The Tribune.

STEVENS & BARE, EDITORS AND PROPS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 1888.

MISS SHATTUCK died at Seward on Tuesday. Having lost both of her feet, it is better that death came to her relief.

NORMAN JACKSON has purchased the Wallace *Herald*. The first issue under the new management shows that Mr. J. is not a novice at the business, and that he will put out a good local paper.

THERE is evident need of enforcing the Chinese immigration law. Dennis Kearney says that 40,000 pigtails find their way into the United States every year by way of Van Couver and Puget sound. Dennis is trying to open the eyes of congressmen.

LOU WESSEL, chairman of the Florida editorial excursion, says the "editors" are not flocking in with any great unanimity and he is in doubt about making up a car-load. This is a little strange. Nearly every paper in the state should be able to send a lawyer, a doctor or a merchant. Don't allow this "editorial" excursion to fail, boys; send down your representatives.

IN SPITE of the efforts of war parties, indications for hostilities between Russia, Germany and Austria are growing smaller. The publication of the secret treaty between the last two powers whereby they agree to assist each other, will cool the Russian ardor for war for a short time. It is now in order for the Bear to form an alliance with Mons. Crapo; then we may look for offensive operations against the "Dutch." They are bound to have a war on the continent pretty soon. All sides are anxious for the fray and spoiling for the fight. The rulers cannot hold them in check much longer.

THE laws of Nebraska provide for assessing the premiums of insurance companies as personal property. The Phoenix insurance company believed that the law was not good and brought an action to test the question. The supreme court sustained the law. In passing upon the question the court said:

"The words 'personal property,' taxable according to the laws of this state, as the same occur in section 25 of chapter 13 of the compiled statutes of 1885, entitled 'cities of the first class;' *held*, to be used in the sense of 'taxables' or 'subjects' of taxation, and to embrace all subjects of taxation under the laws of the state other than real estate, which is therein specially named."

THE Sidney *Telegraph* is warming up the commissioners of Cheyenne County in a lively manner. Judging from reports, the commissioners aforesaid are fine workers and would be a credit even to New York City. They are great workers. They worked for the county 160 days and for the state 179 days, all done in 182 days, showing that they only rested about five hours each day. The *Telegraph* further says:

"Another curious feature of their bill made out to the state is the distance these men traveled each day. It would not be thought from a casual look at the three commissioners that they would travel fifty miles each day, inspect several sections of school land and keep up such a rush for seven long months. But they did: at least the 8,950 miles, which they swore they traveled, divided by the 179 days, gives an average of exactly fifty miles per day for each of them. Furthermore, any one who will take the trouble to sit down and figure will find that our worthy commissioners traveled at least twice as far as was necessary to inspect and examine every section of school land in the county."

WE THOUGHT last week when we gave the very learned, eloquent and lucid disquisition of the scientists of the Smithsonian institution who had been sitting for a year or more upon the bone that Judge Mason found buried in the mud of the Missouri, that it was so, but we could hardly bring our ponderous brain to realize the fact. However, the eminent savant of the Tecumseh *Chieftain* came promptly to our relief and we hasten to lay his clear and scholarly explanation before the bewildered public, to-wit:

CHIFTAIN OFFICE, TECUMSEH, NEB., Feb. 3, 1883. *Manager Lincoln News Bureau of the Omaha Republican*—Dear Sir: I noted with pleasure your report of the learned investigations of the Hon. Oliver Perry Mason et al, concerning the antecedent history of a certain bone found in the bed of the Missouri river at Rulo, while making certain excavations for the B. & M. bridge. I conclude that it is very important that the bone was found under those circumstances, as otherwise no learned disquisition had ever been given the world concerning it. While agreeing with the report on some points I must write a dissenting opinion on one or two important details as I consider them.

The learned paleontologists who sat on the remains, after the most exhaustive labor and profound research concerning the part this bone had played in the domestic economy of the animal in which it formerly had a home, evolved a certain aldermanic looking beast with an elongated neck and palm-tree-like caudal appendage that was wonderful to look upon, and in looking at it one could realize with the Psalmist, that it was fearfully and wonderfully made. Its neck was said to be sixty feet long. From certain data connected with said bone it was discovered that this animal was the much noted *trisoculus bostogonigus*, and that the length of its neck was arranged for a proper appreciation of the far famed baked beans, of which this Boston-gone-cuss is the reputed originator.

