

TROY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1878.

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Milk.—On and after the 1st of May, 1878, I will deliver Milk at 20c. per gallon.
 Mrs. E. G. HAMMOND.

MOSCOW MILLS

are now in good repair, grinding Wheat and Corn. When not running, this notice will be withdrawn.
 F. WINE & SON.

Dr. C. W. BENSON'S CLEARY AND CHAMOMILE PILLS are prepared expressly to cure Sick Headache, Nervous Headache, Dyspeptic Headache, Neuralgia, Nervousness and Sleeplessness, and will cure any case. Price fifty cents a box, 30 pills, postage free. Sold by all druggists. Office, No 108 N. Eutaw st., Baltimore, Md.

Notice.

All persons indebted to the late firm of Parker, Crews & Co., or to Charles W. Parker, or Beverly S. Crews, for debts incurred prior to April 25, 1878, are hereby notified that the notes and accounts of said parties have been placed at the Farmers and Mechanics Savings bank at Troy, Mo., for collection.
 ELBERT E. HICKOX,
 Assignee in Bankruptcy of Parker, Crews & Co. jul81w4

Lost.—A two-fold pocket case of surgical instruments, purchased from A. M. Leslie, whose name is stamped on it. Have been used but little. Supposed to have been lost north or west of Millwood. Any one returning the same to my office, or giving such information as will lead to the recovery of them, will be suitably rewarded.
 G. H. MUDD, M. D.,
 Millwood, Mo.

Clifford's Febrifuge.—Unfailing, infallible cure for all diseases originating in billary derangements, caused by the malaria of malarial countries. No preparation known possesses an eradicating power over this class of diseases at all comparable to Clifford's Febrifuge. It is the ne plus ultra of Ague remedies. Sure and safe in action, its great power in neutralizing malarious influences is only equalled by its harmless action on the body. No disagreeable after effects from this remedy. C. RICHARDSON, Prop'r, St. Louis. For sale by all druggists.

MUSIC.

For the purpose of accommodating the pupils of the Troy High school as well as my patrons in general, I hereby give notice that I have secured suitable rooms in the immediate vicinity of the school, so that no interruption of the regular course of study in the school will be occasioned by the hours set apart for musical instruction. The large number of pupils already promised (25 at this date) need give no uneasiness to my patrons, as I have made all necessary arrangements to thoroughly instruct all pupils; and for that end will have employed a thorough assistant.
 32—w6 E. M. WOLLANK.

LIVER IS KING.

The Liver is the imperial organ of the whole human system, as it controls the life, health and happiness of man. When it is disturbed in its proper action, all kinds of ailments are the natural result. The digestion of food, the movements of the heart and blood, the action of the brain and nervous system, are all immediately connected with the workings of the Liver. It has been successfully proved that Green's August Flower is unequalled in curing all persons affected with Dyspepsia or Liver Complaint, and all the numerous symptoms that result from an unhealthy condition of the Liver and Stomach. Sample bottle to try, 10 cents. Promptly sold in all towns on the Western Continent. Three doses will prove that it is just what you want.

Boarding House

OF
 Mrs. ANNA DEEVER,
 Troy, Missouri.

I am prepared to take boarders by the day or week. Meals 25 cents. The house is commodious, handsomely located, with large yard and shade trees. The most comfortable place in the town by odds.

THE BONDS.

An Address to the People of the State by the Committee Appointed at the Mexico Anti-Bond Convention.

