

Ottawa Free Trader.

BY OSMAN & HAPEMAN.

Ottawa, Ill., Saturday, May 16, 1868.

Impeachment!

The final vote on impeachment was not taken on Tuesday, as had been promised, because, when it came to counting noses, the radicals found that they were short a vote or two of having the requisite two-thirds to convict the President and oust him from office. Trumbull, Fessenden, Grimes, Henderson, and two or three other radicals were unexpectedly found to be on the wrong side of the fence! Howard was sick, (more of impeachment than in body, it is hinted,) and couldn't vote. So a *continuance* (as the lawyers say when they see a case is going against them) was taken until Saturday, (to-day,) the object of taking this extension of time being, as is openly and shamelessly admitted to see if enough pressure could not be brought upon the recalcitrant Senators to force them to vote as the interests of the party obviously dictate. To get up this pressure, not only were all the radical leaders in Washington directed to set upon and dog the senators in question unceasingly during the interim until Saturday, but despatches were sent to all quarters to stir up the newspapers to a proper fit of frenzy and to get up indignation meetings and disgraceful exhibitions of burning in effigy, etc.

All this time there is not the slightest pretense that Messrs. Fessenden, Trumbull, etc., are not perfectly honest and correct in their judgment that the impeachers have totally failed to make out a case against the President—that, as Mr. Trumbull is reported to have said, "their case is so weak that any country court would have quashed it;" but the indignation against them is attempted to be excited because they do not see their consciences to what they know to be right, and do what they know to be wrong, because the necessities of the party require it. Even so pious a man as Burt Cook, says "Trix," the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times, affirms with fearful emphasis, (he is too pious to swear) that the acquittal of Johnson will be the death knell of "the party." "If Johnson is acquitted he (Cook) will not run for congress in his district, and Grant will not run for president."

But could even the beating back of such men as Trumbull, Fessenden, Grimes, etc., into the party straight-jackets save the party? Such is their acknowledged standing, their conceded ability, their known honesty, that their opinion once pronounced that the President is innocent, has already fixed in the public mind a *strong* correction on that point, and no subsequent vote in the senate can remove it. Convict the President in the face of this opinion, or acquit him, in either case the infamy of the republican leaders is settled, and as between the success or failure of impeachment, the only question will be, have they succeeded as *knives*, or failed as *fools*. In either case their doom is sealed.

Polo De se.

It is not seldom that individuals, oppressed by an unbearable sense of guilt, seek relief from its burden by blowing out their brains, or mauling the wallows. But it is seldom that, where a sense of guilt sufficient to consign an individual to voluntary or involuntary execution is diffused among the members of a great party, a full confession of guilt is made, or that they voluntarily sink into political death. Yet such a confession has been made by the Peoria State convention of the Republican party of 1868. They say in their solemn resolve, in substance, "that the revenues of the country are administered by a horde of thieves and plunderers, who have enriched themselves by plundering the people, and that therefore those thousand plunderers ought to be expelled from office."

Felons! You knew the charge was true, and a power you could not resist compelled you to confess it. You knew that these great crimes, and others greater still, were committed by yourselves. You knew that the heads of the departments were appointed by Lincoln. You knew that two of them, holding in their hands the chief share of the patronage and administration of the public revenues, were corrupt and infamous scoundrels. You knew that the scoundrel Stanton was expending, under cover of the war department, eighty-four millions of dollars a year, and you knew that twenty millions was more than he could honestly spend. Are the democratic party responsible for that infamous man's going into office or remaining there?

You know you have controlled all the appointments it was necessary for the senate to confirm ever since Johnson came into office. You know that honesty and integrity were not the qualities your senate required to secure confirmation, but the contrary rather, as the general rule. Were the officers who have embezzled the revenue, and robbed the people, the appointers of the heads of the departments?