In Judge Mason's report it is assumed that this animal is not indigenous to this loci, but that the bone was washed down with the other detritus which fills the valley of the Missouri from the Rocky mountains of Montana, or from the interjacent loci, and it is asserted that it came most probably from the mauvaises serres.

It would seem that a report so accurate in most particulars should have been more specific in so important a factor as this. For my own part, I differ very materially from this learned exhortation of the judges and co-laborers at Washington, in scope, and theory and practice. From the very plentiful data it seems to me to be conclusively proved that this silurio-paleontologic relic once browsed on the palm tree that grew in such plenteousness on the very ground where Tecumseh now stands, and that it roamed at will during the early part of the Van Wyck era over the interjacent loci, including Burchard, Crab Orchard, Vesta, Smartville, Johnson, Ellk Creek, and other large cities in these *terres*. For otherwise it would have been impossible for such a hypodermic injectionary gland of this particular ponderosity to excoriate its own effluvia—commonly called Rosewater — transversely on its own responsibility from any other rational hypothesis. I am inclined to the theory that the Trisoculus part of the Boston-gone-cuss by some means unknown to the house judiciary committee became detached from the interjacent conchology, and that the abdominal force of gravitation interrupted the azoic flow of the food bag, and that the result was a gradual coolness between the board of transportation. Only a farmer and the squatter governor, and that in the bringing about of this very desirable result Attorney-General Leese played first violin and Judge Mason played the tinkling cymbals. This hypothesis seems to me to be the only geological conchological and paleontological concatenation, based on a logical interpretation of the differentials on distance and distributing tariffs and and the soboliferous inertia that surrounds the tumultitudinous consequences of the consolidation of the Atchison & Nebraska with the Burlington & Missouri, together with the kick of the Lincoln lumber lords against discriminating rates.

I have endeavored to make my report plain so that the common people may understand. though of necessity a few scientific terms had to be elucidated.

Yours scientifically,

A. H. SWART,

Savant, conchologist. and editor of the *Chieftain*.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL

Card of Thanks.

Mrs. Ries and her children, and the brothers of the deceased, desire us to return their thanks to the people of North Platte for their kind sympathy and assistance on the occasion of the death and burial of Anthony Ries. Also to the Masons, Knights of Honor and Grand Army for the fraternal and brotherly feeling manifested.

A Cheap Man.

A few day ago a big load of hay was driven onto the city scales to be weighed. Down in the depths of the hay nicely buried—of course to protect him from the cold,—was a big man, a 200 pounder. In due time the wagon returned to be weighed, but the big man was minus. Hay is worth 25 cents per hundred. Two hundred pounds of man, 50 cents. Cheap man.

The U. P. New Train Service.

On the fourth page is a full description of the new local train service of the Union Pacific, covering all its lines in Nebraska. To the city of North Platte and the people along the road between here and Grand Island, this new service is of especial importance, an accommodation that has long been required and just what is wanted From this city to Omaha, both east and west, the train makes a daylight run, giving travelers an opportunity to stop at any point during the day time. Leaving North Platte at 7:30 a. m., a person desiring to visit Omaha or go down the road to any point, is not obliged to break his rest by getting up at an unseemly hour, but can proceed with some degree of leisure and comfort. Already this service is having a beneficial effect in our city. People from the smaller towns east come in on the evening train do their shopping, or transact other business and return in the morning prepared to do a full days' work at home. Another great accommodation is that these trains will arrive and depart on time. Being local trains, they will not wait for Chicago trains, which are nearly always delayed passing through stormy Iowa. Their arrival and departure will be about as regular as the rising and setting of the sun.

Text Books.

The meeting of school officers at the office of County Supt. Langford last Saturday was well attended, twenty-eight districts being represented, either by the officers in person or by written communications expressing the views of the districts from which they came. The publishing houses represented were Harpers, Burnes & Co., and Ivison, Blackman & Co. In making selections, of course it was desirable and the wish to have the books come from as few houses as possible, and in making selections binding and the letter press was taken into consideration as well as the quality of the text. Swinton's readers being considered much better in point of binding and equally as good in other respects, they were unanimously adopted.

Following is a list of the books accepted:

Swinton's Readers,
Swinton's History,
Smith's Physiologies,
Harrington's Speller,
Harper's Geographies,
Harper's Arithmatics,
Townsend's Civil Government,
Harpers' Copy Books,
Allwine's Book-Keeping.

