

THE DAILY BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Proprietors. A. R. Fitch, Manager. Daily Circulation, P. O. Box 485 OMAHA, NEB.

QUEEN VICTORIA is on the sick list. Her illness is ascribed to an overdose of Egyptian lotions.

A WIFE-MURDERER, who set up the plea of insanity, was convicted and hung in Pennsylvania the other day. This would indicate that the people of Pennsylvania are beginning to believe that the insanity dodge is worn out.

JOHN PETER ST. JOHN officially announces that he has not retired yet, but proposes to give a series of lectures in a number of Kansas towns. John Peter still lives, notwithstanding the attempt of Clarkson, of Des Moines, to bury him.

DR. HELMHOLD, of Bachu fam, has been released from an insane asylum, where he has been confined for four years. It will be pleasant news to country newspapers, amid the gloom of the era of depression, to learn that Dr. Helmholt proposes at an early day to again edit their sheets for them with column articles upon the virtues of buchu.

The Omaha Republican is edited by a man of immense mental calibre. He devotes a column editorial to the alleged efforts of Rosewater at Washington on the coming inaugural day, and on another page of his paper he publishes the proceedings of the Omaha board of trade in which Rosewater is mentioned among those participating in the meeting. This man Rosewater is certainly a very ubiquitous person.

During the month of January 7,811 immigrants arrived in the United States. This is 4,204 less than the number landed in January, 1884. For the seven months ended January, 1885, the total number of immigrants was 190,311, while the total number for the seven months ended January 1, 1885, was 250,356. This is a heavy falling off in immigration and can only be accounted for by the hard times. The immigrant rates have never been so low as they have been for the last few months and yet with the heavy reduction this class of travel is falling off. It will probably pick up considerably when spring opens.

MAYOR GRACE, of New York City, has begun proceedings to recover from the United States \$802,991, with interest from 1861, for advances of money made by the city of New York to equip soldiers for the war under President Lincoln's call for troops. This is very much like some of the "war claims" that have been brought against the general government by the commonwealth of Nebraska. In commenting upon Mayor Grace's action the Chicago Tribune pertinently says that the president should institute proceedings to recover several millions of dollars damages to the United States by reason of the Copperhead riots which took out of the field 20,000 Union troops to put them down.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS informs the secretary of the interior that whenever the department will specify the sum due from the Union Pacific under the annual settlement required by the Thurman act to be made on the first of February, 1885, the amount shall be forwarded by draft by return mail. Now if any one ought to know what is due the government from the Union Pacific under the Thurman act or any other law it seems to us that that person should be the president of the company, and we believe that Charles Francis Adams very well knows what the amount is. If he doesn't he better introduce himself to the company's accounting officers and bookkeepers and put himself, and then forward that draft without any further nonsense. One thing is certain, and that is that Mr. Adams knows beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Union Pacific owes a great deal more than it ever wants to pay.

THE OMAHA BEE is not taken when it declares that the death penalty is not in force in Iowa. There is a prisoner in the penitentiary now upon whom the sentence of death has been passed.—Des Moines Leader.

We were led into the mistake by the statement of the Sioux City Journal that "there have been over 300 murders committed in Iowa in fifteen years, but not a single murderer legally exterminated." We took it for granted that in view of such a showing, Iowa did not have capital punishment. Now that we are told that the law provides for capital punishment we are surprised that the authorities do not once in a while have a legal hanging. If the law were enforced, the number of murders would not only be diminished but the number of lynchings would be decreased. It is the delays and non-enforcement of the law that induce men to take the law into their own hands. If the prisoner now under sentence of death, referred to by the Des Moines Leader, is executed, he will be the only murderer hung in fifteen years, during which over 300 murders have been committed, if the statement of the Sioux City Journal is correct.

THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT OF THE CENTURY.

