The Pioneer Express

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF PEMBINA COUNTY.

F. A. WARDWELL. G. G. THOMPSON

WARDWELL & THOMPSON.

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FRIDAY AUGUST 24, 1888.

For President of the United States,
BENJAMIN HARRISON,
of Indiana.

For Vice President of the United States,
LEVI P. MORTON,
of New York.

WATERTOWN CONVENTION.

Latest returns up to time of going to press show that the numerous factions, in the contest for temporary organization, had divided into two parties, Gifford and Anti-Gifford, and that the Anti's had won by a vote of 246 to 242.

CROP PROSPECTS.

Are the crops injured? has been the anxious question of the week. So far as the present appearance of the grain is concerned it is still uninjured, though the threshing machine may tell a different tale, and the elevators. In spots the frost killed all tender garden stuff and scorched potatoes pretty badly and ice formed in very thin sheets. In other places only slight effects could be seen in gardens and no ice was formed. As a whole we get the opinion of many farmers that the early wheat is all right, but that late wheat will show the effects of frost.

Harvesting is going on in some neighborhoods, but will not be in full blast untill next week. The Pembina river country seems to be in the lead this year and is even ahead of the southern portion of the country. It is a general opinion that very late wheat has but little show.

Various opinions are heard about the general results. Some good judges place the yield from 75 to 90 per cent. of last year, while others make it better. The crop does not run as even as last year, and while most of the fields look as well as one could ask, occasionally a very poor field just heading out is seen, which, of course, will reduce the average. We think that while the average per acre throughout the county will be slightly reduced, the increased acreage will bring up a greater total than last year. This, with the probable increased price, will give us an era of increased prosperity, which is a very pleasant thing to contemplate.

NEWSPAPER PERSONALITIES.

Every now and then certain parties are heard to say that the more a newspaper abuses a man the more people think of him, and the best way to elect a political opponent is to attack his personal character. On the other hand, it is said that anything is fair in war and politics, and that mud is fair to use and as deadly in effect as are bullets.

Usually in a question of this kind the truth lies between. The abuse that finds its weapons in an epithetic deluge of Billingsgate also finds the weapon used to have a strong reaction. And while readers will sometimes look curiously on the talent displayed in the invention of abusive adjectives and peculiar epithets between a couple of country editors, yet the result on their minds is similar to that produced by a prize fight between brutes of men or of bull dogs.

But the question comes to every editor and to every politician, first, how far am I justified in using an opponent's frailties and faults in defeating his influence and plans for preferment, and, second, how best to use them to the greatest effect. Each one answers these questions for himself and according to his own judgment. For ourselves we believe that any candidate for public office, or office holder, "ex-officio" has no "private" character. His life both past and present is, by virtue of his relations to the public, the property of the public; and if he has any cause for shame he must be able to show justification or repentance, or it will be counted against him, and of right ought to be.

He stands in the same relation to the public as a private employe does to his employer, and no one doubts the right of the latter to know what the private character of his clerk or cashier is or has been. The discussion of private character should be limited by proper language and a due regard for the truth. Mere epithetic abuse is reactionary, and statements unfounded upon fact are but blank cartridges and only serve in the end to prove that the paper using them is unreliable.

But the politician who can command success in the face of newspaper warfare of any kind, is rare, and when the public believe that what is charged is the truth, and such truth as would disqualify from a like situation in private pursuits, then that politician may as well emigrate to some land where he is not known.

The Manitoba legislature meets next Tuesday.

The senate by a strict party vote, rejected the fisheries treaty.

"Lay on McDuff and d—d be he who first says enough!"

Attorney-General C. F. Templeton has been nominated as associate judge for Dakota.

Attorney L. A. Rose, of Fargo, a whilom resident of this county, is nominated on the republican ticket for district attorney of Cass county.

Major Edwards of the Argus has been nominated for council by the Cass county republicans. "We still have confidence" that Gov. Church will welcome the major with regret at Bismarck and will have more occasion to heartily wish that he had never fooled with the business end of the big Fargo bumble bee.

It is said on good authority that President Cleveland lacks for generals to carry out his campaign. The present chairman of the national committee has been found to be incapable and Cleveland is looking for some one to take his place, but all the old generals are men of the Randall class, who do not believe in the free trade doctrines of the president, and would as soon see him defeated as not. The democratic campaigners are evidently in a bad way.

On Tuesday of last week, the large Walker saw mill at Grand Forks was totally consumed by fire. Loss $70,000 It is not probable that the mill will be rebuilt.

