

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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Sworn to before me and subscribed to by me this 25th day of May, 1896.

Notary Public, N. P. FILL, Notary Public.

Douglas county has been heard from.

From now on the Nebraska state campaign will begin to be interesting.

The overhead wire must go. We shall learn this lesson if we live through enough destructive storms.

Perhaps that Boll juror simply bribed himself. That is just what the smirched Boll attorney would have us believe.

A penny saved is a penny earned. This is the melody that pervades all parts of the president's river and harbor veto message.

E. E. Balch is not a stalking horse for anybody. He is a candidate for the state treasurer and feels confident of his own nomination.

Nothing like a little storm should be permitted to interfere with the nomination of the next president of the United States on schedule time.

The sweet girl graduate has arrived on schedule time and in numbers that will disconcert not the most extravagant forecast of her coming.

This is to be a year of splits and split-tail tickets. The prohibitionists led off with their national convention and led off with the party split.

Secretary Morton returned to Washington and President Cleveland vetoed the river and harbor bill. Remarkable coincidence, if not cause and effect.

Today is the anniversary of the great Johnstown flood. But that terrible catastrophe no longer tops the record of death-dealing collisions of the elements.

Senator Voorhees denies the report that he is ready to retire to private life. But that will have no effect on his retirement, which will be compulsory, not voluntary.

One thing is settled. The next governor of Nebraska will not hail from Omaha. But that will not interfere with the success of the Transmississippi exposition.

Eastern papers refer to the collapse of a firm of operative managers as "a crash in opera." The opera naturally had to maintain its reputation for noise to its very end.

It is to be noted that the wise men always descend on the scientific aspect of a tornado at a safe distance from the scene of wreckage and at a safe time after the storm.

A company of Princeton college students is arranging to visit the west this summer upon a geological expedition. It is almost paradoxical that they should go to the newest part of the country to find the oldest fossils.

Our prohibitionists are one-idea men on one idea only. As soon as they depart from the prohibition mooring they develop as much discord on every live issue of the day as could the most conglomerate collection of men inoculated with different hobbies.

Joan of Arc's armor is said to have been found. But the secret of the warrior maid's military successes remains as much a mystery as ever. And there are people who refuse to credit her with the glory of the famous victories that have been attributed to her prowess.

Wonder what a real live cyclone would do if it inadvertently got mixed up among some of the sky-scraping towers of our larger cities? Would a cyclone have the nerve to tackle a twenty-story building, or would the very sight of it cause it to turn tail and make an unceremonious escape?

We have already a new senator-elect for Louisiana. The people of Louisiana do not intend to run the risk of being only half represented in the senate in order to indulge their legislature in the pastime of a prolonged and resultless senatorial contest. Louisiana does not care to repeat the experience of Delaware and Kentucky.

Congressman W. S. Linton, who constituted the head of the presidential ticket proclaimed by the local organ of the A. P. A., has just been renominated for congress for a second time. The question is what kind of a consolation prize will be conferred on the other part of the Linton presidential ticket? Perhaps Mr. Webster can throw light on this dark subject.

WHAT DOUGLAS COUNTY ASKS.

For the past four years Douglas county has been the republican stronghold of Nebraska. Republican candidates on the state ticket, with one single exception, have been given majorities in this county ranging from 5,000 upward which, if transferred to their opponents, would have turned their victories into defeats.

The large representation accorded Douglas county in republican state conventions is, therefore, no more than it is justly entitled to. In the impending state campaign as in previous campaigns the attitude of Douglas county republicans toward the candidates of prominent aspirants to state office is consequently of more than ordinary moment.

A convention composed of representative republicans of this city and county convened for the purpose of electing delegates to the state convention has, after due deliberation, given authoritative expression to the sentiment and wishes of the rank and file of the party.

First and foremost it has been decreed in the republican primaries that no candidate for the office of governor should be presented. By an overwhelming vote of the convention the resolution demanding the renomination of A. S. Churchill as attorney general was rejected. By this action the convention only emphasized the sentiment prevailing throughout the state in regard to Mr. Churchill's candidacy.

