MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY.

When wheat sells at seventy-nine cents at Duluth, it ought to bring more than sixty-one cents at Crookston. Who robs the farmer?

Daily ST. PAUL Globe.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.

Patronize the Globe Wants if in search of a girl or a man, a horse or a piano; if you want to sell anything, or have lost anything. They do their work quickly.

VOL. XIV. SAINT PAUL, MINN., SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 24, 1892. NO. 268.

THE FARMERS ARE FLEECED.

More Telling Testimony to Down the Infamous Conspiracy of Millers, Elevators and Railroads of Minnesota.

How the Legislative Investigation Was Choked Off When It Began to Approach the Line of Danger.

System by Which Wheat Growers Were Systematically Robbed in Weights of Grain Sold to the Mills.

Railroads Leagued With the Combine to Prevent Independent Buyers Raising the Price of Wheat.

Let the Farmers' Motto Be: "A Free Market and Open Competition in Our Sales of Wheat."

When the first wheat ring explosion occurred, the defenders of the nefarious robbery shrieked out: "That was all exploded by the legislative investigation."

They turn in their desperation to the partial report of that committee for their vindication!

And what was that committee enabled to do? The authority under which it attempted its work was really a shackle. Thus far could it go, and no farther. The moment it attempted to get at any facts of value, it was choked off on the ground that it had no authority to pursue that line of investigation.

Who choked it off? Nobody but that very combine that is now appealing to its results as their vindication!

C. M. Amsden, the general manager of one of the elevator systems, was one of the witnesses who refused to answer questions that would have brought developments, on the grounds that the committee had no authority to go into the subject, and that, too, at the advice of his attorney.

Just before the late explosion came, this same Amsden was interviewed, and took occasion to mimic the German dialect of one of the committee, whom he charged with saying: "Ve vill sit yust so long as the abbrobriation holts out." He belittled and derided the committee, and laughingly told how his attorney had headed off the committee when it tried to get down to valuable facts, because it "was exceeding its authority."

Yet this same Amsden has now the immaculate nerve to refer to the report of that committee as a vindication! He derided the committee, he mimicked the committee, and he blocked the committee at every possible turn, and then coolly turns about and seeks to find a vindication at its hands!

ROBBED BY WEIGHERS.

A Specimen of How Shortage in Weight Occurs.

Republican organs and defenders of the ring which annually robs the farmer of hundreds of thousands of dollars are very busy now in trying to make the farmer believe that the Republican party has been very hard at work defending and protecting the farmer through the state warehouse commission. In this connection it may be interesting to show how the millers have systematically robbed the farmer and wheat grower, through the connivance of the commission, by defrauding the weights. The weight fixed by the state weighers—who are men placed in office as political rewards—are absolute and final. If the grade does not suit either buyer or seller he may demand a regrading; but from the figures of the weigher there is no appeal. This being so, the farmers have been unmercifully fleeced through the medium of "short weights."

A few years ago there was a general complaint from all who shipped grain into the Minneapolis mills of a universal shortage of weight. It must be remembered there was no political campaign on and no reason to suppress the facts. All of the papers mentioned the complaint, and the Northwestern Miller, the organ of the millers' association, had several editorials upon the subject. Ten carloads of wheat, for example, were shipped direct to one of the mills, and when the settlement was made the shipper learned that the weight was several hundred pounds to the car below what he had reason to expect. But there was the weight certified by the state weigher, and from that there was no appeal. The farmer or shipper might whistle for his money for the lost wheat.

How was this wheat weighed for the state?

Did the state weigher see it weighed and then certify to it?

Not much. That was not his business. He quietly let the mill do the weighing and took the weight from the mill books. There never were enough weighers in Minneapolis to be at all the mills at once and actually weigh the grain as it came in.

At the time of the trouble, a GLOBE reporter went down to the canal and watched the process. At one of the largest mills carload after carload of wheat was being unloaded from the railroad viaduct into the mill. The wheat poured in a stream direct to the scale bin of the mill. When the stream ceased the weight was taken, entered into a book kept for that purpose, and another car was unloaded in a similar way. The man who took the weight was an employe of the mill, and there was no sign of a state official in the neighborhood.

"Where is the state weigher?" was asked.