C. S. Douglass has entered an action of protest against the election of Jas. Thompson who beat him by eight votes at the last election. "Bribery and corruption" are the charges.

According to the Winnipeg papers it is believed that the bargain between the Northern Pacific and the Manitoba Government for the use of the Red River Valley road and the building of the branches northwest from Winnipeg, is off. While this is not absolutely positive it is no doubt very probable, as the terms of the contract so far as made known, have met with an almost universal adverse criticism from the Manitobans. It is further rumored that the St. Paul and Manitoba Company have also put in a bid which is much more favorable than that of the Northern Pacific. The best confirmation of the first rumor is that the government are going ahead making arrangements and advertising and letting contracts for the building of the branches themselves. To us on this side of the line, so far as we can see, it will make no material difference whether the N. P. goes through to Winnipeg or connects at the boundary. As it is, Pembina remains the end of the division on the N. P., which is a good thing in itself, and at any rate we expect to see a good share of the Manitoba wheat come this way this season.

A gentleman whose business leads him all over the Northwest to the Pacific coast, was a caller at this office last week. In speaking of the state of business in the western states and territories he spoke of the state of affairs at Baker City, Oregon. In that vicinity sheep raising is the chief industry of the farmers and the wool clip stands in the same relation to their prosperity as does the wheat crop to us. Usually the banks hold from $100,000 to $200,000 to buy wool at the proper season. This year the banks did not have a dollar to buy with, and the farmers were compelled to store their wool and wait for a market until the Mills bill was out of the way. This occurred after the election when Oregon gave 7,000 majority for the republicans. If it had occurred before, the majority would have been doubled. There is no doubt of the way the Pacific states will go this fall; they all raise wool. Fortunately wheat cannot be affected in this way by any tinkering of tariff, if it could, we would be as badly off for a market as the Oregon farmers; because the South don't raise wheat or wool, all the protection they want is on rice and sugar, and the Mills bill is fixed to suit the South.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Correction.

Editor of PIONEER EXPRESS.

SIR,—In the issue of August 1st of the Pembina County Democrat there appeared the following announcement:

"At a meeting of the Good Templars, held July 20th, it was resolved that Geo. H. Megquier deliver a temperance lecture in our town some time in the near future. We heartily welcome Mr. Megquier and promise him a full house should he favor us with a lecture. The temperance people as well as the Lodge need stirring up in the good work."

This lodge not having authorized the publication of the above, but on the contrary having voted it down by a decisive majority at its meeting of July 27th, and on August 3rd having adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas public announcement has been made that the Bathgate Lodge No. 171, I.O.G.T. had invited Geo. H. Megquier to lecture under the auspices of their lodge on the subject of temperance, and whereas, such announcement was entirely without authority from the lodge. Now, therefore, be it resolved that public announcement be likewise made, that no such invitation has been given; and, further, that no one has been given authority to extend such invitation; and that this resolution be furnished to the Pembina County Democrat for publication."

And the same having been presented to the editor of the Democrat with a request to publish them in order to place the lodge in a proper light before the public, and he having positively refused to do so, now, therefore, be it resolved by the Bathgate Lodge of Good Templars that the above be presented to the editors of other papers of the county for publication.

JOHN MUNRO,
Secretary pro. tem.

Dated Aug. 17th, 1888.

Communication No. 4.

SECOND SERIES.

Editor of PIONEER EXPRESS.

My reviewers reviewed;

2. In detail, (continued).

My Drayton reviewer, after appealing to Paul—"a good specimen of manhood"—said: "I will ask your permission Mr. Editor, in my next letter to deal with the anti-Biblical argument, and I expect then to get at the root of this matter." How vain and disappointing are many of the expectations of mortals! He labored two weeks digging, perhaps, in the direction of "the root of this matter," perhaps in some other direction, and finally came before the intelligent public not with a "root" but with a specimen of his own "common sense"—a thing convenient enough for an ignorant man to fall back upon. But intelligent people (alas! all are not intelligent) will not accept Mr. Cooper's "common sense" nor mine. They demand thought intelligently developed. Having appealed to Paul, to Paul he must go. I shall use his own quotations from the great Apostle.

1. "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest" etc., etc. What "flesh" can have to do with the one or the more than one wine theory I do confess I have not "common sense" enough to understand. Again, that voluntary abstinence from animal food on the part of even "a good specimen of manhood" for the purpose of persuading (moral suasion) others not quite so "good" from idolatry should be used as an argument for compulsory abstinence from the necessary and religious use of wine seems to me, to say the least, not "common sense." A good "common sense" rule for understanding a writing is to ask oneself the question, "What is the writer writing about?" I think that even my Drayton reviewer would have refrained from employing the passage quoted as an argument for enforced abstinence and the employment of the detective "in developing a Christian character" if he had paused a moment to ask and answer the above question.

