

HASKELL CITY FREE PRESS.

Vol. 3. Haskell, Haskell County, Texas, Saturday June 2, 1888. No. 21.

Special Announcement.

We Offer for the NEXT 60 DAYS Our Entire Stock of NEW SPRING GOODS at Special Low Price. We Have the Largest Stock in all Lines, that we have ever Offered Before, and at Prices that Defies Competition. We Would be Pleased to have the Citizens of Haskell County, Call and Examine Our Stock.

YOURS TRULY,

ROLLINS & YOUNG.

ABILENE

WINDY WEATHER.

A Cyclone Cuts a Path Through a Kansas Town and Does Considerable Damage.

A Remarkable Scene.

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., May 24.—Last evening about 6:30 o'clock the peculiar action of the clouds attracted considerable attention here. One heavy stratum was moving from the southwest, and another from the east, southeast, and the two seemed to come to a focus at a point some three or four miles northwest of this town. In the east were massed great banks of clouds, almost to the zenith, of many gorgeous colors, from the fleecy white, the old gold, blue, violet and purple, to the almost black, illuminated by vivid flashes of forked lightning, and spanned by the arc of a most brilliant rainbow. At the junction of two converging strata of clouds a great commotion was seen. Chunks of clouds seemed to drop nearly to the earth and rise again, an omniscient whirling motion was being developed, and at just about 7 o'clock the terrible, funnel-shaped cyclone cloud was suddenly and perfectly formed. It quickly dashed to the earth, formed nearly into columnar shape, and raised a whirlwind which seemed to be about 100 yards in diameter. The contract with the earth raised a great, rebounding spraying cloud to nearly half the height of the funnel, which then commenced moving off slowly in a northeasterly direction. The forward motion seemed slow because of its bearing away from us all the time, and the cloud occupied fully half an hour in moving from the starting point about 40° west of north to a point about 10° east of north. Several times during its journey the point could be seen to rise some distance from the earth and then plunged down again, raising that great rebounding cloud all around it. Several times also it seemed to stand perfectly still for two or three minutes and then moved on again. When the furthest point east was reached the cloud seemed to stand perfectly still for fully five minutes, then move off again, but in a northwestern direction, very slowly, for ten minutes, when it again came to a halt, due north from here. There it stood, gradually growing dimmer in the distance and twilight for some minutes, when suddenly that great rebounding cloud from the earth seemed to rise larger and higher than before, almost to the top of the funnel, which then commenced elongating into a long slender column, at the same time pending over until it assumed nearly the form of a crescent. Then quick as a flash, it was dissipated and disappeared entirely. It was then just about 8 o'clock and the cyclone had been in plain view for an hour. Its course seemed to be out through Waggoner's big pasture, and as but few people live in that locality, it is hoped that but little damage has been done.

THE DAMAGE DONE.

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., May 24.—Parties who have come in from the country this morning give the following accounts of damages resulting from the cyclone of last evening: The cyclone formed near the farm of Colonel John G. James, some four or five miles up the Wichita river. It missed his house and stables a few yards, but picked up an Osborne self binder that was set up ready for work, and then causing it to perform several acrobatic feats in the air, dropped it to the ground smashed to smithereens.

After this bit of "monkeying" it started across the hill in the direction already described, leaving a track behind it 200 yards in width, and wherever it passed through a wire fence it clipped the wires and pulled the posts out of the ground, scattering them no one knows where. Coming next to the farm of R. D. Hart, it played havoc with his sheds and the fences surrounding them, but did not molest either his wheat field or his dwelling. Proceeding along Bare creek it mowed the mesquite trees to the ground some of them being as large as a man's leg. It passed next across one corner of Judge Pratt's farm tearing a portion of his wheat up by the roots, throwing down his fence and killing one of his horses.

TRUSTS AND THE MILLS BILL.

The protectionists by patiently waiting have at last got something to grovel about, and with thoughtless haste are parading the statement that the "outrageous Mills bill," by placing borax on the free list, has caused the failure of Coleman and Co., a large San Francisco firm, which had over \$2,000,000 of hypothetical capital locked up in problematical deposits of that article. Whether this is circumstantially true or not, it would not shock a healthy sense of justice if its truth were completely demonstrated. A tariff reform bill, mere agitation of which would thus discomfit a vast and grasping combination formed for the purpose of monopolizing an elemental bounty of nature and speculating on the necessities of industry and the needs of the people, could scarcely receive a higher attestation than such an incident would afford of its fitness to become a law. It has long been asserted that trusts and like monopoly contrivances which have recently undergone investigation have grown up under the nature of our protective laws, and that when these laws are repealed the desolutions of the trusts will follow speedily. The Coleman failure the other day in San Francisco, if precipitated by the apprehended removal of the protective duty on borax, goes to sustain this view, for with the downfall of that firm was also recorded the downfall of one of the most heartless trusts that has yet been formed. Under the operations of this trust every washerwoman and every blacksmith in the land were compelled to pay tribute to the tune of 1 1/2 cents per pound for all the borax they used to a ring of speculators, protected in their monopoly by the tariff imposed by the government. Borax was formerly on the free list, as none of it was produced in this country, and therefore there was no "infant industry" to be fostered and protected. But in 1870 deposits were discovered in California and Nevada. At once a syndicate was formed and the mines were purchased; emissaries were sent to Washington and Congress was induced to "protect" them by putting high duties on borax and all chemical preparations from it. Having gained complete possession of the home market in this way, the next step was to regulate it so as to obtain the greatest profits, and for this purpose a "borax trust" was formed. The trust at once reduced the output of borax and advanced the price from 6 cents to 7 1/2 cents per pound. This was done in October last and contracts were made and signed then, which, it would seem, led to the overthrow of the borax ring a few days ago. The tariff bill of Mr.

Mills put borax on the free list, and thus the mere proposition to do just and right apparently had the effect of causing the downfall of a stupendous ring that could not exist if justice and right were to have the slightest show. The protectionists in their eagerness to find something to say against tariff reform have seized upon the Coleman failure as a godsend, but it is safe to predict that they will repent being so hasty when they come to reflect over the matter. For once they have changed their historical cries of "labor in danger" to "capital in danger," but they are welcome to all they can make out of the new issue. The Coleman failure in the closing year of Cleveland's administration is a fitting companion piece for the failure of John Roach at the beginning of it, and both go to show that while all the rascals were not "turned out" the honesty and integrity of the Democratic administration caused the discomfiture and ruin of some of the greatest of them.

NEW YORK DEMOCRATS AND THE MILLS BILL.

Reports from Washington represent the friends of the administration as dissatisfied with the tariff resolutions of the New York State Democratic convention. As the resolution broadly indorsed the tax reduction and tariff reform policy outlined in the president's message it is difficult to understand the substantial ground of the dissatisfaction. It is equally difficult to understand why a minority faction have been allowed to dictate the omission of a specific indorsement of the Mills bill, as desired by a large majority of the convention. It looks contradictory to suppose that the commission was intended to propitiate an anti-tariff reform element among Democrats in New York or in Congress. The Mills bill was drawn up after President Cleveland's tariff message was sent to congress and was, presumably, framed to meet the recommendations of that message. But as Mr. Breckenridge of Kentucky has observed, the bill upon mature examination was found to fall far of even the conservative recommendations of the president. Mrs. Cleveland, however, has given it his indorsement, and there can be no question that it does pro tanto carry out the tariff reform views of the president. Hence an indorsement of Mr. Cleveland's tariff message would seem by necessary implication to mean an indorsement of the Mills bill without any material reservation or proviso unless that it did not go far enough. The first clause of resolution adopted by the recent New York Democratic Convention was as follows: "The all egotism and adherence of the State Democracy to the principles announced by the convention of 1887 are hereby again declared." And by a singular coincidence the very first clause of the Democratic platform of 1887, thus adhered to, reads: "The unnecessary Federal taxation of the last fiscal year exceeded \$100,000,000 and unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation. Therefore the Democracy of New York demand that Federal taxation be straightway reduced by a sum not less than \$100,000,000 a year, and also respectfully urge upon Congress that a measure shall be adopted which will, in the language of the president's inaugural address, relieve the people from unnecessary taxation, having a due regard to the interests of capital invested and workingmen employed in American industries." Had

the Mills bill been framed in accordance with this platform, rather than with the president's message, it could scarcely have fitted the case better than it does. It is true that it falls somewhat short of the \$100,000,000 reduction demanded by the New York Democrats, but this is the only objection which, according to the tenor of their own State platform, they can possibly have to it. They indorse Mr. Cleveland and they indorse their own platform of 1887, and it perfectly sincere in both these indorsements it was not logically necessary that they should specifically indorse the Mills bill.

