

We do not desire any explanation whatever of a letter or note of character; and we will not undertake to preserve, or to return to the sender, any such communication. Our staff is sufficiently large to more than supply our limited space in that direction.

REAL NAME OF WRITER. In full, must be each and every case accompany any communication of what nature soever. This is not intended for publication, but for our own information, and to prevent any mistake in the name of the contributor.

COUNTRY FRIENDS. We will always be glad to hear from our friends in all countries, and on all matters connected with the country, and on any subject of general interest to the people. Any information received in this way, and relating to the country, etc., will be gladly received. All communications, however, must be accompanied by the name of the contributor, and the address to which they should be sent.

POLITICAL. Communications of candidates for office should be sent to the Editor, and not to the printer. Communications of a personal and private nature will be charged as advertisements.

NOTICE. On and after October twenty-first, 1874, the city directory of the OMAHA BEE is assumed by Mr. Edwin Davis, to whom orders for advertisements not paid at the office will be payable, and by whom all receipts for advertisements will be countersigned.

REAPPOINTMENT. The proposition to call an extra session of the present Legislature for the purpose of reappointing the legislative representation and calling a constitutional convention, has already been briefly reviewed by the BEE. General Vilquin resumes his arguments in favor of his peculiar plan in another column.

General Vilquin Returns to the Charge. At HOME, SALINE CO., March 26, 1874.

EDITOR OMAHA BEE: Inasmuch that I have failed in convincing you of the propriety of having an extra session of the Legislature called (as I see in your yesterday's daily) for the purpose to re-appoint and re-district the State, sometime this summer, so as to allow the best to elect members for the next Legislature at the next October general election, I am, sir, compelled to claim once again the favor of your columns, for the purpose to show that if you object to my proposition upon the simple ground of technicalities, I can give you a precedent to go by.

As to the question of whether it is wicked or not, I am somewhat ashamed to make so many appeals to the sense of the public, or to others to remedy an injustice, save a *flagrant outrage* upon a portion of our fellow citizens.

Precedents are in matter of law, held very often as final in the decision of our courts, and it is a precedent upon more or less the present mode of affairs; and a lawyer's talent is, I presume, in proportion to the depth he has to dig to find precedents—so that a precedent of two or three hundred years' standing, based upon the wants of that day, I suppose, better than a plain fact based upon the wants of the people at this day; for this reason, sir, I am somewhat doubtful of our precedents. Besides if precedents are necessary, or may be so, for certain decisions upon statute laws, it is a matter of doubt with me, if they are also necessary upon constitutional law as you and others do infer. Being simply a farmer, I hope you will excuse my poor knowledge of the law, if it is not in full accordance with the spirit of the law. I have thus far only founded my personal basis of such a knowledge upon my most recent desire to read the law, and abiding citizen, and noble for the precedent.

Will you please look over the laws of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Nebraska for the year 1864, and you will find on pages 188-189, the appointment of our then Territory. Then, sir, you will find on page 61-62 you will find another appointment and districting of our State, which do not correspond with the one of 1864. Now, sir, if you look upon Sec. 144 of the schedule of our present constitution you will, I presume, come to the conclusion that the law passed and approved June 16, 1867, was dreadfully unconstitutional.

By your interpretation of Sec. 3 Art. 2 of the constitution, the law which redistricted the State except in 1870 and 1875; will you then tell me how it was done in 1867, more than one year after the adoption of our present constitution and organization as a State in this Union?

I am informed by reliable authorities, sir, that the law of June 16, 1867, was under discussion in the unconstitutionality was discussed by the opponents of the law, and they were sustained by the majority of the State, and that of our Legislature is not a fair one. In common with many others I think our judiciary system is sound, but nevertheless we all suffer equally from the evil, and in the whole, there are no favors shown by it to the eastern portion of the State, which we can not procure equally in the western part.

My friends, Miller, Wackly and Woolworth, as well as the Hon. John Tappan, may tell you that in the main I am correct as to the facts; and in Nebraska you will know "the oldest settler, and so forth," is somewhat of a notorious authority, and it is plain to see from the wind blew in 1867, and whereas it does not blow in 1874.

We hope much from a new constitution, and that all evidence in divorce cases shall be heard in open court.

When a devoted wife holds her husband out at arm's length by his sore ear, and says she wouldn't crush a worm, he realizes, all at once, that she is a woman, and wonderfully women are made.

A Pittsburg woman says that 1,000 reporters' souls could dance upon the point of a needle. This is a very good illustration of the soul's frequency of looking his fellow-men up in the face.

The N. Y. Sun is of the opinion that a man can lie and traduce in attitude of prayer with greater ease than he can in the ordinary methods. He says he has seen a man who was so much in the habit of praying that he was frequently discussing by the medieval monks.

My love, said a romantic Brooklyn youth, leaning tenderly over a fair-haired girl, "My love, can you articulate your hopes with the sweet duties of wifehood?" "No," she beauty replied, "but my doctor says I am a bully bone-artist."

be no doubt, whatever as to the regularity of the proceedings."

The Journal ought to have known that the reason why the returns for members of the Legislature are not sealed up and canvassed in joint Convention is because the Constitution provides expressly that each House shall be the sole judge of the election and qualification of its members.

The plea that the Constitution can be construed to mean a local canvass by county Clerks, is just as absurd as is the definition that "general elections" does not positively imply elections for State officers. The fact is that members of the Legislature may be elected at special elections, but State officers never can be. The Governor may authorize County Clerks to canvass the vote on constitution in his proclamation just as he may do anything else not authorized by law. Even if this mode was adopted how, when and where would the canvass be made in order to come within the strict meaning of law. If not lawful what binding force could the Legislature attach to it?

