

The Bismarck Tribune.

BY M. H. JEWELL.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE.

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THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE.

Eight pages, containing a summary of the news of the week, both foreign and local; published every Friday, sent postage paid, to any address, for one year \$2; six months, \$1; three months, 75 cents.

The Weekly Tribune is the oldest paper in North Dakota and the aim is made to make it a perfect encyclopedia of Dakota affairs.

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THE Hillsboro Press very truly says in speaking of Hon. J. F. Selby: "He will doubtless acquit himself with honor and credit."

HON. HERBERT ROOT objects to the Fargo Argus' appellation of "Banker Root" and declares he's a farmer—"Farmer Root, the reformed banker."

MINNEAPOLIS and Hennepin county seem to be in a fairly healthy and prosperous condition. The statistics show 3,083 deaths for 1888 against 5,591 births.

MITCHELL REPUBLICAN: The Dakota joint commission at Bismarck is moving very slowly for some reason. Perhaps "Cal" is making some more of his convention speeches.

DELEGATE PRICE, a member of the South Dakota constitutional convention discovered a crook in the seventh standard parallel, which moves the Pierre Signal to say that "Delegate Price is a man of more than ordinary ability, and we would be pleased to see him in the first state senate."

THE Chicago Inter-Ocean sends the following greeting to the new states: Long life and health and happiness. A good constitution is a necessity. Look at your constitutions. Don't incorporate dyspepsia and consumption into them.

JUDGE A. B. LEVISEE, of Mayville, in whom the good people of Traill county place much confidence and expect to honor in some way this fall, is a visitor in the capital city. He is being chaperoned by Hon. E. M. Paulson, one of Traill's four earnest champions and representatives in the constitutional convention.

DID it ever occur to the reader that under the two house system it is only necessary to have one-half of one house or thirteen to twenty members out of a whole legislature—to defeat any reform measure demanded by the people? Perhaps this is why the corporations do not take kindly to the one-house idea.

THE Nelson County Observer says: We regret that we are unable to devote the amount of space necessary to describe in detail the many attractions which Bismarck offered for the amusement and edification of her visitors on the "glorious fourth" suffice to say that the good people of that city, for old-fashioned courtesy and genuine western hospitality are beyond question the peers of any people on God's earth. Long live Bismarck, and may she ever flourish and continue to remain the capital city of peerless North Dakota for a thousand years.

In a long editorial on the new states the Chicago Herald says: "The one experiment suggested so far to the convention, that of a single legislative chamber, is well worthy of being tried. It is Jeffersonian and it is democratic. It will fix the responsibility for laws where that responsibility belongs. Laws will not be bandied back and forth between upper and lower chambers. There will be a single body coming directly from the people who will be able to reflect and embody the people's desire. It is an experiment well worth being tried. If it succeeds it will be of advantage to the older states. If it fails no very great harm can result."

THE following excellent advice is from the Grand Forks Plaindealer: Dakota soil is the best on earth. Her grasses are the richest that grow. Her wheat is the best the world produces. Where is the country that does not experience an occasional failure? It does not exist. Brace up. We know that it is discouraging, but where will you find anything better? Go back to the older states to encounter not only drought, but grasshoppers, chinch bugs, Hessian fly, weevil, cutworms, cyclones, floods and malaria—one or more of these pests and afflictions every year. Better stay where you are and endure an occasional set back and have good health.

THE democratic committee of North Dakota met Saturday and called its state convention for the 28th of August at Fargo. Chairman Ryan says the democrats propose to organize and present a solid front in every county. The TRIBUNE is glad to know this. Nothing can be more beneficial to the republican party than a good, healthy opposition. It will result in better party discipline and the putting of good, staunch republicans to

the front. To falter in the ranks will be dangerous. To grieve over personal disappointments, to bolt party nominations, to sulk and jump over the traces will be little less than criminal. Every republican should feel an individual responsibility and contribute his best energy to make this fall's campaign a sweeping and glorious victory. The eyes of friends in congress and all over the land are upon us. Let us not disappoint them.

STILL FOR ONE HOUSE.

