THE STATE JOURNAL.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA

By Frank P. MacLennan.

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WEATHER INDICATIONS.

Washington, Feb. 7.—For Kansas: Forecast till 8 p. m. Thursday: Fair, except showers in eastern portion; cooler in eastern portion tonight; rising temperature Thursday; variable winds.

THE Republicans are going to carry Kansas this year. Now, let none but good men be put up for office, and Kansas will have an administration that will make the brightest spot in her history forever afterward. Keep the rascals out!

LAWRENCE Gazette: Topeka has at last been induced to put up $20,000 to get a woolen mill moved there. These subsidized industries are seldom of much benefit to anybody but the promoters, and we will predict that the Topeka woolen mill will be a fizzle. We are always suspicious of "factories" that require a bonus to move to a new town.

THOMAS MOONLIGHT was confirmed for the position of minister to Bolivia by the senate yesterday, and nothing now remains for him to do, but get his instructions, pack his grip and leave for La Paz. La Paz is the capital of Bolivia, if the Bolivians haven't changed it since last night. The Bolivians are a changeable people and in the last fifteen years have changed their seat of government nearly as frequently as a western Kansas county.

THE people of Kansas are pretty thoroughly interested in irrigation; they all believe in it. No longer is heard the bitter cry from western Kansas town lot boomers that to talk irrigation "dets the eastern public onto the fact that western Kansas doesn't have rains enough." The eastern public is already "onto" that fact. So there is no longer any need of concealment even for the townsite boomers. The information that is desired now, is where is the water to come from that is to wet up the soil of arid western Kansas?

A CASE of cruelty is charged against Warden Chase of the penitentiary which needs investigation. At the November term of the district court at Holton a young man by the name of Herbert Grubb pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing a horse and was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary. The horse had been taken from a man near Soldier in whose family Grubb had lived for some time, and to whose step daughter he was engaged to be married. There were many extenuating circumstances surrounding the case, and as Grubb was not a hardened criminal, he was given the least possible sentence under the law. At the time that Grubb was taken to the penitentiary by Sheriff Naylor, it was explained to the prison authorities that he was physically weak and ought not to be put in the coal mines. As he knew something about cooking he was promised work in the kitchen department, but in a few days without any medical examination as to his condition, without any consideration for humanity whatever, he was ordered to go down into the coal mines, where he did go. In a few weeks he was taken violently sick and about two weeks ago he died.

KANSAS CITY Star: At a recent spiritualistic seance at Topeka one of the literary people present asked the medium if Tennyson or Longfellow could be materialized. The medium gave the truth-seeker to understand that both those singers were engaged at the time of the inquiry, but suggested, after the manner of the drug clerk, that he "had something just as good." And thereupon a poem was scratched on the slate, of which a copy of one verse is hereto appended:

> Gone all the pane and longing
> Of earthly hops and panes
> In this bright hereafter
> A tale not vemains.

The spelling is that of the spirit world. If this poem is genuine, if there has been no hitch in the transmission of the message, if the filter of the grave has really left any human soul clotted with so much dross, then death has new horrors and immortality has its drawbacks. The spelling of the spirit world and the disembodied idea of meter and rhythm are rather foreign to accepted theories and deeply rooted prejudices that worldlings have about these things. While it is doubtless very true that "all the pane and longing of earthly hops and panes" are "gone" in the bright hereafter, still the fact looks better set forth in prose where liberties may be taken with the orthography by the charitable transliter. The Topeka example may be a warning to others who have "familiar spirits" at their command not to let the spirit of "Silas Wegg" get at the machine again. It is bad for the profession.

KANSAS PARAGRAPHS.

The Kansas Swedish Lutheran conference is in session at McPherson.

McPherson expects to have two new flouring mills by the first of April.

Nine tenths of the books loaned by the Newton library during the year '93 were books of fiction.

Lyons has a diplomatic minister who can preach a truthful funeral sermon and still please the mourners.

The Goodland Republican takes coyote scalps on subscription, and those of its contemporaries incidentally.

A preacher at Atchison has denounced the papers there as advising sharply because they favor down stairs saloons.

Prof. Moss who composed the music for the "Old Oaken Bucket" to be given at Lawrence, fully covers his subject.

A young lady elocutionist who brought tears to her hearers' eyes is said to have "delighted and pleased" an Emporia audience.

Emporia Gazette: Congressman Funston's tariff speech is to be distributed as a campaign document, and will start many a fire next winter.

