THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year	$8 00
Daily and Sunday, One Year	10 00
Six Months	5 00
Three Months	2 50
Sunday Bee, One Year	2 00
Saturday Bee, One Year	1 50
Weekly Bee, One Year	65

OFFICES.

Omaha, The Bee Building.
South Omaha, corner N and Twenty-fourth streets.
Council Bluffs, 12 Pearl street.
Chicago Office, 317 Chamber of Commerce.
New York, rooms 13, 14 and 15, Tribune building.
Washington, 513 Fourteenth street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: To the Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing company, Omaha. Drafts, checks and postoffice orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, }
County of Douglas, } ss.

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending December 16, 1893, was as follows:

Sunday, December 10	25,030
Monday, December 11	22,953
Tuesday, December 12	22,884
Wednesday, December 13	22,802
Thursday, December 14	22,887
Friday, December 15	22,868
Saturday, December 16	23,038

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 16th day of December, 1893. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Average Circulation for November, 23,210.

TOM CASTOR is on his way home from Washington and the federal office headsmen will have a brief period of rest.

IS VAN ALEN satisfied that Wayne MacVeagh is the better man for the Italian ambassadorship to whom he referred in his letter of declination?

DEMOCRATIC place hunters should not allow themselves to become disheartened. The senate reconvenes January 4 to receive additional nominations from the president.

ECONOMY is the order of the day in private establishments. What circumstances demand of private individuals is equally demanded of public officials in every department of the public service.

THE senate may as well decide to pass on the nomination of Mr. Hornblower to the supreme court vacancy now as later. No other man will be nominated so long as Mr. Hornblower is not formally rejected.

IN the scramble for spoils which has embroiled the Nebraska democracy in a Kilkenny cat fight we occupy very much the position of the wife who, while acting as umpire for the famous bear fight, said: "Go it, husband; go it bear!"

THE battle of the flesh pots will be adjourned over the holidays, and the hungry and thirsty applicants for federal spoils will have to look to Rescue hall for a plate of soup with crumbs of comfort thrown in. It is very aggravating, but under the circumstances it must be endured with patience and resignation.

AN INSURANCE rate war in San Francisco involves the old controversy whether the merchants are to permit themselves to be controlled by the insurance agents. Should the merchants there come out ahead in their efforts to resist arbitrary raising of insurance rates a wholesome example will be set.

THE *World-Herald* pays a merited compliment to Judge Ogden as a lawyer, scholar and gentleman. Meantime its allies of the Morton-Castor combine are sticking the knife into Judge Ogden every time his name is mentioned for the position of United States district attorney. The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hand is the hand of Esau.

EX-GOVERNOR BOYD has had his interview with Grover Cleveland, and we may be sure that every word that was said, and many things that were not spoken of, will be dished up by telegraph in the official B. & M. organ at Lincoln. As a mind-reader, prophet and revelator Major Paddock's gifted son-in-law beats all the clairvoyants that boast of being the seventh son of the seventh daughter.

A JOINT committee of congress, consisting of three senators and three members of the house, will enjoy a junket to Nicaragua at the expense of the government under the pretext of investigating the status of the Nicaragua canal. The next congressional junket will probably include a sea voyage to the Hawaiian islands. The congressmen who fail to get berths upon these pleasure-seeking committees are not alive to the opportunities of their positions.

TO HEAR the Philadelphia papers rave over the beauties and conveniences of their new trolley street railway line one would imagine that all the stories about the Sleepy City were literally true. When we are told that the people gaze in admiration as the trolley glides by and that they go blocks out of their way to take advantage of the new system of rapid transit we are led to ask whether the inhabitants of Philadelphia have neither seen nor heard of electric street railways before. The introduction of the trolley into Philadelphia must be a veritable electric shock to the good people of that festive burg.

IN ITS answer to the mandamus proceedings of the managers of the Home for the Friendless at Lincoln the State Board of Public Lands and Buildings asserts that during the existence of that institution the sum of $195,860.80 has been appropriated by the legislature and expended for its support and maintenance, while no reports have ever been made by its managers showing its financial condition, nor have any books of account been kept of the same. If these allegations be true they reflect but little credit upon the state board and still less upon the managers of the Home for the Friendless. What kind of administration is it that fails to keep account of the expenditure of state moneys and to see that they were really applied to the purposes for which they were voted? The state board is rather late in acting upon this matter, but now that it has bestirred itself it should not rest until the public is placed in possession of detailed information regarding the conduct of this state institution.