You would not allow the President to remove them. Finally, your unworthy Secretary of the treasury, representing his own and all the other departments, estimated the ordinary expenditures of the government, exclusive of principal or interest of the public debt, for the year 1867, at one hundred and sixty-six millions of dollars, when you know such expenditures were extravagant at seventy eight millions, and yet, for corrupt and crim-

inal purposes, you exceeded the secretary's estimates thirty-six millions, and now the secretary estimates you will spend the current year, for ordinary expenses only, two hundred and sixteen millions, instead of the seventy-eight millions which is all you can honestly spend, and are now proposing to bring in a deficiency bill at that! Truly felons! you stand self-convicted! It adds to the turpitude of your guilt, that you have, with an infamous effrontery, endeavored to transfer your self-confessed guilt to the shoulders of another. The records of your departments show, that you are robbing the people of more than half of all that is collected, and of five hundred millions per annum besides, that is levied by the laws, but never reaches the treasury, but goes directly into the pockets of the infamous scoundrels who frame the laws, for that purpose, dividing with the felon who execute them. The people have judged you, and next November, felons! they will execute their judgment upon you.

The Recent Storms.

About the 1st of the present month commenced a series of storms, which seem to have been quite general throughout Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Missouri, and up to the present writing (May 15th) can hardly be said to have ceased. In this immediate vicinity, the "spell" has been notable chiefly for the unusual rain fall, although a few cases of damage by lightning have been noted, but in many other localities there have been terrible whirlwinds, tornadoes and floods, causing the destruction of life as well as of immense property. Thus from Iowa, which seems to be the western limit of the afflicted region, we have some fearful accounts.

The region immediately west of Muscatine was visited by a tornado on the afternoon of May 3d. Many houses were lifted up bodily and carried off. Farmers had not only all their buildings destroyed, but fences, fruit trees, &c. The wife of a Mr. Lawler was picked up bodily and let down in a cherry tree. Hail stones weighing two or three pounds fell in abundance. Property in a single township was destroyed to the value of \$50,000.

At Shanghai, Ill., a village west of Galesburg, the tornado displayed some remarkable eccentricities. It literally sucked the water out of a large pond, and carried it up into the air. Everything in its track—houses, fences, trees,—were swept away as with a brush. 15 dwelling houses, in a circuit of a mile or two, were lifted into the air, carried a short distance, and dashed to the ground and shivered to fragments. A school house, full of children, and three churches, in one of which were 200 worshippers, were also among the buildings destroyed, a number of persons being killed, and scarcely any escaping without some injury.

Traces of the same destructive tornado are also noticed at Bushnell, Galesburg, Quincy, &c. At Burlington, Iowa, over \$70,000 damage was done.

On Monday afternoon, another fearful gale, accompanied by terrific thunder and lightning and a heavy fall of rain, visited nearly the same region, as also Hancock and Fulton counties, and indeed extending across the whole state.

The papers from many portions of Illinois give also accounts of heavy storms on Wednesday, Thursday, and indeed about every day of last week, as well as on Monday and Tuesday of the present week. Streams everywhere are overflowing their banks, many railroad and other bridges are carried away, and the whole country is so saturated with water that it threatens to be weeks before the farmers will be able to commence planting their corn.

Arkansas.

The passage by the House of Representatives, on Friday of last week, of the bill to admit Arkansas to representation in Congress, was an act so outrageous as to be unusual even among all the outrageous acts of the present infamously outrageous Congress. The bill was forced through without permitting even so staunch a radical as Mr. Baker of Illinois to make a speech against it. It was a pure case of forcing through an infamy under whip and spur, in open violation of the reconstruction acts themselves in a dozen particulars. Those acts say there can be no adoption of a constitution in a rebel state until the commanding officer in charge of the state shall certify to the election returns; that there can be no legislature without such certificate; no election of U. S. Senators. Yet Gen. Gillem, an out-and-out radical, steadily refuses to certify that the Arkansas constitution was adopted on account of the notorious frauds at the election in that state; he steadily refuses to recognize the legislature because there is no constitution or law under which it was elected; and he refuses to recognize the Senators elected from that state, for he asserts there was no legal body to elect them. Yet all these fatal objections were ignored by the house and the bill rushed through in the sole and vain hope, that two members might be forced into the Senate to vote in favor of President Johnson's impeachment!

