



E. SACHSE, EDITOR. Troy, Mo. FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1866.

Payment of the State Debt.

Missouri has taken a step which we are certain will reflect the highest credit on her administration. Her Legislature has determined that her financial reputation shall remain unimpaired, and with this end in view has adopted the only course consistent with public honesty, viz: to begin the payment of her debt.

Notwithstanding some objection was at first raised to this measure, on account of the increase of taxation it might necessitate, the settled purpose of our Representatives to deal fairly with the State's creditors is shown in the vote by which it was adopted, there being only about a dozen votes against it in the House, while in the Senate it was carried unanimously. As the Governor warmly advocated the measure, his approval will follow as a matter of course.

By this law—for as such we may regard it—Missouri funds her debt, issuing new obligations to cover the overdue interest upon her bonds, which has been accumulating during and since the war. With this unpaid interest her liability to non-resident creditors—meaning thereby the holders of her bonds—amounts to nearly thirty millions of dollars. On this amount—the overdue interest, as the principal, which are consolidated—it is proposed to begin with the payment of three per cent interest, increasing the rate according to the prospective ability of the State until the old rate of six per cent is resumed. Three per cent is the interest at first to be paid, because the State is now not able to do more, but from this it is not to be inferred that the bond holders will receive less than six per cent. Provision is made for ultimately making good the deducted three per cent, which is provided for in the new bonds to be issued. Thus it is arranged that the creditors of the State will get every cent that is legally coming to them, and upon a portion of their claims will receive compound interest. When it is remembered that Missouri's securities have been largely purchased for half their face—including unpaid interest coupons—it will be seen that those who have staked their money upon Missouri's solvency and integrity will be most handsomely repaid for their confidence. Of this we have no reason to complain.

Our people are yet poor, but none can now question the expediency of their purpose, nor will those interested be long compelled to wait for its execution. Missouri is abundantly able to pay every cent she owes, and she will do it with much less hardship to her people than they are now disposed to anticipate. Our natural resources—agricultural and mineral—are unsurpassed, and as yet but partially appreciated. Their value will, however, speedily be determined. The immigration with which the State is now being enriched is enormous and constantly augmenting. The increase of population is from the North and East; and is exactly what is wanted. The action of our State authorities in settling our financial question upon a solid and honorable basis, completes the work of Missouri's restoration. It puts her right upon the record.—[Mo. Dem.]

The Missouri Test Oath before the United States Supreme Court.

The case of A. J. P. Garesche, involving the constitutionality of the Test Oath of the New Constitution of Missouri, has been set for trial in the Supreme Court of the United States on the 9th instant. Mr. Garesche will be assisted in the case by the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland. The decision will be looked for with anxious interest.

Public Demonstration in Canada.

CONNELL, C. W. March 2.—At a public demonstration and dinner given to members of the Government last night speeches were made by Messrs Galt, Howland, Mr. McDonald and Cartier. Mr. McDonald asserted that the confederation of the British provinces was now certain of accomplishment in a few weeks. Referring to the militia he said: Canada had now 20,000 well drilled officers to lead them.

Galt, alluding to the recent reciprocity negotiations, denied the charge of having made legislation in Canada subordinate to the States, and claimed the liberal terms offered to the Americans had created a public sentiment in the United States favoring a removal of reciprocity. He said we must now cultivate commercial relations with the lower Provinces, South America and Europe, and legislate to attract capital and emigration to Canada. We must postpone for the present the enlargement of our canal and cultivate friendly relations with the United States, expecting their reciprocity. He concluded by advocating self reliance on the part of Canadians.

George Bancroft, the historian and orator, is in his 66th year.

(From the "Missouri Democrat.") Nevada.

The first discovery of silver mines was made in June, 1859, where Virginia City now stands, and during the same summer, gold in considerable quantities was washed out at Gold Hill, and which was afterwards found to be on the same vein, or lode, as the mines at Virginia.

The first quartz mills were erected in the fall of 1860; but owing to a want of knowledge of the proper manner of treating the silver ore, it was not until a year later that any good results were obtained by them.

Speculation and excitement ran high, however, and people from California and from all parts of the Pacific coast, flocked in by the thousands. Virginia City so increased in population that in 1863 it was the second in importance west of the Rocky Mountains. There is but one main vein from which the silver ore is taken. It is the largest one known, averaging thirty or forty feet in thickness, and has been opened for a distance of about three miles.

