

The Free Trader.

Ottawa, Ill., Saturday, June 23, 1877.

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 Tribune, Inter-Ocean, Prairie Farmer, etc.

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

Thomas L. Power, after faithfully working in the harness for twelve years, retires from the Metamora Sentinel, Mr. Harl remaining sole proprietor.

Arkansas got rid of \$9,000,000 of its debt last week by a decision of its supreme court declaring there was no law authorizing it to be contracted.

The "Red Ribbon" temperance movement has broke out at Mattoon, in this state, and is carrying all before it.

Hon. Wm. H. Van Epps, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Dixon, and at one time President of State Agricultural Board, has been discharged from the Elgin asylum.

It is difficult to keep down the suspicion that Oxford University, in conferring the degree of D. C. L. (doctor of civil law) upon Gen. Grant, meant to be "sarkastical."

Barton, of the Aurora Herald, has been visiting the stables of the Plano Breeding Association and is puffing their horses.

A Princeton jury has pronounced Miss Carrie Parker insane. She is the lady who some time ago, on a wager of \$100, walked 100 miles in 24 consecutive hours.

Connecticut is whining at having to pay \$1.50 a bushel for potatoes on account of the destruction of last year's crop by the potato bug.

Mrs. A. T. Stewart has formally agreed to build a cathedral church, (Episcopal) a sea house and chapter house, and provide for their permanent maintenance, at Garden City, Long Island.

We call the attention of the Inter-Ocean, Ottawa Republican, and kindred blood-shirt organs, to the suspicious fact that Gen. C. M. Butler, "the infamous instigator of the Harburg massacre," as these papers are wont to call him, after a visit to Washington, has gone home and written a letter in which he is praising Hayes.

A sickening tragedy was enacted at Oldtown, in McLean county, on the 16th inst. A wealthy farmer named Fred Hendricks, fifty years old, in a fit of rage and partial drunkenness, brutally shot his wife, the mother of his six children, the youngest—three years old—at the time changing to the mother's breast.

There is an institution called "Free" Employment Bureau, with headquarters at 145 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, that is anxious to supply any demand in city or country for clerks, salesmen, carpenters, blacksmiths or other mechanics; hotel stewards, porters, watchmen, gardeners, coachmen, errand boys, farm hands, &c., &c.

According to the latest treasury statement there are still undredeemed \$21,126,930 of the fractional or postal currency issued by the government, of which it is believed at least \$11,000,000 have been lost and destroyed and will never be presented for redemption.

THE SILVER DOLLAR.

Papers of all political parties, particularly in the West, are just now engaged lustily in singing:

A good thing that we had is The "Dollars" of our Daddies. And now from hill and prairie, From ranch and wood and dairy, From Texas to Nebraska, From Maine to the far Alaska, Hear all the people holler, "Give back our Daddies' Dollar!"

The surface questions in regard to the silver dollar are simple enough and of very easy comprehension by the commonest intellect. Almost from the foundation of our government the word "dollar" meant legally a certain amount of silver, and was a legal tender to any amount.

Another result will be that all debts now payable in gold or greenbacks will be payable in the silver dollar, and as that, at this time, is worth about ten per cent. less than gold and about 5 per cent. less than greenbacks, creditors of all kinds will make money by the abundant recoinage of the silver dollar—provided that the dollar, coming thus in general and large demand for paying debts, bonds, &c., don't suddenly and perversely appreciate in value, so as to be worth as much and even more than greenbacks, if not approach gold in value.

Another thought—would the redemption of our government bonds in the silver dollar be an injustice or even a hardship to the bondholder? At the time the bonds were issued the silver dollar was at par with the gold dollar. Since then one of two things has happened, or partly happened. That is, either gold has gone up, or silver down, or the change has been partial on both sides.

As to the western notion that "monetizing silver," as it is called, will make money plenteous, that is an "insane delusion." If this country makes gold the only legal tender, it will have all the gold it can pay for or profitably make use of. It makes silver a legal tender, it will drive out gold and we shall have all the silver we can pay for or profitably use. That is all. It is no question of plentifulness or scarcity of money.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.