Two years ago Mr. Churchill secured a place on the state ticket by a landslide. The rightfully nominated candidate for attorney general, W. S. Summers, was induced to acquiesce in the juggling of the tally sheets on the assurance that Mr. Churchill would not present himself for a renomination. The republicans of Douglas county have taken Mr. Churchill at his word, although he appears to have become oblivious of the circumstances under which he had been permitted to profit by a nomination which did not belong to him.

The convention, on the other hand, by a vote of 119 to 41, instructed the delegates chosen to represent Douglas county to cast their votes as a unit in favor of Edward E. Balch for the office of state treasurer and of G. R. Williams for the office of commissioner of public lands and buildings, and to give each of these men their earnest support so long as either one of them has a chance of nomination. Both of these men are staunch republicans, of unblemished reputation, and thoroughly qualified for the respective positions for which they have been endorsed.

Mr. Balch is an experienced accountant and one of the best equipped financial experts in the state, if not in the west. The position he now occupies in one of the great banking establishments of this city affords abundant guaranty of his integrity and capacity. Mr. Williams is one of the most substantial and intelligent farmers in this section and has for five years past managed the affairs of this county as a member of the county board, of which he was for two years the chairman. No man in the state is better qualified for the discharge of the responsible duties attaching to the office of land commissioner than is Mr. Williams and his nomination would not only gratify republicans of Douglas county but add strength to the entire ticket, while, on the other hand, the present incumbent lacks all the elements of popularity and would have to be carried by others.

With their preferences clearly expressed, republicans of Douglas county have a right to expect that the state convention will carry out, so far as may be possible, their recommendations and respect their wishes as regards men whose candidacies have called forth expressions of their disfavor.

THE AGRICULTURAL PROBLEM. In every civilized country the agricultural condition is commanding the serious consideration of statesmen. What shall be done to relieve the farming population from distress is a question that is receiving the attention of European governments and in our own country there is no subject of greater importance than that of conserving the interests and welfare of the great agricultural class, the prosperity of which is most essential to national progress and to the well being of every other class.

A whole is far from being as bad as that of the producers of Europe generally. Improvement will be found in a policy that will build up the home market and increase the consuming capacity of the people. To whatever extent the products of American farms are now subjected, through unfriendly legislation, to foreign competition, they should be relieved of it, but the building up of the home market is the sure way of promoting agricultural prosperity in the United States.

AS TO FREE ALCOHOL.

Few people comparatively have any conception of the amount of alcohol that is used in the arts and in manufacturing and hence there is no general appreciation of the importance to numerous interests of the bill which passed the house of representatives the past week repealing the section of the tariff law which provides that any manufacturer finding it necessary to use alcohol in the arts, or in any medicinal or other like compound, shall be entitled to receive from the treasury of the United States a rebate or repayment of the tax on the alcohol so used.

The proposed repeal of the free alcohol section of the tariff law was urged on the ground chiefly that it was necessary to protect the national treasury. Already the claims for the repayment of the tax since the law went into effect amount to millions of dollars and according to the estimate of the commissioner of internal revenue the claims under the law will amount to perhaps \$10,000,000 a year. It was shown that the free alcohol provision affords an easy way for frauds upon the treasury, which it would be impossible to prevent without having an army of inspectors. It was also conclusively shown that it is of no benefit to the public. The practical operation of the provision is that it allows anybody calling himself a manufacturer to get alcohol, pay the market price for it, use it in what he calls the arts, or in medicinal or other like compounds, sell it at a full price, including the tax, and after that has been done go to the treasury and get \$1.10 a gallon by way of a gift from the treasury for every gallon of alcohol he has used.

There has been a great pressure upon the house on the part of manufacturers using alcohol in opposition to the proposed repeal and this pressure will undoubtedly be continued on the senate, but it will probably be no more effective with the latter body than it was with the former. Free alcohol for use in the arts and manufactures may be desirable when the revenue can be spared, but under present conditions it is manifestly not good policy and therefore the action of the house was unquestionably judicious. There is reason to expect that it will be promptly concurred in by the senate, where it will come up for consideration within the next few days.

DEFERRING JUST DEBTS.

