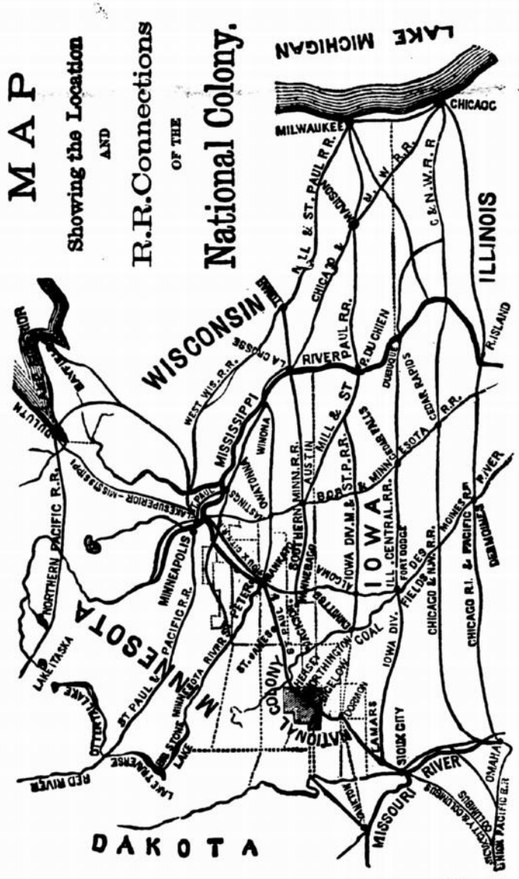
Historical Society

The Worthington Advance.

VOL V — WORTHINGTON NOBLES CO., MINN., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1877. — NO. 24.

150,000 Acres of Land for Sale on Long Time and Small Payments, by the

NATIONAL COLONY



The National Colony.

The nationa. colony is located in Southwestern Minnesota and Northwestern Iowa. It comprises twelve townships of land in Nobles county, Minnesota, and three and one half townships in Osceola county, Iowa, the land being undulating prairie, watered by streams and lakes, and having a soil of sandy loam from two to four feet in depth. There are twenty townships of land in Nobles county, and it is admitted on all hands that this county lies in the very heart of what is called the "CREAM OF THE PRAIRIES." Southwestern Minnesota, by general consent, long since took the name of the "GARDEN OF THE STATE."

Lakes.

There are some fifty lakes, great and small, in Nobles county. The principal ones are Lakes Okabena, Ocheeda, Indian Lake, and Graham Lakes. Within a radius of eight miles of Worthington there are over twenty-four miles of lake front.

Stock Growing.

The numerous lakes and the luxuriant grasses of this region adapt it to stock-growing in an eminent degree, and a number of settlers are arranging to engage in stock-growing, dairying and cheese-making. The dry winters and fine climate are exceedingly favorable to the health of all kinds of stock. Beef cattle grown here can be delivered in Chicago for less money than by stock-growers living within twenty miles of that city. Two cheese factories now in operation in the county.

Railroads.

Two railroads now in operation to Worthington. The Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad runs in a southwesterly direction across Nobles county, keeping the people in daily communication with both St. Paul, distant 177 miles, and Sioux City, distant 92 miles. The Worthington and Sioux Falls Railroad extends westward to Lu Verne and will soon be completed to Sioux Falls. Preparations are now making to extend the Southern Minnesota to Worthington within the next year. Another proposed road is a narrow-gauge coal road to the Iowa coal fields, which will, in due time, no doubt be built. Another road is projected from Sioux City to Worthington by way of the Rock River Valley. The Southern Minnesota Company contemplates building a branch northwest from Worthington to Pipestone county.

Towns and Villages.

There are three villages in the county, all of which are railroad stations, viz: Worthington, Bigelow and Hersey.

Worthington

Is the county seat, and is a thriving town, drawing trade from nine of the surrounding counties. It is situated on West Okabena Lake, a beautiful sheet of water, having a circumference of about six miles, and presenting upon its shores many elevated sites for residences. It furnishes sand, gravel, boulders, ice and water in abundance for the town, to say nothing of boating, fishing, gunning, etc. The business of the town is represented by over twenty stores, five hotels, several lumber yards, fuel yards, meat markets, livery stables, etc., and one large steam flouring mill and two weekly newspapers. The professions are represented by three physicians, two dentists, and four lawyers. There are five church organizations in the place, viz.: Union Congregational, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Disciples. The Congregationalists and Presbyterians both have neat church edifices, and the Methodists own the large building known as Methodist Block, containing Miller Hall, in which they hold services. The various societies are represented by a Masonic Lodge, a Good Templar Lodge, and a Post of the Grand Army.