ELOPED WITH HER BROTHER.

A Kentuckian Runs Away with His Sister Whom He Did Not Know.

LOUISVILLE, KY., May 21.—A telegram to-day from Mrs. Eliza George, living ten miles from this city, to Chief Detective Yankee Bligh, developed a most remarkable romance. The telegram ordered Captain Bligh to arrest at all hazards Madalene George, sixteen years old, who had eloped with Robert Stephens, Jr., a neighbor, eighteen years old. The young couple were arrested in a justice's office, where they had gone to be married. Fortunately they neglected to obtain a license, and in the delay thus occasioned they were arrested by the detectives. The boy said he and Madalene loved each other and intended to marry. Shortly after their arrest Mrs. Eliza George arrived. Twenty years ago, Mrs. George said, her father died, leaving her his fortune of a farm and several thousand dollars, on condition that she never marry. Before and after the old gentleman's death Eliza had been assiduously courted by Henry Stephens, a gardener. The young woman loved him, but under the provisions of her father's will, could not marry. At last Cupid provided away, and Stephen and Miss George were married under the names of A. Goodman and Sallie White. They came to this city, where the ceremony was performed. For three years they lived together secretly, two children being born to them. They then separated, Mrs. Stephens taking her maiden name, George, and the youngest child, the girl Madalene, returned to her country home, Stephens taking the oldest child, Henry. Some years later Stephens gave up his business in Louisville, and moved to the country, buying a farm adjoining that of Mrs. George. The children grew up together, never knowing that they were at all related, their parents preserving their secret well. The young people naturally fell in love, but their parents strenuously opposed any connection between them. They finally eloped, and their arrest just in the nick of time prevented a union between the brother and sister. The people are medium class but well-to-do farmers.

Mail Coach Robbed.

San Antonio, Tex., May 26.—The United States mail coach between Fredericksburg and Comfort was robbed about fourteen miles from the latter place last night by two masked men with Winchester. Only one pouch was rifled, to what amount is not known. There were two or three passengers on the stage, but they were not molested. From the conversation of the robbers they are judged to be German. No arrests have been made.

THEO. HEYCK, President. Wm. CAMERON, Vice-President. J. G. LOWDON, Cashier.

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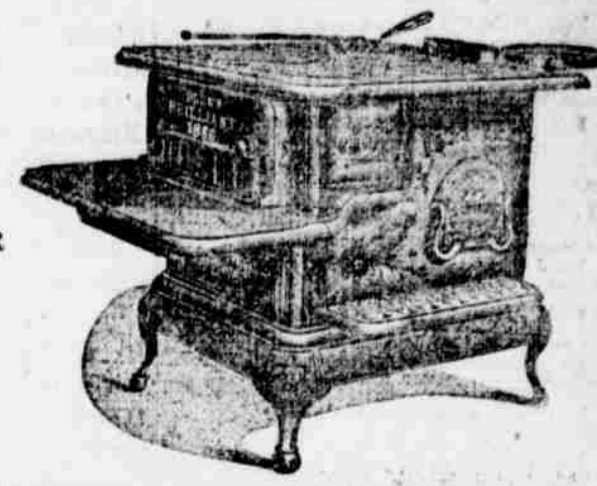
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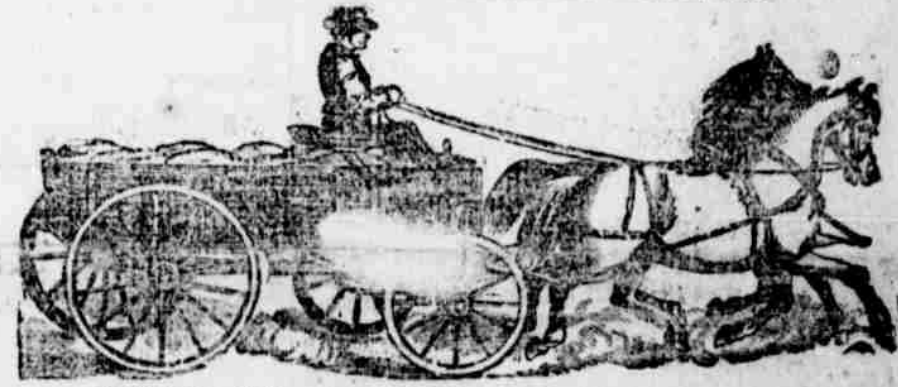
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Attorney at Law, and

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OSCAR MARTIN,

Attorney & Counsellor at Law

HASKELL CITY, TEXAS.

Notary Public.

HASKELL CITY, TEXAS.

Arthur C. Foster,

LAND LAWYER, HASKELL, TEXAS.

Abstractor, Notary Public and Conveyancer.

R. C. LOMAX, H. R. JONES,

Lomax & Jones,

Attorneys at Law and Land Agents, HASKELL, TEXAS.

F. G. THURMAN,

Attorney-at-LAW, SWEETWATER, TEXAS.

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ROYAL HARMONICAS,

The finest mouth Harmonicas possible to make.

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Haskell City Free Press.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY,
AT HASKELL, TEXAS.

Official paper of Haskell County.
Entered at the Post Office, Haskell, Texas,
as second class mail matter.

Hec. A. McEachin, Oscar Martin
McEACHIN & MARTIN
Publishers and Proprietors.
HASKELL, TEXAS.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.50 per year

Trouble on the Return.

Well, wife, I saw the capitol.
Of which you say they sold.
And every door knob on the doors
Is bright as polished gold.
'Tis big this way and big that way.
Its height is just a wonder.
The echo from a screaming shoe
Just sounds like peals of thunder.
You may talk about the temple
And the basins of pure gold.
But of the grandeur of that capitol
The half has not been told.

Now, wife, the Haskell courthouse,
Though grand we think it looks.
Would not hold half the papers there,
Besides so many books.

There was a grand procession
That marched 'round Congress Hill,
And long will be remembered
The grand old Austin drill.

We saw the gray haired veterans
In stormy days they sold.
From San Jacinto's thunder
The gloomy clouds drive away.

They hoisted high their banners,
Unfurling them to the breeze,
And gloried in the stars and stripes
That are honored on the seas.

Now, wife, I'll tell you something more
About those fancy folks.
They meet you with a lively smile
And crack such lively jokes.

I thought with one I'd take a ride,
And ride for half the day,
That I might hear and she might tell
Of all she had to say.

And when into the buggy we
Had taken a pleasant seat,
Then with a wink and dimpled hand
"The lightly pressed my cheek"

Look here, old man, I've heard enough
About that red down south;
Had I been there my dimpled hand
Would have mashed her blamed old mouth.

You've been taking all the pleasure,
Spending all our gold and treasure.
But I, poor girl, must stay at home
In grief and sorrow all alone.

Now, wife, don't talk that way any more,
For if the heaven's will
I'll vow to you I'll go no more
To see another Austin drill.

CITIZEN.

You can now vote either pro
or anti without having your Dem-
ocracy impugned.

Your Aunt Belva Lockwood is
again running for President of
these United States.

The Amarillo Champion is a
candidate for public favor. It
hails from Potter county.

Col. Bob Taylor, of Tennessee,
has again fiddled his way into the
residence of the Governor.

The "Heart of Oak" men made
a desperate effort to capture the
Fort Worth convention, but made
a signal failure.

Those who went to the Austin
drill and dedication say they were
robbed by everything they came
in contact with. Extortion was
the order of the day, and it is a
shame on the great State of Texas.

The town of Argonia, Kansas,
which had a female mayor, has
been entirely wrecked by a cyclone.
Of course, no one will be so un-
kind as to suggest that the mayor-
ess has been guilty of raising the
wind.

An exchange says that a man
who has tried it says that prairie
dogs may be killed out by placing
a chicken that has died of cholera
in a town where they will find it,
that they will catch the disease
and die of it.

General Phil Sheridan, the
man who said if he owned Texas
and Hell that he would live in
Hell and rent out Texas, is at the
point of death, from heart trouble.
Probably when he is brought
closer to the other place, he will
have better and more pleasant
recollections of Texas.

Now comes a gentleman of color
and claims to be a son of the dead
Beau, who died and left property
worth one million dollars near
Bonham. It is now time to ring
down the curtain and declare the
performance brought to a close.
But that was certainly a prolific
Beau stalk, even if it did not yield
according to color.

The Throckmorton Times says:
A curious freak of nature, or at
least an uncommon occurrence is
reported from the northeast part
of this county, and seems to be
well authenticated. It is stated
that a few days since a mare gave
birth to a male colt, which died in
a short time, and, that three days
afterward, she gave birth to a horse
colt, which is large and in vigor-
ous health.

