LITTLE FALLS TRANSCRIPT.

LITTLE FALLS, MARCH 12, 1878.

H. C. STIVERS, - - - Editor.
JAMES STIVERS, - - Proprietor.

In the case of the State of Lousiana vs. Thomas C. Anderson, of the Louisiana returning board, the verdict of the lower court has been set aside and reversed by the supreme court of that State, and Anderson will be released from imprisonment. This decision of the supreme court virtually ends the prosecution against the members of the returning board, the supreme court holding that the offense was not strictly forgery, and that the information was not sufficient.

The European Congress to meet for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the complications growing out of the Eastern war will convene on or about the 15th of April. The prospect of war is increasing, however, and extensive preparations are being made for it. The people of England are almost unanimously in favor of war, and it is now generally believed that the Congress to be convened in April will utterly fail to bring about a reconciliation.

The rush of immigration to Minnesota that has now set in, is the greatest that has been known since 1856-57. Although it is now too early in the season to look for a general rush of immigrants; all the lines of travel leading into this State are crowded with land hunters and their families.

On the 13th inst., Congressman Douglas, of Virginia, got drunk and became so disorderly in the House that the sergeant-at-arms was ordered to remove him. Douglas resisted vigorously, but was dragged out. He afterward went to the reporters' gallery to abuse the correspondents, but was ejected by a door-keeper.

The temperance ticket has been unusually successful this spring throughout the State.

The first white man ever hung in Georgia for the murder of a negro was Augustus Johnson, a desperate criminal, who was hung on the 15th inst. He openly confessed to having killed eight persons. He spent his last evening carousing and joking with a crowd, having driven his weeping wife from the cell In the morning he demanded morphine before he would leave the cell, and smoked a cigar on the way to the scaffold. His last request was for whiskey, and the priest gave him holy water. He tasted it cursed the priest and threw him off the scaffold. He said he thought the holy water was gin. He complained that the drop of five feet wouldn't break his neck, and demanded more rope. His complaint was well founded, for his neck was not broken by the fall, and he died in seventeen minutes, strangled.

The State Fair.

The twentieth annual exhibition of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society will be held at St. Paul, Sept. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, 1878. The fair will probably be the best ever held in the State. We learn by our exchanges from all parts of the State that the people will give it every encouragement in preference to Hon. Wm. S. King's side-show, which he proposes to open at Minneapolis in opposition to the State fair. We have received the following circular from the officers of the State Agricultural Society:

President's Office, St. Paul, March, 1877.

DEAR SIR:—It is deemed proper to make official announcement of the fact that the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society at their meeting held in this city on February 21st, 1878, resolved to hold the next Annual State Fair on the spacious and beautiful grounds of the St. Paul Driving Park Association, heretofore used for that purpose.

Arrangements have already been, and are being made, which will render this by far the most complete and attractive Exposition of the agricultural and other Industrial Interests and Arts of Minnesota and the Northwest, over held in this State; and such ample and cordial assurances have already been received of the zealous and active co-operation of the leading representatives of every branch of agricultural and manufacturing industry, as to encourage us to believe that it will enlist a wider popular interest than any of its predecessors.

Arrangements are being made for cheap excursion tickets over the numerous railroads centering at this point, and far better and cheaper facilities than ever before will be afforded for reaching the Fair Grounds from the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. As the people of the whole State are interested in the success of the Exposition to be given under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, and in thus promoting and extending the usefulness of an organization which has already done so much to stimulate all arts of industry and skill which are based on Agriculture, we venture to ask for your co-operation and assistance in the efforts we are making to render the next State Fair one that every citizen of the State may be proud of.

Yours,

D. G. Jepson, Secretary. Geo. R. Finch, President.

Little Falls Transcript.

VOL. 2. LITTLE FALLS, MORRISON COUNTY, MINN. THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1878. NO. 29.

The Railroad Lands.

Homestead and Pre-emption Settlers.

Letter from Hon. F. R. Delano.

Saint Paul, March 16, 1878.

Editor of the Little Falls Transcript:

I have just read in your last paper the letter of Hon. N. Richardson of your town, in which he clearly sets forth some of the tricks which were performed at the capitol on the last days of the late session, to defeat the land adjustment bills introduced by himself in the House, and by Senator Houlton in the Senate, which bills were drawn up for the special protection of honest, *bona fide* homestead and pre-emption settlers.

