THE DAILY GLOBE

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY AT THE GLOBE BUILDING, CORNER FOURTH AND CEDAR STREETS.

BY LEWIS BAKER.

ST. PAUL GLOBE SUBSCRIPTION RATE

DAILY (NOT INCLUDING SUNDAY.)

1 yr in advance.$8 00 | 3 m in advance.$2.00
6 m in advance. 4 00 | 6 weeks in adv. 1 00
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One year $1 | Six mo., 65c | Three mo., 35c

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Eastern Advertising Office—Room 21, Tribune Building, New York.

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TODAY'S WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—For Wisconsin: Slightly colder; north winds; fair in northwest portion; light snows in southeast portion; fair Sunday. For Iowa: Colder; north winds; snows; probably fair Sunday. For Minnesota: Generally fair weather; variable winds; slightly warmer and fair Sunday. For North Dakota and Montana: Slightly warmer; generally fair weather. For South Dakota: Generally fair Saturday; warmer and fair Sunday.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU, WASHINGTON, Nov. 27, 6:48 p. m. Local Time, 8 p. m. 75th Meridian Time.—Observations taken at the same moment of time at all stations.

Place of Observation.	Height of Barometer.	Exposed Thermometer.	Place of Observation.	Height of Barometer.	Exposed Thermometer.
St. Paul	30.12	8	Ft. Custer	......	..
Duluth	30.08	0	Helena	30.14	44
La Crosse	30.00	16	Ft. Sully	......	...
Huron	30.28	—4	Minnedosa	30.32	—12
Moorhead	30.32	—14	Calgary	30.18	30
St. Vincent	30.26	—12	Winnipeg	30.37	—14
Bismarck	30.36	—2	Q'Appelle	30.00	0
Ft. Buford	30.34	2	Med'e Hat	30.10	32

—Below zero.

For St. Paul, Minneapolis and vicinity: For all of Saturday, colder, westerly winds and generally fair weather.

P. F. LYONS, Local Forecast Official.

CONVENTION GOSSIP.

It is only in comparatively recent times that there has been much contest over the location of national political conventions. Still more recent is the bringing into the field brass bands and the most effective electioneering agencies. In the earlier periods the conventions were much smaller bodies, and few attended aside from the delegates. The Whig conventions were staid, dignified bodies, that might set an example of deliberation and decorum to many of the denominational gatherings in these times. Prior to 1860 a few prominent points in the East and South had all the national party conventions. That they did not draw great crowds is indicated in the fact that the larger cities were not chosen with reference to their hostelry capacity, and little reference was had to their size. Even in 1860 Charleston, S. C., was selected by the Democrats, and Albany, N. Y., had been found quite equal to such requirements. New York and Philadelphia, the only large cities then, were not favorites for the conventions. Baltimore, with less capacity to entertain a great gathering than either of the Twins of this time, was most frequently chosen as the central location. That looks queer now, but for the population east of the Alleghenies it was central. The West was not taken into the account. The Free Soil convention in 1852 went out to Pittsburg as a Western departure, but it was hardly a national party, and not counted in the radius of healthy politics. The Democrats gave the first recognition of the growing importance of the West in 1856 by holding their convention at Cincinnati. Four years later the Republicans went to Chicago, a city hardly as large as St. Paul is now. It had no fit public hall, and a temporary structure to hold 10,000 people packed like sardines was erected, and but a fraction of the crowd could get into it. The contest over candidates excited intense interest and brought out the partisans of SEWARD, from New York, and LINCOLN, from Illinois, in vast numbers. Since then the conventions have been constantly growing larger and the outside attendance has been multiplying. There have been exceptions, however, in cases where there was but one name to be presented for president. One of these was the second nomination of GRANT at Philadelphia in 1872, and partially, at least, the St. Louis convention of the Democrats in 1888. But, as a rule, these bodies furnish attractions for tens of thousands. They test the absorbing capacity of the lesser cities and make a lively showing in the largest. A national convention with a hot and uncertain fight for the nomination will lead even a football game in the East in drawing qualities. The Democrats have been west of the Mississippi with their convention, but, although the Republicans have held most of the states west of it, except in the South, they have never caught a glimpse of the big stream flowing "unvexed to the sea" on the way to their national conventions. The novelty of the first great party convention in the Northwest will flood the twins with a human tide without precedent, largely from the beyond. A rattling fight between HARRISON and BLAINE or MCKINLEY for the nomination would bring hosts from east of the river. A nomination where there is but one name presented may be good for the party, but reduces the life and fun of the thing to the verge of the commonplace. Still, preparations should be made for an invasion by about all "the world and the rest of mankind" next June.

RADICALS IN NORWAY.

The radical element, perhaps it should be called the Democratic party, in Norway scored a notable success in the recent election for members of the parliament. It has been their persistent aim to secure a separate foreign office from that of Sweden. All diplomatic relations have been carried on at Stockholm. This has been about the only discount on the individuality of Norway as a nation. It has its own parliament, its separate army and navy, and administers its laws at its own dictation. It has been irksome to the radicals to have its foreign relations controlled by Sweden. It is probable this result of the election will relieve this embarrassment, as it has been felt by a majority of the people. In that case there would not appear to be much left of the co-operative business or the Swedish domination of Norway. Home rule is about as complete as it well could be. Should Norway conclude to dispense with the nominal rule of the Swedish king and establish a republic, it would not be a radical change, and might be effected perhaps over any opposition in the other branch of the political family.

TONIGHT'S MEETING.