The radical members of Congress from Illinois, who heretofore had such easy times in procuring their nominations for re-election, find their constituents this year singularly changed from their wonted complacency. Cullom, of the Springfield district, found the road to a re-nomination so rough a one to travel that he came very near being butted off the track by Gen. Smith, the delegations

from some of the counties leaving the convention in disgust, totally demoralized for effective work next fall. In *Ebony Ingersoll's* district the radical elements were equally distracted, and though Ingersoll slipped into a re-nomination by the skin of his teeth, some of the counties are so indignant that they threaten to bring out a "bolter" candidate. Though a road to a re-nomination was rough, the gentlemen have a rougher one before them to pass the ideo of November.

Gen. Palmer on the "Decline."

Gen. Palmer, the Radical nominee for Governor, is aptly called the "declining" candidate. Since he left the army, he has declined nearly every office from President down to constable, though in most cases the office was not even remotely tendered him. He declined to be Yates' successor in the U. S. Senate when everybody knew Yates had no thought of resigning. He declined to be Cullom's successor in Congress, when everybody knew there was no hope of beating Cullom in the convention at Bloomington. He has declined to take John A. Logan's seat in Congress several times, and declined the radical nomination for Governor in two or three letters a day up to the very time of his nomination, when, for the first time (doubtless because it was his first chance), he accepted.

It seems this penchant for declining has not come to Gen. Palmer since his dismissal from the army. He was quite as good a decliner as a soldier as when a civilian. A case in point was mentioned a few months ago by that bluff old soldier, Gen. W. T. Sherman. In the field before Atlanta, Ga., in Aug. 1864, Gen. Palmer and Gen. Schofield respectively commanded divisions, and in the face of the enemy, on the eve of a battle, Gen. Palmer raised the question of rank between him and Gen. Schofield. Gen. Sherman, expressing his astonishment that such a question should be raised at such a time, decided promptly against Palmer, and ordered him to occupy a certain position with his forces. Palmer was disgusted with the decision, declined to abide by it, declined to move his troops as ordered, and, during the battle, asked to be relieved, and ordered north. Gen. Sherman was indignant, and wrote him a note, saying, "If you want to resign, wait until the battle is over, and allege some other reason—one that will stand the test of time." Finding Sherman impracticable, Palmer applied to Gen. Thomas, who accepted his resignation Aug. 6th, and thus Gen. Palmer succeeded in declining himself out of the battle of Atlanta.

The Whisky Tax.

The despatches inform us that on Tuesday Mr. Schenck, from the Ways and Means committee in Congress, reported his new tax bill, by which he proposes to bring the revenue up to a solvent basis, after the heavy reduction by removing the tax from the Eastern manufacturers. The promise was, that this increase should be brought about by a reduction of the tax on whisky to such a scale that it could be collected—say 50 cts. to \$1.00 a gallon. It is conceded on all hands that the manufacture of whisky in this country is not less than 150,000,000 gallons a year. At \$1.00 a gallon it was believed \$100,000,000 tax could be collected: or at 50 cts., \$75,000,000, while at \$2 a gallon it is well known less than \$20,000,000 are collected. Mr. Schenck, however, refuses to touch the whisky tax, whence the robbery of the government by the whisky ring at the rate of \$200,000,000 a year is to be continued. The inference is plain as day, that the sole purpose of congress in permitting a continuance of this enormous steal is to get hold of the heaviest part of the \$200,000,000 for a campaign fund. It is notorious that some \$5,000,000 were squeezed out of the whisky ring to carry New Hampshire alone. To further the same kind of operations all over the Union is the object of the bill of Mr. Schenck.