Where these books are not already in use very liberal terms were made for exchanging the old books for these new ones, The county superintendent was appointed agent for the sale of the books selected.

Cedar River.

EDS. TRIBUNE:

In last week's TRIBUNE I notice a writer regrets that the beautiful stream which takes its rise a short distance northwest of this city, and which he calls "the Dismal," is so named. And so he may regret, for that is certainly a misnomer. But he as well as other writers ought to know that the right name is Cedar River, after the large number of beautiful cedar trees which formerly covered the hills and canyons bordering its banks. That is an appropriate name and one which in my opinion should be adopted. H. G.

[If the right name of the stream is Cedar, we should like our correspondent to give his authority. Geographers as well as others have fallen into the error of calling it Dismal—which we assume to be an error—for it certainly should be called something more appropriate. If we can find good authority we will have the stream rechristened.]

NEIL BURGESS.

Neil Burgess in his play of "Vim," caused a large audience last night to collapse with laughter. As Tryphena Puffy, Mr. Burgess is a complete host and is to the play itself what Hamlet is to the play of that name. There is nothing to prevent "Vim" being one of the greatest successes of the season in this city.—*Pittsburgh Leader*, January 8.

Shouts of laughter greeted his every effort and fun reigued supreme throughout the entire entertainment. Mr. Burgess is inimitable and his performance is one of the most perfect stage creations of the day. It ranks with all the famous portraitures, and no wonder it is the talk of the town.—*Syracuse Daily Courier*, January 30.

The Neil Burgess company will appear before the North Platte public next Monday evening, Feb. 13.

WELLFLEET.

On this day of grace, to-wit, Monday Feb. 6th, we have had over a week of fine weather; don't understand me to say that all this fine weather took place on one day, for if there is one thing I pride myself on it is my ability to tell the truth —in fact I claim that I was the boy who couldn't tell a lie, and the good character then formed has ever stuck to me—but the fine weather referred to occured previous to this date; now I think you understand, and I will proceed with my story.

Quite a number of farmers have been plowing and making preparations to sow grain. Casper Bolish, T. M. Lee, W. C. Elder, Joseph Buchanan and others contemplate sowing large pieces of wheat. As soon as the planting season is over I will try to send you a list of the areas sown

People will go "to law," or in other words they too often resort to the courts to obtain that justice which could be secured in an easier manner and at less expense by arbitration. In consequence of this disposition to litigate, Squire Elder and the efficient constables who wait on his court, have had a "right smart" of business lately. Curtis lawyers have the bulk of the practice. When I see the glory that these young disciples of Blacksone achieve, although I have seen the snows of many winters, I feel like studying law myself, and to be a hero. Lawyers are the greatest men on earth.

Judging from reports, potatoes will be almost as scarce as hen's teeth next spring. A great many have been frozen. Farmers did not anticipate such extreme cold. The loss will be a lesson to all of us, and I hope teach us to cover our tubers better on the approach of cold weather.

To make time pass pleasantly and give variety and spice to life, there was a hop at Mr. Lane's house, at which I hear there was a good turnout and pleasant time. Mel Wood made the music, and he is hard to beat for a homesteader.

Sheriff Baker slipped through here on the 4th, apparently in hot pursuit of some one—rumor says a horsethief, and that he rounded up his man near Somerset.

Constable John T. Labille has been kept quite busy lately serving papers. He admits that his "boys" are all girls, but says they are all right while warm weather holds out.

Frank Wilburn has a fine lot of hounds to run down coyotes, etc. Seems to me some of your North Platte sportsmen might come over and have a "fox" hunt.

I understand there is a petition going the rounds to procure a saloon at Wellfleet. While, personally, I would prefer not to have a saloon, but if liquor is to be sold here—and I am informed that it has been—it had better be done under the sanction of law. I still adhere to the opinion that a petition for a church would be better.

STUNNER.

MEDICINE.

The lost is found, for here we are, feeling better since the blizzards.

Squire Elder averages about two trips to the Platte each week. He went up Monday and returned Tuesday, and on Wednesday disposed of nine cases which were brought before his court. He will perhaps make two more trips to the Platte this week. The squire is a rustler for sure.

