Lincoln County Advocate.

"Hew to the Line, Let the Chips Fall Where They May."

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In the grocery line will be found a large stock of everything kept in a first-class grocery store. Also
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REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The next Union Republican National Convention for the nomination of candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States will be held in the city of Cincinnati, on Wednesday, the 14th day of June, 1876, at 12 o'clock, noon, and will consist of delegates from each State equal to twice the number of its Senators and Representatives in Congress and of two delegates from each organized Territory and the District of Columbia.

In calling conventions for the election of delegates the committees of the several States are recommended to invite all Republican electors, and all other voters, without regard to past political differences or previous party affiliations, who are opposed to reviving sectional issues, and desire to promote friendly feeling and permanent harmony throughout the country by maintaining and enforcing all constitutional rights of every citizens, including the full and free exercise of the right of suffrage, without intimidation and without fraud; who are in favor of the continued prosecution and punishment of all official dishonesty, and of an economical administration of the government by honest, faithful, and capable officers; who are in favor of making such reforms in the government as experience may from time to time suggest, who are opposed to impairing the credit of the nation by deprecating any of its obligations, and in favor of sustaining in every way the national faith and financial honor; who hold that the common-school system is the nursery of American liberty, and should be maintained absolutely free from sectarian control; who believe that for the promotion of these ends the direction of the government should continue to be confided to those who adhere to the principles of 1776, who support them as incorporated in the constitution and laws, and who are in favor of reorganizing and strengthening the fundamental principle of the national unity in this Centennial Anniversary of the Republic.

E. D. MORGAN,
Chairman Republican National Committee.
WM. B. CHANDLER, Secretary.

Ex-Speaker Blaine's reply to inquiries concerning an article recently published in the New York *Sun*, appears in another column of our paper this week.

Frank E. Chamberlin, a promising young attorney of Storm Lake, Iowa, committed suicide last week by blowing his brains out with a shot-gun. Whisky was the cause.

Two more temperance lectures. An old toper at Sioux City attempted suicide one day last week, and a young man named Carr was murdered by a drunken man near Sac City, Iowa, on the 26th inst.

Mr. Charles Francis Adams, Jr., having said in the New York Conference, "What I most ask in this centennial year is that I may stand up and be counted," the New York *Graphic* remarks: "Very well, you've stood up and been counted. You count one. You are no more count than any other man!" And now Adams can stand down.

At the Democratic State Convention held at Trenton, New Jersey, on the 23d inst., the resolutions adopted favor the restoration of gold and silver as the basis of currency as soon as practicable; denounce the administration; suggest that the nomination of Joel Parker would insure the success of the Democracy in the approaching Presidential election, and the delegates were requested to present his name to the National convention and urge his nomination.

On the 23d inst., the Cabinet considered to some extent the situation of affairs in the Black Hills country. Assurances have been given that an influential band of Sioux are willing to relinquish their domain there and remove to reservations in Indian Territory. All correspondence in that particular was referred to the Secretary of the Interior, who will give instructions to agents of the Interior Department regarding the proper negotiations in that direction. Should this portion of the Sioux nation positively signify a willingness to settle in Indian Territory the hope is expressed that the entire formidable part of the hostile Indian race may soon be domiciled in that Territory.

Intelligence from the Indian country indicates that we are now upon the verge of an Indian war which will involve the larger portion of the Sioux nation upon the Dakota reservation. In case the threatened general conflict occurs we can safely assert that it will be participated in by the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail bands and by the various bands on the river above Yankton agency. But the center of the conflict will doubtless be around the Black Hills and northwest from there in the region of the Big Horn country. Gen. Crook is preparing for work, but summer expeditions never have proved successful. In the event of a general Indian war Yankton will be the base of supplies for the troops.—*Press & Dakotaian.*

A dispatch from Denver, Colorado, dated May 24th, says: "The snow storm which has prevailed for twenty-four hours on and along the base of the mountains broke up early this morning. The fall in this city was upwards of six inches. At Central City and Georgetown and other mountain towns the snow is reported to-day as three feet deep. The railroads entering here have all lost their bridges and embankments and travel is suspended, but it is believed that all the roads except the Denver and South Park, Colorado Central and Boulder Valley, will be able to move their trains regularly to-morrow. The damages to county bridges and thoroughfares cannot be reliably estimated, but is undoubtedly heavy. Considerable damage is sustained by the owners and occupants of houses in the lower part of this city, but thus far no casualties are known to have resulted from this flood which has not been equalled since 1864.

