

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1881.

Latest reports concerning the President are not favorable.

## THE NEW LAWS.

The Post has said little or nothing as yet concerning the changes made in the old or the enactment of new laws by the late Republican Legislature. We delayed comment upon these matters, for the reasons that nothing that is thoroughly understood, or its good qualities thoroughly appreciated until it has undergone the test. Already part of these changes have been enforced and the results are seen, while other departures are to stand the test that public scrutiny will naturally put them to. We do not in this article intend expressing an opinion, either pro or con, but will simply present a few facts and figures that have recently come under our observation.

In the first place, the list of questions to be answered by the applicant for the admittance of an insane person to the asylum, was increased, thereby necessitating a new Insane Record and new blanks for every county clerk in the State. These were purchased and the old records and blanks became useless. The new records cost \$15.00 each. The old blanks and records were worth at least \$10.00. Extra expense to each county \$25.00; to the State \$2,000.00. The change in the ditch law, requiring all petitions to be presented before the Circuit Judge, imposes an extra expense on each county of at least \$50.00, three new valuable records being needed. There being 92 counties in this State, the whole expense will aggregate \$4,600.00. Besides this, two Drainage Commissioners are now acting in every county in the State at a salary of \$3.00 per day for each day engaged. What this will amount to in a year, is a question upon which our readers may exercise their own judgment and make their own calculations. It will be no insignificant sum.

Then we have the Jury Commissioners, a departure which appears to embrace more red tape than economy, more system than usefulness, and undoubtedly is more expensive than the old manner of choosing juries. These two officials meet four times a year on a \$3 per diem salary to manipulate the jury box. This little deviation will cost the State at least another \$5,000.

Next the Board of Equalization has been increased by four extra members at salary of \$2.50 each for every day's service, making an extra cost of \$10.00 for each day or \$300.00 for the session in this county while in other counties it may amount to hundreds of dollars.

The above are a few facts presented simply for the consideration of every man who is interested in the economy of State expenses and State laws. Most of these laws and changes were made during the extra session, while the State was paying out \$2,000 a day to sustain the law-makers. The dog law and eleven pound scurrah law are yet to come.—Columbia City Post.

## NORMAL ITEMS.

The Fourth Session of the County Normal has come and gone. While this term was not as prosperous as could have been desired, or as it ought to have been, it was far from being a failure. A goodly number of the teachers of the county, a half a hundred, took advantage of the opportunity offered to brush up in the common branches, to learn something new and receive a new inspiration, for it is a fact that teachers do get stirred up to better thought and action in these annual gatherings after a year's isolated work in their school rooms, and all feel we have been amply repaid for the time and money spent in attending the Normal this summer.

The interest was kept up to the last and notwithstanding the oppressive heat a great amount of thorough, practical work was done.

The debating sections held good meetings this week. The question of granting suffrage to the women of Indiana was discussed in one session.

The argument of one speaker was that the women are as good as the negroes, the negroes can vote, therefore the women ought to vote. Another argument advanced was that if women were allowed to vote the whiskey traffic would be soon abolished. In reply to this last point a speaker on the negative said it would bankrupt the farmers of corn-raising counties, like Newton County for instance, because it would lower the price of corn ten cents per bushel as there would be no demand for it to manufacture into "sour mash," and the said farmers would be unable, thereby, to pay off the mortgages on their farms. Ponderous arguments, these.

The Philosophy class during the week gave the methods of study a thorough discussion and found much in the old memorizing and book methods to condemn.

George Antrim, Tillie Cason, Alice Irwin and Lee Glazebrook made some very merited criticisms in their remarks upon these old collegiate methods of study showing that our common school teachers of to-day are wiser than were the old masters?

The Physiology class evidently believe that curiosity should be aroused before presenting a fact to the mind in order that it might grasp and retain the fact more readily. Ask them about their "hot-toad" experiment. Misses Mattie Lane, Laura Rath, Melissa Mitchell and Mary Hill-

ton were the last arrivals at the Normal.