Worthington has a good graded school, with three departments, on the Independent District plan. A fine School Building has been erected.

In culture and character, the people of Worthington are admitted to be far superior to those of frontier towns generally. The temperance feature of the Colony, which excludes the liquor traffic, has attracted the better class and excluded the more vicious class of settlers. We know of no place in the west where an investment in town lots will pay better

BIGELOW is a thriving village located some ten miles south-west of Worthington near the Iowa line. It is a railroad station and contains several stores, shops, warehouses, etc., and a cheese factory in successful operation.

HERSEY is another railroad station and village located about eight miles north-east of Worthington. It contains a postoffice, hardware store, lumber yard, hotel, etc , and is located in a beautiful and fertile region, and has a promising future before it.

Temperance and Education.

The National Colony is founded upon a temperance and educational basis. These features entered into the original plan of Dr. A P. Miller and Professor R. F. Humiston, the founders, and were among the chief inducements which brought to this locality the intelligent class of people, who have located here. No intoxicating beverages are sold in the county. The town charter of Worthington prohibits the liquor traffic. The educational interests of the town and county are in the hands of advanced men, who appreciate the importance of superior educational facilities and who will have them whatever they may cost. A few years hence will witness the establishment of the Worthington Seminary upon a permanent basis. There are now about fifty school districts organized in the county.

Climate.

The climate of Southwestern Minnesota is probably its chief attraction. The atmosphere is dry and is almost a specific for all pulmonary and bronchial affections. Consumption and ague are unknown here, and the exhilerating air gives energy to constitutions which would succumb in a more humid climate. The abounding good health and energy of the people are a source of constant remark and congratulation.

Advantages.

The advantages of this region are briefly summarized as follows: Fertile soil, convenient markets, and healthful climate; superior mail, railroad, school, church and other privileges; and no ague, no consumption, no liquor traffic, no desperadoes, no Indians.

The National Colony is a community founded, like any other community, upon legitimate and recognized business and social principles, without any communism or any peculiar feature other than the exclusion of the liquor traffic.

In addition to the advantages above named, every settler upon these lands has all the benefits arising from the location here of the NATIONAL COLONY and of the constant active and efficient work of that organization, of which Miller, Humiston & Co. are the proprietors and managers.

Settlers upon these lands will be transported from Chicago, and intermediate stations, at greatly reduced rates

Descriptive Pamphlets, containing full information in regard to the Colony lands, will be sent free to any one applying personally or by letter to

MILLER, HUMISTON & CO., Worthington, Minn,

ALLEN GIBSON, National Colony Agent, 106 Fifth Av., Chicago, Ill.

Or F. C. TAYLOR, 184 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

RECORD OF THE NEWS.

Political, Personal and Foreign Doings and Gossip.

Review of the Markets.

New York reports indicate no material improvements in the financial situation, gold selling at $1.05, as noted in our last report. Speaking of Western borrowers of money the Philadelphia Ledger says: "The banks are anxious lenders on good business paper, paper made from actual transactions in the sale of commodities. Indeed, they also lend freely on good interest and dividend-paying securities, but the rule is almost universal with them not to make loans on shares that do not pay dividends, or on the bonds o companies that have passed their interest payments. These are incontinently ruled out of every well regulated bank or other corporation lending money. The observance o this rule has recently cut off a very considerable amount of stock collateral, and make it rather more difficult with weak parties to borrow, but there has been no material change in rates for the use of money for a month past.

The Chicago Tribune says of the general mercantile trade: Dry goods were reasonably active, and firm in a marked degree. Stocks of manufactured goods were never before so small as at present, and, with the prospect of a more than ordinarily active spring trade, the chances are strongly in favor of a continued advance in prices. Manchester and Dunnell's fancy prints have been advanced to 8c. There was little change in the position of the grocery market, the developement of a firmer feeling in sugars being the only new feature of note

The hog market was prevented from improvement solely on account of the weather.

The flour trade in the northwest has been unusually active, eastern buyers fearing a still further advance. Prices remain firm with an upward tendency.

No 2 wheat in New York, at our latest advices, was $1.41, the same as the week previous; in Chicago, $1.29, a rise of four cents for the week; in Milwaukee the price was $1.33, a rise for the week of five cents. The millers' price in Minneapolis and St. Paul was $1.25 for No. 1 and $1.20 for No. 2. Many mills have shut down rather than pay this price at the present price of flour.