The Omaha Republican in its "Old World" article of Sunday morning makes the assertion that "the fall of Kharطوم is the most important event of this century." The historian of that paper certainly displays a lamentable ignorance of the important events of the century or else his ideas of importance are strangely peculiar. When we look back over this century and see the many important events that have transpired—compared with which the capture of Kharطوم by the Mahdi is a very insignificant affair—we are surprised that any man of ordinary intelligence would make such a reckless statement as that which appeared in the columns of the Republican. Going back to the days of Napoleon we find during his career events that shook Europe from end to end and deeds that will ever remain the admiration and wonder of the world. How about Napoleon's crossing the Alps and defeating the allied armies of Austria and Sardinia, making a campaign which has been pronounced the most brilliant the world ever saw? Yet, according to the Republican, this was nothing compared with the fall of Kharطوم, "the most important event of the century." How about Napoleon's campaign in Egypt, when forty centuries looked down on the pyramids upon his brilliant victories? But the Republican would have us believe that the fall of Kharطوم overshadows Napoleon's conquest of Egypt.

Are we to understand that the battle of Austerlitz is to be ranked as an event of secondary importance? And how about Waterloo? And the division of Poland, by which a nation was wiped out from the map of Europe? Of course all this amounts to nothing when compared with the fall of Kharطوم; nor does the bombardment of Sebastopol, nor the battle of Balaklava. We suppose, too, that the engagement between the Prussians and Austrians at Sadowa—where the former numbered 230,000 men and the latter 185,000, the total number being greater than has been brought together in modern times on any battle field except that of Lepanto—is evidently considered to be an insignificant event by the Republican historian, who by his assertion also ranks the battle of Solan, the capitulation of Napoleon, the siege of Paris, and the change of the French empire to a republic as events of ordinary importance. We would like to ask if the war of the rebellion in the United States was not an event in the world's history compared to which the fall of Kharطوم is as a mole-hill to a mountain. There are hundreds of events that have occurred during this century that completely overshadow in importance the fall of Kharطوم.

CONTRACT LABOR. Senator Blair, whatever else may be said against him, is entitled to credit for the zeal which he manifests in behalf of the bill prohibiting the importation of laborers under contract. This bill, which passed the house at the end of the last session, and is now before the senate, is a just and reasonable measure, and ought to become a law. Everything is simply "protected" in this country except the labor of our workmen, who have to a great extent been undetermined and thrown out of employment by this vicious system of importing cheap labor from Europe under contract. The Italian, Polish and Hungarian laborers, as well as those of other European nationalities, have become accustomed to live on what would starve an American, and of course they can afford to work for a mere pittance. The contract system has thrown into the American labor market a large number of the superfluous laborers of Europe, who, owing to force of circumstance, have virtually become paupers in their own countries. While their condition excites sympathy, it is unreasonable to ask this country to take care of them at the expense of our own workmen. Charity begins at home, and we believe in giving our own laborers a show to make a living before we feed and shelter an army of foreign paupers, who, under the contract system, are degraded to the level of contract Chinamen, and many of whom, like the Chinamen, only save up their money to send it out of the country. Much of the trouble of the eastern mining regions has been caused by the importation of cheap contract labor, and it is time that it was abolished by law. The passage of the proposed bill will certainly meet the approval of the people of the United States, and will be in accord with the platforms of both political parties. Let us protect our workmen, whatever we do. American labor is a commodity that deserves fair treatment, and if justice is done many of the labor troubles will disappear. If there was more legislation on the part of the United States senate for the benefit of the laboring man and less for corporations and monopolists it would be much better for the country. Any measure for the bettering of the condition of workmen, if just and reasonable, should receive more attention than any kind of legislation. They are the bone and sinew of the country, and anything that tends to materially aid them conduces to the general welfare and prosperity. A period of depression tells worse upon them than upon the capitalist class. Among the former it is the many that suffer, while among the latter it is the few, and who can stand hard times without being compelled to undergo personal hardships.

Two Chicago Drivers Killed. PITTSBURGH, Pa., February 16.—Two stock trains near Conewango collided early yesterday morning by which two Chicago drivers were killed and a tramp stealing a rise was seriously injured.

Clearing House Report. BOSTON, February 16.—The managers of the leading clearing houses in the United States report the total clearings for the week ending February 14th, \$719,659,111, being a total decrease over the corresponding week a year ago of 37.6.

