

The Free Trader.

Ottawa, Ill., Saturday, May 13, 1882.

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OUR CLUBBING

We are prepared to club the FREE TRADER with the following publications, furnishing both at the prices named, postage prepaid.

- FREE TRADER and Chicago Weekly Times... 2.65
FREE TRADER and Chicago Weekly Tribune... 2.65
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FREE TRADER and Chicago Weekly Journal... 2.65

The Union steamer Alaska made her last passage across the ocean in 6 days, 21 hours and 49 minutes, which is said to be the fastest time on record by some four hours.

Peoria is happy. Congress has voted her \$250,000 for a post office building and United States court room.

The Supreme Court of the United States has denied the habeas corpus asked for Sergeant Mason, holding that his sentence by a court martial is strictly legal.

The New York Sun is of opinion that if the next Illinois legislature is democratic, of which there is a strong probability, there should be no thought of sending Carter Harrison, Trumbull, or any such man to the senate.

Kendall county has \$34,000 in U. S. bonds laid aside in her treasury towards paying the bonds she issued for \$140,000 stock in the Fox River Valley Railroad.

A fire on Racine, Wisconsin, last Saturday destroyed property valued at half a million of dollars. It burned over seven whole blocks and destroyed 10,000,000 feet of lumber.

The Supreme Court has just decided that the new county courts of this state have no probate powers, all such business being exclusively within the province of the probate courts.

During a trial before a justice of the peace at Oswego, on Friday last week, a negro thief named William Bradford, becoming enraged at John Winn, a respectable farmer and a witness against him, made a furious assault upon him, whereupon Winn drew a revolver and shot him through the heart.

Polk Wells, the noted desperado whose escape from the Iowa penitentiary was mentioned in our last in company with Cook and Fitzgerald, two other convicts who escaped with him, having all been recaptured, were arraigned last Friday at Des Moines for the murder of John Elder, the prison guard, whom they had chloroformed to death.

The arrival of emigrants from Europe at Castle Garden is said now to average 5,000 a day. A large proportion of them are said to be skilled laborers, their object in coming here being to enter into competition with the skilled laborers of this country.

Among the latest eccentricities of the storm king was the fall, during a severe thunder and hail storm at Bedford, Ind., last Saturday night of a shower of white flint stones, some as large as a man's fist.

The Pennsylvania Republican State Convention on Wednesday went off to the entire satisfaction of the Camerons, their slate having been endorsed without exception.

Of course, considering the hethenish weather we have had for a month past, no one will be surprised to learn that the peach crop is again ruined.

gentle boggar, the peach is always getting into trouble. Two weeks ago we looked down into the bottom of the blossoms of our favorite peach tree and were certain the germ at the root of the stamen was blasted.

THE RAILROAD BOND DECISION

In the published report of decisions rendered at the last term of the Supreme Court of the United States occurs the following:

The Amoskeag National Bank, plaintiff in error, vs. The Town of Ottawa, and Augustus T. Post, plaintiff in error, vs. The Board of Supervisors of Kendall County.

The history of the litigation which has thus terminated in relieving Ottawa of an indebtedness which at this time would amount to about \$375,000, to say nothing of court expenses and lawyer's fees involved, could by a competent hand be worked into a readable volume.

The bonds—\$150,000 in face value—were issued in 1869 in aid of the Ottawa, Oswego and Fox River Valley Railroad.

All the subscriptions to the stock from Wenona to Elgin amount to some \$600,000. Ottawa—as well as the other towns—paid interest on the bonds without dispute for two years.

This ended the case so far as the state courts were concerned. Soon afterwards, however, Mr. Perkins, (father of L. and N. Perkins of this city), a citizen of Massachusetts, who held some of the South Ottawa bonds, commenced a suit on them in the U. S. Circuit Court at Chicago.

Well, this looked discouraging, and any man with less pluck than that possessed by Mr. Andrew Lynch would have given up in despair.