It is a just charge against the government, or more properly against congress, that the practice of deferring from year to year the payment of debts due in the form of claims amounts almost to a species of dishonesty. The present congress promises to follow the example of its predecessors in this respect. Appropriations may be made for a part of the claims long due, but by far the larger proportion of such claims will remain unpaid for years, to come up again in succeeding congresses and probably meet with similar treatment. A notable illustration of the dereliction of congress in this respect is the fact that the French spoliation claims are still unpaid, although nearly a century has passed since the debt accrued. The United States government received full reimbursement for damages inflicted upon its citizens in the acquisition of Louisiana and our great northwest territory. These claims were offset as a part of the purchase money. Since that time the claimants, their heirs and assigns, have been appealing to the Treasury department to pay over to them the amounts which the government secured on account of damages sustained by American shipping, but with the exception of the few that were met by appropriation in the fifty-first congress the creditors are still without payment. This most unjust treatment of those who are entitled to the money paid to our government by France has been vigorously condemned in the press and in congress, but without producing the desired result, and these unpaid claims still stand a reproach to the government and a reflection upon the honesty of congress.

There are also deferred war claims which long ago passed the ordeal of congressional recognition and judicial investigation, for the non-payment of which there is no valid excuse. These claims are for the property of loyal citizens that was destroyed or taken by the union forces during the civil war and in every instance the government has for more than thirty years owed the claimants or their heirs the amount due on account of this property. There is no question regarding the justice of these claims. Each one of them has fought its way to recognition in congress and for permission to stand the test of thorough investigation by the court of claims. Each one has been passed upon by the full bench of the court of claims. They constitute as binding an obligation upon the government as any debt it owes and every consideration of right and justice and of the duty of the government to its citizen demands that they be paid.

Referring to the course of congress in regard to these obligations, the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says it has become an axiom that the more honest a claim, or in other words, the debt due by the government to a creditor, the smaller the chance of its adjustment by congressional enactment. "It is the class of claims," says this correspondent, "which require bolstering, which call for special attorneys, which demand private conversations in committee rooms and work in the lobbies, to which congress gives closest attention, while those which depend upon their honesty and merit fall by the wayside in debate or fall in conference." This is a most uncomplimentary arraignment of congress and one which the American people may dislike to have go out to the world, but unfortunately there is abundant justification for it. Perhaps the time is not remote when a higher sense of duty and honesty will control the action of the people's representatives.

The competition of the American dentists in Vienna has so alarmed the native practitioners that a meeting to consider the matter was recently called. After discussion it was agreed that the American dentist "does not abandon his patient to melancholy reflection, but while attending to his scientific duties discourses, entertainingly upon a variety of subjects." The deceased Yankee.

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE.

In his notes on city government in St. Louis in the Current Century Magazine Dr. Albert Shaw, who is without question the foremost authority in the United States upon problems of municipal management, refers to that city as the most satisfactory exponent of what may be called the most distinctively American system of city government that the country affords on any scale of magnitude. The one great achievement for which St. Louis is to be praised, he says, the completeness with which it has won its liberty and stands for the principle of home rule. He classes it with the "free cities" of the middle ages because its charter, instead of being made for it and conferred upon it by the legislature or some other state agency, was made for it by a body of representative local citizens elected for that purpose and then adopted by the voters of St. Louis at a special election.

Municipal home rule in St. Louis dates from 1878. The constitutional convention which had been in session in Missouri when it found itself face to face with the problem of providing for the government of its chief municipality cut the Gordian knot by referring the whole matter to the people immediately concerned. It provided that the city and county governments might, if they chose, agree to hold a special election in order to choose thirteen men to draw up a scheme for the entire separation of the city from the county and to draft a charter for the reconstituted city. This program was carried out. The city and county governments were consolidated under conditions satisfactory to both. A framework of government was created for the new municipality of which Dr. Shaw speaks enthusiastically, while the great boon which the charter confers lies in his opinion, in the fact that, so far as city affairs are concerned, the assembly is a fully empowered deliberative body free from the periodical interference of legislative intermeddlers.