During the years 1875, 1876 and 1877, my connection with the attempt to secure the construction of the "Brainerd Branch," as it is commonly called, brought me into personal interviews with many of these settlers, and also into an examination of Land Office and other records, bearing upon the rights of such settlers. Such investigations led to the conclusion that there is upon what is known as the Railroad lands *three classes* of claimants, to-wit:

1. Honest, *bona fide* settlers whose claims are right, and which will not be questioned or disputed for a moment by the Railroad Company.

2. Honest, *bona fide* settlers who have not performed in all respects things required to be done, or done things not strictly legal according to the United States land laws, but in either case there was no willful intent to commit a fraud, upon either the U. S. or the Railroad Company.

3. Pre-emptions by a class of persons made in such a manner, that *fraud*, is a mild name to apply to the transactions, and the manner in which they have been perpetrated is probably so well known to a great many of your readers that it is no use for me to mention the same at this writing.

In the first and second classes, the Railroad Company is anxious and willing so far as they are concerned to have the same adjusted, and the lands conveyed to these original claimants, or to their legals heirs or assigns as the case should require to be done; and since last November, work and communication have been going on between the Railroad Land Office at St. Paul, and the Dep't of the Interior at Washington to accomplish this result and settle these claims.

With the third class there is more more difficulty, because the largest portion of them comes within the pine land limits, and is within the radius of the *pine land ring*.

It is well known that the Hon Sec't'y of the Interior, Carl Schurz, is making the acquaintance, and learning the habits of pine men, and that the intervention of U. S. courts, grand jurors, and other officials is used to some extent to complete and legally to define the situation and status of the pine business, including both logs and lands. The adjustment of this class will have to be left with Mr. Schurz for awhile unless the attorneys, who are looking so closely after the interest of these *"poor helpless settlers,"* can succeed in getting some act passed by Congress or by the State of Minnesota which can be plead in bar of actions, or rulings which Mr. Schurz may bring or make against them.

I desire to say to *every honest, bona fide settler*, whether original, or the heirs or assigns of the original of either of these classes, that there is no occasion or necessity for you to employ a lawyer, or any other agent at any cost or expense whatever to look after your claims, for they will not be contested by the Railroad Company, and I will only repeat the words of your representative, Mr. Richardson, in his letter, "the only course for the settlers to pursue, is to break loose from the pine land attorneys, if they have them engaged, and give them their discharge at once."

In regard to a meeting of the homestead and pre-emption settlers, I think it would be well, (and have so advised the Railroad Land Commissioner), to have meetings of such settlers at some convenient time, at Little Falls, Two Rivers and Rich Prairie as convenient points to which the most of the settlers could come and could adjust these claims without cost, delay, or expense to the settlers.

This mode of proceedure I presume will be resisted by the *pine land fellows*, because they want to hold the persons back referred to in the first and and second classes, in order to use them in various ways to help carry their points, and confirm their schemes of deliberate fraud.

The attorneys may tell you that they will attend to your case for nothing; this they can afford to do, for an honest case requires no attention or expense in this adjustment. Some of these attorneys say they are employed now, and that the Railroad Company is trying to cheat them out of getting a lawyer's fee, which is very wicked for the Railroad Company to do.

F. R. DELANO.

NEWS ITEMS.

Lake Superior is open and navigation is being resumed.

The new silver dollars have made their appearance in St. Paul.

Miss Thompson, the lady whose horse was shod with gold, has been placed in an insane asylum.

Since 1875 the amount paid to lawyers for counsel by the New York & Erie Railway comes to $400,000.

Joseph La Paige, who murdered Josie A. Langmaid at Pembroke, N. H., on the 4th day of Oct., 1875, was executed on Friday last.

The electrician who has charge of lighting the capitol building at Washington, is represented as saying that it costs $400 an hour to light the capitol.

A little boy named Johnson, at Audubon, was, while playing with his brother, struck in the wrist with an ax and had his hand nearly severed.

John H. Camp, formerly a wholesale dry goods merchant of St. Paul, owns on line of the St. Paul & Pacific and Northern Pacific railroads 30,000 acres.

The Senate committee at Washington have made a unanimous report in favor of the extension of the time to build the Northern Pacific railroad for eight years. Good.

The town of Mendota, opposite Fort Snelling, voted almost unanimously against license in the recent town election. In war times Mendota was noted for drunkenness and disorder.

The suit of the trustees of the St. Paul & Pacific railroad against the St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Company has been decided in favor of the trustees, and they are required to take possession of the road.

