

OMAHA ILLUSTRATED BEE.

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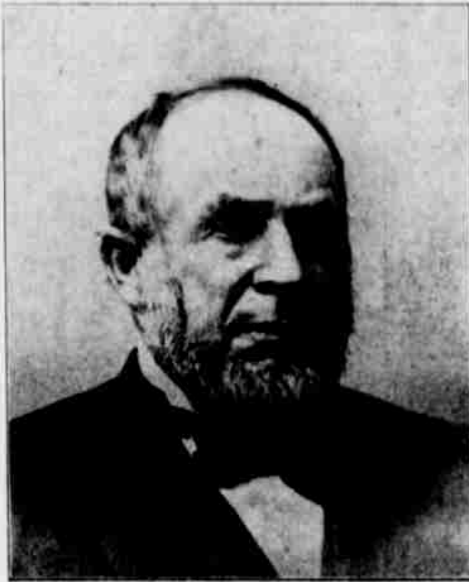
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Pen and Picture Pointers

The frontispiece of The Bee today introduces A. R. Kelly, the republican candidate for mayor of South Omaha, in whose lead the republicans of that thriving city are waging a campaign for the capture of the city government to be determined at the municipal election of April 3 next. Mr. Kelly is a live stock commission man who has served in the city council several terms and whose nomination has been acquiesced in by all the party leaders of the city, who agree that at no time were republican prospects better there than this year.

One of our interesting pictures shows the dedication ceremonies of the soldiers' monument erected in Columbus, Neb., and dedicated March 15 to the memory of the union veterans of 1861-65. The idea of a soldiers' monument for Columbus was first conceived by James R. Meagher and Henry T. Spoerry, two members of Baker post No. 9, Grand Army of the Republic, of Columbus. In the early spring of 1898 Mr. Meagher received a general letter stating that the government had some old discarded pieces of ordnance which it would donate to Grand Army of the Republic posts. This suggested the idea that



AN OMAHA PIONEER—THE LATE H. H. VISSCHER.

they would be a very appropriate adjunct to a monument and work was commenced along this line. The monument was built entirely by subscriptions and cost nearly \$2,500. The first base stone is eleven feet square and rests on a concrete foundation, which extends several feet into the earth. There are two smaller base stones and then comes the die, which is highly polished, and on the sides are inscribed the names of 137 veterans of the civil war, giving the state, company and regiment in which they saw service. From here the granite shaft extends upward about twenty feet and the top is surmounted with a large bronze eagle with a six-foot spread of wings. The total height of the monument is thirty-one feet. It is built of the best grade of Vermont granite and will endure for ages.

The two large cannon are five-inch rifles of an old pattern and were used in the Pacific coast defense. They were shipped here from Benicia, Cal. They are mounted on granite pedestals and have their muzzles pointing toward the south.

The death of H. H. Visscher at Pasadena, Cal., removes one of the old-time pioneers of Omaha who was one of the moving spirits in the building of the city in its early stages. Henry Hamilton Visscher was born of Dutch stock in Fairfield, Herkimer, county, N. Y., July 21, 1819. He lived in New York state all the earlier years of his life, removing to Omaha in the year 1857. He traveled by way of St. Louis and came up the river by boat, arriving here when there were but few houses in the town. An architect, contractor and builder, he erected many of the structures known now as the old landmarks of the city, including the First Presbyterian church and the High school. He at one time built what was known as the Visscher block on the present site of the Millard hotel, which was afterwards removed to Sixteenth and Davenport streets, where it now stands. Mr. Visscher took his family to Pasadena in the fall of 1883, when that city also was in embryo, having resided there ever since, where he had acquired considerable property. He was a lifelong staunch whig and republican, although taking no special part in politics. Some of his family still survive him, two or three of them living in Omaha.

Not one person in fifty in Omaha has any adequate idea of the interest and value attaching to the collection of coins, books and manuscripts bequeathed to the public by the late Byron Reed of this city and open to public inspection at the public library building. In most of its departments this collection is matched by few in the United States and is deserving of the attention

and study of every person who wants to be informed on such subjects. An article on another page gives outline information about this too little known public institution, together with appropriate illustrations.

One of our illustrations reproduces a snapshot of the men at work on the new Sixteen street viaduct, which, as all can see, will be a substantial structure. The best study of the working classes is the laborer at his work and these pictures of actual wage-workers at their daily tasks are the next best thing to a personal visit to the scene of action.