The advocates of the one-house system found in Messrs. Stevens, Turner and Parsons of Morton, three very earnest and able champions. Mr. Stevens made the speech of the session and was warmly applauded by his colleagues. He covered the whole question, citing precedents and giving convincing reasons why the one-house assembly would be advantageous to the people of North Dakota. The remarks of the gentlemen appear in another column. The advocates of the one-house system present the argument of precedent only. The very fact that we have the precedents of the states on this side of the question ought to convince us that a change is needed. It would be the height of stupidity if we should follow blindly the footsteps of the changed condition of affairs. The complaints of the masses in all the older states ought to be a lesson to North Dakota, and if we do not take advantage of the experience of the older states and heed the cry of the common people, we are losing a golden opportunity.

THE TRIBUNE has had much to say in advocacy of the one-house plan because it believes it would meet the hearty approval of the masses and prove a lasting blessing to the people. And in its advocacy of this simple form of popular government the TRIBUNE is not alone. Editor Warnock of the Jamestown Capital, the official organ of the Farmers Alliance, has the following to say in favor of the measure now under discussion: The single house idea for our state legislature is now receiving quite a good deal of attention from some of the territorial papers, principal among which is the Bismarck TRIBUNE. The idea is one well worth discussing and we are inclined to believe that it is worthy of incorporation in our state constitution. The two houses of our state legislatures is obviously a custom carried beyond necessity or utility, certainly beyond the grounds upon which the two-house idea was originally based, and is merely the shadow without the substance. The marked difference in the character of the two houses that compose our national congress finds no similarity, even in miniature, in our state legislatures. The members of the national congress are elected by direct vote of the people and the individual members represent local constituencies into which the state is sub-divided, while the members of the national senate are elected by the legislatures and represent states. No corresponding distinction exists between the two houses of a state legislature. The members of both houses are elected by the same people for the same identical purpose. To carry out the one state legislature theory upon which the United States senate was originally established, would require that our state senators be apportioned two to each county, without regard to size or population, and provide for their election by the county commissioners or board of supervisors. The people would not entertain such a proposition for a moment, and yet that is the essential theory upon which a senate is based. Instead of the two houses being a check upon each other against evil legislation enacted by the legislature, the smaller body it is made the point of attack by corporations who wish to defeat legislation that restricts them in their grabbing propensities and powers, and as that body can defeat any legislation proposed and the lower house it is not necessary for monopolies to spend any time or money on the lower house. A single house would bring the law-making power in closer relation with the people and put the power of correcting legislative evils more directly into the hands of the people. The great power of government emanates. We believe the single-house plan would subserve all the good ends of the legislative department of state government and eliminate serious evils. We also believe the present governor should be made ex-officio presiding officer of the body, which would do away with pernicious bargains and sales that too often are offered, exacted and made to secure the position of speaker by aspiring and ambitious members elect.

THE Chicago News contains the following very excellent advice to the new states in regard to taxation: Questions of taxation are among the most important to be considered in framing the fundamental laws of the new states. The subject has already been heard, but more is needed to clear away the mists that becloud most minds in relation to the subject. The danger for the people of the new states lies in the attempt to be made by the constitution builders to provide for the immediate future. Evidences are not wanting that the convention will slavishly copy the constitutions of older states with respect to the taxation of personal property and of industry in general. Especial ingenuity will be shown in devising plans for reaching what is termed intangible property—stocks, bonds, mortgages, notes, and money. It will be wasted effort. Experience in all the other states teaches that attempts to levy and collect taxes on such property have always failed, and they always must fail. To continue them is unpardonable folly.

Governor Oglesby clearly pointed out the utter futility and imbecility of the Illinois revenue system in the last annual message. He said its effects were oppressively unjust, and he demanded radical changes. In New York and California, in Indiana and Texas, in Missouri and Massachusetts the same essential evils have been found and condemned. In Ohio a special commission was appointed to examine the whole subject of taxation and to report a substitute for the cumbersome system under which aim at unbelievable injustices have been obtained. This commission gave the most painstaking study to the matter before them, a mass of testimony was taken, the arguments of economists and of practical men of affairs were heard, and a conclusion was reached which is a constitutional amendment which covers the whole subject of revenue was left to the discretion of the legislature. In other words the commission recommended the repeal of all that part of the constitution which prescribes the things that shall be taxed; the people are left free to profit by experiments and to apply any new idea that may commend itself to their business judgment. That judgment now condemns the personal-property tax as thoroughly inequitable; it questions the justice of taxes on industry; it questions light is coming to it from many sources on other points of vital concern to the public

welfare, as it is affected by the incidence of taxation. Should the amendment prevail Ohio will be prepared to make great advances on new and plainer lines, and many of the inequalities which now affect her people will speedily disappear under the unhampered enactments of legislatures guided by the best thought of the world, and the widest range of practical experience in levying and collecting taxes.