President Grant has made, and the Senate immediately confirmed, the following nominations: Edward Pierrepont, of New York, Minister to England; W. Alphonso Taft, of Ohio, now Secretary of War, Attorney General; J. Donald Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Secretary of War. The Cabinet change and the nomination of Judge Pierrepont as Minister to England were the occasion of great surprise in all quarters. So carefully had the intentions of the President in this regard been concealed that with the exception of Mr. Fish and the gentlemen directly and personally interested the other members of the Cabinet were not aware of the arrangement until the nomination had been sent to the Senate. Judge Pierrepont will take immediate steps to depart for England, and Judge Taft will without delay take charge of the Department of Justice. Judge Pierrepont will probably arrive in England before the termination of the correspondence with the British government on the Winslow case. Mr. Cameron has telegraphed to his friends there that he very highly appreciates the honor conferred on him by the President and Senate, that it was entirely unexpected and that he is now too much indisposed to leave home, but hopes to be there in a few days, and in the meantime will decide whether he will accept the office.

The following provision has been inserted by the House in the deficiency appropriation bill which has already passed that body:

And hereafter payment of salaries of all officers of the territories of the United States appointed by the president shall commence only when the person appointed to such office shall take the proper oath and enter upon the duties of such office in such territory, and said oath shall hereafter be administered in ther territory in which such office is held.

Provided, That all officers appointed by the President for the territories shall be bona fide citizens of the territories respectively for which they shall be appointed.

The following letter was lately received at the U. S. Land Office in Sioux Falls:

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6, '76.

Register and Receiver, Sioux Falls, Dakota Territory:

GENTLEMEN:—Referring to my telegraphic order of March 30th, 1876, that you should "receive no more applications to locate homstead entries under section 2306 of the revised statutes of the United States," I hereby so modify that order that applicants who come personally before you and make affidavit that they have not in any manner, directly or indirectly, assigned the right of additional entry, may be allowed to enter the quantity to which they are entitled under the law, according in other respects to instructions heretofore given in regard to entries under said section. The form of affidavit prescribed (Number 16 of circular of June 18, 1875) may be used by adding in ink at the close of the printed form with which you are furnished the words "nor have I in any manner, directly or indirectly, assigned my right of additional entry."

Very respectfully,
U. J. BAXTER,
Acting Commissioner.

DAKOTA ITEMS.

At the Territorial convention held at Yankton on the 24th, to elect delegates to Cincinnati, R. Alexander was elected President, and L. D. F. Poore, Secretary. Hon. A. Hughes and A. McHench were chosen delegates and Geo. H. Hand and G. P. Flannery alternates. No other business transacted, and no instructions given the delegates.

The Sioux Falls *Pantagraph* of last week announces the receipt of an advertisement printed in seventy-four different languages, and a copy of a newspaper printed in 1814. Besides, it says a citizen of that town has a pair of tongs over three hundred years old, which were formerly used by the King of Denmark to light the royal pipe, with a coal from the fire.

On Saturday last a terrible hail storm visited portions of the Sioux Valley. Mr. Doane informs us that in the neighborhood of R. H. Miller's, hail fell the size of walnuts with here and there a large jagged piece of ice. The gardens which were in an advanced state were entirely destroyed and the grain driven into the ground until it looked as if the crop would be entirely destroyed.—*Elk Point Courier, 24th*

Immigration to Dakota's fertile prairies has begun in earnest. Lincoln and Turner counties are filling up rapidly, Minnehaha and Hutchinson are receiving large accessions, and as the tide rises, the "first low wash of the wave is heard" along the valleys of the upper Jim and Big Sioux. Our Board of Immigration headed by Supt. Cross has worked with good effect during the past year.—*Press & Dakotaian.*

Our County Commissioners have entered in a contract through Joseph F. Cullinan, Esq., our county clerk, for a ditcher and grader of the latest improved, with some firm in Illinois. Its cost will be about $600, and when it arrives we will no longer be troubled with curses loud and deep in consequence of the bad condition of some of our roads, as it will immediately be put to work. The Commissioners have done properly and their conduct will be commended by their constituents. It is a sum of money well expended.—*Elk Point Courier.*

Delegate Kidder's bill for the relief of pre-emptors on public lands, has passed both Houses of Congress and has now become a law. It provides that where crops have been destroyed by grasshoppers within the past two years, the settler shall have two years longer in which to make final proof and payment. This virtually extends the time for payment two years, for every settler in Dakota. Judge Kidder does no blowing, but his work can be seen and the people will not forget the efficient services which he has rendered during his short stay at Washington, and will demand that he remain there to look after their interests.—*Vermillion Republican.*

MR. BLAINE EXPLAINS.