"Oh, I guess he's asleep somewhere," was the rejoinder. "He'll be around after while."

"Doesn't he take the weights himself?"

"Course he don't. There ain't enough of him to be at all of the mills at once. He comes around later and copies the weights off'n our books."

This is the way the Republican state government took care of the interests of the farmer and wheat grower! It is to this system that the Republican press now turns and cries: "See how we take care of our farmers."

IN THE CONSPIRACY.

Railroads Aid the Ring in Keeping Down Wheat Prices.

The first yell of every one of the wheat ring, when interviewed on the subject of the great expose was: "There is no combination in the state to keep down the price of wheat."

This denial comes in the face of the testimony taken before the legislative committee, which proved conclusively that Frank H. Irons made the "list," and daily sent it out to the buyers over the state; that independent buyers were throttled at every turn, and that the railroads lent their powerful influence to prevent the competition that would come if the wheat grower were able to offer his wheat in the open market.

This is the great point for the farmer to keep in mind: That every time it became possible for him to get a little more for his wheat through an independent buyer, in stepped the ring, and with the aid of the railroads the independent buyer was crushed out of existence. The farmer has the right to sell wherever he can get the highest price, and this right has been denied him by the giant ring that has its foot on the neck of the agriculturist of Minnesota.

Testimony taken before the committee shows conclusively that the railroads are in the conspiracy. The letter of traffic manager to the union store at Nelson cannot be contradicted, and, though it was shifted upon a clerk, it is a fact that the traveling agent of the road said the same thing in person, and there was no possibility of laying that upon any subordinate. The Shelby letter is as follows:

Great Northern Railway Line, Montana Central Railway, Willmar & Sioux Falls Railway, Duluth, Watertown & Pacific Railway. P. P. Shelby, G. T. M.

NELSON UNION STORE COMPANY—Gentlemen: Complaints have reached from Osakis and West Union that the wheat buyers on our line at Nelson are paying above list. Upon investigation I find that this is so, and following the matter up, I learn that your company is the cause of the disturbance. The elevator companies at the two points above named threaten to meet your prices if this is not stopped, which will affect our Sauk Center and Northern branch, and will cause trouble with the "Soo Line" and Northern Pacific. I must therefore request that you reduce your prices to the regular market price before the trouble spreads. I have written the other elevator companies at that point to the same effect. Yours truly, P. P. SHELBY, G. T. M.

Commenting on this, Mr. Moore says in his report: The great facts shown by the testimony, which compel belief, on my part, that the railroad system of Minnesota and the Northwest actively co-operate, in the enforcement of the list price, are as follows: I find no disagreement or competition among the rival systems in rates. Railroad corporations distinctly seperate in their organization and ownership, and with individual special interests in the natural order of things would be found to compete before the people for the carrying trade. The evidence discloses the utter destruction of all forms of competition in this state between the different railroad corporations, for the purpose of securing the carrying trade of wheat and grain. Whether the railroad corporations have, or have not, a pool or understanding between themselves matters not for the purpose of the present inquiry. It is a most suspicious and convincing fact that the carriage and transportation of wheat in the state of Minnesota and the Northwest, is at the same rate on all rival railroad systems.

The Excuse

put forward by the railroad corporations in the testimony is the fear of the rate war and disturbance in the volume of their individual traffic, but it seems to me that this excuse has but little weight to remove the logical imputation that all of the railroad systems by their unity of action and uniform rate sheet, transact business to a common purpose, and with an understanding that they will not compete, the one against the other for the trade. In fact, the testimony shows that the distinct and different railway systems each employ on their own account traveling men and agents covering the entire territory, and to use the words of Mr. Somers, chief clerk of the traffic department of the Great Northern Railway company: "Our travelling men cover the territory and move from one line to another. That is necessary in order to watch the business that is moved, and solicit business for our line, and see if we can get a proper share of the business in the vicinity of the line; and whenever they visit these places they naturally inquire about the price of wheat as well as other commodities, so as to know whether that place has any particular advantage over us in the handling of trade."

The testimony of all parties upon this particular subject of the railroad traveling agents supervising the traffic is to the effect that each agent of the distinct road makes it his business to see that the elevator companies on all other roads do not pay more than list price. Thus by watching each other, and actively doing so through the supervision of this established police and inspection self-maintained, they compel the elevators on all roads to adopt this list price.