Oats, corn, barley, etc., are unchanged and will probably so remain until Spring opens.

Of dressed hogs, there seems to be no hope of a return this season to the high prices of a a few weeks ago. Prices are weak and unsteady, packers offering $6.50 and sometimes $6.60 for the most desirable lots. Shippers cannot compete at these figures, and are not anxious to operate at present. The greater portion of the year's crop of hogs is supposed to have been marketed.

Crazy Horse Again Routed.

Gen. Wilson, in a dispatch to Gen. Sheridan, from the Yellowstone says: I have the honor to report that this command fought the hostile tribes of Cheyenne and Ogallallas Sioux, under Crazy Horse, in skirmishes, on the first, third and seventh of January, and in a five hours' engagement on the 8th inst. Their camp, some six hundred lodges, extended three miles along the valley of the Tongue river, below Hanging Woman's Creek. They were driven through the cannons of Wolf or Panther Mountains, in the direction of the Big Horn Mountains. Their fighting strength outnumbered mine two or three to one, but by taking advantage of the ground we had them at a disadvantage, and their loss is known to be very severe. Our loss was 3 killed and 8 wounded. They fought entirely dismounted, and charged on foot to within 50 yards of Captain Crazy's line, but were taken in front and flank by Captain Butler's and Lieutenant McDonald's companies. They were whipped at every point, and driven from the field and pursued as far as my limited supplies and worn down animals would carry my command.

The Indians appear to have plenty of arms and ammunition, but otherwise are in a destitute condition. Some of the prisoners now in our hands were captured with frozen limbs and were living on horse meat. The weather has been very severe, and the snow from one to three feet deep. The command is in good condition.

The Hostile Apaches at Work.

Dispatches from Tucson, Arisona, state that the Apaches are killing and plundering the settlers in southeastern Arisona. Ten were killed in Senorita valley on the 4th inst, and the work is still going on. Governor Safford has sent a message to the Legislature recounting the depredations and murders committed, dwelling on the inefficient manner in which military operations are being conducted, the troops moving slowly with heavy trains, and unable to reach the enemy. He recommends the Legislature to memorialize the Secretary of War, asking the appointment of Indian scouts to operate with the troops, or else to appropriate money to raise and equip a force of whites and friendly Indians and carry on a vigorous campaign. He says as military operations have been conducted the last six months the whole army of the United States could not subdue the hostiles in the next twelve years. While believing a scouting party of 25 citizens and as many Indian auxiliaries could accomplish the work in three months, he expresses a fear that, under the present condition of affairs southeastern Arizona must be abandoned by settlers, and the success of the hostiles is liable to induce an outbreak among the reservation Indians, resulting in a general war.

A Sad Case of Defalcation.

R. T. Taylor, cashier of the First National Bank of Franklin, Ind., was last week found to be a defaulter to the amount of over $175,000, and he had disappeared, taking with him all the available funds of the bank. A few days thereafter the unfortunate man was found dying in the back room of Dr. Payne's office, in an apparent unconscious condition. He was removed to his residence and the doctors pronounced him insane and in a very critical condition, being subject to heart disease. He had no money with him and claims that his bag, traveling which is supposed to have contained the money, was left in a caboose car. He was thought to have arrived during the night on a freight train. He says he has been absent six years. The belief at Franklin is that the loss to the bank will reach one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. The general ledger and other books of importance are missing. He was unconscious at midnight.

Hard Times in France.

The French Government has been questioned as to what steps it intended to take to alleviate the suffering among the workmen of Lyons. M. Ordinaire stated that 50,000 operatives were thrown out of employment in consequence of the low wages, and the dearness of raw silk, which had risen 80 per cent. in price. M. Simon, President of the Council replied that the government would do everything in its power to assist the local authorities. It appears that two-thirds of the silk-workers are unemployed, and the manufacturers declare that work cannot be resumed until the price of raw silk falls 15 per cent. The Prefet of the Rhone devoted £53,000 from the local fund to the relief of the sufferers. It is believed by many that the business of Lyons will not soon recover, and that the demand for silk fabrics is declining before that for woolens.

Horrible Suicide.

Edward Clyde, a young man living in Naponee, Ind., committed suicide recently in the following horrible manner: He first drove a penknife into each temple, but not satisfied with that, procured an old, rusty pocket-knife with a blade three and a half inches long, and then drove that into his forehead to the handle and then broke it off, leaving the blade in his head. He was soon after discovered by his parents and endeavored to escape from them, running more than half a mile before being caught. He was covered with blood from head to foot. The cause that led to the sad affair is not known.