The Free Press does not desire to
be impertinent or inquisitive,
but we would like to know
if Haskell's representative at the
Fort Worth convention got in his
vote on the appointment of the
three committees just as he intend-
ed? We are rather inclined to be-
lieve that he did not exactly un-
derstand the situation.

HASKELL county must do some-
thing in regard to an exhibit for
the Dallas fair. Let our immigra-
tion association see that specimens
of all the productions of the county
be gathered up in their proper sea-
son and preserved until the date
of the fair. Wheat, oats, corn, cot-
ton, rye, millet, sorghum and all
that we grow should be gathered
up and taken in charge by a com-
mittee appointed for the purpose.
Let us not be backward about the
matter, but rather, let us all take
hold and push it for all it is worth.

The appointment of J. W. Evans
created great consternation in
the camp of all other aspirants.
His appointment was a great sur-
prise to all as it is generally
known that in the last general
election he only got eight votes
for tax assessor in the county.
Yet commissioners Vernan and
Carmichael have made the great
discovery that in him the qualifi-
cations the law requires were
found. They have said by their
action, that of all candidates he
was the most learned disciple of
Blackstone.

Mississippi Democrats.

Jackson, Miss., May 24.—The
state Democratic convention held
here to-day elected Governor J.
M. Stone permanent chairman.
A resolution indorsing President
Cleveland's administration was
unanimously adopted. A resolu-
tion was also adopted strongly in-
dorsing the Mills tariff bill. The
Delegates are W. H. Syms, R. H.
Taylor, W. L. Martin and S. S.
Cathoun.

Baptist S. S. and Colportage Convention.

The Baptist Sunday School and
Colportage Convention of Texas
will meet at Cleburne, June 22d.
Every Baptist Church and Sunday
School is entitled each to one dele-
gate and an additional one for
every twenty-five members en-
rolled.

The citizens of Cleburne have
generously offered to entertain not
only the delegates but all visitors
who attend.

Dr. J. Wm. Jones, of Atlanta,
Ga., will deliver his lecture on
"Christ in the Camp" at some hour
during the session.

The Missionaries of this Conven-
tion will organize during the year
more than two hundred Sunday
Schools and distribute nearly a
million pages of religious literature.

The rail road fare will be re-
duced to 4 cents a mile for the
round trip.

JEFF. D. RAY, Cor. Sec.

CANDIDATES who spend their
time in discussing the FREE PRESS
announcement rates are wasting
golden moments. There was a
time when the people of Haskell
thought that the FREE PRESS was
not the brightest and most influ-
ential journal in the west. The cry
went up for a better paper, and at
great and continued expense, we
have improved the paper and
made it second to no other county
paper in the state. It requires
money to hold the paper up to its
present standard. If the people
generally were to adopt the unjust
views of a few who want office and
don't want to pay for their an-
nouncements, it would require but
a short length of time to relegate
the paper back to the point from
which it started. Business is busi-
ness, and the FREE PRESS is run
on business principles, and we are
not objects of charity. We give
more than value received for every
dollar that passes through our
hands. We have invested more in
the present material than the pa-
per will make this year, and yet,
we are accused of a disposition
smacking of extortion.

Gentlemen, if you had the prop-
er appreciation of the worth of
your county paper; and had per-
ception sufficient to recognize a
good thing when you see it, you
would change your tactics. Come
up like men and announce and
stop this unnecessary discussion.
Your paper can not live and flourish
without the support of its
home people, and you are just as
much interested in the success of
the FREE PRESS as we are.

HASKELL COUNTY.

Her Advantages, Resources and Future Prospects.

In almost every neighborhood
of the older states and the thickly
settled portions of our own state
there are many of its citizens who
are contemplating a removal or a
change of residence for many rea-
sons. Some to restore lost health,
some to make their first beginning
in the world, others to repair finan-
cial losses, others seeking safe and
profitable investments of surplus
capital. There are many others
who have comfortable homes and
are well contented, but who have
children, whom they would like to
provide with lands suitable for
homes, and assist to commence
business in life, but can not do so
with their present surroundings,
and must seek cheaper lands and
better opportunities in other and
newer localities.

To such we would say, you are
just the people we want. Come
and see us, and you will find a
broad field of occupation and in-
vestment to choose from, with
chances greatly in your favor.
In coming to Haskell do not imag-
ine we are a people wild and wool-
ly and indigenous to these "west-
ern wilds," that we are loaded with
dynamite and shooting irons, that
our conversations are collections
of cuss words and Mulhattan
mixtures, but rather that we are
a people reared among the same
surroundings, that we have re-
ceived the benefit of the same ad-
vantages, that we have availed
ourselves of the same educational
privileges, that we have had the
same christian instructions you
yourselves have had. Be enlight-
ened by past experience. Fortu-
nes have been made by the de-
velopment of new countries, and
fortunes are yet to be made in our
new and equally as good county.

We have a county endowed by
nature with all the conditions of
soil prairie and valley adapting it
to the production of all the grains,
grasses, fruits and vegetables of
the temperate zone. We have a
climate which is a happy medium
between the extreme cold and ex-
treme heat, a climate which will
preserve the strong and robust
and strengthen the sickly and
weak. We have a county well
adapted to stock raising of all
kinds. We have a county where
no malarial sickness ever comes.
We have a county of the best lands
in Northwest Texas. We have an
abundance of mesquite, elm
and hackberry timber for firewood
and fencing. We have the most
substantial inland business town
in the northwest. We have the
greatest abundance of the purest
water. We have a class of citizens
as honest and industrious, as hos-
pitable and good natured, as law
abiding, patriotic and religious as
can be found anywhere in the Uni-
ted States. We have plenty of
rooms, and invite you and all who
contemplate a change, to come, all
who want good and cheap lands.
We have them, and want you for
neighbors and friends.

This county is situated in the
northwestern part of the state, and
is about 1800 feet above the level
of the sea; is in form of a square,
embracing an area of 900 square
miles, or 576,000 acres, of which
4-5 is arable or agricultural.

WATER.

The water supply comes from
the Double Mountain Fork of the
Brazos river, in the western por-
tion of the county; California creek
entering the county from the
south, then running an easterly
direction across the S. E. portion
of the county; Paint creek heading
near the west line of the county,
and running east; Miller and Lake
creeks heading near the center of
the county, and running in a
northeasterly course into Baylor county.
The waters of these streams
are pure and free from mineral or
alkali.

Aside from the surface water
furnished by these streams, we
have the greatest abundance of
the purest water all over our coun-
ty, which can be obtained at a
depth of from 15 to 40 feet. Free
from mineral of any kind, it is
nearly pure freestone water. Good
lands and good water in abun-
dant form the basis and founda-
tion for a prosperous farming
country, second to none anywhere
in the state.

SOIL.

The soil is an alluvial loam of
great depth and fertility, varying in
color, from a red to a dark choco-
late, and by reason of its porosity
and friable nature, when thor-
oughly plowed, readily drinks in the
rainfall, and in dry seasons absorbs
moisture from the atmosphere; and
for the like reasons the soil readily
drains itself of the surplus water,
thereby preventing stagnation of
the water and the baking of the
soil, as well as the germination of
miasma. It is these peculiar
qualities of the soil that enables
vegetation to withstand much
drouth and wait for the coming
of the rain. Crops will survive three
or four weeks drouth without very
serious injury—it is a six or eight
weeks drouth in mid summer that
blasts and ruins crops. Except
mosquito grubs and stumps, which
are easily extracted, there are no
obstructions to plow, and the land
being level or generally rolling,
and easily worked, the use of labor
saving implements at once becomes
pleasant and profitable.

PRODUCTS.

Indian corn, wheat, oats, barley,
rye, durum corn, millet, sorghum,
castor beans, field peas, peanuts,
pumpkins, and all the squash fam-
ily, turnips and cotton are grown
successfully and profitably. Also
sweet potatoes do well, and Irish
potatoes as well as anywhere in the
South. Garden vegetables grow
to perfection, and mellons luxuriate
in Haskell county soil, growing to
fine size of superb quality. Besides
the native grasses that grow on the
prairies, sustaining large numbers
of cattle, horses and sheep through-
out the year, Johnson and Colora-
do grasses grow to great perfection
and the hay made from these
grasses form a valuable adjunct to
the winter pasture, in keeping
stock over winter.

YIELD AND PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS.

