

THE OMAHA BEE.

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COMMUNICATIONS. All communications relating to News and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor of The Bee.

REPUBLICANS FOR OFFICE. HURRAH FOR WAKELEY.—[Omaha Republican.]

"Grr while you're getting," is Mr. Ijam's motto. Fees of \$8,000 a year are worth fighting for.

THE VOICE OF THE REPUBLICAN has won Judge Savage's scores of friends and hundreds of votes in Douglas county alone.

The Republican wants to know why Mr. Rosawater omitted from his evening edition of the 29th an editorial entitled "Infamous." Answer—Because it had appeared in the evening edition of the 27th. Next.

The cable announces that the spoons of the Prince of Bulgaria have been stolen. Ben Butler has been busy all the fall in Massachusetts, and the Southern Democrats can't accuse him of knowing anything about it.

The ladies in Ohio distributed coffee and cakes on election day, many of the cakes being baked by seminarian girls. This explains the Republican defeat. One half the Republican voters went home with the dyspepsia.

We don't want to say much about Mr. Baumer, but if he persists in airing his grievances and refers to the fact that he went to the Legislature as a representative of the Germans, we may have a word to say as to how he discharged his duties and how he kept faith with John M. Thayer.

CANDIDATES of both parties are indignant over the brazen blackmail which is being levied on them by the conductor of the alleged official organ of this city. Mr. Corliss has been asked to contribute \$200, but we presume \$10 would have been accepted. Mr. Leavitt refused to "come down," and of course he is being blackguarded. How much Mr. Ijams paid, and whether he will get his money's worth, we can't tell.

WITH anything like a fair vote on the 6th of November, we predict a majority of 10,000 and upwards for Judge Reese and the State ticket.—[Pittsburgh Herald.]

And we will stake our reputation that if there is fair weather, a fair vote and an honest count, Judge Savage will be elected by a larger majority than was given Sturdevant over Loran Clark.

FRANCHISE investors still have abundant faith in De Lesseps's Panama canal project. The total number of the new issue of bonds offered by the company was 600,000 and subscriptions to the amount of \$46,000, or 46,000 more than were to be obtained, have been made. This free supply of money looks very much as if the canal would be carried on to completion.

THE assessors had better be looked after. For instance, we are informed on good authority that Mr. Doll has totally omitted to assess from \$50,000 to \$100,000 in the First ward. Lot 1, block 202, 3, 4 and 5 in block 203, are not on the assessment roll. They were purchased at private sale by the Union Pacific railway company not as a right of way but for speculative purposes. Two of them were leased and are occupied by the Elevator company, and the other two are used as private residences and pay rent. Formerly these lots were taxed. Pomey and Segelke paid taxes on one, Erling on another and the others were occupied by Johnson's wood yard. The U. P. paid Johnson \$6,000 for the two lots upon which he had paid taxes for two years.

When Mr. Doll was asked why he had omitted to return these lots for taxation he said he was acting under the advice of John C. Cowin, county attorney. But when Mr. Cowin faced him and pronounced him a liar he skulked away.

And yet Mr. Doll and the railroad people have fixed it up again and as yet there is no candidate against him. Meanwhile the poor workmen who own little houses are forced to pay taxes while this giant monopoly with its millions of wealth goes untaxed.

WHEN Bret Harte alluded to the tendency of the Heavens Chinese for "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain," he knew what he was talking about. But it seems that this peculiarity is not by any means confined to the almond-eyed laundriesmen who find their way to the United States. The Chinese Government has taken a hand and is playing the same old game with wonderful shrewdness and success. It has begun to evade the law against Chinese immigration by furnishing traders' certificates indiscriminately to all emigrants from the Celestial Empire desirous of drumming upon the festive washboard in this land of the free. It also furnishes students' certificates to boys. Under the provisions of the treaty with China, these documents entitle the holders to land upon our shores, and they are pouring into San Francisco at a lively rate.

THE JUSTICES.

Last winter in response to a strong demand from our business men, the Legislature passed a bill, introduced by the Douglas county delegation, which cut down by a half the number of Justices of the Peace in cities of the first class. The necessity for this measure was especially felt in Omaha, where the dirty work of the small bore justices was so notorious that both clients and attorneys were constantly bringing their complaints against them to the newspapers.