FOR HIGH LICENSE IN IOWA.

As the time for convening the newly elected Iowa legislature approaches the question of modifying the prohibitory liquor laws that have proven so ineffective is becoming a favorite topic of discussion. That some change in the direction of high license and local option is desired by the great majority of the people of Iowa is now most generally acknowledged by fair-minded men of all political parties, although many of those who favor a new departure in the liquor legislation of the state originally voted for men pledged to put the prohibitory law on the statute book. This revulsion of feeling has been by no means a sudden one. It has been in progress a number of years and manifested itself first in the republican defection to the support of Governor Boies in his first two gubernatorial campaigns and again in the restoration of a republican governor this year, when the prohibition issue was wisely thrown overboard by the republican state convention. It is the consequence of a firm conviction that prohibition has been given a fair and impartial trial and found to be a complete failure in every locality where it was not supported by an overwhelming popular sentiment.

The conclusion then has been forced upon the people of Iowa that to retain a law that is subject to daily open violations can but bring reproach upon the fair name of their state. The returns for the election last November showed unmistakably the temper of the people, and that was for immediate and radical modification of the prohibitory statute. How it shall be modified and what shall be adopted in its place are the problems that are to be solved by the coming legislature. Already numerous projects are being urged by prominent men in various sections of the state. They all aim to carry out this mandate of the people, namely, the retention of prohibition wherever it has been successfully enforced and its abolition wherever the liquor traffic has continued in spite of the state laws. Most of the plans contemplate keeping the existing law in force until each community shall have expressed a preference through the ballot for its suspension. This would give local option, with the presumption in favor of prohibition unless overturned by a vote of the people. Some variations exist in the different methods suggested for regulating the operations of the liquor dealers in case of a vote against prohibition. All agree that they should be held to a strict accountability in observing the rules laid down for the conduct of their business and should contribute periodically to the public treasury. Some want this contribution to be paid as a license, graduated in amount according to the size of the town. Others provide for the arrest and fining of the dealers at stated intervals, while still others contemplate merely the levy of an additional tax by the regular assessors upon all premises where they find liquor for sale. Of course, if the traffic is legalized, it is unjust to fine the dealers as if they were violating the law. The system of high license as in operation in Nebraska has commended itself as an eminently practical way of solving the liquor problem and should find favor in the eyes of Iowa legislators.

THE DECLINING MERCHANT MARINE.

The report of the secretary of the treasury says that the year 1893 witnessed a further decline in the relative importance of the American merchant marine in the foreign carrying trade, it falling from even the low percentage of 1892 to the lowest on record. According to the treasury report for 1892 the percentage of imports and exports carried in American vessels that year was 12.3, which was the lowest up to that time. In 1860 the percentage was 66.5, so that in the last thirty-three years the merchant marine of this great commercial nation in the foreign carrying trade has been steadily declining, so that at this time it amounts to but an insignificant fraction of what it was before the rebellion. It was said in the report of the secretary of the treasury for 1892 that the amount paid per annum for the transportation of freight and passengers between the United States and foreign countries was estimated to exceed $200,000,000, and the sum expended by our people in this way will grow from year to year under normal conditions. Most of the amount goes to support the trade and business of foreign countries, its payment constituting a continual drain on our resources. Fully $150,000,000 annually paid by American manufacturers, producers and travelers to foreign ship owners is expended in the countries whose vessels we are compelled to employ to ship our products of the factory and the farm to the world's markets.