Second—The testimony shows a number of instances where the railroad companies have directly interfered to enforce list price. I think this is sustained by reference to the following testimony. The investigation developed the fact that in the autumn of 1889 some buyers at Morris, Minn., advanced the price beyond list price. During the disturbance of the market at Morris by reason of the advance beyond list price, certain correspondence took place between representatives of the different railroad systems in relation to this trouble which I here quote as evidence compelling my opinion as above stated that the railroad corporations endeavor to enforce list price. Bear in mind that this correspondence was written during the existence of the

Trouble in Morris,

and has direct reference to that trouble.

Then follows a lot of correspondence between S. L. Moore, of the Northern Pacific, to officers of other railroads, urging them to "get together" and "fix up" the matter at Morris. These letters were discovered as being a portion of testimony had in a proceeding before the railroad and warehouse commission at the instance of certain dealers at Ortonville, and the original letters were brought before your committee. They speak for themselves. It is in testimony that as soon as the parties who were paying a price higher than list price desisted from such practice, the "trouble" as it was called by the railroad managers, ceased, and list price was thereafter paid at Morris. Mark now that this trouble was not settled by the commission, in the proceedings brought before them. When the trouble had ceased, by the returning to list price, the suit before the commission was dropped and was never decided by the commission. The trouble was settled by the railroads and was settled by a return to list price and proper grades

More Railroad Interference.

I call your attention to another instance in the testimony showing the direct railroad interference. C. C. Brugencate testified that he resided at Herman, that his business was buying wheat, and that, while he was in partnership with Mr. Southerland, he received a letter from the office of the agent of the Great Northern Railway company, in his words, as follows: "Asking that we come down to list on wheat. That we were paying over list, and thereby wheat which was tributary to the line of the Milwaukee road, they could not compete with us, and further that the elevators complained that they could not make anything on it, and they would have to close the house." That this letter was written by P. P. Shelby, general traffic manager of the Great Northern road. Mr. Brugencate further testified that he and Mr. Sutherland were buying wheat for a farmers' house at that time as an independent elevator, and that it was their intention to keep the market up as high as they could: that he received the letter from Mr. Shelby about the 1st of November, and continued buying until about the 20th of that month; that they did not observe the requests or demands of Mr. Shelby as contained in that letter. The following question was asked him: "Q. Did you ever have any other intimation eminating from the railroad company that you should observe list price in the purchase of wheat? A. Yes, sir, sometime after Mr. Wells began, Mr. Dennis received a letter from the same source, telling him to request us to come down to list price. Q. State what was the purport of that letter? A. Mr. Dennis told us that if we did not come down to list price, that they would shut off our supply. Q. Was that from Mr. Shelby? A. I think it was, I am not positive about that. I did not read the letter. It was from Dennis and he told us what was contained in the letter."

It did not appear from the testimony that the railroad company had in fact embarrassed or inconvenienced Mr. Brugencate or Mr. Sutherland on account of their failure to conform to list price. It seems that Mr. Brugencate went out of the business shortly after the receipt of this letter, and whatever the railroad companies might have done had he continued the business, the attempt made by Mr. Shelby in the letter quoted and in the letter afterward to Mr. Dennis, is convincing to my mind of the existence of a policy on the part of that road to enforce list price.

Could Get No Cars.

Another instance which I cite was contained in the testimony of C. W. Brandborg, who testified that he ran a farmers' elevator at Henning, Minn., on the Northern Pacific road; that while he was engaged in the purchase of wheat he found it very difficult to obtain cars from the railroad company in which to ship his wheat, which is set out out in full in his testimony, and after exhausting his own personal efforts he had recourse to Representative Hompe, asking him to see the railroad commissioners with a view of compelling a recognition of his rights, and that after Mr. Hompe had interviewed the governor of the state on the injustice, he had much less trouble in obtaining cars. Mr. Brandborg further testified that he had a long talk with a man by the name of Woodward, of Minneapolis, who represented himself to be an agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad company, who stated to him:

"That he would like to have the prices uniform on the road; that by reason of this war we were causing a disturbance of prices on other lines, and the other roads would retaliate at some other point, and he further said if you want to do any running fight on dockage and grades, but don't raise prices. I told him that I did not get fair treatment from his road, and I said that I did not start this war, and if the elevator companies wanted to stop it they could. The last thing he told me was: Mr. Brandborg, if you would identify yourself with some elevator company you would get along better with our road, or you would find no trouble with our road; that if I would identify myself with some elevator company there would be no trouble with the road."

