

THE GRANGE ADVANCE

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The Railroad Bonds.

We have recently been reading upon the question of the old railroad bonds. Before we began studying the subject we supposed we knew all about it, but after wading through what the Press, Dispatch and Pat. Childs have said, are forced to the conclusion that we don't understand it. With us the question has hitherto had this appearance. The State unwisely became the endorser of a party of speculators who had organized themselves into railroad companies, but had hardly enough money in the crowd to buy a tie. To aid these in making the bonds available, the State enacted its banking law constituting the bonds a basis for the issue of bank currency.

After a large proportion of the bonds had been issued and sold, and after the State had been flooded with currency, the State legislature refused to provide for the payment, of interest on the bonds and the companies could not pay. The bonds, accordingly, became worthless, and the companies were unable to proceed with the roads. By the time that the bonds were wholly discredited a large proportion of them had passed into second, third, or even fourth hands, and gross injustice and injury was done to honest innocent people through the sale of these bonds and the circulation of the currency.

Two things are certain: the railroad companies never could have used the bonds if the State had not endorsed them; and the companies could have gone on with building of their roads and made the bonds available for the purpose for which they were issued, if the legislature had provided for the interest which might accrue before the roads were in a condition to earn something. At the time, it seemed to us the wiser plan that the State should provide for the interest and keep up the bonds. The security was ample to protect it against loss if it had acted sagaciously in its dealings with the companies. But the trouble seemed to be that the same men who constituted the companies controlled the government of the State, and it was apparently better for them that the bonds should be allowed to become worthless than that they should finish the roads. Or, at least, they acted as though they had made "a good enough thing" out of it as it was.

To conclude, then, the State did wrong, first, in endorsing the bonds at all; secondly, in allowing them

to depreciate to worthlessness; thirdly, in neglecting to hold the companies to the letter of their obligations; and fourthly, in not making provision for the payment of the bonds by the new companies to whom the lands and franchises of the old bankrupt corporations were turned over in 1862. And the companies did wrong in attempting a speculation which there was every reason to believe would be unfortunate to themselves unless they could swindle either the State or Eastern or foreign capitalists. The whole matter, from first to last, was wrong, either willfully or innocently, and we have no doubt that some of the present holders of the bonds are blameworthy; but still the bonds are endorsed by the State and, legally, the State is under obligation to pay them. For eighteen years they have hung over us and been the subject of many fierce discussions. If they can now be settled on advantageous terms it seems to us best that they should be, for until they are settled we shall never know what a legislature may bring forth concerning them, for the constitutional amendment passed a few years ago to guard against a contingency of this sort, seems powerless. If Mr. Chamberlain's proposition is accepted it will dispose forever of this debt and it will prove a bar against any greater demand that may be made by other holders hereafter.

The order has been issued for the removal of the troops from the leaves the question as to whether Hampton or Chamberlain shall be South Carolina state house. This governor with the people of that State, to whom it belongs.

Patrons of Husbandry.

The Chicago Times of Saturday furnishes a conveniently summarized statement of the condition of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, Oct. 1, 1876, from which we glean the following: The receipts of the National Grange for 1876, were \$102,143.07, and for 1875, \$69,735.65. The expenditures of 1875 amounted to \$95,960.54, and of 1876 to \$66,028.25. The salaries and expenses of officers were, in 1875, \$22,992.89, and in 1876, \$16,659.47. From January 1st, 1873, to September 30th, 1876, the receipts through the secretary were \$364,061.60. The net receipts, expenditures and assets at the close of each year were as follows:

Year.	Receipts.	Expenses.	Assets.
1873	\$125,899 92	\$73,234 72	\$52,665 20
1874	216,374 57	175,000 82	64,028 95
1875	77,983 81	99,687 76	78,984 70
1876	56,327 20	66,028 25	71,767 40

The assets include \$62,526 25 of United States bonds, with a present value of \$68,000, and \$3,707.40 in cash, besides which there are the property in the offices of the grange, a \$3,500 note of the Nebraska State grange, which is delicately said to be "not available as a cash note," and the cash balance in the secretary's hands.

The total number of subordinate granges at the close of the national grange year in 1875, was 24,323 and the total of members 761,263. September 30th, 1876, the number of granges was reduced to 15,170 and the membership to 588,987. The total number of granges formed has been 25,175. Of these 628 have surrendered their charters, 657 have had their charters revoked, 874 have been consolidated

with others, 7,843 are delinquent in dues and 15,170 are in good standing.

Allowing for female members, children, etc., we may fairly estimate each grange at 23 families, representing 115 souls, so that the active granges represent 348,910 farmers' families, or 1,744,550 souls. After making every deduction, therefore, for exaggeration and misinformation, it will be seen that this great rural order embraces nearly one-twentieth of the population of the country. That the apparent shrinkage is in reality healthful, appears from the fact that while the number of granges has been reduced 37 1/2 per cent, the number of paying members has only been reduced 22 1/2 per cent, and the average strength of each grange has risen from 31 1/2 to nearly 40.

Four dispensations were issued in Minnesota in 1875 and 8 in 1876. The dues paid by the Minnesota granges amounted in 1875 to \$1,505.67 and in 1876 to \$1,417.88. The number of granges in this State was, in 1875, 546, and in 1876, 295. The membership was, in 1875, 16,617 and in 1876, 9,330. The average membership, Oct. 1, 1876, was 32.

Teachers' Institute.

ZUMBERTA, Apr. 2d, 1877.

Ed. Grange Advance: Last Monday the people of our village were pleased to receive about sixty teachers, a number afterwards increased to about eighty. As a whole the meeting of teachers was very successful in its object and passed off in a way agreeable to all. Though there were no normal instructors in attendance, Supt. J. W. Hancock was eminently able to bring out, either by his personal effort or by such aid as he found at hand, the points in which young teachers must often fail.