The first Greek class in the university at Holton only takes a page of Xenophon a day, and when Cyrus marches they have lots of time to go skating.

The citizens of Lenora offer to donate a block of ground in the center of the town and $1,000 cash for the location of Norton county's high school.

The Lawrence young man who has a fad for collecting souvenir handkerchiefs has relieved the laundries and washwomen of that piece of loads of censure.

One of the soldiers in the Home at Leavenworth falls into trances so much that half the time it can't be told whether he is dead or alive. He has gotten so fixed in the habit of dying that he can't break off.

The editor of the Florence Bulletin visited the schools the other day, only to come away sad and full of forebodings because the pupils didn't have to take a crack like they used to and "Manso Bozarris" wasn't in the fifth reader.

HALLOWELL AND DOUGLASS

Prince Hal Challenges Geo. L. For a Joint Debate and Douglass Refuses.

WICHITA, Feb. 7.—Col. James R. Hallowell has written the following letter to Geo. L. Douglass:

Hon. George L. Douglass, City:

MY DEAR SIR:—In the days of Webster, Clay, Wade, Lincoln and Garfield, the statesmen seeking the endorsement of their fellow citizens went, in speech and in song, to the people who gathered at the "smashings" to hear and to choose. Believing in the good old customs, I respectfully propose that we hold seven or nine joint meetings in this county, inviting the people to come out and hear our claims to recognition as opposition candidates for congressman at large. At least two of the meetings should be held in the city of Wichita and the others at such places as we may agree upon. Dates and division of time can be arranged between this and Tuesday morning and we can share the expense equally.

Asking for an early response and trusting that you will accept the challenge,

I am very truly yours,
J. R. HALLOWELL.

WICHITA, Kan., Feb. 5, 1894.

Douglass' Reply.

The following is Geo. L. Douglass' answer:

Col. J. R. Hallowell, City:

DEAR SIR:—I have your letter in which you say, "In the days of Webster, Clay, Wade, Lincoln and Garfield, the statesmen seeking the indorsement of their fellow citizens went, in speech and in song, to the people who gathered at the 'smashings' to hear and to choose. Believing in the good old customs, I respectfully propose that we hold seven or nine joint meetings in this county, inviting the people to come out and hear our claims to recognition as opposing candidates for congressman-at-large."

Several suggestions occur to me in this connection:

First—So far as this proposition contemplates our going before the people "in song," it is impracticable, for I have no talents in that line. I cannot sing.

Second—The serious part of the proposition as I understand it, is that you and I shall hold joint public meetings at which we shall discuss ourselves and our claims. Such a discussion would be purely personal in its details. In considering your claims as against mine, assuming that there are any such things as claims in a case of this kind, you would necessarily have to give your reasons for believing yourself to be the stronger candidate and for believing me to be the weaker candidate; and, if I consented to go into such a discussion, I would have to reverse this process. While all this might be highly satisfactory to our common enemy, it would be injurious to party harmony in this county and might militate against the ultimate success of either of us.

Third—In your recently published letter to me of January 20 you made this statement: "I have no fears of the Republicans of Sedgwick county. They know me and my work. If they are with me they will sustain me," etc. Now, if that is true, what is the use of seven or nine speeches to tell them what they already know.

Fourth—I have heard of joint discussions between representatives of opposing political parties, wherein great principles were debated, as, for instance, the famous Lincoln and Douglas debate. But I do not believe that a joint discussion between two members of the same party, upon the subject of their personal claims to preferment would meet with public approval; and I doubt whether Daniel Webster or any of the great men you name ever "went in speech and in song before the people" for such a purpose. For these reasons, in which I believe a large majority of our fellow Republicans concur, I find myself unable to agree to your proposition. Let me again assure you of my earnest desire that this little canvass in which we are engaged may be so carried on, and the primaries so conducted, that both your friends and mine can loyally accept the result whatever it may be, and, to avoid anything calculated to engender animosity.

Very respectfully yours,
GEORGE L. DOUGLASS.

AN HISTORICAL SPOT.

A TABLET TO SHOW WHERE THE BALTIMORE CONGRESS MET.

How Congress Was Compelled to Leave Philadelphia in 1776 and Take Up Temporary Quarters in the Old Fite Tavern in the Monumental City.

