

HOT SPRINGS STAR.

By JOHN A. STANLEY.

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It has been suggested that Wyoming republicans send two women as delegates to the Minneapolis convention.

At length the United States has paid an indemnity to Italy for the lynching of the Italians at New Orleans over a year ago, and friendly relations are once more established between the two nations.

Auditor Taylor and Congressman Jolley are among those prominently mentioned for governor, from the east side of the river. Either one would grace the office—but can the eastern part of the state "unite" upon one of them? This is the same chestnutty conundrum that is often put to the Hills.

The Pierre Free Press need have no fears that the wrangling of a few self constituted leaders of the republican party in this section will lead to any serious results so far as party success at the polls is concerned. The people of the Black Hills know too well what is for their interests to allow the petty squabbles of a few men to influence them in even the slightest degree.

The mad rush to secure possession of farms at the opening of the Sisseton reservation goes to show that the once almost unlimited public domain is now about all occupied. With every increase of population land must now elapse it will require a good sized fortune to purchase a farm in the region that a few years since was regarded as a desert.

The name of L. D. Lyon, editor of the Watertown Public Opinion has been mentioned for the office of state auditor. The STAR editor has been personally acquainted with Mr. Lyon for about ten years, and we are certain that no better man could be found in the state for this position than he. It is with pleasure we second his nomination. A true republican, honorable, honest and upright in everything, and truly deserving, no mistake could be made in his selection.

The Chinese authorities are said to have taken great offense at the anti-chinese bill that recently passed the house. The present law prohibiting the immigration of Chinese expires before long and it is not at all doubtful that congress will devise some scheme for shutting out such undesirable acquisitions to our population. It may be important to keep up our trade with China but even at the risk of sacrificing it, Chinamen should be prevented from coming here to compete with American labor.

The demand of the commissioners for the cash that was in treasurer Bradley's charge was probably inspired by the same motive that caused the dutchman—according to story—to go to the bank and demand the money that he had deposited a few days previous. The cashier began counting it out to the foreigner, who had been led to believe that the bank had about collapsed and his money was gone. Soon as he saw the money he says, "Oh vel if you had de money I vill not take it, but if you don't got it I vant it pretty quick, right away off." Just so with the commissioners; when they couldn't get the money they wanted it.

A wail goes up from the independent camp over the defeat of free silver by the democrats. The independents had trusted too much to the professions made by democratic state platforms two years ago. The independents will soon discover that the democratic party has no object in living other than to hold offices. If they thought it was going to achieve party success to pass the free silver bill then it would have passed. As it was they felt that free silver was unpopular in New England and they desired to carry Rhode Island. The result in that state must be cold comfort. Now the south has taken offense at this action of the democracy and it need surprise no one if its solidarity is broken in November. The poor democracy, made up as it is of conflicting leaders and discordant ideas, is preparing to enter the presidential canvass with extremely small hopes of success. A party that will not keep its pledges cannot hope to deceive the people continually.

The late city election was a hard fought contest between the two rival factions in Hot Springs. Every other question was dwarfed in the struggle of these two factions to gain or to retain supremacy. The vote in the third ward was a surprise to many and indicates the beginning of a new order of things. Hot Springs is greater than any one of its citizens and for the welfare of the city it is to be hoped that when the time for the next municipal election comes around, factional strife between the two towns will have entirely disappeared. "A house divided against itself must soon fall" and the sooner the people of Hot Springs realize the truth of this saying the better it will be for them. The successful candidates are well known as able, honest and energetic men who have been tried and found true to the best interests of the city. It is but just to the defeated candidates to say that no word of reproach can be spoken against their characters and they fell simply because the people so willed and the old town triumphed.

A DEEP LAID PLAN

To Remove County Treasurer Bradley.

The County Commissioners Trump up a "Shortage" Charge, and

Appoint Doc. Peirce in his Place.

But it Don't Work and Bradley Holds the Fort.

When the present proprietor assumed the management of the STAR it was his determination to take no partisan stand with either of the factions, that for reasons best known to themselves, had engaged in an unpleasant strife for some time past. The advancement and upbuilding of Hot Springs is, and shall be the guiding principle in the policy of the STAR. In our determination to keep aloof from the "factions" that may have heretofore existed, we did not expect to close our eyes and ears to what might transpire in the future, but to endeavor to be faithful to the best interests of the people of the county, and of the city, in exposing wrong doing, and upholding that which is right. This course is one of the many ways by which the STAR will make an effort toward the advancement and upbuilding of Hot Springs.