Mr. Brandborg also testified. "I will state that I saw a railroad circular for the shipment of wheat, track shipments as they called it. I don't remember exactly the rules. There was a great many of them. It finished this way: You will thus be enabled to furnish cars as slowly as possible and 'as slowly' was underscored. You will thereby succeed in stopping shipments on track."

The following questions were asked Mr. Brandborg:

"Q. Do you know who issued that circular? A. I do not remember the signature. It wos on yellow paper the same as railroad orders come on. Q. It was issued under the auspices of the Northern Pacific railroad? A. I think so. It appeared to me that the track shipments were to be stopped first, and then the private buyer comes next. Q. This unanimity of effort to control the wheat or to control the shipment of wheat to the terminal point looks like an understanding between the railroad companies and the elevator companies, doesn't it. A. It looks that way. I have felt it is that way.

These instances which I here quote were only a portion of the testimony had before the committee, in relation to the direct railroad interference. There is evidence that cars were denied at Wadena, 1891, to one J. M. Stowe. There is evidence that a track was taken up by the railroad company at a private warehouse in Waseca, and other items of testimony which corroborates the evidence cited, which to my mind shows the direct interference of the railroads to

Enforce List Prices.

It will thus be seen that the testimony exhibits many marked instances of distinct attempts and acts on the part of the railroad companies of this state to enforce list price, and these attempts and acts would naturally follow from a policy admitted to be the policy of all the railroad systems of this state to prevent rate wars by the adoption of a uniform price throughout the state, and by uniform rates for the railroad systems at competitive points. It still remains a mystery as to what compensation in fact the different railroad systems receive from the great business combine in consideration of the surrender of each of these respective systems of the entire field of competition in business, and the adoption of uniform prices and uniform rates. The discovery of the fact of this compensation and its circumstances must be left to future investigating committees, future legislatures and the energy of public spirit. It may be found upon a proper investigation of this branch of the great wheat topic, that the moving cause of this surrender of competition by the distinct railroad companies will be found to lie in the fact that the present rates received by the railroad companies are so remunerative in their character that it is financial policy on the part of each road to surrender competition in view of the enhanced freight rates upon the traffic which it does receive. But that is a question which has not been attempted to be investigated by this committee, and with it I do not wish to deal or venture an opinion. I simply claim that the evidence is convincing that the railroad systems of the state of Minnesota and the Northwest harmonize and co-operate with the combine to enforce list price throughout the entire wheat-producing region of the Northwest tributary to Duluth.

LAST COMES ODELL,

And Snow Is Not Purer Than the New Chicagoan.

Another denial has come to the front in the great wheat ring exposure. H. A. Odell, the whilom lawyer of Minneapolis, and now high in the Chicago swim, is the latest in the list of deniers. He has written a long and elaborate letter to the GLOBE, in which he enters a sweeping denial of everything that has appeared in print concerning himself. He seems particularly sensitive about any reference to the preliminary campaign which ended in the first nomination of W. R. Merriam for governor, and vehemently denies any knowledge of the use of "influence" in that memorable campaign. He wants his Minnesota friends to know that he had nothing to do with that campaign. In short, the air of Chicago has had a marked effect upon Mr. Odell, and he desires to have it known that he is above the dark and devious ways of Minnesota Republican politics.

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Even with the addition of the supplement it has not been advanced—Five Cents.

THE DATE.

Remember that it will be next Sunday, the Twenty-fifth Day of September.

