



The Berrien County Record.

D. A. WAGNER, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 4, 1899.

THE ELECTION ON NEXT TUESDAY.

Our readers will bear in mind the fact that they are called upon to vote, on Tuesday next, Nov. 9th, for a man to fill the office of Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit. At the election, the unexpected term of the late Hon. Judge Bacon will have to be filled, as well as an election had for the full term to which Judge Bacon was elected.

The District Convention held in Niles, on Tuesday, put in nomination (Geo. S. Clapp, Esq., for the office. No better selection could have been made, and we are confident none that would meet a more hearty approbation of the Republicans of the District.

Mr. Clapp is well known in Berrien and Cass Counties, which now comprise the 2nd Judicial Circuit, as a man of undoubted integrity and in every way qualified to fill the honorable and responsible position to which he has been nominated. Of this, there is not the least doubt. It becomes every voter then, who desires the welfare of the District, and who would have a competent Judge, to vote and labor hard to secure the triumphant election of Mr. Clapp. Let no Republican say, "I have no interest in the selection of a Judge." This is a mistake. Every man is interested. No one knows how soon he may be engaged in litigation; and then he will feel that he would prefer a Judge of acknowledged integrity to sit on his case.

Republicans of Berrien and Cass Counties, see that every one is at the polls on Tuesday next and votes for Mr. Clapp. And if you know of an indifferent Republican, stir him up and have him at the polls. Show him that his interest is at stake, as well as that of his neighbors. Let every thing be done to place a competent man in this responsible position.

Every effort will, undoubtedly, be used to secure the election of a Democratic Judge. The efforts of the Democracy will be bent, with great energy, to accomplish this end. They have already made their boasts, that they can elect their man. So they can, if the Republicans in the District stay away from the polls; but they cannot if every Republican does his duty on Tuesday next. There is no time to lose. Every moment should be employed diligently to place a Republican Judge upon the Bench, before that he will more faithfully carry out all questions touching the principles of Justice, as understood and enacted into law by our Legislators than one of the opposite party.

In voting for a Republican, we vote for the great principles of the party of justice and of right. Let every one do his duty and thus secure an overwhelming majority in favor of Mr. Clapp, a man in every way abundantly qualified to fill the responsible and honorable position of Judge, to which he has been nominated by the Republicans in this Second Judicial Circuit.

THE REMOVAL OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The New York Times thinks, as the National Capital will soon or late be removed, that it is not best to spend any more money in erecting more public buildings in Washington. The Detroit Post also advocates the gradual removal of the Capital. It thinks that a site should soon be secured for the new Capital, and that this should be gradually improved; and that office after office, and department after department should be removed to the new site. It would have, at least, fifteen years consumed in the entire removal.

This plan would doubtless be much more acceptable to the great majority of the people than the expensive one of immediate removal. As it is certain something must be done, about more room for Government offices, we know of no arrangement that would so fully meet the judgment of the people, as the immediate location of the site of the future Capital, and erection thereon of such additional buildings as the Government needs.

The question, undoubtedly, will be one that will engross considerable attention at the next session of Congress. It is expected, that every Western member, especially, will persistently refuse to make further appropriations for Government buildings, in Washington. There are two things to which the American people may as well make up their minds—two inevitable results in the future. One of these is the removal of the National Capital, and the other is woman suffrage. If these two events will occur, and if he opposes them, will find himself kicking against the goats.

A STRANGE RUMOR.

It is well known to many persons throughout the country, that there is now pending, and has been pending for a long time, a case in the Supreme Court, which involves the constitutionality of the Legal Tender Act. It is thought, and no doubt upon good grounds, that the Court will hold the act to be illegal.

It is rumored that in view of the forth coming decision, Secretary Boutwell will resume specie payment. There is now in the Treasury \$117,000,000 of gold, against which there is outstanding certificates of \$29,000,000. That leaves a balance of \$88,000,000. During the month of November the Secretary will sell \$10,000,000 in gold, and prior to the rendering of the Supreme Court decision, resume specie payments. It is rumored that this story caused the fall in gold, it selling as low as \$128 1/2 on Monday. Whether there is any truth in the rumor will soon be known, as the decision of the Supreme Court, referred to, cannot always be delayed, but must be rendered before long.

PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT.

The October statement of the public debt shows a decrease during the month of \$7,898,852. Thus, under a faithful administration, the indebtedness of the country is steadily decreased. At the rate of reduction, made since Grant's administration, commenced, one year will find our debt about a hundred millions less than when Grant was inaugurated President. The national debt is no less than it ever has been, since it reached its highest point in August, 1865.

THE CHICAGO VICTORY.

The Citizens Ticket of Chicago was triumphantly elected on Tuesday. A majority of both Republicans and Democrats voted for the ticket. This is an important victory, and will mean "rings" and "cliques" that their power can and will be broken. The people will not always suffer at the hands of political cliques. Reform must come, wherever corruption is found. Rings must be broken up that the people may have their rights maintained. Let all learn a lesson from the Chicago election.

Annual Report of Receipts and Expenditures of the County of Berrien, for the year ending October 31st, A. D., 1899.