The average yield of Indian corn
per acre is about 30 bushels, and
the price varies from 50 cents to
\$1.25 per bushel; the wheat yield
for the year '87—a dry year—ranged
from 3 to 30 bushels—averag-
ing between 16 and 18 bushels per
acre, and sold in the home market
for 90 cents to \$1.00 per bushel;
oats yield 50 to 75 bushels per acre,
and usually sell at 35 to 75 cents
per bushel; cotton yields a half to
three quarters of a bale per acre,
but owing to the great distance to
market its cultivation is not en-
gaged in to a great extent. Other
crops make good yields and com-
mand corresponding prices. Home
made pork is usually worth 6 to 8
cents per pound; fresh beef 4 to 6
cents; home made butter, sweet
and delicious, usually sells at 25
cents per pound; chickens 15 to 25
cents each, and eggs 10 to 25 cents
per dozen.

SHIPPING POINT.

As yet Haskell has no railroad,
and our people do their principal
shipping to and from Abilene, a
town 60 miles south, in Taylor
county, on the Texas and Pacific
Railroad. There is also some ship-
ping done to Albany, a town 45
miles southeast, on the Texas Cen-
tral Railroad, but not so much as
to Abilene, because of rougher
wagon roads.

RAILROAD PROSPECTS.

At present there is no prospect
of a railroad building into Haskell
in the immediate future. We ex-
pect to get an extension of the
Texas Central Railroad from Al-
bany to Haskell, but that road is
in the hands of the U. S. Court,
and unlikely to be extended until
it is discharged from the control
of said court. We also think that
the Fort Worth Western Railroad
will build from Fort Worth west-
ward through Haskell, and it is
believed that the St. Louis and San
Francisco Railroad will build
southward through the Panhandle
and through Haskell, and it is
possible that the Chicago and Rock
Island Railroad may yet build
through Haskell.

PRICE OF LANDS.

Rich river valley unimproved
agricultural land more than 5 miles
from town, sells at \$3 to \$4 per
acre. Rich unimproved agricul-
tural prairie uplands, more than 5
miles from town, sells at \$2 to \$3
per acre, and within 5 miles from
town, \$3 to \$15 per acre. Pasture
land unimproved sells at \$1 to \$2
per acre. The usual terms of sale
is one-third cash, and the balance
in equal payments in one and two
years, with ten per cent. interest.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Our school fund is perhaps the
best of any county in the northwest.

MAIL FACILITIES.

There is only one post office in
Haskell county, that at the town of
Haskell. It has a daily mail, over
the mail line from Abilene via
Anson; which line also brings ex-
press freight, and proves very
satisfactory to our people.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The religious and moral status
of the people of Haskell county will
compare favorably with that of any
people. The Methodist, Baptist,
Christians, Old School and Cam-
berland Presbyterians each have
organized churches in the town of
Haskell, and have preaching on
three Sundays in each month;
also preaching at other points in
the county. We have a good
Union Sunday School, and Band
of Hope, and weekly prayer meet-
ings.

HASKELL.

The town of Haskell is the coun-
ty site of, and is situated one
and one-half miles south of the center
of Haskell county, on a beautiful
table land, and is four years old
and has a population of 600 to 700.
Has as good well water as can be
found anywhere, which is secured
at a depth of 15 to 22 feet. Also
has two never failing springs of
pure water in the edge of town.
Haskell has four drygoods and
grocery stores, which carry full
lines, and supply the people with
groceries, at prices as low as can
be had in railroad towns, with 50
cents per hundred pounds for
freight added, and drygoods as
cheap as anywhere. Also has two
drug stores; one hardware store;
one notion store; one hotel, and
one restaurant, both first class;
one blacksmith shop; one cabinet
and wood shop; one exchange
bank, one barber shop; two silver
smith shops; one saddlery shop;
one meat market; two livery stables;
four doctors; eight lawyers; three
land agents; one first class county
newspaper and job office, and only
one saloon; all doing a very good
business. The town of Haskell
with her natural advantages, of
location, climate, good water and
fertility of soil of the surrounding
country, is destined in the near
future to be the queen city of
Northwest Texas, and railroad
connection for Haskell is all that
is needed to accomplish this.

Reader, please hand this to your
friend.

STOP PAYING high prices for GROCERIES

It is no longer necessary. There
has been a reduction in profits.
It is still going on, and we are the
leaders in Low Prices. The reign
of terror caused by high prices and
hard times is over, and

You Need Not Pay

Exorbitant Charges any more.
Come to Abilene to do your trading.
Come and trade with us. We keep
a full and complete assortment of
the Choice-est, Cheapest and Cheap-
est High Quality
Groceries

Produce

in the City, and promise to give
you some figures you never have
seen before.

Our Motto—
QUALITY Highest
Price LOWEST
Come see us and we will treat
you right.

Roberts & Mackebury,
GROCERS
AND
COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

FINE SIBERT, ABILENE, TEXAS.

DELMONICO RESTAURANT


S. W. corner of Public Square,
HASKELL, TEXAS.
The public is solicited to stop at this house when in Haskell.
You can get a nice comfortable bed for 25cts; also a meal of the best
the market affords for same price.
J. W. Becknell Proprietor.

THE STAR HOTEL, M. G. RHODES AND SON Proprietors. Anson, Texas.

Good Comfortable Rooms and Clean Beds. The Tables Fur-
nished with the best Market Affords. Nice and Convenient
Sample Rooms for COMMERCIAL Travellers.
Terms very Reasonable.

N. PORTER,

Pine Street, Abilene Texas.



Manufacturer and Dealer
in Cheyenne Saddles,
Harness, Bridles, and every-
thing you need in the Sad-
dlery Line.

My Leading Prices on Cheyenne Saddles are \$25, \$30 and \$35
Keep Your Money at Home,
and buy Cheyenne Saddles
Cheaper in Abilene than in
Cheyenne.

Hec. A. McEachin, Max R. Andrews.
McEachin & Andrews,
JOB PRINTERS and STATIONERS
ABILENE, TEXAS.
The Largest Job Printing Establishment West of Fort Worth.
Three Fast Job Presses, and the Finest Office in Texas.
Orders left with Oscar Martin will have prompt attention.

HICKEL & HILLGER

DEALER IN
Fine Boots and Shoes.
We carry the finest stock in the city, and sell cheaper than you can
buy elsewhere in Western Texas. Repairing a specialty. We respect-
fully solicit a share of Haskell County's trade. Next door to Post Office.
4 23 3m ABILENE, TEXAS.

JOHN R. JONES & CO.

Manufacturers of Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors and Blinds,
ABILENE-TEXAS.

The Humphrey House

Is still open for the accom-
modation of the public.
We promise to keep our tables supplied
—BEST THE MARKET AFFORDS—
AND TO GIVE OUR PERSONAL ATTENTION
OF OUR GUESTS. PATRONAGE
ANSON

Haskell Free Press.

Official Paper of Haskell County. PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

Terms \$1.50 per year invariably CASH in advance.

Advertising rates made known on application.

Our rates for announcing candidates are as follows:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICES, \$12.50 COUNTY OFFICES, \$7.50

PRECINCT OFFICES, \$5.00 Cash in advance.

For name on ticket same as above, if candidate does not announce.

Saturday, June 2, 1888.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COUNTY JUDGE.

We are authorized to announce W. R. Standefer as a candidate for the office of County Judge, next November election.

LOCAL DOTS.

Roger Fassett found as ever. Mr. J. M. Sherman was in the city Monday.

Mr. M. H. Gossett was in from the range this week.

Miss Dora Owsley was in the city this week.

Mr. Rupe is having an awning built to the front of his hotel.

Go to D. R. Gass to find best assortment of Virginia tobacco.

BORN:—To Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Lockney, a son. Weight 9 pounds.

Miss Rachel Ballard has returned from a visit to the country.

The weather has been very cool and pleasant during the month of May.

Mr. Robertson's little infant has been dangerously ill for several days.

We have discussed the qualifications of several of the county officers this week.

The attempt to have a picnic last Tuesday failed for want of interest.

Mrs. Tobler, of Belton, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. D. M. Wain, at this place.

Mr. John McGee had one of his milch cows killed by lightning the other night.

Messrs. Yates, Draper and Baldwin have gotten their reaper and binder ready to begin cutting grain.

Persons taking exceptions to any editorial that may appear in the FREE PRESS, will be allowed space to reply.

Little Tommie Tucker has been confined to his bed several days on account of a bruise he received in his leg in a fall.

Mr. J. W. Becknell has had considerable improving done to the dining parlor at the Delmonico.

Our sanetum was illumined Wednesday by the bright countenances of the Misses Springer and Carrie Rogers.

Mr. I. H. Carmichael has sold his farm south of town, and has taken his family to Bolknap to spend a few days visiting.

