

The Free Trader.

Ottawa, Ill., Saturday, April 15, 1876.

OUR CLUBBING.

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

Table listing subscription rates for various publications including Free Trader and Chicago Weekly Times.

All subscriptions to be paid in advance. Remittances may be made through money order or registered letter.

The Illinois Democratic State Central Committee is called to meet at Springfield next Wednesday to fix the time for holding the next Democratic state convention.

Herman Silver, Esq., formerly of Ottawa, and appointed a year or two ago register of the U. S. land office at Denver, Col., has been promoted to the office of collector of internal revenue at that point.

Mr. Springer, of the Yorkville News, having been appointed Secretary of the State Farmer's Association, or of the State Executive committee of the Independent party.

Mayor Crocker, of Mendota, declines a reelection, though the people would gladly vote him in for a second term unanimously.

It seems to be understood at Chicago that Jasper D. Ward, lately indicted as one of the whisky ring, has "dusted."

The republicans held their state convention in South Carolina on Tuesday and the proceedings were disgraceful throughout.

On and after the 20th inst. travel will be stopped across the Illinois river bridge at Seneca until the present wooden bridge is replaced by an iron bridge.

Now, then, every body get your pockets lined with buckskin, and make a place in your safe for shot bags; for the gates have been opened by congress, and we are to have a flood of silver coin.

The Joliet papers complain that "For Rent" is stuck on so many business and dwelling houses in that city.

The iron bridge across the Illinois river at Utica is a "fixed fact."

Why does not the Rock Island Argus and the Ottawa Free Trader break cover and throw off the transparent sham under which they have been attempting to disguise their advocacy of the national banks?

The Rock Island Argus can talk for itself. As to the FREE TRADER, it will take better logic (and better grammar) to show that by insisting that the government shall redeem its promises to the people who hold its green backs with the same fidelity with which it has always redeemed its promises to the bond holder and coupon-cutter, the FREE TRADER is advocating the national banks.

The FREE TRADER is of opinion that the national banks care less about specie payment than many imagine.

Another idea that the FREE TRADER is unable to appreciate is the pet one of the national bankers, that it would be less safe for congress to have control of the volume of paper money to be issued than the national banks.

So the Tribune will see, we hope, that the FREE TRADER is working under no "cover" and dealing in no "shams" in its attitude on the currency question.

The English press is profoundly disgusted at the rejection of Dana by the U. S. Senate as the successor of poker Schenck as minister to England.

Every coupon-cutter is shouting himself hoarse in his urgent demands for resumption. Every laboring man, or every poor soul owning a dollar, is trembling for fear that the tremendous "influence" of the money power will drown their feeble protest against such a cruel wrong.

Instead of being creditable to Bristow, it was a contemptible exhibition of petty spite, that order of his a week ago to put out the lights and fires in all the government buildings, post offices, &c., because the appropriation for these supplies was exhausted.

CHICAGO IN A TURMOIL.

Chicago has worked itself up into a fearful state of commotion over its local politics. Indeed it is quite a tempest in a teapot, if not more. At the bottom of it, doubtless, is the chagrin of those who call themselves the "better class" of people at not being able to get Mayor Colvin out of office, who was elected two years ago by the "bummer element" for one year, but who, by the blundering of the "better class" in the adoption of the general law city charter, unexpectedly found his term prolonged to nearly three years.

An exchange gives the following list of republican leaders from which the Cincinnati convention can make its choice of a presidential candidate for that party.

- List of names including Zach Chandler, Benjamin F. Butler, Matt Carpenter, Schuyler Colfax, Columbus Dehano, Secretary Robeson, Attorney General Pierrepont, "Landaulet" Williams, "Post Trader" Belknap, "Bloody Shirt" Morton, "Seductive" Blaine, Boss Shepherd, General "Slyph" Babcock, "Emma Mine" Schenck, Ten Thousand Dollar Harlan, "Subsidy" Pomeroy, South Carolina Moses, Simon Cameron, Roscoe Conkling, Guerrilla Mosby, Murderer Longstreet, The Dent Family, Charley Farwell and Jake Rehm, Henry Ward Beecher, Canada Marsh, Government Robber Ingalls, Whisky Thieves Joyce, McDonald and McKee, Parson Newman, Pinchback, USELESS S. GRANT.