There are now at least seventy-five quartz mills working the ores from different claims on the vein, one of which—the Gould and Curry Mill—was built at a cost of half a million. The average yield of all the ores worked is about \$50 per ton.

In the latter part of the year 1862 the silver mines of the Reese river were discovered, and the Reese river mining district, in which the town of Austin is located, was formed. This district, the mining belt of which is about six miles long by three wide, contains at least 3000 claims. The veins are small in comparison to the Comstock at Virginia, but what they lack in size is more than made up in richness. According to the returns of the assessor for the year 1864, the average yield of all the ores worked in the district was two hundred and four dollars per ton, a yield which has no precedent in the mining history of the world. All we lack now for the purpose of taking out a hundred millions yearly, is the Pacific Railroad. Let that be completed, and we can with ease increase the production of silver at least ten-fold. Austin is on the overland mail route and telegraph lines, 180 miles east from Virginia City, and 420 miles west from Salt Lake.

Besides the Reese river district, there are a number of mining districts extending seventy miles north and a hundred and thirty miles south from Austin, all of which contain valuable quartz veins of gold, silver and copper, and, in fact, of nearly all the different kinds of minerals known. To persons wishing to invest capital, I know of no better inducements than are offered at Austin. Claims which can now be bought for a small price, will in three or four years be worth fortunes. The cost of working the ores at present, owing to the great distance machinery has to be hauled, and the high price of labor, is about forty dollars per ton. Add to this the cost of mining the ore from the veins, and it will be seen that it has to be rich to pay for working. There are thousands of tons of ore in the Reese river district, which will yield from fifty to sixty dollars a ton; but which, until the railroad is completed, enabling us to reduce them for a reasonable sum, will have to lie perfectly worthless.

The State is now producing about fifteen millions yearly, and with railroad facilities I see no reason why it cannot be increased to a hundred millions. The people of our state are glad to see the energy with which the railroad is being pushed forward, both from the east and west, and hope ere long to see the great national thoroughfare completed.

Besides the mining districts above named, there are a number about one hundred and twenty miles west from Austin, known as the Humboldt mines. Also at Eagan Canyon, one hundred and fifty miles east, and at Silver Peak, one hundred miles south west. New discoveries are also being made nearly every week in different parts of the state. We have, in different sections of the state, salt in quantities large enough to supply the world. It is especially valuable to us for the purpose of reducing the silver ore, as without it the cost of reduction would be very much increased.

The agriculture of the state is very limited, being confined to such vegetables as potatoes, turnips, lettuce, &c. No wheat is raised, and all flour has to be brought from California and Salt Lake. When the railroad is completed, and the population of the State becomes dense—as it certainly will in a few years—our supplies will have to come from Missouri and others of the Western States, and the business men of St. Louis cannot better promote their own interests, nor realize a speedier return for their investments than by urging forward the Pacific road to an early completion—thereby not only vastly increasing the commerce of St. Louis, but stimulating the development of a country which challenges the world for its equal in richness.

The other night a lecturer delivered himself of a hodge-podge effort at Washington Hall, Brooklyn, New York, entitled "Midge vs Pidge." During the delivery of the discourse the lecturer spoke rather disrespectfully of the Fenians, and intimated that they were all "wind" and no fight. The utterance had no sooner escaped him than a Fenian of muscle stepped upon the platform, and, taking off his coat, asked the lecturer to "spread upon his tail." This the man of speech refused to do, and the Fenian turned his face triumphantly towards the audience and asked them if the lecturer was a brave man. The appeal was received with laughter and applause, and order was finally restored.

STATE ITEMS.

Green Wells, murderer of Jacob Kuhn and John Lohr, was hung yesterday at St. Joseph.

Freight for the plains is starting in large quantities from St. Joseph. Several heavy trains crossed the river at that point within the last few days.

One Thomas Stephens was jailed at St. Joseph on Monday, charged with stealing 35 mules and a mare from J. Q. A. Rollins, at Nebraska city, some months ago. It appears that Stephens was counsel for one Gallup, charged with the theft, and held in \$15,000 bond for that.

