

THE TELEGRAM-HERALD

TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Business Office 531
Editorial Rooms 190
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION
DAILY and SUNDAY, One Year \$5.00
DAILY and SUNDAY, Three Months 1.50
SUNDAY, One Year 2.00
WEEKLY, One Year 1.00

REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTION

A Republican Congressional Convention of the Fifth Congressional District of Michigan will be held in the Grand Rapids, Mich., on Monday, September 22, 1891, at 11 o'clock a. m. for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Congress in the district to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the year 1892.

REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION

The Republicans of Kent County will meet in convention at the Credit Court rooms, in the city of Grand Rapids, on Wednesday, October 7, at 11 o'clock a. m. for the purpose of electing delegates to the Republican Congressional Convention of the Fifth Congressional District, to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on September 22, 1891, and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the convention.

The weather—For Lower Michigan: Fair and warmer; southerly winds.

Mayor Uhl evidently intends to hold his own against the council and Vandam & Pollock, the Hill saloonists. His vigorous communication accompanying his veto of the motion approving the bond has the ring of confidence and determination.

GOVERNOR CAMPBELL hurled a few brick-bats at Major McKinley the other day, and the Major, turning the tables, smashed a thunderbolt at Campbell, completely dismaying and shivering his glass house. It is not wise to disregard the old adage.

Another firm of brokers has gone to the wall in an attempt to corner the corn market. The liabilities are upwards of \$2,000,000. Little sympathy will be felt for the ruined speculators whose ambition it was to traffic in a staple commodity to the injury of the actual consumer.

Vera Ava has achieved the zenith of fame and her soul revels in quiet satisfaction. She is posing in a Chicago museum and inflicting upon the visitors a tale of harrowing hardships. It would not be surprising if this was a "Vera" clever scheme put up by the museum managers.

The Brazilian congress has refused to remove the ban of exile placed upon Brazil's deposed emperor, Dom Pedro, and he will be compelled to live and die among strangers. The vote was a decisive one and indicates that the spirit of self-government has taken a deep hold in Brazil.

An Iowa firm has been awarded a contract to build a torpedo boat for the navy, and now the New York papers are devoting much space to the excellence of Iowa's lake ports and shipyards. New York is determined to down Chicago if it becomes necessary to make Salt Lake City a port of entry to do it.

Following in the wake of the ruin and desolation made by the floods in Spain an epidemic of influenza has broken out and thousands are stricken helpless. To add to the awful calamities a fierce hurricane swept over the flooded district Sunday, wrecking many houses. The elements seem determined to wipe out of existence the people of southern Spain.

The feat of living forty days without food, accomplished by Dr. Tanner, and the subsequent performance in that direction by Succi, have been thrown into the shade by M. Jaques, who has just finished a term of fifty days without solid nourishment, in the Aquarium, London. Negotiations are now pending to match the three abstainers in a competitive contest against time and food. Such a race would be decidedly "fast."

THIEVES broke into a London bank Saturday and carried away the modest sum of \$1,250,000. They left no clue behind them and their identity is shrouded in mystery. The bank officials are num as oysters. It seems wholly improbable that thieves could get away with such a large amount. In this country the silence of the cashier would be significant, that is, if he remained long enough before skipping to Canada to be silent.

CONTROLLED BY AGITATORS

The nomination of George F. Richardson, of Ottawa, by the mass convention of the Peoples party yesterday was an undisguised bid for Democratic endorsement. It cannot be denied that the convention was largely in the hands and at the dictation of political malcontents who have long figured as lesser lights in the petty meetings of the Democrats. There was no considerable representation of the farmer, nor indeed of the actual working man. It was a convention, with some few exceptions, made up of professional political agitators whose affiliations have been heretofore with the Democracy. Not a representative farmer or hardworking mechanic figured in the deliberations. It was a cheap show to the big performance to be held later on. The chief cry-outs were men