About Noted People

Governor Roosevelt was a guest at the recent Lotus club dinner in New York to the Gridiron club of Washington, and after hearing the visitors unmercifully quiz some other notables present he endeavored to conciliate the newspaper men by saying that he knew them of old. "Of course you do; we made you," was the chorused reply, and Teddy's overthrow was worse than that of any other victim.

While in Washington a day or two ago ex-Speaker Reed was asked what he thought of the Porto Rico muddle, but declined to be quoted, saying: "I have a reputation for piety and chaste language to preserve." To the remark that congress needed him a the capital to tell them what to do, Mr Reed made this drawing reply: "Well they don't seem to need any one to tell them whom to do."

General Cronje's property near Potchefstroom consists of more than 6,000 acres. The farm house is a one-story building, and is furnished with the utmost simplicity. Its owner is essentially a sportsman and a lover of open air life. He dislikes city life, and for that reason has persistently declined to become a candidate for the Transvaal presidency—an office the holding of which involves the necessity of living in Pretoria.

"You are looking pretty well," said ex-Speaker Reed to Senator McComas, in Washington. "And you are looking both pretty and well," said Senator McComas to ex-Speaker Reed. All of which goes to show that the junior senator from Maryland is something of a diplomat himself. And the funny part of the incident is that Reed blushed like a schoolgirl and seemed tickled to death.

"It is a fact little known in this country," says the Chicago Tribune, "that the strong character of the president of the South African republic was molded by the teaching of an American minister who went out to South Africa in 1835 from North Carolina. In that year Rev. Dr. Daniel Lindley, then a young clergyman, was preaching at the Rocky River Presbyterian church, near Charlotte, N. C. He was appointed a missionary, and went out to the then Dark continent, being, it is claimed, the first Protestant missionary in South Africa. One of his first pupils was the young Paul Kruger, who was converted under his preaching, and for whom he contracted a great liking. Dr. Lindley returned home to North Carolina for a visit ten years later and people still living in Charlotte remember that he talked much of the young Kruger."

When the late Richard W. Thompson was secretary of the navy under the Hayes administration, the secretary of Congressman Leopold Morse of Massachusetts called on him, at Mr. Morse's request, to inquire if



MAYORALTY CONTEST IN COUNCIL BLUFFS—DR. JAMES M. BARSTOW, REPUBLICAN NOMINEE.

something could not be done for a young man, then resident in Boston, who was an applicant for an appointment as a cadet in the navy, but whose application had been rejected by the medical examining board because of a physical infirmity. The young man was the son of a widowed mother whose husband had served gallantly in the navy and who had died in the service. After all the circumstances of the case had been related to Secretary Thompson he consulted the record and straightway issued the following order: "Physical disqualification waived in this case. The navy needs more of this young man's fighting blood." So the appointee is today a gallant officer in the navy, and is as able-bodied as he is gallant.

Bunch of Short Stories

One day in a town where he was to lecture, relates the Home Journal, Mr. Beecher went into a barber shop to be shaved. The barber, not knowing him, asked him whether he was going to hear Beecher lecture.

"I guess so," was the reply. "Well," continued the barber, "if you haven't got a ticket you can't get one. They're all sold and you'll have to stand." "That's just my luck," said Mr. Beecher. "I always did have to stand when I've heard that man talk."

The palm for absent-mindedness should be accorded to a learned German professor, reports Collier's Weekly. One day he noticed his wife placing a bunch of flowers on his desk. "What do they mean?" he asked.

"Why," she exclaimed, "don't you know that this is the anniversary of your marriage?"

"Ah, indeed—is it?" said the professor

politely. "Kindly let me know when yours comes round and I will return your attention in kind."

Just after the speaker had made up his committees, relates the New York Tribune, a member from the middle west approached him one day and, shaking him genially by the hand, said:

"I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker; I am on a fine committee."