The Northern Pacific Not Dead.

Mr. Stork, vice president of the N. P. railroad company, in a recent letter, says: "This company earnestly desires the early completion of the Brainerd Branch and St. Vincent extension, and believes its true interests in this matter to be identical with the interests of the people of Minnesota, and especially of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and I beg to state again, for the company, that if the Legislature will put us in possession of these lines we will complete and operate them."

The Ashtabula Horror.

Paine, the general superintendent of he Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, has a list of those supposed to have been on the wrecked train. Some of those who were reported as missing have been ascertained not to have been on the train. Some were simply mistaken; others were fraudulently so reported. The list contains the names of seventy-two adults and eight children supposed to be lost, and sixty-nine saved. Some are marked doubtful. This list includes the names of all those known to have been on the train.

Refused to Testify Against His Son.

Judge Logwood of the criminal court o Memphis, fined ex-Mayor John Loague fifty dollars and sentenced him to jail until he will answer, for refusing to testify against his son, Robert, charged with forging his father's name to an order for a small amount. Mr. Loague refused on the ground that his testimony would disgrace his son.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

Proceedings of the Second Sessio

Senator Allison, on the 6th, reported the Indian appropriation bill, which is much reduced. The committee on public lands, reported favorably on the bill for the relief of settlers on the public lands under the preemption law, and it was passed and sent to the House. Senator Windom, from the committee on appropriations, reported adversely to the House bill paying for the Eads jetties $500,000. Considerable other business was touched upon, but nothing else was completed.

Nothing worthy of note was done in the House.

The work of the Senate on the 7th inst., was of a very unconnected character, resulting in nothing worthy of especial note. The bill to allow Indians to become citizens was placed on the calendar. A new conference committee was appointed on fast mails and the franking privilege. The committee on claims reported adversely to re-opening claims of the war of 1812. The printing bill was called up by Mr. Windom, but without action the Senate adjourned.

The House held a short session on the 7th, in which the deficiency bill for Government printing was discussed, and an amendment was adopted providing that the wages of printers on Government work shall be the same as paid in other eastern cities. No other business was done, except to discuss the deficiency appropriation bill in committee of the whole, and the House adjourned.

A bill was introduced in the Senate, on the 9th, appropriating money for a colonizing expedition to the Arctic seas. Resolutions of the Kansas Horticultural Society were presented asking for aid in preventing the destruction caused by the locust. A lengthy discussion was had on the bill amending the Pacific railroad acts and creating a sinking fund for the liquidation of its indebtedness to the government, but without action the Senate adjourned.

In the House, on the 9th, the deficiency bill was passed with one item stricken out; after some other business the report of the Louisiana investigating committee was submitted. The majority report concludes by declaring that the Democratic electors received a majority of the votes in the State; that the canvass was illegal, fraudulent and void; and that the vote of the State cannot be counted for Hayes and Wheeler without confirming and approving the illegal and fraudulent action. The minority report declared that the Republican electors were chosen, and the returns made by the proper authorities under all the forms of law. Both reports were ordered printed.

A Boa-Constrictor's Voyage.

Wilmington (N. C.) Star.

The Norwegian bark Surprise, Capt. Weigner, now in this port, had an exciting adventure lately. While the vessel was at some port in Africa, about six or seven months ago, a huge boa-constrictor, some fifteen feet in length, got on board the ship without the knowledge of any of the officers or crew, and made his way into the hold. The vessel sailed, and the snake was not discovered until after landing at Liverpool, when, upon proceeding to remove the cargo, which consisted of wool and other articles, the presence of the constrictor was made known. The stampede that occurred among the bewildered and affrighted stevedores, as well as all others on the ship at the time, was a scene long to be remembered. The monster was captured and caged.

Three little girls, sisters, were drowned at Salem, Mass., last week, by breaking through the ice.

Minnesota Legislature.

In the Senate, on the 6th, bills were introduced relating to the compensation of Judges of Probate and county attorneys; providing for the destruction of pocket gophers, and for the preservation of game. The evidence of the contestent in the case of William Meighen against Senator Edwards, was received and laid on the table. The bill introduced by Senator Stacy, providing for a general reduction of salaries of county officers, was discussed at length and without action was put over. No other business was transacted except to receive reports of several special committees.