The allusion of the Journal touching our motives in arguing against measures which would be, in our opinion, impracticable and illegal, are both ungenerous and baseless. The BEE favored the defeated new Constitution from conviction and principle. It will favor any measure that will do justice to all sections of the State regardless of local interests. At the same time it will not advocate a departure from established law even at the risk of being accused of selfishness and partiality.

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Archbishop Manning, of London, is the greatest cardinal in the world. There is no red hat to be sent westward across the Atlantic!

The Rev. Dr. Parker, of London, announces that in his new church, the City Temple, now nearly completed, there is to be a new church for American visitors, which will be distinguished by an American eagle.

Pere Hyacinthe and the Old Catholic Bishop Reinkens, of Germany, are at variance. Pere Loysen repudiates the latter's jurisdiction, and the Bishop's official organ replies that the prelate has never claimed a connection with him since his marriage three light upon his revolt from Roman Catholicism.

classic arguments of "frontier mushroom politicians and political demagogues" as per BEE of March 18th.

We fight for the right, and mean to win, too. Yours Very Truly, VICTOR VILQUIN.

RELIGIOUS NOTES. Rev. Hammond is at Galveston, Texas.

The Missouri M. E. Conference sitting at Hannibal, has adjourned after five days session.

The Episcopal residence of the Bishop of Iowa is completed, at a cost of \$20,000, all of which is paid.

The taxation of church property is one of the live topics not only of the religious, but also of the secular press.

At White Plains, N. Y., during the recent "revival," over one hundred persons have claimed to be converted.

The Cheney-Whitehouse ecclesiastical trial is still "on" in Chicago. In its way it is a sort of parallel to the Tichborne case.

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The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher makes this sensible reply in the *Christian Union* to a query as to whether it is wicked to dance. "It is wicked when it is wicked, and not wicked when it is not wicked. In itself it has no more moral character than walking, reading, or rowing. But when it is used for hours, evil dances, may make the exercises evil; good company, wholesome hours, and home influences, may make it a very great benefit."

The American Catholic Pilgrims to Rome will leave New York about the 16th of May. On leaving at Brest or Havre, the pilgrims will probably proceed to the shrine at Lourdes, and afterwards to the two days of devotions, will proceed to Rome and pay homage to His Holiness, Pius IX. After a sojourn of several days in the Eternal City, the pilgrims will terminate. Each person, however, will be furnished by the Committee of Management with a first class return ticket for home via Havre, Bremen, Liverpool. The cost of the journey, estimated at \$250, gold, will, however, entirely depend on the number of devotees, and any balance remaining after payment of expenses will be distributed *pro rata*. The committee of management will take with them a contribution called "Peter's Pence," from the Catholics of America; to the Pope, and it is said that votive money offerings will be sent from the chief cities of the Union.

MATRIMONIALITIES. First anniversary—Iron. Tenth anniversary—Tin. Fifteenth anniversary—Crystal. Twentieth anniversary—China. Twenty-fifth anniversary—Silver. Thirtieth anniversary—Cotton. Thirty-fifth anniversary—Linen. Forty-fifth anniversary—Woolen. Fifty-fifth anniversary—Silk. Sixty-fifth anniversary—Gold. Seventy-fifth anniversary—Diamond.

Sugar wedding—Marrying a "candy man" for a marriage fee. Wooden wedding—Marrying a perfect stick. Tin wedding—The one that "pans out" well. Crystal wedding—Marrying one addicted to the glass. Silver wedding—Marrying a gray-beard. Golden wedding—When the groom is a minor and the bride is a little vain. Diamond wedding—When the jilting doesn't hurt a man worth a cent.

Iowa Courts have decided that jilting doesn't hurt a man worth a cent.

When Mrs. Baker married Mr. Calder, the honeymoon was a calendar month.

An Oshkosh judge lately received four boxes of soap for a marriage fee. Could this be considered clean cash?

A report from Nice says that a Philadelian lady is shortly to be married to an Italian marquis, of large fortune.

King Koffee keeps 3,333 wives under the same roof with his magazine of military munitions. They do about as he says.

Because a resident of Laporte, Ind., got married immediately upon hearing of his wife's death, he was burnt in effigy by the indignant inhabitants.

OVER THE DAM. Ye, life is a swift running river, and the boat is the man of his life.

Well, with me it was mighty smooth sailing. But the boat was so heavy that it sank. And the river was so shallow that it ran dry. And the wind was so strong that it blew me down. And the water was so hot that it boiled me. And the sun was so bright that it blinded me. And the rain was so heavy that it drowned me. And the lightning was so loud that it scared me. And the thunder was so great that it shook me. And the earthquake was so strong that it broke me. And the volcano was so hot that it melted me. And the hurricane was so fast that it carried me. And the typhoon was so fierce that it destroyed me. And the cyclone was so wild that it scattered me. And the storm was so terrible that it annihilated me. And the flood was so high that it submerged me. And the drought was so long that it starved me. And the famine was so great that it starved me. And the pestilence was so deadly that it killed me. And the war was so cruel that it mangled me. And the death was so final that it ended me.

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A small boy arose at a Sunday school concert, and began quizzing glibly: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell—and fell—(here his memory began to fail him)—and—and—by the roadside, and the thorns sprang up and choked him."—[Exchange.

A learned Jew, of the orthodox faith, the Chief Rabbi Astruc, asserts in the *Revue de Belgique* that Jonah did not go into the whale's belly. He says the book was written two centuries after the death of the prophet Jonah and was not intended to be historical, but that the whole incident was avowedly a parable introduced to teach the Jews a lesson on their exclusiveness. The Rabbi Astruc was evidently unable to untie the Gordian knot of Jonah's getting through the small orifice of a whale's throat, and so cut it by calling the whole story a fable with a highly moral purpose.

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