The editor acknowledges allegiance to no man nor to any set of men. His soul is his own, and in order to hold his position, he is not compelled to submit to the lash of any individual or individuals. He is here to do dirty work for no one, nor does he propose to see upright and honorable men traduced and defamed without at least stating the other side of the story. Every fair minded man, whose opinion is unbiased by prejudice, must admit that the treatment treasurer Bradley received at the hands of the county commissioners, as told over his own signature in these columns, was to put it extremely mild, the most flagrant piece of official meanness that ever came to our notice. The treasurer had deposited the surplus funds of the county in the First National Bank, where they were perfectly safe. Do people expect a man to carry \$18,000 or \$20,000 around in his pants pocket? The commissioners, evidently with an eye to the result, made a demand upon the treasurer to count the money, which they had a perfect right to do. The authorities at the bank stated that Mr. Bradley had a certain amount deposited to his credit, which fully covered what his balance called for, but the money could not be produced forthwith; that most of it was with their correspondents, upon whom drafts for the amount of treasurer Bradley's deposit might be issued, or that the money could be brought here within a day or two. But the commissioners didn't consider either proposition. Instead, they order the auditor to bring suit against Mr. Bradley and his bondsmen, while the Herald comes out in bold "scare heads" announcing that treasurer Bradley is "818,000 short."

Then, forsooth, Mr. Bradley is "short" in his accounts! and is summarily removed from his office. Granting that in the matter of looking after the funds of the county, the commissioners have only performed those duties authorized by law, their action in attempting to disgrace a faithful, efficient and honest officer, will meet with general condemnation. Because an act is legal does not necessarily make it right. There is a higher law than a board of commissioners. The fair and manly action for the commissioners would have been to allow Mr. Bradley reasonable time in which to procure the money. But this effort to blacken and defame a character in every manner above reproach will certainly react upon the instigators. That Mr. Bradley is honest no one questions. The people of this county have the utmost confidence in his uprightness and integrity. The STAR has no interest in the matter except to see justice done. What has been said concerning it is not because Mr. Bradley needs defending at home, but rather to remove a wrong impression that may have been scattered abroad by insipid and venal mercenaries.

A Full Statement by County Treasurer Bradley.

Up to the present time I have not felt it necessary to make any statement over my signature as treasurer of Fall River county, either since my election or during the unfortunate court house fight; nor would I now but for the low and dirty attack made upon me by the men now unfortunately constituting our board of county commissioners. Perhaps, in order that the citizens and voters of Fall River county who elected me to this office, may know the position I have taken since this court house fight has been going on, it would not be out of place for me as county treasurer to make a statement regarding it, and then leave the matter with them, content to stand or fall by their decision.

When I was asked to accept the nomination for the office of county treasurer I at first positively refused. I had a good ranch and it needed my personal attention all the time, but after repeated urging I consented to allow myself to be named and became a candidate. I was elected. I took the office in January, 1891, and when the money was turned over to me I found it had been kept in the banks of Fall River and Pennington counties, the county not having the proper facilities for its safe keeping, and I understood that this had been the custom since its organization. I continued to keep the money in the banks of the county then in existence, but most of it in the First National bank of Hot Springs, where I have been keeping it ever since that

time. The board of county commissioners, of which A. A. Powell and J. H. White were then members, well knew that the money was being kept in the First National bank and approved of it. When the \$15,000 bonds were sold, that money was also deposited in the First National bank.

Soon after the court house site was selected by Powell and White, the question as to whether it was within the boundaries of the county seat arose, and further question regarding my liability upon paying warrants drawn upon the county treasury. In order to acquaint myself with my duties in relation thereto, I took counsel with some of the best attorneys of the Black Hills, and was advised not to pay out any money until commanded by the court of last resort in the state of South Dakota. I thereupon requested Fred T. Evans not to commence building the present court house until this site could be fully investigated and its legality determined, but all the satisfaction I got was that the court house would be built and he would have his pay. At the commencement of the fight I had most of the county money in the First National bank, but as in the injunction proceedings before the late Judge Nowlan at Rapid City, Eben W. Martin, Evans' attorney—who has taken a prominent part in the litigation throughout—thought proper to impress upon the court that the First National bank was largely instrumental in resisting the payment of these warrants in order that they might keep the money. I thought it best to transfer a part of the money to the Minnekahta State bank, of which Evans was president and a large stockholder. To show that I was not working in the interest of any bank, I drew out of the First National bank \$5,000 which, with a little I had (about \$270), I deposited in Evans' bank, where it has been ever since.