RECEIPTS.—GENERAL FUND:

Table with columns for From Appropriation, From Conts of production, From Conts of Probate, etc.

EXPENDITURES:

Table with columns for County Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer, etc.

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Educational Matters.

Original and Selected.

By H. A. Ford, County Superintendent.

The County Institutes.

Two Teachers' Institutes were held in Berrien County during the last fortnight in October, the first at Buchanan, the other at St. Joseph. At both places, they were cordially welcomed, the teachers hospitably and gratuitously entertained, and the day and evening sessions well attended by citizens as well as members. That for the southern half of the county was attended by nearly seventy-five persons; and for the northern half, about eighty. The two meetings aggregated over one hundred and fifty members, or one for every school district in the county. Any other county in Michigan, or probably, in the Union, may be safely challenged to exhibit a more brilliant record in the matter of educational improvement.

The quality of the attendance was not less noticeable than its quantity. The unutterably homely girls, the vinegary old maids, the grumpy spinsters arrayed in the old-time fashions, which the popular mind is wont to associate with the idea of the school-mistress, were not there. The green and gawky boys, the stiff and formal pedagogues, the stilted pedants, the Ichabod Cranes, and the rest of the school-masters of that ilk, were all "abroad" from these meetings. They were assemblies of the best and gentlemanly of the former, many of the most beautiful, graceful, and intelligent, among the latter some of the most sensible and practical, that the county owns. Berrien has no reason to be ashamed of the personnel of its teachers. If as large companies of fairer women and better men can be collected here from any other county in the State, we shall be glad to bless our eyes with the sight.

The earnest working spirit of the Institutes was manifest from the beginning of each. The attention was careful, close and eager; the note-taking uncommonly general and full; the questions frequent and pointed; the discussions critical, yet thoroughly respectful and well-directed. There was much inquiry for the best teachers' aid, in the way of professional treatises and periodicals, improved text books and apparatus. Nearly every first and second grade teacher in the county was at some time present, and any one who observed their anxiety to secure all means of improvement could not fail to entertain the highest hopes for our educational future. The veteran Superintendent of Van Buren County, a life-long worker in various fields of education, thought the Institute at St. Joseph the finest body of the kind he had ever seen assembled.

The chief instructors at Buchanan were Prof. Goodison, head of the State Normal School, Grand Rapids; Barrett, of the village schools; Jay W. Cowdry, Esq., of Detroit; and Mr. J. H. Roll, of Chicago. These at St. Joseph were Prof. Goodison, Prof. J. R. Webb, author of the Word-method, Supt. Edw. Cleveland, of Van Buren, and Principal Silwell, of the village. Few words were wasted. The instructions were practical and to the point, and the members evidently bore much of them away from the Institutes, in their note-books and their brains. The lectures of Prof. Goodison will mark a new era in the teaching of geography and drawing all over the county.

The teachers have dispersed to their several fields of labor, each isolated and alone, but in a happy and a more hopeful and enthusiastic, devoted heart—to carry the banner of educational reform to some portion of the people. Will you not, dear public of the school districts, warmly welcome the nobler ideas and better methods they bring, the improvements in oral teaching, in books, apparatus and school government, which are the heralds of a brighter day for the immortal souls of our children?

State Items.

The Board of Supervisors have decided to build a new jail upon the site of the old Union School House—Hillsdale Democrat.

A few days since, a little child of Francis Menard, was severely scalded on one of its arms, by a pot of boiling hot tea accidentally falling on it.—Pontiac Bill Poster, 27th.

—Mrs. Loomis (Gen. Loomis' step mother) attempted to commit suicide about 9 o'clock yesterday morning, by taking about 1 1/2 ounces of laudanum during a fit of temporary insanity.—Coldwater Sentinel, 20th.

—We learn that a man named Finn, was killed at the Lake Superior this forenoon by the caving in of the bank of the cut in which he was at work.—Marquette Mining Journal, 23rd.

—The Decatur Republican gives an account of a fire in that place, on the 25 inst. Five buildings were destroyed, and a Dr. Sheppard was burned to death. The total loss from the fire will probably reach \$150,000 or \$17,000.

—Last Thursday a young man aged twenty-one years, named Charles McElroy, who resided with his parents, near Crawford's mill, in the lower part of the town, was accidentally drowned in Manistee Lake.—Last Saturday, at about four o'clock, a fire broke out in the village of Buchanan, Michigan, by the falling of a log on a pile of lumber, which was discovered to be on fire, and it soon burned to the ground.—Manistee Tribune, 21st.

—A man named Copeland was quite seriously injured by jumping off the 3:15 train on Tuesday afternoon. He was riding with some friends good bye, when the train started on suddenly, and he tried to jump off, but struck a lumber pile, cutting a bad gash above his eye, and almost forcing it out.—Walspring Citizen, 23rd.

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Sunday Reading. LIFE-LEAVES. BY RAYMOND J. CLARK, A. M. The day, with its sunbeams dipped in dew...

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Spasmodic Piety. A quaint writer compared a certain class of professors to sheet-iron stoves heated by sniveling.

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