Here ordinarily it ought to have ended. But on a petition to the Supreme Court of the U. S. by parties holding bonds, representing that in the previous case due importance had not been attached to the point that the law under which the bonds were voted had not passed the legislature.

What could have been the motive? Surely the land league and its friends could have had no part in it, for it was mainly through the instrumentality of Parnell and the league leader that the government was induced to institute its change of programme for Ireland.

Who were the assassins? The men have been traced to an inn twelve miles northwest of Dublin, where they stopped to take a drink, but beyond that the strange car and its occupants seem to have vanished into mid air.

Was it the result of a Fenian conspiracy? The Fenians indeed, whose aim is to achieve the independence of Ireland, and who can hope for no success except through continued violent agitation, would have a motive for attempting to frustrate Gladstone and Parnell's scheme of conciliation.

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was carried up to the Supreme Court of the U. S. and there the decision, as mentioned above, has again been rendered in favor of the town.

Important, however, as the result is in a pecuniary view to the people of Ottawa, it is no less so as a personal triumph to Mr. Andrew Lynch.

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out the world? Our opinion is the crime will not be fastened on the Fenians.

Were the assassins a brace of dem-cranks—Irish Wilkes Booths or Gatteaus? Most likely. It is to be remembered that during the past year assassination has been almost epidemic in Ireland.

As to the effect of the crime on the future of Ireland there is no room for conjecture. The vision of peace Gladstone and Parnell had conjured up is dissipated. Coercion in its severest form will be renewed, and now no longer against the protest and active opposition, but with the aid and concurrence of the landleague and the better class of the Irish people.

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dead, with all their papers and books. The party consisted of 13 men. One of the three boat crews that escaped from the Jeannette, that under Chipp, is still missing, and Melville states that the search will now be prosecuted to find them.

While we have no disposition to underrate Mr. David McCullough as a passably able judge and a personally pleasant and presentable gentleman, we have a right to challenge his good taste not to say decency of his being personally present at the Galva convention that nominated him as a party candidate for Supreme Judge.

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The Ella O. Heck Case. The preliminary examination of Ella O. Heck, charged with the murder of the two infants found in the well on the farm of Henry H. Hess, in the town of Dayton, on Friday, the 21st of April last, by Howard Heck, took place on Thursday afternoon before V. B. Weeks, Esq.

Before any testimony was taken, Mr. Blake, her attorney, entered a motion to quash the writ and warrant on the ground that V. B. Weeks is not a justice though he issued the papers as such. The motion was overruled, the Court holding that a justice and police magistrate are about the same thing.

Coroner Weis was the chief witness for the people. He said he saw the babies, on Saturday afternoon. They were lying on a grass plat, near the well, which was about 300 yards from the Hess house, near where Howard Heck and Ella O., his sister, lived. This well was about 225 ft. north of the barn, and some 80 ft. from the old plank road.

Both children were males; and to all appearances had not been washed after birth. They were wrapped up in a woman's old undershirt and an apron, and a woman's stocking lay near them; the string of the apron was wrapped around the neck of the children. Both were dead.

Having examined the bodies, he empaneled a jury whom he adjourned for a week. The children he brought to Ottawa, where they were examined by himself and Dr. Dyer, in the latter's office. The head of one was dark, but from what cause is not clear.

They appeared to have been in the well two or three days—more or less, though they were not shrivelled up. The larger weighed 7 lbs., and the smaller 5 1/4 lbs. The smaller had a dark spot on its face as if from decomposition; the abdomen was not dark.

From the mouth of this one a piece of a lucifer match was taken. On their necks were distinct marks of violence, as of finger marks on their throats. The eyes blood shot and projected, and the navel cords were torn from the body. On cutting into the breasts the lungs were found to fill the entire cavity; had the color of lungs that had been inflated, and pieces cut from them floated on water and if held under water sent up air bubbles.