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THROUGHOUT THE

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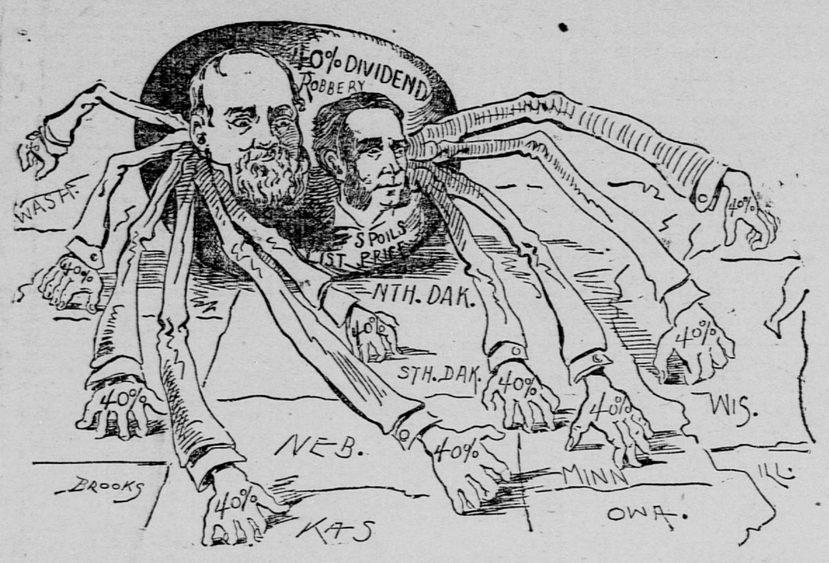
FREE AND OPEN MARKET.

Let every farmer require a sacred pledge from his candidate for a seat in the legislature that he will work and vote for the passage of a law which will make the market for his wheat as free as is his market for his corn or his cattle.

Let the battle cry be, "A Free Market, Open Competition, Equal Justice to All."



THE WHEAT OCTOPUS SPREADING OVER THE NORTHWEST.

LAWLER AT LUVERNE.

The Tariff Presented in a Masterful Manner by the Next Governor.

A Word About the Wheat Steal--Nelson's Amusing Tariff Somersaults.

The Little Norwegian Speaks at Windom Without Touching Wheat at All.

A Prominent Physician Secures a Divorce--SiouxFalls Divorce Record.

Special to the Globe.

LUVERNE, Minn., Sept. 23.—Hon. D. W. Lawler, candidate for governor, and Hon. W. S. Hammond, candidate for congress from this district, addressed the voters of Rock county at this place this afternoon. A large crowd was in attendance, and both of the gentlemen made masterly addresses, the next governor presenting the tariff idea in an altogether different light to his audience than the previous speakers. He paid his respects to the wheat steal, and spoke briefly about Nelson's acrobatic movements on the tariff question. The meeting was devoid of all mud-throwing, which is on an entirely different line from the campaign conducted by the Republicans. It is safe to say that Rock county will poll a larger vote this fall for Gov. Lawler than for the monopoly candidate, Knute Nelson.

IGNORED THE GREAT ISSUE.

The Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Ignored the Wheat Combine.

Special to the Globe.

WINDOM, Minn., Sept. 23.—The Republicans held a rally here this evening, making especial efforts to get out a big crowd. They succeeded in getting a great many farmers to come in from the surrounding country to hear Mr. Nelson answer the charges that have been made against him and the party. But they were greatly disappointed in the speech of the candidate, which was almost entirely a defense of the McKinley bill.

Mr. Nelson was silent concerning the great wheat ring, and he did not explain his railroad connections. These two omissions are fatal to his cause in this county, for the reason that the farmers are thoroughly aroused of the railroad and wheat ring combines, and will vote for no one whose position is not clear on these questions.

THE DIVORCE BUSINESS.

It Beats the Land Offices at Sioux Falls.

Special to the Globe.

SIOUX FALLS, Sept. 23.—Your reporter has taken the trouble to look through the appearance docket at the county clerk's office since April, 1890, the date at which the divorce business of this city first began to show itself, to find out how many divorce cases had been filed. The book, which runs from April, 1890, to the last of July, 1892, contains 1,159 cases, of which 130 are actions for divorce. This is a pretty fair average, as it shows one case in nine to be divorce cases. In the second book, which as been running since Aug. 1, 1892, there have been filed 54 cases, out of which 23 cases, or nearly half, are actions for divorce. This makes 153 divorce cases which have been filed since April, 1890, out of 1,213 cases docketed in that time. This is one case in every eight filed during the time in question. This, of course, is not over half the cases handled by attorneys in this city, as several firms bring all their cases in other counties to avoid publicity. It is a safe estimate to make that the attorneys in this city have handled 400 divorce cases since April, 1890, or nearly 200 a year.