The GLOBE hopes that there will be a large and enthusiastic gathering of St. Paul's citizens at the chamber of commerce this evening, that our contest for the Democratic national convention may be started in good earnest and with the omens of success. A good many projects of municipal interest have demanded time and attention of late; and, now that the days are short and the nights clod, it will take some resolution to attend another meeting at the end of the week, and to co-operate in the hard beginnings of a new enterprise. Some people, too, will be inclined to hold back because they shun participation in practical politics or because they do not care to be identified with a movement of especial concern to a party with which they have never associated themselves. To such it may be said that this honor is sought not because of its effect on the destinies of the Democracy. They are safe, whether the convention shall be held in San Francisco, in Chicago, in Cincinnati or in St. Louis. The question is whether we shall forego an opportunity to secure for our fair city a prominence before the country as a municipality of the first class such as it has never had before. The question is whether we shall permit our people to lose an instrument for popular education in the lessons of patriotism the value of which is beyond the limits of easy calculation. It does not seem possible that we should, and that we may not the GLOBE calls on every one who has our local welfare at heart, no matter what his party affiliations, to lend the influence of his presence and support to those who are striving for the achievement of this object, worthy of the highest endeavor.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

The speakership contest will be decided within about a week, and the Democracy may again congratulate itself that, whoever is the successful competitor, there will be no blot on its honorable record. The candidates are Mr. MILLS, of Texas; Mr. CRISP, of Georgia; Mr. SPRINGER, of Illinois, and Mr. MCMILLIN, of Tennessee. Each of them will go into the caucus with a strong backing, and the friends of neither can be sure of the victory until the last ballot is taken. Each of them, too, will go into the caucus with a reputation for personal honesty, purity of life and fearless devotion to duty which will make him worthy of the high honor if he succeeds in his ambition.

No greater encomium could be paid them than this when one reflects on the election of their illustrious predecessors. MICHAEL C. KERR, the brave and blameless; SAMUEL J. RANDALL, who led the fight against the force bill; JOHN G. CARLISLE, of whom even political foes speak with respect and affection; these three men have set a standard with which only the strong would dare be measured. These are the leaders whose praises the Democracy delights to sound, and whose public careers are at once a national incentive and encouragement. When COLFAX, who prostituted his official position for private gain; when BLAINE, of the timely sunstroke; when KEIFER, repudiated even by his own party; when the tyrant REED, are forgotten of their fellows, the names of these three patriots will be honored and cherished in the hearts of their countrymen. The Democratic majority has a serious responsibility in selecting a successor to men like these. But the GLOBE is confident of the result, because it believes in the party's high destiny, and knows the records of the four candidates from among whom a choice will be made.

SHERMAN THE SUBTLE.

Senator SHERMAN has at last thrown off the cloak of concealment, and stands revealed in his true colors. Up to the time of the disgraceful revelation laid bare in our dispatches from Cleveland, O., published this morning, it had been expected by all Democrats and the more candid and fair-minded Republicans that the veteran politician from Ohio would advise "hands off" from any interference with the just claims of Senator-elect BRICE to his seat. It was thought that he would so advise as a matter of good politics, if not from a higher motive. But those who reasoned that he would do so are mistaken. Senator SHERMAN heartily indorses and cheerfully abets a contest for the seat of Senator-elect BRICE. In other words, the Republican party needs that seat in the "business" of next year's presidential campaign, and it needs just such a hidebound partisan as Fire Alarm FORAKER as its occupant. Senator SHERMAN also wishes to remove from his political pathway so dangerous a rival as FORAKER. For these, and other peculiarly selfish motives, the senior senator from Ohio is willing to proceed to extreme lengths. He dare not openly object to the seating of BRICE, but he has nevertheless a "scheme." That scheme includes a plan for the Republican state committee of Ohio to memorialize the senate, for the legislature to assume a vacancy, to elect a mock senator—FORAKER, of course—and let that gentleman conduct a contest. Like JOEY BAGSTOCK, SHERMAN "is sly, de-vilish sly."

Still, wherein is it worse to steal a senatorship than it is to steal the presidency? As an expert seat-stealer the senior senator from Ohio stands peerless—but not alone. To SHERMAN and his Republican coadjutors we owe the loss of Louisiana in 1876, and the theft of TILDEN'S seat in the presidential chair. Upon that wholesale political robbery the whole country, regardless of party lines, has set its seal of condemnation. Is Senator SHERMAN, on the eve of an exciting presidential campaign, prepared to again remind the country of the enormity of the political crime in 1876 in which he played so notorious a role?

MORE TROUBLE.

They are unhappy again. Having made themselves miserable lest the Democrats should put the wrong man in the high seat TOM REED ruled in, they now lose placidity over the question whether the Democrats in the house should formulate a complete tariff bill, with its thousands of details, or send to the senate a few special bills repealing or reducing the most oppressive duties of the MCKINLEY tariff. The Chicago Tribune, in the intensity of its solicitude, draws largely upon its gray matter in its kindly counsel to the Democrats. It admonishes them that single bills removing the duties on wool, twine material, and several other articles, after passing the house, will probably be accepted by the senate and become laws, and then the Democrats will have but a shadow of a tariff issue in the presidential campaign. What an oppressive foreboding that must be to the Tribune and its class of politicians.

But the Tribune assumes that the aim of the Democrats is to secure party success, regardless of the principles professed as the aim of the party organization. Familiarity with Republican policies easily leads to that conclusion. There is, however, no warrant in the record of the tariff reform Democracy for such imputations. They have not been in control of all the lawmaking branches when an opportunity was afforded them to materialize their aims in legislation. It would clearly be impracticable to formulate and pass a complete and detailed tariff reduction bill at the coming session. If it could be completed, a Republican senate and president would be in its way. The Democratic policy is not free trade, but free trade and revenue, the latter to be derived from sources least burdensome to the masses of the people. If all desired is not to be obtained, a gradual movement in the right direction is to be promoted at all opportunities. If the Tribune is correct in believing the Republicans would accept Democratic measures removing or reducing the tariff on the prominent articles alleged, it would be a great stroke of policy to present bills of this sort and put the sincerity of the Democrats to the test. Perhaps it would be found that the Republicans are the true tariff reformers. A demonstration of that sort would be a big card in the presidential contest.

