

JANE G. SWISSELM. EDITOR
Thursday, August 16th, 1890.
EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PITTSBURG, August 3d, '90.

DEAR WILL:—I returned to the Smoky City on the 1st, got my feet wet, was sick and could not lecture that evening according to appointment; and want to feel quite well before setting another evening—Pittsburg is greatly improved. There are street Railroads on Penn St. and Pennsylvania Avenue, on Smithfield from Fifth to Birmingham, and on St. Clair St. running to Manchester. The Penn St. Road runs to the Cemetery, cars starting every ten minutes. I went out to Lawrenceville in one to make a visit at the Rev. A. Stewart's. He is pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Fifth Ward, and was formerly settled in Chicago.—A man of commanding presence, firm address and unusual acquirements as a scholar. He is a popular preacher and I think a most excellent man; and he has promised to visit St. Cloud next Summer, with the idea of settling there if he likes it. His principal object would be health. He is much worn by city labors, and his wife is in poor health. I can but hope he will settle there as his services would be invaluable in our growing city. He is a fine botanist and entomologist, and has a very fine collection of herbs and insects. He lectures next Tuesday evening before the Western Pennsylvania Teacher's Association, in Greensburg, on entomology. He is anxious to get a specimen of our migrating grasshopper. I shall leave no stone unturned to get him settled in St. Cloud. But about the city improvements. The old Allegheny Bridge has been replaced by a fine suspension bridge, with rails for the horse cars crossing it; and there has been a great number of valuable blocks of buildings put up in different parts of the city. Fifth Street is almost entirely built up with splendid blocks; and the city appears strange to me. If it were not for the kind faces I meet, I should feel like Rip Van Winkle. But I have quite got over my regret about coal. I used to think I never could live without a bright coal fire, but since seeing the smoke again I shall go back to our wood stoves with a genuine enjoyment. Neither shall I mourn for the old Pennsylvania hills; but feel with a renewed sense of their value, the beautiful utility of our prairie lands and sparkling lakes. How easy it is to make superb homes in the West compared to the digging, and mauling, and grading which is demanded here; and our natural, unmade roads are in many places superior to their street Railroads. Minnesotians are not fully aware of the advantages of their position, much as they are thought to over-estimate them. I expect to lecture on "The North-West" before returning to it; and try to convince some of our Eastern tillers of the existence of a "better land."

JANE G. SWISSELM.

That Communication.

We, perhaps, owe an apology to our readers for the space taken up by the communication from "A Democrat, &c."—When we agreed to publish it, we did not suppose it would occupy so much room by at least one column. Yet it may prove interesting to many, and show the present position of our Stearns County Douglasites and the position they will doubtless occupy at the approaching election. It must not be understood that we endorse the communication or wish to take part with one side or the other. The entire caucus was a scene of confusion and disorder.—One man would call another a liar—a second would slap his neighbor in the face, and so on to the end of the chapter. We have no principles or personal interest at stake, and therefore no particular sympathy with either, and can freely and affectionately say to both factions, "go in lemons."

Kidnapping.

[This article was handed in for last week's paper, although too late for insertion. We publish it this week, hoping our readers will read it with care; as the writer gives particular attention to the Pioneer's main plea in extenuation of this outrage.—ED. DEM.]

We see by the late exchanges that considerable excitement prevails at St. Paul at the present time, in relation to a case of kidnapping which has just occurred there. It seems that a Mrs. Prince, from the State of Mississippi, recently came to St. Paul, bringing with her her body servant, a male slave; who while there, took upon himself the responsibility of asserting the rights of freedom as guaranteed to him by the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, and took up his residence at the Farmer's Hotel in the suburbs of the town. Thereupon, the irreconcilable Mrs. Prince gave the alarm, and her faithful

Democratic friends, armed to the teeth, went to the Farmer's Hotel aforesaid, and forcibly took and carried away the man, who had thrown himself upon the protection contemplated by our laws, and in ere this, no doubt, realizing in some slave State the consequences of his aspirations for freedom.

The only attempt made for the justification of this great outrage is placed upon the ground of our present pecuniary necessities, and the influence which a successful escape might have in deterring Southerners from coming here during the summer months for the purpose of wasting their time and spending their money.—We are poor enough, God knows, and need all the patronage which the refugees of a pestilential climate may be pleased to bestow upon us; but we are not yet quite so hard pushed by poverty that we can afford to become accessories to crime, or to relinquish the respect due to our government.