In the House on the 6th, Mr. Comstock introduced a resolution calling upon the Governor to execute a deed of certain lands to the St. Paul & Pacific railroad company, but notice of debate being given it went over. Bills were introduced for the location of highways in certain cases; repealing the inebriate asylum act; and for various unimportant local matters. A Senate bill was passed locating a state road from Becker station to Sauk Rapids. House bills were passed providing for a State board of equalization; appropriating money for the Insane and Deaf Dumb and Blind asylum; amending the constitution relating to homesteads; powers of attorney in transfers of real estate; relating to sheriff's fees; to writs of habeas corpus; to religious corporations; authorizing Renville county to issue bonds; authorizing the State Auditor to abate penalties on unpaid interest in certain cases; to abate taxes in counties ravaged by grasshoppers; to extend the time for the completion of the Hastings & Dakota railroad.

The usual number of bills were introduced in the Senate on the 7th, among which was one providing for the assessment and adjustment of taxes due the State; amending the laws of 1874 relating to roads; the vacation of judgments; attorneys at law; doing away with the visits of county treasurers except as ordered by the commissioners, and one appropriating $18,000 for enlarging the University grounds. Mr. Donnelly had read an extract from a daily paper charging himself and Senator Wilkinson with brow-beating and bulldozing the majority, and said he thought the attack unjust and uncalled for. Senator Wilkinson did not suppose anybody ever read the paper. Senate bills were passed to prohibit lewdness; changing school district boundaries in Dodge and Rice counties; to refund certain stumpage to the L. S. & M. R. R. company, and allowing Owatonna to appropriate money for highways. Stacy's bill for regulating salaries of county officers, was passed unanimously. The House bill appropriating $15,000 annually to the Normal schools was passed. The bill repealing the law exempting $50 of laborer's wages, wa defeated in committee of the whole.

In the House, on the 7th, after an animated discussion of the bill known as Donnelly's usury bill, the bill was referred to the committee of the whole. Bills were introduced: to repeal the tax law of 1874; a memorial to Congress for cheap transportation to the seaboard; regulating the inspection of illuminating oils; to detach certain portions of Renville county and attach the same to McLeod. Senate bills were passed prohibiting the sale of liquor in the town of Kenyon, and legalizing the acts of the commissioners of Lac qui Parle county. House bills were passed amending the charter of Madelia; for a State road from St. Paul to Shakopee; to enable McLeod county to transfer railroad bonds; to prevent hunting deer in the evening in Stearns county; to prohibit the giving of public money to schools where sectarian religious doctrines are taught; appropriating money for State prison expenses and improvements; relating to Iowa railroads entering Minnesota; relating to costs on appeals. The liquor bill introduced for the State Temperance Union was considered in committee of the whole, and was championed by Mr. W. A. Bentley in an able speech of an hour that was listened to by crowded lobbies and gallery. The bill was recommended to pass.

Bills were introduced in the Senate on the 8th for detatching certain territory from Goodhue and attatching the same to Dodge county; creating the city of Duluth out of the city of Duluth, and amending the acts relating to the hospital for the insane. Senate bills were passed relating to assignments of judgements; amending the statutes regarding the duty of Surveyor General; amending the law relating to the Hospital for the insane; regarding the power of judges of probate; allowing judges in district and common pleas courts to employ stenographers; relieving certain secret societies from the general insurance laws, also Lineau's text book bill by a vote of thirty to six. The bill coditying the school law, passed with no opposition. House bills passed submitting the constitutional amendment relating to stockholders in corporations, which was defeated last fall; making employees preferred creditors of assignors; and amending the act incorporating villages.

In the House, on the 8th, the resolution that no settlement of the railroad bond question should be made by this legislature except it be referred to the people, was taken up and discussed at some length, and laid over without action. Bills were introduced as follows: relating to county superintendents of schools; amending the statutes relating to guardians; authorizing Wright county to issue bonds, besides a number of bills strictly local in character. House bills were passed to reimburse A. McCrea for money wrongfully paid as taxes; amending the statutes so that costs in justice court appeals must be paid in advance; changing the name of Marian Lake township to Perham: authorizing the draining of certain lakes in McLeod county; prohibiting for three years the killing of deer in McLeod county; for draining a lake in Becker county; and amending the charter of Northfield. The report of the committee of the whole in favor of the temperance bill was adopted, 64 to 38. In committee of the whole Mr. Comstock's resolution relating to the lands tied up by the St. P. & P. extension lines, was discussed but not passed.