In addition to this heavy drain which we contribute every year to the shipping interests of European countries there is a loss from the disadvantage at which we are placed in competition with the countries that have a merchant marine ample for the requirements of their foreign trade. It is in the interest of the ship owners of Great Britain, Germany and France to promote trade with those countries, and this they are constantly doing. Wherever it is necessary to discriminate against the American manufacturer or merchant in the matter of rates or other conditions in order to retain or secure trade for the competing manufacturers and merchants of their own countries these foreign ship owners will not hesitate to do it. There can be no doubt that this has operated as a restriction upon our commerce, particularly with the countries south of us. It is a fact attested by experience that a people prefer to do business with the country that has its own facilities of transportation and there are valid reasons why this should be so. The theory that trade follows the flag rests upon substantial grounds. The delegates from the South American countries who attended the Pan-American conference a few years ago all agreed in saying that it was of the greatest importance to the success of the policy of establishing closer commercial relations between the United States and the countries of the southern continent that we should have our own facilities of transportation instead of doing business with them under a foreign flag. There can be no question that there is a very great deal in this, and it involves a matter which ought to command the interest of our whole people, for every section of the country is concerned in whatever will contribute to the expansion of the nation's foreign commerce.

It is probable there will be legislation by the present congress looking to the restoration of the merchant marine, and certainly it is a subject which calls for early and wise action. The large amount of money which we pay out every year to foreign ship owners is well calculated to arrest attention, to say nothing of the disadvantages in other ways and the humiliation to national pride incident to the absence of our flag from nearly all the ports of the world.

WHAT HAS BEEN GAINED BY THE CONTEST?

The revised gas ordinance has been approved by Mayor Bemis and an acceptance of its terms has been filed by the president of the Omaha Gas Manufacturing company. A summary of the concessions secured to the city and to gas consumers may not be out of order. The original ordinance railroaded through the council without discussion granted to the company a franchise for fifty years at a fixed rate, beginning with $1.75 per 1,000 cubic feet for both illuminating and fuel gas, with a sliding scale decreasing the price at a ratio of 5 cents of every 50,000,000 cubic feet of annual increase of consumption up to 600,000,000 a year, when the price was to be $1.35, and when 700,000,000 cubic feet were consumed per year, $1.30, and when 800,000,000 were consumed per year, $1.25 per 1,000. And this was to be the limit of the lowest rate for about thirty years.

The revised ordinance cuts down the term of the franchise from fifty to twenty-five years and leaves the city to readjust its contract according to conditions that will exist twenty-five years hence. The chances are, of course, that by that time gas will go down in Omaha to the rate that now obtains at Cleveland—from 80 cents to $1 per 1,000.

The revised ordinance cuts the rate to consumers to $1.60 per 1,000 for lighting and to $1.35 for fuel gas on and after the 1st of January, 1894, and a sliding scale is adopted by which the price will go down to $1.25 when 600,000,000 cubic feet are consumed annually.

The fifty-year gas ordinance allowed the company to charge the same price to the city that it charged private consumers, namely, $1.75 per 1,000 cubic feet, until 200,000,000 were consumed per year and then the reduction by sliding scale. The revised ordinance requires the company to supply all public buildings, including city hall, jail, engine houses, library, market house and any other buildings the city may erect in the future at $1 per 1,000 cubic feet.

The fifty-year gas ordinance made no provision for a franchise royalty. The revised gas ordinance gives the city 5 cents for every 1,000 cubic feet consumed, which will amount to fully $7,000 the first year, and if the city doubles its consumption and population within ten years the income will be $14,000 to $15,000 a year, and by the end of the following ten years it will probably exceed $25,000 a year.

The fifty-year gas ordinance made no provision for purchase of the works by the city and did not contain a forfeiture clause in case the company should violate its contract. The revised ordinance contains express provisions conceding the right of purchase by the city and excluding in the appraisement of the property any allowance for the unexpired franchise.

The revised ordinance also contains a specific forfeiture clause. The fifty-year ordinance left the company free to charge for extending its pipes from the mains to the curb line. The revised ordinance requires the company to lay the pipes to the curb line at its own expense.

Several other modifications have been embodied into the revised ordinance relative to extensions on suburban streets that are of material advantage to the public.

These extremely valuable concessions are the fruits of a stubbornly fought contest on the part of Mayor Bemis and his supporters, and inasmuch as THE BEE stood alone in backing Mayor Bemis and the taxpayers who invoked the power of the courts, this paper has a rightful claim to a large share of credit which all citizens will doubtless accord for the success that has attended the efforts to secure the best terms from the gas company.

THE END OF RECIPROCITY.

