

THE OMAHA BEE.

Omaha Office, No. 916 Farnam St. Council Bluffs Office, No. 7 Pearl Street, Near Broadway. New York Office, Room 65 Tribune Building.

Published every morning, except Sunday, the only Monday morning daily.

Subscription rates: One Year, \$10.00; Six Months, \$6.00; Three Months, \$3.50; Single Copies, 10 Cents.

Advertising rates: One Square, 10 Cents per Week; One Column, \$1.00 per Week; One Page, \$5.00 per Week.

Correspondence: Communications relating to News and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor of this paper.

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Printed at the Omaha Bee Printing Office, No. 916 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb.

There are only 166 Modoc Indians left, but those who have gone to the happy hunting grounds have forgiven General Howard.

Miss Susan B. Anthony wants to live to see Ben Butler elected president. That shows what a natural affinity lean old maids have for fat widowers.

The fellow who edits the Omaha Republican is a bigger man than Grant. At least we should judge so from his recent opinions on the second battle of Bull Run.

The most flourishing institutions in Texas are the penitentiaries. There are 711 state convicts in the Rusk penitentiary and 1,741 in the Huntville penitentiary.

Had the twelve city detectives of Omaha been put to work on the case of Tiller, the St. Louis Pacific express robber, he would have been run down long before he reached Milwaukee.

General Graham has been ordered back to Suakin to await the arrival of General Howard who goes to the Sudan to survey the field of operations and deliver a lecture on the battle of Gettysburg.

The Panama Star and Herald has an account of a capture of a large shark in the southern waters. Does this refer to Jay Gould, who at last accounts was on the rolling deep in Southern Seas.

In the vote on Fitz-John Porter is to be made a party test with republicans, the national republican committee will have to depose its chairman, Senator Sabin, who voted for the Fitz-John Porter relief bill.

It is high time that the registrars publish in some newspaper the notices required by law, stating on what days they will have their books open and at what places they will sit. Their neglect in this matter will result in a very imperfect registration.

The ratification of the Mexican treaty has encouraged the advocates of a similar treaty with Canada, and they are already hard at work. The dominion government is desirous of renewing the treaty of 1854, but it is safe to say that a reciprocity treaty will be strongly opposed by the leaders of both parties.

Poor Commissioner Vining is furious because New York merchants are using his trade mark in shipping over the Burlington road. Next time Mr. Vining orders a consignment of peanuts he should see to it that his trade mark, "California fat freight line," is stamped on every peanut with indelible ink.

MINISTER SARGENT has no disposition to resign. He was asked to resign several times when he was senator from California, and some of the disgruntled Californians went so far as to burn him in effigy. He paid no attention, however, to them, and held on to his post. It is not likely that Bismarck and his reptile press can drive Sargent into throwing up his \$17,000 job.

The house committee on Indian affairs having decided to favorably report on the bill for the sale of the Iowa Indian reservation in Nebraska and Kansas, and for the removal of the tribe to the Indian territory, the probability is that a large amount of valuable land in Nebraska and Kansas will soon be thrown open for settlement.

THE respectable citizens of Omaha, should lose no time in selecting honest and suitable men for candidates for the city council. Unless they take the trouble to personally interest themselves in this important matter it will go by default as usual, and the ward burners and hoodlums will again gain from the politics of the city to suit themselves.

REALIZING the importance of suppressing the foot and mouth disease among cattle, congress has taken prompt steps in the matter and has made a suitable appropriation. The chief veterinarian of the department of agriculture has gone to Kansas to investigate the disease. The Illinois authorities are looking after the disease in that state. It is reported that the disease has made its appearance in Louisiana county, Iowa, and we should not be surprised to learn of its breaking out among Nebraska cattle almost any day. We urge our farmers and stock-raisers to keep a close watch on their cattle, and when they discover any cattle with the disease to kill them at once and destroy the carcasses by fire. This is the best way to check the spread of the disease.

VALENTINE'S VALET.

Valentine's valet never opens his mouth without putting his foot in it. His editorial letters from Washington have not only made him a laughing stock among Nebraska politicians, but they have shown him to be a devoid of veracity as he is of common sense. His attempt to embroil THE BEE in a quarrel with Senator Manderson over the patronage problem strikingly exhibits his lack of judgment and want of truthfulness. Taking as his text our recent editorial on "Senatorial Responsibility," he distorts the views we hold and serves up a mass of absurd falsehoods about patronage under the pretense that he was giving voice to the views of Senator Manderson. The article in question which Valentine's valet interprets as a declaration of war lays down the principles which underlie our system of federal appointments, as follows:

"The national constitution confers upon senators the power to revise the judgment of the executive in the appointment of federal officers. The language of the constitution empowers the president to appoint all civil and military officers of the United States by and with the advice and consent of the senate. Under our peculiar system the senators virtually exercise the entire appointing power, so far as it relates to federal officers within their own states. The president cannot be personally acquainted with applicants for office, and, therefore, it has become usual to refer to the senators in the choice of appointees that have to be confirmed by the senate. This practice places presidential appointments in the hands of their representatives in the senate, and they very properly must stand responsible to their constituents for the abuse of this power. They cannot and should not be allowed to shirk the responsibility under any pretext. Civil service reform cannot be made responsible for the appointment of dishonest, incompetent or disreputable men as long as the wish of senators is consulted in appointments, and when not consulted in appointments, can readily enforce itself through the rejection of improper appointees.