Some six or seven years ago some friends of mine, in Boston, desired to make a small investment in the North Pacific enterprise, and as the vice-president of the road, Hon. R. D. Rice, was a near neighbor of mine in Augusta, it was thought I might find out where and how the purchase could be made. In one or two instances I heard of interests being for sale but nothing was done. Finally, in the autumn of 1870, a definite interest was for sale, and it was brought to my attention with very glowing and extravagant accounts of its prospective profits. As it was a road chartered by Congress, deriving its franchise and grants directly from Congress, and liable at any time to apply to Congress for future favors, I did not myself entertain for a moment any idea of becoming interested in it, but as these friends had been wishing such investment, and as they had the same right as any other private citizen had to own in the enterprise, I communicated the facts to them precisely as they had been given to me. A few days after I was notified that they would be glad to purchase a certificate of deposit or a cashier's check for $25,000, which was placed in my hands in trust, as the receipt shows, to hand over to the person proposing to sell, who in due time will doubtless speak for himself. The certificate was to be taken in the name of Elisha Atkins, one of the most prominent and honorable merchants in Boston. It was soon found, however, that the Northern Pacific interest was in some way pledged or hypothecated or embarrassed as to title and the matter ran along for over a year and finally came to nothing. The money in full, with interest, was returned to Warren Fisher, with whom the negotiation was had and the holder of the Northern Pacific interest retained or possibly found another purchaser of which I know nothing.

This is simply the whole transaction out of which the sensation is attempted by the *Sun*.

My connection with it was purely of a friendly character. I had not the remotest interest in it in any shape or form, and had no intentions or understanding that I should become interested in it. The transaction was of course regarded by me as in every way proper, otherwise I should most certainly never have received and receipted for money to hold in trust until the transaction should be consummated between the parties.

I am very glad, continued Blaine, that my letter which the *Sun* publishes proves on its face that I would not myself touch the investment. I could easily have purchased if had I been willing, but I did not deem such investment advisable for me to make. From first to last, in all legislation touching Pacific railroads, I never had an interest of a penny in one of them, nor in any of their branches, directly. In a private letter, if anywhere, a man will speak unguardly, and this letter, written with no expectation of its ever being published, proves conclusively that when a Pacific Railroad interest was offered me with brilliant promises of great profits I declared I would not touch it.

I think the *Sun* in publishing this private letter has supplied a valuable proof of my official integrity in the matter. All these attacks, resumed Blaine, after a slight pause, are intended to impress the people with the belief that I have large wealth and that it has been acquired since I entered Congress. The moderate property which I own was almost wholly derived from fortunate investment in coal lands in my native Monongahela Valley, in Western Pennsylvania, made some years before I first ran for Congress. I notice many papers whose editors never saw me and know nothing of my affairs glibly put my property down at a round million. The value my property would bring to-day would not amount to one-fifth part that sum. I can say with the strictest truth that, all things considered, I am not to-day as well off pecuniarily as I was the day I entered Congress in December, 1863. Had I not remained in Congress I would to-day, in my judgment, had a large fortune, as business enterprises which were at my command, if I could have attended to them, have resulted most favorably, but every friend who knows me knows that neither my income nor expenditure, nor my habits of life imply or suggest the possession of furtune, or of anything indeed beyond a moderate competency.

The following proclamation was issued by President Grant on the 25th inst:

WHEREAS, A joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives was duly approved on the 13th day of March last, which resolution is as follows:

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it be and is hereby recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives to the people of the several States, that they assemble in their several counties or towns on the approaching Centennial anniversary of our national independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation, and that a copy of said sketch may be filed, in print or manuscript, in the clerk's office of said county and an additional copy, in print or manuscript, be filed in the office of the Librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first centennial of their existence.

WHEREAS, It is deemed proper that such recommendation be brought to the notice and knowledge of the people of the United States, now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known the same in the hope that the object of such resolution may meet the approval of the people of the United States, and that proper steps may be taken to carry the same into effect.

Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, this 25th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1876, and of the independence of the United States the one hundredth. U. S. GRANT.

By the President:
HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

An Excursion Project.

Our indomitable fellow townsman and ex editor Charley Collins is now actively engaged in working up one of the grandest schemes in which he ever enlisted, a scheme in which, if carried out as projected, Charley will realize millions, or many thousands, at least. In this great Centennial year of our nation people are supposed to spend money lavishly, and to avail themselves of every opportunity presenting itself to not only visit the world's exhibition but to take in every noted region of country north and south, east and west. More especially are our European visitors expected to do this. Viewing the matter in this light, Mr. Collins has conceived and partly arranged a plan to furnish a few hundred of wealthy foreign nabobs with the conveniences for an extended excursion from Philadelphia through the great West. If this scheme matures well Charley will treat his excursionists to a view of the grand Falls of Niagara and the greatest suspension bridge in the world; thence westward bound will give them a ride on the biggest lake, Lake Michigan; thence across the largest and most magnificent prairies in christendom, those of Illinois and Iowa; thence to St. Louis where they can cast their visual orbs on the biggest bridge structure known, that spanning the Mississippi River at that city; thence by rail to Sioux City and take boat for Brule City, giving them a ride on the longest and muddiest river in the country; will then take them through the largest tribe of Indians in the world, for by that time Spotted Tail and Red Cloud's bands are expected to be located on the Missouri near the old Whetstone Agency; thence on into the Yellowstone country, showing his visitors the wildest and most romantic stretch of country to be seen anywhere, and will also take them into the Black Hills and explain the *modus operandi* of mining for precious metals, etc., etc. It is the grandest, most glorious thing yet conceived in the way of a side amusement. Talk about "mules" and "hogs," and "corn!" They will do very well for side speculations; but this excursion—it will just lay over them all. Col. Sellers never had an aspiration that reached knee high to this mammoth scheme of Mr. Collins'. Charley says he will have this excursion ready to start from Philadelphia in about a month. It will cost a mere trifle to each man to make the round trip—a matter of say $500. But what is that paltry sum compared with the vast amount pleasure and knowledge to be derived from the trip. If it proves a success, it will be a grand good thing—for Charley at least.—*Sioux City Journal.*