It is reported that Mr. Lewis Casner has discovered some very rich gold bearing quartz on his farm on Lake creek.

Miss Sarah Marr a charming young lady of Miller creek has been visiting Miss Cue Standefer this week.

Mr. J. H. Carter brought in some very fine specimens of wheat raised by him, the other day. Some of the heads were six inches long.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammons gave the young folks a social hop last Monday evening. It was well attended and greatly enjoyed by the company.

Mr. G. R. Couch is surveying and laying off an addition to the town of Haskell on the south side. The addition is being made by A. L. Rhombert of Austin.

When you want good tobacco go to DeLong & Johnson Bros. who will sell you good tobacco 3 lbs for 1.00. Every thing else at a similarly low price.

Messrs. Hallet, Medlin, Monday and Wilson with their families passed through Haskell Tuesday on their way to Paint creek to spend a few days fishing.

Mr. B. F. Yates has returned from Tarrant county with a reaper and binder. He and Messrs. Draper and Baldwin will cut the wheat of Haskell county.

BASS BROTHERS & Co. Headquarters

For Drugs, Patent Medicines, Oils, Window Glass. Wall Paper, Stationery, School Books, and Druggist sundries, with a select line of HOLIDAY GOODS

West PINE STREET, ABILENE, TEXAS. LARGEST STOCK, Greatest Variety, Lowest Prices, SOLICIT THE TRADE OF ALL.

Mr. J. C. Osborn and family of Burnet county, is stopping with Mr. Hammons. He is well pleased with the country and will locate.

Mr. DeLong says he expects a heavy immigration from Hunt county to Haskell this fall. Let the good work go on, they will yield to the temptations of a fine county.

Mr. S. R. Mills gave a social hop out at his ranch Friday night which was well attended from both town and country. The guests found Mrs Mills had made special arrangements to dispose of their appetites, by having prepared a bountiful supper of the best the market affords.

Mr. E. DeLong of Eliasville, father of our citizen Mr. R. S. DeLong has been visiting his son at this place. He was accompanied by his son-in-law Mr. H. J. Howard of Hunt county. They left for their homes Monday. Mr. Howard is very much pleased with this country and will buy land in this county. He has been engaged in the mercantile business and says his partner in business will be in Haskell in a few days, and if he is as well pleased as Mr. Howard they will probably move to Haskell soon.

Notice. Those who are indebted to me will please settle with Mr. J. L. Jones as I have left the accounts with him to collect. W. E. WISEMAN.

Everybody Invited. Come and examine our stock of new goods just received. Ladies and misses hats, parasols, shoes, gloves, veils, hose, cuffs, collars, corsets, bustles &c. Gentlemen's boots, shoes, slickers, valises, grip-sacks, clothing, Stetson hats, spurs unlaundried shirts and celluloid cuffs and collars. Everybody's Drugs, Dry Goods, Groceries, fresh lemons, breakfast bacon and pure hog lard. Yours Truly, DELONG & JOHNSON.

Equalization Board. Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners Court of Haskell county, Texas, will convene and sit as a Board of Equalization in and for Haskell county, Texas, on the second Monday in June, 1888 (the same being the 11th day of said month) to receive all the assessment lists or books of the Assessor of Haskell county for their inspection, correction, equalization and approval, and to see that each and every person has rendered his property at a fair market value, as is contemplated by law.

Given under my (SEAL) hand and seal of office this May 23, 1888. J. L. JONES, Clk. Co. Ct. Haskell Co., Tex.

County commissioners court convened Monday and completed the examination of several quarterly reports, and also allowed a number of claims. Judge Chapman was as expected tended his resignation to take effect the 16th of June, which was accepted.

The commissioners had previously discussed the propriety of Judge Chapman's presiding during the appointment, so commissioner Carmichael made a motion that he preside. Mr. Vernan strenuously objected and Mr. Carmichael immediately withdrew the motion. Commissioners Walker and Morton made them selves very conspicuous by their silence immediately on the withdrawal of the said motion. Mr. Carmichael moved that Mr. Walker occupy the chair which was immediately seconded by Mr. Vernan, motion carried. Upon Mr. Walker taking the chair. Mr. Carmichael nominated J. W. Evans to fill the unexpired term of County Judge which was seconded by Mr. Vernan. The motion was then put, Carmichael and Vernan voting yes, Morton, nay, Walker refusing to vote.

It is the duty of all newspapers to comment when necessary upon the official acts of the public servants, and this duty the FREE PRESS now proceeds to perform. So far as we have been able to ascertain the appointment of J. W. Evans as County Judge has given almost universal dissatisfaction, even to the agitating lobbyists who dogged after the commissioners until they convinced them that they were the voice of the people crying in the wilderness, opposing the appointment of one learned in the law as is regarded by statute, realize that the commissioners made a grand hit, but have shifted and are now in the lead condemning the hapless commissioners whom they beguiled.

It appears to any man of observation that precinct No. 1 was not represented in the late appointment of a county Judge and the citizens are not pleased with the turn of affairs. Judge Chapman's resignation does not take effect until June 15th but the commissioners as well as the Judge treated the office as vacant, and they proceeded to appoint the County Judge the commissioners constituted the court; R. S. Art. 1510. The court had the power to appoint officers to fill vacancies as that of County Judge, R. S. Art. 1518. Yet Mr. Vernan by a little harangue had Carmichael to withdraw his motion for Chapman to keep the chair before the same had a second and Chapman left the chair thereby evading responsibility. Mr. Walker commissioner of precinct No. 1 was called to the chair, and Mr. Carmichael nominated Mr. Vernan's man the vote was taken, and Mr. Walker refrained from voting because he was chairman and it was understood before hand that he would get in the chair and thus evade responsibility.

If a man cannot face the responsibilities of his office he should not attempt to hold office. Personally the FREE PRESS is a warm friend to all the parties we are discussing, and we regard each one of them as our friend, we have always championed the commissioner court when deserving but when they disregard the law and the wishes of the people who put them in office a thing every one of them will condemn, we will take them severely to task. Incompetent Judges is just what has brought the laws of our country in to such contempt with both criminals and men who disregard their civil obligations, and thus is the forcible fable of the cats and the mokey brought to mind.

The county court requires the same learning in its judges as the district court, the practice is the same. Yet the commissioners court will appoint a man to fill the office who could not write a charge to the jury if his life depended on it nor does the honored old gentleman pretend to be able to do so, though he be a man who stands high in his calling as a farmer, yet in that calling is not remarkable for his genius though he has followed it a lifetime.

But the commissioners say he will learn, true he will learn if he is a man of average mind, but who will pay the lawyers to instruct him? Who will pay jurors twenty dollars a day to sit by and listen to the lawyers argue, a question of practice that is well settled and understood by all attorneys at the bar before the case at bar can proceed? Who are the commissioners serving and who are paying the commissioners?

Would the commissioners hire a lawyer and give him the wages of a first class mechanic to build a jail or other public buildings when they could get men of the craft? Has not blind prejudice played its hand in this matter the same as it is doing in the general elections? We would rather think it had than to charge the commissioners with having been actuated by personal motives.

Just such prejudices as this has filled your legislative halls with honest fools who are nothing but tools in the hand of wily lobbyists, whose vote in our form of Government weighs as much as that of the greatest brain the country affords. The brainy leader who is the hired tool of the monopolist is nursed by the oppressed people, but the ignorant tool of the lobbyist is not even honored with a cursing by his constituency. He having kept so quiet during the scramble to get the measure through his act of voting for the same is entirely overlooked, when he goes back to his constituency, and makes a few speeches in opposition to monopoly that patent vote catching plank that every demagogue inserts into his platform.

Just as long as the people and the papers keep silent, and pass unnoticed the acts of inefficient officers just so long will we have an inefficient service. Therefore the FREE PRESS is going to discuss the acts of the people's servants, and the incompetent ones are going to wish for stones and deep rivers.

Democratic Platform. Resolved 1. The Democratic party of Texas in convention assembled reaffirms the principle of the party enunciated its National Democratic platforms.

2. That we endorse the views expressed by Grover Cleveland, our president, in his last annual message on the subject of the tariff.

3. That there is no power in Congress under the constitution to lay and collect one farthing more of tax than is necessary for the support of the government economically administered.

4. That we commend our Democratic Senators and members of Congress from Texas in their earnest effort to reduce the tax burden, and that we endorse the tariff bill reported by the committee on ways and means, commonly known as the Mills tariff bill.

5. That the enormous surplus in the treasury, now reaching \$137,000,000 over and above all lawful demands on the Treasurer, is the legitimate result of the iniquitous protective tariff which taxes the many to enrich the few, and that this unjust burden on the people emphasizes the necessity of a speedy reduction of the tariff to the just and economical needs of the government.