The St. Joseph Herald, of the 20th, reports that an unknown man was run over by a freight train near Stewartsville the previous evening. The man is supposed to have been in a state of intoxication. Both legs were cut off, the entrails torn out, and the heart thrown to a distance of two or three rods.

Four men were drowned, says the Sedalia Times of the 23d ult. at Fishers Ferry, Blackwater creek, on the 13th. They were attempting to cross in a wagon. Three of the bodies were found by the citizens and brought to Sedalia, on the way to Cole Camp, the home of the deceased.

Saturday night last the Platte county train ran over and killed a man, a mile above Winthrop. Deceased was about twenty five years old, dark complexion, with black hair and whiskers, and had on a soldiers overcoat. The body was taken to St. Joseph.

The outrages at Versailles, Morgan county, resulting in the death of W. T. Drummond, of that place, has aroused the citizens to a determination to suppress desperadoism at all hazards, summarily if necessary, and a vigilance committee is forming for the purpose. Referring to the matter, the Banner remarks:

Men whose hands are reeking with blood, are unloseted in our county.—Persons, who call themselves good citizens, harbor and secrete them, and we remain unorganized. We are not superstitious, but we sometimes think that if there are no ghosts there should be, that while, with folded hands we deplore the loss of officer Drummond, and do nothing, the ghosts of father and son, joined hand in hand, should startle us waking, and disturb our sleep, until such measures are taken as will give protection to our families and safety to our ourselves.

On Tuesday afternoon last a man by the name of Richard Rogers was shot and killed in this city by Hall, sheriff of the county, under the following circumstances.

In company with one or two other parties, Rogers, who, it seems, was a desperado, from Callaway county, had been making a disturbance for some time during the forenoon—being under the influence of ardent spirits. Just after dinner the party became very uproarious in McClintock's saloon, and upon Sheriff Hall going in and commanding the peace, Rogers asked him what he had to do about it. Hall replied that he was sheriff and intended to "preserve order, at the same time drawing a revolver, Rogers then drew his revolver, but before he could level it, it went off. Hall then grasped Rogers pistol by the barrel and shot him (Rogers) twice—producing death in a few minutes.

During the afternoon Hall went before Esquires Campbell and demanded an investigation, and on the next day was tried before Esquires Campbell and Stranahan and acquitted.

The prosecution on behalf of the state was conducted by Capt. J. D. Macfarlane, and the defence by Messrs Whitney and Kauler.—Mexico Messenger 24th.

The taxable property of Monroe county as returned by the assessor, amounts to the snug sum of \$3,434,800. The number of votes polled 1,751.

On Monday morning about 11 o'clock, the residence of Mr. Sears, of this city, was discovered to be on fire. The alarm was given, and the flames were quickly subdued by our citizens who promptly rushed to the spot. The damage to the building was slight. The fire originated from a defective flue.—Independent.

Several surveys have been made by the North Mo. Railroad Co. for the purpose of ascertaining the best point to locate the bridge opposite our city. It seems that rock has been found at a distance of from fifteen to fifty feet, on the opposite side of the river, from the present Ferry landing down to the "rock heap." It was conjectured by some of our old fogies that a solid foundation could not be secured on the St. Louis side. Actual surveys, however, have demonstrated that they were wrong—the practicability, therefore of constructing a safe and substantial bridge at this point, is now established—it only remains for the Company to negotiate their bonds, when this is done, the construction of the Bridge will no doubt be immediately commenced. The security being ample, we have little doubt but that the bonds will be negotiated at an early day.—Cosmos.

We understand from a reliable source that the North Mo. Railroad Company have it in contemplation to start another accommodation train between St. Charles and St. Louis, one train (the early morning train) will leave at the usual hour, and return at 5 o'clock p. m. The other train will leave at a later hour in the forenoon, perhaps at ten o'clock, and returning at half past seven, leaving Saint Louis at six. This is as it should be, and will accommodate the business men in our city, and also the ladies and others who do not like to get up so early in order to take the train.—Cosmos.