In the Senate on the 9th inst., bills were introduced to legalize the records of deeds and other conveyances; relating to estrays; to prevent the sale of personal property under mortgages without notice of the same; to amend the constitution so as to prohibit any town or other corporation from voting bonuses; and appropriating lands to the Minnesota Temperance Union for the support of indigent children of inebriates. Senate bills passed: relating to county treasurers' bonds; to civil actions; legalizing conveyances of real property subscribed by one witness; relating to sheriffs taking indemnity; amending the act incorporating St. Charles; legalizing wire fences; and protecting Wisconsin prisoners passing through this State. House bills passed: for the establishment of a post route to Crookston; extending personal property taxes in Redwood county; relating to issues of preferred stock by railroad companies, and allowing them to enter into agreements with bondholders, etc.; and relating to applications for pensions. The present session is proving to be the most active the State has had for years; the members having already devoted more hours to actual business.

In the House, on the 9th, the usual number of bills were introduced, among which may be mentioned: to aid in the construction of the St. Cloud and St. Peter railroad; to appropriate $20,000 to encourage tree planting; to prescribe the penalty for murder in the first degree; and to provide for establishing new counties. Senate Bills were passed, authorizing Winona to issue bonds; amending the charter of Worthington; Otter Tail, Wadena and Wilkin counties, to issue bonds to aid in building a railroad; amending the statutes relating to roads, cartways and bridges; prohibiting fishing with nets in the Zumbro; Otter Tail county to issue bonds for county buildings; making paupers a town charge in Stearns county. House bills passed appropriating $75,000 for seed wheat for grasshopper sufferers, and $100,000 for bounties for the destruction of grasshoppers and their eggs; amending the insurance laws; quieting titles to real estate; memorial for a cheap freight route to the sea board; for lowering a lake in McLeod county; $4,000 for the extraordinary expenses of the Northfield robber hunt; $40,000 to the deaf, dumb and blind asylum; relating to draining wet lands; $10,000 for the encouragement of fish culture for two years; for the removal of the Mille Lacs Indians; and appropriating $2,000 for tree culture. In committee of the whole an amendment was attached to Donnelly's usury law which destroys its intended force.

The session of the Senate on the 10th was short but effective. The only new bills of interest were these: Authorizing Le Sueur to issue bonds, and to make premeditated murder punishable with death. The malitia law as it now stands has no exemptions, but Mr. Edgerton intsoduced a bill in the Senate which if it becomes a law will exempt Mennonites and Quakers. A bill was presented establishing a commission to periodically inspect the inmates of the insane asylum and discharge all who are no longer proper subjects for treatment.

In the House on the 10th, barely a quorum was present. Bills were introduced to appropriate money for the State Reform School, and soldier's orphan's home; fixing time of holding court in the 11th judicial district; and various unimportant local bills. Senate bills were passed repealing the law of 1872 relating to horse thieves, and amending the charter of Byron. Senate bills were passed for draining a lake in Wright county; to improve navigation on lake Minnetonka; regulating fishing with nets in Nicholet county; detatching certain territory from the independent school district of Madelia; and incorporating the village of Excelsior.

The Presidential Tribun al.

The entire day on the 5th was occupied by argument by Mr. Evarts opposing going behind the record in the Florida case, and by Charles O'Connor in favor of a full investigation. This ended the argument in the Florida case, and the Commission decided to hold a private session, on the 6th, to consider the question.

The commission were in secret session the entire time on the 6th, but came to no decision in the Florida case.

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The tripartite Commission on the 7th decided not to go behind the electoral certificates in the Florida case. Following is the minute on the official record of the Commission:

On motion of Justice Miller—

Ordered, That no evidence will be received or considered by the Commission which was not submitted to the joint convention of the two houses by the President of the Senate with the different certificates except such as relates to the eligibility of C. Humphreys, one of the electors.

The vote stood as follows:

YEAS.—Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Garfield, Hoar, Miller, Morton, Strong.—8.

NAYS.—Abbott, Field, Payne, Bayard, Hunton, Thurman, Clifford—7.

On motion of Mr. Abbott—

Resolved, That in the case of Florida this Commission will receive evidence relating to the eligibility of Frederick C. Humphreys, one of the persons named in joint certificate No. 1, as an elector.

YEAS---Abbott, Clifford, Payne, Bayard, Field, Thurman, Bradley, Hunton---8.

NAYS—Edmunds. Garfield, Miller, Frelinghuysen, Hoar, Morton, Strong—7.

The charge of ineligebility of Humphrey rests upon his being United States, Shipping Commissioner. He claims to have resigued on the 2nd of October. This question was considered by the Commission on the 8th.