6. That we commend the present national Democratic administration, and instruct our delegates to the national Democratic convention to cast their votes for the renomination of Grover Cleveland.

7. That the able and impartial administration of L. S. Ross, Governor of Texas, meets the hearty approbation of the Democracy of this State.

8. That we condemn the pools and trust combinations of influential power which, now organized on a gigantic scale, threaten with ruin every legitimate industry invaded by them, and we commend the efforts being made by Congress to expose and correct them.

9. That we accept the result of the vote on the proposed amendments of the state constitution on the question of state prohibition, at the election held on the 4th of August, 1887, as a finality; and the Democratic party of the State of Texas deprecates and will oppose any movement looking to the reopening or further agitation of the question of state prohibition.

10. That the Democratic party of Texas is opposed to rechartering United States banks, and we believe that all United States currency should be made a full legal tender in the payment of all debts hereafter contracted.

Fort Worth, May 26.—This evening at 7 o'clock a number of boys were bathing in the Clear Fork, near the city, when Willie Harris got beyond his depth and was nearly drowned. Joseph Foster a boy of fifteen, jumped in and saved the boy, but in some unaccountable manner was himself drowned.

Chicago, Ill., May 26.—The much sought after murderer of Millionaire Snell, William H. Tescott, has been heard from again. Yesterday afternoon some men fishing on the lake near Waukegan picked up a bottle, sealed carefully, and on breaking it found a copy of the \$10,000 reward circular and a letter dated Milwaukee, March 23, signed William B. Tescott. The writer acknowledges having killed Snell, but says it was in self defense, and he hopes heaven will forgive him the crime for which he would hang him. He professes to be unable to live longer as a fugitive from justice and says his body will be found under the ice near Milwaukee.

Several Points of Interest About Texas. About School Lands. Texas owns and holds in trust under her constitution about 28,000,000 acres of Public Free School lands. There are about 15,779 acres of State school land in Tarrant county subject to sale, the greater part of it however, being only fit for pasture land.

The principal provisions of the law regulating sale, etc., of these lands, which will most interest the intending immigrant or purchaser are about as follows: Sale of lands classified as agricultural is limited to actual settlers in tracts of not more than 640 acres. Sale to corporations is prohibited. Price of unwatered lands not less than \$2 per acre, of watered lands \$3 per acre, timbered lands \$5 per acre. (Applies principally to pine lands of Eastern Texas and not to the sparsely timbered lands of Western Texas.)

Persons owning not more than one section of school land prior to passage of this law have the right to purchase three sections of pasture land, provided, they make oath that they are not in collusion with others, etc. All purchasers are required to reside for three consecutive years on school land purchased by them provided, they may sell to another who will obligate himself to complete the term of residence, etc., and make proof of same by the affidavits of three disinterested persons before final title (patent) will be issued.

Purchasers may pay their lands out and receive patent at the end of three years occupancy, not sooner, or may leave all except one-fortieth of the price unpaid for forty years by simply paying five per cent. annual interest on the purchase price. One-fortieth of the purchase price must be paid in advance at the time of purchasing. The land becomes forfeited to the State if the annual interest is not promptly paid and if the purchaser fails to comply with his obligation to settle on the land.

A person desiring to purchase school land must present his application to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in writing, together with an affidavit stating that he wants the land for his home, and will settle on same at once. The application must be accompanied by one-fortieth of the purchase price and a note for the balance.

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Fatal Shooting at Blooming Grove. Blooming Grove, May 24.—A fatal shooting took place to-day, one mile east of Purdon, a station on the main line of the Cotton Belt railway, about 10 miles south of here, in Navarro county, which resulted in the killing of Big Man Fuller by Jim Curry. The trouble grew out of an old feud. Witnesses say Curry was justifiable. Curry was raised in the neighborhood and bears a good name. Fuller, it will be remembered, killed Capt. J. C. Sparks, of this county, several years ago, and is said to have been an overbearing man.

Fire! Fire! Yesterday at a few minutes to twelve the cry of fire was heard and volumes of smoke were seen issuing from the Jones House, just opposite Moore & Collum's stable. The flames spread so rapidly that it was impossible to save a thing in the hotel, and the entire attention of the men present was concentrated on saving the wool warehouse on the corner of the square formerly occupied by F. E. Conrad & Co., the livery stable of Moore & Collum and the two residences belonging to W. J. Wigley. Fortunately, hydrants were convenient, and by dint of hard work all the adjoining buildings were saved with the exception of the two-story stone building of F. E. Conrad, formerly occupied by the News. F. E. Conrad & Co. had wool stored in this house, but the greater part was saved. Some twelve large sacks were burned, which were fully insured. Mr. Conrad had the house partially insured, but lost about \$1200 on it.

Mr. W. T. Lanier, who occupied the Jones House, lost everything he had, as he was carrying no insurance. His loss is estimated at \$2,000. The Albany people with their accustomed generosity and liberality, made up about \$200 for Mr. Lanier and Miss Jones, who also lost everything she had. J. H. Carrigan, a guest of the Jones House, lost \$3,000 in notes and papers which he had in his trunk.

It is supposed that the fire was caused by a defective flue.—Albany News.

Haskell Tex. May 29 1888. Mr. Editor of Free Press: We beg leave to extend through the columns of your estimable paper our many, many, thanks to our friends Messrs McGreggor, Miller Fassett and Dr. Woodruff, who finding it to be a better day for fishing than picnics, they adjourned to the waters of Paint creek where they succeeded in catching in a short time, a very fine lot of blue and yellow cats, of which we were the happy recipients of four very fine ones, and we assure the young gent that they were most sumptuously enjoyed. And wishing the young gent all the happiness one can wish for another, we remain as ever theirs.

C. D. LONG & WIFE. SEVERAL POINTS OF INTEREST ABOUT TEXAS. About School Lands. Texas owns and holds in trust under her constitution about 28,000,000 acres of Public Free School lands. There are about 15,779 acres of State school land in Tarrant county subject to sale, the greater part of it however, being only fit for pasture land.

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County Commissioners. It is the duty of all newspapers to comment when necessary upon the official acts of the public servants, and this duty the FREE PRESS now proceeds to perform. So far as we have been able to ascertain the appointment of J. W. Evans as County Judge has given almost universal dissatisfaction, even to the agitating lobbyists who dogged after the commissioners until they convinced them that they were the voice of the people crying in the wilderness, opposing the appointment of one learned in the law as is regarded by statute, realize that the commissioners made a grand hit, but have shifted and are now in the lead condemning the hapless commissioners whom they beguiled.

It appears to any man of observation that precinct No. 1 was not represented in the late appointment of a county Judge and the citizens are not pleased with the turn of affairs. Judge Chapman's resignation does not take effect until June 15th but the commissioners as well as the Judge treated the office as vacant, and they proceeded to appoint the County Judge the commissioners constituted the court; R. S. Art. 1510. The court had the power to appoint officers to fill vacancies as that of County Judge, R. S. Art. 1518. Yet Mr. Vernan by a little harangue had Carmichael to withdraw his motion for Chapman to keep the chair before the same had a second and Chapman left the chair thereby evading responsibility. Mr. Walker commissioner of precinct No. 1 was called to the chair, and Mr. Carmichael nominated Mr. Vernan's man the vote was taken, and Mr. Walker refrained from voting because he was chairman and it was understood before hand that he would get in the chair and thus evade responsibility.

If a man cannot face the responsibilities of his office he should not attempt to hold office. Personally the FREE PRESS is a warm friend to all the parties we are discussing, and we regard each one of them as our friend, we have always championed the commissioner court when deserving but when they disregard the law and the wishes of the people who put them in office a thing every one of them will condemn, we will take them severely to task. Incompetent Judges is just what has brought the laws of our country in to such contempt with both criminals and men who disregard their civil obligations, and thus is the forcible fable of the cats and the mokey brought to mind.

The county court requires the same learning in its judges as the district court, the practice is the same. Yet the commissioners court will appoint a man to fill the office who could not write a charge to the jury if his life depended on it nor does the honored old gentleman pretend to be able to do so, though he be a man who stands high in his calling as a farmer, yet in that calling is not remarkable for his genius though he has followed it a lifetime.

But the commissioners say he will learn, true he will learn if he is a man of average mind, but who will pay the lawyers to instruct him? Who will pay jurors twenty dollars a day to sit by and listen to the lawyers argue, a question of practice that is well settled and understood by all attorneys at the bar before the case at bar can proceed? Who are the commissioners serving and who are paying the commissioners?