Pensacola, March 24.—A negro who grossly assaulted a child aged five years, causing its death, was last night lynched by a mob. The Sheriff's posse resisted the lynchers, killing one and wounding five dangerously.

Mr. Charles E. Fitch, of the Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester, N. Y., declines a nomination for Congress because "both the holding and seeking of political office are incompatible with independent journalism, and his ambition is bounded by his profession."

At Owatonna, Minnesota, there was a hot contest over the license question at the election of the 12th inst. Result, for license 248; against license 434. Majority against license 186. License was also voted down at Austin, the county seat of Mower county.

John Jacobson, a lad about fifteen years of age, living in the eastern part of the town of Round Prairie, Todd county, was recently fatally wounded by carelessly handling a gun. He was drawing it toward him by the muzzle, when the hammer caught and fired the weapon.

Winona, Minn., March 14.—Last night Conrad Enderlein was cleaning his gun by firing powder from it. The charge struck Mrs. Charles Byersted in the face, burning her badly and destroying the sight of one eye. She was lying on a sofa, about eight feet from the muzzle.

Deadwood, D. T., March 16.—The heaviest snow storm experienced since the settlement of the Black Hills by white men, commenced on the 7th and and continued until the 12th. Snow in the city, on a level, is over five feet deep. All mail and telegraph communicatirns have been interrupted.

A bill has been introduced in the Pennsylvania house of representatives which makes cremation of a human body a misdemeanor and provides for a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $1,000, with imprisonment, and makes it the duty of constables, sheriffs and other officers to enforce the act under penalty of prosecution.

St. Paul Dispatch.

Some additional facts in relation to to the briberies of the book-ring lobbyist are daily coming out through the jealousies of some of the lads who failed to get their share of the swag. They will all be filed away for future reference, and if the carrion crows come back next year they will meet with a hot welcome.

Hon. John E. Leonard, member of congress from Louisiana, died in Havana on Friday last of yellow fever. His mission there was to investigate and report to the government the facts in regard to alleged kidnapping and sale of colored citizens of the United States. Mr. Leonard was native of West Chester.

Cincinnati Star.

The history of modern times records very few such terrible scourges as the famine in India. Notwithstanding all that has been done to ameliorate the sufferings of the people, nearly two millions are believed to have died from starvation. There is still great suffering in the affected provinces, but no further starvation is apprehended.

St. Paul Globe.

R. C. Judson, the indefatigable secretary of the State Agricultural society, has returned from the East, where he secured the promises of leading finest stock breeders and owners to exhibit their animals at the forthcoming society's show in this city. This will constitute one of the numerous special and unprecedented features of the exhibition.

At Philadelphhia, Thursday, in the case of Charles Welch, the boy twelve years old, charged with shooting and killing Robert McAdam, a playmate of the same age, the cornoner's jury rendered a verdict that the shooting was accidental, the foreman explaining that the jury thought the boy was not aware of the dangerous character of the weapon, and that there was no evidence of intent to commit murder. The boy was set at liberty.

From Neighboring Exchanges.

From the Anoka Union.

16,810 lbs of freight received at the Anoka depot, Friday morning, all for Anoka merchants.

The Anoka Lumber Mills will probably "start up" next week, they having old logs enough to keep the mill running three weeks.

From the St. Cloud Journal Press.

It would seem as though the mail agents on the St. Paul and Pacific road ought to be able, by this time, to throw the St. Cloud mail so that a good share of it will not go up the Brainerd or the Melrose branch. Scarcely a day passes but they send a considerable part of our mail by, to come back by the next train.

From the Sauk Centre Herald.

Hon, A. Barto received a letter this week from Hon. F. R. Delano, of St. Paul, in which the writer says: "I think I can safely congratulate you and my other friends in your town, and so on up the valley, on the completion of the railroad now so long delayed. You can get ready to roll in and out on a train in July."

From the Princeton Union.

The old song "Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us alll a farm" is a mockery, for the old fellow is so poor that he can't afford to pay the printer more than half the legal rates allowed by the State of Minnesota. But when the democrats come into power they begin to retrench by swindling the printers.

From the Alexandria Post.

Farmers are waiting for State seed grain.

Land buyers are swarming in Douglas County and prices are going up. Several sales have been made during the past week.

Auditor VonBaumbach finds that but little seed wheat can be bought in this county for less than $1.05, which price the State refuses to pay. It is probable that the State seed grain for Douglas County will be sent from Minneapolis by rail to Melrose, Morris and Hermon, and will, probably, be supplied early next week.