The Senate on the 8th had under consideration the bill appropriating money for Indian affairs. One amendment made by the House, forbidding the President to remove any of the Sioux Indians without further instructions from Congress, the Senate struck out, and after a large number of other changes the bill was passed, and it goes back to the House. Mr. Windom was made chairman of the committee on the printing appropriation bill. The Senate then took a recess till the next day.

The House on the 8th had the attention of its members called to the treatment of the members of the Louisiana returning board in the custody of the Sergeant at-Arms. Mr. Wilson had been unable to see them until he got a peremptory order from the Speaker: then he found them in a damp, dark, and ill-ventilated cell, into which a gleam of sunlight never had penetrated, and the only light was by gas. Mr. Cox said it was the same cell in which the Republicans had placed Stewart and Irvine. Mr. Hall said in this cell was now Gov. Wells, a man of over 70 years of age, on a bed of sickness. Mr. Cox claimed that the room was both well ventilated and well lighted. The House went into committee of the whole on the deficiency bill, but action was deferred, and the House adjourned.

The entire time on the 8th was occupied with arguments relative to the eligibility of Humphrey, one of the Florida electors. Humphrey held the office of U. S. Shipping Commissioner. The appointment was made by Judge Wood of Ohio, a U. S. Circuit Judge who holds court at Pensacola, Florida. Humphrey wrote Judge Wood on the 2d of October, tendering his resignation, and it was accepted by Judge Wood. The Democrats claim that such resignation could not be legally accepted except when the court was in session at Pensacola, and as there has been no such term of court, Humphrey was accordingly a government officer when he voted in the electoral college, and was consequently disqualified. Judge Hoadley and Richard Merrick presented the argument for the Democrats, and Samuel Shellabarger, and Wm. Evarts, for the Republicans. Their speeches occupied the entire day.

The electoral Commission was in secret session the entire day on the 9th, and until half-past eight in the evening, considering the eligibility of Humphreys the Florida elector. Every member of the Commission made a speech. At one stage of the proceedings, Senator Thurman offered a resolution declaring there was no sufficient evidence to show that Humphreys was not a Shipping Commissioner on the 7th of November. This resolution was criticised by several Republicans, on the ground that it might carry an implication that if Humphreys had been such Commissioner on the 7th of November his vote would have been invalid, and the resolution was not urged, there seeming to be practically a unanimity that Humphrey's resignation was legally effectual, being tendered and accepted before the election. About six o'clock in the evening the debate ended. Senator Edmunds submitted a resolution declaring in substance that the four Republican electoral votes of Florida should be counted, and embodying various reasons for such declaring.

Representative Hunton offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the electors named in certificate No. 2, to-wit: Wilkinson Call, J. E. Yange, Robert Bullock and Robert B. Helton, are the four persons who were duly appointed electors by the State of Florida on the 7th day of November, and that their votes, certified by such certificate, are the votes provided for by the constitution of the United States.

This substitute was rejected by the following vote:

Yeas—Abbott, Bayard, Clifford, Field, Hunton, Thurman, Payne—7.

Nays—Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Garfield, Hoar, Miller, Morton, Strong.—8.

Mr. Edmunds then withdrew his resolution, and Mr. Garfield offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That four persons to wit: Frederick C. Humphreys, Chas. W. Pierce, Wm. H. Holden and Thos. W. Long were duly appointed electors of President and Vice President for the State of Florida, and that the votes cast by the aforesaid four persons are the votes provided for by the constitution of the United States.

The vote in detail on the adoption of this resolution was as follows:

Yeas—Bradley, Garfield, Morton, Edmunds, Hoar, Strong, Frelinghuysen, Miller—8.

Nays—Abbott, Field, Thurman, Bayard, Hunton, Clifford, Payne—7.

On motion of Mr. Garfield, Messrs. Edmunds, Bradley and Miller were appointed a committee to draft the report of the decision of the Commission, with brief statements of the reasons therefor, to be signed by the members agreeing thereon, and to be transmitted to the joint session of the two houses as required by the electoral act.

The argumentative resolution previously offered and withdrawn by Edmunds was adopted by the committee of three, with a few verbal changes, as their report and about 8 o'clock it was signed by the eight members of the Commission who had voted for the adoption of Garfield's resolution.

At 1 P. M. on the 10th, both Houses of Congress met in joint convention to receive the report of the commission upon the case of Florida.