whose voices have been heard wherever dimensions and disturbances have troubled the people. Coming from a convention of farmers, mechanics and laborers, the nomination would be a high honor to any man. It is to be regretted that those who are really sincere and earnest in their support of a Peoples party should be made the pliant tools of cheap agitators. As a bid for Democratic endorsement it is likely that the nominee will be spurned by the Democratic convention. If the Peoples party would have the respect of the intelligent voters it must eliminate from its conventions the parasites who, posing as the friends of labor, only await an opportunity to air their egotism and then sacrifice principle to secure recognition elsewhere. The nominee of the convention was elected to the last legislature by the Patrons of Industry and Democrats, receiving a plurality of nearly four hundred votes in the second representative district of Ottawa. He is a man of fair ability, but in no sense is he a man whom the electors of the Fifth district would desire to have represent their interests in the Congress.

BOOM SETTLEMENTS

The land opened yesterday for settlement comprises 1,101,559 acres. Much of it is arable and productive, while a large portion of it is arid and barren. Not all of this tract will be pre-empted or homesteaded by white settlers, for every male Indian of the Foxes and Sacs will be entitled to a quarter-section and a whole section in each township will be reserved as school lands. After deducting the acreage thus taken there will remain 809,000 acres. Out of this immense tract there is at least 290,000 acres sterile and unproductive. The entire tract divided into homesteads will give 5,000, one-fourth of which will be worthless for farming or other purposes. Yesterday at noon an excited throng of homestead seekers, numbering nearly twenty thousand men, rushed in upon this land, and each individual scrambled to locate a claim. Three-fourths of them were disappointed, and they will be compelled to seek the centers of population where villages and cities will blossom on the arid sands as if by magic. Rude cabins, tents and the open air will afford them shelter until the excitement of the surroundings abates and then they will settle down to contemplate their future. After a vain struggle to gain a foothold in business or a start in professional life the hegira back to civilization will be started and in two months time the new tract will be deserted by all save those who were lucky in securing homesteads and those who have no money to return and prefer to remain and face starvation rather than to walk. The history of all such booms is labelled with disappointment from the portal to the exit. Men without money expect to pass in upon and settle government land without cost, thereby securing for themselves a home. They are blinded by their greed and do not count upon the necessity for cattle, swine, horses, implements and buildings. They want the land and when they get it, in nine cases out of ten they are left the helpless victims of their own covetousness. Bloodshed and riot infrequently attend the rush to these open lands and the problem for future solution is to make the entry upon and settlement of government realty less hazardous and more business-like.

Another large audience saw the petite 14-year-old actress, Goldie, in "The Rocky Mountain Wall" at Redmond's last evening. Commencing Friday evening and continuing for the remainder of the engagement "six" will be the play.

Barlesque seems immensely popular with the patrons of Smith's. The Lester & Williams Company in "Me and Jack" have thus far played to packed houses. A matinee will be given today.

Ladies and children are requested to patronize the afternoon performance at the Wonderland, thereby avoiding the crowds in the evening. A free entertainment will be given to ladies and children on Friday afternoon.

Tragedian Downing began his tour, which will include the principal cities of Michigan, in Detroit Monday evening. He will play in Grand Rapids early in October.

Judging from the somewhat meagre telegraph reports Bill Nye's play "The Cadi" is very funny. It was produced in New York on Monday evening and judging from the reception it received will undoubtedly have a long run.

