

A FIRE in Berks county, Pa., is destroying hundreds of acres of timber.

CHARLES H. LAYMAN, III., has been confirmed U. S. attorney for Wyoming.

It is reported that "Red" Leary, the bank robber, has been recaptured in Maryland.

JOHN W. ANDREWS, New York city, has been confirmed United States attorney for Montana.

MR. CANNON has introduced a bill into the house for the admission of Utah into the United States.

MARK GRAY, who attempted to shoot Booth has been pronounced insane by a committee of medical experts.

The sheriff of New York city offers a reward of \$5,000 for "Red" Leary, the bank robber, dead or alive.

The Iowa City alcohol works, recently destroyed by fire, are to be rebuilt with a capacity of 1,000 bushels per day.

The late Wm. B. Howes of Boston left a bequest of \$15,000 to the Boston Athenaeum to be expended for library purposes.

EDWARD PARABE, of Philadelphia, stabbed his daughter, Susan Irwin, the other day. The murder grew out of an old family feud.

The other day Mr. Charles Burgess took rooms at the Pacific Hotel St. Joe, Mo., and in the morning was found dead in his bed.

A. J. POPPLETON, Esq., of Omaha, has been chosen an orator to deliver the annual address before the State Bar Association next January.

The new constitution for California is certainly adopted. The workmen are said to be jubilant, and Dennis Kearney will be happy.

JOHN SHERMAN and Senator Thurman absolutely refuse to permit their names to be used in connection with the governorship of Ohio.

It is stated that Parole will run for the Epson gold cup, May 30th, and also in the Ascot stakes, meeting some of the best horses in England.

The prize fighter Elliott was severely punished the other day, and lies at Erie in a terrible condition, with four of his ribs on his left side broken.

Another victory is reported on the 8th for Parole, who won the Cheshire handicap stakes, worth eight thousand dollars, to Lorillardville.

GRAY, who attempted to shoot Edwin Booth, plead guilty the other day of assault with intent to kill, and was remanded to prison to await his sentence.

They held a village election the other day at Central City, Neb., when the citizens carried the temperance or prohibition ticket by a majority of 42 votes.

Mrs. SARAH W. UNDERWOOD, a lady moving in the first circles of Milwaukee society, was arrested the other day charged with uttering forged paper, amounting to several thousand dollars.

MR. HOXIE, Receiver of U. S. land office at Grand Island, says a larger amount of business has been done at that office during the past month than any other month since the establishment of the office.

The bill to prohibit military interference at the polls was signed by the Speaker at noon on the 10th, and taken to the White House. It is understood by the friends of the President that he will veto the bill.

It is stated that the new county of Nance, to be erected out of the Pawnee reservation, actually has a population of 1,500 and that active measures are being taken by its citizens to organize the county soon.

THREE persons of Burlington, Iowa, attempted to commit suicide on the 8th last, August Miller by shooting, Nicholas Theisinger by hanging, both succeeded; John Miller, tried to cut his throat, but failing to accomplish his purpose, was sent to the lunatic asylum.

HON. McCULLOUGH, Secretary of the Treasury, in a lecture at Harvard College, on the night of the 9th, made a strong argument in favor of a bi-metallic currency. He had changed his opinion, and had come to the conclusion that a double standard was the correct thing.

MR. CROMWELL LEIMER, a citizen of Centerville precinct, near Lincoln, and who was known to be in possession of a considerable sum of money, left home a short time since to purchase cattle and has not returned. Circumstances are such that his friends believe he has been murdered.

At Sidney, on the night of the 10th, Charles Reed shot Henry Loomis, a respectable citizen of Sidney, Neb., from the effects of which he died in the afternoon.

REED was afterwards captured and lodged in jail. A vigilance committee in full mask visited the jail, secured the murderer, erected a gallows pole, with a ladder for steps, adjusted the rope and asked him what he had to say. He replied, "Good bye, gentlemen," and at once jumped off the ladder to eternity. He is also charged with committing a murder in Texas.

RAILROAD.

Since our last issue the County Commissioners have submitted to vote the question of bonding the county to the extent of \$100,000 at 8 per cent. for a donation to the Lincoln & Northwestern R. R. Co., or the Blue Valley & Northwestern R. R. Co., the election to take place June 14th, 1879.

