

# THE GATE CITY

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

**Republican Union State Convention.**  
The Eighth Annual State Convention will assemble at Des Moines, on Thursday, the 7th day of July, A. D. 1864, for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for the following offices: One Judge of the Supreme Court, Secretary of State, Auditor of State, Treasurer of State, Attorney General, Register of State, and Presidential Electors. All loyal citizens who cordially sustain the policy now being pursued by the Administration of the National Government to crush the Rebellion, restore the Union, and establish the Republic upon a foundation of which the "corner-stone" of the Rebel Confederacy shall form no part, are requested to send delegates to said Convention in the following ratio: One delegate for each county, and one additional delegate for every hundred votes and fraction of over fifty votes cast by the electors of the County, at the last general election for W. M. Stone for Governor—the number of votes to be determined by adding to those cast in the County those cast by the soldiers of the County in the field.  
By order of the Republican Central Committee,  
THO. F. WITTEBOW, Chairman.

## THE SUBJECT OF POSTAL REFORMS—IMPORTANT CHANGES.

Of the many subjects of special interest commended from time to time to the attention of the American people, in the way of administrative reforms and improvements, nothing, perhaps, has marked the progress of the age more plainly than the great advancement made in postal matters. The new "money order" system, although long in use abroad, is just about to be brought into use here as a most beneficial improvement on the old method of transmitting small sums of money over a wide extent of country, whilst in the other changes contemplated by Congress at the suggestion of the Postmaster-General, the enlightened friends of the Government will see that our progress is encouraging in the attempt to keep in the front rank of an enlightened advancement.

Amongst these changes, however, is one which in itself eminently a reform, seems to have produced not a little alarm amongst the many postmasters relied upon for an enlightened co-operation in carrying on the business of the department; and this expressed fear is on the score of possible curtailment of their rates of compensation. Nothing is further from such a result, as will be learned by a brief explanation of the matter in question. As the case stands at present, fifty thousand folios of transcript are sent to Washington each quarter, from but five post-offices, to enable the Auditor to keep the accounts correctly. The reform in question proposes to do away with all this, so to simplify the method of doing business, that whilst all parties are saved immense labor and perplexity, the compensation of the Postmaster remains the same. But perhaps the best explanation of what is contemplated in the direction indicated can be had from a letter addressed by the Postmaster-General himself to the Chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads of the House of Representatives. We give an extract:

"The first seven sections refer to the mode of compensating Postmasters, a subject which has heretofore claimed the attention of Congress, and one which I consider of the first importance to this Department. The following are among the most prominent reasons which present themselves to my mind in favor of fixed salaries instead of commissions for Postmasters.

"Under the existing law, minute accounts are kept of the postage on all mailable matter sent and received, paid as well as unpaid, involving the necessity of employing many clerks in post-offices for this particular purpose, and also in the office of the Auditor of the Treasury for the Postoffice Department, where the accounts of Postmasters are examined.

"Thus, from Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Chicago—only five post-offices—fifty thousand folios of transcript are sent to the Auditor each quarter, the originals being kept in those offices. The whole bulk of accounts from all the post-offices can be reckoned by tons; and they are mainly kept for the purpose of arriving at the allowances of Postmasters, which are estimated on the amount of postage collected. For any other purpose the accounts of mails sent and received are practically useless. The great mass of mail matter is prepaid by postage stamps, which are charged to Postmasters, and for which they are held accountable. In this way the revenues of the Department are sufficiently protected. If, then, the compensation of Postmasters be fixed, as proposed by the bill in question, no accounts will be required of mail matter prepaid by stamps, and the work in all the post-offices will be expedited, with a great saving of labor and expense. The accounting in the Auditor's office of this Department will be much simplified, and there will be no difficulty in holding Postmasters to strict responsibility each quarter; whereas, now, in the ordinary course of business, the accounts of a Postmaster after a quarter cannot be adjusted until after the end of the quarter following.

"There will also be a considerable saving in the items of blanks for post-offices. The estimated cost of paper and printing next year is nearly \$1,000,000, while the proposed change in the form of accounts will require less than one-fourth of that expenditure.