In response to an invitation from the citizens of Scotland county, representatives from thirteen counties in the state assembled in convention at the city of Mexico on the 6th day of June last, to consult in reference to the bonded indebtedness of their respective localities. That convention imposed upon the undersigned committee the duty of preparing an address to the people of the state. In discharging this duty we shall not undertake a discussion of all the issues involved. The convention will meet again on the fourth Tuesday in August, at Macon City. It is important that the people of the state should be correctly informed as to the spirit and purposes of that body—the line of policy it will pursue in the future. It is well known that since the termination of the war, from various causes and under the force of circumstances not necessary now to discuss, a very large number of bonds have been issued by counties, townships, cities and towns in the state, chiefly in aid of the construction of railroads. We have no data from which an accurate statement can be made of the aggregate amount of these bonds, or the localities from which they were issued. It is a fact equally well known by citizens of Missouri, at least, that a very large portion of these bonds have been illegally and fraudulently issued; or else, after their issue was authorized, improperly obtained and disposed of against the interest and wishes of a large majority of the people to be affected by them. Up to the time of the last decision of the United States supreme court upon the question of township bonds, there had been no proposition, so far as we are informed, for any concert of action among the people of the state in reference to their bonded indebtedness. Different localities, where resistance to the payment of bonds had been deemed advisable, relying upon the facts peculiar to their own cases, had undertaken to fight their battles without regard to others and without feeling the necessity of any concert of action in the premises. The legislature of 1868, in the interest of railroad corporations, and availing itself of the reckless spirit of improvement and speculation then prevailing in the state, passed what is known as the township aid act. In the spring of 1870, and before the question had been directly passed upon by our own state supreme court, the supreme court of the United States unanimously declared the act to be unconstitutional and void. The effect of this decision was to make all bonds, no matter in whose possession they then were, utterly worthless. Upon the authority of that decision there was a general suspension of the payment of interest upon township bonds, and the people of the state rested quietly in the belief that the question was finally settled.

The tribunal which passed upon it is the highest known to the constitution and laws of the land. The reasons given for the conclusions of the court were eminently sound and satisfactory to the country. There was no reasonable grounds to apprehend that this settlement of the question would be disturbed by any subsequent action of the court. The opinion in the case referred to (Harshman vs. Bates County) was based upon the interpretation which our own supreme court had given to the constitution of 1865 as applied to the provisions of the act of 1868. It was true that the question had not been directly passed upon by our state court, but the interpretation was gathered from the various cases in which it had been indirectly or collaterally raised. In the month of May, 1878, the supreme court of the United States, upon an examination of the same cases on which the Harshman and Bates county case had been decided, and without any new light on the subject overruled the decision in that case—a majority of the court (six against two) holding that the act of 1868 was constitutional and ought to be enforced. At the time of the decision last referred to, there were pending and undisposed of in our own supreme court, at least two cases in which the question of the validity of the act of 1868 was directly involved. These cases were reached in their proper order and decided during the last spring months. It is fair to state that only four judges sat in the first case, and that the decision of the lower court, holding the act to be unconstitutional and void, was affirmed by a division of the judges. In the next case (with a full bench) three of the judges, in an opinion which cannot be overturned by judicial reasoning, likewise held the law to be unconstitutional and utterly void.

We presume it will not be denied that these two cases are the first in which our own court has undertaken directly and in express terms to pass upon this question. This was the state of the case in reference to township bonds, when the people of Scotland county held their meeting and invited the tax-payers of other interested portions of the state to meet them in convention at the city of Mexico for consultation. The subject of township bonds, however, was not the only one to be submitted to the consideration of that body. The county of Scotland itself was chiefly interested in the subject of county bonds. Other localities were complaining of the illegal issue of bonds by towns and cities. There are in all these cases points of resemblance and matters of common interest and concern to all; hence all were embraced in the call. It was not reasonable to sup-