WILL MARRY AGAIN.

A Doctor Divorced at Sioux Falls for that Purpose.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Sept. 23.—A decree of divorce was today granted Dr. J. C. Lester, of Brooklyn, by Judge Aikens, on the ground of desertion. In the summer of 1880 the doctor married Miss Octavia Wadham, whose father was a heavy stockholder in the Meriden Britannia Silver company, of Connecticut. They moved to Brooklyn, where the doctor became a highly successful practitioner, was the editor and owner of the Medical Digest of New York, superintendent of the Kings county inebriate asylum, and also of the county lunatic asylum, having wealth and excellent social position. The couple were prominent members in Brooklyn society. Two years ago the doctor and his wife began quarreling, the wife being insanely jealous, frequently entering her husband's office, the complaint charges, when he was making examinations of female patients, greatly to the disgust of the patients and of the doctor. A year ago the doctor came to Sioux Falls, and has been quietly abiding his time. Rumor asserts he will marry again within a week or two.

UNDER A CLOUD.

West Superior's Finances Being Straightened in Court.

Special to the Globe.

WEST SUPERIOR, Wis., Sept. 23.—Eight o'clock this evening was set for the argument in the circuit court of an amicable suit to determine whether certain bonds are special against the property improved or general against the city, and in the latter case in excess of the 5 per cent limit and illegal, involving directly an issue of $240,000 and indirectly fully $1,000,000 more contemplated. The contractors have become very anxious for their money, or for bonds which they could readily market. It had been openly stated that whichever way the case was decided in the lower court an appeal would be at once taken and the case rushed to a final decision. Judge R. D. Marshall evidently intends to render a well-considered decision—one that will be sustained in the supreme court. First, he declined to hear real arguments at time, but said that the attorneys could submit on briefs. Further, he announced that a decision could not be expected before a month or six weeks. Suit having been commenced, the city's credit is under a cloud until a favorable decision can be reached, and there is much adverse criticism of those who have involved the municipal finances in this mess.

HIS SHARE $3,000.

An Ex-British Soldier to Get a Lot of Prize Money.

Special to the Globe.

WINONA, Minn., Sept. 23.—Stephan Liddane, of this city, formerly color sergeant in the Sixty-third regiment of the British army, has received notice that a sum of over $3,000 is due him in the way of prize money. Forty years ago Liddane's regiment, which was then in active service in India, captured an under rajah together with a large amount of money. It has been recently decided to divide this money, which has since been drawing interest, among the members of the regiment. Liddane's share amounts to over $3,000, and he leaves for Chicago this evening where the distribution of the money will take place. Liddane was in the British army or over twenty-five years, was through the Crimean war, was at Gibraltar and spent several years in active service in India.

DEATH OF GIDEON HIXON.

A Well-Known La Crosse Business Man Passes Away.

Special to the Globe.

LA CROSSE, Wis., Sept. 23.—Gideon C. Hixon died today of neuralgia of the heart, aged sixty-six years. He has resided here since 1856, and been largely engaged in lumbering all that time. At the time of his death he was president of the Hannibal Saw Mill company and La Crosse National bank, a large stockholder in William Listman's Milling company of this city and West Superior, and has numerous other interests. He leaves a fortune estimated at a million and a quarter. Deceased was at one time state senator, has been alderman, and for many years president of the board of education. He was a man of sound integrity and liberal disposition, doing many acts of charity of which the public never heard.

On a Half-Mile Track.

Special to the Globe.

MORRIS, Minn., Sept. 23.—The second day's races resulted: First race, 2:34 trot, Billy Bashaw first, Allie Graham second, Frank Mayo third. Best time, 2:36¼. Second race, pace, free for all, Prince Mac first, Tommy Lynn second. Time, 2:20¾, the best time ever made on this track. Third race, three-year-old colts, Ole Olson first, King Phaliamant second, Kewaydin third. These were all mile heats on a half-mile and thirty-four feet track.

Will Carry Sleepy Eye.

Special to the Globe.

