

THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

This Council Bluffs board of trade are more interested than at present in a home barge line than that proposed here upon to St. Louis.

The Union Pacific should at once make arrangements for a permanent flat boat transfer at Dillonville, or else build an elevated railway to connect the bridge with the pool lines.

The "star route" service which is being so thoroughly ventilated by Postmaster General James is mail service over special routes by land and water outside the regular lines of railroads and steamers.

The Connecticut Legislature, in attempting to pass laws restraining the practice of medicine by persons not properly qualified, fits itself in an awkward dilemma by the Spirituallists of the State, who openly announce that they will get even at the next election if their clairvoyant doctors are interfered with.

This statement has been made that the sale of postage cards has decreased the sale of writing paper in the United States \$12,000,000 annually. In the first place, according to figures given by the Springfield Republican, the sale of writing paper has not decreased at all, and, in the second place, the amount now manufactured in a year is not worth \$10,000,000, including that used for blank books, envelopes and other purposes requiring sized paper.

It costs a large amount of money to run even a republican government. The sum of \$1,630,000 is required to pay the salaries of the members of the House of Representatives and their assistants. In addition to this the last House voted itself \$125 for each member for newspapers and postage stamps, making an additional \$87,726.

The authorities along the western border of Russia have received explicit orders to survey all packages, letters, and freight coming from Switzerland, with double watchfulness. Reported detectives have been stationed at all the ports of entry along that border to assist the officers stationed there in their duties.

Mr. Thompson's general supervision of the railway mail service has rendered the thanks of the department to the Union Pacific railway and to Mr. Vandervoort, the chief clerk of the service at Omaha for the energy and promptness displayed in transferring the Australian mail. This card of thanks draws forth from the great Nebraska bellebore the following eloquent comment:

The Herald continues to acknowledge the exceptional service of Post Vandervoort in bringing the mails over that ugly river in spite of either flood or storm. When it is necessary to take responsibility he takes it. Letters and papers on our table attest the sustained vigor of his work against all sorts of difficulties.

Now we are very much pleased to know that the American mails have received such vigorous attention at the hands of Vandervoort and the Union Pacific, but we would be a good deal more pleased if the American mails would receive some of this attention. Letters and papers on the table of the editor of the Herald may show sustained vigor on the part of Vandervoort, but letters and papers on our table show the most inexcusable negligence in the transfer and handling of mails at this point.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE-CLEANING.

General Garfield's administration begins its labor of government house cleaning with vigor which commends itself to the tax-payers of this country and strikes consternation and terror among the corrupt jobbers who have infested the national capital.

Postmaster General James has sounded the key note of practical reform by unearthing and breaking up the "Star route" ring that has robbed the government of millions of dollars every year. If he follows up this noble work he will discover another branch in the postal service department if anything more corrupt than the contract office. Six years ago this paper created a sensation in the postoffice department by calling attention to the phony frauds in the weighting of mails whereby vast sums were pocketed by railroad corporations for transporting mails which they did not carry.

The late Mr. Bangs was the head of the railway mail service and our charge seemed to excite him to such a degree that he came to Omaha and sought to make a very lame explanation of crooked transactions which transpired at the Union Pacific terminus. It was at a period when the rings had their representatives on the floor of the Senate, in the Dorsey, Pattersons of South Carolina, Spencers of Alabama, Hitchcocks of Nebraska, and that class of commercial statesmen, who figured in almost every scheme of public plunder. Hence the exposure we then made about the frauds in the weighting of mails failed to receive much attention.

The collection in the weighing of mails have continued from year to year by collusion between the railroad managers and corrupt postal officials. The postoffice is not the only department where the jobbers and swindlers have been operating. If President Garfield will extend his government house cleaning operation, to the Interior department he will find that Stephen W. Dorsey has been very intimate with the commissioner of the Land Office. If Secretary Kirkwood can induce Surveyor General Atkinson to tell him the names of the New Mexico ring in which Mr. Dorsey and some high officials in the general land office have had a hand, he will get the key to a good many other schemes of profit and plunder in which the government has been the sufferer.

The reform inaugurated by Mr. Garfield is of a different order. It strikes at the root of corruption by breaking up rings, in the removal of dishonest heads of bureaus and supplanting them by reputable business men who would in the past afford a reasonable guarantee of fidelity and honesty.