GEN. SHERMAN FOR PRESIDENT.

The Bureau County Democrat comes out with a double leaded leader urging the nomination of Gen. Sherman for the Presidency, and calls upon the democracy everywhere to hold meetings, &c. There has been some talk among quite a number of prominent Democrats throughout this county about calling a grand Sherman mass meeting, but we believe no actual steps have yet been taken in the matter. Gen. Sherman certainly would make an excellent candidate, and as against Grant, would beat him as signally as he was always his superior as a soldier.

John W. Forney, the proprietor of "two papers (both daily)" has resigned his position as Secretary of the U. S. Senate so that he can have more freedom in pitching into the recalcitrant radical Senators on impeachment. Forney must intend to be perfectly savage. To ordinary appearance, his position in the senate did not seem to embarrass him much in the matter of pitching into senators before he resigned.

The Will, Kankakee, Kendall, La Salle and we presume other delegations to the republican congressional convention of this district are already instructed in favor of the re-nomination of Mr. Cook. The gentleman will have less trouble this time, we apprehend, to secure his nomination than election. From present appearances things in this district look rather squally for a re-election, Mr. Cook.

Edwin Kelly, the New York minstrel, has been acquitted of the murder of Tom Sharpley, which occurred last winter.

Republican State Convention.

The Resolutions.

The Committee on Resolutions reported a series expressive of the sentiments of the Convention on the political questions of the day. The resolutions were unanimously adopted as follows:

The Republican party of the State of Illinois, continuing their great contest against the political action which culminated in open rebellion against the Constitution and the laws, and which now seeks to save from the wreck of the rebel creeds and rebel armies the seeds of future wars and more intolerant despotism, do hereby appeal to the people in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we congratulate the country on the assured success of the Reconstruction laws of Congress as evinced by the return of six of the eleven seceding States to the Union, under Constitutions securing equal civil and political rights to all; we hold that the policy of Andrew Johnson supported by the Democratic party which proposed to confer a monopoly of such rights upon conquered rebels and discontented slave-holders, was fraught with the gravest perils, both to the peace of the Nation and to the freedom of individuals.

Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to restore the lately revolted States to their practical relations in the Union on a footing of equality with the other States, whenever the conditions imposed in the reconstruction laws should have been complied with.

Resolved, That we denounce all forms of repudiation, as a national crime; and that the national honor requires the payment of the public indebtedness, in the utmost good faith, to all creditors at home and abroad, according to the letter and spirit of the laws under which it was contracted.

Resolved, That it is due to the labor of the nation that taxation should be equalized and reduced as rapidly as the national faith will permit, and that any surplus which may remain in the Treasury after economical and necessary appropriations, shall be applied to the reduction of the public debt by purchase in open market.

Resolved, That the burden of the national debt should be extended over a fair time before redemption, and that it is the duty of Congress to reduce the rate of interest on such debt whenever and however can be lawfully done.

Resolved, That as it is probable that no form of Government indebtedness will be presented for many years, the principal of the war debt being the heritage of the future, it is premature to consider the question of calling in the loans; that before the first issue of such indebtedness becomes payable, the currency of the country will be equivalent in value to gold, unless the economies of the public credit should, in the meanwhile destroy it.

Resolved, That Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, by his remarkable series of triumphs in the field of battle, and by his equally remarkable success in executing the reconstruction laws of Congress, has twice rescued the country from the greatest perils that the consummate ability and loyalty which he has exhibited in every emergency of peace and war, have made him the most illustrious exponent of the principles which triumphed in the late war for the Union, and the natural successor of Abraham Lincoln in the affections of the people; and our delegates to cast their votes for him as the nominee of the Republican party for the office of President of the United States.

Resolved, That the right of expatriation is natural and inherent right, and is indispensable to "the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;" that while the citizen owes allegiance to the Government, the Government owes protection to the citizen; and that it is the duty of the Government of the United States to protect all its citizens, native born and naturalized, in the full enjoyment of the same and by whomsoever and under whatever color or pretence these rights may be invaded.