HIS ANCESTOR'S HAT.

A very startling story of political craft on the part of the Minnesota delegation comes from Washington, along with the rest of the gossip about the recent meeting of the Republican national committee. Hon. W. D. WASHBURN, already famous for his astuteness, seems to have been the author and promoter of this Machiavellian scheme. Under his instructions the entire body of Minneapolis boomers purchased silk hats in advance of their arrival at the capital, and in them presented a conspicuous and noteworthy appearance. No little attention was stimulated in this way, and there was general inquiry on all sides as to what might be the significance of this uniformity of attire. Finally it was noised abroad that the silk hats were intended as a badge of devotion to the president's interests, and this interpretation was reported to Mr. HARRISON by his private secretary, Mr. LIJE HALFORD, who was on the scene, missing nothing. The great man at the White house was very much gratified by the Minnesota men's loyalty, and by their delicate and clandestine manner of expressing it. Allusions of any sort to his grandfather's hat are pleasing to our chief executive's soul, and this concerted manifestation of respect and affection for his family lar touched him deeply. He at once telephoned his partisans to vote for the Flour City, and Minneapolis walked off with the prize.

This is all very well as far as it goes, but is nothing to what followed. No sooner was the result made known than our junior senator and his comrades adjourned to a neighboring hotel, to refresh themselves after their extraordinary exertions. They had been there only a few minutes, engaged in quiet conversation, when Mr. WASHBURN, without a word, smashed the Hon. GILBERT A. PIERCE'S silk hat, the reasonable market value of which was $8, all into smithereens. The Hon. GILBERT A. PIERCE, remembering that he, too, had once been a senator, and being entirely familiar with the rules of senatorial courtesy, thereupon deftly removed Mr. WASHBURN'S silk hat from the top of his head, and with much emphasis and completeness stepped on it. The example, thus set was speedily followed by the rest of the delegation. They lined up in football order, and in the course of half an hour, by a succession of punts and chop kicks, every silkhat in the party was destroyed beyond the hope of recognition or the possibility of repair. This news also spread with great rapidity, and there was again general inquiry as to what might be the meaning of this new demonstration. The explanation was forthcoming after awhile, and those skilful in the interpretation of omens are now all agreed that it was nothing else than a delicate way of declaring that the devotion to HARRISON which the delegation had at first shown was all an affectation and pretense. By the smashing of silk hats they announced their revolt, and came out as one man for Jingo JIM and reciprocity.

When this information was reported by the faithful HALFORD to his employer at the White house, it was at first hardly credited. But when the evidence appeared too strong to admit of any other construction, Indiana's favorite son is said to have wept great hot tears, not at his own disappointment, but because his grandfather's hat had been blasphemed and made light of. The whole thing is a sad instance of the sorrows which sometimes accompany filial piety, and the GLOBE commends it to those of its readers who are interested in stories of human pathos and political diplomacy.

IT MAY be necessary for young people inclined to the kissing act to undergo a sanitary examination. A young lady in a New Jersey town went home from Brooklyn the other day and kissed forty of her friends, giving them all the diphtheria. Still there will probably always be those who will take such chances.

ELECTRICITY may yet be made to do service as the motive force on the water. A test has been made in San Francisco harbor of a small boat with a storage battery. It makes twelve miles an hour and has promise of greater things. It would not be safe to name any use that it may not be made to subserve.

IF WILLIAM meant to promote that end when he told the German soldiers that they would probably never see real war, he should invite the other powers to unite with him in relieving the people of the burden of enormous armies. But rulers do not always think in the words they use.

CLARKSON would have a law requiring a uniform system of choosing electors. They are useless anyway. Better dispense with them and have each state apportion its electoral vote according to the strength of the parties voting.

THE Jews from Russia are encouraged to engage in farming. In New Jersey there are about 800 of these, although that must be a hard school for for them.

AN OLD Latin adage says there is no royal road to intellectual development. All the toilers in the collegiate football ordeal had blood scattered over them.

IT MUST be flattering to BEN to hear them say that they all want BLAINE, but, if he is not able, they will probably have to put up with HARRISON.

CHILI proposes to put up $200,000 for the world's fair exhibit and come up smiling. She pouted a little, but has been getting over it.

GERMANY is catching on to the fact that rye and corn can be taken in liquid form. But Uncle RUSK is not exploiting the discovery.

WHEN a governor of Indiana dies it does not attract much attention. Perhaps there are too many citizens of the state in office.

SUNRISE SIGNALS.

The Chicago Tribune springs an editorials on "The Best Way to Settle the Tariff Dispute." What's the matter with electing Democratic president?

***

Pittsburg is not discouraged. The Dispatch of that city advises the smoky denizens o the Smoky City to brush the coal cinders from their eyes, pull off their coats and work hard during the coming four years for one or both of the national political conventions. This is Pluck with a big P. You can't bluff the Pittsburgers.

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The attention of the fair sex is invited to the fact that, according to the technicality of the shoe trade, a third of an inch is a "size." Now mark the conclusion. Even the woman who wears "sixes" can boast of a foot but two inches in length.

***

The king of Samoa receives $840 a year; his 'adviser" $5,000. Still, it is worth $5,000 to pump intelligence into a thick-headed Samoan, even though he be born to the purple and spotted all over with insignia of royalty.

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Waiter (in Chicago restaurant)—What is it, gents?
First Customer—A rare steak.
Second Customer—Same for me.
Waiter (Bawling down the hall)—Horse and horse.

***

As the time draws near for the impending presidential campaign, a number of newspapers in the land are exhibiting the usual quadrennial feverishness over "Editor Charles A. Dana's Democracy." The truth is, if Dana has any genuine Democracy concealed about his person it is in microscopic quantities. If Mr. Dana is not a Mugwump of the deepest dye, the term is a misnomer.

