

THE COURIER

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THE COURIER, in the last six months frequently predicted the early removal of John M. Griffith, national bank examiner. We possessed information of such a character as to make it certain, to us, that Griffith could not retain his position much longer. The

decapitation did, however, come a little earlier than was expected. Mr. Griffith has friends in this city and in the state many of whom believe him innocent of all complicity in the Capital National bank steal, and not guilty of the charge of covering up the crookedness of the Capital National bank officials, who will, no doubt, take the position that he has been unjustly treated by the comptroller; but those people who have followed the Capital National affair in all its ramifications, and who are competent to form an impartial opinion, will rejoice in this man's dismissal. To these it has long been clear that Mr. Griffith is culpable in a high degree for shielding Mosher and his pals, and for not protecting the interests of the bank's depositors and the public. An unprejudiced opinion on Griffith's case must find the ex-bank examiner deserving of the fate that has overtaken him. Justice, in the Capital National affair, is moving slowly; but it is progressing, and it may yet reach all of the principal offenders.

When, some months ago, THE COURIER, after a somewhat extended investigation, proceeded to present Mr. Griffith's case to the public, and in view of the showing made, demanded his removal from office, our efforts met with little encouragement. Mr. Griffith has the friendship and active influence of a very powerful element in this city and elsewhere, and he was regarded as somehow permanently entrenched in office. The Journal, as was of course to be expected, hastened to the defense of the accused bank examiner, and laughed at the idea of his being removed. But THE COURIER's efforts were not relaxed, and it is a fact that had it not been for the showing made in this paper, there would have been no reopening of the case against Griffith.

H. J. Whitmore, Griffith's successor, is not a banker; but he is abundantly qualified for the adequate performance of the duties that

will fall to his lot. He is a democrat of the Grover Cleveland and J. Sterling Morton sort, and he has for years been a kind of protege of the latter. He has the confidence and respect of men of all parties, and he is one of the most conscientious men who have ever taken a hand in politics in this city. Mr. Whitmore's integrity is proverbial. No better appointment could have been made.

There is a vast difference between the sentiment of the republican party in this state and the ideas of the comparatively few men who control it. Probably the action of no state convention in recent years has been satisfactory to the majority of the party. The candidates have, in most instances, been men who secured places on the ticket by their own exertions and by the use of money and "influence," rather than through a general desire on the part of republican voters that they be nominated. And the convention to be held on the Twenty-third of this month bids fair to be no exception to the rule. The men who have been elected delegates are the "practical" politicians of the party. The best element in the party has, as usual, been largely ignored; and nominations will be made with little or no consideration for the interests of the party or the state. Nearly a thousand men will gather in Omaha to help the personal schemes of a dozen or so of aspirants for public office, and the men with the largest "pulls" will come home victorious. And, a few weeks later, we will gather in mass meetings and shout for the grand old party

THE COURIER's past criticisms of Governor Crouse do not prevent us from doing justice to that gentleman, and we are simply stating a fact when we say that Crouse has performed a service for Nebraska during his term as governor that would be ill requited by allowing him to leave the executive office next January. If ever a governor of Nebraska deserved a second term Crouse does and regardless of the claims of Majors and McColl and the rest of the politicians, THE COURIER would like to see this man who has dared to stand up Nebraska, renominated. The re-election of Crouse, coming at this particular time would be of incalculable benefit to the state, and the republican party has it in its power, if only it will for once shake off the shackles, to make a rapid stride forward in popular favor by again placing Crouse at the head of the ticket.

Arrangements have just been completed whereby the new University Conservatory and Hagenow's School of Music will unite their forces under one head. This must indeed be pleasing news to the many musical people of Lincoln who have always wished for a combination of this kind, thus giving to a musical institution here for the first time the combined impetus of intelligent management and a faculty of thorough musicians.

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