Baltimore is a city rich in historical landmarks, and another very interesting event in American history is soon to be recalled by the erection there of a tablet where the continental congress met on the 20th of December, 1776. The place, on Baltimore street, between Sharp and Liberty, was a three story brick tavern without architectural pretensions. Its owner in those days was one Jacob Fite. The interior of the house was burned in 1869, and a few years ago the restored building fell before the march of improvements.

The Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution did not believe in allowing such an important spot to remain unmarked, and on Feb. 22 the tablet the society has prepared will be planted near where the old Fite tavern stood. The tablet will be of bronze, 4 feet high and 3½ feet broad. In the center will be a plate bearing a relief picture of the tavern and the following inscription:

Here stood the house of Jacob Fite, known afterward as Congress hall, in which the continental congress met Dec. 26, 1776, and on Dec. 27, 1776, conferred on General Washington extraordinary powers for the raising of troops and the conduct of the Revolutionary war.

Above the plate containing the picture and inscriptions will be an ornamental cornice, with an eagle with outstretched

HALL OF CONGRESS, BALTIMORE, 1776.

wings at each corner and a shield with supporting scrollwork in the middle. The sides of the tablet will be rounded and about eight inches deep. On one of these rounded corners will be the names of seven of the original states—Maryland, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Delaware, New York, Rhode Island and Connecticut—with a star between each. The other six—New Hampshire, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia—are to be on the other side.

On Oct. 7, 1765, the first colonial congress, which was the prototype of the congress of today, met in New York to take action on the objectionable stamp act and adopted a declaration of rights announcing that American colonists would not consent to be taxed except by their own representatives. The stamp act was repealed, and the excitement died down, but other oppressive acts on the part of the mother country caused the assemblage of the second colonial congress in Philadelphia in September, 1774. This congress voted to back Massachusetts in her warlike opposition to British oppression and adjourned to meet again May 10, 1775. It reassembled on that day—six hours after gallant Ethan Allen and his handful of followers had captured Ticonderoga—and placed George Washington in command of the colonial armies. Congress met repeatedly in Philadelphia as the rebellion progressed, and finally the Declaration of Independence was adopted there July 4, 1776, and the old bell in the statehouse sounded the note of freedom throughout the city and country.

Congress continued to meet in Philadelphia until the British, who had driven Washington out of New York, were about to descend upon the Quaker City. The body on Dec. 12, 1776, moved to Baltimore, engaged the old Fite tavern because it was the largest structure in the city, and held a very important session there. Washington was given extraordinary powers and was practically made dictator of America. He was given authority to raise and officer additional forces, displace and appoint all officers under the rank of brigadier general and seize all necessaries for his army at appraised values. This authority made him complete master of the situation, and in the six months that he enjoyed it he made great reforms in his army and increased its efficiency in a wonderful degree.

During the same session in Baltimore congress also gave its commissioners in France authority to borrow $10,000,000 at 6 per cent for 10 years, issued $5,000,000 in currency "on the faith of the United States" and prescribed that vigorous punishments should be inflicted upon all persons who should refuse to receive the money. From Dec. 20, 1776, until Feb. 27, 1777, congress continued in session in Baltimore and then returned to Philadelphia for the reason that in the meantime General Washington, with his usual daring, had struck the enemy a disastrous blow.

The battle of Trenton had filled the continental forces with new hope; the militia from neighboring provinces flocked to Washington's standard; Robert Morris, the great financier of Philadelphia, at once devoted his entire fortune to the cause of liberty; Washington had trounced the British forces in his sudden and unexpected attack on them at Princeton; Cornwallis' army, instead of attempting its meditated attack on Philadelphia, was slowly retreating toward New York; Philadelphia was no longer threatened, and congress joyfully returned to the old quarters in the statehouse in Philadelphia.

The spot selected for the memorial tablet is at the Sharp street crossing in Baltimore because the evidence of George R. Granger, a descendant of Jacob Fite, the owner of the old building, shows that the room in which the continental congress met—which room has been accurately described by John Adams—was located at the Sharp street end of the house.

WOULDN'T WORK BOTH WAYS.

A Poor Joke Played by a Pittsburg Man and Its Sequel.

Some people have a poor appreciation of humor. This must be an awful load to carry through life. On a crisp, cold day a Bohemian and his friend stood in front of a Pittsburg hotel holding down the sidewalk while they thought about what they should do next. One of the two was smoking. The other held an unlighted cigar between his teeth. A cable car came along, then a horse car with front platform crowded with smokers. The sight of it revived in the mind of the Bohemian a faint shadow of an ancient joke. He smiled and suddenly beckoned energetically to a man on the front platform. As soon as the man saw that he was the one wanted he jumped off and came back to where the Bohemian was standing.