***

The Northwest is the place to nominate a New York Democratic candidate for president. This will insure success in New York state and in the Northwest. St. Paul is the one particular spot in the Northwest suitable for such a convention. The Northwest is absolutely necessary to Republican success. Spike the cannon of "our friends, the enemy," by holding the Democratic national convention at St. Paul.

***

The Chicago Inter Ocean announces, with considerable aplomb, that "The Southern press is alarmed." This is important, if true, and serves to remind us that the Southern press is trotting in the same class with the Northern Republican press.

***

Illinois did not secure the convention, but Illinois consumptives are still consuming dogs and Chicago restaurants are still purveying fine, rare cuts of horsesteak to happy-go-lucky citizens who do not much care what they eat so long as there is plenty of it on the table.

***

You must wake and call me early, Elijah,
  for 'tis plain
I cannot get up too early to get ahead of
  Blaine.
Even now the awful echo of a cheer comes
  floating down
From the Nor'west, from the limits of the
  new convention town.
They are whooping things for Jimmy, and
  their hustling isn't slow,
So I must get up early if I'd have the faintest show.
—From B. Harrison's New Poem, "The June Bug."

***

The New York delegation went sadly homeward, each one, with the exception of Col. Elliott F. Shepard, kicking himself because he did not have the wit to sit on Col. Elliott F. Shepard's coat tail and pin him to his chair.

***

Attention, Democrats! Editor Charles A. Dana will now be seen in the justly celebrated role in which this eccentric comedian has so long edified and amused the public, viz.: "The Bull in the China Shop." Editor Dana is now tying on his horns and will soon appear, walk three times around the ring and retire behind the curtain.

***

Why are the Yale students like Carmencita? (We pause for a reply.) Ahem! Because they have kicked themselves into popular favor. Te he! Plain thank you; nothing on the side.

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A BOSTON MAID.

She knows all science under the sun—
  She beats the Dutch;
And that's why she's single at forty-one—
  She knows too much.
—Puck.

FORAKER.

He wags his tongue with earnest vim—
  Ne'er saw you such
A mill. The senate's not for him—
  He talks too much.

***

Jim Blaine promises B. Harrison, for a Christmas present, a candid decision whether or no he, Jim Blaine, will accept the Republican nomination for president—at Minneapolis. Meanwhile B. Harrison will cuddle down in his cosy nest of pins and needles.

***

A wealthy Chicago haberdasher has recently completed a marble palace up on Michigan boulevard, which contains, among a multitude of other modern improvements, a complete barber shop. The millionaire in his own household will invariably be "next." It is to be hoped that the same comfortable position will be his when he comes to interview St. Peter.

***

Chicago is preparing to move on congress with a request for a loan of $5,000,000. By the time she gets it negotiated St. Paul will have secured the national Democratic convention.

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The old saw, "Few die and none resign," is likely to receive a backset in the case of Da Fonseca. The ex-dictator has already re signed, and is now in imminent danger o dying also.

***

The St. Louis Republic says: "The strongest argument Minneapolis could give the Republican national committee to secure the Republican convention was that it is close to St. Paul, who advised people to take a little wine for their stomachs' sake." If the Republican delegates will abstain from taking whisky for their own sake we may be happy yet.

***

Chicago has, we consider unwisely, in a splenetic mood, fired about fifty superannuated police officers from the force. These discharged coppers know a great deal about Chicago's municipal crookedness, and should they all get to talking at once the political atmosphere might become heavily surcharged with electricity.

***

A distant relative of Son Russell's has been trying to use Son Russell's family as an advertising medium, but for a wonder Son Russell isn't saying a word. All of which greatly redounds to the temporary perspicacity of Son Russell.

Not in a Thankful Vein.

Chicago Times.

"I do not really see, Elijah," remarked the president, with unseasonable bitterness, last night, as he and his trusted literary adviser sat in spiritual consultation, "I really fail to see what we have to be thankful for."

"Read your Thanksgiving proclamation and find out," responded the saturnine Halford; "or do you want me to infer that it was all guff?"

"Not 'guff' precisely, Elijah—and, by the way, I wish you would avoid those vulgar colloquialisms — not precisely 'guff,' but a sort of sop to the public, which demanded a little bragging. But that is not the question. I, personally, am not thankful for everything that makes the nation thankful."

"Very true," responded the private secretary with meaning emphasis.

"No, but here, now. Has anything gone right with us? The first thing these Minneapolis fellows did after getting the convention was to go and call on Blaine. Doesn't that show what sort of a crowd of shouters will pack the hall? And has Jim said he would not run? Not he. He told one of those fellows that he had gained a great deal lately and was not going to lose anything he had gained. He pretends he meant health and fat, but I know better. I just tell you what it is, 'Lige, this may be Thanksgiving, but, by gosh, I know now why the turkey isn't so very enthusiastic about giving thanks."

MEN AND MEASURES.

Judge W. W. Dixon, Montana's representative in congress, passed through St. Paul yesterday on his way to Washington. Judge Dixon is short in stature, and, while rather solidly built, is not a heavy man. His hair and mustache are silvery white, his complexion ruddy, while his eyes are keen and piercing. He is a pleasing talker and possesses a fund of information in regard to Montana and her resources. He has been a resident of the state for a great many years and has always been well at the front in public affairs, although holding office at rare intervals. His reputation as a lawyer may be estimated from the fact that he was the leading attorney on the side of John A. Davis in the celebrated Davis will case recently tried at Butte, in which Col. Ingersoll appeared for the contestants. Neither side won in that great contest, and it will come up next April again, when Judge Dixon will return to Butte for the trial.

"I am on my way to Washington," remarked the Montanan yesterday. "I intended to start a few days ago, but was unable to get my business in shape earlier. I anticipate a lively session on account of our tremendous majority. In so many men of one party there are sure to be found some cranks, and they will make trouble. I believe that the question of our success next year depends very largely upon the doings of this congress in the next few months."