The example of St. Louis has been followed in a number of other cities in a way to commend it to the attention of all students of American municipal government, and there is no doubt but that in some such scheme of municipal home rule lies the key to our municipal reform. Unfortunately for Omaha, the proposition to submit an amendment to the constitution that would enable it to frame its own charter and secure a limited sphere of independence of legislative domination failed to secure the requisite approval of the two houses of the last legislature. An amendment, however, is pending to be voted on at the election this fall which would, if ratified, enable the city to take one step in the desired direction by merging the governments of city and county and consolidating offices that have to do with analogous duties. Just as half a loaf is better than no loaf, the adoption of this amendment will be the first move toward the much desired municipal home rule which, though delayed, must eventually come to us.

Attorney General Churchill threatens, it is stated by common report, to avenge his defeat in the Douglas county convention by open and relentless warfare upon the state treasury combine which is seeking to retain control for two years more. He professes to be able to unfold a tale which will cause every one of his adversaries to cry for quarter and promises to use the power of his office to their discomfiture. Such a course upon Mr. Churchill's part would doubtless be of great benefit to the state. The surprising thing is that Mr. Churchill has kept this important information to himself so long.

Mayor Bronch has still a great opportunity before him in reforming his business administration of the city's affairs and giving the people the economical municipal government which he so freely promised last fall. In every effort he may make in that direction he will have the cordial support of The Bee. And every official act of the mayor for the promotion of the general public welfare will receive appropriate commendation.

According to the consular reports, the late war between China and Japan did not injure the Chinese trade with foreign nations in the least. But it was a costly luxury for China to pay for which will take the proceeds of its foreign commerce for some time to come.

The original copy of the constitution of the Cuban republic is missing and a reward is offered for its return. A reward for the discovery of the Cuban republic will also be offered and cheerfully paid by the Spanish military authorities in the island. If, as the distillers who are shutting down their distilleries claim, there has been an overproduction of whisky, barroom patrons will soon be wanting to know why it is that the price of toddy has not come down. Mexico now has a female Messiah who confines herself to the predicting business. As long as the demand for divinely inspired mortals holds out we may be sure there will be no dearth in the supply. A Swiss professor of mathematics claims to have invented a bicycle that

will compel the rider to keep an upright sitting posture. If this is so the new Swiss wheel can not be introduced any too soon to suit the lovers of artistic landscapes.

Turned Out that Way. In cutting off the supply of Cuban tobacco hasn't Weyler cut off more than he can chew?

Cheaper to Move. Indianapolis Journal. The few men who are advocating secession in Colorado can get rid of the United States easily by emigrating to Mexico.

Symptoms of the Campaign. Chicago Record. A sure indication of the progress of the campaign is the fresh crop of stories relating how certain presidential candidates like to sit on the corner-grocery cracker boxes and in plain Jeffersonian simplicity swap stories with the greener's boy and the people of the village.

The Entertaining Dentist. Springfield Republican. The competition of the American dentists in Vienna has so alarmed the native practitioners that a meeting to consider the matter was recently called.

More Subject for Less Money. St Paul Pioneer Press. Mr. Tesla's improved electric light, by which 10 per cent. instead of 3 per cent. of the electric power is converted into light, is said to illumine a room so completely that photographs can be taken by it in two seconds.

Church Societies. Chicago Times-Herald. The Presbyterian assembly, after a heated controversy, decided to remain loyal to the Endeavor society, declining to encourage the organization of other rival societies.

The Methodist bishops. The fact that the two new Methodist bishops are both natives of Ohio may be a mere accident, but it serves, nevertheless, to emphasize a certain "stream of tendency" in the country this year. Springfield Republican: The two new bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church are natives of Ohio, as is also the retired Bishop Foster; and six of the sixteen other bishops are also Ohioans. The Ohio monopoly is not confined to politics.

New York Tribune: The deadlock, of a sort, that existed in the Methodist general conference was broken when Dr. McCabe and Dr. Cranston, the two leading candidates, were elected bishops. This result was satisfactory to the conference, and will be to the Methodist body in general. Both the new bishops have high reputations as preachers, and their executive ability has been demonstrated in the important business positions which they have held respectively in this city and Cincinnati.