The ladies of the Omaha Relief Society deserve great credit and praise for their labors in the past in relieving destitution and distress in our midst. We regret exceedingly that the failure to secure a fifty year lease from the City Council for a lot, which they desired to utilize for a Home for the Friendless and Industrial School, should have so offended their tender sensibilities as to cause them to disband. These ladies evidently labor under the delusion that the City Council has the right to give away the property of the city, which is entrusted to their care.

They display a good deal of the weakness of their sex when they petulantly throw up their hands because they can't get just what they ask, and it is hardly in accord with the spirit of true Christian benevolence for those ladies to say that they will let the destitute go hungry and naked because the city does not donate them a lot for a hospital or an asylum.

The Star Route Steal.

Washington Letter to the New York Times. Those who claim to know all points of the investigation, which being made into the star route ring, say the half has not yet been made public, and will not be until measures are taken to bring Brady to justice and the penitentiary if possible.

The whole steal is distributed between what is known as the Dorsey gang and Miner and Salisbury parties, the latter being by far the most extensive operators in the swindle. The Dorsey gang is composed of J. W. Dorsey, J. M. Peck and J. R. Miner, who have acted as allies for Stephen W. Dorsey, ex senator from Arkansas, and secretary of the republican national committee, bidding for gold being the present object of the party.

The present struggle for gold being the present object of the party, during the long armed conflict which followed the breaking out of the first French revolution and the fall of Napoleon, the constant acquisition of gold and silver by most European powers was a matter of vital necessity, and in relative proportion to their national strength, specie payments were suspended for international obligations, were then generally suspended and the military money became the chief reserve of the nation.

These events created in their turn an important diversion in the movement of gold, and occurring in quick succession it is only surprising that the result was not a more general disturbance. When Germany in 1871, with the French indemnity fund of \$500,000,000, had to pay for the purchase of the world found its ultimate destination in Europe, and there seemed room enough for at least a second exclusive gold currency among the leading commercial nations of the continent.

But it is one thing to coin gold and another to retain it in circulation. Bismarck is now thoroughly impressed with this fact, and has also come to believe that while it is possible for England to maintain the single gold standard in conjunction with the trade, it is impossible for Germany to do so without a high protective tariff. It may eventually discover that the absorption of gold by the United States is making that metal too scarce in Europe to permit of its use as a single standard by Germany under any circumstances.

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PERSONALITIES.

Wagner, the composer, affects cats; and the Boston Globe says: "So does his music."

Mary Anderson says it is a three hours' job for an actress to have her photograph taken, and she will never pass through the ordeal again. The author of the new song, "My Home is on the Tensing Sea," has lived ever since he was born at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1,800 miles from salt water.

Long John Wentworth, of Chicago, has been vaccinated fourteen different times, and yet he is never easy in the company of a man with a pimple on his nose. Down at Lancaster, Ohio, it cost John Dood \$5,000 to chew one of John Gould's ears off. Ere long such unbecomingly will be too expensive for the latter.

Whitlaw Reid will never desert Mr. Jay Gould, although he will take a vacation of six months for his wedding tour. Evidently the Reclin mission is a matrimonial one.

Billings, having pledged his word to his royal sister, Queen Victoria, to decline her hospitality further, will come in as soon as the sailing is done. Perhaps you didn't know the Earl of Perth and his just as well you did. He's bankrupt to the tune of \$270,000, and his assets consist of a four-ounce dog and a cat.

Mr. Russell Sage, one of New York's men of affairs, is a republican to the other day. "Yes, I began at the bottom of the ladder in Troy, N. Y. When I was a young man my wife assisted me to earn a living by making collars and cuffs for a Trojan manufacturer."

Chief Chopico, who took part in the Fort Dade massacre, still lives in the swamps of southern Florida. He is well and is now a great success. He dresses in the costume of his forefathers, lives in rude style, doesn't do any work and is as happy as a cabinet officer in the city of New York.

THE GOLD PROBLEM.

San Francisco Chronicle. The present struggle for gold being the present object of the party, during the long armed conflict which followed the breaking out of the first French revolution and the fall of Napoleon, the constant acquisition of gold and silver by most European powers was a matter of vital necessity, and in relative proportion to their national strength, specie payments were suspended for international obligations, were then generally suspended and the military money became the chief reserve of the nation.

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