pose that the holding of this convention would be approved by parties interested in the payment of these bonds. The bond-holding interest of the country was known to be large and powerful in a pecuniary point of view, and able to command the services of a portion, at least, of the public press for the purpose of sending out a false report of the proceedings of that body. We were not disappointed, therefore, in supposing that such a thing would be done. Intimations made in advance and repeated at the time, satisfied us that there was a deliberate intention on the part of these parties to have the impression go out, as far as possible, that the settled purpose of those who assembled at Mexico was to repudiate all debts contracted in behalf of counties, cities and towns, without regard to their character or the manner in which they have been created. Nothing could have been more false and unfounded. There was nothing in the declarations of those at whose instance the call was made, and nothing in the action of the convention when it assembled, that could justify such a charge. Repudiation, in its proper sense, constituted no part of the scheme by which the Mexico convention proposed to avoid the payment of bonds. It is a term justly odious to all right-minded men, and when applied to a refusal to discharge an honest obligation, its use is altogether right and proper. But when an individual or a body of men think proper to avail themselves of a legal defense against the payment of obligations illegally contracted or attempted to be made binding upon them by fraudulent means, then such an act is but the exercise of a right common to all men, and for which they cannot be justly censured. We will not say that all parties interested in the payment of fraudulent bonds have joined in the cry of repudiation from improper motives. There are many ignorant and unsuspecting holders of these bonds—persons who are the victims of their own folly or the dupes of unprincipled brokers and operators in this class of securities. Such people are greatly to be pitied and some allowance may be made for any false impression that they may attempt to create in the premises. But coming as it does, chiefly from newspapers published in the interest of dishonest rings and unscrupulous operators, we are forced to believe that it has been manufactured for the purpose of diverting attention from the fraud and villainy by which the bonds in most cases have been obtained. We believe that we are warranted by the facts in saying, that the convention at Mexico was composed of men of fair standing in their respective counties, and that they represented constituencies of average intelligence and respectability. It was not a band of mere politicians met together in the interest of any party to discuss the bearing of any political questions, or to carry out any mere partisan purposes. It made no effort to organize a new party in the state, as its enemies have charged. Speaking as its representatives, and from the expressed opinions of its members at the time, we say now that it is not desirable that any party organization should be formed in the state to carry out the purposes of that body. It met for the purpose of representing the tax-paying citizens of the state, without regard to party, and to consult as to the best legal means of defending their rights against the outrages that have been perpetrated upon them.

The fact that a portion of the proceedings of the convention was conducted in secret, has been the subject of some unfriendly comment, and deserves a passing notice at our hands. The prevailing sentiment in the convention in relation to all classes of these bonds was, that the question as to whether their payment should be resisted or not, was a legal question to be met and decided like all others of a kindred character, by an application of the law to the facts in each particular case. They proposed to make common cause wherever the facts should reveal a similarity of condition, by discussing the best mode of relief under the law. Ordinarily there would be no ground of suspecting that a private conference of parties litigant meant anything more than a discussion among themselves of the facts connected with their case, and the best line of policy to pursue in its general management and trial in court. Why should such a conference be objected to in this particular case? Why suspect these men of more improper motives than others similarly situated? The resolutions which were adopted and published to the world represented truthfully the spirit and purposes of the body, and there was no utterance of a single member who participated in its deliberations, either public or private, that was inconsistent with them. We have said that the leading question in reference to all bonds of this character is a legal one. We repeat the statement—it is purely and simply a legal question.

Many labored efforts have been made to show that these are questions of good faith and moral obligation in reference to the payment of these bonds, wholly independent of the question of their legality. We maintain that arguments based upon such considerations have no application to the payment of municipal obligations, and never had. No man ever purchased the bond of a municipal corporation upon the idea that its issue had been assented to by every individual tax-payer of the community to be affected by it. The only questions to be asked or answered in reference to a bond of that character are: Has it been issued by proper authority of law? Is the taxable property of the locality sufficient to meet the obligation, if its payment has to be enforced by law? These are the true foundations

of public credit as applied to municipal corporations, and they are matters of law purely. But suppose we should admit that there are in these cases moral obligations, how shall they be enforced? It will not be pretended in any given case that every solitary tax-payer in the community has given his assent to the creation of an indebtedness for that locality. If, therefore, any sort of obligation has been imposed upon him by the act of others and without his consent, it is purely a legal one. There is nothing binding on his conscience in the premises, and if he is affected at all, it is purely by the imposition upon him of a legal obligation (common to all citizens of the community in which he lives) in consideration of some real or supposed benefit conferred upon him in a pecuniary point of view. Such an act, when performed under the forms and in pursuance of the authority of law, really imposes a debt upon his property and not upon him personally. We think it is neither contrary to law nor good morals to say that such a man not only has the right to inquire, but justice to himself and his family demands that he should make the fullest investigation into the legality of such an act, even though his taxable property may not amount to five dollars in value. If it turns out in that case that his property cannot be taxed for the purpose of discharging the obligation, neither can the property of his neighbor, no matter how anxious he may have been for issuing the bond. The court, whose duty it is to provide means for the payment of bonds issued by it, would have no authority to levy and collect a tax that did not equally apply to all the taxable property within its jurisdiction. The consequence would be that the whole proceeding would fall to the ground. The bond would forever remain unpaid, for the reason that no individual would voluntarily consent to pay any part of it, unless his neighbors could be compelled to contribute their proportion. All this, therefore, about moral obligation and good faith, can have no application except in those cases where bonds have been issued under the authority and in accordance with the forms of law.