Monday, little was done except to organize and to be in readiness for work upon the morrow.

Tuesday, work was begun in earnest. Several very interesting classes recited at stated times, the intervening time being occupied by general discussions of the subjects previously illustrated, usually opened by the Superintendent. One point of importance brought out was the need of thorough drill in primary classes. Another the requiring of complete sentences in such classes. In the evening a general discussion of various questions took place.

Wednesday. In Arithmetic, classes by Mr. Hoagland and Mr. Cobb were very good. A debate as to what criticism should be given resulted in the decision that all corrections should be reserved till evening. An exercise in Grammar by Mr. Parker indicated his long success as a teacher. Simplicity, thoroughness, teaching of one thing at a time, free class discussion were deduced from his exercises. Mr. Davenport gave some good hints as to position in writing, a point too often neglected. In the afternoon Miss Hall gave a model class in Geography. Health and school government occupied the remainder of the day. Both were important subjects and were well debated. Mr. Hancock's rules will bear repeating.

"Begin right the first day, keep on right the next day" and "Be perfectly honest and faithful." The magic power of the word "please" is to be remembered.

In the evening after criticism and select readings, Mr. J. B. Locke gave a lecture on the subject, The Moral Influence of the Teacher. It was very well received by all present.

Thursday, Mr. Kneeland and Mr. Dana showed the result of their experience in classes in Arithmetic Mr.

Parker again gave a class exercise in Grammar. But, after some discussion by various teachers, who seemed to know none too well what they were talking about, we hoped that the day might come when a knowledge of Latin, at least, would be required of teachers for we thought that had many teachers spent one half their time in Latin that they have in English grammar, they would know more of the science of language.

Map drawing was treated of in the afternoon by Mr. Kneeland and Miss Buttruff. Mr. Aldrich in his reading class, though he secured promptness, was too loud. Mr. M. L. Haggard, of Roscoe, secured the prize for spelling, a book entitled "The Art of Teaching" by Sypher.

During the insatiate Messrs. Parker and Stearns aided by others, furnished some very acceptable music.

Friday and Saturday were devoted to an examination of applicants for teachers' certificates. Yours, hastily,
 REPORTER.

—AN HISTORICAL FACT.—Every agent who has been steadily selling the Improved \$20 Homestead Sewing Machine for three years, owns his dwelling house, has a good account in bank, is clear of debt, and has money at interest, —the natural consequence of securing a good agency for superior goods at the lowest prices. A good first-class Sewing Machine, most useful—reliable at all times, easy to understand and control, the same size and does the same work as any machines that sell at four times the price. There is no machine at any price better, or that will do finer or more work, and certainly none so low in price by many dollars. The Homestead is widely known and used in thousands of families in the Eastern and Middle States, and daily becoming popular in the West. It will save its cost several times over in one season, doing the work of the family, or will earn four or five dollars a day for any man or woman who sews for a living. It is the strongest machine made, is ready at all times to do its work, makes the strongest and finest stitch yet invented, and is fully acknowledged as the Standard Family Sewing Machine. Price, complete for domestic use, \$20, delivered at your door, no matter how remote you may reside. Business permanent and honorable, with more certain and rapid sales, and larger profits than any other. Extraordinary liberal offers made to local or traveling agents where we have none established; or, if there is no agent near you, send your order direct to the factory. Address John H. Kendall & Co., 421 Broadway, New York.

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STATE OF MINNESOTA,
 COUNTY OF GOODHUE,
 District Court, First Judicial District.

William D. Stroud, Plaintiff, against Warren Brayton, Defendant.
 Notice is hereby given that in pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment and Decree of the District Court of the first Judicial District of the State of Minnesota, made and rendered in the above entitled action on the 5th day of January, A. D. 1877, and on that day docketed in the office of the clerk of said Court, in the county of Goodhue, in said District, a transcript of which judgment, duly certified by said clerk, has been delivered to me, J. the undersigned Sheriff, as such Sheriff will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, at the front door of the Court House, in the city of Red Wing, in said Goodhue county, on Saturday the 19th day of May, A. D. 1877, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, the land and premises described in said Decree, or so much thereof as will be sufficient to satisfy the sum of one hundred and ninety-nine dollars and ninety-six cents, together with interest, costs and disbursements. Said land and premises to be sold are described in said Decree as follows to-wit: That certain tract or parcel of land situate in the county of Goodhue, and State of Minnesota, known and described as follows to-wit:

The north half of the south west quarter of section number twenty (20) in township number one hundred and nine (109) north of range number sixteen (16) west.

Dated Red Wing, Minnesota, April 3d, A. D. 1877.

MARTIN S. CHANDLER,
 Sheriff of Goodhue county.
 J. C. McCLURE,
 Attorney for Plaintiff. 26w7

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STATE OF MINNESOTA,
 COUNTY OF GOODHUE,
 District Court, First Judicial District.

Ole Johnson, Plaintiff, Against Margaret A. Kelley Defendant—Summons for Relief.
 The State of Minnesota to the above named Defendant:

You are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in the above entitled action, which has been filed with the Clerk of said Court in his office at the Court House in Red Wing, in said Goodhue county, on this twenty-eighth day of March A. D. 1877, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber at his office, in the city of Red Wing, in the county of Goodhue, and State aforesaid, within twenty days after the service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff will apply to the said Court for the relief demanded in the said complaint.

Dated Red Wing, Minnesota, March 28th. A. D. 1877. B. B. Herbert
 25w7 Plaintiff's Attorney.

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