Next week, during the Institute, we expect to see the "refrigerator" filled to its utmost capacity by a perishing, good-natured crowd. Come on! We who have been here know how to sympathize with you, and extend you a warm welcome. NORMALITE.

## CONTINENTAL RAILROAD.

The Rochester Sentinel says: "Since the engineer and surveying corps left Rochester for the far west, blazing out a line for the building of the Continental railroad, but little has been heard of the doings of the Company in relation to steps taken for the early construction of the road." But because there has been but little said or no grand demonstrations made that have come to the knowledge of this particular locality, is no evidence that the enterprise is a failure and that the road will not eventually be built. The building of a double track, steel rail railroad from New York, through the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa to Omaha, with branches to Chicago and St. Louis, is an undertaking surpassing in magnitude any railroad project ever contemplated in this country. It is a work that cannot be completed in a day or a month, however anxious or impatient the public may be for its consummation. A few over-wise persons who would like to see the enterprise made a success, speak discouragingly of the matter, but their doubts and fears are not likely to have a very depressing influence upon the officers of the Company or prevent them from pushing forward the work as rapidly as it is to their interest to do so. When the engineers went west from here and passed Winamac three miles south of the town, the citizens of that place were disposed to treat the matter as a huge joke and audibly smiled to think that a great east and west road should think of passing them so near without making that place a point on the line. Recent developments, however, have convinced the citizens of that place that there is a strong probability of the road being built, and that the officers of the Continental Company are not diverging far from a direct line to strike country towns or court house spires. Winamac not being on the line, it is not probable that it can secure the road under any circumstances, yet a strong effort is being put forth by a few of its most prominent influential citizens, Dr. W. H. Thompson and Dr. E. H. Patterson, both of that place, were here this week to see what could be done to divert the line from its present course so as to strike their town. We also understand that Winamac has now a delegation of representative men in New York beseeching the officers of the Company and praying to be favored with the road. Winamac has some positive assurances that the road will be built or the citizens would not be so interested in the location of the line. A shorter line between New York and the great metropolis of this country, and the far west, is needed, and the Continental road is to supply the long felt want.

Editors SENTINEL: In reply to Normalite in last week's Sentinel, in which reference is made to certain resolutions now pending the action of the County Board of Education in regard to hiring teachers on grades. The criticism referred to in the above is a left-handed one, and is a blow by "J." in a late issue of the Republican, and proceeds, in a masterly argument, to give the resolutions a home-thrust in his estimation. There is not, to my knowledge, any other business or profession, wherein a distinction is not made in favor of skill, energy, and industry. This, all will admit, has not been the case with the employment of school teachers in Jasper County. All grades have been paid alike the same prices, (varying in location only) regardless of qualifications.—The "dead beat," without any kind of check and except a large amount of check and a low grade license—the latter being issued year after year, on application, for perhaps the last half-dozen years, which he secures with as little labor as possible, never failing, when an opportunity offers, to denounce the attendance of Normal Schools and Institutes as more than useless, and all educational publications as great waste of money, and the whole affair as a nuisance. Their methods of teaching, they think superior to all others. They teach school and are rewarded as highly for their services as higher grade, live, energetic and progressive teachers prompt in attendance at Normal and Institute, holding and advocating opposite views in regard to educational affairs.

It requires but little argument to convince the dullest mind that a teacher with a twelve or eighteen month certificate is better educated, therefore more fully prepared to teach a better school than he could possibly do with an education that would entitle him only to a six month license. The methods and drills incident to securing a higher education alone are invaluable to the teacher in the school room, and the whole affair as a nuisance. Their methods of teaching, they think superior to all others. They teach school and are rewarded as highly for their services as higher grade, live, energetic and progressive teachers prompt in attendance at Normal and Institute, holding and advocating opposite views in regard to educational affairs.