The bill decreasing the number of Justices passed the Legislature in the closing days of the session, but was killed through the refusal of Governor Dawes to affix his signature to the measure. Failing to become a law, the old system is still in force, and the people of Omaha and Douglas county will be called upon next Tuesday to elect a new batch of justices. Omaha has now twelve justices of the peace, or two in each ward. There is not enough legitimate business to support half the number. The consequence is that business which is not legitimate is hunted up to roll up the fees by which our justices make their living. Several of these justice peddlers are notoriously incompetent and dishonest. Their opinion is always given against the side which is able to pay the costs. Costs are what these legal sharks are after, and justice is a secondary consideration. The consequence is that litigation is encouraged rather than discouraged, and those who are too poor to transfer their cases are made the victims of their poverty. It is a standing scandal that in many of our justice courts no respectable attorney can win his case against some pottiferog, who "has the ear of the court," and who throws all his cases into that particular judicial grist mill in return for the judge's favor. The remedy for this shameful condition of affairs, in the opinion of the best lawyers, is to cut down the number of justice's courts. The positions will then be worth enough to command respectable and honest candidates. Men of ability will gladly compete for an office worth \$2,000 a year, honestly administered, when they will refuse to seek an office where the scanty fees must be worked up by disreputable methods.

This could be secured in the coming election by nominating men who can be elected and who will agree to resign after qualifying. That would leave enough vacancies to make the business in the remaining courts a sufficient inducement for reputable men to fill the office. There would be no necessity for the County Commissioners to fill these vacancies. Six justices would be enough to do all the business which comes before such courts in this city.

AND IT CAME TO PASS. And it came to pass in the days of political corruption that one Aninius, being Niygh unto distraction, made a Savage attack on a certain lawgiver, and came to grief by Reason of total depravity and utter absence of a soul. And his father sent a dead-head telegram unto him, saying: "Yea, verily, my son, thou shalt die thee to the city of thy nativity, which is in the County of Dodge, and shall tend the herds of thy sire, and thou shalt return to one Kimball the watered stock thou holdest, for the days of thy prodigality are at an end."

And the son answered by telephone, saying: "Father, prepare a feast of one of thine own prize Durhams, for I am hungry and weary and will return to the house of my father before my pass is canceled." S.

THERE has been so much comment on the case of Lieutenant John F. Simpson, of the Third Cavalry, and his late court martial, that the facts in the matter deserve ventilation. Lieutenant Simpson was tried by a court-martial, found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and sentenced to be dismissed. The charge was that he had married a woman who had been his mistress. The sentence was disapproved and set aside by the President. On Thursday a letter written by Simpson was published, in which he declared that no one who knew him would believe that he had contracted such a marriage. He added that he had resigned from the army. It now appears that Simpson is in the hospital at Whipple Barracks, Arizona, and that he is regarded as insane. It also appears that his marriage was a very scandalous affair, which the authorities could not afford to ignore. The woman was one of the most degraded and notorious residents of Arizona, and it could not truthfully be said that she was, or ever had been, the mistress of this officer. The two contracting parties went to the magistrate's office from the house of ill-fame of which the woman was proprietor. Perhaps the most plausible explanation of Simpson's very remarkable conduct appears in the statement that he is probably insane, and it may be that his mind was unsettled by the death of his first wife, which occurred a very short time before the marriage that brought upon him the condemnation of a military court.

WHEN the question of city advertising was last up before the council, Martin Dunham made an appeal for letting the contract to a paper with an acknowledged circulation. He called the attention of the council to the fact that several years ago when the advertising was given to the Republican the city was forced to issue hand-bills in order to reach bidders on city contracts. He predicted if the council ignored this question of relative circulation and standing, the same trouble would occur again.

Mr. Dunham knew what he was talking about. The "official organ," so-called, circulates less than 250 papers in a city of 50,000, and the registrars have been forced to print and circulate hand-bills to voters in order to reach them. If the council had been animated by a sense of duty instead of by spite work, such a state of affairs would not be possible.

