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A. H. BROWN

PROPRIETOR, - - - DENISON, IOWA

CONGER WELCOMED BY THOUSANDS AT CO. BLUFFS

Arrives at 9:05 A. M., and is Met by a Sea of Friends; Embraced by Strong Men.

Council Bluffs, May 1—Major and Mrs. Edwin H. Conger Miss Laura Conger and Miss Mary Pierce stepped upon Iowa soil at 9:04 this morning. Long before that time a surging, cheering crowd had blocked the platform at the new station and for half an hour there had been cries of "here they come," as strained eyes saw a speck of smoke in the distance. While the band was playing "The Star Spangled Banner" the party from Pekin stepped from the car to be literally devoured by their friends.

The scene was one never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it. In the intense excitement for a moment formal arrangements were forgotten and everyone rushed upon the Congers.

Major Conger was visibly affected as strong men rushed up and threw their arms about him.

"You'll never, never know what this home-coming means to us," said Mrs. Conger in a choked voice as she stepped into the carriage. All along the way from the Northwestern to the Grand hotel it was a march triumphant. In front of the hotel an immense crowd had gathered and there was general handshaking before the party started for the drive about the city.

A fifth member of the party and the marvelous admiration of Council Bluffs is a strange little black and white dog which Laura Conger brought from Pekin. It was found in the private bedroom of the empress dowager of China. To a party of friends in the lobby of the Grand hotel this morning Major Conger said:

"I want to return to China and I know no reason why I cannot. I have received a letter from Secretary Hay saying there is nothing in the stories of unpleasant feeling of the administration toward me; that everything is entirely satisfactory."

Mrs. Conger says she is thankful they did not return to America immediately after the siege. "It would be much more terrible to remember if we had," she said, "as it is the memory of the past winter which was a delightful one, has softened it."

All four members of the party appear in excellent health and in jubilant spirits.

The Des Moines delegation to the Conger reception did not arrive in Council Bluffs until 12:05, the train being one hour late. The informal reception was held previous to their arrival and the banquet almost immediately afterwards. When the Des Moines people arrived Conger sentiment in the lobbies was strong, and there was more of a political than formal aspect to the affair.

A rumor was going the rounds that Conger would be announced as candidate for governor before night and that the other candidates would withdraw. This was not given great credence owing to Major Conger's statement that he would determine nothing until his arrival in Des Moines; but the feeling is strong here today that he will ultimately be a candidate. Members of the Des Moines party all expressed surprise at the turn towards political affairs that the reception had taken. Mr. Conger was in conference with a number of Des Moines' men immediately upon their arrival, but did not commit himself further than to say he was anxious to discuss the matter fully with his friends before taking any action.

One hundred and fifty plates were laid for the banquet, which was served from 1 to 4 p. m. The speeches given were all characterized by sincerity in their welcome of Minister Conger and family.

John N. Baldwin reviewed briefly the career of Mr. Conger and paid him a glowing eulogy.

C. G. Saunders spoke of the policy of the United States in the east, and Senator Dolliver on the service Iowa has rendered the nation.

A. B. Cummins when called upon delivered the following speech in response to the toast, "The Policy of the United States":

"Our Star of Empire glows in the skies of the Orient. It is brilliant with promise and it flashes with hope. We hailed it as it rose from the waters of the Atlantic. We followed it with halting, timid and weary feet to the crest of the Alleghenies. It led us with swift and victorious marches over the plains and through the mountains until we stood upon the shores of the Pacific; and between the two oceans there were more monuments to the patriotism of the people, more to the genius of man, more to the welfare of humanity than ever marked the progress of mankind.

"But the star halted not, nor did we; and presently the flag of our sovereignty was flying in the islands two thousand miles from the Golden Gate. Our destiny is not yet fulfilled. The star

rushed on and under the stern decree of war, Dewey planted the Stars and Stripes in the Philippines; and so the republic circled half the globe.

