

# PROGRESS OF THE PIONEER!

## A Hand Press Is Good Enough For the Back-Woods. But an Up-to-date Community Demands Better Facilities. What We Have Done, What We Are Doing and What We Will Do To Keep in Touch With the Needs of Bemidji and Beltrami County.

Four years ago this March THE PIONEER was printed and published for the first time, on an old hand press that had been used by the Thirteen Towns of Fosston for many years, but which became PIONEER property by right of purchase,—on time. The type was also Thirteen Towns type. The PIONEER office was in two small rooms over the store of Carson Bros., who rendered every assistance in their power—Earl frequently furnishing the whole power—to get out the issues. During the year 1896 the paper had the earnest co-operation of nearly everybody in town, on publication day, Dr. Omich being about the only citizen who absolutely refused to put his hand to the press. His objections being based on constitutional grounds, and were allowed to pass, while Ed. Boyd,

of territory that can be accomplished consistently with and for the good of the manufacturers of the country.

But THE PIONEER is first and last and all the time the advocate of the interests of Bemidji and Beltrami county, and justifies itself in asking the continued liberal support of the people of the city and county upon that basis.

Ever since the PIONEER was first published we have been handicapped with an inferior press. For three years the paper has been printed on a Washington hand press. Last year we purchased another hand press, thinking that by replacing the Washington press with a Vaughn Ideal, our condition would be improved. In this we were mistaken.

The new press is known as Babcock "Reliance." It is a large cylinder press, built from all new designs combining strength and accuracy. It embodies all new and important improvements known to the best press builders in the country. It registers so perfectly that it is possible to print the smallest card in colors on it. It has noiseless grippers and tapeless delivery. The press does the counting and slitting of paper, and is capable of printing 2000 papers an hour. In the future, this press will be used for printing all kinds of large posters, as well as the newspaper, and we can do poster work with such increased speed as will enable us to reduce our prices, for the benefit of our many patrons.

Our job department is equipped with a Gordon press 10 x 15. Professional printers acknowledge it to be the best press of its kind ever produced. It is a fast runner and an accurate worker. On this press the dainty visiting and wedding cards are printed, and in fact all kinds of stationery work not exceeding in size 10 by 15 inches. Anything larger than that size is printed on the cylinder press, which is capable of printing a poster three feet wide and four feet long. The job press is practically new. It was bought by us about a year ago.

The motive power with which both cylinder and job presses are attached is a brand new gasoline engine of the vertical variety, made by the Webster manufacturing company of Chicago, Ill. It is 24 actual horse power, and weighs 700 pounds. It embodies all the up-to-date features, and as well as being first-class in its make-up, it is a very pretty machine. The mechanism is so simple that any intelligent boy can soon learn to run it.

In connection with the other machinery we have also received this week a new papercutter. It, also, is one of the best in the market. It is capable of cutting a bunch of paper four inches thick

machine for that purpose. Cards, and in fact all stationery, are cut to customers' order. It is no longer a question of what we can do in this line, but what our customers want.

All the machinery outlined above were purchased from the Minnesota Type Foundry Co. of St. Paul, who have exclusive agency in the Northwest for the Babcock printing press and Webster engine, and they are satisfactory people to do business with.

### DEWEY'S BEAR.

The Poets Immortalized "Billie" And are Now Quarreling Over Authorship.

"Bille," the bear, which was presented by the citizens of Bemidji to Admiral Dewey as a Christmas gift, has been the means of giving our town plenty of good advertising. Newspapers in the far east and west have published articles concerning him. The name of Bemidji and "Billie" have been heralded far and near. This advertising may not be responsible for the flow of immigration hitherward, but it has helped to identified Bemidji as the open door to the vast territory of vacant lands and available homes in Northern Minnesota.

Sometime last month the Pioneer Press of St. Paul printed a poem entitled "The Minnesota Bear," and credited same to The Nebraska State Journal of Lincoln. The Buffalo (N. Y.) News comes out now with blood in its eye and claims the authorship of the poem, "Bruin of Bemidji." The Nebraska State Journal was called upon for an explanation, and the editor "Doc" Bixby, explains himself as follows:

I never wrote the story of a bear,  
Nor did I send the one that lately  
To anybody's paper anywhere, [came  
And have attached thereto my fading name.

No, this is all a hideous mistake,  
And I would state right now upon  
my oath  
The guilty one should be compelled to  
make  
Full cash amends to me and Burdick both.

He suffered in his feelings, I can see,  
Because his screed was stolen, so he  
thought;  
My pain was worse for having thrown  
on me  
The authorship of such infernal rot.