SLEEPY EYE, Minn., Sept. 23.—Our citizens tonight listened to A. W. Blakely, of Rochester, who delivered one of the best Democratic speeches ever delivered here. He showed up the Republicans in their true light and made converts for Democracy. It is certain that the Democrats will carry Sleepy Eye at the coming election.

Four Republican Nominees.

Special to the Globe.

LITTLE FALLS, Minn., Sept. 23.—At the Republican convention today for the Forty-sixth legislative district William Fuller, W. A. Fleming, R. C. Dunn and W. E. Lee were nominated.

From 90 to 94.

Special to the Globe.

HURON, S. D., Sept. 23.—There has been a scorching hot wind from the south all the afternoon. The temperature has been from 90 to 94 in the shade the past six days. It has been the warmest September experienced here in several years.

DEAD IN THE ROAD.

John Herman, a Litchfield Plasterer, Is Killed by an Unknown Stranger.

A Chicago Man Charged With an Attempt to Poison His Mother.

His Father's Estate Could Not Be Divided Until His Mother's Death.

It Is Supposed That He Became Impatient at the Delay.

LITCHFIELD, Minn., Sept. 23.—A mysterious murder occurred here this evening. John Herman, a plasterer, and Herman Peele, a farmer, quarreled with a stranger on the street. The stranger struck Herman and fled, pursued by Herman and Peel in a wagon. It is not yet known whether they caught up with the stranger. They had gone only half a mile when the team ran away. Peele was found following the team and a few rods away John Herman was found lying in the road dead with a bullet hole in his side and an arm broken. All parties had been drinking, and Peele does not account for his companion's death. Officers are in search of the stranger. The affair creates intense excitement.

WANTED HIS SHARE.

A Chicago Man Charged With Attempted Poisoning.

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—Robert Rothgerber was today arrested on a charge of attempting to poison his mother and nephew. The husband of Mrs. Rothgerber died some years ago, leaving an estate of $350,000, but was so tied up that the woman was the only beneficiary, and she only received $100 per month. The estate was to be divided among the heirs after her death, and it is supposed that Robert became impatient at his mother's delay in dying. The prisoner admits that he killed his own brother in the West some years ago, but claims that it was an accident. The estate over which the trouble occurred was accumulated by Rothgerber as a straw bailer around the public courts.

HIT WITH A CUSPIDOR.

Brutal Assault on a Young Lady in Milwaukee.

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 23.—Albert Shissler, a well-known young Bohemian resident of this city, was arrested early this morning, charged with having brutally assaulted Nellie Forster. The affray occurred at the girl's home, 560 River street. It is alleged that young Shissler went there, and, after some words with the girl, picked up a cuspidor and struck her over the head. She fell with a scream to the floor. Several persons, hearing the cries, rushed to the house and tried to capture Shissler. A hackman grappled with him, and in the struggle that ensued both he and Shissler received severe cuts over the head. Shissler was finally overpowered and taken to the station. The physicians state that Miss Forster is fatally wounded. Shissler claims he struck the woman in self-defense.

TO BE SETTLED LEGALLY.

The Pennsylvania Child Murderer to Have His Condition Investigated.

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Sept. 23.—Although there is little doubt that William Lock, the Plymouth township huckster who beat his mother and slaughtered his nineteen-months-old son, was insane when he committed the fiendish deed, the question of his sanity will probably be referred to a jury. The coroner's jury in the case today returned a verdict of death from violence at the hands of his father, without any reference as to the man's probable mental condition.

FOUGHT IN A CELL.

Bloody Battle Between Two Tennessee Prisoners.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 23.—Adam Leger, a convict from Claybourne county, who has killed several men, was brought here yesterday on his way to prison. Leger was put in a cell with William Leach, one of the miners now awaiting trial for participating in the late riots. In May, 1891, Leger murdered Leach's brother, and when the men met yesterday they fought desperately and both were fatally hurt, Leger having one eye torn out.

Charles H. Bonner, a teller of the British Columbia bank at Nanimo, B. C., who was short $15,500 in his accounts, has been arrested. He had been in the woods for a week and was half-starved.

IN FAVOR OF WEAVER.

Powderly Thinks He Has Been Misquoted by the Democrats.

He Favors Protection for Both Manufacturer and Workingman.

Neither of the Old Parties Is Conducted to Suit Him.