The two Dakotas, Montana, and Washington owe it to themselves and to the country to avoid the follies and blunders which have everywhere else cost the people so dearly. The sitting conventions have no right to frame constitutions which will saddle upon the new states a load of evils such as those prevailing in Illinois, Ohio, and the rest of the sisterhood of states. Those conventions have been warned in time by Governor Oglesby and by the Ohio tax commission, as well as by the unnumbered outpourings of like character from other sources, and for them now to repeat the blunders so fully exposed by such high authority would be scarcely less than criminal.

These conventions can afford to blunder by way of experiment, but they cannot afford to blunder by copying the exposed and acknowledged follies of other constitution-makers.

THE crop report for July 1, issued from the office of commissioner of immigration, shows that the average condition of wheat on that date in South Dakota was but 54 per cent. of a perfect crop, and in North Dakota but 49 per cent. Down in South Dakota 79, North Dakota 65. The condition of oats in North Dakota 53 per cent.; exceeds the south by eight points. Vegetables is a stand off at 60 points and the north leads the south a few points in rye and barley. On the whole the average of the two sections is very close—a little over half a crop all around. The rainfall average of the territory was but 1.51 inches, while in 1888 it was 4.18 inches. The crop, taking into consideration this remarkable deficiency in the rainfall, shows the wonderful amount of punishment the soil of Dakota will stand.

When put to the test, no other country on earth could show such a favorable condition of crops as now exists when the conditions had been so unfavorable. The total precipitations at Yankton was 2.68; at Huron, 1.04; at Fort Snely, 1.64; at Fargo, .96; at Pembina, .76; at Bismarck, 1.08; at Buford, 1.03, and at Rapid City 2.97. In speaking of the condition of the crops in his official circular, the commissioner of immigration says: The Dakotas will be short on wheat this year. The June report would indicate about half a crop. It is more than likely, however, that the shortage will amount to the larger half of an average yield. The crop of 1889, allowing for the increase in acreage for the two Dakotas combined, will probably not exceed twenty million (20,000,000) bushels. There is no disposition to conceal or distort the facts. It is the business of this office to furnish accurate information on every subject connected with the welfare and interests of the two Dakotas. It does not hesitate to report the facts as they are with respect to the unusual climatic conditions which have prevailed this year. Dakota cannot be injured by a poor crop. The history of other western states shows how fortunate the Dakotas have been in their early settlement, as compared with most of their older neighbors. The distribution of rainfall has been marked by exceptional peculiarities. For the most part it has occurred in short showers, and has been uneven and irregular that wheat fields may be seen in one locality where the present stand promises a full yield, while within a few miles other fields will not produce a bushel of good grain to the acre. It has been an extraordinary year, the open winter being followed by a long period of cold unseasonable weather, turning into a hot, dry summer, such as Dakota has not experienced in twenty years.

Since the above bulletin was published there have been several good rains throughout North Dakota, and it is likely that the general average condition is now a few points higher than those stated above.

THERE is one thing the members of the constitutional convention should insist upon—and this duty will largely devolve upon the committee of revision and appointment—and that is the correct phraseology of the constitution. Let us have a clear cut document—so plain in its language as to be readily understood by all. It is no small task to so classify and adjust the various articles adopted so that the constitution will read smoothly, and we are not sure but that it would have been wise to have had a committee of five or six appointed, whose duty it would have been to draft a complete constitution as a sort of basis to work upon. This was doubtless the idea of Mr. Williams, who yesterday introduced such a document. Only a hasty perusal of the document introduced by Mr. Williams is required to convince the reader that the proposed articles have been prepared with great care and are the result of much research. However, a more extended synopsis will be given later. Doubtless some changes will be necessary to make it a perfect document for North Dakota, but that it will prove of great assistance to the convention and form the basis of its deliberations, seems most likely. The document should be carefully read by every member. It will appear in the proceedings of Saturday, which will be published in Tuesday's daily.