The bill establishing the district courts passed the House on Monday last. At one time those opposed to the location of the court for the 6th district at Saint Charles succeeded in having Warrenton inserted for St. Charles, but by the ingenious effort of Mr. Dyer, notwithstanding it seemed at a time impossible, this was all changed again and St. Charles got the court by a vote two to one. The people of St. Charles are under obligation to Mr. Dyer for the valuable services he rendered them at this and other occasions, where their interests were deeply involved. The terms of the court are fixed for the 3d Monday in January and July.—Cosmos.

Judge Thomas Ansell of the county Court Bench has been appointed Supervisor of Registration for Callaway county.

A cotemporary urges the farmers of this state to cultivate castor beans. Some years ago, when they were worth only one dollar a bushel, it was considered remunerative to cultivate them; but now they bring from five to six dollars per bushel, and must be regarded as a profitable crop.

Yesterday morning, February 27 there occurred one of the most shocking and heart rending scenes ever witnessed in Pacific. The facts are as follows.

Quite a number of families are living in houses formerly used as Government barracks, a little west of the village, where the occurrence took place. Widow Hamilton and Mrs. Moody left their little children, four or five in number, in one of these houses, in care of Miss Hamilton (daughter of Widow Hamilton) while they went on business a short distance into the country. Miss Hamilton, not realizing the danger of leaving little children alone, stepped into a house near by, and, while there, these little children kindled a fire out of doors, which caught in the dress skirts of one of the little girls, about five years old. She was soon enveloped in flames, and screamed piteously for help; but before any real assistance could reach her, she was burned to blister from head to foot, and, in some places to a crisp. The little children who were with her showed true heroism in trying to extinguish the flames, forgetting their own blistered hands, and yielding their places only when other persons came to the rescue. The child breathed his last this morning. The mother, Mrs. Hamilton, is nearly distracted, and has the sympathy of the citizens of Pacific. St. Louis Democrat.

St. Joseph, March 2.—A shocking murder, by the hand of an unknown scoundrel, was committed on Tuesday near Winthrop, in the south part of this county. A young man named J. H. Lamson left Winthrop to go to a neighbor, two miles distant. Not long after he started his lifeless body was found by the road side, having received nine gun shot wounds. Young Lamson is represented as being a quiet, inoffensive citizen, without a known enemy, and the cause of the murder and his murderer are veiled in deepest mystery. He had but recently married the daughter of Mr. Wells, a respectable citizen of this county and his horrible fate is the source of sincere sorrow.

One of those fiendish deeds, the recital of which makes the blood curdle, was perpetrated by a trio of bloodthirsty villains in Miller county on the 21st inst.—On that day three men stopped at the residence of Mrs. Rachel Berry, nine miles south of Tusculum, on the Osage river. Two of them entered the house and began a conversation with the inmates, who were Mr. Edmond Berry, wife and child, Mrs. Stepp, and Mr. Joseph Berry. The two men, among other questions, asked if they were recognized; and receiving a negative reply, they inquired of Mr. Edmond Berry what company he belonged to. He replied that he was a member of a Company in Tusculum, and was a Union man, whereupon on the villainous exchanged glances and immediately commenced shooting their unsuspecting victims. Mr. Edmond Berry and Mrs. Stepp were instantly killed.—Mrs. Berry, seizing her child, fled from the house and succeeded in making her escape. The murderers then rushed upon Mrs. Joseph Berry had previously retired, who escaped by jumping from a window, the murderous villains firing at him while doing so. They then set fire to the house, and the building was consumed with the bodies of Mr. Berry and Mrs. Stepp. No trace of the murderers has yet been discovered. State Times.

Adjournment of the Virginia Legislature.

Richmond, Va. March 4.—The legislature adjourned sine die last night. L. Gov. Cowper, in his parting speech, declared that the people of the South were now more thoroughly loyal to the Union than the citizens of other parts of the Republic. Mr. Baldwin, the speaker of the House made an impressive farewell speech in which he proclaimed strong Union sentiments.

Sustaining Congress.

San Francisco, March 2.—The registry law has passed both houses of the California legislature.

A resolution has passed both houses sustaining the action of the majority of Congress on President Johnson's veto of the Freedmen's Bureau bill.

The Philadelphians are jubilant over their business prospects. Six hundred thousand dollars have been subscribed for the establishment of a line of Southern steamers, and the Pennsylvania railroad company have resolved to establish a line of steamers between Philadelphia and Liverpool.