"The press dispatches from Washington set you down as for Mills for speaker. Is this correct?"

"I noticed that," answered Judge Dixon, "and wondered if all the other congressmen were equally misrepresented. I do not know any of the candidates except Mr. Bynum, of Indiana, and have not made up my mind how I shall vote yet, and I shall not until I reach Washington and look over the field. I think the classification of the candidates as 'free traders,' 'dodgers,' 'moderate protectionists' and so on is absurd. Congressman Crisp stands on as solid ground on the tariff as Mr. Mills, and I never before heard Mr. Springer alluded to as a 'dodger.' I think it unfortunate that any such classification should have been made, but I do not think the fight for the speakership will cause any trouble. It seems a friendly battle, and will result in giving us a good speaker, however it may result."

"How strong is the free silver sentiment in Montana?"

"The people are solidly in favor of it without regard to party," replied the Montana congressman. "I do not know whether a free coinage bill will be passed at this session, but I think it altogether likely."

Judge Dixon left on the evening train over the Northwestern for Chicago, and will proceed at once on to Washington. Mrs. Dixon has been in the Capital city for several weeks, preparing for the winter. She is considered a much better politician than the judge, and undoubtedly is entitled to the credit for his election over Land Commissioner "Tom" Carter.

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Senator Jay La Due, of Luverne, is an enthusiast on the subject of the Northwest. He has resided in Minnesota for a great many years, and has traveled over every county almost in the state. In late years he has been a farmer and knows whereof he speaks when he talks on the subject of farming in any of its branches. In speaking of the move that has been started to secure the national Democratic convention for St. Paul, he said:

"I am pleased at the non-partisan unanimity in which the Twin Cities have united in securing for Minneapolis the Republican national convention. The same united action, in my judgment, will secure for St. Paul the Democratic national convention. These two national conventions at Minneapolis and St. Paul will be for Minnesota what the world's fair at Chicago is to the state of Illinois. The last Democratic national convention was held in the South, therefore the coming Democratic convention will be held in the North. The cities on the Atlantic coast are all too far east. Ohio has no right to claim it, Chicago is busy preparing for the world's fair, and St. Paul, midway between oceans, is the most central and available city for the Democratic convention. The great and leading principle to be settled in the coming campaign is tariff reform or protection, and these conventions at Minneapolis and St. Paul will bring representative men from all parts of this great country, representing all varieties of industries, into the very heart of the greatest agricultural region in the United States, where tariff reform is so much needed. This will enable both the old parties to see a country which, under many disadvantages, secures the world against famine and prepares them to deal more intelligently with the great questions at issue. These conventions can then say whether this great agricultural region shall continue to pay tribute to other industries which have received the fostering care of the government from its earliest history, or shall we have such tariff reform as will encourage all industries alike."

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Hon. A N. Johnson, president of the Swift County Bank of Benson, was a prominent guest at the Merchants' yesterday. Mr. Johnson was a member of the lower house of the state legislature in 1887, and took a leading part in the work of the session. Later on in that same year he took charge of the improvements commenced at North St. Paul, and pushed them to completion with great success. At Benson he is interested in almost every business in operation, and is a lumber dealer, elevator man and hardware merchant, as well as a farmer and banker.

He is a perfect master of the details of all these various undertakings, and has been remarkably successful. During the past summer he erected several new business blocks in Benson. Although not a politician, Mr. Johnson takes an interest in politics, and is being mentioned as a probable candidate for the Republican congressional nomination in the new Seventh district, of which Swift county is now a part. Mrs. Johnson accompanies her husband on this trip.

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W. F. Bienapfl, of Mankato, spent yesterday in the city. Mr. Bienapfl is the city recorder of Mankato, and is one of the rising and popular young men of that city. When he was first elected recorder two years ago last spring his majority was as great as the total vote of his opponent.

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H. W. Stone, of Benson, dropped into the city yesterday on a somewhat painful errand. Some time ago Mr. Stone had the misfortune to break his right arm just above the wrist joint, and in healing the two small bones of the arm have grown together and will have to be sawed apart to restore the usefulness of the hand and arm. Mr. Stone will return home this evening.

SHEPARD TO BLAME.

New York did not get the Republican convention, and neither did Tacoma. Still, Tacoma had a chance. She did not have the Journalistic Wild Man of Borneo to advance her claims.—New York Advertiser.

Now, on top of all, we have been reft of Brother Elliott Shepard's national convention. Unkindest cut of all. The iron has entered our soul. Yet, we will continue to smile and make no sign.—New York Telegram.

Col. Elliott Shepard says of New York's failure to secure the national convention: There is a Crisp(ness) in the speakership fight that is distressing in the elasticity of Springer and the grinding of Mills.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

From the somewhat bitter tone of the New York papers it would seem that, while Blaine may have had a hand in sending the convention to Minneapolis, the chief reason for its not going to New York was that Col. Elliott F. Shepard was on the committee of invitation. —Chicago Times.

New York failed in the effort to secure the Republican national convention. This is due to the fact that Elder Shepard, who had the matter in charge, refused to work on Sunday. Everybody knows that Sunday is a great day for buttonholing. When it is made a dies non in politics, direful results follow. The elder must be charged with this sad failure.—New York Advertiser.

It required eight innings—that is to say, eight ballots—to defeat New York in the big convention game in Washington, but, all the same, we were beaten. The baleful eye of the hoodoo was upon us from the start, and there was no escaping his influence. Col. Shepard had made a speech, and, as we say in the vernacular, "that settled it."—New York Advertiser.

While Editor Shepard was in Washington talking and working to get the national convention for New York, the man who selects the Biblical texts for daily publication displayed in the Mail and Express the following: "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter a word before God; for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth; therefore let thy words be few."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

YES, WE WANT IT.

St. Paul wants the Democratic convention. St. Paul—St. Paul; Oh, yes, St. Paul near Minneapolis.—Chicago Globe.

