

The Democratic Sentinel!

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VICTORY FOR PROHIBITION.

The Kansas Statutes Sustained by the United States Supreme Court.

THE United States Supreme Court has rendered a decision sustaining the State in the Kansas prohibition cases. The effect of this opinion is to declare valid the prohibition laws of the State of Kansas, and is of course a decided victory for the Prohibitionists. The decision is very important, and likely to be far-reaching in its consequences. The judgment of the court was pronounced in a long and elaborate opinion by Mr. Justice Harlan:

The Justice said it had been held repeatedly that the right of a State to regulate the sale of liquor did not include the constitutional right of the citizen. It was contended, however, he said, that no State Legislature had a right to prohibit any person from manufacturing liquor for his own use or for export, for the reason that it was an invasion of the personal liberty inherent in citizens. It must be observed, however, he said, that the right to manufacture liquor for one's own use was subject to the restriction that it should not injuriously affect the public. The right to determine what was injurious and what was not, and the right of determining what measures were necessary for the preservation of the public morals, health and safety had heretofore been vested in the States by the constitutional right given them under the police power to regulate their own internal concerns. "While this police power could not be abused and must only be exercised for objects of real merit, this court would certainly not say that the liquor traffic was not one which the State could lawfully prohibit, because it was well known that the abuse of alcohol was a product of superstition and crime. The next ground of contention the Justice said, was that the breweries had been erected prior to the passage of the prohibition law, and as they were of little use except for breweries, their property was taken without due process of law in violation of the Constitution. But all property under our form of government, he held, was subject to the obligation that it should not be used so as to injuriously affect the rights of the community, and thereby become a nuisance. The State had passed a right to prohibit the liquor traffic. It did not thereby take away the property of brewers. It simply abated a nuisance. The property was not taken away from its owners; they were only prohibited from using it for a specific purpose, which the Legislature declared to be injurious to the community."

Justice Field concurred in the opinion so far as it related to the two cases in which the State of Kansas was defendant.

He agreed, he said, to so much of the opinion as sustains the validity of the act of Kansas prohibiting the sale of intoxicants which are manufactured in the State after the passage of the act. He was not prepared, however, to say that the manufacture and sale of intoxicants, if intended for exportation, can be sustained, nor that the State can forbid the sale under proper regulations for the protection of the health and morals of the people of any article which Congress may authorize to be imported. He was not ready to admit that New York or any other coast State can thus defeat an act of Congress. Neither could he concur in the validity of the thirteenth section of the prohibition act of Kansas, because it intended to authorize the destruction of intoxicants without the process of law. He could not see upon what principle the Legislature, after closing the brewery, in order the destruction of liquor, which it admits may be valuable for medical or mechanical purposes; nor could he see why the protection of the morals of the State required the destruction of bottles and other utensils after the liquor had been emptied from them.

Another Important Supreme Court Decision.

THE case of the imprisoned officials of Virginia has been decided by the United States Supreme Court in their favor, the State being sustained at all points. The court declares, in substance, that a State cannot be sued or coerced in the Federal courts, whether the action be brought against it by name or against its officials in their official capacity. Judge Harlan's was the only dissenting opinion.

Sparks from the Wires.

THE failure is announced at Indianapolis of Theodore Pfaffin & Co., dealers in musical instruments. Their liabilities are placed at \$75,000.

PETER BENNETT, a wealthy farmer at Newport, Mass., was shot and severely beaten by burglars, who robbed him of \$32,000 in bills and gold.

THE Fiftieth Congress assembled on Monday, Dec. 5, and such formalities were observed as are usual at the opening of a session. In the Senate Mr. Ingalls occupied the chair. Contrary to expectation, no objection was made to the admission of Mr. Turpie, but Mr. Faulkner, of West Virginia, it was determined, could not take his seat until certain difficulties which might affect the validity of his election were settled. The Democratic caucus nominated for the destruction of the Whigs, without the process of law. He could not see upon what principle the Legislature, after closing the brewery, in order the destruction of liquor, which it admits may be valuable for medical or mechanical purposes; nor could he see why the protection of the morals of the State required the destruction of bottles and other utensils after the liquor had been emptied from them.

WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE WESTERN STATES.