Philadelphia Times: There is little doubt that the conference selected its two strongest men, if Editor J. M. Buckley of the Christian Advocate, is excepted. McCabe and Cranston led all the other candidates from the start, and but for the rule requiring a two-thirds vote to elect, there would have been no prolonged contest. Both are still in the height of their physical and intellectual vigor, and both have had experience in administrative positions, so that they are well qualified to enter actively upon their new duties.

Globe-Democrat: The fact that the two new Methodist bishops are both natives of Ohio may be a mere accident, but it serves, nevertheless, to emphasize a certain "stream of tendency" in the country this year.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Detroit Free Press: The seven million Christian Endeavorers in the world will learn with interest that the Presbyterian general assembly disclaim any intention of suppressing them. Denver News: Rev. Sylvester says "Man was created for joy." But the bible says he is of few days and full of trouble, and as this is the home-coming time we fear Job had later and better information than the pastor.

Indianapolis Journal: Mrs. Tingley, new head of the Theosophical society, weighs 200 pounds. Malaim Blavatsky was a heavy-weight also. Is there anything in abundance that which tends to esoteric knowledge or to adeptism in occultism just naturally grow fat?

Chicago Post: A Peru, Ind., church is said to have fired off arier coppers, ice cream festivals and other regulation affairs in the eating line, and to have given a "baby banquet." We admit that it was an innovation, and only regret that the item fails to tell how they were cooked or served.

Brooklyn Eagle: There are to be no man hunts in the Presbyterian general assembly this year. Heresy is, of course, a very bad thing, but the pursuit of it is worse. The men who ignite themselves with coals from the altar of hate, in order the more fervently to do the work of the Lord are to be forgiven.

Chicago Tribune: Rev. C. M. Winchester of Middletown, N. Y., is the owner of a park and an advocate of the bloomer for women. So much for that. It is a beautiful thing that women bicyclists ride who do not wear bloomers cannot enter his park. Mr. Winchester may think it a beautiful costume, or he may be near-sighted and think it a beautiful costume, but the shorts indicate he is not in the least short-sighted, and therefore thinks it an attractive costume, and attraction is what he wants for the park. There is no doubt Mr. Winchester's experiment will be watched with interest, but this has caused the doom of bloomers elsewhere—that they were watched with interest.

Chicago Record: "My husband always walks past the hat rack and puts his hat on the piano." "Almo used to do so, too, but I cured him." "How did you do it?" "I moved the piano into the hall and brought the hat rack into the parlor."

New York World: "I never seem to be able to agree with you," she said. "Yet," he retorted, "I distinctly remember your being on my side on one occasion."

Indianapolis Journal: "Come, old man," said the kind friend, "cheer up. There are others." "No," replied the other, "I have not broken the engagement so very much, but the despondent young man." "But to think that I have got to go on paying the installments on the ring for a year to come yet. That is what jars me."

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Chicago's record as a haven of agitated zephyrs appears to be hopelessly in the past. The first batch of oranges grown in Italy from Florida seeds were landed in New York last week. Greater New York is talking of running the great cars at a profit. The city is the source of the town in that respect are unlimited.

A rocky section of a Boston suburb shows unmistakable signs of gold. The discovery promises to vary the hub's weakness for literary rocks. The Chicago Chronicle has just passed the first milestone in its path. For an infant of 12 months, it shows remarkable physique and lung power and a full set of teeth actively employed in masticating the dishonest dollar. The Chronicle was not born with a golden spoon in its mouth. It achieved success by deserting it.

The yearly income of the Gold family from its holdings and Western Union and Manhattan is about \$4,500,000. George Gold, the head of the family, gives just enough care to his business to see that the income comes in regularly. He would rather talk fishing than finance, and prefers Farlow lodge in the woods to 195 Broadway and Russell Sage's talk.

A touching scene at the funeral of Christian Bennett, at Mount Pleasant, Mich., occurred recently, when Emma Yawba, an aged Indian woman, who has for years been without support of any kind, save that received by charity, passed down the room and, gazing steadily into the casket, murmured: "Oh, my son Bennett," and then with streaming eyes lifted her hand and, pointing heavenward, muttered a prayer in the Indian language. The dead man had never refused to help the old woman, and she had practically lived on his bounty.

