

THE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 22.

We do not read anonymous letters and the writer is in all cases indispensable, not necessary for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return or preserve communications that are not used.

A REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION

will be held in

NOROMBEA HALL, Bangor,

Thursday, April 26, 1888, at 11 o'clock

a. m.

For the purpose of selecting two candidates for

Electors of President and Vice President of the

United States, and four delegates at large, and

four alternates to attend the National Convention,

to be held at Chicago, Illinois on Tuesday, June

19th, 1888, and transacting any other business

that may properly come before it.

The basis of representation will be as follows:

Each city, town and plantation will be entitled to

one delegate, and for each twenty-five votes cast

for the Republican candidate for Governor in

1884, an additional delegate, and for a fraction of

forty-five votes in excess of seventy-five votes, an

additional delegate.

The State Committee will be in session in the

reception room of the Hall at nine o'clock on the

morning of the Convention, for the purpose of

receiving the credentials of delegates.

All electors of Maine, without regard to past

political differences, who are in sympathy with

the sentiments expressed in the call of the

National Convention, are cordially invited to

attend the Convention, and to select in

selecting delegates to this Convention.

Per order Republican State Committee.

JOSEPH H. MANLY, Chairman.

WILLIS H. WING, Secretary.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, February 11, 1888.

In Canada a trust is called a "combine,"

but does not on this account escape the public

attention. The Dominion Parliament is

investigating the "combines" with becoming

indignation.

Mr. Keely has been called into court to

explain his motive in being suffering stock-

holders. Apparently in good faith Mr.

Keely has several times attempted to explain

his great secret, but he has always failed to

make his audience comprehend it. The fact

is the language was constructed before the

motor, and therefore is utterly inadequate to

any explanation of it. He has only to talk

to the court about five minutes to convince

it of the truth of this and secure a discharge.

In Western Massachusetts they are

thinking that Senator Dawes' knowledge and

experience would be about right for a dele-

gate to the national Republican convention.

This is a time for the Republicans of every

other State to be thinking of their best and

most experienced men. From present ap-

pearances the task of that convention will

demand the maturest judgment as well as

the most distinguished patriotism in the

party. The delegates should be men who

can examine, deliberate and decide, uninflu-

enced by the clamors of the galleries.

When William Drew Washburn went from

Maine he carried a level head with him, and

nothing has shown it better than his refusal

to be Minnesota's "favorite son" in the

Republican national convention. He says

that he will not be a candidate for any

public office, and that, as "Minnesota is by no

means a doubtful State, the Republican

party could gain no possible advantage in

the coming campaign by nominating a Min-

nesota man; and therefore the Chicago con-

vention should not be subjected to unnecessary

complications by a multiplication of

candidates."

Senator Blair introduced into the Senate

Tuesday a somewhat fantastic proposition

to discriminate in appointing ex-Confeder-

ates to office in favor of those who had been

mained in their efforts to destroy the Union.

The Senate, however, did not take kindly

to the plan, Senator Hawley saying that he

would not act ungenerously to anybody

on the Confederate side of the great ques-

tion. "He would not, by his vote, or without

a vigorous protest, permit to be placed on

the statute book anything that would in any

degree reward a man for fighting on the

Confederate side in the war." Mr. Blair

on behalf of the ex-Confederates disclaimed

any desire for such discrimination as Mr.

Blair proposed.

The counsel for the government profess to

intend to continue the prosecution of the

telephone suit notwithstanding the decision

of the Supreme Court, announced Monday. It

is difficult to imagine why, however, unless

to get some big fees out of the government,

for the decision of the Court has swept away

the entire foundation of the government case by

declaring that there is not any reasonable

doubt of fraud in the issue of the

patent to Bell, and that, as a question of

fact, Bell was the original discoverer of the

method of transmitting articulate speech by

electricity and the first constructor of an

instrument that would do it. Even if Lamar

on the bench, which would be an inadvisable

thing to do, to say the least in view of his

connection with the Pan-Electric case, and

with Judges Field, Harlan and Bradley, the

Court would be evenly divided, and the

present decision would stand. It is al-

together probable, however, that the adminis-

tration, no matter what the advice of the

lawyers may be, will take this favorable

opportunity to bring its attempt to sit a band

of brazen speculators by putting the machi-

nery of the government in motion in their

behalf to an end.