The particulars of the proposition will be found in our advertising columns, and are now legitimate subject for the closest scrutiny, and the most thorough discussion. Look at the matter in a square, fair, business way, and act in accordance with your best judgment. We always assume that the subscribers of the JOURNAL are not only capable of doing their own thinking, but that they will do so likewise. We never aim, in the expression of our opinions, particularly, to please any one, but definitely, plainly to set forth the facts or reasons upon which we ground our faith.

The JOURNAL'S creed is "competition," as being the next best thing in the absence of regulation by statute. All the arguments for the proposed road may be summed up in that one word, and that, so far as Platte county railroad rates is concerned, means more in specification and detail than any one man can tell in a long summer-day talk. A competing line out and in; out to the great markets of the world where the surplus products of the farm go as surely as water goes to the sea; in, bringing back our groceries, our coal, our lumber; competition, cheapening the transportation both ways, thus adding to the market value of everything we produce for sale, and bringing down the price of everything of foreign product that we buy—a double advantage. Time and time again the JOURNAL has said that if the people of Nebraska were assured of cheap fuel and cheap lumber, her future would be safe—our vacant lands would fast be occupied, improvements befitting a progressive, civilized people would be rapidly made, and every man, woman and child in Nebraska, may even the dumb brutes which look to us for shelter in the pitiless storm, would feel the dawn of the better day. In this one respect the railroad companies owning lands in this State have made a vital mistake. Their existence made possible by the generosity of the nation, they have bent their energies mainly to the task of seeing just how dry the lemon could be squeezed, and for their shortsightedness they have the satisfaction of being denounced wherever and whenever they are mentioned.

Cheap transportation, by inducing capitalists to consider our natural advantages, will bring us manufactures, which would be lasting prosperity to Central Nebraska. The southeastern line will tend to bring a northeastern, thus giving us still greater competition. It will add value to every acre of land in the county. After good soil, a good market is everything to the farmer. It will give us direct connection with Kansas City, which is already the greatest cattle market west of Chicago. It will give us the benefit of competing lines at Lincoln and at Kansas City, which latter seems to be the western, railroad terminus. It will make every species of industry here more profitable, and make the metropolis of Platte county a business centre for a still larger scope of country, increasing the value of real-estate investments in every direction. As our property assessment increases, the ratio of taxation will decrease. The railroads themselves will bear a considerable portion of the taxes, the U. P. now paying three dollars of every sixteen.

Before the discussion is over we purpose showing the immense benefit to business men and farmers of Platte county that this line will be, in dollars and cents—figures and facts that will be overwhelming in convincing every one of the need of a competing road.

VARIOUS opinions are expressed by citizens of California in regard to the effect of the provisions of the new constitution. Joseph Medill, of San Francisco, believes it will not confer so great benefits as its friends claimed, nor will it impoverish one half of the people and enrich the other, nor will it confer wealth without labor and saving, nor strip honest men of their property, no matter how rich. It will not drive present capital out of the State, nor prevent new capital from coming into it. It is claimed that it was the votes of the farmers that carried the new constitution, they casting more than two-thirds the votes it received, while the cities and towns nearly all gave majorities against it.

SECRETARY SHERMAN, visiting his home the other day in Ohio, was serenaded at his hotel in Mansfield. He made a speech to the large crowd assembled, in which he spoke very favorably of the revival of business and trade in the east, and the entire confidence men of capital have in the credit of the government, and its management of financial questions.

THE LINCOLN JOURNAL.

In giving a description of the races at Lincoln, says that the number of citizens in attendance was not so large as the attendance at the State fair, but what appears to be most remarkable is the fact that the Journal mentions the absence of boisterous, profane or vulgar language indulged in either the amphitheatre or at the quarter stretch. The drivers, riders and rubbers seemed to be of a different class from those who have visited us heretofore, and their good deportment was remarked by many. "Harry Edwards" won the first race on Wednesday, purse \$300. The running race half-mile dash was also won by "Harry Edwards," time 50 1/2 seconds. The trotting match resulted in favor of "Dick P.," purse \$300. The running race was won by "Joe Rowell." The trotting and running races on the 8th resulted as follows: the trotting in favor of "Kate Wisner," purse \$300, and in the running match, "Startle" won the purse of \$300 in 3:01. The slow mule race, one mile dash, was a very funny feature of the day. "Bay Jim" proved to be the slowest, and took the first money; time 17:00 1/2.