These are proofs that the children had been born alive. Under the skull bone was found in the larger clotted blood, and the skull was cracked into four pieces as by a blow or coming in contact with hard substance. The smaller child had its tongue partly torn from the jaw bone.

The bodies were left with Dr. Dyer. Having spent a few days in looking up points in the case with the sheriff, the Doctor called at Heck's house and asked for defendant, and talked with her about her sickness. She said she had had dropsy for a year or two and had suffered much.

He pressed her ankles with his fingers (saying he was a young physician interested in her peculiar case) but found no dropsical condition of flesh. After he had recalled his jury he told her that facts he had obtained cast a suspicion on her as being the mother of the children; and that the best way to show that she had not been a mother recently would be to submit herself to a physical examination. He explained to her that he could not compel this but that if he made the examination it must be entirely by her consent and desire.

He made the suggestion as likely to be useful to her. After some hesitation and on the advice of her sister-in-law she consented to an examination, and the Doctor made it in the presence of Mrs. Heck, who also assisted. This examination showed that she had been delivered of a child or children very recently—thought within ten days of the examination. On being informed of the Doctor's conclusions and urged to explain she burst into tears, and said she had, some six months before, given birth to a six months' fetus which she cast into Fox River near Aurora, at which time she was living with Mr. Benjamin, some distance from Aurora.

At the inquest she testified she had had sexual intercourse with one Geo. Morrison at dates eight and 18 months before. The dead children were fully developed and had been born alive.

H. B. Densmore, father-in-law of the Mr. Benjamin mentioned, was called. He lives with his son-in-law, 3 1/2 miles west and half a mile north of Aurora and four miles from Fox River. Ella Heck came to their place about 23rd Sept. 1881, and lived there until about 25th March, 1882. When she came she was fleshy and in poor health and during her stay she increased very much in size. She said it was from dropsy. When she left for Ottawa she was very large.

She was always complaining of poor health but was not confined to her room or interrupted in her work. Never heard of her having given birth to a fetus. During October and November she went a few times with the family to Aurora; but never knew of her leaving the place after the middle of December until she came to Ottawa; and in daytime could hardly have gone away without his knowing of it. She increased in size gradually during her stay there, and was much larger than she now is. On cross-examination he said she might have been absent from the place during the night; and that she had once gone to Kaneville (some four miles in a northwesterly direction from his house) to look after a carpet.

Henry H. Hess, of Dayton, owner of the farm on which the babies were found and who lives in the same house with the Hecks, said he had seen defendant last Summer and also about April 1st when she came from Aurora. Her appearance was unusual with her. Her feet, ankles and face were swollen, and her body very large. During the first week he saw little of her. On Saturday, a week after her arrival, as he started for town, Mrs. Heck asked him to bring some elder flowers for defendant's dropsy. Some five or six days after this Mrs. Heck called his attention to defendant's appearance, asking if he didn't think her looking better. He said the change was decidedly for the better. Her color was better—less "pussy" in appearance and with breasts much reduced in size. After this change he saw much more of her about the house and met her frequently. On cross-examination he said during the first week of her stay he frequently was absent a whole day at a time. He added that the well was about 16 feet deep and generally had boards and had a chain pump. In the side was a rabbit hole and where the babies were found was a loose board in the covering.

Thos. McAtee, of Freedom, while on his way home, was called to from the field by Howard Heck to see the bodies. They were then lying on the surface near the well. They were wrapped in the clothes described, drawn together and tied with the sleeves of the garment, but the top was open so we could see their faces. The bottom of the casing was tied with a piece of edging about an inch wide. The stocking was between them inside of the vest. One looked very natural, while one was black on one cheek.

Christopher Simon and A. E. Beach testified to seeing the bodies at the same place at later hours. Howard Heck, defendant's brother, said he found the bodies in the well about 3 o'clock. Both ends of this case were tied, one with the edging the other with a bit of calico string with pecks dots on it.