EX-GOVERNOR STONE, of Iowa, acting commissioner of the general land office, tells a Washington correspondent of the Minneapolis Journal something about the condition of affairs in that much neglected department when it came into his hands. He found over 400,000 delayed cases to commence work upon, and everything in chaos. Instead of being a nice, well-regulated office and every employe trying to expedite work, it looked as if all were trying not to expedite it. The office is now issuing patents at the rate of \$2,000 a week, while under Sparks' regime 503 per week was the average. Stockholders increased this record to a little over 1,100 per week. A goodly number of long-waiting settlers

in the Bismarck land district have received patents for their lands within the past few weeks, the final proofs being mostly more than two years old. The settlers have not alone been sufferers by the mal-administration and delays of this office. The surveyors of the public lands have received a full share of neglect in the adjustment of their claims. The delays have been outrageously unjust, in some instances. Everybody in any way connected with the land department will have a good word for Acting Commissioner Stone if he continues to prosecute the work of reform as he has commenced.

PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS in his inaugural address March 4, 1797, has this to say about majorities: "In the midst of these pleasing ideas, we should ever lose sight of the danger to our liberties—if anything partial or extraneous should infect the purity of our free, fair, virtuous and independent elections. If an election is to be determined by a majority of a single vote, and that can be procured by a party, through artifice or corruption, the government may be the choice of a party, for its own ends—not of the nation, for the national good. If that solitary suffrage can be obtained by flattery or menaces, by fraud or violence, by terror, intrigue, or venality, the government may not be the choice of the American people, but of foreign nations. It may be foreign nations who govern us, and not we the people who govern ourselves. And candid men will acknowledge, that, in such cases, choice would have little advantage to boast of, over lot or chance."

This should not be construed into an argument against majority rule, but it illustrates a danger apparent to the early statesman in the early days of the republic that still exists. The dominating cause for alarm in the mind of President Adams has long since disappeared. Foreign influence is no longer a menace but the domestic article has increased in proportion with the increase and growth of political parties. The statesmen and constitution makers of to-day who are the most zealous in surrounding the ballot box with such protection and safeguards as will secure the expression of an honest majority will be the ones to be rewarded by their constituents and go down to posterity as men most noted for wisdom, virtue and patriotism.

THE North Dakota constitution-makers will not repeat the mistake of their southern neighbors in fixing niggardly salaries for the state. The committee have agreed on the following sums: Governor, \$8,000; lieutenant-governor, \$2,000; auditor and commissioner of insurance, \$2,500 each; secretary of state, treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, commissioner of schools and public lands and attorney-general, \$2,000 each. The committee will also recommend that the railroad commission consist of three members, who shall be elected, and whose salary shall be \$2,000 each. This is a bad feature. The railroad commission should be appointed. The election of railroad commissioners forces railroads into politics for self-protection. This ought not to be. It would be a serious mistake to elect the railroad commissioners.

REPORTS from various parts of North Dakota show an improved condition of crops over last week, although west of Grand Forks there has been some very hot days since the rain, and some damage reported. In the Pembina region there were hard rains Thursday with occasional streaks of hail, doing some damage. On the Missouri slope the rains of the past week insure us at least half a crop of small grain, and a big yield of corn and potatoes. Corn is looking exceptionally fine. There never was a failure of corn on the Missouri slope, and it is likely that hereafter the acreage will be very large. There is a good amount in this year, small farmers having in over 100 acres. In some gardens about town "roasting ears" can be had in ten days.

THE republican convention of Burleigh county to elect delegates to the first state convention has been called for August 19th. The apportionment—one delegate for each sixteen votes cast for delegate to congress last fall—makes a convention of forty-five delegates. The TRIBUNE has taken the trouble to figure out how many delegates this will give the city, and how many the country will have, for the reason that it doesn't care. It wants to obliterate such sectional lines. The utmost harmony now exists in the republican ranks, both in the city and country and between the two—let it continue.

DELEGATES favorable to Charley McCoy for congress are being elected to the state convention from several of the counties in the south. It is the opinion of those best posted that McCoy will divide the honors about equally with Delegate Matthews. The scramble over capital location in the south enters into and complicates the election for state officers. A private letter from a prominent South Dakota man says: "We envy the north in at least one respect—her state election will not be demoralized by an unseemly capital squabble."

If the Plaindealer can be relied upon, Grand Forks will have more than one pin set up on the political alley this fall. In an editorial Saturday, that paper says: "In the scramble of men for office, it is refreshing to find a candidate who has the entire confidence and respect, not only of those whose votes he directly hopes to obtain, but also the indorsement of his opponents. Grand Forks county

is particularly favored in this respect. Out of the dozen or more names of parties in this city and county who are willing to accept positions of honor and emolument in the new state, this county will present only two or three names to the members of the coming state republican convention." The Plaindealer then goes on to say that John P. Bray is just the man for state auditor, and John W. Cochrane peculiarly fitted for the lower house of congress.