Resolved, That the thanks of the American people are due to the soldiers and sailors of the army and navy who have periled their lives in defense of their country and in vindication of the honor of its flag; that the nation owes to him a perpetual recognition of their patriotism, and that ample and permanent provisions should be made for those of their survivors who have received disabling and honorable wounds in the service of their country; and that the memory of those who have fallen in its defense will be held in grateful and everlasting remembrance.

Resolved, That we reiterate and reaffirm the following resolutions of the recent Democratic Convention of Illinois, to wit: "Resolved, That in the administration of the present system of internal revenue a reform is loudly called for, and which, in our judgment, can only be effected by expelling from place the present horde of thieves and plunderers, who have rioted and fattened upon the substance of the people, and who, under the pretense of collecting the revenue for the Government, have succeeded in enriching themselves at the expense of the people;" and, inasmuch as the frauds here recited have been mainly, if not wholly committed since Andrew Johnson betrayed his own party and sought the alliance of the Democratic party, by removing the appointees of Abraham Lincoln, and filling their places with supporters of his policy of reconstruction, we can see no end to the corruption prevailing in the collection of the revenue, but in a change in the administration of the Presidential office.

Resolved, That the wages of labor constitute, in this country, one of the strongest bonds of society; and as labor is confined to no race, nationality, or creed, the rights of laboring men are everywhere the same.

Resolved, That as those rights cannot be assailed anywhere by slavery or any of its modifications without inflicting wrong upon labor everywhere, therefore, in the issue now before the American people, we most earnestly invite the co-operation of every laboring man in our efforts to so shape the institutions of the Southern States, that the rule shall be universal and inviolable, "An honest day's wages for a faithful day's work."

Resolved, That the Republic party, mindful of the truth that genuine national greatness and prosperity must always be founded upon public morality, reorganized in perfect civil and religious liberty, in support of which our forefathers fought and bled, the most efficient means to raise the moral standard of the people.

There was a good deal of merriment in Congress the other day over the discovery of the fact that the *Congressional Globe* of the last congress contains two speeches, delivered three months apart, by different members, but which were identically alike. The speech, of course, was written by a Bohemian and sold to two different members.

The national convention of the German Turners at Boston last week, in their political resolutions, declared in favor of the Monroe doctrine, the reconstruction measures of Congress, and free schools at the south, and against high tariffs and excessive taxation. The next convention is to be held at Pittsburgh.

The greatest hail-storm on record occurred at Bushnell, Ill., on Friday evening, doing great damage to the fruit and buildings. Some of the hail-stones measured over 13 inches around, and weighed over nine ounces.

FROM STREATOR.

CASE OF DROWNING.

Quite a melancholy case of drowning occurred at this place on Saturday evening last, (May 9,) the facts, as far as I could learn them, being about as follows: A German, who had formerly lived near Peru, but lately removed to the vicinity of Chatsworth, passed through this place about 6 o'clock P. M., having driven fifty miles that day. A little way out of town another German got into the wagon with him, to ride into town. The owner of the wagon, asked the other if the creek was fordable, which the other, supposing he meant Ottor Creek, answered in the affirmative, adding that he had crossed it twice the day before. Soon after he got out of the wagon, and the other drove through town without stopping, and down to the Vermillion, which was very much swollen. Just as he entered the water, a young man standing on the railroad saw him and shouted to him that he could not cross. But the man either did not hear, or if he heard did not heed him, but drove into the seething flood, and in an instant man, horse and wagon were whirled and tossed like bubbles. The horses were drowned almost instantly, but the man struck out for the opposite shore, which he had almost reached, when, being either driven back by the current or becoming confused, he again got into the middle of the river, where, after struggling some time, he threw up his hands, gave one despairing cry, and sank to rise no more. Parties have been searching for the body of the unfortunate man since Sunday morning, but have not yet found him. The horses and wagon were found on Tuesday near Alton Rock, six miles from here. The man, whose name I have been unable to ascertain, is said to have left a wife and four children to mourn his loss.

