

Custer Co. Republican

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Legal notices at rates provided by statutes of Nebraska.
Thursday, January 7, 1904.

The REPUBLICAN gives an extended report of the Chicago fire in the Iroquois theater last week. See inside pages.

The great destruction of human life resulting from the fire in the Chicago Theater is an object lesson that should be heeded by the whole country, Broken Bow not excepted.

The friends of J. W. Webster if dictated by wisdom will make Roosevelt the rock on which to build his chances for the vice-presidency. Nebraska republicans are for Roosevelt first.

H. C. Lindsay, chairman of the republican state central committee, is an applicant for the position of clerk of the supreme court. There should be no hesitancy about his appointment.

President Roosevelt's message to congress on the Columbia-Panama affair is a gem. Nothing is concealed and no apology for the position taken by the government. The President has no fears of taking the public into his confidence and he makes a clean breast of it. The public admires a man who both says and does things.

The issue of the Outlook of January 2, gives an able review of the Senate's investigation against Gen. Wood. The article shows that all the charges against him were without foundations and that jealousies could only have prompted them. The investigation shows General Wood to have had seventeen years experience in military affairs and that his promotions have been made upon the recommendation of his superior officers for gallantry and ability and without his knowledge or solicitation. The Outlook anticipates the report of the Senate's investigating committee and if it is as strong as the Outlook puts it Gen. Wood will be greatly benefited by the investigation and his promotion to Major-General will have the hearty approval of the American people.

The trial of Senator Dietrich commenced at Omaha Monday. The indictments of alleged conspiracy to effect a bribe and the charge of profiting from a contract made with the government, were first taken up. The attorney for the defense filed a demurr holding that it was not charged in the indictment that the Senator had made the contract after he became a member of Congress. He produced authority back as far as 1808, holding that a contract made with the government before a person became a Congressman was not annulled by his subsequent election and that it was not illegal to continue the terms of the contract. The court sustained the demur. AS

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Nebraska.

these two indictments were the strongest charges made, it begins to look brighter for Senator Dietrich.

Corn leads all crops in acreage and value, of course. The number of acres in corn in Nebraska was estimated at 6,629,982, and is exceeded only by Iowa, Kansas and Illinois. Three states also exceed Nebraska in the total yield of corn, but in this list Missouri takes the place of Kansas, the latter state yielding a smaller aggregate yield than Nebraska although having a greater acreage, and Missouri yielding more bushels than Nebraska with fewer acres. Seventeen states excel Nebraska in the yield per acre, and this suggests a field for improvement among the corn growers of the state. The smaller yields of the western counties have a great deal to do with keeping Nebraska's average down but larger yields in the eastern part would have a great deal to do with raising it again. Twenty-six bushels per acre is not making money very fast with corn at twenty-five or thirty cents, and Indiana's average of thirty-three bushels would look a great deal better in the Nebraska column.—State Journal.

Marriage License.

The matrimonial market has been better than the average in Custer county the past month. Judge Armour has issued license to the following persons since December 1st, up to date:

- Fred Maryatt, Norfolk
- Hattie May Decker, Callaway
- Crist Pete Peterson, Mason
- Nellie Mortensen, Mason
- Jos. E. Austin, Central City
- Mabel Luddington, Broken Bow
- Lewis Cushman, Broken Bow
- Sarah Cover, Broken Bow
- D. G. Weaver, Etna
- Myrtle McClellan, Etna
- Norman Lewis, Rest
- Bertha E. Butler, Ortello
- Simon P. Simonson, Broken Bow
- Susie B. Barcus, Broken Bow
- Clinton Roberts, New Helena
- Maude Fuller, New Helena
- Walter E. Clark, West Union
- May H. Guyle, Walworth
- Lemuel M. Clay, Ansley
- Rose E. Simpson, Ansley
- George O. Gordon, Merna
- Francis R. Carroll, Arnold
- Edward Pendleton, Callaway
- Anna Hammons, Callaway
- Geo. M. Logan, Tuckerville
- Myrtle Landreth, Tuckerville
- Wm. W. Flynn, Pilot
- Gertrude L. Caselton, Pilot
- Willard Keller, Mason
- Dolly J. Richtmyer, Mason
- Homer R. Hatfield, York
- Ethel Wilson, Anseimo
- Union M. Bass, Merna
- Inna P. Fenner, Merna
- Wm. R. Cline, Broken Bow
- Lillie M. Mast Kearney
- Bert F. Decker, Comstock
- Alma Allen, Comstock
- Perry H. Aubery, Broken Bow
- Emma M. Conley, Broken Bow
- D. S. Narragon, Oconto
- Blanch Draper, Oconto
- Frank A. Lilly, Rest
- Rose Kaupp, Rest
- Seyer M. Syerson, Triumph
- Theresa S. E. Lang, Triumph
- Franklin Woodruff, B. Bow
- Seline Bailey, Broken Bow
- Horace R. Cole, Ansley
- Nora McEwen, Ansley
- John S. Harrald, Hoosier
- Leatha Long, Arnold
- W. H. O'Rorke, Broken Bow
- Elizabeth O. Connor, B. Bow
- Fred Neve, Rest
- Coldonia Feltersbarger

NOTICE.