Here the people rested and the hearing of further testimony was postponed until yesterday morning. On yesterday the Court announced that he would admit the defendant to bail and fixed the amount at \$2,000. No testimony was offered by defendant.

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HOME MATTERS.

PERSONAL MENTION. VICTOR.—Victor H. Dumbeck, of Peoria, was in the city this week.

DR.—Dr. Marriner is in Quincy this week at the Dental Association meeting.

ALLEN.—E. C. Allen, Esq., returned home from his Denver trip on Thursday evening.

JUDGES.—Judge Craig and Wants-to-be Judge McCullough, of Peoria, were in the city this week.

TRIMBLE.—Miss Elsie Trimble left Ottawa yesterday for Iowa, where she will spend the summer.

MORRIS.—Henry Baum and our former townsman, John Shober, were in Ottawa yesterday calling on friends.

CLER.—Miss Kittie Hamilton entertained her friends on Thursday evening at the residence of her sister, Mrs. L. Leland, on the west side.

YENTZER.—Frank Yentzer returned from southern Illinois yesterday, getting over the flooded lands on the rail fences, they tell us at the office.

UTICA.—Gazette, 6th: "Mrs. M. D. Learned, at present in Ottawa.—Mr. Chas. Phelps, of Ottawa, has taken charge of Pulsifer's warehouse at this place."

SKELETON.—Monitor, 8th: "Mrs. Griggs, of Ottawa, is visiting friends in this city.—Mr. John Dayhoff, of Ottawa, spent Sunday with his friends in this city."

MILLER.—Mrs. Miller, widow of the late Chas. G. Miller, formerly a prominent merchant and business man of Ottawa, is visiting friends in this city, stopping with Mr. Uriah Miller, on the east side.

Geo.—Geo. Griffith returned this week from Kansas, where he spent the past few weeks. George has bought a piece of land, intending to begin a sheep ranch.

PORTER.—Another Ottawa man comes to the front as a western office holder. George R. Porter, who left this city a few years ago, now holds Uncle Sam's commission as postmaster at Mount Sneffels, Colorado.

WARNER.—Dr. C. J. Warner, of Ohio, has been in the city this week, the guest of his brother, J. T. Warner. The Doctor is somewhat of a news-papper man. We are told; and certainly has been looking over the town with a newspaper man's eyes.

COLWELL.—Thos. & Hugh Colwell, builders of this city, were given two contracts this week from Iowa: a building for medical college of the Iowa State University at Iowa City, to cost \$25,000; and Masonic Hall at Atlanta, to cost \$25,000.

REED.—S. W. Reed, of East Ottawa, is slowly recovering from his long sickness, and is now able to sit up a portion of the day. He has been confined to his room for three weeks or more, much of the time the chances of life or death being about equal.

WES.—Our old friend Wesley B. Hall has been during the past two weeks seriously ill at his home in Mt. Pleasant, Ia., so that some of his relatives of this city went to him. He is now reported considerably better—a fact most gratifying to a host of friends here.

HALL.—D. M. Hall returned on Thursday evening from Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where he had been to attend his brother, W. B. Hall, who has been and is still dangerously sick. It is expected that the sick man will be removed to this city next week, if that can be accomplished.

PHILLIPS.—From a private letter received a few days ago it was expected that Will H. Phillips would leave his Florida home yesterday for Illinois. After visiting a short time in this city, he will proceed to Iowa. His health, we are pleased to say, is much better, the southern winters reported considerably better—a fact most gratifying to a host of friends here.

DOUGHERTY.—P. J. Dougherty, for several years a printer in the employ of the Republicans of this city, has accepted a situation as foreman of the Free Press job rooms of Sandwich. Pat is a faithful and obliging young man as well as a good printer. He has the best wishes of the fraternity in Ottawa for future success.

CARLIS.—We are prepared to fill orders for advertising cards from stock on hand or orders from samples. We can fill at short notice orders of any size from any of over 855 different styles, all attractive, at a wide range of prices.

FREE TRADER JOB ROOMS.