Then the Minneapolis Journal comes out last Saturday with a column of matter concerning the authorship of the poem, "Bruin of Bemidji." It concludes as follows:

"Doc Bixby rises to declare  
To all who make this earth their home,  
That he has never writ a "poem"  
About a black Bemidji bear.

His busy pen no time can spare  
To write a madrigal anent

I know that this is no affair  
Of mine, but still I wish to say  
That I will bet my weekly pay  
Doc never wrote about a bear.  
And I am willing to declare  
That it is my conviction firm  
That someday Doc will land the worm  
Who wrote that poem on a bear.

And then the circumambient air  
Will vibrate with a hollow sound,  
While Bixby powders up the ground  
With him who wrote about the bear."

### SIXTH DISTRICT CONVENTION.

Duluth the Place and May 15 the Date to Name Congressman.

A meeting of the Sixth district Republican committee was held March 15, at the St. Louis hotel, Duluth, in response to a call issued recently by Chairman Oscar Mitchell, for the purpose of fixing a date for holding the congressional convention this year. The convention will name two delegates to the national Republican convention to be held at Philadelphia, in addition to placing in nomination a candidate for congress. The representatives at the Sixth district convention will be two delegates-at-large and one for each 125 votes or major part thereof cast for Judge Morris at

### COUNTY TAXATION.

State Auditor Dunn Issues a Table of Taxation in the Several Counties of the State for 1899.

State Auditor Dunn issued a tabulation of taxes levied in the several counties of the state for 1899, showing in detail the amounts levied, lands and personal property assessed, and other important matters. This statement is usually issued but once in two years, but such a demand has grown up for detailed information of tax matters, that Mr. Dunn has issued it this year. There are 82 counties included in this table. Beltrami stands about as follows in the list:

Fifty-two counties have a greater assessed acreage than Beltrami, and only 18 counties have a less assessed valuation.

In 1899 only 8 counties levied less total taxes than Beltrami, and her total taxes amounted to \$49,882.36.

Only five counties in the state levied less special school taxes for support of schools.

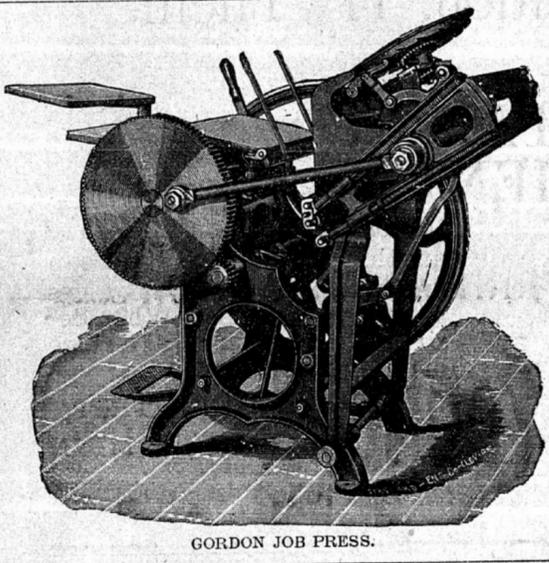
Only 16 counties levied less township revenue taxes.

Only five counties levied a less gross sum for 1 mill county school tax.

Only 22 counties levied a less gross sum for roads and bridges.

No village taxes were levied in the county.

Beltrami had 355,544 acres on the tax rolls, and its total assessed value was \$2,331,720.



GORDON JOB PRESS.

George Bates, Ted Smith and Earl Carson were worked in on the ground floor of the great publication. It was a hard year for all of them. But the PIONEER managed to pull through, although village orders were only good for crackers and cheese at Carson's or White's.

In the summer of 1897 W. F. Street took a half interest in the paper, and it was moved to the palatial quarters now occupied by James Wanzer as a barber shop. The quarters were not quite so palatial then, however, and THE PIONEER occupied the upper story, still printing from the old hand press. For two years the paper thus continued under the joint co-partnership of Edward Kaiser and W. F. Street, but in the summer of 1899, Mr. Street found himself so burdened with other businesses that he disposed of his interest to A. M. Greeley, who has since been the editor of the paper. The old hand press dropped out with the advent of Mr. Greeley, but still it was found that a better press and more complete equipments were a necessity, if the paper was to hold its own in the field of Bemidji and Beltrami county, and recently it was decided to put in a cylinder power press, so that if occasion arose a daily paper might be published in obedience of the growth and importance of the city and county.