A Witty and Amusing Speech.

In the Missouri House of Representatives on Saturday Feb. 24, while the bill locating the District courts was pending and various members were advertising the merits of their favorite towns as best fitted for the location of the courts, Mr. Howe, of Lewis county, editor of the Lagrange American, rose in his place and said:

Mr. Speaker: As written speeches seem to be the order of the day upon all the vital and important subjects considered in this House, I have maturely considered a few remarks which I offer for the benefit of such members as live in the backwoods, towns and villages like Hannibal, St. Joseph, Macon City and Saint Louis. I desire to inform them of the exact locality of Lagrange, and portray its superior advantages.

It is situated on the bluff of the Mississippi river, in Lewis county, 175 miles below the town of St. Louis, the latter being situated on the banks of Chouteau Pond, from which its inhabitants procure all their water; the said pond being about as fifty as the pond in this city. Lagrange has a population of several thousand, and contains several churches and about 17 saloons, where, I am credibly informed, about as mean whiskey can be had as at any point on the river, Hannibal or St. Louis not excepted. The streets are macadamized and the sidewalks are paved. There are several large and commodious hotels, but not quite so large as the Lindell, Southern, or Barnums hotels at St. Louis, or any other small town. The lodgings are good and the fare is bunkum—(like my speech.) The city of Lagrange, as I said before, is geographically located on high ground, and it is celebrated for pretty girls, as Pike county is for politicians. Another advantage Lagrange has is, there is one of the best Radical papers in the state published at two dollars a year in advance—subscriptions received at this desk. We have several sabbath school and other libraries in Lagrange, which contain the Bible and many other rare books but little known to lawyers, and which I believe would be of great advantage to them to read and study.

Should the court be located in Lagrange we contemplate constructing a railroad from that city to the county seat of every county in the district, and a good macadamized road to every farmers door in each county.

Lagrange is a cleanly and thriving city, and considering its important location, its town lots are sold very reasonably, and it holds out great inducements to capitalists and speculators.

The enterprising citizens of Lagrange contemplate having the Capital of the State removed there, together with the State institutions, including the Agricultural College, but excepting the penitentiary, which is just exactly where it ought to be, and where it ought to remain, as it is the best place I know of in the state. We also expect to have the National Capital at Lagrange in a few years; parties are already negotiating for its removal, and a beautiful site has already been determined upon.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before I adjourn, I contemplate Macon City, for I have been there once or twice. It is a little railroad station and is the mudflat district, and I don't know if you was in except Jefferson city, no hotel accommodations that I could ever find. They have something holes they stick a fellow into, for which they charge him just as long as the hole holds can hold their breath—and, Mr. Speaker, I can assure you, from experience, that they can hold their breath as long as they guess you have dollars in your pockets.

So far as lawyers are concerned, it might suit them very well, but, sir, it is to be presumed that decent people will attend this court occasionally, and I can assure they desire a respectable place to go to, and I wish to make them comfortable.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, let me say that I hope the good sense and sound judgment of the members of this House will lead them to adopt my amendment, and if they do not, and insist on locating the court at Macon city, I can assure them that it is my firm belief they will all die of the cholera next summer, and I shall eat ten cents if they do, for they will be snuffing against light, knowledge, and a healthy location.

Mr. Speaker, believing that this grave subject has been sufficiently discussed, and that all the members have made up their minds how they shall vote, I move the previous question, which I trust will prevail, as I do not wish to have my speech answered, and what capital I have made knocked into a cocked hat.

The Richmond Times gives the following advice to Virginians:

Let us, by the fairness, justice and humanity of our dealings and intercourse with the freedmen, demonstrate to the Conservative masses of the North that a freedmen's Bureau is not essential for the protection of the emancipated negro. Let us prove that we are the freedmen's best friend, and seek to make him useful, respectable and intelligent.

A gentleman writing from Washington on the 20th ult. to his friend in New York, says:

We have a rumor here to day that Jeff Davis captured Washington yesterday.—It is said to be official—came from the White House. Some say that the President was gobbled (as was attempted a year or more ago) and paroled, as was not purposed then. The Long Bridge is broken away here; and that may save Congress or two thirds of it.

Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., March 1, 1866.—The steamship Asia, Liverpool 17th, Queenstown 18th, arrived here this morning. Her news is four days later.

In the House of Commons on the 16th Lord Cardwell introduced a bill for the future government of Jamaica. He briefly explained that the government had thought fit to ratify the decision which the Legislature of Jamaica had arrived at, abolishing itself, and it would be proposed to establish a government similar to that in Trinidad for the period of three years, and if the experiment was successful then it would be made permanent. If not, some other arrangement could be devised.

Mr. Labouchere gave notice that on the 23d he would call attention to the inadequacy of the neutral laws, to enable England to fulfill her international obligations towards foreign countries.

Earl Russell announced the proposed suspension of the habeas corpus act in Ireland; and asked the House to sit on Saturday, the 17th, that no time might be lost in passing it.

Earl Derby said it would become the Government to justify the course it was about to take. If the House of Commons would agree, he would not propose a delay; but he hoped at the earliest possible period the Government would give the grounds on which they relied for their justification of these proceedings.

In the House of Commons to-day Sir George Grey, in asking leave to bring in a bill suspending the writ of habeas corpus act in Ireland, said the Fenian conspiracy had only recently assumed its present proportions. It was necessary to strike an effective blow at the Fenian schemes, which were wholly discounted by the American Government. The loyalty of the British army was beyond a doubt. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland earnestly requested the suspension of the act, saying he would not hold himself responsible for the safety of the country, if power was withheld from him.

M. D'Israeli concurred in the remarks of Sir George Grey.

Mr. Bright protested against the suspension of the act, but said he would not oppose the Government. Leave was then given to suspend the habeas corpus act by a vote of 304 to 6. The bill was then passed through all the stages and sent to the House of Lords, who likewise passed it without opposition.

The London Times says the Irish Government is of course better informed than any private persons can be as to the state of the country and the imminence of the danger. But in the increased activity of movement during the past month, and the presence of numbers of persons in various districts, with the scarcely concealed purpose of procuring insurrection, there is ample reason for the strictest precautions. The object of the Irish Government is doubtless to secure some of the adherents of American Fenianism, who are now so numerous in Ireland and working with disastrous effect on the people.

The London Morning Herald, the conservative organ, says the Government will be supported in those measures.

The Army and Navy Gazette says the troops in Ireland are being distributed more liberally among small towns, thereby giving a greater feeling of security.

The Times announces Mr. Gladstone's budget will show an excess of income over expenditure of \$3,600,000. I think Mr. Gladstone will attempt to reduce the national debt.

The Daily News believes the Government has acceded to the propositions of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Ireland and that henceforth the Senate of the Queen's University in Ireland will consist of half Protestants and half Roman Catholics.

Dresses are worn on law in Paris that it is proposed to call them bands.

The health of the venerable Lewis Cass is rapidly falling. He scarcely sits up at all, and his death is daily expected.

Dr. Jayne, the medicine man, of Philadelphia, is a living proof of the virtue of printers ink. He expends annually \$150,000 in advertising his medicines.

The Russian army has been reduced from 1,135,000 men in 1864, to 805,000. The military expenses have been reduced from \$36,000,000 to about \$25,000,000.

Nine months ago Pithole city, Pennsylvania, consisted of two houses. Now it supports a newspaper having a circulation of three thousand copies, received fifty thousand letters monthly, and sustains twelve hotels.

A "Biological Flexionationist," is giving entertainments in Norfolk. As he claims to be the only rival of Heller, Hermann, Anderson and the renowned Davenport Brothers, his singular title probably means conjurer.

At a recent Union Convention in the counties of Lake, Miami, Porter, Marshall, Fulton, White and Laporte, Indiana, Mr. Colfax was indorsed for re-nomination for Representative in Congress.

A letter from Rome says that it is believed that at the next consistory a Bishop of the United States will receive a Cardinal's hat.

The Ladoga (Indiana) Herald tells of the following sign, as a sample of the intelligence of its sister city of Lafayette. "LawGre Bere SalOI and Bordin."

In a communication from Pico-Maieurs, Italy, dated January 4, Mr. Hoskins writes: "The mortality among the workmen employed in the Montanis tunnel is so great, in consequence of powder smoke and bad ventilation, that they have refused to work any more. The work is now at a stand still!"