The convention was a small one. It is desirable that a larger representation should be had, if possible. Macon City was deemed to be in many respects a better locality for the meeting of such a convention, and the fourth Tuesday in August a time at which a larger attendance could be secured. These are some of the reasons which influenced the adjournment of the convention over to the time and place named. We earnestly invite the tax-payers of every outraged community to send their representatives to meet us. It makes no difference whether you originally favored the issue of bonds in your locality or not. If the fact is, that you have been deceived, cheated and defrauded at any stage of the proceeding, by the corrupt action of your municipal authorities, or the villainy of others, take proper advice as to the legal status of your case and defend yourselves if the law will afford you a remedy. We advise no action that may be contrary to law. We ask no man to assume an attitude of hostility to the legally constituted authorities of the country. We favor no rebellion in this country except against those who would invade our rights under the law. We urge all men to obey the law and respect authority. At the same time we will say to all who have been wronged and outraged by an attempt to burden them with a bonded indebtedness contrary to law, stand by your rights and defend them to the last. From the foundation of the government there has been but one rule of construction applied by the supreme court of the United States in passing upon the constitutionality of a state law. That rule is, that where the state supreme court has given an interpretation of their own constitution, as applied to the provisions of a law of that state, that interpretation will be adopted and followed by the United States supreme court, whether it is deemed to be correct in fact or not. There can be no other rule of construction that will be consistent with the independence of the state judiciary. We desire simply that that rule shall govern in these bond cases, as well as in all other cases. We desire that the independence of our state judiciary shall be maintained; we believe that we have a right to insist that the rule of construction laid down by the supreme court of the United States itself shall be adhered to. We do this respectfully, yet earnestly and firmly. In so doing we are neither rebels nor despisers of authority. We insist upon it, because we have large interests at stake that cannot be protected against fraud and outrage without it. We have not looked to bondholders and their legal advisers to instruct us as to our rights under the law. We have not applied to them nor to newspapers published in their interests and the interest of whisky rings and other schemes of public plunder for a code of morals on this subject.

Actuated by a simple, yet firm determination to defend ourselves against wrong and injury, by all lawful means within our power, with a consciousness of the rectitude of our intentions, let all who are interested in this matter send their representatives to Macon City on the fourth Tuesday in this month, resolved to take such action in the premises as may be deemed legal and proper, regardless of the cry of rebellion or repudiation.

THOS. J. C. FAGO, Pike County.
 T. W. B. CRAW, Franklin "
 C. B. BAKER, Scotland "
 W. B. STRAW, Ralls "
 W. B. BAKER, Cass "

CATARRH

Sanford's Radical Cure.
 Sufferers from Catarrh of the Bladder, Uterus, or any other part of the urinary system, are invited to try Sanford's Radical Cure. It is a simple, safe, and effective remedy, and has cured thousands of cases. It is sold by all druggists and by the author, Dr. J. C. Sanford, at No. 108 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md.

An Enthusiastic Friend of Sanford's Radical Cure.
 Dr. J. C. Sanford's Radical Cure is a simple, safe, and effective remedy for Catarrh of the Bladder, Uterus, or any other part of the urinary system. It has cured thousands of cases, and is sold by all druggists and by the author, Dr. J. C. Sanford, at No. 108 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md.

LAME BACK AND RHEUMATISM

Collins' Plaster.
 Collins' Plaster is a simple, safe, and effective remedy for Lame Back and Rheumatism. It is sold by all druggists and by the author, Dr. J. C. Collins, at No. 108 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md.

NOT A QUACK NOSTRUM.
 Collins' Plaster is a simple, safe, and effective remedy for Lame Back and Rheumatism. It is sold by all druggists and by the author, Dr. J. C. Collins, at No. 108 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md.

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