

THE CAMPAIGN.

A Grand and Auspicious Beginning at Fremont Saturday Night.

The Republicans of Dodge County endorse the nomination of Turner.

Senator Van Wyck, the Record of the State Delegation.

And Shows the Boasted Industry of Valentine to Amount to Nothing.

The Schwenck Hunt for Office and the Majors Census Fraud.

The Agricultural Bureau and its "Great Benefit" to Farmers.

While the Railroads Raise the Rates and Gobble all the Profits.

Fremont presented quite an animated appearance Saturday afternoon. Hand bills, announcing a republican mass meeting, to be addressed by Senator Charles H. Van Wyck, Gen. A. H. Connor and Hon. M. K. Turner, were freely circulated in the streets, and, despite the stormy weather, a large number of people, principally farmers, had gathered in the city to take part in the opening of the congressional campaign. Up till noon but few were seen, but when the train from the west reached the station all doubt was dispelled by the appearance of Van Wyck, Connor and Turner. Gen. Van Wyck had been at Grand Island the previous day to deliver the address for the Hall county fair, and hence his unexpected arrival from that quarter. But even after it became known that the general was on hand there was a good deal of speculation as to what course he would pursue. This state of uncertainty was considerably heightened on the arrival of the west bound train from Omaha, with Senator Saunders, United States District Attorney Lambertson and Surveyor General Smith, three orator-statesmen who came at the instance of the republican state central committee. By 4 p. m., however, another hand bill put in an appearance that the regular republicans would hold forth at the court house at 8 p. m., to be addressed by Senator Saunders and Mr. Lambertson. Before dark a tremendous bon fire was blazing in front of the court house regardless of expense and a band of music that had been imported from Belle Creek by telegraph marched through the streets to draw the crowd, and stationed themselves in front of the court house with an audience for the most part composed of small boys. All these attractions did not seem to draw, because everybody was on tip toe to hear what General Van Wyck had to say. The scene in front of the opera house before the doors were open was quite exciting. An immense crowd of people had gathered there patiently waiting admission. A huge bon fire was blazing and the Fremont band was playing some of its most inspiring airs. Within a few minutes after the doors were open nearly every seat was taken and the gallery was well filled. The crowd kept on increasing until the house was packed. Shortly before 8 p. m. Dr. L. J. Abbott, who presided announced the following named vice presidents, who took their seats on stage: Henry Beebe, of Fremont; Henry Sprick, Fontenelle; A. M. Spooner, of Hooper; George P. Davis, of Eweret; William Cook, of Belle Creek; R. B. Schneider, of Maple; D. Crowell, of Fremont; W. D. Holbrook, of Eweret; Robert Hewitt, of Fremont; R. Whitford, of Belle Creek; Scott Grimes, of Map; James Harvey, of Webster; Peter Sapara, of Logan; James Kilburn, of Fremont; W. H. Holley, of Eweret; S. Sorenson, of Fremont; Mathew Cotterell, of North Bend, and W. H. Hamilton, of Fremont.

Dr. Abbott then came forward and in a very neat speech, which elicited much applause, introduced Hon. M. K. Turner, the next congressman from the third district. Mr. Turner delivered an earnest and forcible address, lasting some forty minutes. Mr. Turner was very frequently applauded and his speech was well received. The full text of his speech will appear in our next issue.

Gen. Connor was then called, and entertained the audience for over half an hour with one of the most powerful anti-monopoly speeches that have ever been delivered in the state. Ow-

ing to limited space we regret to be compelled to defer publication of this speech until another issue.

Senator C. H. Van Wyck ascended the platform and said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN:—It affords me great pleasure to be with you this evening, and I will not occupy very much of your time in making what observations I desire to make. I did not know when I came into the city whether I had made a mistake or not. Possibly this idea was got into my head on account of some things I saw in the press and a notice I saw laying on the street corner when I came into the city, which was to the effect that there was a regular republican meeting somewhere else. I did not know whether I had made a mistake and got into the wrong paw. [Laughter.] But when I saw our distinguished friend Dr. Abbott and other of our old friends who had always been staunch republicans I concluded that I had got into the right paw, and that republicans had come here to worship and proclaim their faith. We all know what republicanism is and I presume that many of the men who sit in this hall to-night have been republicans for twenty-five years. They set out as republicans when republicanism had to battle with one of the greatest monsters and the greatest monopoly that ever cursed the world, and when these men became

CHARTER MEMBERS they had to fight for the principles of republicanism. They have been life members of that party, and I apprehend that these men will not easily forget the lessons they were taught in those early struggles.