A BROOKVILLE (Kansas) dispatch says the America Hotel, six business houses, and three dwellings were burned in that town. Four men were burned to death, as follows: Fireman Brimer, of Wamego; Brakeman Harrigan, of Wamego; Mr. Farnsworth, of Lincoln; an unknown man. Charles Mose, of Tower Springs, Kan., was badly burned, and will probably die. The guests of the hotel were obliged to jump from the second story windows. The total loss is \$22,000, and the insurance \$5,000. The cause of the fire is unknown.

THE new stock yards at St. Joseph, Mo., comprising 440 acres, were opened Thursday. They cost \$1,000,000, and are said to be complete in every detail.

A BULLSIDE site in Greenwood Cemetery, sixteen miles south of the city, on the Chicago and Grand Trunk Road, has been selected as the burial place of the dead anarchists, says a Chicago special. The lot, which is on a high hill overlooking the surrounding country, was offered at very reasonable figures, and entire control of the property given to the Central Labor Union, to arrange matters without interference on the part of the cemetery Trustees. The funeral services will be held next Sunday.

A COAL famine exists for 400 miles along the Santa Fe Road in Kansas. A train was stopped by farmers at Syracuse and six cars of coal unloaded.

THE FOREIGN BUDGET.

THE Congress of the Senators and Deputies at Versailles, France, elected M. Sadi-Carnot to succeed President Grévy. The successful candidate is a Republican who has been prominent in politics ever since the downfall of Louis Napoleon, but his influence in his party has been far inferior to that of his principal rivals for Republican support in the contest for the Presidency. A Paris cablegram says:

The ministry have formally tendered their resignations, and President Sadi-Carnot has requested them to remain in office for the present for the discharge of their business. The President-elect was in his interview with the new ministry was formed, to at once close the present session of parliament until after the coming senatorial elections. Probably the result of the election is the best thing that could have happened for France. M. Sadi-Carnot is the second best known economical writer in France, and has had practical public experience far superior to M. Leroy Beaulieu, the most famous economical writer. He is under 50; a Republican without being radical or visionary. He is a distinguished engineer, having studied at the Ecole Polytechnique, instead of being a lawyer, which in itself is a great thing; he is rich, and lives like a gentleman. He is not religious, but his wife is a Catholic. He has a 23-year-old son in the army. He is a free-trader. The newspapers of Paris generally approve the election of M. Sadi-Carnot and consider it an augury of peace. The telegrams from the provinces, without exception, testify to the satisfaction felt at the result of the election. The news created an excellent impression at the principal European capitals.

CONGRESS.

At the caucus of Democratic Congressmen in Washington Saturday night, the 3d inst., Mr. Carlisle was renominated for Speaker, General Clark for Clerk, and John K. Leedom for Sergeant-at-arms. There was a contest over the nomination of Doorkeeper, in which Breckinridge of Arkansas and Blount of Georgia came to blows. Domelson of Tennessee, the present incumbent, and A. B. Hurt of Mississippi were the candidates. Breckinridge opened the fight in caucus by a vigorous attack upon Domelson's personal life, and was repelled by Blount and others. In the course of Breckinridge's reply he expressed surprise that every gentleman should continue to support Domelson, knowing his record. Blount, who was standing near, planted a square blow upon the nose of the little Arkansas member, and brought the blood. Breckinridge promptly resent this by a blow that skinned Blount's cheek-bone. The combatants strove to continue the fight, but only succeeded in battering pretty badly Mr. Rusk, of Maryland, who had stepped between them. Tarsney, of Michigan, and Hall, of Indiana, to the rescue, and as the pugilists were separated and the excitement had subsided the affair was amicably arranged and the discussion proceeded. Hurt was finally chosen. Mr. Milburn, the blind preacher, was renominated for Chaplain. The Republican Congressional caucus nominated Mr. Reed, of Maine, as their candidate for the Speakership. The other nominations for House officers were Edward McPherson, of Pennsylvania; for Clerk; Daniel Shepard, of Illinois; for Sergeant-at-Arms; W. F. Fitch, of Ohio, for Doorkeeper; and Gray, of Dakota, for Postmaster. Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, was re-elected Chairman of the caucus for the present Congress.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

CATTLE..... \$4.75 @ 5.25
HOGS..... 5.25 @ 6.00
WHEAT—No. 1 White..... 91 1/2 @ 92 1/2
No. 2 Red..... 90 @ 91
CORN—No. 2..... 62 @ 63
OATS—White..... 38 @ 42
PORK—New Mess..... 15.25 @ 16.00

CHICAGO.