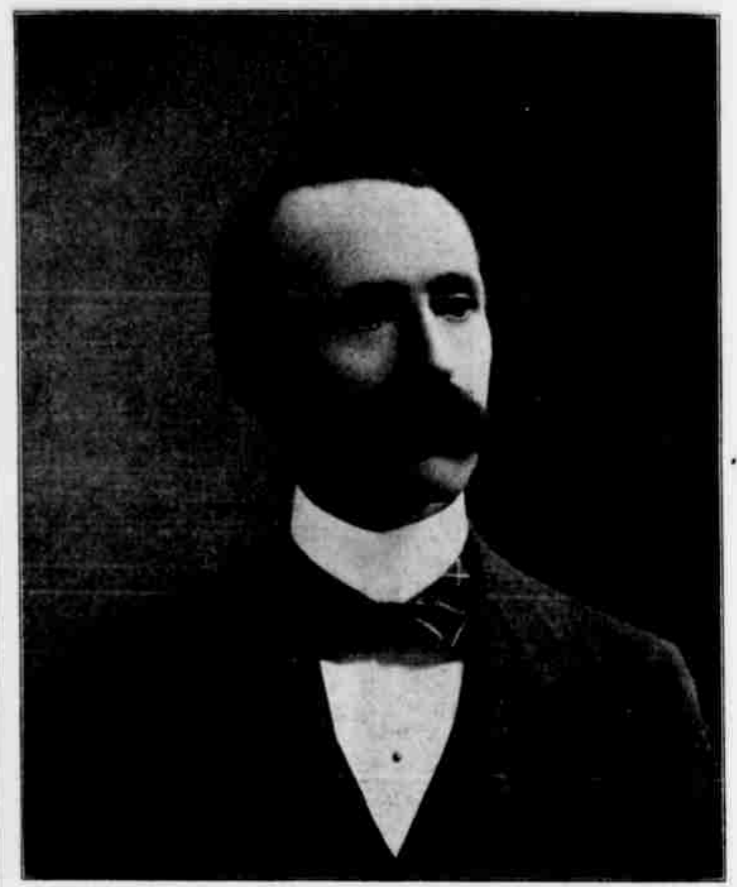
Mr. Henderson smiled broadly. He was receiving more complaints than thanks in those days and words of commendation were dear to him. "I am glad you are satisfied," he replied; "I like to please—the boys when I can."

The member laughed grimly: "Of course you know what committee I refer to," he said, "the committee of the whole, but I wouldn't mind if you could find me a chair on some other committee, too; I think I could do the work of both."

The dry humor which prompted this incident pleased the speaker immensely and his colleague did not ask in vain.

Governor Shaw of Iowa had amusing experiences with newspaper men during a recent visit down east. "One reporter," he said, "referred to me as 'a dapper little old man;' another said my clothes didn't fit me, and that I was 'no orator, according to classical standards,' but the funniest compliment I ever received was during the campaign last fall in my own state. After I had made a speech before a crowd that had gathered to hear a debate between Jim Weaver and myself, an old farmer pushed his way through to where I stood, grasped my hand, and said, with every indication of sincere admiration:

"Governor, that was a fine speech—an



MAYORALTY CONTEST IN COUNCIL BLUFFS—VICTOR JENNINGS, DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE.

excellent speech! Do you know, you remind me very strongly of Abraham Lincoln in your powers of illustration! Of course, you are a better-looking man than Lincoln was." Then stepping back and taking another look at me from head to feet, and evidently intending to emphasize the compliment, he added: "But not much, either!"

The wife of the admiral of the navy is noted for her brightness at repartee. At



PRIZE COSTUME AT DANISH MASQUERADE BALL, OMAHA—MARTIN J. ANDRUP AS OOM PAUL KRUGER.

the time of her engagement to the hero of Manila Bay, relates the Philadelphia Post, she was much annoyed at the publicity given to her every movement, and very sensitive to criticism. An editor of one of the Washington papers called to her over the telephone one day in regard to a photograph that had been sent to him to use in a descriptive article.

"It is so poor," explained the editor, who was an old friend of Mrs. Dewey's, "that I dislike to use it. Are you sure you know which one I refer to?"

"Oh, yes," said Mrs. Dewey, "that's all right."

"But I don't think it is all right," said the editor. "Don't you want justice done you?"

"No," replied Mrs. Dewey, "I only hope for mercy."

Pointed Paragraphs

Chicago News: An act of charity usually discounts an act of heroism.

It never hurts the value of gold to call it filthy lucre.

Usually the harder a man works the more he earns for others.

When a baby cries it never sheds sufficient tears to drown the noise.

It sometimes happens that a homely woman doubts the accuracy of mirrors.