The question is simply this: Can a case of successful kidnapping be justified under the Statutes of this State? If the man was free—as he most certainly was—he had a right to his freedom, and those who trespassed upon these rights are criminal in the same degree as if he had been a white man and born free. Northern society has not heretofore sustained any too great a reputation in respect to the honorableness of its motives. We have been accused, and justly too, of the influence which money has upon us in persuading our consciences, and in making dishonorable concessions. Southern capital has been taken North and invested in Northern public opinion, and in most instances has proved both profitable and effective. Northern States whose normal political condition was thoroughly anti-slavery, have first become conservative and then meanly servile. The South understands the artful appliances most effective in accomplishing its designs.

Does any one suppose that the people of the State of Mississippi, where Mrs. Prince resides, would for an instant tolerate a violation of their laws by citizens from the North? Would they consent that the institutions of Northern States should exist there in violation of their Statutes? Of course they would not, and the opinion of the world would justify them in resenting such an outrage. Now freedom of speech is one of the boasts of Northern society. Suppose a Minnesotan should go where Mrs. Prince came from and undertake to illustrate that right, he would very soon find himself clad in a coat of tar and feathers, homeward bound.

The Southern States are constantly legislating against freedom, and they see that their enactments are rigidly enforced. The spirit of their laws is constantly exceeded by the strictness of their interpretation. More especially is this the case when a Northern man happens to be the aggressor. Mrs. Prince well knew when she brought her slave here that he would be free under our laws, if he asserted his claims to freedom. She took the risk, and had her slave successfully escaped, she should not have complained. Slaves are contraband articles in the free States of the North. It is true they may be smuggled through without loss to the owner, but if they happen to lose them it is but a hazard incident to the trade. Minnesota could not for all the wealth of the Southern States, afford to refuse to extend her Constitutional protection over the humblest of God's people, when that protection is sought for in a legitimate way. What! shall we become a nation of kidnappers and consent to the commission of crime, for the few dollars they may leave with us during the summer months? Is it possible that Northern newspapers will sustain a case of kidnapping upon such a flimsy pretext? That they will even dare to hint at the advantages to be derived from Southern custom in such a connection? We would rather never see another Southerner, than that the most insignificant law should be violated without punishment. It is not a question of dollars and cents. It is a question of honor, in which every citizen of Minnesota should feel interested.

But the worst feature of this case is the zeal which the citizens of St. Paul manifested in developing this horrible outrage. It is bad enough for men whose birth and education have fitted them for slave catchers to be thus engaged, but it is certainly humiliating in the highest degree for freemen thus to abuse themselves. In the South they have men whose depraved sensibilities and enlarged experience in crime capacitate them for the slave hunt, and Slave whipping and cruelties of every grade necessary for subjugating slaves.—But here at the North are found men mean enough to volunteer, without recompense, and in violation of law, to assist in forcing a freeman back into slavery!

We are pleased with the stand the Minnesotians have taken in this matter.

GREAT MASS MEETING AT SPRINGFIELD.

LINCOLN AT HOME.
75,000 Freemen in Council!
IMMENSE ENTHUSIASM!
LINCOLN SPEAKS!

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Aug. 8.—The crowd here is immense. Delegations by railroads and from the country are still arriving.—The procession now, as viewed from the Dome of the State House, reaches over four miles in length, and all of the streets leading to the rear of the procession are thronged with teams waiting to form in line. 204 cars have arrived on both roads up to this time. Every street and avenue is filled with footmen.

The entire procession to-day was about six miles long. At three o'clock Mr. Lincoln appeared on the grounds accompanied by a few friends. This was the signal for indescribable uproar. Six speakers were addressing the people at different stands when his carriage drove in, but the people broke away simultaneously and surrounded him by thousands, shouting frantically.—He was taken from the carriage and borne to the platform, where he spoke as follows amid deafening cheers:

My fellow Citizens:—

I appear among you upon this occasion with no intention of making a speech. It is my purpose, since I have been placed in my present position to make no speeches. This assembly having been drawn together at the place of my residence, it appeared to be the wish of those constituting this vast assembly to see me, and it certainly is my wish to see all of you. I appear upon the ground here at this time only for the purpose of offering myself the best opportunity of seeing you and enabling you to see me. I confess, with gratitude be it understood that I did not suppose my appearance amongst you, would create the tumult which I now witness. I am profoundly grateful for this manifestation of your feelings. I am grateful because it is a tribute such as can be paid to no man as a man. It is the evidence that four years from this time you will give like manifestations to the new man who is to be the representative of the truth on the questions that now agitate the public mind; and it is because you will then fight for this cause as you now do, or with even greater ardor than now, though I be dead and gone. I most profoundly and sincerely thank you. Having said thus much allow me now to say that it is my wish that you will hear this public discussion by others of our friends who are present for the purpose of addressing you, and that you will kindly let me be silent.

