

THE TRIBUNE.

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NEBRASKA ITEMS.

A company has been organized for the purpose of building a bridge across the Missouri river at Decatur.

James N. O. Sherwood, of New York, has brought suit in the United States court against the city of Brownville to recover money due on bonds issued by the city several years ago. The plaintiff's petition embraces seventy-two counts.

Blair Pilot: Sheriff Gross arrived on Friday last from Ohio, having with him the prisoner Hiram Lee, having made the round trip, taking in Lincoln, Neb., and Columbus, Ohio, to procure his requisition, in five days. When arrested Lee had on a \$80 suit of clothes that he had just stolen, and they were identified by the owner, who refused to take them after he had worn them.

A strange and fatal disease among hogs has made its appearance in the vicinity of Fremont, and a great many have died. Those who have observed the effects say that the hog is very suddenly taken sick, stops eating coughs some, and within a few hours lies down and dies.

Mr. and Mrs. Whiting, of Nuckolls county, recently celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their married life.

It is said the B. & M. will build a new and commodious depot at Grafton this year.

A subscription paper is in circulation at Sidney for building a Methodist church. Fifteen hundred dollars has thus far been subscribed.

Beaver City is jubilant over its prospects. Newcomers are arriving daily and the town has a boom of no mean pretensions. Merchants are doing a rushing business, and the outlook on all sides is decidedly encouraging.

The Congregational society of Fremont contemplate building a house of worship at an early day.

Brakeman T. Farrell, of B. & M. freight No. 29, was killed at Cedar Creek quarries by falling under a flat car which broke in two. His body was taken to Mendota, Ill., by his brother, J. P. Farrell, of Beatrice.

Gen. O. O. Howard is giving a series of lectures throughout the state, his subject being "The Battle of Gettysburg."

Genoa Enterprise: The inter-marrying of white people with Indians is getting more popular. A number of Omaha Indians have for some time been married and living with whites near their agency. And recently not only has the matron in the government school at the Santee agency taken a young Santee brave for a life partner, but a Rev. S. S. Hinman has taken a wife of like birth. This information may have a tendency to soothe the sorrows of some of the old bachelors of this neighborhood who have been vainly searching for the last twenty years for one of the fair sex to share their sorrows.

Valentine Reporter: Yesterday morning an Indian came into the postoffice to buy a dollar's worth of stamps, telling us in broken English that he was going to send letters to his children, who had just gone to Genoa to attend school. Who says the Indian is not civilized?

The Hastings Journal says a man on Capt. Youcum's farm selected twenty ears of corn from his crib and took five kernels of corn from each ear. These he placed in a pan of earth which was kept in the kitchen. After a sufficient time had expired he examined the corn and by actual count found that ninety-nine kernels had sprouted in good shape and were growing. Other farmers seem to think that much of the early planted corn of last year will grow.

A fire at Lincoln on the 27th destroyed property to the value of \$60,000, on which there was partial insurance.

The barn of J. B. Shephard, near Fullerton, took fire, and before anything could be done to save the stock or grain, burned to the ground. Three span of horses perished in the flames, and a large amount of grain was destroyed.

Stock in Brown county are reported as doing well and looking first-class. The season having been a comparatively open one and but little snow having fell, it has been necessary to feed but little, the cattle picking up their own living on the range.

The tide of immigration expected in northern Nebraska is commencing to arrive with the approach of the spring months.

The Omaha Republican publishes the replies from 300 leading republicans, covering every county in Nebraska. The replies indicate the first choice for presidential nomination as follows: For Blaine, 107; Logan, 69; Arthur, 51; Edmunds, 18; Conkling, 15; Lincoln, 12; Gen. Sherman, 10; Senator Harrison, 6; Grant, 4. There is nearly a unanimous preference for Robert Lincoln for the vice-presidency.

Postoffice changes in Nebraska for the week ending February 23, 1884, furnished by Wm. Van Vleck, of the postoffice department: Established—Nicholas, Lincoln county, Richard Brown, postmaster. Discontinued—Liby, Dodge county; Nea, Custer county. Names changed—Penica, Dawson county, to Hilton, Wendall Gross, postmaster. Postmasters appointed—Akron, Boone county, F. E. Tackley; Atlanta, Saline county, Jennie Bamer; Axtel, Kearney county, Eben W. Fosbury; Cascade, Howard county, Miss Martina Welch; Laporte, Wayne county, Pamela Agler; Lavinia, Holt county, Jacob S. Griffin; Louisville, Cass county, Alma E. Glover; Lost Creek, Platte county, Mrs. M. A.

Crookian; Oakdale, Antelope county, E. Galley; Olax, Custer county, John Moran; River View, Buffalo county, James Hunter.