THE doctrine of Henry George's book, "The Progress of Poverty," that there is no rightful property in land, and that the products of labor form the only natural basis of property, is rapidly spreading among the lower classes of Europe, and in Austria is taking so strong a hold upon the peasantry that the government is contemplating measures to suppress its effects. As in France, and in lesser degree in Canada, the peasantry of Austria are being reduced to poverty by the constant and excessive subdivision of their land brought about by the laws of inheritance. Several of the provincial Diets have petitioned the imperial government to repeal these laws; but the peasants themselves are said to be going still farther; they are discontented, and have seized upon Henry George's philosophy as their only remedy, and are beginning to demand that the government shall not only prevent the matter from getting worse but shall institute a new confiscation and redistribution. The George theory is noticeably gaining ground in this country also. An organization based on this belief and calling itself the American Free Soil society was formed in New York in June, with Louis F. Post, candidate for Attorney General of the State, as president, Charles Frederick Adams as secretary and Rev. R. Heber Newton as treasurer. Now there are ten groups, or subordinate associations, in New York city, eight in Brooklyn, four in Chicago, and it is represented in 23 States and Territories. It is diligently spreading its doctrines by means of circulars, and will not only seek to influence legislation in the various States, but will propose to the next Congress a constitutional amendment forbidding either general or State governments to further alienate lands save with the reservation of the current ground rent.

A WILD and heart-piercing cry has issued from one of the Russian prisons. The unfortunate man Netchacheff, who was condemned ten years ago for a political offense, was supposed, like most of the victims of Russian oppression, to be long since dead. But in a letter to the Czar, written in the blood of his veins, he utters a terrible complaint against the inhuman treatment to which he and his fellow prisoners are subjected. Even the little light that once penetrated his dungeon is now denied him. In the presence of such a revelation it is not strange that the Czar is constantly haunted with a dread of the Nihilists. It is said that the story has created an immense sensation in St. Petersburg. There is no doubt at all that the piteous notes of this prisoner will survive in many a Russian heart the trills of the late opera singer in the imperial capital. Some of these days the Russian people will take it into their heads to overturn their bastilles and make a general jail delivery of political prisoners.

As a matter of fact, the wholesale abandonment of the Republican organization by the colored voters would make little difference as to the fortunes of the party. As the lines are now drawn, in every State in which the colored population is large enough to be an appreciable element in its politics, if rightly handled the Democrats get every benefit that would accrue, if the colored vote was solidly Democratic, without any thanks to that element.—[Lincoln Journal.]

This from the mouthpiece of M. B. Reese and Boss Stout, fairly expresses the sentiment of the kind of Republicans that are now running Nebraska. They want the colored vote for Reese who never shouldered a musket, and against a man like Judge Savage who fought to free the slave. Still they insist that the loss of the colored vote would make little difference to the party.

HASTINGS, October 29. What do you refer to when you say Judge Morris was in collusion with whisky crooks? Please answer through your paper. ALIANCE. We refer to the time when Morris was dismissed as United States gauger for collusion with McCoy, whose distillery was condemned for crookedness and closed out by the United States authorities. It was generally understood here that the United States grand jury indicted Morris, with other whisky crooks, but finally, on his personal appeal, the indictment was dropped.

"HOG RANCHE." Pistol Practice at a Place of Bad Repute. Details of the Tragedy in Cherry County. Sheriff Key Uses His "Sixes" and a Cowboy Bites the Dust.

Among the latest sensations which have come to us from the frontier was that concerning the tragedy which occurred at Valentine, Cherry county, on the 12th instant, in which a cowboy was shot through the heart by the Sheriff, J. Henry Key.

Mr. Key was in town yesterday, and was met by a Bee reporter, who had a short talk with him and learned some additional details, which go to show, as was claimed by the papers up there, that the shooting was not only justifiable but an absolute necessity.