Does Chicago want the Democratic national convention? If so, the city should ask for it in due season.—Chicago Evening Post.

Minneapolis has secured the Republican convention, and now St. Paul wants the Democratic convention. The old rivalry between the twins seems to have broken out again.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The success of Minneapolis seems to have whetted St. Paul's appetite to an abnormal degree. If there are any stray national conventions looking for a home they will be accommodated by the other twin.—Chicago News.

The Minnesota twins are puffed up with pride, and are begining to think that they own the whole country. Minneapolis captured the Republican convention, and now St. Paul proposes to go fishing for the Democratic gathering. —Kansas City Times.

Chicago should enter the contest for the Democratic convention in earnest. In permitting Minneapolis to entertain the Republican president-makers this city has paid whatever debt it owed the far Northwest for support in the world's fair contest. No more self-abnegation can be asked fairly. Chicago now may rightfully demand that the Democratic convention be held here, both because of the unequaled facilities offered by this city for the entertainment of the delegates, and because of its proximity to states that are now reckoned as doubtful.—Chicago Times.

Now it's the other twin. Minnie has a plum, and Paul, of course, wants one like it. Minne is joyfully tripping home from Washington with the Republican convention in her ulster, and now Paul is beginning to cry for the other one. A committee is already at work soliciting a guaranty fund, and just as soon as this is raised a delegation will start East with the pledges in its inside pocket. Minne did want this, too, but, it is understood, will withdraw in favor of her little brother. This is just as it should be. Serenity broods over the nursery once more. Indeed, there have been no serious quarrels to speak of since Paul made faces at Minne and told her she counted dead people in her census returns. Both have been a little selfish and naughty, because both wanted everything. Now each seems willing that the other should take half. Of course, New York or St. Louis or St. Augustine may occasionally see something they would like to have, too, but they are older and know how to wait.—Chicago Evening Post.

AS VIEWED BY NEW YORK.

The next thing in order is the disorder of finding some one to nominate at Minneapolis.—New York Advertiser.

New York would make any national convention comfortable, but New York can be very comfortable without any national convention.—New York World.

The twins deserved it if it couldn't come to New York. Minnie is a very nice sort of a girl, and Paul has always been known as a hustler. Between them they ought to take care of a city full of politicians.—New York Recorder.

Minneapolas has a great advantage as a place for holding a Republican national convention. It is in the heart of the country where Republicanism is most rapidly disintegrating.—New York World.

The choice shows that the Republican managers are aware that their "fences need mending" in the Northwest, though it is doubtful if convention talk will reconcile the farmers to worse-than-war taxes.—New York World.

The Republican party's plea, in palliation of its selection of Minneapolis as the seat of its next presidential convention, is that of the craven apothecary in the play—"My poverty but not my will consents."—New York Telegram.

The Republican national convention goes to Minneapolis because of the tendency in the Northwest toward a Republican slump. How about the slippery state of New York? And look at Massachusetts! Is there to be no bracing in this quarter?—New York Advertiser.

New York city went forth for the world's fair, and Chicago won the prize. New York city reached out for the Republican national convention, and Minneapolis came out ahead. Can it be that Mr. Fassett was correct when he said that the seat of empire had been transferred to the West?—New York Advertiser.

It is a happy circumstance that St. Paul and Minneapolis no longer permit green-eyed jealousy to come between them, otherwise the fact that Minneapolis has secured the Republican convention would cause the keenest suffering on the part of St. Paul. And we may say that it will be another happy circumstance if this convention does not cause the old trouble to break out anew. —New York Advertiser.

As to the comfort of the convention, it would have been better served, of course, in any one of the great cities; but among cities of smaller size, Minneapolis is certainly an excellent choice. It has but one large hotel, but this is very large and comfortable, while St. Paul is near enough at hand—with its electric and steam-car connections—to make its hostelries almost equally available.—New York World.

The requirement of "headquarters" for a dozen candidates and of accommodation for four or five hundred delegates and an unknown fraction of "boomers" will put a strain upon the hospitality of Minneapolis that no city of less than 200,000 people could successfully meet. But the Republican party in the Northwest is in urgent need of having something done to keep it together, and this was doubtless the controlling consideration with the committee.—New York Times.

The holding of the convention at Minneapolis will be helpful to the Republican party. The gathering of a great body of representative national Republicans in the Northwest will increase the confidence, unity and energy of Republicans in the growing and prosperous region. It will exert an important effect in strengthening Republicanism in every Northwestern state in such a degree that the national Republican committee can chiefly devote its time and attention to the states of New York New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana. —New York Press.

Westward the star of imperial cheek takes its way. Let her go, Gallagher! So long as you leave us what we are, w will endeavor with a serene mind to let you imagine yourselves what you please. Let the center of political supremacy go gallivanting toward the center of population. We shall never raise a voice to forbid the questionable bans. Go it, rash Western friends. You have taken our world's fair that comes once in 400 years. For your edification, no doubt, New York has lost the base ball pennant. We have been forced to face the fact that you at least believe that you can elect a president without consulting New York's thirty-six electoral votes.—New York Telegram.

HE ACCOMMODATED HER.

I.

As passing by a jew'lry store,
  A gem she chanced to spy,
And while she gazed upon the stone
  She drew her lover nigh.
"You promised me a diamond,"
  She whispered on the quiet;
"Engagements come but once, you know.
Dear
  George,
    Go
      Buy
        It."

II.

A flood of thoughts came o'er him,
  A memory winged its flight,
To that sweet hour, when feelingly
  He gave his solemn plight;
And did he go as he was bid,
  Responding to love's fiat?
Why, certainly, he took her arm,
  And
    Went
      Right
        By
          It."
—M. J. D.

TOM REED'S QUORUMS

Uncle Sam's Law Officers Appeal From a Decision Thereon.