George Butts was arrested in Kearney for selling dried horse meat.

In the Reid murder case, in progress at Beatrice, a daughter of the accused fainted while giving testimony. She testified she was with her mother when Reid came to the house and shot her.

The Republican state central committee, at their meeting held in Omaha a few days ago, decided to hold the state convention for choosing delegates to the presidential convention at Chicago, at Lincoln on Thursday, May 1. It will consist of 440 delegates. The basis of apportionment is the vote for Regent Hiatt at the election last fall.

There is not enough houses in Valparaiso to supply the demand and capitalists are urged to put their money in a few tenements and realize handsome returns therefrom.

The Valparaiso Avalanche says that Dr. Stephens was called to Marble precinct of that county in his capacity as county coroner to see an old man named Xavier Egger whose body had been found lying stark and cold on the prairie. The deceased had been attending a meeting held in a school house the night previous, and the verdict of the jury was that he came to his death by falling upon the ice as he was returning home.

Jordan P. Smith who was tried at Juniata seven years ago for the murder of a man named Collins at Kearney, and sentenced to ten years in penitentiary, will be liberated on the 22d of March. Smith's term would not under the sentence expire until February 22d, 1887, but owing to good behavior he will have three years of the sentence deducted.

The Hastings Gazette-Journal has been shown a quilt containing 5,280 pieces made by Mrs. N. Dornay, a lady who is seventy-six years of age. The quilt is for sale, and when sold the proceeds are to be used toward the erection of a church at Hansen.

The Fairfield Herald has been investigating the amount of corn stored in the town and finds there is nearly 60,000 bushels.

Farmers who have good, sound, fully-matured corn are likely to receive a good price for the same before planting time, as Nebraska seed corn will probably be in demand from the eastern states.

Nathaniel Pascoe, who has been feeding 2,200 head of sheep northwest of Fremont, has disposed of his flock for five cents per pound, to be delivered about the middle of March.

The beautiful grove on the farm of David Schwenck, two miles east of Papillion, is being cleared of all underbrush and fitted for picnic grounds. It is one of the handsomest locations in Sarpy county, and expected to prove a popular resort during the summer months.

Senator Harrison's Pension Bill.

WASHINGTON, February 25.—Senator Harrison introduced a bill in the senate today providing for a pension for all honorably discharged soldiers who served six months in the war of the rebellion in the military or naval service, provided they are now disabled. The bill proceeds upon the theory that there are many soldiers and sailors who did not contract disabilities during the war of such a well-defined nature as to enable them to make proof thereof, but who are now broken down in health by reason of hardships and exposures in the service. The highest rate of pension granted is \$24. The bill increases to \$12 the pensions of all widows of pensioners who contracted disability in and since the war and who are now drawing \$8; also the pensions of widows of soldiers to be pensioned under the first section, and those who shall obtain pensions under the existing laws, without the widow being required to prove that death was due to service. It does not grant a pension to all widows, but only to those who are or became pensioners. The bill is the result of a demand which the government, under existing laws, is unable to meet. The pensions under the act will begin at the date of filing the application therefor.

A Double Execution.

JACKSON, Ohio, February 29.—Great crowds were present to witness the hanging of the brothers Luke and William Jones, for the murder of Andrew Lackey a year ago. The trap fell shortly after 1 o'clock. The brothers were hanged on a single piece of rope, one at each end, the middle portion of the rope being wrapped about a beam. The double trap worked perfectly. They slept soundly last night, praying for an hour before retiring. This morning they sang and prayed constantly while preparing for the gallows. Luke's neck was instantly broken. William struggled and twitched horribly after the trap fell, drawing his legs up so they touched his brother.

We have handled Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for eight years, always warranted it, and never had a bottle returned. HAMLIN & KIRBY, Drugists, Sept. 18, 1883. Oneida, Kansas.

Eight hundred vagrants, a score of them men whose ages ranged from ninety to ninety-nine years, were arrested in a single week toward the close of last month in Paris. Many of them asserted that they had not slept in a bed for thirty years.

Good manners are made up of petty sacrifices.