The new tariff bill provides for the repeal of the reciprocity provision of the present law, so that the end of the reciprocity policy of this country, as it is embodied in the existing act, will come as soon as the democratic tariff goes into effect. This the party in power was expected to do, so that there is nothing surprising or disappointing in its action. The sentiment of the party regarding this plan of extending the commercial relations of the United States and establishing them upon a closer and stronger basis with the independent countries in this hemisphere is expressed in the report of the majority of the ways and means committee when it says of the reciprocity provision of the McKinley law: "This section has been of no appreciable advantage to American exporters. It is not in intention or effect a provision for reciprocity, but for retaliation." Here is an example of the way in which the democratic tariff reformers brush aside facts and deal in misrepresentation.

It may be admitted that the reciprocity policy has not accomplished all that its advocates hoped for, but to say that it has been of no appreciable benefit is to ignore well known facts. Our exports, due directly to this policy, have been increased many millions of dollars, and but for conditions that could not have been foreseen they undoubtedly would have been much larger. Our export trade with Cuba and Porto Rico has been quadrupled, or nearly so, under reciprocity, the greater part of this benefit going to our agricultural producers, whose interests the policy was chiefly intended to subserve. The explanation of the fact that we have not realized a greater increase in our exports to Brazil is to be found in the political condition of that country, for one thing, and other reasons are a lack of ample transportation facilities of our own and the tremendous competition which our merchants and manufacturers have encountered there. It is no fault of the principle of reciprocity that it has not accomplished as much as was expected of it, but failure, wherever it has failed, has been due to local conditions mainly, and to some extent to the immediate inability of our manufacturers to take the fullest advantage of the opportunity to extend their trade. But with all the difficulties in the way of success, reciprocity has been of very substantial benefit to the country. As to the talk about its being a policy of retaliation, it is too manifestly absurd to receive serious consideration. The policy, however, is incompatible with the scheme of democratic tariff reform, and consequently it will be abandoned. But the democracy should deal with the matter candidly and honestly.

A QUESTIONABLE CLAIM.

There is an element of weakness in the movement for the retirement of Fire Chief Galligan which will not bear close inspection. The insurance men are going to the property owners of this city with the statement that the fire department is inefficient, and for that reason as much as anything else they demand increased insurance rates. Chief Galligan may have outlived his usefulness. It is possible that his long years of service have largely incapacitated him. He has earned a title to some place in the department the duties of which are less exacting.

But the average citizen will decline to believe that the fire department is less efficient than formerly or that in comparison with departments of cities of Omaha's rank it would suffer in the least. In fact, the insurance men have statistics from Kansas City, St. Paul and other cities which go to show that Omaha with a much smaller number of firemen and far less annual expense shows decreased average fire losses in money and more effective fire fighting as a whole. This fact is within itself conclusive proof that the Omaha fire department is well organized and efficient.

It follows, then, that the demand for increased insurance rates cannot properly be based upon the false assumption that the fire department is not up to the standard in point of equipment and capacity. The insurance people will have to present other and better reasons for the advance in rates. The threat that leading companies will abandon Omaha to her fate if higher tribute is not paid them will not do. Outside insurance companies do not like the Nebraska statutes regulating their business and taxing them for the premium money drawn from the state. They are disposed to retaliate until such time when our laws may be amended to their liking.

During the past sixteen years in Nebraska the per cent of premium receipts paid in fire losses is 41.9. Granted that losses have been unusually heavy this year, it is not possible that the loss ratio will exceed a general average of 48 per cent. Add to this 35 per cent for average expenses, a net profit of 17 per cent on Nebraska business is shown. This is certainly a fair profit in a year when business in all other lines is dull. The demand of the insurance people for a 20 per cent advance in rates cannot be justified by facts. They must not be permitted to attack our local fire department in order to bolster up a questionable claim for excessive profits.

ONLY one populist congressman had the courage to stand up against the mileage appropriation grab when it was rushed through the house under pressure from the committee on rules. The cry is for retrenchment, but for retrenchment only in such matters as do not affect the pockets of the members of congress.

Fleeting Greatness.
Philadelphia Inquirer.

It is gradually becoming apparent that the administration will have to keep its promise to find another place for William L. Wilson. By the time the next election is over there won't be enough of Mr. Wilson left to fill an individual salt cellar.

