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Three months 50

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RENSSELAER, JASPER COUNTY, INDIANA, FRIDAY MAY 16, 1890.

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Rensselaer

SATURDAY, May 17.

MR. THOMPSON'S PLEA.

Editor Sentinel: I have read the essay of "A North-End Democrat." At an early day of my senatorship the Democrats made an abortive attempt to unseat me. My time will soon expire and I know of no reason why my friend Isaac Dunn should do as your correspondent intimates.

Perhaps "A North-End Democrat" don't write what he thinks about in that branch of his essay. As to my public life being selfish I am willing the truth be known. The mythical "they say" of invisible sombodies should fool none save those who have the "strong delusion" referred to by Paul in his 2d Epistle to the Thessalonians. My neighbors have enrusted me with public office of an educational, judicial, legislative and political nature, and my record is not a sealed book. I am willing that the truth be spoken by friend or critic. I tried to be a lawmaker for sixty days in the winter of 1889. As a partisan I believed that was best for my party which was best for the citizen and so governed my partisan conduct.

The state charter directs universal registration and equal rights, and forbids deprivation of suffrage or office on account of crime before conviction—Art. 2. I tried to enact laws as to nominating and elective agencies which were constitutional, economical, just and effective, and opposed unseating legislators for alleged crimes before conviction: senate journal 247 to 264, 341 to 349, 486 to 579, 580 to 602, and 1262 to 1271. The election enactments, acts of 1889, pages 157, 269 and 360 did not receive my approval because they were too cumbersome, expensive and complex and violated so many constitutional provisions that I believed they would perplex legal voters and not deter others. I hope the acts will be fairly tried and proved better than believed when I opposed their passage.

I favored free school books, bill 79, and buying the very best books at the very lowest price: journal p. 94 and 865. I worked for a more perfect system of common schools, but hope the text book law, which I opposed, may work well. I secured the passage of acts taxing the earnings of corporations: journal, pages 1422, 1466, 1489 and 1472: acts of 1889, pages 272, 379, 397 and 398; and to compel railroads to post their trains: journal 139; acts 279. I worked for the passage of laws making railroads liable for escape of fire, and compelling them to heat passenger coaches by steam. I proposed the act avoiding an extra session of the board of commissioners: acts p. 256: and to make less law suits; p. 264; journal 101, 198 and 981. Senate bills 2, 57, 395 and 406 were presented and passed on petition of my constituents: see acts of 1889, pages 37, 355, 358 and 400. My senate bill 98 exempting the veterans from road work was voted down: journal page 834: also bills 130 and 368 to regulate the liquor traffic; No. 143 to compel mortgagees to share taxation with mortgagors; No. 134 to reduce attorneys fees, and No. 192 to enable laborers to secure their pay.

I favored no bills to recruit the army of officeholders nor to increase their salaries. Another may have served better the wishes of his constituents, I did my best, and my successor will have no chronic local matters to prevent his time and energy from being wholly devoted to the public good.

S. P. THOMPSON.

Rensselaer, May 8, 1890.

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, Rensselaer, Indiana

The above is the name given to the future Catholic College now being erected. There will be, therefore, two different institutions upon the premises of the former Orphan Asylum, viz: The St. Joseph's College, called after its benefactor and protector, the Right Rev. Bishop Joseph Dwenger, of Fort Wayne, and the St. Joseph's Normal School for Indian boys, called after its founder, the Very Rev. Joseph N. Stephan, Director of the Bureau for Indian Catholic Missions.

The St. Joseph's College will be a structure of 135x55 feet, having basement and three stories, a fine building, according to the plans and specifications of P. F. Kendrick, of Fort Wayne. The work will be executed by Medland and Gleitz, of Logansport, Ind., and, judging from the work already done, the building is in able hands, and will be a success, adding thus to the enterprising city of Rensselaer another stately ornament.

The St. Joseph's College will be conducted by the Fathers of the Precious Blood Society, who devote themselves to missionary and pastoral labor, and also to educational enterprise. The readers of your esteemed journal undoubtedly will be more or less interested to hear something about this society.

The Precious Blood Society was founded in the beginning of this century by a zealous missionary, the venerable Caspar del Bufalo. Amongst its members was the Rev. Father Salesius Brunner, a priest from Switzerland, noted for his learning, missionary zeal and virtue. This father came to the United States anno 1843, upon the invitation of the late Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati. Father Brunner after spending sixteen years of labor and travels in the state of Ohio, in the midst of toil and hardship, to which missionaries were then exposed in a country without suitable roads, died in 1849. This society increased in numbers and its members have worked all along this time in the cause of religion. The society has at present as its superior, or "provincial," as he is called, the Very Rev. Henry Drees, of Carthagena, Ohio, assisted by a committee of trustees, viz: Revds. F. Nigcock, Glandorf, O., T. H. Wittmer, A. Seifert, Carthagena, O., and B. Austerman, Loretto, Tenn. The Precious Blood Society numbers now 80 priests and 175 lay brothers.

The expenses for the building of the St. Joseph's College will be about \$40,000 and are defrayed by the above mentioned society, partly supported by the Right Rev. Bishop of Fort Wayne.

The number and names of professors and teachers, etc., cannot be given at this time, but there will be at least 12—16 employees. The College will be a school for boys from 12 to 18 years. Altho' the plan of studies is not yet made public, still so much can be said, that it will include course in the English and Latin languages, mathematics and business course, music, etc. The students are not obliged to follow the priestly vocation, but will be enabled to make preparatory studies in that line, or prepare for any other career in life by a complete college course.

The college will be opened September the 1st, 1891, then the faculty of teachers will be here and students will come too, and they will add to the prosperity and progress of Jasper county.

[Concluded on 4th page.]

We are the sole agents in Rensselaer for Cone's Boys pants and overalls, best in America, and now have a nice line of striped goods at 50 cents per pair.

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General Palmer seems to have the republicans on the run in Illinois. The mention of his name throws the average politician of that party into spasms.