Mr. Valentine's valet interprets this as a declaration of war upon Senator Manderson, and then asks us whether senators are to be annoyed with choosing postmasters for Fort Calhoun and the five or six hundred other towns and villages in Nebraska. Of course not, and no sensible man ever expects the senators to meddle with that class of federal appointments. What we refer to is clear enough to those who understand the meaning of presidential appointments. There was nothing hostile to Mr. Manderson in the declaration, that senators are held responsible for appointments made by and with the advice and consent of the senate. But Valentine's valet is not content with distorting. He is thrown into a most sentimental spasm over the allusion made by THE BEE to the peremptory request of Laird and Manderson upon Register Sweitzer, at Bloomington, to step down and make way for one of Mr. Laird's personal friends, notwithstanding that Mr. Sweitzer is an efficient officer, and has nearly three years to serve out his term. Mr. Valentine's valet tells us in a confidential way that Sweitzer's time expired last year, that a poor old man was appointed by the name of Laws was to get his place through Mr. Laird's patriotic efforts, and that Sweitzer should have gone out without making so much fuss. As a matter of fact Mr. Sweitzer was reappointed register of the Bloomington land office upon recommendation of Mr. Manderson's predecessor. There was no arrangement made by the present delegation about his reappointment. His commission is dated February 11th, 1883, while Manderson did not enter the senate until March 4th, 1883. Mr. Laws, it is true, lost one leg in the army and is deserving, but he has been provided for long ago, and is now doing valiant service for his country as register of the United States land office at McCook. It is hardly probable that the friends of Mr. Laws would insist upon having him appointed register of two land offices at the same time. The party whom Mr. Laird does want to substitute for Sweitzer in the Bloomington land office is a veteran of the 146th Illinois infantry, which never did duty outside of the state of Illinois, and was dubbed by the soldiers as "the feather-bed regiment." He has two arms and two legs, is hale and hearty, has a good digestion, and weighs 200 pounds. His qualifications as a soldier are, however, not so much a consideration, as the fact that he is the brother-in-law of two members of the late Nebraska legislature. That ought to entitle him to a great deal of consideration, and if Laird were United States senator, instead of Van Wyck, we presume he would have been mustered in by this time. It strikes us, however, that Valentine's blundering valet is either endowed with a very wretched memory or he has misrepresented Mr. Manderson in his confidential open letter about patronage.

CONSTITUTION TINKERS.

Another great convention is to be held for the purpose of amending the constitution. It will convene in Philadelphia on March 24th, under the name of the National Reform association. The call says the movement seeks to strengthen the Christian elements in our national life, enforce the Christian Sabbath and marriage laws, and place the Bible in the public schools. To abolish carrying mails on the Lord's day which has been a fruitful parent of nearly all our public Sabbath desecration, polygamy and easy divorces now so common, and license liquor traffic in any form. These reforms may be laudable but they will not be engrained upon the constitution in our day. During every congressional session there are from fifteen to twenty constitutional amendments proposed. The present congress already has its full quota of these proposed changes of the fundamental law. It is gratifying, however,

CITY WALKS AND TALKS.

"You gave us an interesting sketch of early theatricals a few weeks ago," remarked an old settler the other day; "but you missed giving us a notice of the first one we ever had in the city. That was held in the dining room of the old Herndon house some time in the summer of 1850. I won't be so certain as to the year, but think it was in 1850. There must be quite a number of people still in the city who attended the entertainment. I wonder you have not met any of them before. I recollect distinctly of being present and talking with some one in the audience about the circumstances of its being the first theatrical representation given here. The leading actor was Julia Dean Hayne, who stood pretty well to the head of the profession in those days. One of the sisters married Col. John Y. Clopper, and resided in Omaha for several years immediately following the close of the war. I don't think I can tell you how long it was before she returned to her home in Kentucky, but I think she could interest you. I have wholly forgotten who the other actors were or what the play was. I think the company were not on a professional tour, as they were not scenery. They were a troupe of amateurs, and the play was a farce called 'The Two Orphans.' I remember the first circus that ever set up a tent in Omaha. It was on the 5th day of July, 1855. The tent was put up at the north-west corner of Jackson and Twelfth streets, on the ground now occupied by the Garnac cracker factory. That locality was then a smooth, level piece of prairie, and the tent was the only one of the kind and nobly living near enough to be disturbed by the noise and crowd. I don't recollect whose circus it was but it was a very good one and drew a large audience. The Orphan Brothers exhibited the second circus in Omaha, that same year, or the next, and on the same year."