A Georgia Howl for Action.
Atlanta Constitution.

The solid business interests of the country are clamoring for action. They are not splitting hairs about the tariff. They want democratic action! They want results! They want something on which they can base their operations and their contracts!

Forest Preservation.
Philadelphia Press.

The destruction of protecting forests on steep hillsides and mountain slopes is always attended by the washing, more or less rapid, of the surface soil into the valleys. This may be slow enough, and usually is in this country, to permit the starting of a second growth of trees before the humus is all gone. But there is a limit to this power of recuperation, and if this forest destruction is persisted in we will soon have the conditions which obtain in the south of France and in northern Italy, where the demand for timber has in recent years stripped the once green mountain sides until now those same once verdure-clad slopes are bare and naked rock.

The soil of these mountain sides has been washed down into valleys, filling up the river beds and covering many square leagues of fertile lands, once highly productive, but now made barren by the superimposed gravel and sand. The destruction goes on. Every rain is attended by the downpour of turbid torrents from the mountain sides, which have become so barren that no green thing grows there and not so much as a bird's note is heard. This has all occurred since the French revolution took away from the forests the protection once given to them in the interest of the chase. We need to guard our forests for the nobler purpose of preserving the sources of our streams, checking their tendency to overflow and cause destruction, and of maintaining the sources of our springs and wells, the beauty of our mountain scenery and the wellbeing and comfort of future generations.

PEOPLE AND THINGS.

Four robbers held up a faro bank in Chicago for $4,000. The trick was turned with a battery of gatlings.

If the mugwumps don't see what they want in the federal pantry let them step up and ask for it. Don't be bashful.

Some democrats ungratefully insinuate that the administration dares not put a finger in its ear. Afraid of the cogs.

Congress responded enthusiastically to the call for economy by voting itself extra mileage and extra pay to pet clerks.

When Walter Damrosch waved his wand in vain it is doubtful if extra emphasis on the first syllable of his name soothed his agitated feelings.

Mrs. Levi P. Morton spends a fortune every year in shoes and slippers. But she proudly asserts that she never made Mr. Morton a present of a pair of slippers for Christmas. Such a wife is a rarity.

The quantity and diversity of fact and fiction provoked by the Hawaiian incident is not without its advantages. It demonstrates what grave strains the country can patiently endure without objecting to the size of the bore.

A New York man, possessing marvelous nerve, calmly stood his ground when confronted with his ten wives. By the way, stove polish statesmen should not overlook the east when thundering about Mormonism in the west.

Philadelphia's reputation for conservatism in all things is not what it is cracked up to be. When the government looked about town for a mint site land values trebled wherever the commissioners bestowed a favorable glance.

Buffalo Bill admits in New York that he is a candidate for governor of Nebraska. Until William determines between the slotter house and packing house factions his declarations must be regarded as emanating from his sombrero.

Andrew Carnegie has manipulated a steel rail trust, by the terms of which a plant at Baltimore employing 7,000 men is to be closed down for a year and receive $400,000 as its share of the spoils. A revised edition of "Triumphant Democracy" is in order.

Colonel John B. Selheimer, who died at Lewistown, Pa., last Saturday, was a captain of the Logan guards, and marched through Baltimore April 18, 1861, with the first company that reached Washington in response to President Lincoln's call for troops.

Prof. Tyndall was one of the most charitable men in the world. So far as his rather small means allowed, he never let a case of distress go unrelieved in whatever station of life; but he had a horror of appearing in subscription lists. As he accompanied every gift with the anxious message, "Don't say who it is," his generosity always passed unacknowledged.

Miss Calla Forrester of English, Ind., complained of her neighbor across the way, Simon Graydon, alleging that he had provoked her beyond endurance. The defendant was a discarded suitor, and in revenge he had trained a parrot to cry, "Ugly Calla," "Big-foot Calla," "Calla lives across the street." 'Squire Brown found the defendant guilty of provoke, and compelled him to give bond against further annoyance.