The Supreme Court of the United States

has just rendered a decision in the case of

George A. Bowman et al. against the Chi-

cago & Northwestern Railway Company in-

volving the validity of a statute of Iowa

bidding railroad companies to bring into

circulating liquors into the State unless a

certificate has been furnished from the

auditor of the county to show that liquor

is to be transported, showing that the

consignee is legally authorized to sell it. Bow-

man offered the road 500 barrels of beer

for shipment into Iowa, but the road refused

to receive or transport them. He then brought

suit against the company for damages, and

the latter pleaded in defense the Iowa statute

referred to. In the lower court the

verdict was for the road, the judge holding

that the statute was constitutional. The

case was taken to the Supreme Court, and

now the full bench has reversed the decision

of the court below holding that the power to

regulate or forbid the sale of a commodity

after it has been brought into a State does

not carry with it the right and power to

prevent its introduction by transportation from

another State, and on this ground declaring

the Iowa statute unconstitutional. Three

of the judges—Harlan, Waite and Gray—

disented, maintaining the right of a State to

protect the health, morals, peace and good

order of its citizens by prohibiting the bring-

ing of intoxicating liquor into it from other

States. The Maine statute prohibits a per-

son who knowingly brings into this State

intoxicating liquors with intent to sell the

same in the State in violation of law by a

fine of \$50. It is a reasonable statute, and

statute is in excess of the power of the State

as defined by the Supreme Court in the

above decision.

Co-operative Coopers.

The small proportion of co-operative man-

ufacturing schemes that have survived after

disencouragements and misfortune have been

usually owned, their success to the guidance

and energy of one or two controlling spirits.

In the limited form of co-operation known

as profit sharing, the responsibilities of

management still rest with the proprietors

of the establishments. In France the gov-

ernment is looked to for aid in cases where

the amount of capital required is more than

the co-operating shareholders are able to

venture. The experiments of A. Cushman

in Auburn, in the case of Cushman & Co.,

and Brewster & Co., in New York city, of

the Peace Dale Woolen Mill, and of the Pills-

bury Flour Mills in Minneapolis have made

familiar and recommended profit sharing

of pure co-operation, where the laborers

take the risks as well as the advantages,

examples have been less numerous. One

conspicuous example is the co-operating

industry of Minneapolis, to which the Tribune

of that city devotes a page of the Tribune

in the great dear manufacturing city

the demand for barrels is enormous. More

than six million barrels were made there last

year. And almost all of these were made in

co-operative shops. Up to 1874 the cooper-

shops were carried on in the usual way.

The cooper belonged to labor unions,

struck frequently, were often beaten in these

strikes, and, in short, suffered all the

troubles of men who are not on the best of

terms with their employers. Before 1874

three men who had left a shop on account of

a reduction of wages, he had started a small

co-operative shop. The closing of the four

mills and consequent decrease in the demand

for barrels brought their undertaking to an

end. But from what little time they had

worked they had determined that co-

operation among the cooper might

be successful. In 1874 the experiment

was tried again and was a success.

Today there are ten co-operative shops

in Minneapolis, with four hundred thou-

sand dollars invested and seven hundred

and fifty-two men and boys employed.

Each shop is in charge of three men.

The president of the company is foreman and

manager; the secretary and treasurer is

the bookkeeper, and there is a superintendent

who looks after the mechanical depart-

ment. At the weekly meeting a state-

ment is made of the profits, which are

divided among the members on the ratio of

what each one has earned. The manner of

paying in the capital stock is by assess-

ment made weekly. By this means a man

who joins a co-operative shop is able to

support his family, while at the same time,

whether he wishes it or not, he becomes a

capitalist. When a man wishes to retire he

gives notice to the directors asking for his

release. If they decide to release him they

pay him the cash value of his stock, either im-

mediately or in installments. The workings

and the results of this system have been

admirable. The credit of the concerns is

first class, the men generally have homes,

drink liquor, and are well satisfied with

their dual condition of laborers and capital-

ists. In ten years but one co-operative shop

has been brought into co-operation with

the co-operative shops managed the hard

times better than shops managed under the

old system. "There is a dual condition of

the members understand it, and submit

cheerfully to a cut in wages, while laborers

under the old system used to strike and

drive their employers to the wall. The

result of the experiment of the Minneapolis

coopers is a cheering testimony to the pos-

sibilities of laborers who unite industry and

intelligence.

Mills' Tariff Slashing.

The consideration of the Mills tariff bill by

the ways and means committee has been

concluded and the bill is now in a condition

for presentation to the House. It was read

by sections, as rapidly as the tongue of the

reader would permit—rapidly, probably,

as Mr. Sidney M. Heath read the Constitu-

tional Convention of the United States to the

Frenchman who had been refused natural-

ization because they were not familiar with

the Constitution and the bill is now in a

condition for presentation to the House.

The bill is a measure of the tariff, and

was clearly demonstrated by his assertion

in the House that the manufacture of seam-

less stockings was unknown in this country.

Mr. Mills, however, has a big head, and his

deficiency of knowledge is more than com-

pensated for in his own estimation by the

circumstances of his skill. He cuts and

slashes with the knife, and he is not a

Republican, and he is not a Democrat.

He is a