WATERSON'S COPYRIGHT BILL.

It has been given out that the opinion of the leading papers of the country will be asked as to the practical effect of the proposed copyrighting of telegraphic news. The proposed copyright law, as it is now formulated, is purely in the interest of the great New York and Chicago daily newspapers. If it is enacted, it will afford no protection against piracy, except to those great dailies, while at the same time it would seriously cripple the country press. As originally proposed the copyright was to cover a period of at least twenty-four hours. That would, if such copyrights could be enforced, give the papers that pay for dispatches in any section of the country, the benefit of their enterprise and investment by preventing papers that pay nothing from appropriating the dispatches on the day on which they are published. The eight hour law will simply give the New York morning dailies the monopoly in traffic in papers, which with fast mails would drive the papers that now compete with them in the smaller cities out of the field, while at the same time it would enable any newspaper pirate to appropriate these dispatches for evening editions without paying a cent to anybody. It would also effectually cut off the transmission by telegraph of important dispatches that appear in New York papers, to distant western points where they are now published on the morning of the same day. The only papers that could afford to pay a handsome bonus for these specials are the papers of Chicago, where the fast mails afford equal facilities for cutting the country press out of its legitimate traffic in its own territory. This is our private opinion, publicly expressed, on Waterston's pending newspaper copyright bill.

If the lamented John Taffe could have read in the lame and limping Omaha Republican the almost stereotyped cranky edicts of the great phrenological organ Edmunds bestowed on him in his "Eminent Nebraskans," he certainly would have experienced the most intense disgust. Ten years ago, when John Taffe edited the Republican, that paper stood at the head of enterprising journalism in this section, and the back files of that paper afford ample proof with what signal ability it was conducted when that journal was not the appendage of a great railroad job printing office.

SENATOR CAMERON, who has been a life-long republican, and at one time a member of General Grant's cabinet, will learn with surprise, upon his return to America, that he has been read out of the republican party, because he was "paired" with another republican on the Fitz-John Porter bill. Senator Cameron voted for the bill two years ago, and would have voted for it again.

THE Philadelphia Times surprised the people of Philadelphia last Thursday with a twenty-four page daily to commemorate its tenth birthday. The Times is by far the most enterprising wide awake daily in Philadelphia and under the editorship of Col. McClure, it ranks second to no paper in America in point of journalistic ability. Its almost unexampled success has certainly been well merited.

CHINESE GORDON regards the liberation of the slaves in the Sudan without compensation as robbery. It will be observed that Gordon is a good deal of an old states rights democrat.—Philadelphia Press.

It will also be observed that a handy thing it would be for those African slave-catchers to have a constitution upon which they could at all times rely as the mainstay of their sacred "rights" to exchange their human chattel for Jamaica rum and whisky.

SENATOR VAN WYCK is the champion modest man in Washington. He declines to be a delegate to the Republican national convention, on the ground that another man, "fresh from the people, without any of the prejudices which naturally gather around the somewhat cloudy atmosphere at the national capital, could better give expression to the desires of the republicans of Nebraska. It is not probable that this modesty will prove contagious.—Kansas City Journal.

Possibly not in Missouri or Kansas, but up here in Nebraska the example set by Van Wyck will establish an effective precedent.

NOW THAT Sargent has accepted the invitation to dine with Bismarck on Kaiser Wilhelm's birthday, we shall soon see how the American hog fares.

THE Chicago Tribune has a \$100,000 libel suit on hand. There is nothing small about Chicago newspapers.