CATTLE—Choice to Prime Steers..... 5.25 @ 6.00
Good..... 4.00 @ 4.75
Fair Shipping..... 3.50 @ 4.25
HOGS—Shipping Grades..... 4.75 @ 5.50
FLOUR—Winter Wheat..... 3.75 @ 4.25
WHEAT—No. 2 Red Winter..... 78 1/2 @ 79 1/2
CORN—No. 2..... 49 @ 50
OATS—No. 2..... 23 1/2 @ 30 1/2
BUTTER—Choice Creamery..... 28 @ 30
Fine Dairy..... 18 @ 24
CHEESE—Fir Cream, new..... 11 1/2 @ 12 1/2
EGGS—Fresh..... 20 @ 21
POTATOES—Choice, per bushel..... 80 @ 85
PORK—Mess..... 14.75 @ 15.00

MILWAUKEE.

WHEAT—Cash..... 75 1/2 @ 76 1/2
CORN—No. 3..... 48 1/2 @ 49 1/2
OATS—No. 2 White..... 32 @ 33
RYE—No. 1..... 57 @ 59
PORK—Mess..... 14.75 @ 15.00

ST. LOUIS.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 78 1/2 @ 79
CORN—Mixed..... 47 1/2 @ 48 1/2
OATS—Cash..... 31 @ 31 1/2
PORK—Mess..... 14.75 @ 15.00

TOLEDO.

WHEAT—Cash..... 84 @ 85
CORN—Cash..... 52 1/2 @ 53 1/2
OATS—May..... 35 @ 35 1/2

DETROIT.

BEF CATTLE..... 3.75 @ 4.50
HOGS..... 4.00 @ 4.50
SHEEP..... 3.50 @ 4.50

WHEAT—No. 1 White..... 54 1/2 @ 55 1/2
No. 2..... 52 1/2 @ 53 1/2
OATS—No. 2 White..... 34 @ 35

CINCINNATI.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 85 @ 86
CORN—No. 2..... 54 1/2 @ 55 1/2
OATS—No. 2..... 33 @ 34
PORK—Mess..... 14.75 @ 15.25

BUFFALO.

WHEAT—No. 1 Hard..... 89 1/2 @ 90 1/2
CORN—No. 2 Yellow..... 50 @ 60
CATTLE..... 4.50 @ 5.00
HOGS..... 4.75 @ 5.25

INDIANAPOLIS.

BEF CATTLE..... 4.00 @ 5.00
HOGS..... 5.00 @ 5.50
SHEEP..... 3.00 @ 4.00

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 80 1/2 @ 81 1/2
CORN..... 50 @ 51
OATS—Mixed..... 32 @ 33

EAST LIBERTY.

CATTLE—Prime..... 4.50 @ 5.00
Fair..... 4.00 @ 4.50
Common..... 3.00 @ 3.50
HOGS..... 5.50 @ 6.00
SHEEP..... 4.25 @ 5.00

VILAS' ANNUAL REPORT.

Work of the Postoffice Department Reviewed by the Postmaster General.

The Deficiency Arising from the Reduction of Letter Postage Steadily Growing Less.

Postmaster General Vilas, in his annual report of the operations of his department, expresses the belief that the time is not far distant when the postage upon letters can be lowered to 1 cent an ounce, with a further possibility of a diminution of the existing rates upon merchandise and other matter. The taxation for the maintenance of the postal service by the imposition of postage is regarded as the justest form of assessment. Low rates are demanded by newspapers and periodicals and amply justified by the return in increased intelligence to the people. The profit arising from first-class matter makes good the losses sustained in the lower classes.

On June 30 there were 1,864 third-class post-offices in the country. Of presidential offices there were 2,381, the highest number in the history of the department. The compensation of presidential postmasters for the year was \$3,894, with an average of over 5 per cent. upon the previous year. The compensation of 1,864 fourth-class offices on July 1, an increase for the year of 1,543. The increase was made up by the establishment of 3,043 new offices and the discontinuance of 1,500. The new offices established were 439 less than the previous year. On July 1 the total number of postoffices of all classes was 55,157, besides which there were 613 branch offices or stations. The total number of appointments amounted to 1,079, of which 6,863 were to fill vacancies by expiration of commissions; by resignations, 2,584 were to fill vacancies by removal or suspension, 389 by death, and 3,043 to establish new offices. There were 145 fourth-class offices raised to the presidential class.

