

als.  
A little breeze has been caused among the Cleveland democrats by the personal announcement of Senator Palmer that he intends making a fight for the Illinois delegation to the Chicago convention, and that he is a presidential candidate. Morrison's friends say that this a breach of faith on the part of Palmer.

The house Chinese exclusion bill has been the basis for some very interesting debate in the senate, and there will be more of it before the bill is disposed of. It is probable that there will be some radical changes made in the bill before it passes the senate.

Since his recent spell of sickness Senator Hoar has had considerable trouble with his eyes, and he has asked for and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session with the intention of going to Europe for the advice of specialists in diseases of the eye. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues who all wish him success in getting relief.

### THREATENED BOYCOTT.

LEE, N. D., April 26, 1892.

MR. EDITOR: Will you please insert the following in your paper:

In order that no one may think that we consent to the manner in which Ole Gronlid and O. F. Forde were treated by Mrs. Rukke and a court at Cooperstown I wish to give an answer to your article concerning this matter in last number of your paper.

The case is singular, because those people have in reality been prosecuted by law and fined for doing their best in giving their children a christian education. They sent their children to a christian school with the principle aim of teaching them the word of God. And the opportunities to attend such schools are few and precious. The children had attended public schools before that time. Mr. Gronlid thought that his children had attended public school the required number of days, and if it had not been that another school was taught in their neighborhood, which they considered far more important than the public school, because they are christians, their children would no doubt have attended public school more than the time required by law.

You state Mr. Editor that this is the first case of this kind that has been tried in the county. Is this then then the grossest offense of this kind that has been committed in this county? Have not many others kept their children at home for work or even on account of pure negligence? And they have escaped a suit. But these people who do their best in bringing up their children right are sued and fined because at one time they failed to send their children to the public school the required number of days. Rightousness requires that if a penalty is to be imposed, there must be an offense committed that deserves such penalty. Now is that the case here?

Your excuse for not acquitting these men reminds me very much of the judgment of Pontius Pilate. He looked more to the consequences of releasing Christ than to justice. You praise Mrs. Rukke for what she has done in this matter, but let me assure you that it will be condemned by christian people in general. It has caused the greatest indignation among our people. And as to you: paper you may save yourself the trouble of sending it any more. And if you go on as you have done of late I shall work against your paper and strive to get it out of every household in my charge. If it is to be an advocate of infidelity we have no use for it. T. H. LARSON.

The COURIER was somewhat surprised last Thursday night when it received the above communication from Rev. T. H. Larson—a man for whom we have always entertained the highest respect, and who we thought was above the low, dirty business of making threats just because someone happens to differ from him in opinion. The COURIER seems to be the main object of this christianlike gentleman's wrath, all because its editor, very mildly, but truthfully stated in the columns of the COURIER the result of the late school trial, in which Mrs. Rukke appeared a prosecuting witness. Here is the article that has riled up his demagogic majesty:

"Mrs. N. C. Rukke, president of the school board of district No 13, Griggs county, brought suit against Ole Gronlid and O. F. Forde, for failure to send their children to the public schools as required by law. This was the first case of this kind ever brought before a court in this county. The defendants wanted to send their children to a Norwegian school, hence the cause of action. The case was tried by a jury in Justice Warner's court, last Saturday afternoon, and a verdict was returned in the case of Gronlid of guilty,

and he was fined five dollars and costs. Should the verdict have been not guilty it would have given parents the privilege of sending their children to any school they saw fit and would have resulted in many of our schools being almost entirely without scholars and consequently would have to be closed up. The public school system of the United States is the backbone of the country and the law compelling compulsory education should be upheld and enforced. Mrs. Rukke has simply done her duty as a public officer and she is entitled to much praise and credit for the "gritty" manner in which she carried her case through.

If anybody can see wherein the COURIER has said anything wrong or hurt anybody's feelings then we have no more to say. Mr. Larson uses his influence as a minister of God to compel citizens of this county to keep their children out of the public schools and attend his parochial school because he says he wants them to have a christian education.

We wish to impress the reverend gentleman with the fact that we have in this country nearly every denomination of christian religion including his own, that on Sundays these children can attend Sunday schools and church, and every evening in the week if he desires, thus giving them equal chances with American children in becoming christians without interfering with the school laws of this state. What would be the result if the Baptists had separate school, the Methodist, Lutherans, Congregationalists, and other denominations the same? Our school system would be broken up and it would end in a denominational war for supremacy. Mr. Larson is crazy if he thinks such a state of affairs can for a moment be allowed, and if he thinks he can intimidate the editor of this paper by a threatened boycott he is very much mistaken. We have become a loyal American citizen; we consider this the finest, best and most liberty giving country on God's green earth, and we propose to stand by the laws of this country, boycott or no boycott, and Mr. Larson to the contrary notwithstanding. If this country and its government is not good enough for this reverend gentleman, why doesn't he return to his native land and stay there? He is not wanted here if he cannot comply with our laws: This is plain talk, but plain talk goes. We do not intend to be muzzled if every subscriber deserts the paper. Speaking about the paper preaching infidelity Mr. Larson shows himself to be a religious fanatic. The COURIER has given the free use of its columns for religious notices of all kinds, including Mr. Larson's own services; has advertised free all its church entertainments, and, we think, demonstrated the fact that we have great faith in all kinds of christian religion. We have also out of courtesy sent Mr. Larson free of charge the COURIER for the past three years, but as he does not want a paper that preaches infidelity we have blotted his name from our lists. In conclusion, should we ever be caught on a jury in a similar case, our verdict would be the same. Now Mr. Larson proceed with your boycott.

### Teachers' Examination.

There will be a teachers' examination, on Friday and Saturday, May 13th and 14th in the school house, Cooperstown, beginning at 10 o'clock a. m. Teachers whose certificates have expired must be careful to secure renewals. Stationery furnished.

THEO. F. KERR,  
County Superintendent.

Teachers' institute later part May.