The electoral commission stated the grounds of their decision in the case of Florida as follows: That it is not competent under the constitution and law as it existed at the date of the passage of the act constituting the Commission to go into evidence ali undi, and the papers opened by the President of the Senate in the presence of the two Houses to prove that other persons than those regularly certified to by the Governor of Florida according to the determination and declaration of their appointment by the Board of State Canvassers prior to the time required for the performance of their duties, had been appointed electors, or by counter proof to show that they had not, and that all proceedings of the courts or acts of the Legislature or of the executive of Florida subsequent to the casting of the votes of the electors on the prescribed day are inadmissible for any such purpose.

As to the objection made to the eligibility of Humphreys, the commission is of the opinion that without reference to the question of the effect of the vote of an ineligible elector, the evidence does not show he held the office of shipping commissioner on the day when the electors were appointed. The Commission also decided that as a consequence of the foregoing, and upon grounds before stated, neither of the papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral voters of Florida are certificates or votes not provided for by the constitution of the United States, and they ought not to be counted.

When this decision was announced objections were offered by the Democrats on the ground that the Democratic electors in Florida were truly and lawfully chosen; that the decision excludes all evidence, relative to frauds and irregularities, and that it is a violation of the Constitution of the United States to count the votes of Pierce, Humphreys, Holden and Long as electors. The objections were signed by Senators Jones, of Florida, Cooper, Barnum, Kernan, Saulsbury and McDonald. Representatives Knott, Field, Holman, Tucker Thompson, of Massachusetts, Jenks, Finley, Sayler, Ellis, Morrison, Hewitt, of New York, and Springer.

After these objections had been presented the two houses separated to vote separately upon receiving the report of the commission. In the Senate, Senator Sherman offered the following resolution which was adopted by a party vote of 44 to 25.

Resolved, That the decision of the Commission upon the electoral vote of the State of Florida stand as the judgment of the Senate, the objections made thereto to the contrary notwithstanding.

This resolution took the place of a resolution previously offered by Sentor Hamlin, declaring the electoral vote of Florida cast for Hayes and Wheeler. The Senate then notified the House that they were ready to meet in joint convention to continue the count.

In the House, as soon as the Senate had retired, a motion was made for a recess until Monday at 10 A. M. The Republicans claimed that this would be illegal but the Speaker decided that previous to debate on the objections a recess could be taken, and the motion for recess was carried by 163 to 108. This prevented any further action on the count during that day. If the two houses disagree relative to accepting the report of the Commission then the decision stands under the law. The only way that the decision of the tripartite commission can be overruled is by the concurrence of both houses acting separately.

On Monday the 12th inst., the House debated the action of the Commission in the Florida case for two hours and then voted not to accept the result of the tribunal. As the Senate voted to accept, the disagreement leaves the vote standing for Hayes. The Senate and House then met in joint session to continue the count, and Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, and Kentucky were counted without objection. Louisiana was objected to and the houses again separated and referred the objections to the commission.

Associated Press Reports of Political Investigations.

LOUISIANA.

The House committee continued the examination of ex-Gov, Wells on the 6th. The examination largely consisted of bandinage between the committee and witness. Wells testified that Duncan F. Kenner, a wealthy gentleman of New Orleans, offered him $200,000 to give the vote of Lousiana to Tilden. Kenner telegraphed in reply that Wells offered to sell for $200,000 but he (Kenner) refused to buy.

The House committee, on the 7th, examined Louis M. Kenner, of the Louisiana Returning Board. He admitted that there was fraud in the Vernon parish return but disclaimed having any personal connection with it. He said 10,000 votes were thrown out on the ground of intimidation. Four of the Returning Board clerks were called to refute Littlefield's story about altering the Vernon parish return. All denied having anything to do with the alteration or knowing anything about it.

The Senate committee on Louisiana affairs examined A. B. Levirse, one of the alleged ineligible Hayes electors in that State. He claimed that S. W. Ashur and Walter Pugh offered him $100,000 to give his vote to Tilden, but that he insisted on $200,000. He claimed that he was doing this to test them. Several witnesses were examined who testified that Madox's reputation for veracity was bad, and they would not believe him under oath.

OREGON.

The Senate committee resumed consideration of the Oregon case, on the 7th. Dr. Miller testified that he had telegraphic correspondence with Pelton, and sent Patrick to Oregon, but knew nothing of any illegitimate use of money in securing the Cronin electoral vote.

A letter passed through the Detroit post-office the other day, bearing the following superscription: "To the Fat Kuss what eddits the Pontyac weekly Gazette, and sent me a dunnin letter in an envelope he stole; Pontyac, Michigan."