Would the commissioners hire a lawyer and give him the wages of a first class mechanic to build a jail or other public buildings when they could get men of the craft? Has not blind prejudice played its hand in this matter the same as it is doing in the general elections? We would rather think it had than to charge the commissioners with having been actuated by personal motives.

Just such prejudices as this has filled your legislative halls with honest fools who are nothing but tools in the hand of wily lobbyists, whose vote in our form of Government weighs as much as that of the greatest brain the country affords. The brainy leader who is the hired tool of the monopolist is nursed by the oppressed people, but the ignorant tool of the lobbyist is not even honored with a cursing by his constituency. He having kept so quiet during the scramble to get the measure through his act of voting for the same is entirely overlooked, when he goes back to his constituency, and makes a few speeches in opposition to monopoly that patent vote catching plank that every demagogue inserts into his platform.

Just as long as the people and the papers keep silent, and pass unnoticed the acts of inefficient officers just so long will we have an inefficient service. Therefore the FREE PRESS is going to discuss the acts of the people's servants, and the incompetent ones are going to wish for stones and deep rivers.

Democratic Platform. Resolved 1. The Democratic party of Texas in convention assembled reaffirms the principle of the party enunciated its National Democratic platforms.

2. That we endorse the views expressed by Grover Cleveland, our president, in his last annual message on the subject of the tariff.

3. That there is no power in Congress under the constitution to lay and collect one farthing more of tax than is necessary for the support of the government economically administered.

4. That we commend our Democratic Senators and members of Congress from Texas in their earnest effort to reduce the tax burden, and that we endorse the tariff bill reported by the committee on ways and means, commonly known as the Mills tariff bill.

5. That the enormous surplus in the treasury, now reaching \$137,000,000 over and above all lawful demands on the Treasurer, is the legitimate result of the iniquitous protective tariff which taxes the many to enrich the few, and that this unjust burden on the people emphasizes the necessity of a speedy reduction of the tariff to the just and economical needs of the government.

6. That we commend the present national Democratic administration, and instruct our delegates to the national Democratic convention to cast their votes for the renomination of Grover Cleveland.

7. That the able and impartial administration of L. S. Ross, Governor of Texas, meets the hearty approbation of the Democracy of this State.

8. That we condemn the pools and trust combinations of influential power which, now organized on a gigantic scale, threaten with ruin every legitimate industry invaded by them, and we commend the efforts being made by Congress to expose and correct them.

9. That we accept the result of the vote on the proposed amendments of the state constitution on the question of state prohibition, at the election held on the 4th of August, 1887, as a finality; and the Democratic party of the State of Texas deprecates and will oppose any movement looking to the reopening or further agitation of the question of state prohibition.

10. That the Democratic party of Texas is opposed to rechartering United States banks, and we believe that all United States currency should be made a full legal tender in the payment of all debts hereafter contracted.

Chicago, Ill., May 26.—The much sought after murderer of Millionaire Snell, William H. Tescott, has been heard from again. Yesterday afternoon some men fishing on the lake near Waukegan picked up a bottle, sealed carefully, and on breaking it found a copy of the \$10,000 reward circular and a letter dated Milwaukee, March 23, signed William B. Tescott. The writer acknowledges having killed Snell, but says it was in self defense, and he hopes heaven will forgive him the crime for which he would hang him. He professes to be unable to live longer as a fugitive from justice and says his body will be found under the ice near Milwaukee.

Fatal Shooting at Blooming Grove. Blooming Grove, May 24.—A fatal shooting took place to-day, one mile east of Purdon, a station on the main line of the Cotton Belt railway, about 10 miles south of here, in Navarro county, which resulted in the killing of Big Man Fuller by Jim Curry. The trouble grew out of an old feud. Witnesses say Curry was justifiable. Curry was raised in the neighborhood and bears a good name. Fuller, it will be remembered, killed Capt. J. C. Sparks, of this county, several years ago, and is said to have been an overbearing man.

Fire! Fire! Yesterday at a few minutes to twelve the cry of fire was heard and volumes of smoke were seen issuing from the Jones House, just opposite Moore & Collum's stable. The flames spread so rapidly that it was impossible to save a thing in the hotel, and the entire attention of the men present was concentrated on saving the wool warehouse on the corner of the square formerly occupied by F. E. Conrad & Co., the livery stable of Moore & Collum and the two residences belonging to W. J. Wigley. Fortunately, hydrants were convenient, and by dint of hard work all the adjoining buildings were saved with the exception of the two-story stone building of F. E. Conrad, formerly occupied by the News. F. E. Conrad & Co. had wool stored in this house, but the greater part was saved. Some twelve large sacks were burned, which were fully insured. Mr. Conrad had the house partially insured, but lost about \$1200 on it.

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DILLY-DALLYING.

The Republicans Unable to Agree Upon a Plan of Action or Upon a Substitute Tariff Bill.

The Democrats Are Indifferent as to Whether a Vote is Taken Before the St. Louis Convention.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—As to the time for taking a vote on the Mills bill, no agreement has yet been reached. The outlook for the adoption of Mr. Mills' proposition, that the Republicans submit a bill and vote upon it, is not as favorable as when this plan was first broached. Both parties of the ways and means committee met this morning, but the Republicans stated that they had been unable to reach an agreement. The hope to give a definite answer by Wednesday, when the plan of procedure will be probably agreed upon. The Republicans appear to find it impossible to get a unanimous agreement either upon a plan of action or upon a bill. The Democratic members of the committee are indifferent now whether a vote is taken before the meeting of the convention at St. Louis. This is due in part probably to the failure of the New York convention to endorse the bill directly and the further fact that the Democrats feel confident they will get an unequivocal endorsement of the bill in the national platform.

THE STATE OF THE MILLS BILL.

Chairman Mills says he is glad the general debate is over, and that he feels very much encouraged. Had a vote been taken on the bill three weeks ago he thinks it would probably have been defeated. Since the discussion commenced state conventions have been held and several gentlemen have changed their positions regarding the tariff question. The majority of the House has been difficult to handle, owing to the fact that the members of the present Congress were elected on general principles without any clearly defined issue. Consequently it has been a difficult task to get them to stand together on the tariff issues. The western and southern members of the party, and those from the Pacific Slope, have fallen into line, and have at all times been ready to consult with the leaders as to the best policy to govern the party's action. The New York Democrats, with few exceptions, have maintained a mysterious silence, and to-day Mr. Mills says he is unable to say how several of them will vote on the tariff bill. He expects all the Pennsylvania Democrats except Randall and Snowden to vote with him. In New Jersey either Paddock or McAdoo, and perhaps both of them will do likewise. Mr. Vance will probably vote with the majority, and there are six or seven New Yorkers who are doubtful. Amos Cummings, Bourke Cockran, Tim Campbell, Bacon, Mahoney, Spinola and Cox, have announced that they will vote with the party, but Felix, Campbell, Merriman, Elias and others, refuse to confide their intentions to the party leaders, so that Mr. Mills is to-day unable to tell how many voters his bill would command were a vote taken to-morrow. He says no agreement has been made with regard to future consideration of the bill.

EXPLANATION OF HIS OWN OBJECTION TO EXTENDING MR. RANDALL'S TIME LAST FRIDAY.

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CONSIDERATION POSTPONED.

At a meeting of the ways and means committee this morning it was agreed between the majority and the minority that the House should not enter upon consideration of the tariff bill for amendment before Wednesday, if then,

action after that day depending upon the result of the Republican caucus to-morrow night.

"I do not want to be recognized."

Five million dollars in bonds accepted by acting Secretary Thompson Friday have not yet been delivered to the department. The offer was made in the name of a well known and responsible Philadelphia firm and was accepted in good faith. Investigation now in progress will, it is thought, show that the offer was a bogus one and that the signatures to it are forgeries.

A PRESENT TO MRS. CLEVELAND.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of Monroe county, New York, has presented Mrs. Cleveland with an elegant Griffith club microscope and accessories in recognition of her temperance views.

FULLER'S APPOINTMENT.

The Senate committee on judiciary to-day gave further consideration to the nomination of Melville W. Fuller to be Chief Justice of the United States. A member of the committee is authority for the statement that the present status of the case was that Mr. Fuller will be confirmed at an early day.

HE ONLY DID HIS DUTY.

Senator Manderson from the committee on military affairs to-day reported adversely upon the petition of D. D. Dana, formerly provost marshal of the Third Brigade of the Twenty-second Army Corps, praying an allowance for services performed in capturing the assassin of President Lincoln. In its report the committee says that as provost marshal it was the duty of the petitioner to capture assassins without reward or hope thereof.