As to school officers being legally and morally bound to know what the qualifications of teachers are, I refer him to the school law; said officer may employ any unskilled, however immoral, so long as he holds a license. If a license gives no idea of a person's qualifications for teaching, why not dispense with the useless and expensive system of teachers' examinations? Let the County Superintendent and allow school officers to determine the qualifications of applicants? There is nothing in the resolutions preventing school officers from selecting teachers possessing good common sense, powers of discipline &c. The object is to secure a better grade of teachers, which means better schools. A higher standard of excellence is being demanded by the patrons of common schools. To meet this demand, I am proud to say, our worthy County School Superintendent is most energetic, with promise of the best possible results.

In this contest it would be better for those parties who think wages

do not justify the necessary expenditure incident to securing sufficient qualifications for teaching, to drop out of the profession and let others fill the place who are well prepared in securing an education that prepares them for other useful labors.

Young teachers should be encouraged in all means, as their services are in demand, but let us insist on a thorough preparation before they offer their services. The State schools are inexpensive with tuition free and board at very low rates, and acceptable to all that feel disposed to apply.

## LETTER FROM MINNEAPOLIS.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota, Aug. 3, '81.

DEAR SENTINEL: We send you greetings from the north end of the magic Northland. St. Paul, in its infancy was known as "White Rock," from the color of the stone bluff on which it is built. In its villagehood, and until it was named as the capital of the territory, the frontier name was "Pigs Eye." The city is now the focus of a mighty commerce. The fat soil and laughing waters of the great North-west has attracted and grown myriads of stalwart workers in the human live. This city looks to the power of St. Anthony for sustenance and growth. This is a manufacturing city, second to none in the world in the articles of lumber, flour and ice. The two metropolises of the State are near together, and one is the complement of the other, and the two will no doubt one day be under one rule—a rounded-up model city. The great lakes and rivers, high seas and under the special control of the General Government. The good effects of "an appropriation" are here manifest. The wild and furious waters obey the will of applied science when checked up by Uncle Sam's money.

The tractive power of the falling river turns the golden wheat into snowy flour at the rate of twenty barrels per minute. The rough logs are sawed into convenient building lumber at the rate of fifteen square feet per second. Many other industries are sustained by this giant power, and this the prop and mainstay of this wonderful city. Private enterprise would have been slow in completing this most perfect system of dams, aprons and tunnels. Ours is a great and good nation, and nothing adds to its greatness and goodness than a wise system of internal as well as harbor improvements. In a skyscraper light these appropriations are wrong, but our patriotism should lift us to a broader and higher plane. The people will ought to sustain the hand of government in doing a good work where it is needed. The water power here is yet but half used, and the farmers of the North-west can send in their grain and timber for ages and receive back flour and lumber. The value of such a power, and the vast machinery it will propel at a trifling expense, can scarcely be estimated. In the dim future the great Republic will be famed and gloried in for the grain for the continent.

We would not have believed of the St. Anthony's Falls, a few years ago, what we now see with our own eyes. People utilize all the powers of nature that consume no fuel, and still we will have enough for steam and furnace to do in the industries of a great nation. This city is the pet and pride of the people and each one of its citizens would like to point to it with pride and to the beauty and pride and tenderness to the beauty and pride of the great falls to account.

has won public and poetic distinction. Thus passing to that degree of perfect regard as to be a model for all restive little waterfalls seeking public favor. Like most of the works of nature mentioned in the guide books to this weird North Land, this water fall is saddled with an Indian Legend. More fortunate still, a poet has clothed the legend in rhythm. The arrow of the Minnehaha, in her starving delirium said:

"Hear a roaring and a rushing, Hear the falls of Minnehaha, Called to rise from a distance."