2. "It is good neither to eat flesh nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." Now suppose we ask the "common sense" question, What is the writer of the Epistle to the Romans writing about in the 14th chapter, that in which the above passage occurs? The answer is, He is writing about the duties Christians owe to each other in regard to matters indifferent. Eating animal food and drinking wine are in themselves acts indifferent according to Paul in this and other chapters quoted by my reviewer. "But," exclaims the Prohibitionist, "drinking wine is not a matter indifferent, but a matter positively sinful." Well, if drinking wine is sinful, eating meat is also. The text says "It is good not to eat flesh nor drink wine," etc. Any way there is nothing in the text or context to support enforced abstinence from wine or meat.

The immortal Charles Hodge, in his comment on this passage, says: "The ground on which some of the early Christians thought it incumbent on them to abstain from wine was not any general ascetic principle, but because they feared they might be led to use wine which had been offered to the gods; to which they had the same objection as to meat which had been presented in sacrifice." But perhaps the Drayton Manichaean, who says, "I naturally conclude that it (wine) is an evil thing if the Bible is true," is a more trustworthy authority than this prince of scholars. He also says, "Sikes, in one of his books so highly commended at the Brewers' convention should be held primarly responsible as he uses all the arguments and references which Bro. MacLean has given in his letter." He then shouts as if his "pitchfork" had gained for him another victory: "A little learning is a dangerous thing." Mr. Cooper, please don't say anything more about "Sikes'" books. "Sikes" wrote but one book on the subject under discussion. I am the fortunate owner of a copy of this great work. It deals with every text in the Bible that has any bearing on the "evil thing." If you insist on saying "Sikes' two books," or "Sikes, in one of his books," your readers who know that the Rev. J. R. Sikes wrote only one book on this question will "naturally conclude" you are not the right kind of a man to champion a moral reform.

My reviewer applies to me the conclusion of a great mind. "A little learning is a dangerous thing." This does apply to me. I know just enough to convince me that I know but little of the knowable. But rather than not taste the "Pierian Spring" I "drink deep" as my professional duties allow. Let me say, however, with becoming modesty, that I have a "sheep skin" finished in one of the dead languages. This document certifies, among other things, that the bearer graduated his Alma Mater with "Honors in Oriental Studies"—"Honoribus Litt. Orient." Call on me when convenient and I will take pleasure in showing you the document. Be not surprised then if you find that unearthing oriental roots affords me greater pleasure than taking refuge in "common sense." I do not, however, feel above taking advantage of the researches of such representative men as Carry, Cobb, Sikes, Crosby, Hovey, Hodge, Goldwin Smith and others. Indeed, I feel it to be "a dangerous thing" to trust to "common sense" or to a "little learning" in discussing a question so important as the one now before us.

Mr. Cooper, you have compelled me to write in self-defense. This, however, is no new thing. Paul, "a good specimen of manhood," found it necessary more than once to do the same. Now, sir, please tell your readers what right you have to be heard on a question whose issue turns on scholarship! Can you read the inspired Scriptures? Or are you at the mercy of what this one or that other one may say they teach? Is your "sheep skin" ornamented with the seal of some recognized educational institution or with its native wool? Leave "the dead languages alone" (per force no doubt) and betaking himself to "common sense," my reviewer calls the attention of his readers to a number of texts, wine texts if you please. He says, "When I turn to my Bible and find many places where wine is spoken of as a mocker," (see PIONEER EXPRESS, July 20th,) "I naturally conclude that it is an evil thing if the Bible is true." "Then when I find such a passage as this, Isa. 65:8, I naturally conclude that there is a difference or a contradiction; and when I learn that a different word is used in the Hebrew this idea is confirmed." It is too bad that we, shallow and simple in mind, are so easily "confirmed" in error!