A. B. Van Loan has secured a position as guard in the asylum at Lincoln.

Larkin Cordil has accepted a position as clerk in a store at Curtis.

George Kidner is staying at home now but he does trade horses sometimes.

There will be quite a number of families immigrate from Iowa to our Nebraska this spring.

A big dance was given by A. J. Bish last Friday evening. There were about twenty-six ladies present

A leap-year party is among the possibilities of the near future. Of course I don't expect a bid as I am too old , but I would enjoy seeing the young people have a good time.

Green is working a little on his tree claim near the school house in district No. 22. The boys spend most of their time at noons goffing him. They say it is a regular picnic as he always has something to say about his neighbors.

Joseph McMichael, our new constable, cut his foot severely with an adz the other day. Reports say he is able to go visiting already.

Constable Lee is improving and is making preparations for farming.

Josiah Thomas one of the old settlers of the Medicine made a business trip to these parts a few days ago. He resides at present at Hay Springs, Colorado,

Ft. G. RANGER.

Feb. 1, 1888.

FROM ANOTHER.

A. J. Blougher is at last supremely happy having received his teacher's desk. We understand A. H. Davis has given A. J. a position as collector. That suits the squire as he can now call at the store three times a week and no one will suspect but what he is on business relative to collections; but we pity Lizzie.

G. W. R. Ferguson has announced his intention of giving a dance some time this month.

Wm. Locke is putting the finishing touches on A. J. Davis' house in Wellfleet.

One of our young ladies is sporting a ring on her index finger. We hear it whispered that the party who gave it to her has been trying for some years to find a finger the ring would fit but we are glad to say it fits this particular finger very nicely. Look out for a wedding followed by squalls. SCRIBBLER.

The porter who takes care of Senator Leland Stanford's private car receives $200 a month. This is more than the average college professor earns.

The ex-Empress Eugenie who is not yet sixty, is said to look much older, and is very infirm and pale. She has been obliged to use a cane in walking since 1879.

Americans have always enjoyed the repution of being the quickest and smartest people in the world. No doubt they were so at one time, but that time has disappeared. American children are vastly duller and more incapable of learning than German children for example. At least this is what the objectors to the public schools tell us. They say the course of study is too hard and is killing American children. As the latter at sixteen years in the public schools are trying to learn a part only of what German children do in their schools at thirteen, it follows that the mental and physical fibre of Americans has deteriorated immensely. If our native youth has become too delicate to stand the onerous labor of study, why not turn the public schools over to the children of emigrants?

NOTICE—TIMBER CULTURE

U. S. Land Office, North Platte, Neb., Feb. 7th, 1888.

Complaint having been entered at this office by William C. Borchardt against John N. Mertz for failure to comply with law as to Timber-Culture Entry No. 3131 dated Sept. 17, 1883, upon the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter and lots 1, 2 and 3, section 3, township 14, range 34, in Lincoln county, Nebraska, with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said claimant has failed to break or cause to be broken any part of the ten acres required to be broken by law; that no part of said tract has been cultivated and that no trees, seeds or cuttings have been planted on said tract and said defects exist up to date; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 4th day of April, 1888, at 9 o'clock a. m., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure.

WM. NEVILLE, Register.

44

"And beautiful maidens moved down in the dance,
With the magic of motion and sunshine of glance;
And white arms wreathed lightly and tresses fell free
As the plumage of birds in some tropical tree."

F. L. T.

The Annual Masque Ball

OF

Walla Walla Lodge No. 56, I. O. O. F.,

WILL BE HELD ON

Tuesday Evening, Feb. 21st,

LLOYD'S OPERA HOUSE, NORTH PLATTE.

Tickets: Gents Masked, $1.50; Ladies Masked, 75c; Spectators, 50c.

☞ A general invitation is extended to the public. No special invitations will be issued but the management reserves the right to exclude all improper persons. For this purpose an inspecting committee will be at the door whose duty it will be to see that this is rigidly enforced.

Committee of Arrangements: J. E. Evans, P. J. Gilman, P. M. Klenk, J. R. Bangs, A. A. Pangborn, W. C. Elder, C. M. Duncan, J. C. Hupfer, R. D. Thomson, P. H. Sitton, Jas. Briscoe.

By order of the Executive Committee: C. W. Price, C. H. Stamp, L. A. Stevens, Jos. Smallwood, J. S. Hoagland, Committee.