It is true, perhaps, that "twas but the wind among the pine trees," as old Nokomis said at the time. We visited the poetic and legendary spot, and looked into the gleam below the falls, and along the murmuring cascade. The picture is fair to look upon and we were glad to see "a thing of beauty" and forget the noise work and care of the hum-drum prosa. The stream is about the size of the Iroquois river at medium stage. There is room under the crest of the fall and we passed behind the sheet of water, and looking through at the morning sun could see rainbows tint the descent. The most 45 feet and no rapids preface the falls. The rocks on either hand are clothed with vines and bushes. The place has been allowed to remain almost in nature formed it. The photographer has crept his shadow, and walk to make the round on both sides of the creek below the cascade.

Minnehaha is free ground to all. In summer it is pretty as Longfellow pictures it:

"Here the falls of Minnehaha, Plunge and leap into the valley, And leap into the valley."

In winter the icicles heighten the beauty and make it more picturesque. The oak, Linden, birch, ash, maple and other trees grow on the banks. This is indeed one of nature's "beauty spots."

Minnehaha creek is the outlet of a chain of more than a score of lakes, including

the scene of a legend of another Indian girl that floated the lake to the hunting ground of her spirit lover. "Beautiful Water" it is, and must ever be the pride of Minnesota's lakes.

is another lake in the chain, which has a legend of an "Angel guide." On its banks a white man, after searching twenty years, found his sister who was stolen by the Indians when a babe.

The prefix "Minne" to so many names here is the Indian for water. We will go from here home via the great lakes, and let our eyes rest from a contemplation of a varied landscape with sky-inked lakelets by viewing the monotony of our inland seas.

## S. P. THOMPSON.

Union Township Items.

Health good.

Business lively.

Weather cooler than for the past few days.

The Sunday school reunion at Pleasant Valley was a success.

Miss Mattie D. Alter, of Carpenter, is visiting friends in this township.—Welcome, Mattie.

Basket meeting at Alter's Mill, today.

Rev. Abram Miller will preach at the Gant school house next Sunday, at 4 o'clock p. m.

Union was visited with a good rain yesterday, while her republican sisters on the north and south were left to dry up by the sun. It must be because Union proposes to give a good Democratic majority in 1882. "The prayers of the good availed much."

Billy is married at last. We wish him and his fair bride "a smooth sea, and a fair wind to wait them o'er life's stormy ocean."

Union will "show out" at the County Institute next week.

Small grain about all threshed.—The "turn-out" was smaller than at first expected.

Damon & Pythias says in the columns of the Republican that "Bill Bat" "has no poetry in his soul, and that the song of the nightingale would have no more charm for him than that of the mosquito." Mr. D. & P. is mistaken, "Bill Bat" is possessor of "one of the only two organs in the township, is a good violinist, and can sing more Dutch songs than any other man in Jasper. We are always ready to defend the people of Union.

We are glad to see Newton represented in your columns. The inhabitants of that township are a new awake class, even if they can't boast of the "web-footed maidens" of Grilam, or the "pretty girls" of Union.

## GRAPE ISLAND.

August 7, 1881.

Barkley Township Items.

Weather warm.

No prospect for rain.

Some sickness prevails.

Ripe fruit is very scarce.

Still they go up—new buildings on Nubbin Ridge.

Threshing is progressing, and the Smith boys are doing good.

Good watermelons are very scarce with us this season. (Stay away, bad boys.)

Oats are not threshing out so good as was expected at harvest time.

Fall plowing has begun, but the ground is very hard and dry.

The potatoes are fast burning up with the hot dry weather.

Grape hunters have commenced scouring the woods.

Rev. Flood preached at Centre school house last Sunday to a very large congregation.

Charlie Pullins thinks he will have the largest job of threshing in the township.

Hay making is nearly over and a large quantity of the same put up.

There were two weddings here last Sunday—one near Hurletown and the other on "Wall Street." We wish both parties success and happiness.

Most of the farmers having surface wells are complaining very much of the scarcity of water.

Pastures are burning up, the creeks are all dry, consequently some of the stock is suffering.

