

The Evening Gazette

H. DUNSON & ROSE, Proprietors.

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REPUBLICAN CITY NOMINATIONS.

The Executive Committee have designated Friday evening, March 31, at early daylight, for the Republican vote to meet in their respective Wards to select five (5) delegates from each Ward, who will meet at the Court House in Convention the next evening, Saturday, April 1, and nominate a ticket for the Municipal election in May next. The Ward meetings will also select one Councilman for each Ward.

The places of meeting in each Ward are as follows:
First Ward—Engine House, Ninth street.
Second Ward—S. Reese's Carpenter Shop.
Third Ward—Geo. Gordon's Cooper Shop, on Vine street, opposite the Furniture Factory.
Fourth Ward—Northern Engine House.
Fifth Ward—Passenger Depot, -east of St. W. R. McKEN, J. S. FLENNER, T. E. LAWRENCE, S. K. ALLEN, TIM. M. GILMAN.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1871.

How it Looks.

Passing along our Main street this morning we met four of our most intelligent citizens. To the first we said, "Mr. A., have you read Sumner's speech?" His reply was, "I have. It is a great speech, and in my judgment unanswerable. The President has blundered in this whole matter, and he must back out of it. We do not want San Domingo with her two hundred thousand Catholics, Spanish negroes. Instead of adding this population to ours, we had much better endeavor to colonize some of our black citizens. The fact is, we do not want San Domingo, and President Grant and his advisers must abandon it."

Leaving number one, we passed on to number two, and said, Mr. B. how do you like San Domingo now? "I do not like it at all," says B. "I am opposed to San Domingo and have been from the start. Sumner's speech settles that question. However, I will wait patiently to see Senator Morton's reply to it. But I do not know how he can reply to the documentary evidence produced by the Senator from Massachusetts. I think Morton had better let that speech alone, and that President Grant had better abandon the whole matter, or he will create a division in the Republican party which will never be healed."

We passed to number three and inquired, "How are you on the Sumner speech and the San Domingo question, Mr. C?" He said: "I don't like Sumner much, never did, but his speech is masterly. I do not know exactly whether I am for San Domingo or against it, and I intend to wait until the Commissioners make their report. I have great faith in old Ben. Wade and will be governed, in a great measure, by what he says. However, the President must not endeavor to force this matter further, or he will send his prospects for renomination, up higher than a kite."

Just as we turned down from Main street to come to our office on Fifth, we encountered citizen number four. "What is the news to-day, Mr. D?" we inquired. "News enough," said he. "Sumner is trying to kill the Republican party. He ought to be kicked out of the Senate. He always was a disorganizer, and I never had any confidence in him. Morton will skin him when he comes to reply to him, and I will not read his speech until I can read them both together. I am for General Grant, because he is the greatest Captain of the age, and I intend to stick to him, and don't care what this old abolitionist says, and as for Carl Schurz, he is no American anyhow."

We left number four gritting his teeth, and passed in our sanctum to make a note of it.

Now those four good citizens represent the different phases in this San Domingo question. The great mass of the people are opposed to it, but now and then there is one in favor of it. The settled current of opinion is, that the whole matter ought to be abandoned, and if it is not, the Republican party will be much weakened, and President Grant lose many friends. We suppose the Commissioners will make their report in a day or two, and that the President will at once send it to Congress, and then we hope that body will have respect enough for popular opinion, to order the report on the table and printed. Then if Congress should at once adjourn, and leave this question unsettled until it meets again, it would act wisely, and prevent much excitement that will otherwise be occasioned.

The New York Tribune, in presenting the great speech of Mr. Sumner to its readers, says:

"We are sure that the country will accord a paramount weight to the Commission's findings as to the facts. If they report that the debt of the Dominican Republic is under \$2,000,000, its undeveloped natural resources vast and easily improved, its climate healthy, and its people hearty and all but unanimously anxious to share our National destinies, the great majority will believe that such is the case."

But they will not therefore consider the main question decided. Grant that annexation is clearly best for Santo Domingo, how is it for the United States? What is to be our allotment of the benefits? Of cheap, fertile, unoccupied land, we have an abundance already; and it is not obvious that Santo Domingo can increase our strength or our security against foreign aggression. On the contrary, there is no reason to suppose that the hazards, and the expense of war? In case of hostilities with a strong maritime power, must it not be costly to defend and damaging to abandon our tropical outpost? Must we not double our naval armaments on purpose to retain and protect it? Again: Must there not be a costly Coast Survey, numerous Light-Houses, appropriations to improve bays, harbors, inlets, and navigable water-courses—not

continently, but inevitably, if we annex Santo Domingo? Are not our costly fortifications at the chief city, at Samana, and at other important points, indispensable? Will there not be an inland frontier to guard in peace and defend in war against a jealous, vigilant, and no-wise contemptible neighbor? Consider what it cost us to expel the Seminoles from Florida; remember that wars waged against distant foes are necessarily most expensive, and you must realize that the annexation of Santo Domingo is a topic requiring the greatest and most dispassionate consideration.

We are not arguing the main question. We are simply stating and elucidating it. Before taking sides upon it, let us master the essential facts, especially those which the Report of the Commissioners is morally certain to embody. We refuse to be split into factions and set to quarreling with each other about a topic remote from our experience and our sympathies. If Grant has decided, as we hear, to reject the whole subject, the action of Congress at its next session, he has shown therein a discretion which others may wisely emulate."