The city of St. John, New Brunswick, a place of 30,000 inhabitants, and an important stopping place for Europe bound and returning vessels, was on Wednesday almost entirely destroyed by fire. The fire broke out at 2 o'clock in the afternoon in McLaughlin's boiler shop, in the northwestern edge of the city, and a strong north-west wind blowing at the time, the flames were carried with irresistible force into the heart of the city, and before night all the best part of it was in ashes, and thousands of people filled the streets bereft of their all and without a roof in the world to shelter them.

Fifteen thousand people are rendered homeless by the calamity, and most of them are beggars. All the prominent cities of the country have already commenced raising money, provisions and clothing for the relief of the sufferers.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Hayes started out with many high sounding and beautiful professions in regard to the civil service reform he intended to introduce, and Carl Schurz, as secretary of the interior, backed him up with even more emphatic expressions. Perhaps, however, nowhere else was Hayes so emphatic in his language as in his note to Secretary Sherman in the matter of the New York custom house.

The appointment of Jack Wharton as marshal of Louisiana in place of "my dear Pitkin," affords one beautiful illustration of how men should not receive appointments solely as rewards for political services.

Another happy illustration is found in the appointment of Phillips as postmaster at Springfield. The present incumbent, known as a liberal republican and Hayes man, had received every assurance from Washington that he would not be disturbed, but no sooner did Gov. Cullom go there and insist on Phillips receiving a promised reward for certain political services than Hayes at once came down. The same is true in regard to the consolidation of the four Illinois pension agencies into one at Springfield and giving the \$35,000 office thereby created to Gen. Jesse H. Moore.

The appointment of Kasson to an important foreign mission is another illustration. He is admitted to have no fitness whatever for a post once graced by a man like Motley, and owes his elevation purely to party services.

And so we could go over the Hayes appointments by the hundred. Even such papers as the Tribune admit that most of the appointments are made purely as rewards for political services and many of them are as bad as can be.

There is a tribe of Indians in Oregon, known as the Nes Perces, said to number about 2300 warriors, who seem to be courting the late of the Modocs. Dispatches from Portland of the 16th state that the Indians named have commenced murdering settlers at Mount Idaho and on Cottonwood creek, 17 having been massacred at the latter place.

Later dispatches state that after the massacre at Mt. Idaho, Col. Perry, the commanding officer at Fort Lapwai, pursued the Indians with a small force, overtaking them at White Bend canon, where, after three hours hard fighting, he was repulsed with a loss of twenty-seven men, killed and wounded, including Capt. Theller among the killed.

Gov. Brayman, of Idaho, telegraphs to the War Department at Washington that a disastrous Indian war has begun, and as there is no territorial law authorizing him to raise volunteers, asks for authority from Washington. Gen. Sherman replies that no volunteers can be raised, but that he has instructed Gen. McDowell, at San Francisco, to furnish all the troops that Gen. Howard, at Lapwai, may need to crush the outbreak.

The greenback party of Maine held a largely attended and enthusiastic convention at Skowhegan on the 15th inst., and nominated the Rev. H. E. Munson as their candidate for Governor at the next September election.

issue of greenbacks directly from the treasury, made a legal tender in all cases except where the contract calls expressly for gold, and inter-convertible with law interest bearing government bonds.

CIRCUIT JUDGE.

It seems there ought to be a more sensible way than this lap hazard sloshing around after a candidate for the responsible office of circuit judge to be filled by election on the first Monday in August.

At present Will county has two candidates, James S. Goodspeed and a "Captain" Hill; in La Salle county, after some sloshing about, it has been decided, we believe, to settle down on Charles Blanchard; and Bureau county has agreed, we understand, to support the Hon. James S. Eckels.

The meaning of Sherman's raid on nepotism in the treasury department is being explained. About forty competent and efficient clerks were found who had fathers, brothers, cousins or other relatives somewhere in office, and were therefore removed, and now their places are being filled by southerners, "to aid building up the Hayes party in the south," though the said southerners in most cases are glaringly ignorant and incompetent.