WILLIAM L. SCOTT

In the death of William L. Scott another illustration of the opportunity afforded for amassing a fortune in America is presented. Scott started in life with a capital extending only to his head and hands. He applied himself to business early and by sturdy independence and frugal habits soon had procured a start. Pursuing a course of action remarkable for sagacity and forehandedness his early hundreds developed into thousands and later on by extensive trade, mining and manufacturing investments his thousands grew into millions. Yet, Scott was not a man whose success in fortune-making came alone by sheer luck. He was a taskmaster of the most tyrannical type, a despot in business. He exacted the last farthing in a deal, demanded the last drop of sweat from the brows of the men who toiled for him and rolled up the profits which he sequestered to swell his millions. He was a product in the financial world which springs from grinding monopoly and soulless greed. Thousands of men received their daily pittances from his swollen coffers who had produced the rapidly augmenting increase that made him a modern Croesus. His theory and practice were to get all he could and to keep all he got, and there was never a more conspicuous example of success in that direction than was the dead Congressman. It may be cruel to speak ungenerously of the dead, but the justification in this case is in the fact that he was never moved by a spirit of generosity in his life. He will be mourned by few who depended upon him for employment. He will be extolled by his colleagues in Congress; the newspapers of Erie will publish glowing obituaries recalling his virtues; the men of his class and station in wealth will sing paeans of praise to his wealth acquiring genius, but the masses will have no words of commendation nor sighs of sorrow. In a year he will have been forgotten by all save his intimate friends, for he has left neither endowments for charity, nor a solitary contribution to church, school or hospital. Mr. Scott was a Democrat and a free trader. In Congress he took an active part in the tariff debates and made himself conspicuous as a champion of cheap labor. Probably his greatest speech was devoted to the consideration of the iron schedule of the McKinley bill, but his logic was riddled and the force of his argument destroyed

by one of his own illustrations. He employed an army of men in coal mining, iron manufacturing and upon railroads, and was largely interested in speculative enterprises. His wealth has been variously estimated at from \$5,000,000 to \$25,000,000, but the approximate number of millions he possessed probably will be never known outside his family. He was born in Washington, D. C., July 2, 1823. He received a common school education and served as a page in the House of Representatives from 1840 till 1846. He was taken to Erie by General Reed and was made clerk in the shipping business. In 1850 he began business on his own hook, and soon owned several vessels on the lakes. He became largely interested in the manufacture of iron and mining coal, as well as now representing over 2200 miles of railroad—probably the greatest number of miles of railroad that one man ever controlled. He was elected to the forty-ninth Congress as a Democrat having previously served for several terms as mayor of Erie.

AMUSEMENTS

"Il Trovatore" was the offering of the Annadale Opera Company at Powers' theater last evening. The torrid wave probably had much to do with the attendance, though there was an improvement on the preceding night. The opera was well cast and the singers all seemed to be on their mettle. Mrs Annadale again won great favor from her auditors, as did Miss Eva Cummings. M. Paché is a new tenor to Grand Rapids, but those who heard him last night will welcome him on future engagements. The presentation was spirited and vigorous, all of the familiar numbers being redemanded. The engagement was prosperous, and the impression made by the leading prima donna and the company is such as should encourage a return date. The company appears in Jackson tonight.

"Dr. Bill" is the title of a spy and sparkling comedy which enjoyed nearly a season's run at the Garden theater New York last year. It will be presented at Powers' next Friday evening. In reviewing the production of the play at the Lyceum theater Detroit Monday evening. Yesterday's Free Press had the following:

"Many of the lines have a pointedness which is a bit startling to American ears. The young woman in red who dashes into a private parlor and points her foot at the ceiling is also a surprise, but thanks to Lettie Land, we have all been educated to the divided skirt. The audience took to the whole thing immensely, especially the kangaroo dance."

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Ed. R. Salter, is introducing "Ole Oleson" to the one night stands in Michigan this week. He has secured Ole a week's "job" at Redmond's in October.

POLITICAL PROSPECTS

Ex-Congressman Belknap Confident of Republican Success.

As the time approaches for the conventions to nominate men for the U. S. Congress, the interest in the subject, which has been at an ebb, for some time, is at full tide again. The names of the probable candidates are on the lips of all interested in the welfare of the Fifth district and much speculation is rife concerning the political issue of the campaign. Some of the prominent names mentioned for the Republican ticket are those of ex-Senator Thomas W. Ferry, William Alden Smith, John Patton, C. E. Belknap, C. W. Watkins and ex-Speaker Dickema of the city.

