Historical Society

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The Old State Bonds.

There is probably no intelligent citizen of this State who does not wish to have the old railroads bond debt settled in some way that will relieve the State of the stigma of repudiation; and hardly any who does not acknowledge that, at some time or other the matter must be adjusted. The longer it is deferred the greater the difficulty of arriving at an equitable settlement, and it is, therefore, important that an early adjustment should be had. Justice to the State, to its present citizens, and to posterity imperatively demands that the matter should be attended to as early as practicable.

In settling it, however, two important considerations ought not to be forgotten: first, that the issuance of the bonds was procured by practising upon the credulity of the people, and that the original receivers of the bonds were those who concocted and consummated this swindle. Secondly, that the real sufferers from the transaction were not only the original nor the present holders of the bonds, but the unpaid subcontractors and laborers who did what grading was done and either get no pay at all or were paid with the depreciated bonds, and the people who held the State bank currency which was based upon these bonds, and which became worthless when the bonds were depreciated.

If these bonds are to be paid, such sufferers ought not to be overlooked, and if they cannot be found, or if they cannot substantiate their claims, the amount of their losses ought to be deducted from the gross amount of the debt represented by the bonds. It certainly is not fair to pay the present holders of the bonds cent per cent with some seventeen year's interest for what cost them only ten or fifteen per cent.; and the enormity of this injustice is aggravated in those instances where these same men are known to have participated in the perpetration of this swindle. Were this a matter between private citizens, we doubt whether any court would pronounce the claim legal for the full amount.

—What sign has the Democratic majority in the congressional house of representatives given so far that they favor reforms? Only last Tuesday they gave a very decided vote against financial reform, the most important of all these measures, and instead of legislating for the people of the country generally they seem to prefer spending their time in efforts to re establish the reputations of prominent ex-confederates. Is it a matter of moment whether Mr. Jefferson Davis is restored to the full rights of citizenship or not? We doubt very much if he thinks so himself. Such re-investment could be of no practical benefit to the country and of very little to him. It it certainly not worth quarreling about, and the time had much better be spent in so shaping legislation as to relieve the people from the oppressions which our existing financial and commercial systems entail.

—One of our anti-monopoly friends says: "It is all over with our party now. Donnelly promised the State committee that he would sustain it with all his own and his paper's influence, and that's enough to kill any party, no matter how strong. By the way, how much are the democratic leaders to pay Donnelly this year, for helping their party indirectly? As much as they gave him last year for helping it directly?" Our friend need not be uneasy about Donnelly. He has placed himself in a position where he can do neither good nor harm. Venal falsehood, blackguardism and treason may be useful weapons when first used, but they finally destroy those who use them, and only slightly wound such as they are used against.

—It is said that Blackwell's Island prison has recently lost another convict. Two of them went over to New York city to enjoy a spree, and one was accidentally drowned on his return.

– The New York Sun is sure that a war with Cuba is a main feature of the Grant programme, and that a message recommending it will soon be presented to Congress.

Goodhue County Grange.

On last Friday afternoon and evening a County Grange, or grange of the Pomona degree, was organized in this city by Samuel E. Adams, Esq., Worthy Master of the State Grange. The following is the list of charter members:

Wm. Hayman,	Jacob Cook,
Peter Stromberg,	J W Chandler,
Henry Buss,	B J Taylor,
P. J. Erber,	W J Featherstone,
A. A. Burkard,	M Doyle,
Henry Bombeck,	J B Smith,
Samuel Church,	A W Fountain,
Jas. Sutherland,	Henry Heys,
Frederick Weich,	B B Herbert,
Wm. Thomas,	J E Simmons,
Q Bunch,	W S Grow,
C C Simmons,	Mrs. Zignego,
J J Thomas,	Mrs. Erber,
Adolph Grosse,	Mrs. Grosse,
A Howe, Jr.,	Mrs. Doyle,
Robt. Smithson,	Mrs. J B Smith.