The Tax on Worsteds and Woolens Involved in the Litigation.

Roosevelt and Wanamaker in a Tangle That May End Disastrously.

Teddy in a Mood to Be Dangerous--Railway Postal Statistics.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—A brief has been filed for the government in the supreme court of the United States by Solicitor General Taft in the case of The United States, appellant, vs. Ballin, Joseph & Co., known as the quorum case, brought to test the legality of Speaker Reed's methods in counting a quorum. The case comes to the supreme court on an appeal from the United States circuit court for the Southern district of New York.

Ballin, Joseph & Co. are importers. They complain that the collector of New York collected as duty upon sixteen cases of worsted cloths imported by them more money than the law permitted, and they seek to obtain a refund of the illegal excess.

The board of United States general appraisers sustained the action of the collector, but the circuit court on appeal held with the importers and gave judgment against the United States for the amounts claimed. The goods were imported in July, 1890, so that the duties on them were not affected by the McKinley tariff act, approved Oct. 1 of the same year.

Questions Involved.

The question in the case is whether the act of congress approved May 9, 1890, entitled "an act to provide for the classification of worsted cloths as woolens," had the effect to make the duty upon worsted cloths equal to that which the tariff act of March 3, 1883, imposed upon woolens. If the act of May 9, 1890, had such effect, says the solicitor general in his brief, the judgment of the circuit court should be reversed. If it had not, the judgment should be sustained.

It is claimed that even if the act was in force as a valid law in July, 1890, when these importations were made, its language could not be construed to amend the clauses of the tariff act of March 3, 1883, above referred to, because the act of May 9, 1890, did not purport to repeal any act imposing the pre-existing rate of duty on worsted cloths, or to impose any new duty thereon; and because, whether or not the secretary of the treasury classified the goods in suit as woolen cloths, this did not alter the fact that they were manufactures of worsteds, and dutiable accordingly under the act of 1883; that even if the act of May 9, 1890, amended the woolen and worsted schedule of the act of 1883, by its terms it only did so with respect to such worsted cloths as the secretary of the treasury himself should classify; and that as the secretary did not classify the importations in this case, the duties herein were unaffected by the amendment.

The Government's Case.

In his brief, Solicitor General Taft gives the position of the government as follows: The presence of a majority of the members of either house constitutes a quorum to do business. This is shown first by the context of the constitution providing, in effect, that a quorum to do business may be obtained by compelling the presence of absent members; second, by the history of the clause in the constitutional convention; and, third, by the common law meaning of the term "quorum." Each house, by virtue of its constitutional power to determine the rules of its proceedings, may ascertain the presence of a quorum by any means or agency it chooses to select, and after such ascertainment the house, by virtue of its power to keep a journal of its proceedings, may, as it did here, make the journal show the truth, and thereby conclusively establish the fact of the presence of a quorum.

The direction to the secretary in the act of May 9, 1890, is to so construe the tariff law of March 3, 1883, that the clause which applies to woolen cloths shall apply to worsted cloths, and thus that the same duty shall be assessed upon the latter as the former. The construction thus enjoined is not repugnant to the act of March 3, 1883, as interpreted by the supreme court. Congress had full power to expressly or impliedly repeal or amend the act of 1883. The act of May 9, 1890, is therefore an implied amendment of the act of 1883 and the worsted clause teereof, to the extent of imposing the same duty upon imported worsted cloths as upon woolen cloths.

The Secretary's Duty.

The secretary of the treasury is at the head of that department which is charged with the duty of enforcing custom laws, and therefore of primarily construing them, and of classifying imports for duty under them. By statute this is all done under the general supervision of the secretary. A legislative direction to him to give a certain construction to customs law is, therefore, exactly equivalent to a provision that the law shall thereafter generally receive such construction. To say, as was held by Judge Lacombe, that the effect of the act of May 9, 1890, is to impose the same duty on worsted cloths as on woolens only in cases where the particular worsteds are classified by the secretary of the treasury, or under his express direction, leads to the absurd result that the same kinds of worsteds would pay different rates of duty, as they might or might not be classified by the secretary.

This would be a violation of the clause of the constitution requiring uniformity of taxation, and would seem to delegate to the secretary an undefined and irresponsible power by action or nonaction in regard to any particular importation to change the legal rate of duty thereon. Such construction cannot be tolerated if any other is possible. The conditions existing when the act was passed and leading to its passage, leave no doubt of the intention of congress to impose thereby and thereafter the same duty upon all worsted cloths as was imposed by the act of 1883 upon woolen cloths. The court may give effect to this intention without doing violence to the language.

RAILWAY POSTOFFICES.

Supt. White Submits Figures and Recommendations.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—James E. White, general superintendent of the railway mail service, has submitted his annual report, which shows that at the close of the fiscal year the mails were carried on 159,518 miles of railroad in the United States. Postal clerks were employed in the distribution of the mails on 140,736.74 miles, service on the remaining 18,781.26 miles having been performed by means of closed pouches carried by lines upon which no distribution is made by postal clerks. The total number of cars under control of the department is 2,891. At the close of the fiscal year under review there were 1,088 railway postoffice lines in operation on which postal clerks were employed in the separation and distribution of the mails. There were also thirty-seven steamboat lines. A total of 5,565 clerks were at work on these lines.

There were added during the year 4,738.65 miles of news service, being an increase of 3.06 per cent. The lines upon which service was performed by postal clerks show an increase of 3,172.63 miles or 2.31 per cent. The mileage of lines, covered by closed pouch service was increased to 18,781, being an increase of 1,566.03 miles, or 9.09 per cent. The annual mileage of this class of service shows an increase of 1,475,339 miles, or 7.5 per cent. There are 6,632 clerks on the rolls, being an increase of 196 men or 3.36 per cent, while the record of annual mileage shows an increase of 6,713,837 miles, or 5 per cent on distance traveled in the performance of duty, and 698,814,462 pieces, or 8.9 per cent in the quantity of mail matter distributed.