Some of these men have grown old in the party, and their hair has turned from raven black to white as snow, but they are proud of that party, and can only show their allegiance to the party which has done so much for the people, by standing upon the principles in our day, and so far as we are concerned there can be no question as to "our" position. There can be no exception taken to what our friends have said to-night. I would like to know why any exception has been taken. There were men, you remember, who undertook to denounce the

PRINCIPLES OF REPUBLICANISM in the early times and all sorts of epithets were applied to republicans. They were called negro worshippers, abolitionists and fanatics, but they went straight on in the path they had marked out. And so, my friends, there is no rest in this world. No matter how good the party is, there is always something for every party to work on. You recollect when they were agitating about finance there was a great discussion about the legal tender greenbacks, which helped to save the country, and men began to talk about the rag baby. Then they said the people had too much money and silver must be abolished. Do you remember that congress passed an act to strike silver out of the list of the currency of the country that Wall street speculators might be made wealthy by gold. Then what a storm was created when certain men struck against the money and those who struck were called silver lunatics.

THE PEOPLE LOSE UP and they were heard upon this matter.

Whenever any question which interests the people vitally is agitated and when it assumes the character of a monopoly and arrays itself against the material welfare of the citizens it has been regulated by law. It was so with the grist-mill and the turpentine. Go back and you will find that the earliest governments have always had to have their usury laws and no one dare take a farthing beyond the legal rate. You know nearly every state in the union has its usury laws. In our own state we have reduced it from twelve to ten per cent and in New York it has been reduced from seven to six per cent. Every legislature controls this because money necessarily concentrates itself, and the legislature says that against such power and such encroachments the masses of the people should be protected. There was not only one, but

MANY SHYLOCKS, and you remember the law stepped in when that avaricious wretch wanted his pound of flesh. There are many now who would take a pound of flesh. When the debtor was unable to pay, Shylock exacts the fulfillment of his contract, saying "It was denominated so in the bond." Because it was denominated he would take a knife and cut a pound of flesh just the same as men would do to day unless they were restrained by law. They would take a pound of flesh unless a Daniel came to judgment. Well, the judge told Shylock while the bond gave him a pound of flesh it gave him not a drop of blood, and all we ask now is that interposition of law should come in and protect men. No one pretends that we have the right to take away any man's property, no matter by what means he may have acquired it. These usury laws are more arbitrary than any law regulating the powers of a corporate monopoly. They do not merely affect the banker but they reach the individual citizen, and the father who has saved up his hundred dollars cannot charge more than the regular interest without incurring the penalty. But here is one man owning one hundred millions—actually owning more than all the banking capital of New York. What a fortunate thing it is that providence deals better with us than we deal with ourselves. The millionaire may evade his taxes but he cannot escape death. It was rumored a little while ago that Jay Gould was going to take a trip around the world. After he gets around the world and takes a look at it, if he likes it he is going to buy it. [Laughter.] If the question is propounded, how this thing can be that one man who does scarcely any labor can amass

one hundred millions in a lifetime, we answer there is SOMETHING WRONG.

We know that. Will these men who antagonize us tell us what that wrong is and tell us the remedy. I presume every railroad and every man who owns a railroad owns four dollars for every one dollar invested. They have just constructed another road between New York and Chicago, called the nickel-plated railroad. There is no need for this railroad. There are plenty of railroads from Chicago to New York.

Well the persons who built this road are owning four dollars for every one invested. For every one million they own four millions of dollars. Why should the people be taxed to pay dividends on watered stock for an unnecessary road? Is it unreasonable that the people shall protect themselves against greedy construction companies and rapacious monopolies? All this has already been fully discussed. Gen. Connor has handled that issue with masterly ability.

What you want to know is what course you should pursue to REMEDY EXISTING ABUSES.

It is for you to see that you elect men who represent your sentiment and your principles. We have been engaged in this sort of warfare from year to year and I presume every man in this audience knows this struggle has existed for years. Men have been struggling for their individual rights as well as for their individual freedom. It is strange that it should be so but that is the history of the world. There has always been this struggle against oppression, struggle against the moneyed power. Out of republicanism was born freedom for the colored man and the white. If you trace history you will find the same struggle was ever going on. It is the struggle of the human family for the protection of their rights.