Parties having business pertaining to the Elliptic Mining Co., during my absence will please call on the secretary, Alpha Morgan. J. G. LEMING, 23-30 Manger.

Rev. Carlisle P. B. Martin, L. L. D. Of Waverly, Texas, writes: "Of a morning, when first arising, I often find a troublesome collection of phlegm, which produces a cough and is very hard to dislodge; but a small quantity of Ballard's Horehound Syrup will at once dislodge it, and the trouble is over. I know of no medicine that is equal to it, and it is so pleasant to take. I can most cordially recommend it to all persons needing a medicine for throat or lung trouble." 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by Ed. McComas Broken Bow and Merna.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

By Dr. C. Pickett.
CHAPTER VII.

There are some things racy connected with this Underground Story, one of which is an account of a debate on the slavery question as written by P. B. Osborn a persistent worker on the road over which there was so many slaves transported.

To get a proper understanding of this matter we must describe two small towns not many miles apart, which shows how different the feeling of the respective settlements, owing to the early impress made on those places by the first settlers.

One of these towns was called Huntsville from the fact that a family by the name of Hunt were among the first settlers there. The man was a Methodist minister true, but ultra pro-slavery in his views and who lost no occasion of airing those views and showing his undying hatred of what he termed "niggers."

It is said that birds of a feather flock together and so it was in this case. There were others not a few who of like mind took occasion to settle on the town site and close around and thus through this eminent divine the settlement was largely pro-slavery and up to as late as the Civil War was tinged with the same sentiment as shown by the fact that there was but one township in Randolph county that exceeded it in the number of men who during the war were denominated copperheads or non-union men or disloyal men. Be it said however this was not at that time a very large community of that sort but what there was were very bitter. Randolph County always filled her quota of men for the army without any trouble for she was in a large majority loyal to the county or to the Union.

The other town of which we spoke was called Economy, and that was settled by Quakers and some Methodists, but the Methodists here were of quite a different type from those at Huntsville, and the Quakers, while they claimed to and really believe in peace principles, there was not a disloyal drop of blood in their veins, nor did they entertain any ill will to any people whether they be white, black or red. They were to the Quakers all MEN. So the impress upon this neighborhood was very different from the others and it has always remained so for whether or not the older Friends had instructed the younger ones in the peace principles professed by them of one thing we are sure, that very many of the young men were enlisted in the different Regiments sent to the "front" by Indiana, 150 in number.

But to the debate, we must remember that this was in days of log cabins and newly cleared farms and this account was written from memory and a few notes by Mr. Osborn.

We will give it as near in his language as possible:

"In the latter part of the winter of 1839-40, the first anti-slavery lecturer came into this vicinity. His name was Lewis Hicklin an accredited minister in the Methodist church from Madison, Ind. He had all the qualifications for ready debate as if he was a full equipped lawyer at the bar, and besides he was fully alive to his subject having lived at Madison and just across from the slave territory of Kentucky and had studied the relation of master and slave as it then existed and moreover he was a man that seemed filled with the spirit of the great master who said: 'All things whatsoever etc.' He made his debate in Randolph county at Huntsville.

When the meeting had assembled and he undertook to speak he found he was surrounded by a howling mob armed with rotten eggs and other missiles of a very unsavory character ready to use if he should attack the

"DIVINE INSTITUTION" of slavery too roughly.

Hicklin stood his ground through all the clatter and menaces of his audience and during his discourse he said he had been informed that Rev. William Hunt had been in the habit of catching up runaway negroes and sending them back to their masters without due process of law, and charged him of being the seed of the pro-slavery mobocrats of that neighborhood.

When Hunt heard of this accusation he sought to have a conference with his brother Methodist which ended after some pretty plain talk in an agreement for a public debate.

Hunt wished the meeting to be held in or near Huntsville, but Hicklin objected on account of the demonstrations of the evening before. Economy was then agreed upon as a place where both parties would be assured of fair play and where there was no danger of a mob.