In conversation with a reporter for the Telegram-Herald yesterday afternoon Mr. Belknap said: "One of the greatest troubles that the Republican party has is its super-abundance of good men for the place. They have so many that it is hard to choose from among them. I believe that the principles of the men should be considered as well as the work the man can do. Many a man who isn't a college graduate, and who can't even make a speech, can do better work for his district in a quiet way than a man who is a born orator. It has been the policy of the Democratic party to nominate a man from this city, claiming that only such could be elected. A great many Republicans think otherwise. I am of the opinion that the commercial as well as the political interests should be looked after in making the nomination. A Republican victory this fall means a great deal to us. If we could get a majority of from 500 to 1000 now, it would mean at least 25000 to 40000 in the state a year from this time. A Democratic victory now would practically be an endorsement of all that the Democratic legislature has done, including the acts of the present state administration. The convention will be held October 12th, which will give us over two weeks for the campaign. That is plenty of time, for the probable nominees are all well known. There is no dark horse so far as I know. As far as myself am concerned, I am very busy and have no time or inclination to boom my own prospects. I have all I can do to attend to my three branches of business, and it would be a financial loss for me to go to Washington. I believe I have more friends than I had three years ago, although some of my best friends then are my bitterest enemies now. But I am very proud of these enemies. I have never been an office-seeker, and I am not seeking office now. I believe that the Republican conven-

tion will be wise enough to nominate a good man, and will cover his eyes, I expect to take my coat right off and go to work for him. If the Farmer's Alliance nominates Richardson, I wouldn't be at all surprised to have the Democratic convention endorse the nomination."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES

An alloy of 75 per cent. of gold and 25 per cent. of aluminum is the most brilliant known.

Recent experiments show that with proper appliances ordinary gaslight can be used in making photographs.

By a recent appliance to kitchen ranges the refuse from the kitchen is thoroughly dried, converted into charcoal, and used as fuel.

Divers notice that when fish are frightened each variety seeks the shelter of the submarine growth nearest in color to the fish.

Aluminum diamonds will stand a very high temperature when held in vacuum, the admission of air causes them to burn almost as readily as coal.

The use of the electric light has been found to materially reduce the amount of illness in factories which had previously used gas or oil for lighting.

Mixure electric lights are successfully used in dentistry, making the presence of very small cavities visible when they would otherwise escape notice.

Small cups are now being used with great success by oculists for the cure of long-sightedness and kindred diseases of the eye. The cupping restores the circulation and strengthens the tissues.

A new treatment for yellow fever has cured every case of this disease in Santiago de Cuba. The principal part of the new process consists in placing the patient in what is termed a "polar" room.

In establishing the longitude of McGill college in Montreal by means of the telegraph it was found that it took the electric current 1.05 seconds to cross the ocean and return, a distance of 8,000 miles.

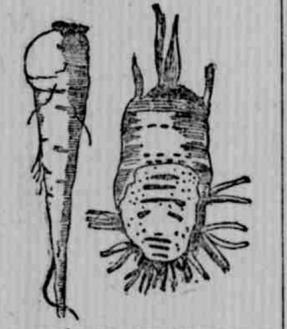
The largest gasometer in the world is now being built for a London company. Its diameter will be 300 feet and the height 150 feet. Its capacity will be 12,000,000 cubic feet and weight 2,200 tons. It will take 1,200 tons of coal to fill it with gas.

Electric welding has now become almost universal in large establishments. The use of a flux is unnecessary. Electricity is now used for making forgings, axgurs, railroad spikes, bit bearings and many other articles hitherto made by hand or by expensive machinery.

POISONOUS ROOTS

Water Hemlock is Very Dangerous, Bot Wild Parsnip is Not.