Soon Fred T. Evans undertook to have me fined \$1,000 and have me imprisoned in the county jail until I would pay one of the warrants drawn in payment for the court house, which was being erected by him upon the site still in litigation. Seeing that he was determined to draw me into the fight and put me to all the trouble he could, I decided to draw out the money I had in his bank and replace it in the First National, and so drew my check upon his bank, which, when presented, the cashier refused to pay, and allowed it to be dishonored. That money I have not seen to this day, nor can I get it out of Evans' bank. A. A. Powell, the chairman of the board of county commissioners, disposed of \$9,000 worth of the county bonds, and taking the money deposited that in Evans' bank also, in defiance of the law, which is emphatic in stating that the money should be placed in the county treasurer's hands to be paid out only upon warrants drawn upon the treasury, and I am reliably informed that Powell is now under indictment for embezzlement of that \$9,000.

I will not take time and space to give a history of all the cases that have been commenced and disposed of since, but suffice it to say that about twelve cases have been commenced; four or five will be taken to the supreme court, and what the outcome will be remains to be seen.

Passing down to the meeting of the board of county commissioners at this April session and to their acts thereafter. The law makes it the duty of the board to examine the books and accounts of the county treasurer at their January and July meetings, and provides that these shall be open for inspection at all times. So upon Tuesday of last week the board made a demand upon me to submit the accounts and moneys of the county for inspection, which they had a right to do. I informed them that the moneys were in the First National and Minnekahta banks, and I gave them the accounts in each. They then requested me to go with them for the purpose (so they said) of inspection. This I did, and upon the way I requested them to call upon the Minnekahta bank and inspect what was there on deposit. This they refused to do. We then went to the First National bank and asked for the money there deposited. The cashier informed us that they kept on hand only enough to do their daily business and that the balance was kept in Sioux City, New York and other banks chosen by them for that purpose, but that the bank would give a certified statement for the amount that I claimed to have there, that a check for that amount would be good at any time, and as soon as the money could be expressed here would be open for inspection. These statements appeared at the time to be satisfactory to the board.

That the commissioners did not propose to be satisfied is evident, for on Saturday they passed a resolution declaring me a defaulter, and commencing suit against me and my bondsmen for all the money in my possession as county treasurer, and declared me ousted from my office and appointed E. T. Peirce in my stead.

I wish further to state that I don't own one dollar's worth of the First National bank stock, and have no interest, direct or indirect, in that institution. I received no interest upon county money there deposited nor have I ever received any consideration for the use of this money. I deposited the money there believing it to be the safest bank. I have no reason to change my opinion and have no fears, for it is perfectly safe in its present keeping.

The following statement shows the balances of the First National Bank: W. H. Stanley, being duly sworn deposes and says that he is assistant cashier of the First National Bank, of Hot Springs, and that the following is a correct statement of cash on hand and balance with correspondents at the

close of business, April 15, 1892. Hanover National Bank, N. Y. \$ 7,381 28 National Bank, Sioux City, Mo. 4,311 72 Pennington County Bank, 3,848 54 Cash on hand 3,848 54 Total \$20,000 00 W. H. STANLEY, Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of April, 1892. JOHN M. HENTON, Notary Public.

The persecution that has been heaped upon county treasurer Bradley, since his incumbency of the office makes his nomination and re-election a foregone conclusion.

ANNUAL STATEMENT For the year ending December 31, A. D. 1891, of the condition and affairs of the CONNECTICUT FIRE INSURANCE CO., of Hartford, Connecticut, organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, made to the Auditor of the State of South Dakota, in pursuance of the laws of said state.

President—D. H. Brown. Secretary—Charles R. Burr. Principal office—Hartford. ATTORNEYS FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS IN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA. 1st Circuit—H. S. Gamble, Yankton. 2nd Circuit—John S. Lewis, Sioux Falls. 3rd Circuit—S. A. Briggs, Watertown. 4th Circuit—W. A. Rogers, Mitchell. 5th Circuit—Henry C. Hinkleck, Huron. 6th Circuit—J. D. Lake, Rapid City. 7th Circuit—L. C. Miller, Deadwood. Organized or Incorporated, June, 1850. Commenced Business, July, 1850.

