

By F. M. KIMMELL.

THE state legislature will assemble Monday, December 29th.

AFTER all their fuss the Indians will hardly be so successful in the scalping line as was the farmers' alliance.

THE vote of public opinion, the world over, is against the continuance of Parnell's leadership by a heavy majority.

A Blue Hill newspaper is responsible for the statement that McKeighan will deliver a series of lectures for the benefit of the destitute settlers of western Nebraska.

Who's governor? S-s-h—death! Whisper it not in Centoria. Divulge not the secret in Omaha. Thayer still stands upon the burning deck—Thayer is governor.—Kearney Hub.

UNDER any system of apportionment that may be adopted by congress, Nebraska is sure to double its representation in the lower house. Congressional aspirants will govern themselves accordingly.

THE Lincoln Herald sighs for a breath of primitive christianity in this wise: "Just now the most earnest, honest, old-fashioned expounder of the word of God in this city is generally esteemed a crank."

COLONEL POLK, president of the National Farmers' alliance, is in town, says the Star, and they do say that he has been walking up the avenue past the White House and looking over the fence with the air of a man who wanted to take a house in Washington for a few winters.

MR. POWDERLY will attend the national convention of the Farmers' alliance at Ocala, Fla. He is credited with a desire to annex the alliance to the Knights of Labor. The Knights and the farmers have a good many objects in common, but if there is to be any absorbing it will be done by the Alliance. The farmers are sufficiently familiar with natural history to know that the tail should not wag the dog.

The first need in this country of magnificent natural resources is a blow at the great greed of capital by way of equitable laws for rich and poor. Tens of millions of dollars are too much in the coffers of one man whose employees are starving in huts in the shadows of his great mills and factories. These are causes that reach down to the root of the trouble. When are our statesmen, who are also philanthropists—lovers of their kind—to take the matter in hand intelligently, fearlessly and vigorously?

PROFESSOR LANE's report of the condition of Nebraska schools shows the steady growth of the state. The increase in the enrollment since 1888 is nearly twenty-five thousand and in the number of school buildings 750. Expenditures have also increased by \$200,000. An interesting figure in the statistics of the schools is the number of sod and log houses. Hundreds of these are in use and they have considerably increased in number during the last two years. This is good evidence that the frontier is not yet wholly a thing of the past in Nebraska. Whether or not we have any Lincolns or Garfields in embryo, we are sure at least that we have the sort of cradles in which greatness has often rocked heretofore.

A BILL extending the right of suffrage to women at all elections has been passed by the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and it is likely to go through the Council, as it will have a number of able champions in the Upper House. Equal suffrage appears to be more popular in the newer states and territories than in the older sections of the country which have been settled for many years. This may be explained upon the ground that social pleasures present stronger allurements to women than politics, as their interest in public affairs seems to decrease in an exact ratio to the multiplication of the comforts and refinements which comes with the increase of wealth and the regress of civilization.

THE public does not trust the trusts.

THEY do say that since being so badly mutilated in the local election Herr Rosewasser of the Omaha Bee sighs for "dreamy dissolution."

It seems probable that the vote of all cities of the second class that did not register can be thrown out. The list includes Red Cloud, Minden, Holdrege, Superior, McCook, Wymore, Blue Springs, Pawnee City, Aurora and a number of others.—Hastings Gazette Journal.

THE young Kansas girl who decided not to drown herself because the water was so cold was quite as wise as the Irishman who changed his mind when he found the water was so deep. Committing suicide is a very foolish and undignified proceeding and contrary to the laws of nature, as the two incidents clearly illustrate.

SCHAEFER's victory over SLOSSON ought to settle the question of superiority in billiards, which SLOSSON so persistently raises. SCHAEFER is easily the champion at any game on the billiard table, and of this fact the public is now pretty well assured, whatever may be the private feelings of ambitious young players or quitters like SLOSSON.

FOR the third time within two years the federal courts remind Minnesota that the diverse interests of the nation cannot be circumscribed by state law. The blooming statesmen of Minnesota attempted to shut out dressed beef, to prohibit the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine and do other selfish things tending to close her doors against the products of her neighbors. The last to receive the attention of the courts was the oleomargarine law, a specimen of legal absurdity so glaring the judge did not deem it worthy of a written opinion.

MR. GOULD announces that his return to power in the railroad provinces of the west means a general advance in rates. He proposes to raise his properties to a dividend paying basis, and that the welfare of the country will not weigh against the profits of the stockholders. In other words, it makes no difference how much water has been injected into the capital of these corporations, the resources of the tributary country will be taxed to pay not only liberal dividends, but to inflate the market value of the inflated stock so that Gould and his backers may unload and squeeze the lambs for a few more millions.—Bee.

THE annual report of the collector of internal revenue for the district of Nebraska shows the total collections by Collector Peters during the fiscal year ending June, 30, 1890, to have been \$2,969,816. The report also shows that the following concerns under the eye of the internal revenue department were in existence during the year. Four rectifiers, 1,445 retail liquor dealers, 46 wholesale liquor dealers, 202 manufacturers of cigars, 2 dealers in loaf tobaccos, 9,510 dealers in manufactured tobaccos, 9 peddlers of tobaccos, 25 brewers, 44 retail dealers in malt liquors, 42 wholesale dealers in malt liquors, 11 retail dealers in oleomargarine and 4 wholesale dealers in oleomargarine.—Hastings G.-Z.