SOUTHERN CLAIMS.

Year after year this dangerous issue has assumed aspects of growing importance. The defeated slaveocracy, while surrendering its martial array, never surrendered the intention to force the General Government to pay for the emancipated slaves and to assume the rebel war debt. Confederate bonds and bills of sale for human chattels have, consequently, been treated as titles greatly depreciated by litigation, but not wholly sunk in value. There are thousands of men throughout the South who preserve these obligations of the past, not as relics or curiosities, but as evidences of claims yet to be allowed and paid. For some time agencies have been in existence for the distinctly avowed purpose of collecting, before it is too late, by oral testimony, proofs of ownership in specific slave property, that shall serve, in hoped-for-days, to designate individuals who are entitled to so-called reparation—persons whose legal papers have been lost amid the turmoil and destruction of the war.—It is well understood that for years there has been going on quietly a purchase at nominal values of immense quantities of Confederate bonds, which are now concentrated in few hands, awaiting the moment when they can be made to play their prearranged part in a great scheme of spoliation. These proceedings have taken place, moreover, with full knowledge of the constitutional amendment which forbids all the hopes entertained, all the aims planned, and all the objects intended. In the very face of these hostile provisions of the organic law such a project has been in steady preparation, systematic in all its details, sagacious in all its designs, unwavering in all the progressive steps of its persistency.

As early as 1868, when he was about entering upon his candidacy for the Presidency, General Grant clearly foresaw the issue that was to be forced some day upon the country. At a friendly interview with some political friends in Chicago he spoke of the threatened complication, and characterized it as one of the great dangers of our national future. The very magnitude of the interests involved was, in his opinion, a certain source of jeopardy. According to his view the bulk of the rebel obligations would drift gradually into the hands of a limited number of determined, energetic, capable, unscrupulous men, who, in order to carry their point, would divide their possessions into two parts, one of these to serve as a vast corruption fund, the other as compensation for themselves.

We seem now to have arrived at a point of time when the prescience of General Grant is on the verge of being realized by entering into our national politics as a practical question—a question whose affirmative and negative sides will more and more come into active discussion. In fact the issue is more realistic and menacing to-day than ever before. It already begins to assume the position of an obstacle that must be encountered and removed.

If, as the *Tribune* confesses, this is "one of the many serious subjects which threaten the integrity of the Union," it is time for Republicans to consider whether they can afford to take a Presidential candidate from the South—whether it is wise to run that culminated in the case of Andrew Johnson. To a man born, reared, and domesticated south of Mason and Dixon's line there must be ties, habits of thought, affiliations, and influences, necessarily embracing him in their circle, which do not resolutely and patriotically look away from all schemes to promote the payment of unconstitutional Southern claims. Every such man must constantly be brought in contact with sympathies and tendencies which, if he be true to his country, he must resist with a power of self-watchfulness that will task his firmness and endurance. Duty may call him to a course of conduct that will involve him in social ostracism and subject him to the fate of a political outcast in the land of his domicile, and amid the scenes and associates of his youth, the like of which has already often taken place in various parts of the South. All these are trials, temptations, and contingencies that the country does not need to seek in the person of Presidential candidate. Rather, they are circumstances to be avoided. We have tried men, able men, experienced men—men suited to the emergency—in the North, where love of the Union and attachment to the amended Constitution are the strongholds of public feeling, and where any yielding to pernicious demands from the South would precipitate popular indignation and resentment. Here, where all the influences, tendencies, sympathies, and convictions are promiscuously and earnestly on the side of law and order—in favor of equal rights and national unity—is the proper place to find a [illegible] the Republican party and [illegible] United States, not in the s[illegible] aggressive, seditious [illegible] *Inter-Ocean.*

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One column	$25.00	$45.00	$80.00
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