The portions of the field in which my reviewer toiled so unskilfully and, we "naturally conclude," so unsuccessfully, are Prov. 21:1; Prov. 23:29-31; Isa. 65:8; Gen. 40:11. In the first passage the Hebrew for "wine" is yayin, of which the "root" is yun to press the vine, to tread or to press out the grapes. "According to this etymology," says Dr. Julius Fuerst, "one might take the noun yayin to mean a pressed or trodden thing, if such were not too general," etc. But this pressed or trodden thing is a "mocker." So was the holy Elijah when deceivers, intoxicated but not with wine, cried out, "O, Baal, hear us." The word for "strong drink" in the same passage is shekar, of which the root is shakar to drink one's fill, to drink to satisfaction, to drink abundantly, to drink deeply. It is too bad that this shekar is so desirable a thing that some people do not know when they have enough of it! Our best friends "rage," that is, make us "rage" when we do not know how to use them! What are we to do in such a case? Not to put our friends out of the way, but to learn how to use them. In the second passage to which he calls the attention of the reader wine is mentioned three times—twice as yayin (wine) and once as mimsak (mixed wine). The root of mimsak is masak which, according to Fuerst, means to mix wine, especially to mix it with spices to make it more fiery. Now this mixed, spiced, fiery thing may, according to the "common sense" of a Prohibitionist, be an "evil thing," but in Cant. 7:2 (Heb. 3 ver.) it is spoken of favorably and figuratively. "Mixed wine" (mimsak) is no more an "evil thing" than quails, but it, like them, may become troublesome to a people Godless and given to appetite, Isa. 65:11. The third passage he refers to is Isa. 65:8, where the word for wine is tirosh (new wine). New wines, like new preachers, are often sought after simply because they are new. But how often are those seekers for novelty "taken in!" Tirosh (new wine, "a blessing,") has for its "root" yarash, to seize, to snatch for oneself, to take possession of, to conquer. What a blessed conqueror is tirosh, new wine! What does it take possession of? What does it conquer? Ans. The brain of him or her that uses it to excess. Hence tirosh, new wine, is not unfermented wine. His fourth reference is to Gen. 40:11, the dream of Pharaoh's servant, from which he seems to infer that the old heathen king of Egypt was a better Christian than Abraham! This old glutton, etc., was so good that he would not taste even grape juice that was allowed to remain in a vessel more than a few minutes. The grapes must be pressed into a cup and this cup handed immediately to the heathen king. Lange, on this passage, says, "The people drank wine unrestrained; the kings, because they were priests, only so much as was allowed by the sacred books; but from the time of Psammeticus even this restriction was abolished. The old monuments show great variety of wine utensils, wine presses at work, topers tired of drinking, even intoxicated women." Anavim (grapes) properly means round berries of any kind—Fuerst. If the modern Diana worshipers are so joined to their idol that the foregoing exhibition and explanations of the "root of this matter" will fail to "break their bands asunder" I let them alone.

My reviewer says: "As to the argument that Solomon was engaged in the liquor traffic, he was unfortunately compromised in other directions which make him a poor example." The above shows the tendency of the religio politico hybrid, Prohibition, upon the minds of men. It ignores the word of God, and men whom God honored. Solomon, the prince of philosophers, of poets and of preachers, especially favored of God by the gift of wisdom and knowledge, "a poor example" for us of the Nineteenth Century. Solomon a poor example for the Drayton circuit rider to profit by! He expects to gain the sympathy of the women by the following perversion: "It is unkind of Bro. MacLean to refer the women of to-day to Solomon's harem and his seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines for examples of Christian conduct." I reproduce the sentence that called forth the above from my pure-minded reviewer: "Ask Solomon if the women of his country organized themselves into a society to agitate and legislate against the manufacture of wine, and he will tell you that the ladies of his day and nation were not such fools as to do that sort of thing." (See Drayton Echo, June 1st.) Reader, examine the above two extracts, my statement and Rev. Cooper's paraphrase of it, and I think you will say with me that he should be serving his time in a reform school or penitentiary. I might perhaps, have used the word "unwise" for "fools" as a nicer word, but the meaning would remain the same.

Last fall I went round with an anti-Mormon petition. Every one I called upon, but one man, signed this petition to lessen the number of "wives" and "concubines." This man said, "The Mormons are not so bad as they are represented." Need I say that he is a red hot Prohibitionist! Is it not quite evident that it is not Mr. Cooper's aim to advance temperance, but to vilify a man who has not said one word against temperance? That a reform, having "God, home and country" for slogan, which must be supported by such immorality as Mr. C. is guilty of! If Solomon must be shelved as "a poor example" for a pure souled Prohibitionist what objection can be made against Hezekiah? He, too, as I showed, was "engaged in the liquor traffic." How many "wives" and "concubines" did he have to make him "a poor example?" I mentioned these two men of God as "engaged in the liquor traffic" not because they were the only ones in Israel who encouraged and developed "commerce in wine and other strong drinks," but because Hezekiah, being a representative of piety, would not encourage an impious trade, and Solomon, being a representative in wisdom, (wisdom of God, I Kings 3:12) would not encourage an unwise or a ruinous national policy.

