

## BLOOMINGTON PROGRESS.

WILLIAM A. GAGE, Editor and Proprietor.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1869.

Hon. George G. Wright.

We notice, by some of the Iowa papers, that the press of that State are discussing the question of a U. S. Senator—a successor to Mr. Grimes. Among the names prominently suggested by the papers in and out of the State, is that of a former citizen of Bloomington—a student and graduate of our State University. We leave to the Hon. George G. Wright, at present one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Iowa. Mr. Wright was born (if we are not in error) at Bloomington, and entered at an early age upon his collegiate course and applied himself diligently to his studies. There are many persons still in our midst, who remember the young student. He graduated with distinction under the lamented Dr. Wylie. Judge Wright is another example of the great success and good Dr. Wylie achieved whilst he was President of the Indiana University. Geo. G. Wright is a brother of the late ex-Governor Joseph A. Wright, a man whom every good citizen honored. Judge Wright, after completing his academic course, went to Rockville, to study law with his brother, the law firm being Howard & Wright. T. A. Howard was afterward appointed Charge d'Affaires to Texas. After finishing his law studies with H. & W., he removed, before he was twenty-one, to Keosauqua, Van Buren county, Iowa. He at once opened a law office, gave his whole time to his profession, and soon attracted the attention of the bar to his legal attainments, rising rapidly to be one of the first lawyers in Iowa. He was elected by the people to the position of Supreme Judge, a place he has occupied with marked ability for some twelve or fifteen years. If the people of Iowa desire to be honestly and faithfully represented in the counsels of the nation, they cannot choose one who will more conscientiously carry out their views, than Judge Wright. It is hardly necessary for us to state that, in politics, Judge Wright is an ardent and staunch Republican, a zealous supporter of the views expressed by the Chicago platform, and in the inaugural of President Grant. Iowa is growing rapidly, much faster than we, in Indiana, have any conception, and that State should be represented by live and progressive men, men who will take the interest of this young giant State at heart, and we know of none more fitting to be U. S. Senator than Hon. George G. Wright.

The following is the first section of the act passed at the extra session of the Legislature, with reference to the powers of Town Boards:

That the Board of Trustees of incorporated Towns of this State shall have exclusive power over the streets, alleys, highways and bridges within the corporation limits of such town, and may prescribe the height and manner of construction of all such bridges, and lay out, survey and open new streets and alleys, and straighten, narrow, widen, grade and gravel and otherwise alter, and improve those already laid out, or that may be hereafter laid out, and make repairs thereto as hereinafter provided. They may cause buildings, structures and other things in the way of any street or other public improvement, to be taken down, removed and appropriated upon the payment of damages, as hereinafter provided; and no person residing in said Town shall be compelled to work on any road or highway without the corporate limits of said Town, and the Board of Trustees may exercise the power given to Township Trustees in regard to highways in the respective Towns, and the Marshal under direction of the Board of Trustees, may perform all the duties and exercise all the powers of Road Supervisors in reference to a road labor tax, not to exceed two days in each year, by each person liable to work on roads in townships, and shall be governed by the same rules and regulations in reference to the collections and enforcement of the same. And any person so liable to work may be discharged therefrom on the payment of \$1.50 per diem, provided that the Board of Trustees may, by general ordinance, prescribe the time within which, and the manner in which, such labor shall be performed.

### FOR THE PROGRESS, Some of the Ways and Means of Improving a Town.

MR. EDITOR:—For some months I have watched with much interest certain efforts being made for the improvement of our Town (Bloomington). I have been deeply interested in some of the improvements by our worthy Council, in McAdamizing, making sidewalks, &c., also in the proposed new jail, by our County Commissioners, and last, but not least, in the talked of new and commodious School House, by our new School Board.

Looking at these and other desirable improvements, my thoughts ran into the complicated problem of *Ways and Means*, of accomplishing this work. Finding some things that had not occurred to me before, I thought some of your readers might be interested in the same, therefore they are per your courtesy hereby submitted.

Of *Means*.—It is not very difficult to have McAdamized streets, comfortable side-walks, long rows of shade trees, and handsome public (private) buildings, provided you have the means *i.e.* the money. But the money, where shall we get that? This is the question, the question that has the *tough* in it, and therefore cuts sharply through the desires and purposes of all. So broad a question cannot be answered in any considerable width, in one or two, nor in a dozen articles like this, hence we must content ourselves with a few of the more obvious points.