THE PIONEER has always been a republican paper, supporting the party from a sense of duty to principle and not from a sense of income or "graft." It has always advocated the gold standard, the protective tariff and reciprocity, and now joins with the party in advocating the widest expansion

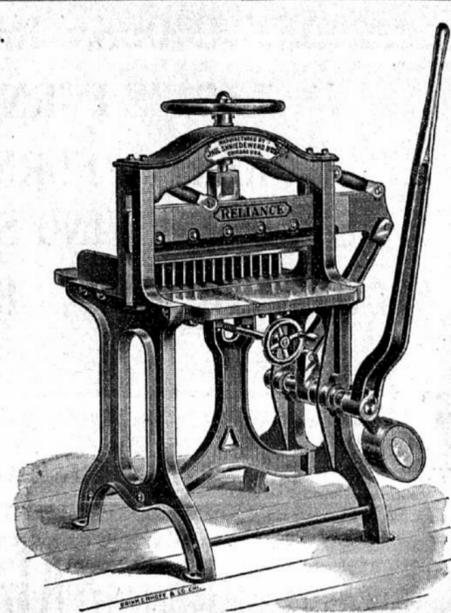
work with a hand press. Even if the printing on the press were satisfactory, the PIONEER's circulation has grown so large that the printing of it by hand involves too much labor, so, to meet the exigency of a large and growing cir-

ulation, we have replaced the Vaughn Ideal with a modern, up-to-date power press. From this on the readers may expect to find the PIONEER a paper of fine mechanical appearance, which goes a good

and twenty-five inches wide with one stroke of the lever. It is capable of cutting anything else as well as paper. We have known similar ones to amputate fingers, but we don't intend to use this

A bruin with noisome scent—  
Hence he has written of no bear.

He doesn't know, he doesn't care  
Who wrote it and it makes him hot  
To think that he the credit get  
For that bum verse about a bear.



OUR NEW PAPER CUTTER.

the election in 1898. This will give a total of 218 delegates. The representation for the district by counties will be as follows: St. Louis, 37; Aitkin, 6; Anoka, 11; Beltrami, 6; Benton, 8; Carlton, 7; Cass, 7; Cook, 3; Crow Wing, 11; Hubbard, 6; Itasca, 6; Lake, 4; Mille Lacs, 9; Morrison, 13; Pine, 8; Sherburne, 8; Stearns, 22; Todd, 17; Wadena, 8, and Wright, 21. All of the counties in the sixth district were represented except Benton, Cass and Morrison counties, all of the delegates bringing flattering reports of the prospects for Republican success in their respective divisions of the district.

This is a campaign year. There is going to be lots of excitement. For the benefit of those who wish to keep posted on the republican side of Beltrami politics, the PIONEER will be sent during the campaign to new subscribers within the county for 50 cts.

The average rate of taxation in Beltrami county was 21.39 mills. Only 17 counties in the state had a less rate, and they were all old established counties, where school, township and village orders are not discounted at the banks.

The total assessed valuation of the state was \$579,252,130, and the total taxes levied were \$13,847,896.50.

## E. A. SATHER, Photographer.

Latest Styles and Best Finish at Low Prices.

Send in your Kodak negatives for developing and finishing.

Kodaks and Supplies always on hand. Views of lumber camps and surroundings for sale.

Ground-floor Gallery on 3rd St.

### A GREAT NEWSPAPER.

It has always been claimed for THE Chicago Tribune that it would, in all probability, pass with the highest average in any competitive examination among the newspapers of the United States for excellence in all departments of journalism.

"Under date of May 2, 1899, the Omaha World-Herald, literally answering a letter from 'Inquirer' asking the names of the five best newspapers in this country, points out that a newspaper may excel in one way and be inferior in another. The World-Herald gives lists under five general headings of leading American newspapers distinguished especially for excellence, mentioning in all some twenty."

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE THE HEADINGS:

- (1) Most and best news, foreign and domestic, presented attractively.
- (2) Best possible presentation of news briefly.
- (3) Typographical appearance.
- (4) Classification of news by departments.
- (5) Editorials.

The Chicago Tribune is the only newspaper in the United States which the World-Herald considers "worthy of mention under four different heads."—From the October Plain Talk.

Practically all high-class intelligent newspaper readers, comprising the best and middle classes in Chicago and vicinity, read THE Chicago Tribune. A great majority of them read no other morning newspaper.

The Chicago Tribune prints more advertising year in and year out than any newspaper in the West.

A Great Advertising Medium.

## The Pioneer

Is the paper of the people. Subscription price to anyone within the county till after election 50c in advance.