The rumor comes to us from Washington, that President Grant will abandon the acquisition and purchase of San Domingo. This we hope he will do, and thereby save any further differences of opinion in the Republican ranks. Here, in this section of the Northwest, nine Republicans out of every ten are opposed to San Domingo, in every shape and form which it may be presented. President Grant can do no wiser thing than to abandon the whole scheme, at least for the time being, and we entertain the hope that he will do it. Never was a measure more unpopular, and never was there a fact more certainly fixed, than that it will utterly overthrow the Republican organization, if it is persisted in to a consummation. There are prudential considerations in politics as well as in anything else, and the present is peculiarly a time when the powers at Washington should exercise great prudence.

Our Savings Bank.

South Bend has no institution to which we refer with more pride than the St. Joseph County Savings Bank. It bears an important and valuable relation to the city as a teacher of economy to a large mass of people who would otherwise waste and squander their earnings, and it has been so fairly tested and honestly conducted as to have the public confidence in every respect. Its officers have come to be regarded by the regular depositors more in the light of personal friends than business agents, and we have every reason to believe that their care and caution in investing the funds entrusted to them will never permit this feeling of security to be shaken.—St. Joseph Valley Register.

All over the State the Savings Banks are becoming very popular. In this city now, the deposits reach almost one hundred thousand dollars, and the number of deposits are increasing daily.

THE CHICAGO TIMES had the following in a recent issue:

"That Ulysses S. Grant is a traitor, as black in heart as Judas Iscariot, has been in intent, is a rapidly growing conviction in the public mind."

To which the Post responds that the Times certainly can not mean what it says, else nothing on earth would prevent it from giving Grant a cordial support.

Stranger than Fiction.

Readers of Miss Braddon's lurid fiction, Henry Dunbar, will remember that it turns on what seems to be the extravagant hypothesis, that one man may murder another, assume his name and identity, enter in a possession of his estate, and be unsuspectingly received by his family and the world at large for the individual he personates. This is so glaring an improbability as to tax the faith of the most credulous of novel lovers. Nevertheless, in all its essential features, Miss Braddon's startling invention has been realized by a recent remarkable case in Chicago. The details of this curious and successful deception show so much perverted ingenuity and readiness of resource, as to entitle it to take rank among celebrated crimes.

As the story is now revealed, it begins with the arrival in New York of one Gumbelton, an Irishman of good family, in the spring of 1870. With him of brought a letter of credit for \$1,600, which he sold soon after his arrival to a New York banking house for a little less than \$1,600. He then went to Baltimore, where he made the acquaintance of a young German, named Alfred Zeigenmeyer, with whom he soon became intimate. Together the two friends, in November of last year, traveled to Chicago, where Gumbelton placed on deposit in the National Bank of Commerce the sum of \$300. Soon after, accompanied by the young German, he shipped two boxes containing clothing to Manhattan, Kansas. From that time nothing definite appears of known of him, until on the 24 of January of the present year his dead body was found in the lake, with a rope around his neck, and showing other indications of violence. Ever since that date the detectives have been untiring in their efforts to unravel the mystery, which have at last culminated in fixing the crime on Zeigenmeyer and causing his arrest at Bremen, where he is now held awaiting requisition from Washington. If the police theory of his movements subsequent to the murder is entirely correct, it is necessary to credit him with surprising coolness and cunning in villainy.

Assuming the detective version to be true, it appears that Zeigenmeyer, immediately after the murder, presented himself at the bank with Gumbelton's certificate of deposit, and stated that he was his victim's partner, and that Gumbelton had gone to New York, leaving him full authority to draw the \$300. The bank refused to deliver the money without the owner's indorsement. This Zeigenmeyer promised to get from New York, and after an interval of six days for that pretended object, returned with a forged endorsement, and secured the money. This was, apparently, his last appearance in the character of Zeigenmeyer. From that time forth he adopted the name and identity of the murdered man. Indeed, at his lodgings he was already known as Gumbelton, although the two had lived there together under their proper names from the 16th to the 19th of November, when Gumbelton disappeared; moreover, in personal appearance the two men were unlike, and the one, as we have seen, was a tall, light, fair-haired and beardless, and a German speaking English only imperfectly. That under these circumstances the deception could have been successfully carried out seems only less wonderful than the audacity which inspired it.

As Gumbelton, Zeigenmeyer then procured the return of the boxes sent to Kansas, which he at once sold, and turned his attention to the great prize, the eight thousand and odd dollars of the New York draft on Chicago. There still remained the difficulty of identification, and the trick by which this was surmounted is not the least ingenious in this singular record of rascally

astuteness. The pretended Gumbelton entered into negotiations to buy a farm, but when the time came to close the sale he had no money but his draft, which he could not cash. The anxious seller took the bait, and obligingly identified him at his own bank, and even went so far as to add his own endorsement to the draft. The bank officials, to be quite secure, wrote to the New York house, and were assured that everything was right. So the draft was paid, but the farm was not bought, and within a day or two afterward, on the 21st of December, Mr. Zeigenmeyer-Gumbelton vanished from Chicago, to be no more heard of until his arrest in Bremen on the charge of murder.

Regarding all the circumstances of this elaborate villainy, so carefully planned and so skillfully executed, it may be doubted if anything in sensational fiction approaches it in romantic improbability. Yet the facts seem to be undeniable, and they are presented on the respectable authority of a well known Chicago Journal.—New York Times.

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