My pure-minded reviewer innocently exclaims, "What the man can mean by making such efforts to show that God's word encourages the use of intoxicating liquors I cannot divine." Of course the pure soul that would degrade a nation into a harem and ladies into concubines to prove that Prohibition is a good and, therefore, a desirable thing "cannot divine!" What has he to do with divinity! In his last letter of the series there is nothing to note but that he "came down a peg."

I have now answered him lest he should "be wise in his own conceit," Prov. 26:5. But in the future I will not notice him lest I "be like unto him," Prov. 26:4. I shall next week show (D.V.) that I am not "one man" against the world, "Unus Athanasius contra totem orbem," and that there is "a more excellent way." Then finis.

Respectfully,
CHARLES MACLEAN.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Estate of Andrew Finley, deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, John M. Wylie, executor of the will of Andrew Finlay, deceased, to the creditors of and all persons having claims against the said deceased to exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, within ten months after the first publication of this notice, to the said executor at his residence in the town of Neche, in the county of Pembina.

Dated at Neche July 27th, 1888.

JOHN M. WYLIE,
Executor of Andrew Finley, deceased.

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Sheriff's Sale.

TERRITORY OF DAKOTA, } ss
County of Pembina. }

Cynthia C. Hart, plaintiff, vs. Joseph Congdon and Mary Congdon, defendants.

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of an execution to me directed and delivered, and now in my hands, issued out of the clerk's office of the 3rd Judicial District Court, Territory of Dakota, in and for the County of Pembina, upon a judgment and decree in foreclosure rendered in said Court in favor of Cynthia C. Hart, plaintiff, and against Joseph Congdon and Mary Congdon, defendants, and by which judgment, decree and execution I was directed to sell the following described property, to-wit: The southwest quarter of section number nine (9), in township number one hundred and sixty-two (162) north of range number fifty-one (51) west of the fifth principal meridian, in Pembina County, Dakota Territory. And I shall, on Saturday, the first day of September, A. D. 1888, at the hour of two o'clock p. m. of said day, at the front door of the Court House, in the city of Pembina, in said County and Territory, proceed to sell all the right, title and interest of the above named Joseph Congdon and Mary Congdon in and to the above described property to satisfy said judgment and costs, amounting to eight hundred and twelve dollars and seventy cents, together with all accruing costs of sale, and interest on the same from the 21st day of July, 1888, at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, at Public Auction, to the highest bidder for cash.

W. J. KNEESHAW,
Plaintiff's attorney. WILLIAM JAMES,
Sheriff of Pembina County.
By Francis A. Hart, Deputy.

Dated Pembina, D. T., July 24th, 1888. 1-6

Summons.

TERRITORY OF DAKOTA, } District Court,
County of Pembina. } ss Third Judicial Dist.

Louie L. Thornely, plaintiff, vs. William Watson, Jr., Letty Watson and Frank D. Harison, defendants.

Territory of Dakota to the above named defendants:

You, and each of you are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in the above entitled action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber, at his office in the city of Pembina in the county of Pembina and territory aforesaid, within thirty days after the service of this summons upon you exclusive of the day of such service: and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiff in this action will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the complaint besides costs and disbursements.

Dated June 30th, A. D. 1888.

W. J. KNEESHAW.
Plaintiff's attorney, Pembina D. T.

To William Watson, Jr., and Letty Watson.

Please take notice that the complaint in the above entitled action was filed with Henry D. Borden clerk of the district court for Pembina county at his office in the court house in the city of Pembina, on the 19th day of July, 1888.

W. J. KNEESHAW.
Plaintiff's attorney.

Dated July 19th, 1888. 52-6

Probate Notice.

TERRITORY OF DAKOTA, } ss In Probate Court.
County of Pembina. }

In the matter of the estate of Henry Shaw, deceased.

Notice is given that Margaret Shaw has filed with the clerk of this court a petition, praying that letters testamentary of the last will and testament of Henry Shaw, deceased, be granted to George Grogan and J. B. Robinson, the executors named in said last will and testament, and that Saturday, the 8th day of September, A. D. eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, at ten o'clock a.m. of said day, being a day of special term of this court, to wit, of the September term, A. D. eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, at Probate office, in the County of Pembina, Territory of Dakota, has been set for hearing said petition, when and where any person interested may appear and show cause why the said petition should not be granted.

E. A. ARMSTRONG,
Probate Judge.

Dated, August 14th, 1888. 4-6

Herding.

Again I have the opportunity of soliciting your patronage for the season of 1888, and will guarantee satisfaction.

40tf MARTIN BENTLY, Pembina.