BEN BUTLER's advice to Mr. Parnell is to take the first opportunity to rise in the house of commons, tell the story of his entanglement with Mrs. O'Shea and then finish in the language of the Savior, "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone." It is singular, but so far as we remember Ben has always carefully refrained from following his own advice when people charged him with sins of various sorts. He never "fessed up." On the contrary, Ben used to hire a private detective to scout around and find out the peccadilloes of his enemies, and when he had 'em well cornered he would rise and charge 'em with twenty sins to one they had conjured up against him, and prove 'em. But a man's practice is very frequently different from his preaching. Ben always suspected that if he should get up and invite his fellow congressmen who were without sin to heave a rock at him, they would immediately let fly the rocks, sin or no sin. So he never took the chances.—Lincoln Journal.

PETITIONS are said to be in circulation all over the state asking the legislature to pass a law placing the moneys collected from fines and licenses into the general fund of the counties in which they are collected, instead of the school fund of the cities and towns. It has been a common complaint among the farmers for several months that they are obliged to pay more than their share of the expense of punishing criminals, while the cities absorb the revenues arising from the liquor business. Before insisting upon a legislative enactment changing the disposition of the funds it will be well to take a look at the state constitution. Section 5 of article VIII is as follows: "All fines, penalties and license moneys arising under the general laws of the state shall belong and be paid over to the counties, respectively, where the same may be levied or imposed, and all fines, penalties and license money arising under the rules, by-laws or ordinance of cities, villages, towns, precincts or other municipal sub-divisions less than a county shall belong and be paid over to the same respectively. All such fines, penalties and license moneys shall be appropriated exclusively to the use and support of common schools in the respective sub-divisions where the same may accrue." If the present arrangement is to be attacked, therefore, it must be done by a constitutional amendment and not a legislative enactment. And should the matter be brought before the people it will be an easy matter for them to decide between the two systems.—Lincoln Journal.

LEAVING out all questions of expediency, it is supreme nonsense to assert that there is none to take the place of Parnell as leader of the Irish parliamentary party. Regard for Parnell, even that which amounts to blind idolatry, is no justification for slighting the abilities of William O'Brien, John Dillon, Michael Davitt, Justin McCarthy and others that might be named. The father of the land league has shown himself capable of successful generalship. O'Brien and Dillon have each conducted campaigns in Ireland without the aid or encouragement of Parnell, and by their commanding force, ingenuity and dash outwitted the power of the government with its trained machinery, and displayed in a marked degree the elements of leadership. Justin McCarthy is not as aggressive as either of these, but he is a statesman, of broad mould; conservative, yet forceful, brilliant without pyrotechnics, and fully capable of upholding the home rule cause. If the Irish party will give either of these men the confidence reposed in Parnell, their record is sufficient guaranty that the aspirations of Ireland will be vigorously and faithfully pushed to victory.—Bee.

THE statement of the condition of the state and private banks of Nebraska at the end of June, 1889 and on October 18, 1890, shows a fair growth of business during the fifteen months, the increase in loans and discounts during that period having been about two million dollars, while the resources increased over one million. The account of general deposits shows a gain of nearly three million dollars, the surplus fund was somewhat increased, and generally the statement of liabilities is more favorable for the latter than the former date. The new banking law appears to have worked well, and thus far none of the reasons urged in opposition to it have been justified by results. It is believed that Nebraska now has as safe and well-regulated a banking system as any in the country, and all that seems to be required is that it shall continue to be faithfully enforced.

AMID the whole disheartening mess into which the Irish cause is plunged, the one poignant regret to every lover of human freedom is that it practically wrecks what a few days ago promised to be the crowning act of Gladstone's life—the granting of home rule to Ireland. To this cause he has devoted an almost supernatural energy during the past seven years. Success was as certain as day follows night. Yet the hopes of Gladstone no less than the relief of a people from the oppression of centuries are dashed to pieces in an hour. Such a disaster on the threshold of triumph is a source of profound regret to all friends of liberty and human progress.

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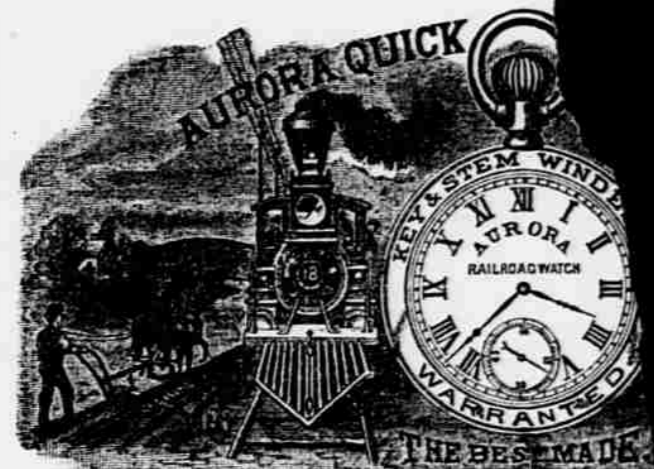
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