SHERRIFF KEY is a fine-looking young fellow, about 27 years of age, slender in build and blonde in complexion. He has, nevertheless, an abundant endowment of that valuable article known as "the nerve." On the evening in question Sheriff Key, accompanied by a friend named Sam Earnest, went out to a notorious house situated about 400 yards from the railroad track and known as

HOG RANCHE. The Sheriff said to the reporter that his only regret about the matter was that he was not found in such a place. A party of 18 or 20 men or cow-boys, from Wyoming, had come down on that day with 1,800 head of cattle for shipment east. Key and Earnest had been at Hog Rancho but a short time when two of these cow-boys came in. They had been drinking and some words were passed between them, the officer and his friend. In order to settle it, Key asked the men up to the bar to drink and after that he and Earnest went back into one of the rooms with the girls and the fellows standing at the counter. When they came out again they were gone but the bartender told Key

WHAT THEY SAID. They had asked who he (Key) was and what was his business, and when answered one of them said, "Key is a d— of a b—, and I had a good notion to take out my pistol and kill him. But never mind, we will go out to camp and we have two or three bad men out there, and we will come out with a crowd to-night and fix him, G— d— him," or words to this effect.

THE ATTACK. Soon after dark Key was in one of the rooms and heard six or seven men ride up on their horses, swearing and cursing, and declaring that they would ride into the house. He heard the bar-keeper beg them not to come in, and then went out to the front room to see what the row meant. As he walked in between the bar and the stove he saw one man with a six-shooter in his hand and another remarked, "Here is Key, now, the d— of a b—. We will just give it to him," and thereupon the firing began.

THE BATTLE. Sheriff Key got out his pistol as quickly as possible and fired two shots. No of the attacking party fell from his horse and the rest ran around the house. They then charged on the door again and tried to get in, shooting as they came up through the doors and windows. One bullet cut through the sash and glanced off into the frame. But for this it would have killed Key, as the piece of sash was driven right against his abdomen.

A TERRIBLE FIGHT then ensued, which could only be accurately described by one who was present. The Sheriff attempted to escape by the back door, and as he did so was shot at with a Winchester rifle or a heavy calibre revolver. He had no time to help him, being once seized by two of the invaders, but finally wrenching himself loose from their grasp. After getting out through the back door he chased away a man who was sheltered behind a pile of wood and made a hasty retreat to the town, which was about a quarter of a mile away. He went to his room and room and to bed, where he remained until next morning and then gave himself up to the authorities. Of course when the news was brought in the evening that a cowboy had been shot the whole town was

IN AN UPROAR. Business houses were closed and men stood on the street corners expecting every moment to see a party of cow-boys rush into town to avenge the death of their companion. This did not come, however, and when the crowd followed the coroner to the scene of the bloody affray the victim was found lying just outside the door, his revolver beneath his right arm and his body cold and lifeless. The remains were taken into the house and the inquest held, resulting in a verdict which accorded with the facts. On Monday Sheriff Key was summoned before Judge Tucker, charged with manslaughter and waiving examination was released on \$3,000 bail.

CONFLICTING TESTIMONY was adduced before the coroner's jury but from all accounts and from the opinions of the press up that way the shooting appears to have been entirely justifiable. It was claimed by one member of the assaulting party that the cow-boys had arranged to kill Key before they left camp and that he tried to prevent their leaving camp, and thereupon three of them jumped on him and beat over the head with a pistol.

The sheriff says he never met any of them until the evening in question, and that after drinking with them he supposed the difficulty settled. He ascribes the whole trouble to an

OLD GRUDGE held by Hann against Billy Carter, who was with Key on the fatal evening and was known to be his friend. It is claimed that Hann had followed Carter for a half a day out at Ft. Robinson to kill him, and, as unusual thing, he himself was the one to fall in the final conflict. Hann had his horse partly inside the door and the rest were trying to ride around him. He was known as a very hard character, had killed his man, or two of them, and also

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THE GREAT GERMAN REMEDY FOR PAIN. Investigate for Yourself. Postmaster-General Sherman having published a willful and malicious falsehood in regard to the share of the Louisiana State Lottery Company, the following facts are given to the public to serve his statement, and to be engaged in a fraudulent business, to be false and untrue:

Table listing amounts paid to various individuals and companies, including names like M. W. Wadcott, J. H. Ogleby, and others, with corresponding dollar amounts.

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