THE VALUE OF DEBATES.

Whatever the constitutional convention may or may not do, it is hoped for the benefit of history, that it will reconsider its action of Tuesday in regard to the reporting and preservation of the debates. Under the rules adopted by this convention all articles must be reconsidered in committee of the whole. The convention then acts upon that report. All the arguments for or against a proposition having been made in committee, none will be made after the report has been presented to the body. If the resolution of yesterday is allowed to stand, North Dakota will hand down to history a valueless volume of proceedings of its first constitutional convention. It may as well do away with the stenographer altogether, and let the proceedings of the most important event in the new state's career remain forever a blank. The debates and journals of previous conventions of this kind are now being carefully studied by the honorable members of this convention—what does North Dakota propose to do for history? This is a serious matter, and it cannot be possible that the members who voted in the affirmative yesterday understood the full scope of the resolution or amendment.

Regarding the value of preserving convention debates, probably no better authority could be quoted than "Jameson on Constitutional Convention." On page 416 under the title of "Character and Value of Convention Debates," the learned jurist says:

It has been the practice of nearly all the conventions held in the present century to order the sale for the use of the members as for distribution among their constituents, one or more newspapers for each member during the session. The reason usually assigned for this expenditure is, that it is important there should be a direct and constant communication between the people and the delegates in the convention, in order that the latter may as perfectly as possible reflect the public will. If all that is proposed and discussed is submitted immediately to the people, with the result that, against a thing possible only through the medium of the press, the delegates would be guided and moulded by a reflex wave of sentiment which would be fresh and unmistakable. Everything which, within reasonable limits, conduces to that end, and at the same time conforms to wages and is not foreign from the nature of the convention is, by a liberal construction of its powers, authorized.

Sec. 457. The same principle applies to the use of phonographic reports and printing for the convention. It would be a most niggardly policy which should refuse the expenditure necessary to the preservation of most full and accurate reports of the debates and proceedings. Upon this subject, however, there has been very great difference of views in different conventions. In many of the states volumes have been published, containing both the journals and debates of all their conventions. The members of the public bodies ever assembled to have been regarded as of any consequence whatsoever, and what little has been preserved has been owing to the private enterprise of the newspaper press. The result is, that the memorials of the most important public bodies ever assembled in those states, are often very meagre, and often more confused and inaccurate. Such a policy is "penny wise and pound foolish." In after years, when it has become impossible to replace what has been lost, more enlightened public opinion commonly finds cause to regret a paltry economy, which deprives history of its most important data. It should be remembered, that our conventions lay the foundations of states, many of which are to rival the greatness and glory of Rome, of England, and of France. In a hundred years from now, what treasures would they not expend, could they purchase therewith complete copies of their early constitutional records—documents standing to their several organizations in the same relation as would the discussions of those ancient sages who framed the twelve tables of the Roman law, to the Republic of Rome.

Sec. 457. And here I may be indulged in a remark or two in relation to the character and value of the debates of our conventions.

Doubtless, to the listener, few public assemblies would exhibit so little that is attractive as those bodies. There are, of course, in them, much garrulousness, ignorance, and the topics of discussion are abstract and unfamiliar. Accordingly, the published conventional debates are dreary wastes of platitudes, dotted here and there with gems of wisdom and eloquence. So that their prevailing character is, that in some of the latter conventions particular pains have been taken to discourage speech-making by the establishment of rules limiting debates—prominent delegates in one case, where there were no such rules, directing the reporters to omit speech they themselves should make. But I am persuaded that a different style, tainted in every period with rhetorical views, is not incompatible with a high degree of political wisdom, and that all such attempts, however well meant and on grounds of taste, deserving of sympathy are ill judged and harmful. When measures are under deliberation, which rest on principles alone, the opinions of common-place men are frequently of as much value and are likely to quite as original, as those of the more gifted debaters. At all events, it is eminently useful to a public assembly to listen to the observations upon any subject, of men of various callings, and of unequal attainments. If their thoughts are not generally profound, they are often suggestive; and in a deliberate body, it is not so much the remarks of those who speak, as the reflections upon them of those who listen, which ripen its measures. The truth of this is seen in perusing the printed reports of the debates in our conventions. One cannot go through the discussion of any important measure, in which men of ordinary minds participated, without being surprised to find fresh light constantly flowing over the subjects from speeches which not all the polishing of the reporter could make otherwise than offensive to a cultivated taste. In such judgments, therefore, it is unwise, where questions relating to the fundamental law, always more or less abstract, are under discussion, to limit or discourage debate to the same extent that might be advisable in a legislature, in which the measures proposed are commonly such as carry their policy or impel upon their faces;