BLAINE!

The Blaine Statesman Interviewed—He Favors Depew—The Race Will be Between Depew and Cleveland.

Chicago News.

Mr. Frank L. Powell of the News, who is traveling abroad with Rev. Samuel H. Fuller, and party, writes from Genoa, Italy, as follows, under date of April 27:

GRAND HOTEL DE PARIS, A. MAJOCCHI, PROPRIETOR, GENOVA ITALY, April 27, 1888.

We have just arrived at the above named hotel, where we stop to break the journey to Rome. Another party of four people arrived the same time as ours. They proved to be James G. Blaine, Mrs. Blaine, Miss Blaine and an unidentified lady.

After dinner I sent up my card to Mr. Blaine, was admitted to his room, and after a few words in a social way the following interview took place regarding the coming campaign:

"What do you think of Chauncey M. Depew for President, Mr. Blaine?"

"I think he is a good many very good indeed."

"Do you think he can secure the Republican nomination for '88?"

"Yes, I think very likely he will succeed in doing so."

"Will Mr. Cleveland be renominated on the Democratic side?"

"Yes, I think so. He seems to have given general satisfaction to the Democrats."

"Do you think Mr. Depew would run against Mr. Cleveland?"

"Well, I am not prepared to say. Mr. Depew, if he accepts the Republican nomination, would be forced to give up his position as president of the New York Central Road, which is a very lucrative one, for one that is not. That is, it is in one way. But whatever the position is worth, you are told you are expected to spend so much of it anyway."

"In what way is the President of the United States expected to spend money excepting to entertain foreign ministers?"

"Oh in a hundred little ways, which soon use up the most of it."

"Do you think Mr. Conkling had any idea or desire for the presidency before he died?"

"No, candidly, I do not. Mr. Conkling was just at the head of his profession, I do not think he would have accepted the nomination."

"Do you intend to enter the field again?"

"Most assuredly not. I am over here for rest and comfort, and am through with politics for awhile."

there is for nominations for Sherman, Hill and the others?"

"They are secondary. Of course these least thought of may be chosen, but I think the race will be between Depew and Cleveland."

"Do you think Depew would fill such a high office acceptably?"

"Yes, Chauncey M. Depew is an able, active man, and has brilliant qualities, but outside of all these he is a true, staunch man and good-hearted and conscientious."

"Would you support him if he were nominated?"

"Yes, certainly. He is a very good friend of mine, and I should feel that I was doing right in giving him my best support."

"But would you be able to take part in an active canvass? Some newspapers have made you out very sick."

"O, yes, I know they have, but then I would much rather be sick on paper than in reality."

"Then you have not been very ill?"

"Not at all. Do I look very sick?" inquired Mr. Blaine with a smile.

"Then you consider that Mr. Depew's chances are as good as any body's?"

"Yes, I certainly do."

Mr. Blaine talked in a hale and hearty style, and looks the picture of what he is—a healthy man in mind and body. He conversed on different topics for fully half an hour. Some times he would ask a question with seeming indifference, but his glance would sweep my face with a look that seemed to read my innermost thoughts. The fourth person mentioned above, was not introduced to me. But I think she is Gail Hamilton.

Our party are well and happy, and Genoa is a paradise. POWELL.

BLAINE FOSING.

He Doesn't Understand Why so Many Assume That it is Impossible for Him to be Honest.

Chicago News.

NEW YORK, May 21.—The correspondent of the Press in Paris cables that paper as follows: The stories that have been for some time in circulation on the other side of the Atlantic, that the intimate friends of James G. Blaine have been discrediting any announcement that he would accept the Republican nomination if it were offered him, have nevertheless been quietly working in almost all the states to secure the delegates for him after the first ballots were all called over here. The publication here of the actual figures of the supposed Blaine managers in New York city, however, gives new impetus to the Blaine talk. It seemed from the figures that Mr. Blaine would have the largest number of votes, something like 500 or 370 on the first ballot even before the favorites had been selected; that the second, although comparatively few delegations had been instructed for him, would go to 550, and that his nomination with the greatest enthusiasm and yet the greatest calmness could not be postponed beyond the third ballot. The moment this news arrived I took most strenuous means to find out what Mr. Blaine's attitude is, and I am happy to say that my efforts have been successful. Mr. Blaine had not heard the full details of the report published in New York, and I was very glad to give them to him. Naturally he was not displeased, but said without equivocation that his Florence letter and his later interview, which Mr. Crawford secured for the World, represented his present attitude with complete truth. He had felt sure, he said, that after his letter stating his name would not go before the convention had been published many acknowledged leaders of the Republican party east and west would be actively pushed for nomination, and he was glad to see that they had been put forward to honestly, and he could not see why so many should assume, even in matters of the greatest importance to his own domestic and personal interests as well as to those of his party, that it was impossible for him to be honest. He did not want to be a candidate and he had reasons for not wanting to be a candidate which were personal to himself, and which as they could see readily, he imagined he was under no obligation to make known. The fact was he had been through one terrible hard

fight. It had been a cruel strain upon his family also and while he could never be accused of willingly shirking any of the duties of leadership which the Republican party had honored him with, he yet felt that he had a right to draw out and leave the fight to other hands, especially since they were plentiful and quite capable of winning victory for protection and other good Republican ideas.

Gresham as a Candidate.

Mr. Murat Mablestead, editor of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette, said not long since that the capitalist and business men of this country would not work for Judge Gresham nor subscribe to his campaign fund. It is on this hostility of monopolists to him and on his reform predilections that his friends rely. He "reformed" the cotton thieves at Vicksburg. They call to mind also his reform of the letter postage from 3 to 2 cents. It is said he favors a reform of the tariff and a reduction of the revenues. His admirers remember that when he rendered his decision in the Wabash case a year or more ago, wherein he treated the country to the novel and refreshing experience of seeing a judge slap Jay Gould in the face. Gould himself, in his vexation, gave the country a cue in his declaration that "Gresham wants to be president and thinks he can gain popularity by abusing me." The country knew, says the Gresham boomers, that Gresham did not want to be president, but it nevertheless took up the suggestion with an alacrity and warmth which made Mr. Gould wish he had held his tongue. That decision proved to be one of the most popular judgments ever handed from the bench in this country, and yet it is the fact that neither Gresham himself nor any body about him had any idea that the decision would attract attention outside the circle of railway people and inventors immediately interested.

Illinois Democrats.

Springfield, Ill., May 24.—The Democratic state convention concluded its work last night. The following delegates at large were elected: William R. Morrison, William C. Goudy, W. E. Worthington and James S. Ewing. The presidential electors at large are M. C. Crawford and H. Watts. The platform indorses the administration and the acts of President Cleveland and says: "We deem him to have proved himself by his wise and conservative course, and by the faithful and efficient discharge of his official duties worthy the confidence of all people and entitled to the loyal support of that political party whose illustrious leader he is. The public good demands his renomination and reelection to the chief magistracy of the nation. We admire his candor and applaud his courage in voicing in his recent message to Congress our sentiments upon the present tariff. We favor a full governmental inquiry into the causes of the present disturbing condition of the industrial world and demands such legislation, state and national, as will remove unjust burden from those who labor."

A resolution was adopted thanking President Cleveland for appointing Hon. M. W. Fuller Chief Justice of the United States. A state ticket was nominated as follows: For Governor, General John M. Palmer; Lieutenant-Governor, A. J. Bell; Secretary of State, N. D. Bicks; Auditor, Andrew Welch; Treasurer, Charles R. Walker; Attorney-General, J. R. Croighton. Adjourned.

Pennsylvania Democrats.

Harrisburg, Pa., May 24.—The Democratic state convention elected the following delegates at large to St. Louis: L. C. Cassidy, Chas. T. Boyle, W. T. Mutchler and William L. Scott. The presidential electors at large are ex-Congressman Spear and A. F. Keating. The convention then nominated a complete list of district delegates. The platform endorsed President Cleveland, and instructed the delegates to cast a solid vote for him for renomination. It denounced the recent abuse of corporate power, and the formation and operation of trusts and monopolies, which interfere with and limit the national and inalienable rights of individuals.

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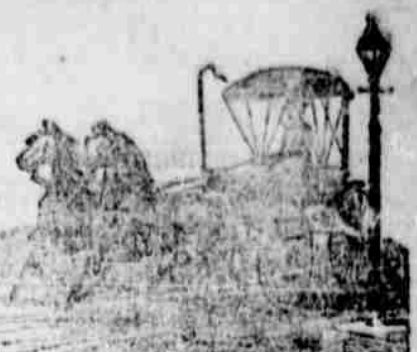
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