Will Accept a Canadian Regiment. OTTAWA, February 15.—Col. Williams received a telegram from Gen. Wolsey at Fort Erie, in which he was glad to see a Canadian regiment in Egypt.

IT IS ANNOUNCED THAT THE LONG STRIKE IN THE HOOKING VALLEY IS ENDED.

This is cheerful news to the miners who have been out of employment ever since last April.

Now that the board of trade has definitely settled upon the lot to be purchased for a site for a chamber of commerce building, every business man who desires to have a chamber of commerce worthy of the name, and which will be in keeping with the pretensions of the city as a trade center, should at once apply for membership to the board, and actively assist the present directory in carrying out this programme. If our business men do not promptly there is no doubt whatever that before the last of next December the building will be completed, and Omaha will have a chamber of commerce of which she can feel proud. The effect of such an enterprise upon the state at large would be of incalculable value to the business people of Omaha. It would at once, in conjunction with our live stock and grain industries, make Omaha a great market, and tend to bring to this point capitalists and men who desire to build themselves up in an enterprising and growing city.

As usual, there appears in our Monday morning press report an account of the Sunday doings of the Chicago Socialists. To say the least this Sunday dose of Chicago socialism is getting decidedly monotonous. We heartily endorse the following from the Denver News of a recent date: If the associated press reporter at Chicago can find no more important news to send west on Sunday night than the fact and meaningless utterances of a few blatherers, it is his duty to give the wires a rest. For more than ten years these same blatherers have met in Chicago every Sunday to air their eloquence, and that is all they have ever done. It is both absurd and idiotic now to try to make it appear that their organization is either new or dangerous. A little reform in the direction of common sense would do the associated press no harm.

If the legislature can't give us railway regulation, then let it give us nothing. The people certainly do not want a commission, which will add to our state expenses from \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year in extra taxes. There is no need of a commission, as there is already a law on the statute books requiring the auditor of every railroad company in Nebraska to make annual returns to the secretary of state concerning the business condition of his road, but that law has never been obeyed. If the legislature would simply pass a bill authorizing the secretary of state to collect this information and allowing his sufficient clerk hire for preparing a tabulated statement, it would do all that a commission could possibly accomplish, and the expense would not be more than \$1,500 a year. The clerk could assist the secretary in other work, so that the outlay would be a great deal less. The idea of making a commission, when the people do not liberally refuse to have one, and when it is designed from the outset to confer no powers to regulate freight and passenger tolls, but merely to collect statistics, is an insult to the people, and solely in the interests of the railways.

A MEMBER of the British parliament expresses the opinion that the occupation of 300 square miles by an American, Mr. Wiggins, in Scotland, as pleasure grounds for himself and friends ought not to be tolerated. These are our sentiments exactly. The English now see the evils of American land-grabbing within their domain, and they ought not to complain if we find fault with the English and Scotch land-grabbing syndicates and individual capitalists who have secured nearly forty million acres in the United States for their cattle and sheep ranches at mere nominal sums. This condition of affairs will not be tolerated much longer in the United States. The alien land owners must either become citizens or dispossess their lands to persons who are citizens. It is bad enough to have land-grabbers among our own people, but when whole empires of territory are bought up by wealthy foreigners who propose to establish the odious system of absentee landlordism and eventually suck the life blood out of the country, it is high time for the people to make a vigorous protest, and it is hoped that congress will continue to agitate the subject until it results in some very healthy and effective legislation.

Hears Through Her Nose. HARRISON HAHN, of Wind Gap, Pa., has a two-year-old daughter whose ears are bent forward and grown fast to the face. The girl was deformed when born. When she became two months old two doctors separated the ears from the face and then took to their proper place, but they returned to their former position and are there to remain undisturbed. Both ears are without the orifice, but deafness is prevented by the girl hearing every sound, no matter how light, through her nose and mouth. She is a very bright girl, is very fond of music, weighs only twenty pounds, is healthy, and is Mr. Hahn's first and only child, although he has been married fifteen years.

Is It Dynamic? LONDON, February 16.—A terrific explosion occurred in the powder magazines at Gibraltar today, killing seven men and doing considerable damage.