or, at least, in reference to which, if a mistake be made, the consequences are not so disastrous or so lasting.

The volumes of debates of this constitution will not be very large, and the question of expense is not a sufficient argument against the refuting of all the debates. All the debates thus far had would not make 100 pages of an ordinary law book.

DELEGATE SELBY warmed up in debate Tuesday and gave evidence of the ability that is in him. The county seat removal question stirs up the boys in great shape.

DELEGATE JOHNSON, in his speech in favor of a one-house assembly Tuesday, more than sustained his reputation for oratory and research. Mr. Johnson is a scholarly talker and able debater.

In the distribution of juicy plums soon to fall from the political tree in North Dakota, Valley City is likely to present a most excellent candidate for attorney-general in the person of Hon. John W. Scott.

RAMSEY county has hit upon a novel way of assisting the needy farmers, whose crops are a total failure. It is proposed to issue bonds to the extent of \$20,000 for the purpose of building county roads—work to be given to those only who are destitute and deserving.

EDITOR HANSBROUGH, of the Devils Lake Inter-Ocean, now announces in his paper that at last he has yielded to the pressure of his friends and he is now a candidate for congress, subject to the decision of the republican state convention.

THE more the constitution introduced by Mr. Williams Saturday is read, the more kindly one takes to it. It seems to be an exceptionally well-worded document and covers nearly every point touched upon by the various articles introduced thus far.

Down in Cass county, it is said, a republican love-feast has been had—the republicans have come together, discussed the situation, and Gen. Allen's friends are now confident that he will be Cass county's favorite son for governor, Stimmel being now practically out of the field.

THE democratic state convention in South Dakota has been called for September 4th at Huron. This is just a week later than the republican convention. In the north the democrats seem to have figured on the same basis—to take advantage of any mistake the republicans may make. This is not a year for republican mistakes. The democrats are doomed to disappointment.

It has been discovered by the Sioux Falls Press that Hon. H. L. Loucks, who has been mentioned lately in connection with one of the senatorships of North Dakota is not eligible. He has been a citizen of the United States—from Canada—only five years whereas nine years is a necessary qualification of a senator. The fact that the Press has discovered this is proof that Loucks does not contemplate "double-teaming" with Pettigrew. It does not seem yet to have been settled in the south, what is to be done for Judge Edgerton.

THE first prohibition convention in Dakota of which there is any authentic record, was held in the summer of 1863, somewhere in the vicinity of Devils Lake. When General Sibley was pursuing the hostile Sioux over the prairies the pursued took time to hold a convention, and passed a resolution forever prohibiting white men from occupying any portion of their eminent domain. But like all prohibition resolutions and enactments before and since that day, it failed to be observed. The white man came all the same, and he came to stay.

THE committee of the whole house in the constitutional convention recommended the indefinite postponement of the one-house resolution. This was to be expected. The friends of the measure are not disappointed. They had the best of the argument, but the other side had the most votes. Probably over one-half of the convention believe that a one-house assembly would be the proper thing for North Dakota, but it is such an innovation, and the time of its discussion has been so limited that many do not feel justified in making the departure. Its advocates have been earnest however, and the TRIBUNE believes that at some time in the near future the wisdom of their remarks on this measure will be demonstrated.

THE first session of the legislature of Vermont, under the constitution, was held at Windsor, March 12, 1778, and continued thirteen days. The government of the state was early vested in a governor, council, and the house of representatives, but in 1836 the constitution was so amended as to abolish the council and establish the senate as a co-ordinate branch of the legislature. Chapter two, section sixteen of the original constitution, which was in operation until 1836, reads as follows: "To the end that laws, before they are enacted, may be more maturely considered, and the inconvenience of hasty determination as much as possible prevented, all bills which originate in the assembly, shall be laid before the governor and council for their revision or concurrence or proposals of