Meantime no movement is made towards weeding out of office a long list of John Sherman's own relatives now quartered on the public treasury.

L. P. Sherman is a Collector of Internal Revenue in Des Moines, Iowa. In the recent consolidation of revenue districts he was spared.

Hoyt Sherman is a receiver of a bankrupt bank in Iowa. He was appointed by comptroller John J. Knox, with Sherman's approval.

Judge Charles Sherman was United States Judge for the Northern District of Ohio. He resigned to escape an impeachment process.

The above are brothers of John and Gen. W. T. Sherman. All have been in office at some time, and, with one exception, are now John Sherman, Jr., nephew is United States Marshal in New Mexico. Huggins, another nephew, is in the New York Custom House. Other members of the family are yet to be heard from.

Attorney General Devens, apropos of the recent swarm of West Point graduates turned loose upon the country, has made a decision that army officers out of employment in the army, or on the retired list, can lawfully accept stations in the civil service without forfeiting their half pay or commissions as army officers. The decision seems to be a sensible one.

Iowa is to hold a republican state convention in a few weeks and thus far the Inter-Ocean of Thursday says about a third of the counties have elected their delegates, among all of whom Allamakee, a democratic stronghold, is the only one that has passed resolutions approving the policy and administration of President Hayes.

Although civil service reform is the motto at Washington, and no offices are given out as rewards for party services, Gov. Cullom, on his recent visit to the capital, had no trouble apparently to satisfy Hayes that Phillips, of the State Journal, ought to have the Springfield post office, and that the four Illinois pension offices ought to be consolidated into one, and that the pension agency, thus quadrupled and made worth about \$35,000 a year, would be just the crumb for so faithful and efficient a party worker as Jesse Moore.

A GOOD DAY FOR THE HANGMAN.—Friday of last week was memorable for the hanging of five notable murderers. Harry Adams was hanged at Dayton, Ohio, for the murder of Henry Mulharran, a soldier from the Soldiers' Home. Adams found out that the soldier had \$100 in his possession and murdered him for his money.

At New Orleans, Adrian Evique, colored, aged 20, was hanged for shooting and killing Richard Turner, another colored individual out of jealousy, at a negro ball.

In the same city, George Morris, also a negro, aged 25, was hanged for killing a quadroon girl, his mistress, who had gone back on him. And,

In the same city, Joaquin Florenzo, a native of the Philippine Islands, was hanged also for the murder of his mistress.

And finally, at Atlanta, Ga., on the same day, Stephen Brinkley was hanged for wife murder.

There was an interesting celebration of the "Shields Guards" at Auburn, N. Y., on Wednesday, at which were present not only the venerable Gen. James Shields, formerly U. S. senator from Illinois but now a resident of Missouri, but also Gov. Robinson of New York and Gov. Wade Hampton of South Carolina. The prominent speech on the occasion was made by the last, who, referring to the political contest in South Carolina last fall, said:

We now propose fulfilling to the very letter the pledges I made and appealed to high heaven to witness that they should be carried out. I declared that, if elected, I would be Governor of the whole people of South Carolina; that I should know no race, no party, no color; that all men who stood on the soil of South Carolina, native or foreign born, white or black, should be equal before the law, and, to help me God, it shall be done.

I am glad to say the bitterness which marked that strife is passing away, and I say to you, men of New York, as I say at home I owe my election to the colored men of South Carolina. [Applause.] Thousands of them voted for me knowing that I had been a good friend of the race, knowing that I was the first man after the war to recommend that they should be given the right of suffrage, and I have never yet changed my opinion on this subject.

St. Louis had a big sensation on Tuesday in the suspension of the National Bank of the State of Missouri (the old Missouri State Bank) one of the oldest and thought to be among the solidest banking institutions in the country. It is thought the depositors and other creditors will all be paid up, but the stock is probably sunk.