Mr. White says: "A large per cent of those who have been appointed to the railway mail service under the provisions of the civil service rules have been men of good intellectual capacity, but unfortunately many of them have been deficient in stamina and physical endurance, and therefore could not withstand the hardships incident to an occupation requiring continuous physical and mental labor and strong muscular action. Mr. White recommends the enactment of a law providing for the retirement on one-third or one-half pay of all permanent railway postal clerks who have become incapacitated for further service by reason of age, injuries received while in the discharge of their official duties, etc., the fund out of which to pay the clerks so retired to be created by withholding a sum equal to one-half of 1 per cent per annum of the salary of each clerk.

THAT RUSSIAN UKASE.

The czar is undoubtedly of the opinion that it is a poor ukase that will not work both ways.—Washington Post.

The way the wheat market acts, one would think that Russia had issued an edict prohibiting the importation rather than the exportation of grain.—Kansas City Times.

If Russian ukases were only somethinggood to eat, the inhabitants of that country wouldn't be in such imminent danger of starving.—Boston Herald.

The czar's ukase will have a dual beneficial effect—it will save his destitute subjects from starvation and boom the American grain markets.—New Orleans Delta.

If Russia keeps her wheat at home, the remainder of Europe will have to come to the United States to buy. We can certainly find little cause for quarrel with the czar in this new ukase.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The ukase of the czar of Russia forbidding the exportation of wheat, supplementing, as it does, his former embargoes on the grain trade, will open more foreign markets for American grain than McKinley's protection and Blaine's reciprocity combined.—Louisville Times.

The czar's threatened ukase to prohibit the exportation of breadstuffs from Russia has come, and, as was anticipated, has caused a boom in the markets for American supplies, and also in American stocks. "Corn is king" this year, and Uncle Sam is upon the throne. —Binghampton Republican.

The czar's government is a very singular one, and an embargo on commerce is a very extreme procedure. But if that government never does anything worse than to try to keep its stock of food at home while its peasantry is starving, it will make a vast improvement on its former record.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

The ukase of the czar prohibiting the exportation of wheat and oats from Russia may cause a panicky feeling in some other European countries, but it is good news to holders of American grain. Fortunately our surplus is large this year, and the scarcer the supply becomes abroad the more money the grain will bring to the United States.—Toledo Bee.

That Russian ukase forbidding the export of wheat has come in good earnest at last. Its effect upon the stock exchanges here has been pretty well discounted by the repeated false announcements. Its effect in adding largely to the demand of other short crop European countries for American wheat, and probably for our other cereals, has not been discounted.—New York Telegram.

LOST ON THE LAKES.

Numerous Disasters to Shipping Reported.

DETROIT, Nov. 27.—Several shipping disasters are reported from up the lakes today. The steam barge Ossigatchie, timber laden, left Alpena Tuesday with the barges Goodell, with 230,000 feet of lumber, and Spotter, 350,000 feet of lumber, and the schooner A. J. McBrier in tow. When off Sturgeon Point the Ossigatchie got in a heavy sea and soon sprung a leak. The barges were cut adrift. The Ossigatchie rapidly filled with water, and the crew took to the boats. They were picked up and are now in this city.

The barges floundered about, and it is reported the Goodell went down with all on board. No word has been received of the H. C. Potter. The schooner escaped unharmed and is now in this city. The Ossigatchie was valued at $20,000, but was insured, as was her cargo.

The schooner Samaria, lumber laden, is ashore at Duncan bay. Assistance has been sent. The steamer City of Alpena reports having passed four wrecks on her up trip last night, but does not know what they were. A tug has been sent to the assistance of reported wreck at Presque isle. The steambarge Page, with a load of coal for Escanaba, is aground on Thunder Bay island. The steamer Robert Mills was sunk on Colchester reef last night in nineteen feet of water. The crew was saved. The Mills is a large steamer engaged in the grain trade and is owned in Buffalo. The loss to the vessel and cargo is at present unknown.

Merriam and Lowry.

New York Press.

Gov. Merriam, of Minnesota, who is a resident of St. Paul, and Thomas Lowry, of Minneapolis, who owns all the street car lines of the Twin Cities, were at the Fifth Avenue hotel yesterday morning. When they left Washington on the midnight train, according to all reports, their faces were very long, as they thought that Minneapolis was out of the fight for the location of the Republican national convention, but this morning their faces were broad with smiles on account of their victory. Gov. Merriam said to me:

"The fight in Washington all day long, although Minneapolis was in the lead in the number of votes expected upon the first ballot, was between New York and Cincinnati. We had become almost certain that one or the other would get it, but their contest got so heated at last that New York found she must make the decision for some other city, and the members of the committee who had voted for New York as well as those from the far Western states came to us, and that is how we got it. There will not be any trouble about accommodating all who may come to the convention."

While talking with Mr. Lowry, he said:

There is an impression that we have insufficient hotel accommodations at Minneapolis, but that is a mistake. The West house can accommodate 2,500 people easily; the Nicollet house 1,800 to 2,000 more, and we have numerous smaller hotels. Then there is St. Paul, with all her large hotels, within a few minutes' ride of the exposition building. We shall send everybody away satisfied with the accommodations, even if we are obliged to resort to the method by which Col. Bradley, of Tennessee, in urging the claims of Chattanooga, said, that his city at one time had accommodated 200,000 men. He added, if you remember, that the men were soldiers who slept in tents.

Dragged Seven Miles.

BARABOO, Wis., Nov. 27.—News has just been received of the horrible death of James Kailey, of Franklin, this county. He had been to Spring Green with a load of hoop-poles. On returning he in some manner fell from the wagon, and one of his legs became entangled in a chain that was dragging behind. The poor fellow was dragged over the rough road for a distance of seven miles, and when found his body presented an awful spectacle.