Now, my friends, I do not know that it is necessary that I should make any apology for addressing you as republicans. There is, as I am aware, and you are all aware, a sort of family feud among the party, and while possibly not in good taste, I feel it my duty to say something about certain gentlemen who sought to call in question my official conduct in making certain resolutions on me. I recognize the right of the constituency I represent to call in question the actions of their representative. While I do that I claim the right to appear in any locality and say what may be necessary in self-defense. My memory goes back to

SIX YEARS AGO. I remember that it was the first time I had the pleasure to visit this beautiful city. I thought it was certainly a most beautiful city and I have not changed my mind. Many of you will no doubt remember what happened at that convention and what took place afterwards, and the warfare which commenced then that has never stopped since and probably never will. I have just put in writing what I have to say as it was connected with the convention and the mistakes. [The senator then read the following from manuscript.]

In the spirit of fair play no apology is required where a man is compelled to speak in

HIS OWN DEFENSE.

For what reason I know not a studied attempt was manifest in certain localities in this district to make an attack on myself, one organ proposing the very proper inquiry what I had done since I had occupied a seat in the senate. At the convention which met in this city certain disappointed office-seekers arraigned my course. I propose to answer these gentlemen, not only here, but at other places in this district where this attack has been made. [Applause.]

Having no newspaper organ through which to do it, I must do it personally. Remember these attacks were made before any nominations for congress had been made, so that what may have happened since is no excuse for what was done previously thereto. Far better that Judge Valentine should run on his own merits rather than the alleged defects of others.

The Congressional Record shows the acts and sayings of each member of the delegation. To that I invite the strictest scrutiny. In the house Judge Valentine secured the passage of a joint resolution giving the use of tents at Grand Island. Your senators secured favorable action in the senate. He introduced a bridge bill for the — giving — miles for its location. Mr. Thompson, of Iowa, introduced one for the same company, restricting the distance for location, thus securing the bridge where it is now located. Senator Saunders introduced a bill in the senate similar to the Thompson. During the absence of Judge Valentine

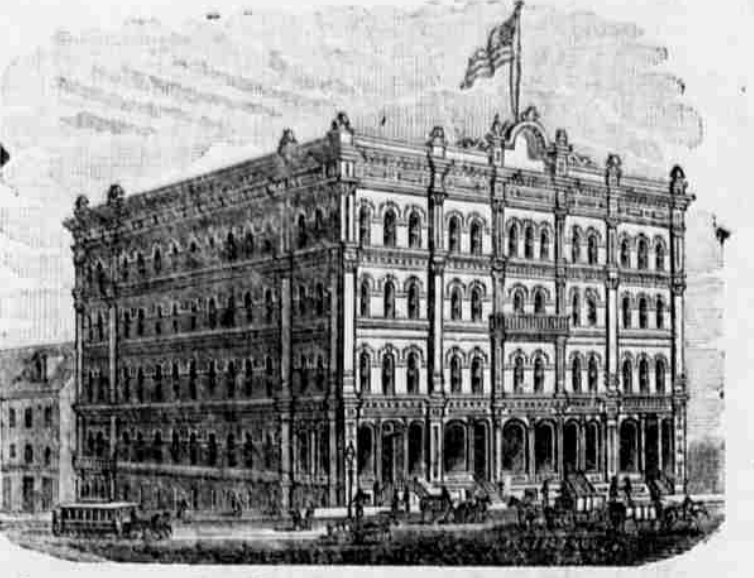
THE THOMPSON BILL PASSED the house, and your senators aided in the passage of the same bill through the senate. Still Judge Valentine was active and instrumental in passing the bill. He went before the house committee, as did myself, and urged that committee to grant this company the same privileges accorded to previous bridge companies, that where charges are made they should be enjoined on all corporations alike. To that the committee assented. How

SMALL AND CONTENTIOUS to steal what belongs to one so that you may unjustly bestock another in stolen plumage. The Record will show that your entire delegation in the senate and house labored for the interest of the state. Judge Valentine aided in passing through the house a bill creating the bureau of agriculture into a department.