FROM LELAND.

I think you would like to hear from this place once more. Since the fire here some things have put on a different aspect.

Watson & Ball have removed the remainder of their goods to and now hold forth in the place formerly occupied by Wm Rosenberg. Carpenter & Minard have re-opened at Kinney's old stand south of the rail road. Kennedy's drug store is now held forth in Isaac Tarkett's building. Wm Rosenberg has opened near T. E. Rolfe's harness shop. Mr. Schroeder has commenced his saloon business again, this time near Watson & Ball's. About three years since when Mr. Godney was living here, a proposition was on foot to put up a steam grist mill, as there is no grist mill here, nor any one nearer than Earl on the west, Somonauk on the east, and Smith's, Brignon's, and Kierding's south east; and in view of this, Mr. Godney made a proposition to put up one worth \$12,000, if the citizens of the place would give \$2,000 of it—which they refused to do. It is again under consideration whether a mill can be put up, and after a meeting of citizens a few days ago a committee of seven men was appointed to solicit subscriptions to the amount of \$3,000 for that purpose.

It is supposed that building will commence in four months, and most if not all the vacant lots, made so by the late fire, will be replenished with new brick ones. In this way the late fire will be a benefit to the looks of the place, although a pecuniary loss to individuals.

SAD ACCIDENT.—On Saturday forenoon, May 9th, as "Billy's" old freight train was just starting to go westward, about a dozen or so of boys—as is usual here—jumped on the engine just to take a ride of a few rods, and one of them, a lad of some twelve summers, son of Mr. Simmons, of this place, missed his foothold, and somehow his legs were caught under the car wheels, and he was run over, the car taking off one leg just below the knee and the other below the ankle joint.

The boy was one of the best little fellows to be found anywhere, and by far the most intelligent and kind hearted youth in the place. The drayman, Mr. Druse, was the first on the spot, and to pick him up, and the boy's father was second to reach him. He was taken home—a few rods off only, in the village—where he was cared for a few minutes till all the M. D.'s in the place, I believe, Z. C. Brown, Mr. Mayo, G. J. Monroe and D. Hinkley, were on hand, when the people were ushered out of the room, the boy placed under the influence of chloroform, and in almost as short a space of time as it takes me to relate it, his legs were cut off, fixed up, and properly dressed. One was taken off just below the knee and the right one below the ankle, leaving one bone of the heel on. Drs Mayo and Monroe performed the surgical operation. It is very doubtful whether the little fellow will live. Since the accident the authorities have passed an ordinance forbidding any persons under 21 years of age getting on any train leaving or coming here, except as passengers, under penalty of a fine of from \$5 to \$20 or imprisonment in the calaboose from 6 to 24 hours.

FROM NORTHVILLE.

Question last discussed at regular meeting of Lyceum; "Resolved,—That the trial of A. Johnson is just." Judges—C. Seaman and J. Cooley could not agree on the decision, and Chairman, Mr. Roots, decided in favor of affirmative. Next question:—"Resolved, That the tax on spirituous liquors should be removed." Leaders—S. Pitcher and P. Wrangler affirmative, and L. Seaman and J. Pitcher leaders on negative. Decided in the affirmative. The resolution, "That the mind of women is inferior to that of men," is the next for discussion.

Since the Mail Line from Ottawa to Somonauk has been changed to come across the country twice a week, we get the *Free Trader* regularly every Saturday afternoon.

The summer school at the Northville school house has been in operation a few weeks, and is prospering finely. The teacher is a Miss Florence Jackson, formerly of New York. Her father is a clerk in one of the U. S. Departments at Washington. She is an accomplished scholar and a respected young lady. No. of scholars is about forty, with a steady increase.