goodwin presented the petition of J. T. Davis and three others of Washington county for extension of the Jurisdiction of Probate Judge. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Stephens reported back substitute to H. R. 11, an act regulating the jurisdiction of Probate Courts in civil cases recommending that the bill and its substitute be considered in Committee of the Whole.

BILLS ON FIRST READING. H. R. 14 (Substitute) correcting clerical error in an act to establish a system of public instruction for the State of Nebraska. Read second time and referred to Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Frost by consent introduced S. B. 9, an act to provide means for the support of the State government and to redeem the outstanding matured bonds of the Territory of Nebraska. Rules suspended, bill read 21 times by its title and referred to Committee of the Whole and special order of this afternoon at two o'clock.

Mr. Hathaway, by consent introduced H. R. 10, to provide for the election of an additional Congressman. Rules were suspended, bill read by its title and referred to Committee of the Whole and special order of this afternoon at two o'clock.

Mr. Gera, from Committee on Engrossed and Enrolled Bills, reported that the House had passed the bill and referred to Committee of the Whole. S. R. 3 was taken up and the House amendment thereto was disagreed to.

Mr. Stewart introduced a resolution declaring it an insult to the people of the State that "death and damnation" should be granted on the Capitol Building in the shape of intoxicating liquors and demanding the immediate removal of the nuisance. Considerable debate ensued over the wording of the resolution which was finally amended so as to read "death and damnation" and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Shook introduced a resolution that the House adjourn at midnight Friday *sine die* which was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Rhodes introduced a bill to provide for the organization of the State militia. Referred.

Mr. Rathman introduced a bill providing for the encouragement of Foreign Emigration. Referred.

BILLS ON SECOND READING. The bill authorizing the Auditor to require the contractor to furnish new desks for the use of the members of the House was taken up and passed.

Mr. Gardner from Judiciary Committee reported H. R. 9 an act authorizing the Secretary of State to remove from the files an act declaring section lines public roads in certain Counties, with amendments. Also S. B. 5, providing for the punishment of offenders against morality and chastity, without amendment. Both bills taken up and passed.

Mr. Stevenson was received from the Senate announcing that it refuses to concur in the House amendment to S. R. No. 3.

House then went into Committee of the Whole to consider the resolution with reference to the Commissioners of Public Lands and Buildings.

Upon motion the resolution was amended, and the Commissioners were invited to speak to the Committee upon the charges.

Gov. Butler appeared and made a lengthy speech, when the Committee rose and adjourned to sit this afternoon with a special order for this afternoon at two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION. SENATE. By consent H. R. 17, instructing the Auditor to require the contractor to fulfill his contract by furnishing desks before the next session of the Legislature was read 1st and 21 times by its title and referred to Committee on Ex-gratia.

Mr. Stevenson by unanimous consent reported from Committee on Immigration, S. R. 11, a bill for an act to encourage immigration, read 1st and 21 times, referred to Committee of the Whole and made special order for two o'clock to-morrow.

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Mr. Hathaway, by consent introduced H. R. 10, to provide for the election of an additional Congressman. Rules were suspended, bill read by its title and referred to Committee of the Whole and special order of this afternoon at two o'clock.

Mr. Gera, from Committee on Engrossed and Enrolled Bills, reported that the House had passed the bill and referred to Committee of the Whole. S. R. 3 was taken up and the House amendment thereto was disagreed to.

Mr. Stewart introduced a resolution declaring it an insult to the people of the State that "death and damnation" should be granted on the Capitol Building in the shape of intoxicating liquors and demanding the immediate removal of the nuisance. Considerable debate ensued over the wording of the resolution which was finally amended so as to read "death and damnation" and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Shook introduced a resolution that the House adjourn at midnight Friday *sine die* which was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Rhodes introduced a bill to provide for the organization of the State militia. Referred.

Mr. Rathman introduced a bill providing for the encouragement of Foreign Emigration. Referred.

BILLS ON SECOND READING. The bill authorizing the Auditor to require the contractor to furnish new desks for the use of the members of the House was taken up and passed.

Mr. Gardner from Judiciary Committee reported H. R. 9 an act authorizing the Secretary of State to remove from the files an act declaring section lines public roads in certain Counties, with amendments. Also S. B. 5, providing for the punishment of offenders against morality and chastity, without amendment. Both bills taken up and passed.

Mr. Stevenson was received from the Senate announcing that it refuses to concur in the House amendment to S. R. No. 3.

House then went into Committee of the Whole to consider the resolution with reference to the Commissioners of Public Lands and Buildings.

Upon motion the resolution was amended, and the Commissioners were invited to speak to the Committee upon the charges.

Gov. Butler appeared and made a lengthy speech, when the Committee rose and adjourned to sit this afternoon with a special order for this afternoon at two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION. SENATE. By consent H. R. 17, instructing the Auditor to require the contractor to fulfill his contract by furnishing desks before the next session of the Legislature was read 1st and 21 times by its title and referred to Committee on Ex-gratia.

Mr. Stevenson by unanimous consent reported from Committee on Immigration, S. R. 11, a bill for an act to encourage immigration, read 1st and 21 times, referred to Committee of the Whole and made special order for two o'clock to-morrow.

THE MISSOURI VALLEY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL, \$500,000.00

GENERAL OFFICE: No. 70 DELAWARE STREET, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

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