The Philadelphia papers are making enough fuss to remind one of their centennial gushery over a magnificent business office which G. W. Child has fitted up in his Ledger building. One paper says, "It is a creation of beauty such as no American eyes have ever looked upon in any business establishment till now;" and then, in the course of a fulsome description, we are told of a magnificent plate glass window, in which are wrought portraits of Gutterberg, Faust and Schaeffer, and over them Mr. Child's favorite motto, "Nihil sine labor." But for the proverbial Philadelphia stolidity one might suspect a vein of keen ridicule underlying this apparent gushery, the point being the bad grammar of the Latin motto, in which, of course, after the preposition sine the word labor ought to be in the ablative case.

Judge Hilton, A. T. Stewart's executor and the manager of his estate, has created intense excitement among the Jews all over the country by issuing an edict excluding Hebrews from the Stewart Grand Union Hotel at Saratoga. About the first to come under the ban was Joseph Seligman, the wealthy New York banker. For a number of years he had regularly occupied several choice rooms with his family for a month or two at the Grand Union, and his astonishment may be imagined when, on Tuesday, he appeared there with his family and was told that his company and \$500 a week were not wanted there. As about one-third of the custom of J. T. Stewart's big store comes from Jews, and this will now be withdrawn, Judge Hilton's little hotel maneuver promises to prove rather expensive to the Stewart estate.

Judge Sheldon, a Louisiana republican, has written a letter to Senator Plumb, of which has got into print. Judge S., though satisfied that the policy is correct, don't seem to give Hayes much credit for doing what was already unavoidable. We give an extract:

The local government had not been a success, and the feeling was that a government that could not sustain itself could not protect others. The business sentiment of the country was a unit in favor of stability, and peace, and order, in some way. To have sustained Packard with the army, would have wrecked the Administration and the Republican party, while the plan of permitting a state through its own machinery and laws to settle its own government could have no worse result, but might be better. The latter policy was inevitable, and the future will determine the consequences. So far, this result has been attained. We have peace, order, confidence, more tolerance of opinion than ever before, and so far as I can see, better protection of life, liberty, property, and all legal rights. I believe Nichols to be a good man, and that he will faithfully and effectively perform his duties.

Ten Molly Maguires were hanged on Thursday at Pottsville, Pa.

The Press Excursion.

Denver, June 18th, 1877. The Association left St. Louis on Wednesday evening, numbering 132 members, filling three Pullman cars, as guests of the St. Louis, Kansas City and Northern Railway, in charge of C. K. Lord, General Passenger Agent, Topeka, and Thursday morning, taking breakfast at the splendid dining hall belonging to the railroad company, at Lexington Junction. Following along the river, we next reached Kansas City, arriving at 11 o'clock on Thursday. The river was very high, and in some places the water was over the track. Great changes have taken place on the Missouri river since 15 years ago. Then all the traffic was carried on by steamboats; now the railroads do the business, and not a steamboat is to be seen, and the old river towns have gone to decay.

At Kansas City the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Road took charge of the party, Maj. T. J. Anderson, Gen'l Passenger Agent, Topeka, and Capt. Sam'l B. Hynes, Gen'l Agent, St. Louis, accompanying us. We traveled on the south bank of the Kansas river until we reached Topeka, where the road takes a more southerly direction and passes over some of the finest farming lands in the country. After leaving Topeka for some distance the country is sparsely settled, most of the land being in the hands of speculators, who got possession of it when the capital was located there; but soon the country becomes more thickly settled, and we pass some very fine improved farms, with good orchards. We pass through the thriving towns of Emporia, Florence and Newton, reaching the valley of the Arkansas at Hutchinson; passing through Great Bend and Larned, and reach Dodge City at about 9 o'clock on Friday morning. It had been raining almost incessantly since we left St. Louis, and the ground was saturated with water, so that great care was necessary to prevent accidents from land slides or washed out culverts; and after passing Dodge City about 25 miles, as we were approaching a small, deep stream, the engineer stopped the train, just as his engine was partly on the bridge, and discovered that the bridge had been washed out so much as to make it dangerous to cross; and we were backed down to Dodge City. Had he undertaken to cross the stream the whole train would probably have gone through the bridge, with great loss of life. Backing down to Dodge City, we remained there until Saturday morning. Dodge City is a place of about 700 inhabitants. It is one of the principal cattle trails from Texas, and at times there are over 100,000 cattle in the vicinity. They are now beginning to arrive, there being about 15,000 on the river at present. It is a rather hard place when all these cattle drovers are here. There are four dance houses, and fare and other games are carried on openly.