The appointment of Wayne Mac Veagh to the Italian mission will prove a painful test of the consuming admiration which Hon. Charles A. Dana bears for the administration. Rewarding mugwumps is not to the liking of the venerable democrat, but instead of chiding Cleveland in brotherly tones or shattering party harmony, he hies away to the Holy Land and hires a muscular bedouin to kick him over the plains of Sharon.

Rev. Calvin Fairbank, one of the most active of the abolitionists who helped escaping negroes to reach Canada by means of the "underground railroad," is now living, at the age of 77, in humble circumstances at Angelica, Pa. It is said of him that he helped forty-seven slaves to gain their liberty, besides taking a hand in the escape of many more. For his efforts in obedience to what he believed to be a higher law than the statutes of the slave states he spent more than seventeen years in a Kentucky prison before he was set free through the efforts of President Lincoln.

VOORHEES' SILVER BILL.

Atlanta Constitution: The thing for Mr. Voorhees to do is to introduce a free coinage bill. That is the only way the democratic platform can be carried out. That is the only way the just expectations can be met.

Philadelphia Ledger: Senator Voorhees' bill is, if possible, worse than either the Bland or Sherman act. The avowed purpose of it, as is shown by the sections we have quoted, is to force a debased, discredited and obnoxious silver currency upon the country.

New York Tribune: The bill offered has no real merit. It is not even as reasonable as the compromise proposed during the extra session, which was smashed by the refusal of republicans to give it a single vote. The democrats could not pass it alone. The president found he would be beaten and disgraced also if he assented to it, and therefore came out with his unqualified declaration against any compromise.

Philadelphia Times: The silver coinage bill introduced by Senator Voorhees probably has no more serious intent than the fulfillment of his promise during the discussion on the Sherman law, that when that was disposed of he would favor an attempt at some definite legislation on the currency. The bill may also embody Mr. Voorhees' personal ideas of the direction such legislation might take, but it is not a measure that is likely to give satisfaction to either side in the controversy, and it does not at the present call for serious discussion.

New York World: It is difficult to conceive what can have led Senator Voorhees into his present movement. It may be that he considers his political future in need of some bolstering up among the silver men. But when he opposes them by advocating the repeal of the silver purchasing act and then advances to meet them half way in its restoration he stands a prospect of forfeiting the respect as well as the support of both sides. Or perhaps Mr. Voorhees desires to convince the public that the climax of inconsistency and folly in western senators has not yet been reached.

Philadelphia Press: Fortunately there is little danger of the bill becoming a law. It is opposed to principles which President Cleveland cannot approve without stultification. It serves to put Mr. Voorhees' right with his silver-loving constituents, and this, we presume, is the real purpose of the bill. The country ought to be suffered to enjoy a respite from silver agitation, but with Stewart always talking silver, no matter what subject is before the senate, with Secretary Carlisle wanting to coin the seigniorage, with new territories being admitted to increase the silver vote, with Voorhees championing the Bland law in the senate and Bland continuing to push a free coinage measure in the house, there is little prospect of even temporary rest from the iteration and reiteration of the witting champions of cheap money and the witless victims of the silver craze.

The Sovereign Remedy.
Buffalo Express.

James R. Sovereign, the new general master workman of the Knights of Labor, says he never engaged in strikes and is against them. Such remarks evidence a new light in the labor world. If the Philadelphia convention, in substituting Sovereign for Powderly, endorsed the former's anti-strike principles, still less regret will be felt over the latter's defeat.

Sizing it Up.
Chicago Post.

The consensus of national opinion of President Cleveland's message appears to be that it is one of the best, worst, bravest, most cowardly, frankest and most uncandid state papers ever written.

COMING HOME ON HIS SHIELD

Committeeman Castor Returns from Washington Without His Expected Triumph.

APPOINTMENTS HE WANTED NOT MADE

President Cleveland Omits Naming the Recipients of the Big Plums for Nebraska and Leaves the Matter Still in Doubt.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.

National Committeeman and Mrs. Tobias Castor and ex-Governor Boyd left Washington over the Pennsylvania road this afternoon for their homes in Nebraska. They will make a short stop in Chicago, but will be about their hearthstones when Santa Claus distributes his gifts on Christmas eve.