"The present law limits the commission of Postmasters to two thousand dollars per annum, and also forbids allowances from other sources beyond that amount, so that, in fact, the Postmasters of all the principal offices exceeding four thousand dollars per annum, though they can only be paid after presenting voluminous accounts on each and every letter mailed, and of numerous rates of commissions, differing according to the character of the mail matter, and also according to amount, there being no less than ten rates; whereas, by the proposed new law, all accounts will be reduced to the simple forms.

"The rule for fixing salaries is such as to ensure ample justice to all offices; and the provision for revising the classification must have the effect to stimulate Postmasters in performing their duties, lest they should suffer a reduction of salary for a diminished business, whilst they have

the assurance of a proper addition for an enlarged business.  
"The reasons for special legislation in the case of the postoffice at New England are obvious. Its net revenues to the Government are now at the rate of nearly one million of dollars per annum—one hundred per cent. above every other office. The business transacted with the foreign mails alone entails that office to a special classification, while its other interests and responsibilities are equally commanding, and entitle it to a corresponding distinction in respect to compensation."  
These are interesting facts bearing upon the needed and contemplated reform in the postoffice, which the people are vitally interested in—because the more simple the machinery of government can be made in any department, the nearer it approaches that standard which, since the foundation of republican institutions in this country, has been the desideratum sought.

To recur briefly. The contemplated reform proposes to divide the compensation of Postmasters into five classes, the first to receive not more than four and not less than three thousand dollars, and so on down to the fifth, which, from the business done, affords less than one hundred dollars. By increase of business, an office may be elevated to a higher class, thus presenting a stimulus to each officer to do his duty in every respect. The postoffice incumbents should hail this reform as one which, whilst it does not curtail their salaries at all, relieved them of the most cumbersome and perplexing part of their labors and responsibilities; and the people at large should hail it as one which, less costly, ensures more promptitude and due service on the part of the public functionaries.

It is only within the past few years that the most striking and needful improvements in the branch of the public service so necessary to the welfare and comfort of society have been made, and after what has already been accomplished in this direction, we are prepared to welcome with our best wishes whatever may make it still more perfect in its capacity to benefit society and the world at large.

## Miscellaneous.

### CROCKERY WAREHOUSE!!

**MOSES VOGEL,**  
No. 53 Main Street,  
(Kilbourn's old stand.)

**KEOKUK, - - - IOWA.**

I am now receiving a large and well selected stock of

### STAPLE CROCKERY!!

Consisting of

Common and White Granite Goods,

**FRENCH CHINA,**

**Cutlery, Silver-plated Ware**

**AND FANCY GOODS,**

And all variety of Glassware, imported expressly for this market, which I offer at low prices for cash. I intend to offer such inducements to merchants as to do a jobbing business and sell almost entirely by original packages, and at a low price. I am determined to build up a large trade. I respectfully invite you to visit my establishment and examine my stock, and I flatter myself that I can give satisfaction.

**HIGHLY MARKED PRICE paid for HIDE AND HAIR.**

**Alle auswärtigen Aufträge werden aufs Beste und Schnelle ausgeführt.**

KEOKUK, IOWA.

**GAFFARD & CO.,**

Produce and Commission

**MERCHANTS,**

**Nos. 175 and 177,**

**KEOKUK, IOWA.**

**WANTED—Eggs, Butter, Poultry, Mice, Pork, Bacon, Lard, White Beans, Potatoes, Onions, Wheat, Rye, Barley, Corn, Baked Ham, Clover, Hops, Timothy and Blackseed, Hens, Feathers, Wood, Hides, Hides and Tallow, for which the highest market price in cash will be paid.**

Consignments solicited, and will receive prompt attention. may 21

**A. HAGNY,**

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

**SADDLES, HARNESS**

**COLLARS, BRIDLES, WHIPS,**

**HORSE BLANKETS, & C. & C.**

**MAIN-ST., BETWEEN 34 AND 4th.**

I have on hand, and shall endeavor to keep on hand, a good supply of good quality of everything in my line, which I offer to the public at the LOWEST CASH PRICES, at the old stand on Main Street, between 34 and 4th.