Mr. Dean & Co. threshed over 800 bushels of wheat in one day while working in this township.

Mr. & Mrs. Clouse, of Illinois, paid their relatives here a pleasant visit last week.

Quite a number of youngsters from Rensselaer attended the Basket Meeting held at Alter's mill last Sunday.—Come again.

We are told that Mr. Wm. Clark sold his property near the iron bridge, to a young gentleman who expects, or is expected, to get married this fall.

Mr. Frank and Mrs. Mary Hammon, and Mr. Dave Marlett and family, with a few others, started yesterday morning for their old stamping ground in the Buckeye State.

Our corn crop will be very poor unless we have rain soon. Some fields on the high grounds have already gone up "Salt Creek."

We were pleased to have our young friend, Mr. A. F. Florence, in our midst a few days last week. Mr. F. is just late from Missouri, where he has been practicing law. He has now gone to Lafayette for the same purpose. Success to Albert.

A READER.

August 10, 1881.

Items from Slip-Up.

Business lively.

Weather very warm and dry.

Setting poles for lightning wires.

F. L. Cotton has sold out his lumber and coal yard and residence to C. D. Novels. R. B. Patton, who has been with F. L. Cotton for several years will remain and manage the lumber and coal trade for the new proprietor, and since he has deserted the Hemp Hills and taken to the Hy Lands he is not going west as was reported.

We understand the telegraph wires will be up in thirty days, and then Wren, at Rensselaer, will be slinging lightning all over this broad land.

SAND-LAPPER.

August 10, 1881.

Our genial Deputy Auditor, Chas. W. Conen, performed the grandest act of his life last Sunday, when he married Miss Aggie, the accomplished daughter of Hon. Geo. H. Brown; and Miss Aggie, too, did well in securing so clever a young gentleman for a life companion. Thanks for a supply of choice cake. We wish them a long and joyous life.

Choice Codfish 6¢ cents a pound, at Kern's new Grocery Store.

All watches and clocks repaired at Hamar's warranted for one year.

Buy your Sugar and Syrups, pure and unadulterated, at Kern's new Grocery Store.

B. F. Ferguson is prepared to purchase all kinds of grain, and will pay the highest cash price for the same. Office and warehouses at his lumber yards.

FRANK FOLTZ, of S. P. THOMPSON.

Real Estate for Sale.

Thompson & Bro.

Have for sale cheap lands. Buyers will do well to consult them before purchasing.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.—Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed Administrator of the estate of Felix Moritz, late of Jasper County, Indiana, deceased, and has duly qualified as such. Said estate is supposed to be solvent.

JOHN HEIL, Adm'r.

D. B. Miller, Attorney.

Or all modern improvements in Sewing Machines, the New Wheeler & Wilson.

"The Silent No. 8," is the greatest success. Wherever it has come in competition with other machines, before competent judges, it has universally come off triumphant.

We declare it the best in the world.—Judges American Institute, N. Y.

AWARDED the only grand prize for Sewing Machines, at the Paris Exposition, 1878, over 80 competitors.

For Agencies in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Colorado, and the Territories.

Write to—

WHEELER & WILSON MFG CO.,

155 State Street, - - CHICAGO.

NOTICE TO BRIDGE BUILDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Board of Commissioners of Jasper County, Indiana, will receive sealed bids until One o'clock, p. m., on Thursday, September 8th, 1881, being the second day of the September Term of the Board of Commissioners, for the building of a bridge across the marsh of the Iroquois River, near the residence of George W. Brink, all bids to be by the cubic yard, and to be accompanied by a good and sufficient bond, for the completion of the bridge, to be approved by the Board of Commissioners, and to be deposited with the Auditor of the Board.

By order of the Board, to be published in the Rensselaer Republican and THE DEMOCRATIC SENTINEL.

WITNESS my name and Seal of Office this 27th day of June, A. D. 1881.

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