In a recent number of Pharmaceutische Rundschau, Prof. E. B. Power, of Wisconsin, reviews some cases of poisoning by the so-called wild parsnip, with the result that in several cases where poisoning was supposed to have been due to the wild form of the common parsnip (Pastinaca sativa) it was caused by eating the roots of water hemlock or spotted cowbane (Cicuta maculata) the root of which has long been known as a deadly poisonous umbelliferous plant. There has long been a very popular belief that common parsnip in its wild form is poisonous. Chemical examination made some years ago by Prof. Power and Mr. Bennett failed to show a poisonous principle in the root. Billed roots fed in considerable amount to cats showed no ill effects. In one case three and a half ounces of root was chopped fine, mixed with some meat and fed a dog. The dog was observed under confinement for two days, but no symptoms of poi-



WILD PARSNIP ROOT. WATER HEMLOCK ROOT. (The lower half of the hemlock root is cut out to show the cavities.)

oning developed. The roots of the spotted cowbane which is a common plant in many places in the west, is deadly poison. The symptoms as described by Dr. Avery are vomiting and pain in the epigastrium, soon followed by convulsions. In the cases attended by Dr. Avery, eight children had partaken of the root; three of them died. "Those who died never regained consciousness at the final spasm, the poison having been largely absorbed before the physicians were sent for." Treatment, according to Stille and Maisch, should consist in emptying the stomach by emetics, "and anaesthetics and narcotics used to control the spasm."

A Monkey's Heroism

The following story of a monkey's heroism is told by an Indian paper: "A large orang-outang was very much attached to his master and to the baby boy, who was the pet of the whole family. One day a fire suddenly broke out in the house, and everybody was running here and there to put it out, while the little boy in his nursery was almost forgotten, and when they thought of him the staircase was all in flames. What could be done? As they were looking up and wondering, a large hairy hand and arm opened the window, and presently the monkey appeared with the baby in his arms, and carefully climbed down over the porch and brought the child safely to his nurse."

EFFECT OF ACIDS

The Cause of the Insolubility of Chemically Pure Metals. The results of an investigation concerning the cause of the insolubility of pure metals in acids are contributed by Dr. Weeren to the Berichte. De la Rive, so long ago as the year 1838, pointed out that chemically pure zinc is almost perfectly insoluble in dilute sulphuric acid. Dr. Weeren's theory of the phenomenon is as follows: "Chemically pure zinc and also many other metals in a state of purity are insoluble or only very slightly soluble in

acids, because, at the moment of their introduction into the acid, they become surrounded by an atmosphere of condensed hydrogen, which under normal circumstances effectually protects the metal from further attack on the part of the acid." The experiments from which this theory has been derived were briefly as follows: The amount of chemically pure zinc dissolved by the acid was first determined. It was next sought to determine what difference would be effected by performing the experiment in reverse, when of course the escape of the hydrogen would be greatly facilitated. The solubility was found under these circumstances to be increased sevenfold. Next the experiment was performed at the boiling temperature of the dilute acid, first when ebullition was prevented by increasing the pressure, and secondly when ebullition was unhindered. In the first case, when ebullition was prevented, the solubility was practically the same as in the cold; while in the second case, with unhindered ebullition, the solubility was increased 24 times. Finally, experiments were made to ascertain the effect of introducing into the acid a small quantity of an oxidizing agent capable of converting the hydrogen film to water. When a little chromic acid was thus introduced the solubility was increased 175 times, and when hydrogen peroxide was employed the solubility was increased three hundredfold. The explanation of the ease with which the metal becomes attacked when the ordinary impurities are present is that the hydrogen is not then liberated upon the surface of the zinc, but rather upon the more electro-negative impurities, leaving the pure zinc itself open to the continued attack of the acid.

Burglars Outwitted

A new burglar alarm that has recently been patented contains many new and novel features. In setting the alarm the person who locks up the premises presses a button on the side of the door, which in turn operates a drop that closes the necessary circuit for putting the alarm in working order for the night. After this is done no one can enter the building even if the wires, leading to the door and window springs are in full view. If the alarm connecting with the police station is in circuit, so the building is never without protection.

Electricity as a Motive Power

The tendency of street railway companies to substitute electric cars for cable cars on their lines is on the increase, and the statistics of working expenses and assets which from time to time become available go to show in every case that the change has been a wise one. Another confirmation of the superiority of the electric car over the cable from a financial point of view is afforded in the statement of the last year's earnings and expenses of the Denver Tramway Company, which shows that while the operating expenses to gross earnings of the cable lines in Denver stood in the ratio of 77 per cent. those of the electric lines were 55 per cent., a clear 20 per cent. in favor of electricity.