**THE SIGN OF THE BIG SADDLE.**

Orders from the Country promptly attended to.

**G. O. STANARD, GILBERT & CO.**

**STANARD, GILBERT & CO.,**

**GENERAL PRODUCE,**

**COMMISSION AND FORWARDING**

**MERCHANTS,**

**No. 5 CITY BUILDING,**

**ST. LOUIS, MO.**

**L. J. ADAMS,**

**General Insurance Agent,**

Office Front Room, 2d floor, of Nat. Bank Building.

**The Springfield Fire Insurance Co.**

of Springfield, Mass.—Cash Assets \$430,444.

**The Phoenix Fire and Inland Ins. Co.**

of New York—Cash Assets \$250,000.

**The Mutual Life Insurance Company.**

of New York—Cash Assets over \$1,000,000.

This Company insures more thoroughly than any other in the world. Call at the office of the Agent and examine documents, and get Circulars and Annual Reports.

**ROCHE AND BISBEE,**

**GROCERS & PRODUCE**

**DEALERS,**

**Cor. 5th and Main sts.,**

**KEOKUK, IOWA.**

We have on hand, and are constantly receiving a choice lot of staple and fancy groceries, and offer to the citizens of Keokuk and vicinity at the lowest prices for cash. Give us a call.

**Wm. Mannings,**

**DYER AND SCOURER,**

**KEOKUK, IOWA.**

## REAL ESTATE

### General Insurance Agency,

Office on 2nd St., between 34 and 4th.

**Real Estate Bought and Sold.**

**Fire, River, Lake and Life Insurance.**

**THE BEST INVESTMENT IN THE U.S.**

**Life Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn.**

**Home Insurance Company of New York.**

**Security Fire Insurance Co. of New York.**

**North American Fire Ins. Co. of N. Y.**

**North American Fire Ins. Co. of Hartford.**

**Coast Mutual Life Ins. Co. of Hartford.**

Dividends declared annually by this company, and paid during the life of the insured. Its economy in the management of its business, large amounts of policy holders, which have averaged 50 per cent. per annum. A note can be given for one-half the premium amounts to \$500 or more, thus furnishing insurance for double the amount for nearly the same cash payment as is required in all cash companies. For further particulars, apply to the agent.

**FOR SALE—A Frame Dwelling House.**

Containing 8 rooms, a good kitchen, well laid out, with a full bath, and a good cellar. It is situated on 10th and 11th streets, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—180 Acres of Choice**

Land, within four miles of Keokuk, on the road between Frank and Rock Island. The land is well improved, with a good house, and a good cellar. It is situated on 10th and 11th streets, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE.**

A Brick Cottage Dwelling, with 7 rooms, a good kitchen, full bath, and a good cellar. It is situated on 10th and 11th streets, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—The Cottage Brick Dwelling**

on Morgan street, between 8th and 9th streets, containing nine rooms. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—A Frame Dwelling, with**

five rooms, lot well fenced, good water, etc., situated on High street, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—60 acres of land, 35 acres**

under fence, lot well fenced, good water, etc., situated on High street, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—A Cottage Brick Dwelling**

House, with six rooms, a good kitchen, full bath, and a good cellar. It is situated on 10th and 11th streets, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—95 acres land, 10 acres**

under fence, lot well fenced, good water, etc., situated on High street, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—200 acres of land, 167**

acres under fence, lot well fenced, good water, etc., situated on High street, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**FOR SALE—CHEAP—Dr. Hicks**

offers his beautiful residence two miles from town for sale. It consists of a substantially built, well finished frame cottage, with two stories, a good kitchen, full bath, and a good cellar. It is situated on 10th and 11th streets, between 10th and 11th streets. Price \$2,000. Enquire of H. B. TEN-ETC.

**THE BEST**

**THE CHEAPEST!**

**INSURE WITH THE**

**ETNA**

**INSURANCE COMPANY, HARTFORD, CONN.**

1. FIRE AND INLAND NAVIGATION RISKS accepted, none as heretofore, at fair rates and liberal conditions.

2. REVENUES COLLECTED with constant dispatch and accuracy.

3. LOSSES ALWAYS met with promptness and complete justice.

4. THE PLAN AND ORGANIZATION of the ETNA, after 45 years trial, has realized the greatest public advantage and success of the various systems of Fire Insurance in the country. Is now better than ever prepared for risk.