CAPITAL. Amount of Capital Stock actually paid in cash \$1,000,000 00 PROPERTY OR ASSETS OF THE COMPANY. Cash value of real estate owned by the Company \$ 99,000 00 Cash in office 790 67 Cash on deposit of the State 189,891 85 Accounts (not over three months old) due from agents 150,394 73 Loans on mortgages, being the first lien on real estate, worth at least double the amount loaned thereon (see Schedule "B") 779,300 00 Loans on stocks and bonds held as collateral security (see Schedule "C") 4,300 00 Stocks and bonds owned by the company (see schedule "D") 1,408,101 00 Total Assets \$4,638,288 25

LIABILITIES. Capital stock actually paid in cash \$1,000,000 00 Unpaid interest on policy 152,356 81 Amount of losses retained by the company 15,206 04 Whole amount of unexpired premiums on all outstanding risks (South Dakota standard 40 per cent.) 694,859 17 Total Liabilities \$1,862,422 02 INCOME OF THE COMPANY DURING THE YEAR 1891. Whole amount cash premium receipts, not including premiums in hands of agents or in course of transmission \$1,373,837 00 Whole amount of interest receipts 114,216 96 Total Receipts \$1,488,053 96 EXPENDITURES OF THE COMPANY DURING THE YEAR 1891. Whole amount of losses paid \$ 701,101 80 Amount of dividends paid 89,000 00 Amount of commissions paid to agents 294,157 73 Amount of salaries paid to agents and employees 102,440 67 Amount paid for taxes and fees to insurance departments 23,438 48 Amount paid for printing & advertising 99,620 77 Amount of all other expenditures not included in above 59,620 77 Total Expenditures \$1,668,788 85

RISKS. Net amount of risks outstanding at date of preceding statement \$1,339,287 28 Gross amount of risks written since preceding statement 1,389,641 61 Total Risks \$2,728,928 89 Amount of risks cancelled during the year 1891 1,341,720 96 Amount of risks expired during the year 1891 1,341,720 96 Net Amount of Risks in force \$1,387,147 93 COMPANY'S STATEMENT OF BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS IN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DURING THE YEAR 1891. Gross amount of premiums on risks written \$ 6,321 69 Gross amount of risks written 377,775 00 Amount of taxes and fees paid to the Auditor of State 230 62 Whole amount of losses accrued during the year 3,291 50 Amount of losses accrued subsequent to preceding statement 3,291 50 Whole amount of losses paid during the year 2,265 50 Number of agents employed in the state 22

COMPANY'S STATEMENT OF LOSSES. Whole amount of losses paid during the year 1891 \$ 701,101 80 Whole amount of losses remaining unpaid at date of this statement 167,928 85 STATE OF CONNECTICUT, ss. County of Hartford, ss. J. D. Browne, President, and Charles R. Burr, Secretary of the Connecticut Fire Insurance Company, of Hartford, Connecticut, do hereby swear, depose and say that the foregoing is a full, true and correct statement of the affairs of said Company; that they have examined the foregoing schedules, respectively designated as schedules "A," "B," "C" and "D," that the same are and each is, a full, true and correct schedule and statement of the several matters purporting to be covered by said schedules, or any or either of them, to the best of their knowledge and belief. That the said insurance company is the bona-fide owner of at least One Hundred Thousand Dollars of actual cash capital, invested in state and United States stocks and bonds, or in bonds and mortgages of real estate unincumbered, and worth double the amount for which the same is mortgaged, and they are the above described officers of said insurance company. J. D. BROWNE, President. CHARLES R. BURR, Secretary. Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 6th day of January, 1892. J. H. TRACHER, Notary Public.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, Auditor of the Office—INSURANCE DEPARTMENT. I, L. C. Taylor, Auditor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original statement now on file at this office. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Pierre, this 20th day of February, 1892. L. C. TAYLOR, Auditor.

THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, Office of State Auditor—Department of Insurance. COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY. WHEREAS, The Connecticut Fire Insurance Company, a corporation organized under the laws of Connecticut, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 1891, conformable to the requirements of the laws of this state regulating the business of insurance; and

WHEREAS, The said Company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter, with certificate of organization, in compliance with the requirements of the insurance law aforesaid; Now, Therefore, I, L. C. Taylor, Auditor of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents, to transact its appropriate business of Fire Insurance in this state, according to the laws thereof, until the 31st day of December, A. D. 1892. In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Pierre, this 20th day of February, A. D. 1892. L. C. TAYLOR, Auditor.

[Seal.] First Publication, April 8. JOHN M. HENTON, Real Estate Agent. NOTARY PUBLIC. County, City and School Warrants Bought. HOT SPRINGS, - SOUTH DAK.

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