CONGRESSIONAL POSEY GARDEN. This measure has been agitated for many years. I have always been of the opinion that it would not increase the dignity or prosperity of the agricultural classes. It would greatly add to the expense and furnish more

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places for professional politicians. Tell me what increase of benefit will come by reason of increased dignity and expense? Politicians fill the places in the bureau; a farmer could not even get a clerkship. [Applause.] For further answer I introduced and had passed the senate a bill for

RELIEF OF THE SETTLERS, and purchasers on the public domain adjoining the Denver & St. Joe railroad. [Applause.] This measure had the co-operation of Judge Valentine and will probably pass the house next winter.

SURVEYING FRAUDS. I also investigated the inquiry into many alleged frauds in government surveys in what is known as the special deposit system, whereby two million dollars was expended in eighteen months, one half of which was profits. The final result was a modification of the system and a reduction of the price of surveys from one-third to one-fourth, thus saving hundreds of thousands to the treasury. [Applause.] Yet

THE GREAT REFORMER, The Omaha Herald, continually upbraided me because I did not strike at individuals here and there, when it was the system that needed reforming. Surveyors general and surveying contractors were the same everywhere. They took "all" the law gave them. Congress had fixed the price to be paid for surveying so that the profits were large. This was one of the legacies of the democratic party. Finally the republican party corrected the wrong, and Nebraska inaugurated and helped to accomplish the reform.

Senator Saunders introduced a bill to establish a new land office in the northwest. I did one for the southwest in the Republican valley. Both passed the senate and Judge Valentine well knows when objection was made in the house I aided the passage thereof.

SENATOR SAUNDERS' WORK. The northern boundary line was introduced by Senator Saunders. The appropriation for an Indian school at Gona was secured by Senator Saunders. The bill as it came from the house provided for its establishment in Dakota, but Saunders introduced and argued and had passed an amendment authorizing the secretary of the interior to establish the same in Nebraska. Judge Valentine, of course, cheerfully accepted Senator Saunders' proposition. Saunders also introduced and had passed the senate a bill to establish an assay office at Omaha.

TAXING RAILROAD LANDS. I introduced a bill with the view of taxing railroad lands not patented, and hope for favorable action next winter. [Applause.] I also voted against the appointment of the

TARIFF COMMISSION, believing that the tariff needed modification and reduction, and that it was the duty of congress to do this without the interposition of a commission which would entail expenses and be productive of no beneficial results. I also introduced and spoke against

POLITICAL ASSIGNMENTS, believing, as proposed, it was an extortion and blackmailing on government employes, many of whom could not afford to pay the sums levied.

IMPORTANT OMISSIONS. I omitted to give Judge Valentine credit for a speech in the previous congress in favor of the star route service, also for appearing as witness for the defendants in the star route trials. I felt it my duty to vote early and often against the river and harbor bill, [applause] while Judge Valentine considered it his duty to vote for that measure.

CABLE MONOPOLY. Toward the end of the session came up the senate bill to incorporate another ocean telegraph company. I objected to the consideration of the bill unless and until the committee had consented to amend so that the act of incorporation should fix the charges. [Applause.] That was done and the rates were fixed at 20 cents

per word, while the present companies are now charging 50 cents per word. You must pay on what may seem extortion, but I have been forced to this showing merely in self-defense.

From this statement it is evident that men may differ widely on great questions of principle and policy and still be in full membership in the republican party.

READING OUT OF THE PARTY. No one proposes that Judge Valentine be expelled from the party because he has always voted as the administration or a majority of his party may desire, and I have no apprehension that any republican is to be banished because voting his own conclusions on the lesser matter as to whether

VALENTINE OR TURNER shall represent this district in congress. Difference of opinion is tolerated on weighty matters. You may be in favor of high, even protective tariff or tariff for revenue or a free trader. You may be in favor of the heather Chinese or against him; in favor of gold or a paper currency; in favor of river and harbor bill or against it; in favor of special deposits and large robberies from the treasury or against it; in favor of blackmailing government employes or against it; in favor of federal dictation in home affairs or against it; in favor of star route service and public plundering generally or against it; in favor of erasing submission by every demand and hebet of corporate money power or against it and still be worthy to fellowship in the grand old party. [Loud applause.]

But if a party exercises his acknowledged right to express a preference for candidates before nomination or discuss the regularity afterwards, a self appointed

COTERIE OF DICTATORS must sit in judgment, a bill of excommunication is at once issued and he is cut off from membership. We may enquire upon what meat do these our Creators feed that they have grown so fat? [Laughter.]

Unfortunately the republicans in this district have a family quarrel. I am not here to suggest or advise what you shall do.