No less than a dozen court cases sprang from a blush that purpled the cheek of a male gossip monger of Flatbush, a solemn and sedate suburb of Brooklyn. The owner of the wagging tongue saw a young widow tripping over a muddy gutter and also saw a pair of well-rounded ankles. "Did his eyes deceive him?" N. Y. say. Shocked, he looked again to make assurance doubly sure. The sight set his tongue in action, started a family row, three fights and much squabbling. Peace was restored by the court muzzling the original blabber.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

An empty head and a rattling tongue go well together. The hypocrite in politics can double discount the hypocrite in the church.

God's way of making a man rich has always been to first make him righteous. Prayers are sometimes made in church that the devil would like to see answered. Money that has the blood of the poor upon it cannot be of any real benefit to the rich.

There are too many people in the church who have religion only on one side—the outside. Perhaps more people in your neighborhood would want religion, if you would show them what it is.

A preacher does not help the Lord any by preaching more truth than he is willing to live up to. Bread cast on the water may sink out of sight, but sooner or later it will come back to the top.

DOMESTIC IDYLS.

Chicago Times-Herald: Persons who lack spirit, try a course of boarding house strawberries.

Chicago Tribune: "You've been going to see her three years and don't dare to call her by her first name? Well, you are wanting your time. You're courting the wrong girl." "No, she's the right girl. I'm afraid the trouble is that I'm the wrong man."

Detroit Free Press: "After a man has reached the age of forty," said Mr. Dimbrow, "he thinks every good looking woman he sees is in love with him." "I am sure, my dear," retorted Mr. D., "I have never accused you."

Washington Star: "And I am fully able to support your daughter, sir," the young man said, in conclusion. "I dunno, I dunno," said the parson, thoughtfully. "Her last three husbands all claimed she was insupportable."

Chicago Record: "My husband always walks past the hat rack and puts his hat on the piano." "Almo used to do so, too, but I cured him." "How did you do it?" "I moved the piano into the hall and brought the hat rack into the parlor."

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UNDER THE WILLOW.

Written for The Bee. The willow bends low over the grave where he sleeps. And silent watch, like a sentinel, keeps. And in arms outstretched in motherly care, Seems to lovingly guard the hallowed spot there.

Where our soldier lies sleeping. The night winds are singing a requiem low. And the stream flows past, so solemn and slow. While holly and calm, from the silent skies, The stars look down with pitying eyes.

Where our soldier lies sleeping. Then bring the bright flowers, the pansies and roses. Bring this offering of love, these beautiful posies; And make of the blossoms a sweet, fragrant pillow. To lay on the bed beneath the green willow.

Where our soldier lies sleeping. BELLIE E. HOWELL. Good Night. Good night. Ah, good the night. That wraps thee in its silver light. Good night. No night is good for me. That does not hold a thought of thee.

Good night. Good night. Be every night as sweet. As that which made our love complete. As that which last night for thee shall be. As that brief "Good night" for death and me. Good night.

A Parable. Thomas Bailey Aldrich. One went east and one went west Across the wild sea foam, And both were on the straitsame quest. Now, one there was who cared for naught. So stayed at home; Yet of the three was only he Who reached the goal—by him unsought.

Advertisement for Browning & Co. featuring a large illustration of the store building and text: 'Getting Ready to Remodel. The Old Store, 15th and Doug's. Just as soon as we can dispose of our present stock—the largest we've had in years—we will begin remodeling our present store building, which we intend to transform into the finest clothing store in the west—to suit the requirements of our constantly increasing business—To do this we will—commencing Monday morning, June 1st—sell all our Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing at 20 Per Cent Discount. A genuine and sweeping reduction that will enable you to buy our Every suit marked in plain figures—giving you choice at 80 cents on the dollar—Finest Clay Worsted Prince Alberts and Professional Frocks—latest summer fashions and patterns—all the boys' and children's suits—everything included—not a single suit reserved—everything at 20 per cent discount—We're not given to extravagant statements or, misleading advertising—you'll find these bargains on our counters as well as on paper. We've told you the plain, simple truth in a plain, simple way, and You can't afford to stay away. Largest Manufacturers of Fine Clothing in the World. Browning & Co., S. W. COR. 15TH AND DOUGLAS.