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That don't look reasonable, Mr. Tribune. So far as the "coupon-cutter" is concerned, the government never suspended specie payment; he has drawn his gold regularly all along, whether greenbacks were worth 40 cts. or 90 cts. on the dollar.

The Streator papers are urging the nomination by the republicans of this district of Col. Ralph Plumb for congress. He is the

sort of man, doubtless, whom the anti-monopolists would like to catch out in the cold in that way.

THOSE INVESTIGATIONS.

While the multitudinous investigations being prosecuted by the various committees of the house of representatives at Washington during the present session of congress may lead to the punishment of few criminals that ought to be punished, they will at least have the wholesome effect of drawing popular attention to the real character of our present rulers, and it is hoped, of leading to the choice of better men to take their place.

Two or three curious things must strike every reader of the testimony taken by the various investigating committees of the house of representatives. One of them is the unvarying uniformity with which people who have served under this administration for any length of time and afterward lost their places, are found to be loaded with information about corrupt practices witnessed by them while in office.

A. T. Stewart, the great New York dry goods man, died in that city on Monday. He was about 70 years of age, and is estimated to have been worth \$50,000,000.

Congressman Blackburn, of the committee on war expenditures, of which he is chairman, says: "This committee has been established for eleven years, and if it ever made a report or held a meeting before I cannot find it on record.

TOWN OF RUTLAND.—At the late annual town meeting of the town of Rutland, the following resolutions were adopted: Resolved, That we, the legal voters of the town of Rutland, in town meeting assembled, do hereby declare and make known, that we are entirely and unequivocally opposed to any and all divisions of the town of Rutland or change of its present boundary lines.

Gov. Rice, with a most natural puritanical perversity, appointed Thursday of this week as a general fast day in Massachusetts.

In spite of the "open winter, cattle feeders in central Illinois are experiencing great difficulty in getting feed to their stock.

HOTEL PRICES.—The Oak has come. Tremont House, Chicago, has the best hotels in the country, has reduced its rates to \$2.50 per day, and the Palmer and Grand are down to \$3.

From Washington.

BELL.

The business of investigation and uncovering corruption deepens in interest and is prolific of new sensations every day. Among the most notable revelations during the week is the story of the witness Bell in regard to the maneuvers at Washington to secure Babcock's acquittal at St. Louis.

Another still bigger sensation is the unravelling of the profound mystery that for two years had hung over the famous safe burglary business. About two years ago, it will be remembered, Boss Shepherd was in his glory at Washington, spending not only millions of government money in the most reckless and corrupt manner, but grinding the people down with exorbitant taxation.

Has turned up in the person of Clapp, the superintendent of the government printing office. His stealing was done in a very bungling way, mainly by the sale of waste paper.

MISSISSIPPI INVESTIGATION. Morton's resolution, as amended by Christianity, for an investigation of lost falls' election in Mississippi, has been passed, and the committee of five senators are about to start for that state.

After a week's delay, a deficiency bill, including an appropriation for lighting post office and public buildings for the remainder of this fiscal year, was reported in the house on Thursday. It may possibly pass to-day.

The committee of ways and means of the house having gone through Morrison's tariff bill, reported it to the house on Thursday and recommended its passage.

One man has been found by Clymer's committee, who swears that he obtained a post-shipment on the direct recommendation of the president, and without paying a dollar for it.

FOREIGN NEWS.

England.

England refuses to surrender Winslow, the Boston forger, under the extradition treaty, except on condition that he shall be tried in the U. S. only on the charge on which the Washington authorities object to this construction of the treaty, and meantime Winslow remains in gaol.

The London papers are very bitter in their comments on the rejection of Dana as minister to England by the U. S. Senate.

The Paris bourse was stricken with a panic on the 13th; the cause of which is not explained.

The law abolishing the state of siege was proclaimed on the 6th ult.

The Herzegovinian insurrection, in spite of the Andriasy armistice, looks more threatening than ever.

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From Seneca.

Mezra, Editor.—I think it my duty to rise and explain a few little matters relative to our late township election.

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