THE HIGHEST TRIBUNAL. I know that both parties are claiming regularity of nomination and an appeal has been taken to the people and you must determine the matter. There is no tribunal higher than you. It must be before nomination or discuss the regularity afterwards, a self appointed

OFFICIAL BLACKMAIL. They extort this money here and send it to the great and wealthy states of New York and Pennsylvania, where this work of reading out of the party has been going on for many years. And when Judge Folger, one of the grandest men New York ever produced, in accepting the nomination for governor, sternly rebuked party tactics and leaders, when he says: "Doings of a quality which honest and high-minded men cannot approve and will not tamely tolerate, I scorn and do not get by such means." Suppose voters in New York at the ballot box will not tamely tolerate such measures and scorn an end got by such means, who dare undertake to read them out of the republican party?

WORSE THAN TISSUE BALLOTS. Suppose you by your ballots do not tamely tolerate such means as used by Capt. Butler or scorn an end through the despotism of a threat to cease free action by a threat to change the location of a postoffice, means as unjustifiable as tissue ballots in South Carolina or shot guns in Mississippi who dare undertake to read you out of the republican party? If Judge Folger can rebuke the leaders who by such means secure a nomination for him cannot the same right be exercised by the voter in Nebraska?

THE WORLD KNOWS THAT for a quarter of a century the hope and fruition of the notion has been in the republican party, and as long as its principles speak the sentiment, and its methods commend themselves to the honest judgment of the masses so long it will continue to be the hope for good government, freedom and prosperity.

ITS GREATEST ENEMIES. The greatest enemies to the republican party are those who have practiced the doctrine that "all things are

fair in politics." It has become common in some quarters to stigmatize as demagogues those who are guarding against encroachment of corporate power. I regret to see that Judge Valentine in a late agricultural address alludes to them by the endearing epithet of "blatherbrakes." [Laughter.] Many of you well remember when the foundations of the republican party were laid, those who talked free speech, free press, free soil and free men were met by the same torrent of abuse.

In the throes of a mighty revolution of opinion the republican party was born. It was a stern protest against extortion and wrong, an organized effort against the most terrible monopoly that had ever cursed the world, a monopoly of human flesh and toil, and we desire today to keep this republican party where it started, true to its memories and traditions, proud of its grand and sublime achievements. There are other reforms to be made, other victories for humanity to be accomplished, and we believe they can best be secured by, and through the republican party. While I do not propose to interfere with your family difficulty, I do not see what power the state convention has to interfere. They certainly made no investigation as to which candidate was regularly nominated, or which platform accorded with genuine republicanism.

THE MILK IN THE OCCASION. Their anxiety to endorse one branch of this contest may be the reason the resolution committee had no time to say a word for a republican national administration, which thus far has been endorsed by the republican party of every state except Nebraska, and here it was passed in silence. It could not have been forgotten, because Senator Burns, of York, offered in the convention the following resolutions:

Resolved, That congress should enact necessary laws, requiring railroad corporations to procure patents for all lands to which they are entitled, so the same may be subject to state and local taxation.

Resolved, That the people of the state of Nebraska unqualifiedly approve the act of President Arthur vetoing the river and harbor bill.

These were referred to the same committee and by them suppressed. Did that committee fear that an endorsement of President Arthur on the river and harbor bill would be an implied condemnation of Mr. Valentine, who voted in favor of that bill [Laughter.]

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO. These gentlemen will find that no act of President Arthur has inspired the republican party and the American people as that veto, which at once placed him in the front rank of American statesmen and made him the peer of the grandest and best of the presidents who have adorned this republic. These gentlemen will yet learn that President Arthur far more earnestly a cordial endorsement of the measures which will make him great and his administration a success than mouthing around and begging a post-office route agency. These gentlemen, on such a platform, will do well to read out of the party those who were charter members and rocked the cradle of its infancy and who today, within the party, are struggling to carry to final victory the principles it established.

POWER, PRESTIGE AND FUNDERS. I know some men attach great importance to a small office, but can you tell, with all the claims in behalf of Judge Valentine, what he has secured from an administration which some men think he owns and controls? All know he spent portions of several months in the attempt to secure an office for Peter Schwonek [laughter], and much time of several other months to secure a seat in congress for Col. Majors as contingent congressman [renewed laughter] on papers which every person who had any

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[Continued on Fourth Page]