5. 16,000 Lives Claims have been settled and paid.

6. THE COMPENSATION of \$100,000 daily. Is your property exposed and unprotected?

7. ARE YOU INSURED? If not, why not? The cost is trifling, the duty is manifest. The result may be your ruin from ruin—while delay and neglect may involve you in bankruptcy, poverty, crime, and ruin.

8. PARTICULAR ATTENTION and regard is given to small risks as well as large ones. All security and superior compensation advantages offered.

Policies issued without delay.

**THE NEW YORK STORE!**

West Cor. Estes House,

Is generally acknowledged the

**CHEAPEST DRY GOODS STORE**

IN KEOKUK.

Some Bargains always on hand.

Some new goods continually arriving.

During temporary reverses, relying on the purchase of our own and the leniency of our men for ultimate success. Call and examine our

**CHEAP STOCK OF DRY GOODS!**

Our German friends are respectfully invited to the New York Store. Two of our salesmen speak the German language.

**Never Mark up our Goods**

**THE NEW YORK STORE!**

West Cor. Estes House,

Is generally acknowledged the

**CHEAPEST DRY GOODS STORE**

IN KEOKUK.

Some Bargains always on hand.

Some new goods continually arriving.

During temporary reverses, relying on the purchase of our own and the leniency of our men for ultimate success. Call and examine our

**CHEAP STOCK OF DRY GOODS!**

Our German friends are respectfully invited to the New York Store. Two of our salesmen speak the German language.

**Never Mark up our Goods**

**THE NEW YORK STORE!**

West Cor. Estes House,

Is generally acknowledged the

**CHEAPEST DRY GOODS STORE**

IN KEOKUK.

Some Bargains always on hand.

Some new goods continually arriving.

During temporary reverses, relying on the purchase of our own and the leniency of our men for ultimate success. Call and examine our

**CHEAP STOCK OF DRY GOODS!**

Our German friends are respectfully invited to the New York Store. Two of our salesmen speak the German language.

**Never Mark up our Goods**

**THE NEW YORK STORE!**

West Cor. Estes House,

Is generally acknowledged the

**CHEAPEST DRY GOODS STORE**

IN KEOKUK.

Some Bargains always on hand.

Some new goods continually arriving.

During temporary reverses, relying on the purchase of our own and the leniency of our men for ultimate success. Call and examine our

**CHEAP STOCK OF DRY GOODS!**

Our German friends are respectfully invited to the New York Store. Two of our salesmen speak the German language.

**Never Mark up our Goods**

**THE NEW YORK STORE!**

West Cor. Estes House,

Is generally acknowledged the

## GROCERIES.

### CONNABLE & SMYTH

Wholesale Grocers,

100 N. Main St., between 10th and 11th.

**GRAIN SACKS.**

Large and small Grain Sacks, (to arrive) will be on hand for cash, at 10 and 15 cents.

**WANTED.**

100 barrels Prime, Old Timothy Seed, at the highest market price for cash, at 10 and 15 cents.

**TOBACCO.**

100 boxes, 100 lbs. each, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**COTTON YARN.**

100 bales, of superior quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**SUGAR.**

100 barrels, Prime No. 1 Sugar, at 10 and 15 cents.

**MOLASSES.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**RICE.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**SALT.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**IRON AND NAILS.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**SUGARS.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**LICUORS.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**MOLASSES.**

100 barrels, of the best quality, at 10 and 15 cents.

**URICH & DRAKE,**

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Flour and all kinds of Produce.

100 N. Main St., between 10th and 11th.

**500 BARRELS CHOICE FLOUR**

just received, and for sale by

**25 BARRELS OF SWEET CIDER**

just received, and for sale by

**S. HAMILL & CO.,**

WHOLESALE GROCERS

—AND—

**POWDER AGENTS,**

100 Corner Main and 4th Streets,

**KEOKUK, IOWA.**