LATEST, 9 1/2 P. M.—The Wide Awake torch-light display this evening is imposing beyond description. They have been marching around the State House and thence to Mr. Lincoln's residence for an hour and a half, and "the cry is still they come." The Douglasites here have been taken with a distressing colic.

A Live Little Republican County

The little County of Douglas, some eighty miles North-West of here is a pattern county. She contains only about one hundred inhabitants, but four fifths of them are true blue Republicans. A Club was organized at the town of Alexandria early in the winter, and has been the means of distributing a large amount of sound Republican documents among the frontiersmen, and have pretty thoroughly canvassed the entire upper country as far as Pembina. Not an emigrant passes through but his political faith is learned, and duly recorded along with his destination. A Lincoln and Hamlin Pole was raised by the Club at Alexandria a few days ago, and a flag beautifully wrought by the hands of the lady residents, decorates its peak. "LINCOLN AND HAMLIN, FREE MEN AND FREE HOMES" is emblazoned upon the streamer. Songs original with the Club were sung, and speeches made on the occasion. At a Convention held on the 6th inst. M. COLONEY, the Secretary of the Club was unanimously chosen delegate to represent the County at the State Convention, and not being well provided with funds Mr. Coloney resolutely footed it the entire distance. With plenty of such men in the party as are to be found in this brave little County, our success is certain. Mr. Coloney represents the crops of his vicinity as excellent, and every one in the best of spirits.

Glorious News!

FRANK BLAIR ELECTED!

We learn that the gullant Erank Blair, of Missouri, has been reelected to Congress for both the long and short terms. It was at first supposed he had been elected for the long one only; but the latest dispatch says he is also elected for the short term by 66 majority. His majority for the long term is about 2,000. Good for Missouri!

Hon. Wm. H. Seward will speak in St. Paul on the 15th of September. Delegations from all portions of the State will be present to hear him.

Kentucky has gone for the Bell faction by a large majority over both the Breckinridge and Douglas wings.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The Proceedings of the Democratic Caucus on Last Saturday Night.

The cause of truth and the good of the Democratic party require that a correct statement should be made, for public information, of the proceedings at the Democratic caucus which was held at St. Cloud on Saturday evening, August 11th.

The caucus was called to choose six delegates to attend the District Convention at Little Falls, to nominate one Senator and three Representatives, and six delegates to attend the County Convention at St. Joseph, to be held on the 16th inst.

Some interest had been felt in regard to the result of the caucus a few days before it met, as it was understood an attempt would be made on the part of a few personal opponents of Mr. Andrews to smuggle in delegates to Little Falls who were opposed to his renomination to the Senate. These men—whom it is unnecessary to name—had for weeks been actively engaged in misrepresenting Mr. A., both as regards his support of Douglas, and otherwise, and at the same time had recommended the nomination of W. S. Moore in opposition to Mr. Andrews. The adherents of Mr. Moore had concluded before the caucus to pursue a secret method of procuring delegates in his favor, and therefore for a few days before the caucus was held they took pains to state openly that there would be no opposition to Mr. Andrews in the caucus, and that no attempt would be made to choose delegates in favor of Moore. Those who know the state of public sentiment can readily perceive that it was natural they should have given up the idea of nominating Mr. Moore, and that they might by such statements deceive the public and beguile the friends of Mr. Andrews with a feeling of security and an expectation of fairness and harmony in the caucus. Had it not been for this deception many more Democrats of St. Cloud would have been present at the caucus and witnessed for themselves the unfairness and irregularity of the proceedings.

The meeting was called to order by J. C. Shepley (law partner of W. S. Moore) and nominations were then made for a permanent Chairman. A gentleman who sat near where Mr. Shepley stood, nominated Mr. Fowler as Chairman; immediately afterwards J. W. Read nominated J. C. Shepley as Chairman. Mr. Shepley it would seem did not hear the nomination of Mr. Fowler, as he immediately submitted his own name to the Convention, and after the vote declared himself to be chosen. This little circumstance began to excite suspicion that matters had been "cut and dried."

Mr. J. H. Place was then unanimously chosen Secretary.

Joseph Edelbrock then immediately moved a committee be appointed to report a list of delegates to attend the District Convention; and the Chair appointed as such Committee, Joseph Edelbrock, Jno. L. Wilson and Charles Luey. The Committee reported for delegates, to both Conventions, J. C. Shepley, J. W. Read, Peter Kramar, C. Luey, L. Robbers and C. Ketcham, all of whom except Mr. Ketcham were the special adherents of Mr. Moore. Mr. Moore immediately rose and moved that the report of the Committee be accepted and the list of delegates be adopted by the meeting. The Chair hastened to put the question, when Mr. Andrews rose to speak. He said those of his friends who were present were unaccustomed to caucus management or to public speaking, and he was compelled reluctantly to say a few words of himself. As his name had been mentioned in connection with one of the Legislative nominations he wished the meeting to understand that the delegates reported by the Committee were nearly all of them particularly zealous opponents of him.—Some of them had been misrepresenting him and personally and politically defaming him for the past six weeks, and if they were chosen he could not expect the majority of them to act impartially for the good of the party. He said he made no demand for any office whatever; but as a matter of party usage and fairness, a county would sustain its representative and prefer him to serve out his term, if he had discharged his duty to his best ability.—Whatever the result might be at Little Falls, it would not be denied that if Stearns County sent delegates there in favor of some other man to fill out his term in the Senate, it would be construed as a repudiation of his course and of himself. The meeting had the right to choose such delegates as it pleased. He would submit with deference to the voice of the majority. He only desired that they might vote understandingly, and that if they chose delegates personally unfriendly to him that they might know they were so doing.—The position of the delegates reported and

the manner in which they were reported, convinced him that it was the purpose of a few interested persons to carry every thing in the caucus to suit themselves. Why not choose the delegates by single nomination as had been usual before? Let them choose any fair minded impartial Democrats who would carry out the voice of the people. He did not wish them to choose men who were committed to him; but men who were unpledged and unbiased. He would remind them that the good of the party depended much on the fairness and justice of the proceedings in primary meetings. Mr. Andrews further said that whoever should be nominated at the District Convention in accordance with the will of the majority as expressed through delegates rightfully chosen would receive his cordial support.

W. S. Moore then spoke in favor of the delegates reported. He also advocated the soundness of his political position; and endeavored by an innuendo style of argument to create the impression that he was a better Douglas Democrat than Mr. Andrews. He used the language that "his support of Douglas did not manifest itself by that blatant zeal which characterized early converts." (For those who are curious to know the politics of Moore, it will not be out of place here to state, that while acting in a Democratic Convention at Little Falls two years ago, he was publicly charged with being a Republican and did not deny the charge. That he was urged last fall to come out and make a Democratic speech, but positively declined doing so, and that till very recently he has been an advocate of Bell and Everett on the street, and declared that he should prefer to vote for those candidates if an electoral ticket could be formed in the State.) John L. Wilson also spoke in favor of the list of delegates, and stated that he did not understand there was opposition to Mr. Andrews; and that the delegates were not selected as opponents of his. Wilson made two other speeches afterwards, and revealed the gross deception he had employed in this statement, by exhibiting his opposition to Mr. A. He said they needed a sharper man in the Legislature, one who was good at tricks; that if they had been represented by a sharp, cunning man, the Legislature never would have put Stearns County into so large a district. Mr. Andrews replied that he considered it unjust to be held accountable for the action of the Republican majority in the Legislature; and that he believed the people would prefer to send honest men to the Legislature instead of sharp and tricky men.

A vote was soon after taken and a division called for on adopting the list of delegates. J. Edelbrock, J. W. Read and J. F. Bradford were appointed tellers.—Mr. Bradford reported 37 in the negative to 34 in the affirmative. Edelbrock and Read reported the vote to be carried in the affirmative and the Chair so decided. But several others besides the tellers made the count and found Mr. Bradford to be correct. It was also discovered that a few persons not legal voters stood on the affirmative side and probably had been counted. There was a general expression of dissatisfaction at the manifest unfairness of the decision. A motion was then made to reconsider the vote, but the Chairman took no notice of the motion. Some other motions were made, one of which was for adjournment, but not put. Mr. J. W. Tenvorde, who had not taken part in the meeting, then came forward and forcibly denounced the unfairness of the proceedings and moved that a vote be taken by ballot for Andrews or Moore to test the sense of the meeting on the question of delegates. Moore immediately got up and opposed the proposition, and the Chairman did not submit it to the meeting. After some further talk and considerable confusion (during which one of the Moore delegates committed a violent assault on a voter on the negative side by striking him in the face drawing blood), Joseph Edelbrock moved that another vote be taken on the adoption of the list of delegates. The Chairman then appointed a new set of tellers, consisting of David Smith, H. J. Fowler and B. Rosenberger. The leading Moore men were then seen to pass up the hall along the right hand side, saying "those for the delegates on this (the right hand) side." It was fully understood that the vote was on the adoption of the delegates. To show conclusively that this was the understanding it is only necessary to state that the Chairman himself left his seat and made a speech in favor of choosing the delegates—himself among the number. The tellers then counted three times, each going round together, and finally reported alike—39 in the negative to 37 in the affirmative. Here was a clear and decisive decision against adopting the delegates. But instead of declaring the vote, the Chairman waited about fifteen minutes to consult with his friends as to