First, in hunting these means, we turn to the country. Paradoxical as it may appear, we improve a Town by improving the country. Every thrifty and wealthy farmer contributes a per centum of that thrift and wealth, to the Town. Let us see. A farmer has 60 acres of good wheat, 15 bushel to the acre—900 bushels in all. In the fall, after reaping 100 bushels for seed and bread, he brings 800 to Town at \$1.50—receiving in total, the handsome sum of \$1,200. Out of the \$1,200 he buys a fine reaper, a mower, a plow or two, a tasteful parlor carpet, and other needful articles, not forgetting a few books. Thus he has increased the business of the hardware man, the dry goods merchant, and the bookseller, and therein added to their wealth, and thus, indirectly, added to the wealth of the Town. This increase of business is an increase of the merchants wealth. For it must be borne in mind that it is he who *does* business, and not he who is merely *in* business, and waiting for customers to come, who makes money.

On the other hand, take another farmer, one who has in place of 60 acres of wheat, only 6 acres, thin and cheaty. He sowed foul seed, in ground half prepared, and too late (he was too busy doing nothing but putting it in at the right time) and he gets 6 bushels per acre—36 in all. He saves his seed, and a part of his bread, and brings the surplus, 5 bushels to Town, realizing \$7.50. He needs a plow, but he can't get it; he needs a harrow, but he can't get it; he needs a couple of new scythes, but he must get a few pounds of coffee, and a few yards of shirting, and he must do with the old scythes, even though some of his grass spoil before it is cut. And now his wife would love to have a carpet, though cheap and plain, for her best room, serving the double purpose of parlor and sitting room. Though poor, she has that delicate sense called taste, a quick perception of the beautiful, which longs for flowers, books, carpets, and appropriate furniture. But no, that \$7.50 will buy no carpets, no plows, harrows, scythes or books, and hence adds nothing to the business of the Town, and may prescribe the height and manner of construction of all such bridges, and lay out, survey and open new streets and alleys, and straighten, narrow, widen, grade and gravel and otherwise alter, and improve those already laid out, or that may be hereafter laid out, and make repairs thereto as hereinafter provided. They may cause buildings, structures and other things in the way of any street or other public improvement, to be taken down, removed and appropriated upon the payment of damages, as hereinafter provided; and no person residing in said Town shall be compelled to work on any road or highway without the corporate limits of said Town, and the Board of Trustees may exercise the power given to Township Trustees in regard to highways in the respective Towns, and the Marshal under direction of the Board of Trustees, may perform all the duties and exercise all the powers of Road Supervisors in reference to a road labor tax, not to exceed two days in each year, by each person liable to work on roads in townships, and shall be governed by the same rules and regulations in reference to the collections and enforcement of the same. And any person so liable to work may be discharged therefrom on the payment of \$1.50 per diem, provided that the Board of Trustees may, by general ordinance, prescribe the time within which, and the manner in which, such labor shall be performed.

In the Knoxville recitation of his speech, Andy Johnson said, "It is time to consider where we are going." If he considers where he is going, his reflections must be very uncomfortable.

A coffer dam, at Rock Island, Illinois, covering four acres of the bed of the Mississippi, was recently pumped out, and on the bottom was found tons of bar-lead, anchors, and other treasures, lost by navigators.

The value of good roads to farmers is more forcibly shown in the following thirteen line argument from the Carlinville (Ills.) Democrat, than a half column of generalities:

"THE VALUE OF GOOD ROADS.—It is estimated that fully one hundred thousand bushels of wheat, within ten miles of this city, laid in the granaries all the past winter, on account of the roads being impassable. Meantime the price declined 35 cents a bushel, making a loss to the grain growers, who come here to market, of \$30,000—on account of bad roads. That sum would go a good ways toward improving the roads.

The laws of the State of Indiana passed at the regular session have just been issued. The volume contains all of 78 pages, including everything. The laws, thirty-one in number, fill just thirty 12mo. pages, very coarse print.

The first is an appropriation of \$75,000 to defray the expenses of the session. The whole bill proved to be nearer \$90,000. Including the expenses of the general election, rendered necessary by the action of sundry members of that sapient body, the cost of the session to the people was not less than \$150,000, or about \$5,000 an act. Pretty expensive legislation.