Much to the chagrin of Mr. Castor the nomination of a democratic surveyor for the port of Omaha did not reach the senate before congress adjourned for the holiday recess this afternoon. The appointment will not now be made before congress reconvenes on Thursday, January 4, as the nominee could not be commissioned until the senate confirmed the action of the president. All nominations for presidential offices during a session of the senate must be confirmed before the commission can issue. Constructively congress is in session during the actual holiday recess.

Messrs. Morton and Castor were confident that James McShane would be nominated surveyor of the port of Omaha before the holiday adjournment. When they called upon the president yesterday they were confident that the nomination would be made then or today.

Had a Talk with Olney.

They found at the white house Attorney General Olney, who had been requested by them to join in an audience with the president respecting the appointment of a United States district attorney for Nebraska, but there appears to have been no conclusion reached. It cannot be ascertained who is their choice for this position, because both Morton and Castor are secretive in regard to all presidential appointments, fearing that premature publication might frustrate their designs. The early publication of the fact that they had recommended the appointment of McShane threatens to defeat his preference. THE BEE correspondent learned today from a Nebraska democrat who had just talked to the president that the appointment of McShane was not at all certain; that eitherIjams or Gallagher had an equal chance with McShane, and that the deferring of the appointment until after the holiday recess of congress was another point against McShane.

The trip of Tobias Castor to Washington, covering a period of two weeks and ending this afternoon, was not successful in its mission. He came especially to secure the appointment of McShane as a district attorney and to secure a number of removals of land officers. In all of these he signally failed.

Voice of Jacob, but Hand of Esau.

He secured, of course, a number of fourth-class postmasters, but an examination of the endorsements on file at the Postoffice department upon which these postmasters were appointed convinced THE BEE correspondent this afternoon that ex-Governor Boyd could take as much credit to himself in that work as could National Committeeman Castor. Scarcely one of the fourth-class postmasters appointed during Mr. Castor's stay here failed to have been endorsed by ex-Governor Boyd, and when the land officers are appointed and the surveyor of the port of Omaha and the United States district attorney have been appointed and the truth known it will be found that Governor Boyd has not been without influence in this administration. Of course he has to perform uphill work in not having the cooperation of Secretary Morton, but he has proven quite a match for National Committeeman Castor. It can be stated upon the authority of a gentleman who this week talked to Mr. Cleveland that it is not the president's intention to give Nebraska any offices located outside the state, excepting possibly one or two inconsequential places.

No Consuls for Nebraska.

The president says that when he gave the secretaryship of agriculture to Mr. Morton he gave to the state more general patronage than it was entitled to, and he must therefore decline to give Nebraska democrats as many places in the foreign service and in the departments here as were given to Nebraska by President Harrison. This will be sorrowful news to quite a number of democrats in the state who have applied for consular positions. It cannot, therefore, be expected that Secretary Morton would urge upon the president the appointment of his fellow citizens to positions outside of the state, knowing the position of the president with respect to general patronage for Nebraska.

Some New Postmasters.

Postmasters appointed today:

Nebraska—Doniphan, Hall county, W. H. Gideon, vice H. N. Lord, resigned; Elyria, Valley county, A. C. Cornell, vice L. M. Fulton, resigned.

South Dakota—Belle Fourche, Butte county, S. R. Holmes, vice D. L. Hawkins, resigned; Carthage, Miner county, R. F. Lyons, vice F. G. Reeves, removed; Langford, Marshall county, J. F. Rundlett, vice G. B. Lindley, removed; Mount Vernon, Davison county, Michael Dougherty, vice James Haynes, removed; South Shore, Codington county, C. A. Nelson, vice Ira D. Austin, removed; Willow Lake, Clark county, M. C. Theisen, vice C. O. Hatch, removed.

Utah—Honefer, Summit county, William Richins, vice William Bond, removed.

J. B. McDonald, Fairbury, is here on his way home from a meeting of the farmers congress at Savannah, Ga.

Some Special Legislation.

The bill of Representative Boen of Minnesota, intended to help the Dakotas especially, appropriating $1,000,000 to extinguish the Russian thistle, will fail.

A favorable report has been made in the house on the bill to donate to the county of Laramie, Wyoming, certain bridges on the abandoned Fort Laramie reservation and for other purposes. The reservation is not now used for military purposes and the bridges in question are chiefly useful to the citizens of Wyoming, and especially to the citizens of Laramie county, in which they are located. The commissioners of the county have proposed to keep them in repair at the expense of the county for the free use of the traveling public and the military authorities of the United States.

