

FREE HARBORS FOR AMERICA

A Plan for Extending International Commerce at Our Seaboard Cities.

INITIAL STEPS TAKEN IN CONGRESS

Senator Chandler's Free Port Bill Framed Upon Suggestions of a Western Editor and Taken Up by Enterprising New York Capitalists.

The New York Herald, May 2, contained a brief dispatch from Washington stating that Mr. Chandler had introduced in the senate a bill which provides for the establishment of a free port at Fort Pond Bay or elsewhere in the waters of Long Island Sound and for the maintenance and operation of factories within the port by Austin Corbin and his associates of the Long Island Railway company.

Mr. Corbin admitted that such a free port as he hopes to establish would be not unlike that of Hamburg in many respects. In connection with this plan are several features of interest. The free port, if established, will be open for all vessels without the payment of tonnage dues, entrance and clearance fees and harbor master's fees.

It is presumed that in connection with this is also included Mr. Corbin's well known desire for establishing a fast line of steamers from Montauk Point to Millford Haven, Wales. In May, 1892, Mr. Chandler introduced in the senate a bill authorizing the registration of certain vessels to be run between the points named by the proposed steamer line, and a company, which was to have a capital of \$10,000,000. Mr. Corbin said he intended to have fast trains between this city and Montauk Point, thereby saving much time and avoiding the dangers of the New Jersey coast and the bar off Sandy Hook.

In the ordinary acceptance of the term a free port is one in which the duties on goods can land and unload cargoes without the payment of customs duties. In one view thereof a free port is practically a territory foreign to the country, and is a desirable made up of all the free ports in the world included Hamburg and Bremen in Germany; Fiume and Trieste in Austria; Hong Kong, Manila, in the Philippines; Georgetown (Peang), Amoy, and Banda.

A Washington dispatch to the San Francisco Chronicle tells of this important subject in greater detail as follows: Senator Chandler has evolved a plan which, if adopted, he thinks will overcome many of the objections to the proposed elements of a protective, or even a revenue tariff. In a word, it involves the establishment of a free zone, within which raw materials and foreign goods are to be landed, and the United States and paying the established duty or sending them abroad without a government fee of any kind.

The scheme is an elaboration of the famous free port plan, which was introduced by Senator Chandler in 1887, and which was to be established at Copenhagen. The free zone will consist of islands convenient to the mainland at the principal seaports in the United States.

There will be no custom houses in the free zone; they will be located in the cities, and all manufactures goods transported to the mainland will go through them and pay the proper duties thereon will be imposed and collected. On the other hand, products of the factories within the free zone, of any kind, from the free zone to any foreign country desiring to purchase them.

It is by this part of the plan for the importation of the products of these materials that it is hoped to build up a large foreign commerce for this country. These three great advantages are derived from the fact that owners and great transportation companies will be encouraged to bring their vessels here on account of the greatly reduced expenses to them, and the American benefits will be employed in producing many fabrics now made in Europe, at higher wages than the European labor commands.

The bill will be the joint production of Senator Chandler and the Hon. Charles F. Johnson, at that time United States consul at Hamburg, he spent several weeks in a careful study of this latest German commercial institution, noting every detail. Returning to this country full of enthusiasm over what he had seen, he consulted Secretary Foster of the Treasury department, who became fully as enthusiastic as himself, and was ready to join in any movement to establish a similar system in this country.

ERGOES FROM THE ANTE ROOM

Modern Woodmen of America Getting Ready for a Big Time in Omaha.

LOGROLLING ASSOCIATION MEETS HERE

Courtyard Beach Already Engaged and Fifteen Thousand Visitors Expected—It Will Be an Enthusiastic Affair—Beech Camp's Prosperity.

The 23rd day of August, 1894, is one which will be looked forward to with much pleasure by all the members of the Modern Woodmen of America within a radius of 125 miles from Omaha, for that is the day on which the Logrolling association of the Modern Woodmen of America for eastern Nebraska intends holding its annual picnic. The members of the picnic committee of the various camps for Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs have recently held several enthusiastic meetings and are beginning to make arrangements for the picnic.

Foreign vessels bringing merchandise which is entered at our ports for consumption or for warehouse are subject to tonnage dues of 30 cents per ton per annum. They must also pay the regular entrance and clearance fees, amounting to \$2.50, for each vessel.

The burdens, then, from which commerce would be relieved by the adoption of the free port system, as compared with the present system, are:— First—The tonnage dues on vessels. Second—The entry and clearance fees exacted from vessels. Third—The cost of at least of the present cost for storage and labor, to which may be added in many cases a charge for cartage and also local harbor masters' fees.

When the project first assumed form the city subscribed or loaned to the projectors \$90,000 marks, while the government contributed half that amount. The plan was to have a syndicate should use this island under government regulations previously agreed upon, and conserving the free zone, and the expiration of that time everything should revert to the city.

On the 31st day of March, 1894, there were in good standing in the order 55,872 members, and of that the state of Nebraska has 12,541. At the present rate it is but fair to predict that Nebraska will be the second state in the order in the number of its members.

The ladies of the Royal Neighbors of America will join with the members of Beech camp in giving an entertainment on Friday evening, May 18, and it is expected that a "royal" good time will be had.

Order of the World. Oak lodge, No. 109, Order of the World, give a very enjoyable musical and callo party at their lodge on the evening of the 1st inst. Over 250 were present and the occasion was a most delightful one.

North Omaha Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Degree of Honor, is now in as prosperous condition as any lodge in the city, with bright prospects for the future, as applications and members are being received at every meeting.