Such were the comments made by a well-known man upon the arrest of Tiller, the Pacific express robber, and the capture of the plunder. An old Pacific express employe, to whom the remarks were addressed, expressed a very different opinion of Tiller. "That trunk business," said he, "was the cutest thing that Tiller did in the whole business. No one but an express man would have thought of it. Why, nearly every day some countryman goes into a store, buys a trunk, and fills it with his old traps and any new things which he may want, and has it shipped by express to his home. That's a very common occurrence, and no one knows it better than an express man. Tiller was posted on this thing, and when he went into the Milwaukee trunk store and bought a trunk, to be shipped to Detroit, he was only doing what is done every day by countrymen. The careless manner in which he threw down his valise, containing the stolen money, and told the clerk to pack it in the trunk, as he didn't want to have the trouble of carrying it any longer, was a very natural way to disarm suspicion. If the valise hadn't landed at Milwaukee, while being handled by the clerk, the plan would have worked all right. The bursting of the valise was the merest accident. Tiller's object was to get rid of the money, as he didn't want to be caught in possession of it. If captured and sent to the penitentiary, his plan was to serve out his term, and then go to Detroit and get his trunk. Under the laws of Missouri, as I have been told, a man can only be convicted for grand larceny or embezzlement, the extreme penalty of which is only five years, which, by good behavior, can be reduced to about three years and a half. "But wouldn't the express company be opened or sold the trunk before his term expired, and thus discover the money," asked the Bee's Man About Town, who was an intelligent listener. "The chances are that they would not. I have known old trunks and bundles to lay for years in the express office, before being sold or disposed of. Even when examined before sales for stolen papers, etc. the examination is very hastily done. I remember at one sale I assisted in the examination of the trunks, valises and packages. Among the stuff was an old great bundle of money, and it was so dirty that we wouldn't undo it. A colored man bought the bundle for twenty-five cents, and upon unrolling the clothing and feeling in the pocket, he found four or five hundred dollar gold pieces." "By the way, who will get the reward for the arrest of Tiller, and the recovery of the money?" asked the Bee's Man. "I suppose the clerk in the trunk store will get the reward for the money. The reward offered was ten per cent of the whole amount. So he will get between \$8,000 and \$9,000, and probably a large part, if not all, of the reward for the capture of Tiller alone, and I think a like amount for the arrest of his confederate."

"I saw quite a number of Omaha people over in California," said Mr. Charles H. Dewey, who returned the other day from a six weeks' visit on the Pacific coast. "At San Gabriel I saw S. H. H. Clark and E. B. Chandler, who spent most of their time in hunting and fishing. Mr. Clark is improving in health very rapidly. Jake Markel is at Madrid Villa, on the mountain side, near San Gabriel, where the sun shines cheerfully, and the weather is as warm as July. The flowers are grazing on the grass in front of the Villa, and oranges and lemons are hanging ripe on the trees, and the peach trees are in blossom. Jake sits with his overcoat on the porch, taking sun-baths and whittling, and is satisfied to stay there until he feels better. By the way, I've just got a letter from him saying that he is getting along first-rate. At Los Angeles I saw M. G. McKoon, who is in the insurance business. 'Pretty morning! why, how do you do, Brother Dewey?' said he, with a wave of his hand, as he met me, and I replied in the same friendly manner. 'Pretty morning! why how do you do, Brother McKoon?' 'Isn't this just lovely out here? Did you ever see anything in Nebraska to equal it? Look at the lemons, the lemons, the peach blossoms, and the flowers! Just as well as you can get in the fun in the air!' said Brother McKoon, who was very enthusiastic about Los Angeles. E. B. Smith is also at Los Angeles. He is looking around for some business to engage in. I saw several other Omaha people in California, but I can't remember their names now. Mr. Crutchebank is keeping a store at Pasadena. I didn't see him, but I understand he is regaining his health very rapidly."

Manderson's Maiden Effort. Chicago Tribune Special. Those who came early to hear General Logan were surprised to see a small man rise from the tier of three rows in the rear, which had been christened "The Mountain." He was a short, stout-built man, with a ruddy face, keen eye, and seemed accustomed to debate. His voice had not been heard in the senate chamber before. Those who heard it to-day will wish to hear it many times again. Senator Manderson, of Nebraska, made his maiden speech. It was a speech which surprised the senate. His fame as a brilliant debater had preceded him, but it has not been the custom for new senators to show themselves well equipped in their first speech. He spoke from notes, but his delivery was entirely free. There was nothing wanting in the manner or substance of his speech to put him in the front rank of parliamentary debaters. He made one of the clearest speeches against the Fitz John Porter bill that has been heard.

Inter-Ocean Special. Senator Manderson brought with him to the senate a reputation for eloquence, and his speech showed that his talents had not been over-estimated. He is a great speaker, and with a pleasant, musical voice and a distinct utterance. His argument was closely written, logical, and eloquent, and contained many new ideas, to the surprise of those who thought the subject had been talked out. During the progress of General Manderson's speech he was frequently cheered—and at its conclusion the republican senators, and particularly the older members of the body, crowded around to shake him by the hand. The honorable Anthony, of Rhode Island, the father of the senate, was one of the first to tender his congratulations, and for a time business was suspended to give Manderson's admirers a chance to express their praise.

Forced to Do Right. SALINA, Kas., March 14.—The register of the United States land office here to-day certified to clerks of counties comprising the land district 290, 100 acres of land for which the Union Pacific Railway company has paid the fee. This action of the railway is largely due to Congressman Anderson of this state, who has been very active in efforts to compel the company to secure patents for all their lands along the line of their road that they may become taxable.

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