A number of legal voters of the town of Alexandria were disfranchised last Tuesday by the closing of the polls more than one hour before the time fixed by law. For this reason, some of the officers elect refuse to qualify. The ticket elected was a good one throughout, but the Post thinks that none of the candidates were lawfully chosen, and sees no remedy but in the meek suffrance of the people or a new election. We think a new election the safer and better remedy.

Thomas Borgen, a Danish gentleman, with his excellent fam l, consisting of wife and six children, lives in a nice dwelling built on rising groung on his prairie farm three miles southwest of Evansville post office. On Thursday night, the 7th inst., during a thunder storm, and while all the family were in bed, a terrific thunderbolt struck the house, knocked down the chimney with a terrible crash, broke the cooking stove to pieces, and scattered the debris over the floors. Instantly the affrighted family sprang out of bed. All were present except the oldest son, Albert, twenty-one years old. On going to his bed, in an adjoining room, to see why he too did not rise, he gave one faint gasp and died, killed by lightning.

From the Todd County Argus.

The amount of seed grain applied for in this county is a little more than 4,000 bushels—3,200 wheat and 800 of oats. The Pioneer Press of last Thursday contains a statement in which it appears that this county will receive 2,500 bushels of grain, but leaves us in doubt as to whether it refers to wheat or to wheat and oats. If that amount of wheat is allowed, the applicants will get about three bushels out of four applied for. If it refers to both kinds of grain, they will get five bushels out of eight applied for.

From the Sherburne County Star.

A young man at Otsego named Ingersoll, caught a base ball between his third and and little finger, last week, and split them apart about an inch.

Messrs. Keyser, two wealthy gentlemen from the oil regions of Pennsylvania, have been visiting friends here, this week. We learn they visited Big Lake, with a view of purchasing a large tract of land there, providing they could find some to suit them.

A man named Colbraith of Otsego drove his horse down to the ferry, for the purpose of crossing the river, last Wednesday, when some lumber that was on the wagon struck the horse and frightened it so that it ran directly across the ferry into the river, and was drowned. A small boy who was on the wagon, had a narrow escape from drowning.

Miscellaneous.

Some uncultivated clown expresses the belief that Sam. Tilden has lizzard juice in his veins instead of blood.

The register of deeds of Meeker county received a request for an abstract of title for "John Anderson's mother-in-law's land."

Newspaper men throughout the country are now having their fires started with spring poetry, of which each mail brings in a good supply.

"How can I leave thee?" he was singing in a very tender tone. He wasn't very popular with her parents, and it was verging on twelve o'clock, and the old man came in and showed him how he could leave her.

"Ma!" screamed young Matilda Spilkins the other morning, when she got the paper, "Ma, Silver Bill has just passed the House." "Has he, my dear?" replied Mrs. S. from up stairs. "Why didn't you ask him in?"

A barrister gave this reminiscence in an after dinner speech: "When I began to practice I was in perfect rags; the smallest hole in my shirt was the one I stuck my head through, and I had to have that, my only shirt, washed by the dozen, for it was in twelve pieces."

William Cortez tried to squeeze a boil on the neck of Samuel Bruce while he was shoeing a harse, making him jump and throw up his paring knife, which struck the former in the neck, severing two small arteries and grazing the jugular vein. This admirable practical joke happened at North Attleboro, Mass.

A person who was looking at a house the other day, said he couldn't afford to pay such rent. "Well, look at the neighborhood," replied the woman, "you can borrow flat-irons next door, coffee and tea across the street, flour and sugar on the corner, and there's a big pile of wood belonging to the schoolhouse right across the alley.

Silver Conference.

The following appears in a telegram to the Pioneer Press, dated at Washington, March 15. "Secretary Evarts to-day dispatched to the representatives of this governmeent at the courts of England, France, Germany, Austria Russia, Belgium an other European countries a letter announcing the passage of the silver bill, and inviting them to join with the United States in an international conference to fix the relative value of gold and silver. There will be no conference held unless at least three sovereign powers consent to join in the conference, but it is expected that international etiquette will dictate a general response to the iuvitation, and that the meeting of representatives of the great nations of the earth will take place in Paris during July or August. The president has already received numerous applications and suggestions in regard to the appointment of members of this commission, but he will decide upon none until he has received a response from at least three of the governments to which invitations have been sent."

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