The Atchison Press says: "We have an amusing instance of how Gen. Grant was flanked by an applicant for a position, a short time since. A gentleman called on him—asked him for an office—was desired by the President to produce his recommendations—and drew from his pocket a letter written some three years ago to President Johnson, strongly urging him for a place with the significant signature at the bottom, "U. S. Grant." The result we do not know, but can imagine."

The national debt, since the accession of President Grant, has been reduced over six and a half millions, and the expectation is very sanguine that the present month will greatly exceed that reduction. This is an augury of an economical and successful administration, which inspires a hope of relief at no distant day, among the burdened tax-payers of the nation.

Retrenchment has been carried into every department of the government, the clerical force has been curtailed, and a surpluse of officers, drawing pay and performing no service, lopped off.

The brilliant successfulness of the new administration thus far, and the assurance it affords of still greater good and profit to the country, should bring the blush of shame to the revilers of the President. The destinies of the country are safe in his hands. Notwithstanding the malicious accusations of nepotism and continual indulgence in demoting potations, he will repair the disasters of Johnson's misgovernment, and the storms and commotions of that period, under the sway of his magic wand of peace, will soon have passed away. A bow of promise spans the political heavens, its golden ends resting upon the embittered and warring sections—the sign of the covenant that the mingling gore of a common brotherhood shall never again drench the land.

A correspondent who attended the Woman's Rights Convention in New York, has made a physiological discovery that is worth serious consideration. He asserts it as a fact, that a tendency to redness in the female nose is the invariable physical evidence of strong-mindedness among women. Every advocate of suffrage and equality of rights that he saw there, had this epiphany indication strongly developed in that feature of the face which St. Dusany seized with his fiery stingers. If further facts should justify the induction of an unmistakable sympathetic condition between the nose and the irritated mind of a woman who rebels against her subordinate condition, husbands and lovers will have no difficulty in diagnosing a case in which they may be individually interested.

The following is from the Michigan City *Enterprise*:

"On Wednesday morning, some of the workmen at the harbor opened a chest containing some old ropes, tools, etc., which had been locked up ever since last December, and were considerably astonished at seeing a cat pop out from under the contents. Pussy wasn't much fatter than a mouse, and looked as if she had shuffled off about eight of the nine lives that the race is supposed to possess, and had got pretty near through with the ninth; but still she could beat no cat, and is said to have started off at a lively pace in search of a 'square meal.' Four months in a chest without food or drink!

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Considerable hullabaloo has been made about Grant's appointment of a score or two of army officers, to act as Indian agents, in conjunction with the Quakers. It was a "sure sign of a *coup d'état*." Grant was getting ready to make himself Emperor by means of the army, and all that. It turns out, however, that these army appointments were made mainly on the score of economy. The officers so appointed, were, without exception, those who had been thrown out of their positions by the consolidation of the army, and were drawing their pay for doing nothing. It was rather a brilliant thought to put them to work, and besides it was simply redeeming the President's pledge that he would try to provide *civil* places for worthy military officers, who should be thrown out of employment by the consolidation bill.

A dispatch from Newcastle, Delaware, states that "the new whipping post and pillory erected in the jail yard there, by the authorities of Newcastle, to supply the place of the ancient and worn-out one, was inaugurated to-day with the usual interesting ceremonies."

The Democracy of Delaware rejected the Fifteenth Amendment, and substitute thereof a new whipping post and pillory. In lieu of the ballot-box and free schools, the oligarchy fasted their serfs to whipping posts, scourge their backs with the cat-o'-nine-tails, stick their heads in pillories, and pelt their faces with decayed eggs and dead cats. Such is Democracy in Delaware.

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A lady whose family were very much in the habit of making commode drums, was one evening asked by her husband in an excited tone: "Why are these doors always left open?" "I give it up!" instantly replied the wife.

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AN ORDINANCE NO. XX,

Of the Town of Bloomington, Ind., adopted May 24th, 1869.

An Ordinance, to amend section 4, of Ordinance No. 4, regulating the granting and issuing of licenses.

Section I. Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Bloomington, Indiana, that section 4, of said Ordinance, which reads as follows:

"SECTION 4. Any person wishing to become an auctioneer in said Town, shall be granted license in the manner prescribed in section 1, of this Ordinance, for which he shall pay not less than one dollar, nor more than three dollars, for each day he shall so act," be amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 4. Any person wishing to become an auctioneer in said Town, shall be granted license in the manner prescribed in section 1, of this Ordinance, for which he shall pay not less than one dollar, nor more than three dollars, for each day he shall so act," be amended to read as follows:

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