More Power for Cycles

A distinctively novel feature in bicycle construction is the use of an oval sprocket wheel to convey power from the cranks of a safety machine to the driving wheel. The cranks are placed at right angles to the longer diameter of the ellipse, and it is claimed that by this arrangement the rider is given greater power. When the cranks are in the position that gives the rider the least leverage under ordinary circumstances, the elliptical sprocket wheel increases the purchase and gives greater power. The resistance is made more uniform than in the case of the ordinary construction.

Fans to Cool the Passengers

An engineer on one of the Indian railways has introduced an ingenious apparatus for keeping passenger cars cool. A self-revolving fan, arranged to catch the air from all directions, is fitted beneath each car, and when the train is in motion it provides a cool and pleasant breeze. Even after the train has come to a stop the arrangement will keep in motion for fully fifteen minutes.

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OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 22, 1891.

Separate sealed proposals will be received at the office of the secretary, City Hall, until 4 p. m. Saturday, September 26, 1891, for the necessary excavations and the erection of basements for school buildings, (brick work not included), at the following places:

First. On site corner of Hall Street and Grandville Avenue.

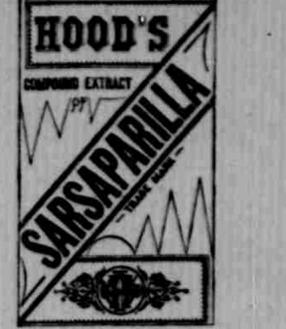
Second. On site corner of West Leonard and Widdicombe Streets.

Third. On the north side of Sibley Street, between Indiana Street and Lane Avenue.

Plans and specifications are at the office of W. G. Robinson, architect, New Houseman block.

T. D. BRADFIELD,

Chairman, Committee on Buildings.



The importance of purifying the blood cannot be overestimated, for without pure blood you cannot enjoy good health. At this season nearly every one needs a good medicine to purify, vitalize, and enrich the blood, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is worthy your confidence. It is peculiar in that it strengthens and builds up the system, creates an appetite, and tones the digestion, while it eradicates disease. Give it a trial. Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold by all druggists. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. 100 Doses One Dollar

AMUSEMENTS

POWERS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE

Brady & Garwood, Lessees and Managers T. P. Hickey, Resident Manager and Treas. FRIDAY EVENING, SEPT. 25. The Great Laugh Provoker and Sure Cure for the Blues!

THE SUCCESSFUL COMEDY, From the Garden Theater, New York.

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One Week, Commencing Sunday, Sept. 20.

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In the Realistic Comedy Drama.

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Friday and Saturday Matinees, and the Seasonal Melodrama.

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GRAND RAPIDS FAMILY RESTORER OPEN FROM 1 to 5 and 7 to 10 p. m. WEEK COMMENCING

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JOE LUCASIE, The Great and Only STEUHELL.

knows the world over as P. T. Barnum's Madagascarian in pleasing Viola Solos and Specialties.

DAN RANDALL, the funny butch comedian in volumes of fun.

ED. CAREY, doing the strongest act of any dancer in America.

The Great, the Only HONES, in a phenomenal wire juggling and hat spinning act.

The Musical Favorites, A. L. HURT & SON, Saturday afternoon all school children admitted for 5 cents, including a seat in the theater. Admission to Curio Hall, Music and Theater, 10 c. Reserved Seats in Theater, 50 c and 10 c extra.

The Madagascarian Family, Father and son, live representatives from the Island of Madagascar.

ED. CAREY, doing the strongest act of any dancer in America.

The Musical Favorites, A. L. HURT & SON, Saturday afternoon all school children admitted for 5 cents, including a seat in the theater. Admission to Curio Hall, Music and Theater, 10 c. Reserved Seats in Theater, 50 c and 10 c extra.

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WEEK SEPTEMBER 21.

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7-GREAT COMEDIANS-7

10-SPECIALTY ACTS-10

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