The initiations to the Pomona degree were conducted by Worthy Master Adams. The ceremony is described as being most solemn and impressive, as well as deeply interesting. The following were the officers elected:

Wm. Hayman, Master;
Q. Bunch, Overseer;
W. S. Grow, Lecturer;
J. B. Smith, Chaplain;
B. B. Herbert, Secretary;
Thos. Featherstone, Treasurer;
J. J. Thomas, Steward;
M. Doyle, Asst. Steward;
C. E. Simmons, Gate Keeper;
Mrs. J. B. Smith, L. A. Steward,
Mrs. Erber, Ceres;
Mrs. Doyle, Pomona;
Mrs. Zignego, Flora.
Sisters Zignego, Erber, Doyle, Grosse and Smith were elected to constitute the Court of Pomona.

Bro. W. S. Grow was chosen a committed to procure a suitable room, and Sisters Herbert and Zignego and Bros. Smith, Herbert, Howe, Featherstone and Thomas were appointed a committee to attend to ornamenting the Hall.

Bros. Herbert, Smith and Grow were appointed a committee to draft by-laws for the grange.

On motion it was ordered that the minutes of the proceedings be published in the GRANGE ADVANCE.

The grange adjourned to meet again on Saturday, January 29th, at one o'clock p. m., and also in the evening, when it is hoped there will be a general attendance.

In the evening, on that occasion, the fifth degree will be conferred on applicants entitled to receive it with all the solemn ceremony prescribed in the formula for initiations into this degree.

After the business of the grange is concluded a feast will be spread, to which all are expected to contribute, the lady members residing in the city being requested to see to it that tables are furnished and properly prepared.

During the afternoon meeting the grange was addressed briefly by Master Adams, who made a very acceptable speech. In the course of his remarks on the condition of the Order, he stated there was a marked revival of interest in the Order in this State, that new granges were being formed and old ones being revived, and that there was really a considerable numerical augmentation and a noticeable strengthening of influence. He encouraged the members to persevere in the work and sustain their local granges, assuring them that the Order had already accomplished a great deal of good, and was destined to yield far more advantage in the future.

Times and Things at Trenton.

TRENTON, WIS., Jan. 16th, 1875.
Editor Grange Advance.

Our pleasant weather still continues, but no one seems satisfied with it. The teamsters want snow; the wood choppers want it cold so they can work better. Will men never be satisfied?

Mr. L. A. Porter moves to Prescott this week, and his many friends will regret his absence.

A New Years' party, or rather leap year party, will be held at Cowells, hall next Friday evening.

Mary Jane Bradshaw lately fell down a cellar and received some severe bruises.

Wm. Miller has another girl added to his family.

The matinee held at Red Wing on Saturday last was well attended from this side.

Our lyceum is now in good running order and is improving the minds of many.

There are prospects of starting another store and warehouse here next year.

Olin Arnold and wife lately made a visit to Lake city. They report times somewhat easier there than here. Many of our youth attended the necktie festival held at Trimbelle last week. A good time was enjoyed.

Our people are greatly dissatisfied with the authorities of Red Wing, in regard to wood measuring. We are sorry to speak of it for we should be friendly, but it seems to be unnecessary —a mere arbitrary use of power. Is it just to charge ten cents for measuring a load of wood, and compel sellers to pay for it, when the buyer does not wish it measured? The plea is that it is done to protect the buyer, but does it? A teamster hauls a load of wood into town, for which he pays a dollar and a quarter in the woods, and sells it for two dollars and a half. He must pay ten cents for the measuring, not because he cannot measure it, but to satisfy a whim. Out of $1.15 then he has to board himself and team, which leaves but 15 cents for his day's work and to pay for breakage and wear and tear! Is it supposed that a wood hauler can not measure his wood? Or is it the wood buyer who is too ignorant? If the latter, let him do like the rest of us have to; get cheated when he makes a trade. Why not put a measurer in every store to weigh and measure the goods that are sold? It would be a good deal more sensible.

But we are pleased to know that some of the Red Wing people are in sympathy with us and will aid us to throw this yoke from our shoulders.

Our first council meets next Tuesday to take measures to resist this tyranical tariff. We wish peace and good fellowship, but we intend to maintain our rights. TRENTONITE.

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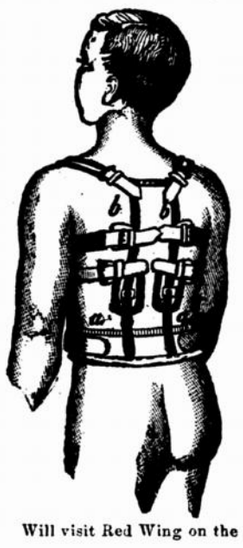

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