

THE GRANGE ADVANCE.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, '76

H. H. YOUNG, Publisher & Editor.

Republican Nominees.

For President—
R. B. HAYES, Ohio;
For Vice President—
WM. A. WHEELER, N. Y.;

For Presidential Electors—
State—C. K. DAVIS, Ramsey;
" —S. MILLER, Cottonwood;
1st. Dis.—A. J. EDGERTON;
2d. " —A. K. FINSETH;
3d. " —HANS MATTON;

For Congress, (Second District)—
H. B. STRAIT;
For county Auditor—
S. J. WILLARD;
For Sheriff—
M. S. CHANDLER;
For Register of Deeds—
CHARLES McCLAURE;
For Judge of Probate—
N. O. WERNER;
For county Attorney—
J. C. McCLAURE;
For Surveyor—
WILLIAM DANFORTH;
For Coroner—
DR. E. S. PARKS;
For Court Commissioner—
N. O. WERNER;
For Commissioner, 4th District—
A. J. GRAVES;
For Commissioner, 5th District—
F. TETHER.

The Congressional Candidates.

On the fifth page of this paper will be found the speech of Hon. H. B. Strait, accepting the congressional nomination from the republican convention; and the letter of Hon. E. T. Wilder, accepting the same position from the democratic convention of this district. We purposely place these together, that they may be read and compared, and correct opinions be formed of their authors from the views here presented.

Mr. Strait's speech is a plain, clear exposition of his views, without evasion or concealment. He first pledges himself to devote himself to the faithful discharge of the responsible duties of the position, in case he is elected. He next approves of the presidential and vice presidential candidates of the republican party, and of the policy of the party without exception of reservation, and then proceeds to explode the democratic pretensions to reform. In concluding, he modestly refers to his own official conduct and repeats his thanks and pledges. There is a manly tone pervading the speech, which must strike even the casual reader. It is not the studied production of an unprincipled politician, but the sincere expressions of a man who conscientiously intends to do his duty.

Judge Wilder's letter is also a very readable document, and a very peculiar one for a candidate to utter. He begins by frankly telling us that his tastes and habits disincorporate him to political life, and that he is only a candidate because of the importunities of his friends. This forces us to conclude, either, that the affairs of the country have, in the Judge's opinion, been as ably managed without him as they probably would be with his aid, or that he has not sufficient patriotism to induce him to sacrifice his personal convenience for the sake of the public good.

But he yields to the importunities of friends. Is the duty he owes to these friends greater than that due to his country? It seems so, for it is these which induce him to enter the political arena, although he had been previously convinced "that the country demands for places of trust others than mere politicians." If he possessed this knowledge, ought he not, as a public spirited and patriotic citizen to have come forward voluntarily in compliance with this demand?

Is he the man who should be entrusted with an influential and important position in perilous times, who must first be dragged out of his retirement by importunities of his friends, in order to induce him to aid in saving his country? Is this man, whose "tastes and habits of thought have little in harmony with political life," the one to effectively

assist in inaugurating reform? We cannot think so, and notwithstanding that we have great respect for Judge Wilder, we are compelled to regard him as having written himself down unworthy of this trust, in this very first paragraph of his letter of acceptance.

He next proceeds to find fault with those who shake the "bloody shirt" and those who are still devoted to "the ghosts of secession and slavery," and properly says that slavery and secession, and all questions growing out of them, are dead and buried, finally and forever. Yet in the very next sentence he endorses the platform and candidates of the St. Louis convention, and in so doing ranges himself alongside of those who openly avow their belief that these questions are not dead and their determination that they shall not die. And more than this, those whose association he thus voluntarily claims, and who do not hold the opinions he has just enunciated touching slavery and secession, are those who have controlled and who do and will control the party by which he is nominated.

We dare not, however, declare that he will be controlled by his party against his convictions, for in the concluding paragraph of his letter he repudiates and denounces the "system of caucus dictation." But we will declare it to be our opinion that the same influences which have led him to act with the democratic party in his private capacity, which have procured him this nomination, and which prompt him to endorse Tilden and Hendricks, will continue to operate upon him if he is elected to congress, and cause him to entertain views similar to those entertained by members generally of his party, and will, therefore, lead him to act with his party. He will be a democratic member, and must, for that reason, be obnoxious to all who regard the policy of the democratic party wrong, and its leaders unsafe.