The free delivery service was, during the last fiscal year, extended to eight additional cities which had reached the limits then required by law of \$20,000 gross receipts or 20,000 population, and were thus within the discretionary consideration of the department. Their addition left the total number of places within the privileges of this system to be 189 at the end of the year. The average cost per carrier fell below that of last year, from \$88.76 to \$87.67, or \$2.18 to each, 2.4 per cent. This was due to the larger proportion of offices in towns which have two grades of carriers, and to the considerable number of carriers in the lowest grade by new appointments.

The money-order service continued to increase in volume during the past year, the amount in the aggregate of domestic orders issued reaching \$113,462,660.89, and of international orders \$9,035,530.31; 3.2 per cent of increase over the preceding year in domestic orders, and 1.1 per cent in foreign. The aggregate of postal notes issued was \$11,768,824.81, an increase of but \$5,814.76.

The special-delivery service does not appear to have commanded much increase of patronage during the year.

The revenue of the past year enjoyed its chief increase from the sale of stamps and stamped paper, in which the gain was \$4,223,887.96—more than 10 per cent. There was a gain of nearly 15 per cent. in the sale of newspaper and periodical stamps—over 4 per cent. better than the general rate of increase.

The experiments show an apparently rising percentage of 3.4, which, although but one-half the average of the six years ended June 30, 1885, the average in 1886, which was 6.8 per cent, yet exceeds the ratio of increase in 1885, which was but 2.6 per cent.

The experiments in silk-reeling have not yet reached the point of paying their own expenses, but that was hardly to be hoped for with a plant so limited. Another year's experience, it is expected, will show what can be done under favorable conditions.

The commissioner recommends that the public printer be authorized to furnish to the agricultural press of the country, at the mere cost of labor and material, electrotypes of such illustrations of the department as the editors may desire, and that the duties of the seed division be transferred to the San Joaquin Territorial experiment station. The commissioner disapproves of the efforts to make his department an executive department with a cabinet minister at its head. He says that the building of reservoirs among the Rocky Mountains for the storage of an immense volume of water now wasted should command the early attention of Congress.

REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Commissioner Colman's Account of the Work in the Agricultural Department.

The Comptroller of the Currency Recommends a Revision of the Banking Laws.

AGRICULTURE.

Mr. Colman's Report—Progress of the Work of Exterminating Pleuro-Pneumonia.

The annual report of the Commissioner of Agriculture says that the Governors of thirty-one States and Territories have accepted the rules and regulations of the Bureau of Animal Industry in regard to pleuro-pneumonia, and to secure their enforcement have added the Legislatures of Rhode Island, Virginia, New York and Illinois have enacted laws providing for co-operation. The most infested counties, the report says, and those from which there was most danger of the spread of the disease—viz., those in the neighborhood of New York, Chicago and Baltimore—have been placed in quarantine and no cattle allowed to leave them without a permit issued after a special examination. By this means new outbreaks have been almost entirely prevented.

From the beginning of the work for the eradication of this disease, in August, 1886, to Oct. 31, 1887, the inspectors of the Bureau have inspected 1,337 herds, containing 117,450 animals, in districts where the plague was supposed to exist. Among these there were 795 infected herds, containing 10,766 animals, of which 2,235 were affected with pleuro-pneumonia. These figures do not include 2,875 head of cattle in the distilleries of Chicago, nearly half of which were diseased. The number of animals found affected by this disease and the number of infected herds were much greater than the infected herds were.

The Commissioner expresses regret at the unavoidable loss inflicted on the farmers of Illinois by the cattle quarantine, and adds: "There has not been a time in years when the malady has been confined to such restricted areas as at present, and, consequently, the conditions are more favorable for its complete eradication. If the States would continue their co-operation as at present, which there is every reason to expect, and if an appropriation is made by Congress equal to that of the present fiscal year, and with authority for its similar use, it is believed that this dangerous pest can be exterminated by the end of the next fiscal year."

The Commissioner says it is yet too early to make an official statement of the results in detail of the present year's experiments in the development of sorghum-sugar manufacture, but enough is known already to enable this country to anticipate an early success of the experiment.

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THE NATIONAL BANKS.

Annual Report to Congress of the Comptroller of the Currency.

The annual report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows that the total number of national banks organized up to Oct. 31, 1887, was 3,805, of which 621 have failed, leaving in operation 3,184. The total number of new banks founded during the year was 225; total number closed during the year was 140; 25 went into voluntary liquidation