Personal Mention.

L. Walker of Nebraska, somewhere, is registered at the Howard.

Mrs. Alta C. Baldwin has entered suit here for damages against the Baltimore & Ohio railroad for the loss of a valuable barrel of crockery and silverware, which was shipped from Des Moines, Ia., last April and directed to Washington. Among the articles were many souvenir spoons and wedding presents of great value. The plaintiff alleges they were never traced further than Chicago. The attempt of damage claimed is $1,000 with interest from April 22.

PERRY S. HEATH.

WHY IS IT PRINTED?

SHERIDAN, Wyo., Dec 19.—To the Editor of THE BEE: If you will allow me the space I would like to ask you a question. There is a paper published in Omaha called the World-Herald. But why is it called a newspaper? The first page contains a few of J. Gordon Bennett's cable dispatches, the sameas THE BEE; other than that it is made up of plates and circulation quarrels. The citizens of this country like to get the news. We don't care to hear Mr. Hitchcock's troubles. At one time there was a good list of World-Herald subscribers here, but they are dropping off, as we want news, and after looking at the World-Herald we have to buy THE BEE to get the news. Look at Monday's (December 18) paper, for example.

A KICKER.

MENTAL MINCE.

Lowell Courier: When the hunter seeks brain he prefers to do so on bear ground.

Rochester Democrat: Whisky, if indulged in habitually, is sure to spoil a man's countenance. That is, it will give him a rye face.

Philadelphia Record: Weary Wraggles—What yer readin' Bill? Bill Boards—Jest glancin' over de Wilson bill, an' it's all wrong. Barroom lunches ain't mentioned on de free list.

Washington Star: "Doan put yer min' too much on outward decorations," said Uncle Eben. "Hit am bettah ter hab er cabbage undah you wais'coat den er chrysanthemum in yer buttonhole."

Philadelphia Ledger: Eastern papers are making an ado over the fact that the temperature fell below zero in that section this week. Zero! That's nothing.

Indianapolis Journal: She—I have about made up my mind never to marry.

He—Who on earth told you that I was engaged? I have been trying to keep it a secret for a while.

New York Herald: "Well, I hear old Moneybags has died at last."

"Yes; it was a terrible blow and a sad loss to me."

"Were you a friend of his?"

"No, not exactly; but I was his doctor."

OUT OF HER ELEMENT.
Puck.

She takes a snowball in her hand
And makes me stand before her;
And I comply with her command,
Because I quite adore her.

She loves me, though 'tis her delight
Against such odds to pit me;
For while she throws with all her might
She knows she cannot hit me.

CHRISTMAS TIME.

New York Sun.

I must own that all this fussing's
Rather trying on the nerves;
For a week back I've been running
To the cellar for preserves,
To the loft to bring the hams down,
To the barn for eggs; you see
All our young folks are a-coming
Home to mother and to me.

Dick is coming home from college,
He has holidays just now.
He is going to be a preacher
(He could never learn to plow);
Lucy's coming from the High school,
Ben and Harry from the town,
And we've made Eliza promise
To bring all her children down.

Mother's in a pesky fidget,
And she's fretting all day long,
Lest with all her roasts and puddings
Something may perhaps go wrong;
But I just keep on a-humming
An old-fashioned Christmas glee,
For the young folks are all coming
Home to mother and to me.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

BROWNING, KING & CO.

The largest makers and sellers of fine clothes on Earth!

Your money's worth or your money back

A Friendly Tip--

If you are going to buy him something nice to wear, don't buy it somewhere else because it's 10c or a dollar cheaper than the best. You'd better buy it of us, for you get the best of us—you can't get the best for the price of poor material, but you can come pretty close to it—no matter if you buy him a suit, or an overcoat or a lot of underwear, handkerchiefs, neckties, or the thousand and one nick-nacks he carries around with him all the time—including a hat. He'll like his present if you get it of us, because that's where he trades himself, or will trade if you initiate him.

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Will pay the express if you send the money for $20 worth or more | S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts.