

THE OMAHA BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPS.
E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

Now that it costs but two cents to send a letter, perhaps Mr. Laird will answer the specific charges made against him by the press of Omaha.

THE army record of the Hon. James W. Savage, is one of which he may well be proud. By the way, what was Mr. Reese's record during the war?

THE volumes which contain the list of pensioners of the government are out, and it will soon be possible to ferret out the frauds who are taking advantage of the nation's generosity.

THE New York postoffice started off with two millions of the new two-cent stamps, and an order for fifteen million more. Such figures help one to realize the greatness of this country and its metropolis.

MR. VANDERBILT handed in his personal check the other day in New York for \$190,000 in payment of his taxes for the year. He proposes to get even by watering the stock of some of the half a dozen roads which he controls.

JOHN ROACH is the cheekiest of his tribe yet discovered. He has sent a bill for \$21,000 to the Secretary of the Treasury for taking care of the Roanoke since 1877. This amounts to \$8 a day. Perhaps the Government might compromise the matter by giving John the vessel.

PAT HAWES and Frank Walters are engineering a Workingman's boom through a so-called "labor organ" in these parts owned and edited by a stool pigeon who has been a lawyer, a reporter, a jack of all trades and master of none. Omaha workmen are too intelligent to be gulled by political mountebanks and free lunch fiends.

THE reduction of the public debt during September was \$14,707,229, or more than \$8,000,000 greater than that of August. During the last three months the reduction has aggregated \$29,179,671, or more than \$15,500,000 less than the reduction during the same period of last year. At this rate it is estimated that the total reduction for the year will be but \$75,000,000.

THE decision of the New York Court of Appeals in the suit brought by Rufus Hatch and others against the Western is in every respect favorable to that corporation. The court holds that the absorption of the Atlantic & Pacific and American Union was not in violation of the law and that the issue of \$15,000,000 stock dividend was not prohibited by the State statutes. The suit will not be carried up to the Federal Courts.

MORE army officers have been retired during the past two years for age or length of service than will leave the army for four years to come. The list including McDowell, Meigs, Rucker, Inalls, Hunt and Eakin, was increased this week by the addition of General Getty, Colonel of the Third Artillery, who came under the operation of the compulsory retirement law. The New York Sun notes the equanimity with which the officers who have thus far been removed from the active list under the compulsory statute have accepted their fate. One of two of them had written vigorously against the measure while it was still pending, but it is now probably recognized as being no hardship. Gen. Meigs not long ago, even sent a letter of congratulation to Gen. Ekin on having joined the retired list, based it upon these considerations:

"The country we have served for so many years has provided sufficiently for our comfort, and we should not regret the relief from labor and activity, while we have all that is necessary and time to enjoy leisure, which I hope we shall succeed in making pleasant for ourselves and profitable to those who depend on us."

In fact, an officer still in the vigor of manhood, and with many years of health and enjoyment in prospect, has little ground for complaint in being relieved from all official cares and responsibilities, while receiving from the government three-fourths of the pay which was considered an adequate remuneration for the devotion of his time to active military service.

Only two more retirements for age are to be made this year, those of General Swift, of the medical department, and Chaplain Blake; for although General Sherman proposes to turn over the command of the army to General Sheridan on the first of November, which will be soon after returning from his travels, he will not complete his sixty-fourth year and be formally put on the retired shelf until the 8th of February.

CHEAP POSTAGE.

The inauguration of cheap postage on Tuesday in the United States by the operation of the new postal law, invites attention to the growth of the postoffice business in this country, and the history of its establishment. For several years after the first settlements in New England and Virginia, no such official as the postmaster was known. Nine years after the settlement of Boston, the general court appointed one man to receive all the letters at his house, and to deliver or send them to the person to whom they were addressed, receiving one penny for each letter for his trouble. The first mail, which was a monthly one, was established between New York and Boston in 1672, and in 1683 William Penn started in Philadelphia the first post-office, which was the germ of the colonial system. It was Benjamin Franklin who made the postoffice self-sustaining and secured a revenue of \$15,000 the year before the outbreak of the revolution.

One of the first acts of the Federal government after its organization in 1789 was to organize a postoffice system. The first law fixed the rate of postage at 8 cents for less than 40 miles; 10 cents for less than 90 miles; 12 cents for less than 150 miles; 17 cents for under 300 miles; 20 cents for less than 500 miles, and 25 cents for all distances exceeding 500 miles. There were no envelopes. The letters were required to be written on one piece of paper, or the ratio was to be doubled. The postage could be paid by the sender or receiver, but letters were seldom prepaid. The mails were carried in stage coaches or on horseback.

In 1816 the first change was made in this law and a new schedule of rates for 30 miles, 10 for 80, 12 for 150, 18 for 300 and 25 for 400 miles went into operation and existed until 1845. The success of Rowland Hill's postage reform in England induced Congress in 1845 to make another change. The schedule of 1845 fixed the rate of a single letter for any distance under 500 miles at five cents, and for any further distance at ten cents. The vast extension of territory in consequence of the acquisition of Texas, New Mexico and California entailed additional expense, and it was feared that the postoffice department could not be made to pay its expenses at that rate. In 1851 an effort was made to raise the rate, but it resulted in a further reduction to 3 cents for all distances under 3,000 miles, and 6 cents for more than 3,000; if the letter was not prepaid the postage was 5 cents. It was not until 1853 that the system of a uniform rate of 3 cents for the half-ounce letter, for all distances in the United States, was adopted. This is, in fact, the Rowland Hill system, which effected such a vast and beneficial change in England.

In 1873 the free delivery system was inaugurated and later the postal card was introduced. The last step, a uniform 2-cent letter rate, is now accomplished. What effect the reduction of the postage will have upon the revenues of the department it is impossible as yet to estimate. The probabilities are that enough additional letters and sealed circulars will be sent to nearly make up for the reduction in the rate. Between a one cent postal card and a two cent letter the difference is so slight that it is reasonable to suppose that many will make the change on account of the greater privacy secured from closed envelopes.

STAND UP TO THE RACKET. THE OMAHA BEE admits that Mr. Reese is an honest man, a splendid gentleman, and a clean-handed advocate. But it objects to his election because he has not been on the judicial bench before this. This is twaddle and the people will say on election day. If he has the legal ability, the honesty and judgment, his experience will come to him after election. He is the people's man, one of them in every sense, hearty, honest, free from every immoral taint, studious, able, and will get there, and don't you forget it. No Savage democrat, nominated by the monopoly capitalist of the bourbon party, can beat him fairly. —Hastings Gazette Journal.

Do not misrepresent, if you please. Quote THE BEE correctly or don't quote it at all. We have never said Mr. Reese was an honest man. We have never said that he was dishonest. We have never said that he is a clean handed advocate, but we have said that he was an U. P. attorney and was employed by that corporation in fighting the righteous claims of Saunders county homesteaders against the land grabbers.

But how can the editor of the Gazette-Journal, with any decency, vilify and slander Judge Savage, in the face of his own voluntary endorsement made only four weeks ago? How does his contemptible abuse of Judge Savage during the past week read in the light of the following editorial, which we copied from the Hastings Gazette-Journal before Judge Savage was endorsed by the anti-monopolists?

In nomenclating Judge Savage for Supreme Judge, the Democrats of Nebraska have done well. Being a good lawyer, a trained judicial thinker, and an honest and upright man, if elected he will make a most excellent Judge. He is something of a rarity in his party, both as to patriotism and information. The Democrats in Nebraska don't propose to place themselves in such a position as to be called blunders. This nomination at least is opposite to that idea. It was the best they could do, and of which they need feel no shame. To put the very best man for that office in the height of political wisdom. The Republicans will be driven to follow the same line of policy. No scrub lawyer need apply. They will be compelled to put an equally able and acceptable man upon their ticket, or be snowed under this fall. So far as that is concerned, the public will be benefited. And in case the Republicans are defeated, then we shall have a man elected who will in no sense disgrace the bench.

Savage done anything during the past month that would change the good opinion any man may have formed as to his character or fitness for the bench? Have the Republicans nominated a better man or even as good a man as Colonel Savage? Isn't Mr. Reese really 'a scrub lawyer'? We think of him as a possible Chief Justice of the Supreme Court! Will the Editor of the Gazette-Journal now stand up to the racket like a man, or does he propose to swallow himself and act the cowardly bushwhacker and political demagogue?

JUDGE GRESHAM is the first Postmaster-General since Mr. James who seems determined to get to the bottom of matters in his own department and to hold his subordinates strictly to their duties. Mr. Hatton, who under Mr. Howe put on all the airs of a cabinet officer, has been sharply told to attend to his proper business and to leave patronage peddling alone and Mr. Elmer, who was also in his own estimation a bigger man than old Howe, has received a sharp rap over the knuckles from his chief. Both these gentlemen talked for several days about handing in their resignations, but concluded to hang on to the official text as soon as they discovered that their services would be cheerfully dispensed with.

Mr. Gresham is receiving well merited praise for the business like methods which he is adopting to better the service.

PERSONALITIES. Secretary Folger and ex-Senator Conkling never speak as they pass by.

Clara Louise Kellogg is finding amusement in attending the Connecticut cat shows.

The report that Hatton has been appointed on the Government hog commission is erroneous.

Mrs. Minnie Hawk tells a Boston reporter that she is writing to one of the others of her life.

Dr. Mary Walker is going to reside in England, and the Boston Courier thinks she ought to take up her residence in Middlesex.

General West, of Mississippi, calls General Chalmers a "big-bellied rascal. We may soon hear of a hostile meeting and a pistol shot or two in the air."

The Princess of Wales is becoming deaf, says a London letter. This will give her husband a chance to stumble into bed at the wee sma' hours without being detected.

Galusha A. Grow, the Pennsylvania politician, is described as a "slender, bald-headed, silver-haired, clean-shaven, clean-spoken old gentleman." He is out of politics.

Congressman Phil B. Thomas, of Kentucky, has been visiting Denver, but was not received with much acclivity. A person who has killed only one man doesn't get for much out in Denver.

Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, is reported to be growing thin. As he is known, however, as the "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash," he probably makes up in length what he lacks in breadth.

Charles Delmonico, the famous caterer of New York, is said to have gone crazy. As he still continues to charge \$25 for a forty cent steak, however, there seems to be method in his madness.

Sam Randall claims to be the man who broke the back of the match monopoly, but as Mr. Carlisle was the gentleman who secured the enactment of the duty on watermelons, we will feel constrained to vote for Mr. Carlisle.

Senator Vest has returned from his Indian mission. He did not impress the rude savages very favorably, but his extra cannot be said to have been altogether unsuccessful, as he brings back with him several tobacco signs for leading St. Louis cigar stores.

John Gookle of Baltimore sneezed so hard on Friday that he shot himself in the eye. Only a short time ago a man in Georgia broke his back in the same way. The South does not seem to possess the robustness that it should. Still, its strength is not to be sneezed at.

Christina of Spain has a temper of her own. She recently dashed a purse full of gold in the face of the Duc de Sesto, as a reward for the Memphis riot, and he was suspected of playing in the scandalous intrigue which brought matters to a crisis between Alfonso and the Queen.

Supervising Architect Hill will probably write a series of letters. It is to be hoped that his professional experience will teach him not to adopt the severe Queen Anne literary style of Stephen W. Dorsey. Something in the Corinthian, Ionic, or Gothic line would be a refreshing change.

Sheridan's presidential boom wouldn't have petered out so quickly if it hadn't been for the popular suspicion that in the event of his brother's election, brother Mike would be appointed to the court of St. James. So it appears that in more ways than one brother Mike is proving a nuisance.

A Cleveland person by the name of Armstrong has been called upon Mr. Tilden, and was surprised to learn that the old gentleman was not in the city. He was, however, in the city, of course, has a deep conscience. But what in the world possesses the old gentleman that he keeps the cider barrel in the attic instead of the cellar.

Occasionally we see a Mr. Dezenhofer's name mentioned in the public prints. Inasmuch as he writes himself down as an ex-congressman, he can't be of much account. He is probably responsible for all the accidents that may occur, and at the same time look postage stamps in payment of political assessments.

The pile driver of Queen Victoria didn't strike him any too soon.

It is said that Queen Victoria objects to having King Alfonso visit England because he is so naughty. It seems as if a stomach that can stand the doings of the highly favored monarch, and the little bull fighting snip from Madrid. It occurs to us that the Queen shouldn't draw the line at gnats as long as she is in the habit of swallowing canals.

A nephew of Henry Watterson is said to have joined the chorus of the Hoss Opera company. He comes by his vocal talent very naturally. Henry Watterson is much of a singer. He used to sing tenor in a Kentucky church choir twenty years ago, and as recent as the winter of 1871 he participated in the cantata of "Father, the Beautiful Queen," for the benefit of the Louisville lottery scheme.

Of late years, however, he has restricted himself to weekly Democratic rallies, fairs, and other music of a sorer character, rendered in an anonymous, retiring way through the columns of his paper.

Bull Fights in Paris. Paris is about to be regaled by a genuine novelty. The director of the hippodrome has completed arrangements for importing a party of bull fighters from Madrid. The only thing now necessary for the acclimatization of this pastime in Paris is the permission of the Prefect of Police, which is withheld until the director will agree to hold himself personally responsible for all accidents that may occur. The performances are intended to open about October 15th, and will continue for fifteen nights. The French bulls are not sufficiently wild, so forty bulls will be brought from Spain at large expense. Consequently the prices of admission will be least doubled. The bull fighters will not be permitted to maim or wound the animals, as in Spain, which will cause the performance to be infinitely more dangerous, as when the final coup is given the bull will be thoroughly excited, and yet full of strength and activity.

THE WAY OHIO WILL GO.

Forecast of Next Week's Contest in the Pivotal State.

Predicting the Success of the Republican State Ticket and the Selection of a Democratic Legislature.

Akron, Ohio, Correspondence Chicago Herald. The Republicans will carry Ohio next Tuesday—that is, they will elect Foraker and other State officers. The Democrats will obtain control of the General Assembly, which will elect a successor to United States Senator Pendleton. The Republicans are likely to win, because, in the first place, there are more Republicans than Democrats in the State, and because, secondly, there is to be a very heavy vote. There are more Republicans than Democrats in Ohio can be easily demonstrated by figures: During the last six years there have been six State and one Presidential elections. The Republicans have had a plurality at five of them, the Democrats at two. Looking back over these seven elections we find:

Highest Republican vote (President, 1872) 575,048
Highest Democratic vote (Secretary of State, 1880) 243,016
Lowest Republican vote (Governor, 1871) 249,105
Lowest Democratic vote (Governor, 1877) 271,225
Average Republican vote 317,322
Average Democratic vote 297,255
At the lowest calculation, therefore, there are 8,000 more Republicans than Democrats in Ohio; and, if we take a comparison of the past votes, there are 32,000 more. Thus these figures are all in favor of the Republicans until we come to the fact that the Democrats carried the State at the last election by 19,000 plurality. But their total vote last year was 29,000 less than Foster received four years ago, 68,000 less than were cast for Garfield three years ago, and only 4,000 more than Foster received in 1881.

Seven hundred and twenty-five thousand votes were cast in Ohio in 1881, the largest vote in the history of the State. From 700,000 to 15,000 will be cast this year. This vote will be cast, because, first, it is they are before the Presidential campaign, and Ohio has not yet lost her key-note concert; second, the peculiar circumstances attending the nominations have awakened much interest; third, the liquor question agitation, the legal wreck of the Pond law, the enactment and enforcement of the Scott law, and the never-ending discussion of all the phases of the matter, have aroused the voters; fourth, the close contest for control of the Legislature, with nearly 300 candidates for seats tearing up the political soil, will be fruitful of results in ballots; fifth, the energies of the campaign managers on both sides are being put to creating showy parades or making much noise at the hustings, but to perfecting organization to get out the vote; sixth, and rather more important than any other reason, is the excitement over the proposed liquor prohibition amendment to the constitution. With all these causes in operation, it would not be surprising if the total vote would reach as high as the vote of 1880, but a conservative estimate of the aggregate is 710,000.

No let us look a little deeper into the probabilities. Granting that Ohio is a Republican State, as history shows it to be, what made it turn Democratic last year by the comfortable majority of 19,000?

The first great cause was the defection of a large portion of the Republican Germans and nearly all the Republican liquor men on account of the Pond law. The second cause was the stay-at-home Republican vote in the strong Republican counties of the northeast or Western Reserve district of the State. In 1881, when Governor Charles Foster was re-elected with a plurality of 26,000, the ten counties comprising the Western Reserve district contributed nearly 85 per cent of it, or 22,419. Here, in operation, the ten counties, is the bulwark of the Republican party of Ohio; and although but one of them (Cuyahoga, city of Cleveland) was appreciably affected by the liquor element, the disaffection, in one year, that plurality of 22,419 dwindled to a paltry 10,123, a loss of nearly 60 per cent of the Republican plurality of 1881 in ten counties, casting a little less than 15 per cent of the whole vote of the State.