The Detective Police.

The experience had with detective officers in the recent effort to capture the gang of robbers who attacked the Northfield bank, confirms us more strongly than ever in an opinion we have long entertained, and that is that our system of detective police is a positive injury to the public. Like every body else, the men who engage in this business do so for the purpose of making money out of it, and they are very apt to so conduct it as to derive the largest profits. Now, it stands to reason that they can make the business more lucrative by entering into combinations with thieves and robbers, than by any other method. Hence there is a strong inducement to league themselves with scoundrels.

Again, the men who are likely to engage in this business are not generally of high moral characters. They are not superior to temptations; and, of course, are most liable to pursue that course which promises the greatest and surest profit. Therefore, they are more apt to become allies of professional rogues than be real detectives, because the rogues can afford to pay them more liberally for their services than can those who are robbed. We cannot now call to mind a single instance where a professional thief has been arrested by detectives, unless under circumstances where the regular police authorities were sure of capturing him; and we can call to mind a good many instances where there seemed to be no chance for thieves to escape, when they did get safely away with several detectives hotly engaged in the chase after them.

A defaulting bank clerk or "paroxysmal" thief, as the Rev. Mr. Winslow, for instance, whom anybody might catch, is always caught by detectives, who make a great cry over the achievement as though it were something wonderful. But

professional scoundrels can with impunity, walk into the office of the bravest and most vigilant detectives, and be entirely inapprehensive of danger. We are satisfied that the independent detective system is a public injury; that these officers are frequently the protectors of the worst thieves in existence, and that the good they do is so very slight as to demand no consideration whatever. Therefore, we insist upon it that the system should be abolished, and paid detectives, employed by the States and known only to those in authority, should be substituted.

Something to Boast of.

Minnesota has nothing on exhibition at the Centennial, its crop of wheat this year is not extra, it is afflicted with grasshoppers, and has, perhaps, some other drawbacks; but for all this it has something to boast of. First, there is Mr. J. L. Heywood, cashier of the Northfield bank, who preferred a violent death to the cowardly surrender of the property entrusted to his keeping. All honor to this brave man. Next are Mr. Henry Wheeler and other spunky citizens of Northfield who, instead of running from a band of Missouri ruffians, valiantly returned their fire with such fatal effect that two of the eight bit the dust and a third was badly wounded.

Third, Minnesota is the home of Oscar Suborn, a lad 16 years old, who was shrewd enough to suspect four tramps of being four of the fugitive robbers, bold enough to follow them up and watch their movements at the risk of his life until his suspicions were confirmed, and then man enough to ride eight miles into Madelia to carry the intelligence to the sheriff and start him in pursuit. Fourth, seven of its citizens, viz: Sheriff James Glispen, Capt. W. D. Murphy, Col. Thos. L. Vaught, James Severson, Benjamin W. Rice, George Bradford Geo. W. Gates, Geo. P. Johnston and Charles Pomeroy, all of Watonwan county, were gallant enough to form a skirmish line and advance through a thicket against concealed desperadoes who were known to be well armed and who, it was to be supposed, would sell their lives as dearly as possible.

Fifth, to this State and its citizens, notwithstanding the hindrance offered by officious detectives who deserve to be suspected of complicity with the scoundrels, belongs the credit of having hunted down and captured (dead and alive) six of a gang of eight Missouri ruffians, who have for ten years been committing outrages upon the citizens of Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Arkansas, Kansas, and Iowa, and always escaped unscathed. Sixth and best of all, to Minnesota belongs the honor of having citizens who, when they had three of these desperadoes in their power, nobly restrained themselves from taking unlawful vengeance upon them, manfully stood between them and such as proposed to lynch them, and delivered them up to the proper authorities to be dealt with according to law. Minnesota is not wholly inglorious in this Centennial year.

EDWARD L. BAKER.

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retended friends are really Wilder's friends. Well, let them prove that we are wrong, by working earnestly for Major Strait. That will prove us mistaken, if we are mistaken.

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