We can only refer briefly to the case of Platt vs. U. P. R. R. Co., recently decided in the U. S. Supreme Court, reversing the decision of Secretary Schurz. By the third section of the act of congress of July 1, 1862, a grant of lands was made to the U. P. R. R. company, and it was enacted "that all such lands not sold or disposed of by the company before the expiration of three years after the entire road should be completed, should be subject to pre-emption and settlement like other lands. In giving a construction to this law the court held that the company was authorized to mortgage the land grant, and that the mortgage made in 1867, "for the purpose of raising money necessary to continue and complete the construction of the road" was a "disposal" of the lands within the meaning of the act. The mortgage debt not having fallen due and remaining unpaid, that the lands were not open to settlement and pre-emption.

COL. RICHARDSON of Jackson, Miss., in the recent convention held by Southern planters gave expression to correct sentiments when he said that the convention would pacify the negroes if the white men showed this year that they were sincere in their resolution to put down bulldozing, and he thinks they are sincere. The planters are determined to stop it, because it is ruining them. Col. Richardson is the largest planter in the world, and grows 10,000 bales of cotton annually. We do not apprehend any very serious trouble about the colored people leaving the south if the white men will extend to them strictly their rights and then protect them under the law in well doing.

Call for State Temperance Convention.

The annual meeting of the State Temperance Society of Nebraska, will be held at Lincoln on May 22d, 1879. The Red Ribbon Clubs throughout the State are requested to send as many delegates as possible to this convention. Arrangements have been made with the different railroad lines for reduced rates of fare. State papers favorable to Temperance, please copy.

G. B. SKINNER, Pres. State Tem Socy. L. W. BILLINGSLEY, Secy.

COLUMBUS MARKETS.

Our quotations of the markets are obtained Tuesday afternoon, and are correct and reliable at the time.

Table with columns for GRAIN, AC., LIVE STOCK, and MEATS. Includes items like Wheat No. 1, Fat Cattle, Hogs, etc.

COPY OF ORDER.

In the District Court in and for Platte county, State of Nebraska, Fourth Judicial District.

On the petition of John B. Wells, Administrator of the estate of Christiana R. Wells, late of said Platte county, deceased, praying for a license to sell certain real estate of said decedent for the payment of debts and charges against said estate. It is ordered by the court that all persons interested in said estate are directed to appear before the Judge of said court on the 4th day of June, 1879, at 1 o'clock, p. m., at the Court House at Osceola, Platte county, Nebraska, to show cause why a license should not be granted to sell the real estate as prayed for in said petition for the payment of debts and charges against said estate, and that a copy of this order be published in the COLUMBUS JOURNAL, a newspaper published in said county of Platte, four successive weeks prior to the hearing of said cause.

PROPOSITION FOR RAIL ROAD BONDS AND TAX.

BY VIRTUE of the authority in us vested by an act of the Legislature of the State of Nebraska, entitled, "An act to enable counties, cities and precincts to borrow money on their bonds to aid in the construction or completion of works of internal improvements in this State, and to legalize bonds already issued for such purposes," approved February 15th, 1869, and the acts of the Legislature of said State amendatory thereof. We, the County Commissioners of Platte county, in the State of Nebraska, for the purpose of aiding the construction of a rail road, commencing at a point on the line of the Atchison & Nebraska rail road, in the county of Lancaster, Seward, Butler and Platte to the city of Columbus, hereby forming a continuous line of rail road from the city of Atchison, in the State of Nebraska, to the city of Columbus, in the State of Nebraska, do hereby submit to the legal voters of the said county of Platte, to be voted upon by them at a special election which is to be held on the 14th day of June, A. D., 1879, at the usual places of voting in this State, and to legalize bonds already issued for such purposes, approved February 15th, 1869, and the acts of the Legislature of said State amendatory thereof. 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