The deductions from this glance at the campaign of 1882 are that, with a full vote in 1883—a vote larger than that cast for Foster two years ago, though not more than that given to Charles Foster in 1880—the Republicans will gain over last year, in the ten counties spoken of, about 15,000 votes. But they will not gain that many. In Cuyahoga county the foreign and liquor elements are very strong, and, despite a partial recovery, will hold the Republican gain in the western reserve down to about 6,000 plurality. The Republicans have to contend this year, as last, with the element that is dissatisfied with the recent liquor legislation. The Germans are not so excited about it, and a small portion of them will return to the Republican party. The liquor men are just as well organized this year as they were last, even better, and will secure a very large holiday on the 9th of October by carrying Democratic votes to the polls. Three-fourths of the saloonkeepers of the State (and there are 10,000 saloons) will do nothing else on election day but work with might and main from morning until night, with horses, carriages and wagons, getting voters to the polls. This is the influence that carried the state for Democracy last year; it is the influence that will keep the Republican plurality under 10,000 next week.

There are divers other influences at work. Chief among these may be mentioned the following: Many Republican wool-growers are dissatisfied because Congress reduced the tariff on wool. The Democrats have found the dissatisfaction for all it is worth, but it is not turning out a large crop. It is taking more the form of impressing the Ohio Congressmen with the danger of offending the wool-growers rather than that of open and actual revolt. Still, there is a little gain here for the Democrats.

There are other elements in the campaign, such as the convict labor question, the re-nomination of some Democrats to their self-assumed bosses and Senatorial manipulators, the cat-and-dog fight in Hamilton county, and many others. But, after all, and considering all influences, the main fact is that on a full vote Ohio is Republican, and we are to have a very large vote this year.

Grant that 25,000 dissatisfied Republican Germans and liquor men went over to the democracy last year—14,000 in Hamilton county, 6,000 in Cuyahoga, and 5,000 in the smaller cities—and that 20,000 of them continue with the party

this year. If they could get in the ballot-boxes as many votes as were given to Hancock in 1880, with these 20,000 new recruits added to them, they would have but 300,000, 15,000 more votes than there were cast for Garfield. The best the Democrats can hope for—more than some of their leaders predict—is a vote equalling Hancock's or 340,000. Foraker can fall 30,000 below Garfield's vote and yet have 5,000 plurality over Hoadley. Here is a careful estimate as to the result in the State.

Republican plurality—Ashtabula, 4,500; Athens, 1,300; Belmont, 150; Carroll, 650; Champlain, 1,100; Clarke, 1,300; Clinton, 1,500; Columbiana, 1,900; Delaware, 400; Fayette, 735; Fulton, 1,000; Gallia, 1,000; Geauga, 2,100; Greene, 1,375; Guernsey, 725; Hardin, 280; Harrison, 600; Highland, 50; Huron, 1,250; Jackson, 700; Jefferson, 1,325; Lake, 1,600; Lawrence, 1,550; Logan, 1,235; Lorain, 2,700; Madison, 200; Mahoning, 500; Medina, 950; Meigs, 1,025; Miami, 1,135; Morgan, 425; Morrow, 300; Muskingum, 150; Noble, 175; Paulding, 25; Portage, 450; Preble, 336; Seoto, 350; Summit, 1,200; Trumbull, 3,150; Union, 800; Van Wert, 90; Warren, 1,650; Williams, 250; Wood, 650. Total, 45,847.