WHAT IT COSTS THE STATE TO MAINTAIN THE UNIVERSITY.

A Score of Doctors on the Millage Pay Roll—Nearly half the Students Residents of Lincoln.

THE UNIVERSITY. Special Correspondence of the Bee. LINCOLN, Feb. 15.—Your correspondent has no need of a great many doctors in the lobby of late. A curiosity to find out what was the matter revealed the fact that a large majority of those pill vendors exist in the faculty of the medical department of the university. It will probably be news to many of the taxpayers that such a department exists, but it does all the same, with twenty-one professors, who agreed not to charge for their valuable services for the first two years, although over \$1,400 has already been paid them for traveling expense, etc. As the professors live in all parts of the state their traveling bills amount to a big sum.

Now the tax payers wish to know if there is such a great demand for doctors that the state should appropriate large sums of money out of the university fund to run this department. The present supply of doctors much more equal the demand. It therefore follows that the state should not be put to the expense of educating a lot more when they are not needed. WHAT THE STATE DOES NEED is educated citizens. For this was the university endowed in gifts of land by the national government, but when it comes to taxing the people three-eighths of a mill and squandering the resources of the institution for the purpose of giving professional men an education, which is of course their capital, it strikes the average taxpayer as a great injustice. The merchant and the farmer might as well ask the state to set him up in business as to pay the doctor's fee, for his personal education free, he may be able to get something about the running of the university, and to that end your correspondent has spent some time in looking up the matter. The university costs over \$30,000 a year at the present time, (see report of regents, page 32). The probable income for the next two years is fixed by the regents at about \$10,000. Of this \$7,500 is received from the state tax of a mill and one-half, leaving a balance derived from sale and leased lands of \$27,500, (see same report, page 12). The balance in the treasury at this time is about \$87,000, (page 12). If this is properly invested at five per cent it will yield an annual income of \$4,350, which added to the income from university lands will make for the two coming years a revenue of \$81,000, making \$10,700 a year. From the above figures taken from the regent's report, it will be seen that the income from university lands will support the state tax of three-eighths of a mill should no longer be continued, and the law relating thereto be repealed, and the act of Chap. 513, page 513, Annotated Statutes.

By reference to the University catalogue of 1883-84 it appears that the total number of students in the free departments is 335, of whom 136 are RESIDENTS OF LINCOLN, over one-third, at an annual cost to the state at large of over \$12,000. This same catalogue shows that there are 26 non-residents, who, under the law, are required to pay a tuition fee, to be fixed by the regents. (See Sec. 14, page 613) The report shows that this has been done. The cost to the state for each student is about \$100 a year. There should therefore, be in the net increase of \$9,000 a year paid in by the non-resident students. Why is this not done?

This institution should be sustained by the income from the lands and there is no reason or necessity of continuing the three-eighths mill tax. The regents have proposed that the state should contribute a medical department consisting of three separate schools of medicine—old school, homoeopathic and eclectic, each with its separate faculty. It is, of course, desirable to make this department a success as well as a pride to the state, but does the expense incurred justify at this time a large appropriation for its building and equipment of free education in law and medicine has proved grand failures. Pennsylvania University, the university at Ann Arbor, Michigan, the Iowa University, and a number of others have long since abandoned the free system, now requiring the legal and medical students to pay fees so that today these departments in the above named institutions are self-sustaining. In fact it is unjust to tax the people to give a professional education to the comparative few. It is hoped that the legislature will amend house roll 158 so as to require professional students to pay fees, otherwise the medical department with its twenty-one different professors will soon EAT UP THE ENTIRE REVENUE of the institution. The university of Michigan charges non-residents of the state \$50 a year, if the same sum was charged by our university it would yield an annual income in a few years sufficient to pay all costs of that department.

The medical professors are making every effort to lobby through bills, giving them big pay for their services; to them the university is everything, provided there is an appropriation for their benefit. It is demanded by the people that the state taxes be cut down as much as possible. The legislature of 1883 appropriated \$75,000 (see session laws, page 358) for expenses of the university of all kinds, including model farm, and there is no reason why the present legislature should increase this sum for the next two years.

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