Woman's Loyal League. The Woman's Loyal League will give a Pabst social next Saturday evening at Pabst hall. Ladies are requested to enclose in an envelope a piece of ribbon bearing their name and wear the corresponding piece on their shoulder. Supper will be served.

THE MORSE DRY GOODS CO.

Your Dollars Stretch Like Rubber With Us Tomorrow—Monday.

DRY GOODS AT LESS THAN MANUFACTURERS' PRICES

Scorchers in Prices That Will Set the City on Fire Tomorrow, Monday.

Dry Goods at Less than Cost to Importer—Rugs at Less than Cost to Importer—China-ware at Less than Manufacturers' Prices.

MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. Men's seamless hose, 3 for 25c. Men's honest black hose, 2 for 25c. Men's fine flax hose, 20c. Men's black hose, imported to sell for 50c, our price 35c.

BOYS' DEPARTMENT. Sample line of Fauntleroy blouses on sale Monday morning at about one-half regular prices charged.

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR. Gowns, corsets, covers, drawers, neatly trimmed with embroidery and lace, that always sell for 75c—Monday, 45c.

FOR GRADUATING DRESSES. Specially Low Prices. 24-inch Plain China Silk..... 75c

Ready-Made Garments. Go at About One-Half Regular Price. On sale Monday, at the store of Smith & Rosenthal; entire line of Tiedig, Berg & Co.; entire line of M. Peller Cloak & Suit Co., and many other lines.

MACADAM FOR ROADS.

Commissioners Pleased with What They Saw at Kansas City.

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The county commissioners, who went to Kansas City for the purpose of investigating the question of using macadam as a material for the paving of county roads, returned Friday, and report that in that section of Missouri macadam is a success, though they have some doubts as to how it would work in this locality.

Speaking of macadam in the vicinity of Kansas City, Commissioner Williams said that in the county in which the city is located there were fifty-two miles, and that it was giving the best of satisfaction. There, he said, there was no necessity for laying a base, as the whole country was underlaid with stone, which made a most excellent foundation.

Regarding the question of whether or not macadam would be used on the three county roads in this county, which it is proposed to improve this season, none of the commissioners would express an opinion, though they admitted that it could not give a good satisfaction here as it does around the city, owing to the fact that here the material must be laid upon a clay base, which is not porous enough to carry off the surface water.

ART EXHIBITION. Western Association Will Hold Its Annual Picture Show This Fall. There is little foundation to the rumor that the art exhibition will not be held this season. But the exhibition will not be held where those interested thought to have it.

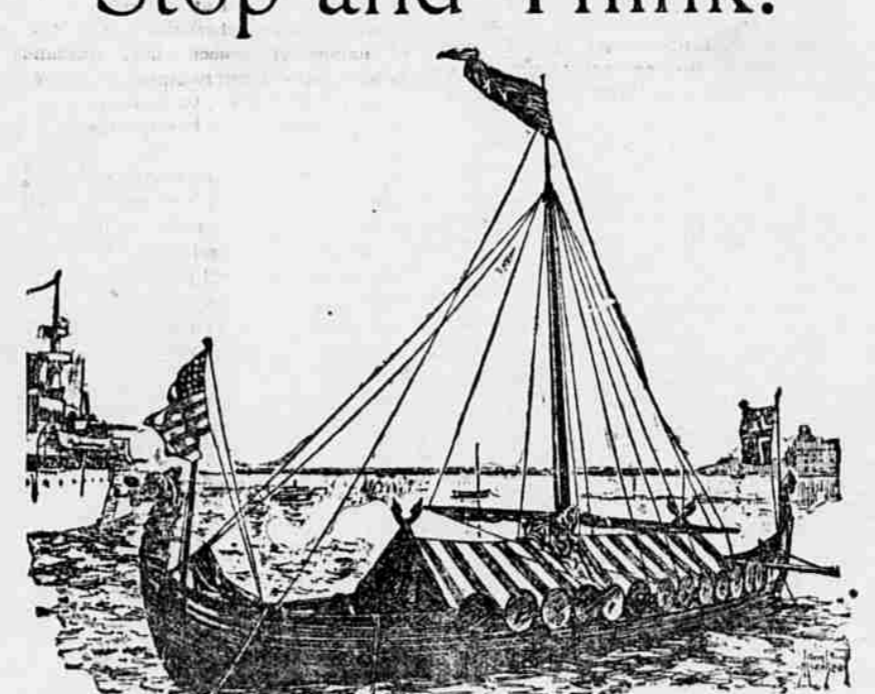
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Stop and Think.



Did you ever think of the strange consequences of events in this world, by which results of the most momentous importance often follow upon the most trifling causes?

Has it ever occurred to you that so small an action as the purchase of a copy of the "Book of the Builders" may be the birth of the whole life-movement in the direction of higher knowledge, broader culture, and richer appreciation of the beauties of art?

This is an opportunity which may never occur again in your lifetime. The small expenditure of One Cent (and a fraction) per day will secure you this greatest volume of the year. Do not hesitate.

Decide it to-day! Hear the strong arguments calling to you;—an Encyclopedia of the World's Progress,—a Chronicle of the Greatest Mechanical Enterprise ever attempted by man,—the Greatest Autobiography of Human Effort ever given to the world,—and finally the Greatest Collection ever made in this country of the Original Work of American Artists.

Seriously, how can you be blind to the great opportunity? Send your coupons of different dates, and twenty-five cents, to our Art Department and secure a single part of this book. Address all orders to

MEMORIAL DEPARTMENT, Omaha Bee. If book is not mailed send 3c cents.

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THE MORSE DRY GOODS CO. Sixteenth and Farnam Sts.