"A retrospect of the nation's journey makes every fibre of a patriotic heart ring with pride. Never before was so much done in so little time; indeed, never was so much done in any time. Achievements unparalleled mark every mile of the vast expansion. Our government is the strongest and freest of the world; our material development is unequalled, our wealth unsurpassed, our men more capable, more just, more aggressive and energetic, than the men of any other country, and our women more intelligent, more progressive, truer and fairer than the women of any other land upon which the sun shines. Our civilization has more justice and more good for humanity in it than any other civilization.

"So here we are with the best ideas of how society should be governed, with the purest sympathy for the weak and the helpless, with the noblest instincts for right and the deepest hatred for wrong, with the greatest capacity to furnish what man wants and the most commanding power to enforce our views. How shall we expend all these treasures of morals, ethics and strength? I know not how; but I do know that wherever there is work to be done that calls for conscience, for brains or for brawn, there the American will be to bear a hand in it. But the star lingered not over the Philippines, and we see it now shining steadily into the very heart of China. And here its identity is challenged, and we must shortly answer the question, Is it the star that America has followed toward the west, or the star that has beckoned Europe towards the east? For the first time, we have met something more than the obduracy of nature. The two forces of Europe and America are face to face in China, and we must measure strength, not with one, but with all the civilized nations of the earth. I am far from advocating the dismemberment by force of this most venerable nation of history. I am not permitted to even predict the outcome of the next quarter of a century. I do feel, however, that the slumbering millions of China are about to awake. I believe that they will leap forward to a new place in the world's economy, and I do know that the benign influence of the world's greatest republic should be felt in the quickening pulse of the better life that is just beginning and that our people must have their full share of the commerce which will flow in mighty streams upon the Chinese shores. And so our star of empire will shine with new lustre among the constellations of the East.

"As a citizen of the United States, I experienced an intense gratification in the knowledge that the natal days of the new era for China, our country was represented by a man not only skilled in the art of diplomacy, but whose mind grasped the portentous events and who without hesitation established America in her true place in the great drama of development. As a citizen of Iowa it fills me with pleasure to welcome him home and to see him surrounded by friends who not only honor him for the distinguished service he has rendered to the world as well as to the government, but who remember with the deepest appreciation and sympathy the perils that he and those who are dear to him have suffered."

C. M. Harl spoke of the work done by the women of the Conger party, and Judge Given on what the return of the Congers meant to Iowa.

Minister Conger in a short speech expressed his appreciation of all the state had done for him. Gov. Shaw acted as toastmaster.

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Denison, Iowa. Over Postoffice

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BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK EGGS for hatching. A sure hatch. Eggs from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per 15. The \$1.50 eggs are from scored stock. Mrs. E. E. Girard, Schleswig, Ia. 25-1f

J. B. ROMANS CO. carry the most complete stock of white lead, mixed paints, dry paints, varnishes, colors in oil, and brushes. Call at their store and look their solenoid stock over. 31

FOR SALE—Hotel and restaurant doing a fine business at Douglas, Wyo. Center of the oil fields. Big bargain. Write for particulars to C. W. Monahan, Douglas, Wyo. 28-1m

BY THE way, if you have any furniture to paint or varnish go to J. B. Romans Co. and look their stock of varnishes and paints over. They have a nice line of enamel paints, family paints and varnishes. Make your furniture look nice and new. 31

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REMEMBER that all good musicians recommend the Ivers & Pond Pianos. E. C. Chamberlin sells them. 32

WE HAVE six thoroughbred Short-horn bulls for sale. Robinson Bros., Vail, Ia. 13-2m-eot.

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E. C. CHAMBERLIN'S watch stock is sold as close as any stock that is not watered. 32

I HAVE several thousand Strawberry Plants for sale yet. A. D. Brink

FIFTEEN CORDS dry stove wood for sale cheap for cash. T. C. Dobson, Deloit, Iowa. 34-3w.

TAKEN UP ASTRAY—On Wednesday, April 24, two ponies and one yearling coat. Owner can have same by calling and paying damages and for this notice. Allen Johnston, Sec. 26, Goodrich township. pd.