On Saturday morning we made another start. The country after leaving Dodge City is generally very level and covered with short buffalo and sage grass, and is quite sandy. There are few improvements or settlers—occasionally seeing a "dug out." We see any quantity of prairie dogs, standing on their hind legs and watching us as we pass; and occasionally an antelope. Buffalo are scarce in this region at present, having gone north. We travel along the Arkansas river the whole distance from Hutchinson to Pueblo, a distance of 429 miles, and are ascending at the rate of 8 feet to the mile, and when we reach Pueblo will be 4,774 feet above the sea level. At Grenada we cross the Arkansas, and begin to see the adobe houses, the settlements becoming thicker. Soon after leaving Los Alamos, which we reached about 3 o'clock, we came in sight of the mountains, the Spanish Peaks on the left and Pike's Peak on the right. We reach Pueblo about 7 o'clock, and after supper are transferred to the Denver and Rio Grande Narrow Gauge Railroad. There was some difficulty in making the change, as we had a number of broad gauge men with us, such as Rounds, Sullivan, Harlow and Bueck, but were soon all settled and on our way to Denver. The Denver and Rio Grande is a good, smooth road, and they make good time. We arrived at Denver about 9 o'clock Sunday morning, and stopped at the American House.

Sunday opened brightly, and as soon as the party had got a little rest we started out to get a sight of Denver. The city seems to be settled in great part by Illinoisans. Our former townsman, Herman Miller, Esq., lives here, holding the position of Superintendent of the U. S. Mint; and with his family we spent a very pleasant afternoon, taking a drive around the city, which is beautiful and very finely built. It contains a population of about 20,000, has the Holy water works, and several school buildings, &c. From here you can see Long's Peak, Pike's Peak, and several ranges of mountains, covered with snow, which to an Illinoisian is a novel and interesting sight. The party had a good rest, and on Monday were ready to take a new start.

On Monday morning we took the cars on the Colorado Central R. R. by the special invitation and courtesy of W. G. Brown, the General Ticket Agent, for Idaho Springs, 35 miles west of here, in the mountains. This road has just been finished to Georgetown, the distance now being 14 miles. The ride was wild and romantic. After reaching Golden, 15 miles from here, the road leads up Clear Creek Canon. The distance from Golden to Idaho Springs is 30 miles, and the difference in altitude is 1,575 feet. The quick turns on the road, the lofty precipices, the succeeding ranges of mountains, some of them still covered with snow, form a majestic scene. There are more and shorter curves on the Colorado Central Railroad than on any road in the country, and the grade is in some places very steep, reaching at one point 225 feet to the mile. It is a wonderful piece of engineering. The new road from Floyd's Hill to Idaho is a good piece of work, and, considering that this was the first train, runs very smoothly.

Idaho Springs is a pleasant little place, snugly situated in a beautiful valley, and surrounded by the everlasting hills. There is a couple of warm springs here, the water coming out at a temperature of 110 degrees, and the baths were enjoyed by a number of the party.

Almost everybody took along lunch, and a bountiful repast was enjoyed by the sides of the brooks and rills. Two hours and a half were spent here—most of the party strolled around promiscuously, and some strayed off to the mines in the vicinity. The new stamp mill erected by the Sunshine Mining Company has been running a week, and has crushed about 400 tons of ore, all from the Specie Payment lode.

On the return trip nothing of consequence happened, except the reception given at Beaver Brook by Mr. J. D. Babcock, formerly of Springfield, Ill., who was so pleased to see the people from his old state that he had stretched a large national flag across the road and fired a salute from a cannon on the approach of the train.

Denver was reached at half past five, and in the evening a pleasant informal hop was enjoyed by the party at the Grand Central. Gov. Route and lady accompanied the party on