He Declares Himself in Favor of the Populist Candidates.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23.—The Journal of the Knights of Labor of the 22d inst. had a special article from the pen of T. V. Powderly, containing an abstract taken from a letter in the Philadelphia Ledger of the 16th. The abstract is as follows:

"The Carnegie Steel company and like corporations owe their prosperity to the protective laws of the United States. These laws were passed in the interest of labor. During the discussion on the tariff laws it was never advanced as a reason why they should be passed that capital would be protected—the argument was always that labor would be protected. The workman has not been protected from the competition by the government. He has had to fight the battle for himself through the labor organizations. Not only has he had to fight against foreign competition, largely attracted by our delusive tariff laws, but he has had to wage

War With the Employer

for a share of that protection which his government desired by the law that he should have. Our government has enacted protective legislation in the interest of labor, if we read arguments, but it quiescently allows the manufacturers the bulk of protection, and then throws its arms around the establishment at the least provocation when the workman asks for what he deems a right to enjoy."

Mr. Powderly goes on to say that in a measure he was instrumental in making Mr. Harrity secretary of the commonwealth of this state. This was accomplished by his support of Mr. Pattison for governor. Mr. Pattison was elected on a ballot-reform issue. He was pledged to a constitutional convention. He sought our votes and got them on that issue." Mr. Powderly, after speaking of the appointment of Mr. Harrity, then shows that Mr. Harrity has been instrumental in deferring the will of the people by opposing the constitutional convention, which would dethrone the imperial Reading combination, which insolently laps the state into silence through the cowardly acts of its officials; it is

An Enemy to American Labor

and a peril; it is supported and upheld by the chairman of the national Democratic committee, who now makes use of my words to help the cause in which he is interested and which he would have people believe friendly to American labor.

"In my North American Review letter I have not discussed the merits of protection. One phase of it alone is referred to, and in saying that it does not adequately protect the American workingman I state a truth which can in no way aid a party which dare not avow itself in favor of free trade—the opposite of protection. When a member of the committee will make use of a man's words and statements, it should be in possession of sufficient honesty to assert that it intends to carry out the intention of the author. I said that the American workingman has not been protected from foreign competition by the government.

Will the national committee of the Democratic party dare to assert it is in favor of protecting the workingmen in the way I had in mind when I wrote that? I believe that if it is

Right to Place a Duty

on the manufactured article in order to protect the workman on this side of the Atlantic, it cannot be right to allow the foreign workmen to come here in droves to take the places at reduced wages of Americans.

Will the national committee declare in favor of the natural restriction of immigration to such an extent as will deprive the American workmen of the crushing burden which makes it utterly impossible to stand up and give him what he should have? There is no member of the committee who does not know that the great railroad interests of this country stand more of a menace to the manufacturing interests of this country than the tariff. They, the circulating medium, should be under the direction of the government, and that it should issue and be controlled by the government. They should know that their escape of just taxation is an injustice to the workingman. They will not say on their platform a remedy for these evils.

"The Republican party is made up of wealth and monopoly, but the Democratic party has the supreme gall to assume, with an air of

Patronizing Ownership,

the privilege of dictating just how the workingman should vote. It claims to be the party of the poor man. I grant that it ought to be, for the poor have given it the strength to live long enough to see its candidate for the presidency write against free silver at the dictation of Wall street; long enough to see its national convention frame a dishonest declaration in favor of wildcat banks; long enough to see the principal actors on its boards squirm and shift on every wind to catch the votes of the poor man. If the Democratic party is the party of the poor man, if he continues to vote that ticket he will never be anything else but a poor man.

"I have written no campaign document for either the Democratic or the Republican parties, will not write any, and will not support the candidates of any party but the one which had the honesty and manhood to lay claim to the votes of labor by adopting the preamble of the Knights of Labor as its national platform—the People's party candidates—Gen. James B. Weaver and Gen. James Field.

"T. V. POWDERLY."

FREE AND OPEN MARKET.

Let every farmer require a sacred pledge from his candidate for a seat in the legislature that he will work and vote for the passage of a law which will make the market for his wheat as free as is his market for his corn or his cattle.

Let the battle cry be, "A Free Market, Open Competition, Equal Justice to All."