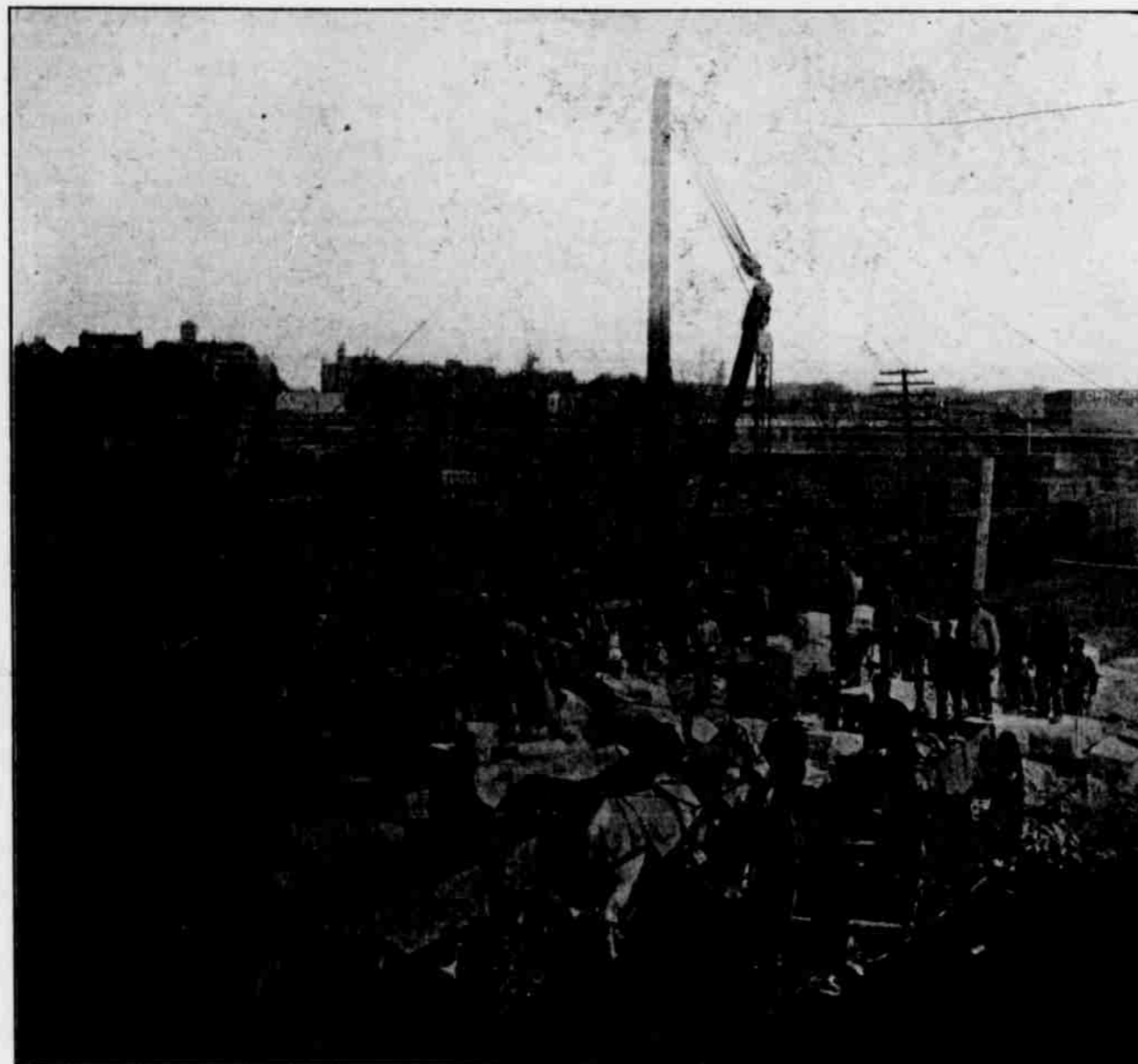
The average man has more money back of him than he can see ahead of him.

It's always difficult for a man to understand why a woman doesn't like him.

Cupid's pictures resemble him about as much as courtship resembles marriage.

The world may owe a man a living, but he has to collect it on the installment plan.

It makes some people miserable to find anything less annoying than they expected.



HARD AT WORK ON NEW SIXTEENTH STREET VIADUCT, OMAHA.