what should be done. During this time there were repeated calls for the tellers' report. In response to these calls, the Chairman said that as "long as he was Chairman he calculated to manage the meeting exactly to suit himself." The disgust at his paltry and unfair conduct had now become intense. He could no longer avoid yielding to the demands of the meeting for the tellers' report. Few, however, were prepared for the unblushing manner in which he skulked the real decision. He declared that the vote had been on a question of reconsideration of a former vote. The majority saw that this was a palpable piece of trickery and sound-dremlism to defeat their will; and they immediately determined on having a new organization, that they might proceed fairly to choose delegates. One of the Moore faction—John L. Wilson—then moved an adjournment, but the majority voted it down. Wilson then proceeded to make a long speech. Another motion to adjourn was made from the same side, and it was voted down by the majority. Shepley, however, declared the meeting adjourned and left the chair. The majority then proposed to organize, and requested the Moore faction to preserve order or leave the hall. Shepley (who had blown out part of the lights) then mounted a bench and declared that he had hired the hall of John L. Wilson for the night and that nobody else should use it. If he had any motives than those of a good Democrat, would he have objected to the majority using the hall? It is by a resort to force and fraud that wrong doers most often expose themselves.

The majority of the meeting—it being after ten o'clock—then adjourned to the Willis House where they organized by the choice of H. J. Fowler as Chairman and C. Grandelmyer as Secretary. The meeting then proceeded unanimously to choose the following delegates by separate nominations: To the Senatorial and Representative District Convention, to be held at Little Falls on the 30th inst., viz: Joseph Broker, Charles Taylor, Anton Smith, Louis Clark, C. Grandelmyer and B. Overbeck.

To the County Convention: Phillip Beaupre, M. Mickle, N. Lahr, J. E. Tenvorde, F. Hartman and Joseph Howard. The meeting at the Willis House was an adjourned meeting of the majority, and their proceedings will not fail to meet the sanction of every fair-minded Democrat. At the meeting over which Shepley presided no delegates were chosen.—The unanimous report of three tellers shows that a majority of the meeting were against the delegates! Is the majority to be over-ridden by Shepley's tricks as Chairman? Furthermore, it should be stated that during the meeting in Wilson's Hall, one of the Moore delegates (the one who committed the assault) stood at the door a part of the time and prevented persons from coming in unless they were supporters of Moore! And yet these fellows who have disgraced their town and perhaps seriously injured the Democratic party, will attempt to bolster themselves up with the plea of having had the regular organization, and claiming that the majority were irregular. This will be just as plausible and consistent as it would be for a pick-pocket to complain of a man for breach of the peace who should knock him down while in the act of stealing his pocket book. There is generally a way of remedying the mischief of force and fraud, and the most direct way of remedying it will be most approved. The objection to caucuses and conventions is becoming almost universal because of the packing process carried on in them and their failure to express the popular will. While they exercise so much influence over the party, the welfare of the party as well as the public of course requires that they should be conducted with fairness. The saying that "all is fair in politics" is an atrocious and infamous sentiment, and can find no support except among dishonest men. And Democrats will render a good service to their party and the community in which they live, by fearlessly exposing and opposing the chicanery of political tricksters who resort to the grab game policy to effect their personal aggrandizement.

If it is asked what motive tempted Shepley to use such unfair means to secure the appointment of himself and the other delegates committed to his partner Moore, a satisfactory answer can be given. It is well known that Oscar Taylor, the Land Officer at Otter Tail City, was in St. Cloud a few weeks ago laying the wires for Moore's nomination. He promised Moore that if he would obtain delegates in his favor at St. Cloud and one or two other townships in Stearns county he should receive the nomination for the Senate! Hence the deception used by Moore's friends in creating the impression before the caucus that there was no opposition to