Democratic plurality—Adams, 200; Allen, 1,000; Ashland, 700; Ashtabula, 1,500; Brown, 1,100; Butler, 2,300; Clermont, 300; Coshocton, 700; Crawford, 1,900; Cuyahoga, 50; Darke, 1,100; Deane, 1,050; Erie, 600; Fairfield, 1,600; Franklin, 1,000; Hamilton, 6,500; Hancock, 275; Henry, 780; Hocking, 520; Holmes, 1,800; Knox, 50; Licking, 1,300; Lucas, 800; Marion, 725; Mercer, 1,000; Monroe, 2,110; Montgomery, 1,100; Ottawa, 1,025; Perry, 100; Pickaway, 780; Pike, 400; Putnam, 1,450; Richland, 1,000; Ross, 150; Sandusky, 700; Seneca, 1,000; Shelby, 875; Stark, 350; Tuscarora, 975; Winton, 275; Washington, 50; Wayne, 400; Wyandot, 500. Total, 43,240.

This shows a net Republican plurality of 2,607. The Democrats claim all the way from 5,000 to 8,000 in Hamilton. It is the home of both candidates, and one's popularity will probably affect the other's. The figures in the table, 6,500, are rather above than below the probability. Hamilton gave Foster 4,500 plurality in 1881, and the next year jumped to the extreme 210,700 Democratic plurality. This year she will gravitate about half way back to her former position.

Result of the fierce battle for control of the General Assembly is something of a problem. The last body stood:

Table with columns: Senate, House, Totals, Rep., Dem.

Majority on joint ballot, 46. It would seem hardly possible for the Democrats to capture the Legislature by overcoming such a preponderance. But there are twenty-three members from the four counties of Hamilton, Cuyahoga, Stark, and Montgomery alone, now all Republicans, who are likely to be supplanted by Democrats, the only doubtful county being Cuyahoga, with eight members.

The Democrats are certain to elect forty-nine members of the House without Cuyahoga, with a chance for ten more in doubtful counties, and if they elect their eight candidates in Cuyahoga will surely control the body. Of the thirty-three members of the Senate the Democrats may very certainly elect sixteen, with four doubtful.

The conclusion of the whole matter is that the Republicans will elect Foraker and the greater portion of the state ticket by from 1,500 to 8,000 plurality, and that the Democrats will obtain control of the General Assembly by a majority of less than ten on joint ballot.

STATE NOTINGS. Diphtheria is raving in the southern part of Dakota county.

A Holt county man shows a stalk of corn bearing twenty-eight ears.

The Norfolk flouring mills are again in operation, the new roller process having been added.

A brick mason named Hensel, from Lincoln, died on the streets of Hastings last Monday of heart disease.

Trains will run to Hartington in about two weeks. Several Ponca business men intend removing to the new town.

Washington county cattle buyers are picking up large numbers of steers in Cuming and counties further up the valley.

The Waverly hotel at Neligh narrowly escaped destruction by fire a few evenings ago by the careless throwing of a match among curtains.

The North Nebraska boom is hovering over Cedar county and it is likely to remain here for an indefinite period. Other booms will wait for this one to clear the track.

More than \$50,000 were paid for real estate, in Adams county, during the month of September. Nearly all this sum was paid for farm lands, for which warranty deeds were given.

The Lincoln News anticipates the millennium, and predicts "Ten years hence it will be as much of a disgrace in Nebraska to get drunk as horse stealing is now a crime."

There's nothing like faith. Elder Yearshaw, of Lincoln, was found dead in his bed last Monday afternoon. He had lived his allotted time, three score and ten, and his steps were fast falling, though he had usually been in good health for one of his years.

Some days ago Miss Mollie Larson, of Oakland, deposited about \$100 in her stove for safe keeping during her absence. On her return she forgot to deposit and made a fire which soon changed the bills and decreased their value 100 per cent.

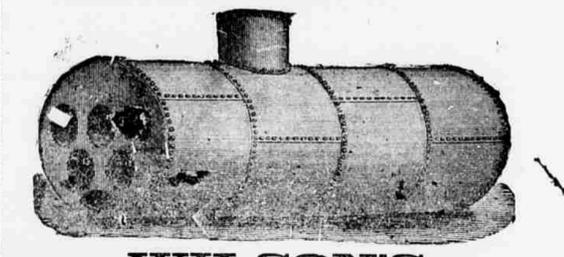
The Shot-Gun Policy. Ex-Governor Sprague's logic and shotgun were satisfactory, after all. The result of his defiance of the court order dispossessing him of control of the property of the Quinbeck company, recalls the story of the ducky game of poker, in which one had three aces and the other two jacks and a razor. The last mentioned hand "took the pot," and Governor Sprague still holds the property.

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