"Give me a light, please," said the latter gravely. Thanks.

"Why, confound your impudence, you didn't call me off that car to have me give you a light?"

"Now, don't get red-headed about it," replied the joker calmly; "there's a cable car right behind."

But the joker was one of those curious fellows who have no appreciation of humor. He hauled off with his right and a big oath and down fell the joker—either hit by the oath or the fist, he did not know which.

"Now, don't get red hot about it," said the other fellow. "You can catch an ambulance around the corner." And he broke for the cars again.

"That joke looked very funny when I read it in the newspapers," said the bohemian, as his friend dusted him off, "but the thing doesn't seem to work right, does it?"

A RACE-TRACK FIEND.

Is Reformed by the Simple Prayer of His Little Child.

Peter Johnson, one of Long Island's old residents, who is regarded by his friends as a "reformed race-track fiend," told the story of his reformation to a few friends the other day as follows: "It was Christmas eve," he said. "My 4-year-old stood by my knee in his 'nighty,' just before being tucked into his crib, and in his infantile manner was praying to Santa Claus to bring him the treasure upon which he had fixed his heart. When he had finished, I asked the master of the house what should old Santa Claus bring papa? He bowed his little head on my knee again, and innocently pleaded: 'And dear Santa Claus, please bring papa a race horse that can win sometimes.' That was his mother's work, I suppose, but it went. I bought a tree that night, loaded it down with toys the boy had asked for, and then trimmed it with the tickets that hadn't won in the races. The habit I had contracted of keeping losing tickets enabled the 'long shots' to reach from top to bottom: the five, three and two to one went twice around, and scarcely a branch escaped decoration. That unique festooning represented hundreds of hard dollars that had been scattered in the wake of a race track 'skate.' I have not played a horse since that time, and I have made up my mind that I never will again. It's a delusion and a snare." It is to be hoped that the value of Peter's lesson was not lost upon his friends.

TAKEN FOR THIEVES.

A Vigilante Posse Gets Into a Running Fight With Friends.

"A vigilante posse, of which I was a member, was once taken for a band of cattle and horse thieves," said Henry Burns, of Wyoming, lately. "There had been a large amount of thieving going on for some time. Cattle and horses disappeared like magic. About ten of us formed a vigilance committee and started on the trail of the thieves. We traced them for forty miles and came upon their camp a little before sunrise in the morning. They were asleep and easily captured, the sentinel himself having fallen asleep. After trying the cases and disposing of the thieves in the usual form in those days, we took their horses and started for home, expecting to find the owners of the animals.

We had gone about ten miles when we heard the sharp ping of a rifle ball, then another and another. One horse fell dead and one rider was shot in the arm. A running fight followed, as we supposed with another gang of thieves. They gained upon us and at their head I saw a man whom I knew well. Then I realized that it was a posse similar to our own. We surrendered, mutual explanations were made and peace declared, but I will never forget being shot at as a horse thief.

Conflicting Emotions.

She looked upon the pale, slender youth kneeling before her and was moved to pity. There was tender sympathy in her bearing as she told him she could never be his wife. He heard her answer with a bowed head. "May I," he asked simply when she had spoken, "propound to you one other question before I rise from my knees?" "Yes." His glittering eyes were fastened upon her face now. "Have you——" He was terribly in earnest, "——any corns, bunions, or inverted nails?" She shrieked as it dawned upon her that after all he was a chiropodist. When he strode away forever the snow crushed beneath his feet with a merry sound.

A Culpable Cook.

In a convent which Cardinal Manning—the thinnest of mortals—honored with a visit, there was a cook who begged and prayed for the blessing of the cardinal, and, brought in, knelt down before him and received his blessing; whereupon she looked up at him and said: "May the Lord preserve your eminence, and oh, may God forgive your cook."

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Our new daily through tourist car service from Topeka to Los Angeles and San Francisco via Fort Worth and El Paso, the southernmost route, is the only line free from snow blockades at this time of year. Round trip tickets to California points are $65.50, good returning until July 15, with stop-off any place on the line in California within final limit of ticket.

Round trip tickets are also on sale every day to points in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas at greatly reduced rates.

For other information and sleeper reservations, call on or address

M. O. GARVEY,
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