The meeting was thoroughly advertised and when the day came the people flocked there from all directions and filled the Old Friends meeting house that stood on the bottom ground northwest of the town, as many of the older ones can still remember it was quite large for a pioneer house of worship. The house was filled to overflowing before the speakers arrived. A few preliminaries were gone through with. A man by the name of Locke (I think William Locke) was chosen moderator, who briefly stated the object of the meeting. It was then agreed that the contestants should be limited to one-half hour alternately, but the time of closing the debate was left to the pleasure of the speakers and the audience. Hicklin opened the debate with only a few remarks and then gave way to Hunt. Evidently Hicklin was onto his job and proposed to let Hunt know that he was up against the real thing, but did not know just where he was at. Hunt spoke a half hour and then asked for more time which Hicklin and the audience freely granted him. He spoke three-fourths of an hour and declared that the Bible sanctioned slavery and even upheld the framers of the constitution that the forefathers made; that God sanctioned their work, for the reason that they were Christianizing the slaves and furthermore that slaves if freed could not take care of themselves and would flock to the northern states like a black cloud and marry our sons and daughters. (He did not say whether they would do this before they were Christianized but suppose it was after for our sons and daughters would

hardly marry heathens.) He plead eloquently for pious slaveholders who were Christianizing the poor Africans and said that if the negroes were freed that amalgamation would run riot all over the land. It was said that Young Hicklin sat very quietly except he occasionally leaned over on one elbow so that he could see the speakers face and smile a little at the fear exhibited by Hunt in regard to the mixing the breeds. When his time came he stepped lightly to the stand and with a face beaming like a ray of sunshine as if something new had been imparted to him that he never before had thought of. He declared that he wanted more light on this dark subject as he was always ready to receive "truth wherever found, whether on Christian or heathen ground" and to obtain such light he began yankee like, his part of the debate by asking Brother Hunt some questions, one of which was: "Would it be any worse for the races to amalgamate in a state of freedom than in a state of slavery. It a state of freedom the negroes would be protected by law, as it is they are considered nothing but brutes. They have no more rights than a horse or cow, they are held as brutes and according to evidence it follows that the slaveholders continue to amalgamate with brutes and surely Brother Hunt you know what a heinous crime that is. Brother Hunt you said the negroes would marry our sons and daughters, really are you afraid on that score?"

Hunts reply was "no no." "Then whom are you afraid for, please specify, is it your neighbors who were in that mob near your home when I attempted to address them on a late occasion?"

"No no" again was Hunts reply.

"Then since the Brother is afraid for no one in this congregation, nor for any one in his neighborhood, it must follow that he is afraid for himself—that he is afraid some colored woman will come along and marry him contrary to his wishes and I will sign a petition to the state legislature, asking them respectfully to pass a law, with an emergency clause to prevent any colored woman in the state from marrying Brother Hunt without his consent."

Then Hicklin plied other questions to him asking him if he had not caught runaway negroes from Kentucky and returned them to their masters, if he had not had them tied or chained, taken to his house and while there in his presence have family prayer before starting to Kentucky with them. At this point in the debate there was great laughter and Hunt became very angry, threatening to strike Hicklin, and rose for that purpose, but Moderator Locke took him by the coat skirt and told him he ought to control his temper, but he declared he could not and discovering that he had no chance to avenge himself on Hicklin physically, he declared he would stay no longer, picked up his hat and saddle bags, and marched out amidst the jolly laughter of the audience, mounted his horse and rode home—a WISER IF NOT A BETTER MAN.

Perry township, Wayne county where this debate was held and New Garden township joining

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Perry were banner anti-slavery townships in 1840, and while it is common for us to look back and think that William Henry Harrison (grandfather of the late President Benjamin Harrison) the first Territorial governor of Indiana and later president of the United States, was an anti-slavery man but not so he was a "whig" but yet a pro-slavery in his opinions and it was by a supreme effort that Indiana was kept out of the category of slave states when admitted into the union and this grand work was accomplished by such heroic men and brave women as placed a high estimate on the boon of freedom, and who could see plainly that the continuance of slavery would be the downfall of the Republic.

In 1840 James G. Birney was nominated by a half dozen eastern abolitionists for president and soon after a meeting of the stockholders in the Underground Railroad together with all others who was anti-slavery was called to meet at New Port, Wayne county, for the purpose of ratifying the nomination. From the little I have read and what I remember to have heard later on I conclude that there never was a meeting held with a more determined resolution on the part of both men and women (for the women attended also and by the way they were not afraid nor ashamed to assert themselves in behalf of liberty and right) to use every lawful means to ameliorate the condition of the down-trodden slave.

James G. Birney was born in Kentucky in 1792 and died in 1857, I believe. In or about the year 1834 he emancipated his slaves and earnestly ever after while he lived advocated the abolition of slavery and later became the secretary of the National Anti-Slavery Society. He settled in Cincinnati and there edited the Philanthropist, its office being moved several times and finally destroyed. It 1844 Birney was the candidate of the Liberty party for president, causing the defeat of Henry Clay, who was supposed and indeed was "milk and water" on the slavery question, professing to believe in freedom but taking good care not to emancipate his slaves but always ready to make compromises with the slave Olegarky.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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