Six days of labor make the seventh comfortable.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.—Monday, February 25.—Mr. Logan, from the committee on judiciary, reported two original resolutions, which were agreed to, relating to railroad lands, one calling upon the secretary of the interior to inform the senate whether any of the railroad companies mentioned in the act of May 7, 1878, had failed to comply with the requirements of said act, when and in what respect they had failed and whether they subsequently complied therewith. Mr. Ransom offered a joint resolution to appropriate \$100,000 for the relief of sufferers by the recent great wind storm in the southern states. Referred. Mr. Voorhees offered a resolution, which was referred to the committee on judiciary, instructing that committee to inquire concerning leases of lands in the Indian Territory for cattle grazing and how much money paid into the treasury for such leases, and whether the lessees had surveyed land, etc. The senate resumed consideration of the currency bill. The bill, as modified by Morrill's amendment, was passed—43 to 12. It provides for the issue of notes to banking associations to the amount not exceeding the par value of the bonds deposited, or in excess of the actual amount of capital stock paid in; that associations issuing notes payable in gold shall receive notes on the bonds deposited, but money in the act for other than banking associations.

HOUSE.—Mr. Gibson introduced a joint resolution appropriating \$30,000 for the distribution of seed among the sufferers from the Ohio floods. Referred. Mr. Dunn introduced a resolution for an appropriation of \$500,000 for the relief of persons rendered destitute by the overflow of the Mississippi river and tributaries. The committee on territories reported a bill providing a civil government for Alaska. Referred to the committee of the whole. Also requiring that governors of territories be residents of such territories at least two years before date of appointment. Placed on calendar. Bills were introduced: By Mr. Stevens, to establish an inter-state railway transportation bureau for the regulation of commerce with foreign nations and among states and within the Indian tribes. By Mr. G. D. Wise, for the completion of a monument to the mother of Washington, at Fredericksburg. The house went into committee of the whole on the bill to create a bureau of animal industry. The committee, without action, rose and the house adjourned.

SENATE.—Tuesday, February 26.—Mr. Hale introduced the following joint resolution, which was passed without debate: Resolved, That the act of her Britannic majesty's government in presenting to the United States government the arctic steamship "Alert," which will be used in the contemplated expedition to relieve Lieutenant Greely and party, is recognized as opportune and generous, and deeply appreciated by congress and the people of the United States; and that the president is hereby requested to communicate a copy of this resolution to her Britannic majesty's government. The committee on military affairs reported favorably, with amendments, the bill to consolidate the bureau of military justice and corps of judge advocates of the army. Placed on the calendar. Mr. Plumb offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling upon the commissioner of agriculture for information as to the annual amount of wheat, rye, corn, and cotton produced in this country during the five years preceding 1882; the amount used at home for food, fodder seed and other purposes; the amount exported and the surplus, if any, at the end of said group of five years, and similar information for the years 1882 and 1883 separately, and an estimate as to the year 1884. Also, whether, in his judgment, speculations by "options" or "futures," whereas no actual transfer takes place, tends to affect the market value of the commodity to the injury of the consumer or producer.

HOUSE.—After the transaction of routine business the house went into committee of the whole (Cox in the chair) on the pleuro-pneumonia bill. Mr. Hopkins offered an amendment, providing that the appointment of examiners be with the consent of the legislatures. Mr. Eaton approved the amendment because the bill could not be amended so as to make it decent. Mr. Kasson urged the necessity of a federal inspection law of some sort that would furnish foreign nations prima facie evidence of the safety of the meat products exported from the United States. A million dollars a week hung upon the consideration of this bill, for the United States were subjected to a probing line in regard to some of the most important of its agricultural products. Mr. Weller thought the provisions of the bill were in the interests of a cattle ring now being formed to control the cattle trade of the great northwest. Mr. Hopkins' amendment was lost—91 to 101. Having concluded consideration of the second section, the committee rose and the house adjourned.

SENATE.—Wednesday, February 27.—Mr. Van Wyck asked immediate consideration of the following resolution: Resolved, That the committee on postoffices and postroads is directed to inquire whether, at any time, the Western Union and Baltimore telegraph companies, or any officer or employes of said companies, entered into a contract or negotiation for the purpose of consolidating said companies or making a combination for any purpose. After debate the resolution was referred to the committee on postoffices and postroads. Mr. Blair introduced a bill to extend the time for the completion of railroads west of the Mississippi river to which land grants have been made and which are in good faith prosecuting the work of construction without forfeiture of such land. Mr. Lapham introduced a bill to incorporate the Yellowstone Park railway and aid its construction. Mr. Vest offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling upon the secretary of the interior for information whether any part of the Crow reservation in Montana had been leased, and if so, by what authority.

HOUSE.—Mr. Valentine introduced a bill authorizing a bridge across the Missouri at Decatur. Referred. Mr. Lefevre offered a resolution reciting that speculation and gambling in American farm products obtained control of the market value of those products, and directing that the committee on judiciary prepare a bill prohibiting the purchase or sale of wheat, corn, provisions or other articles of prime necessity, unless actual transfer of the articles or warehouse receipts accompanies such action; also a bill authorizing such governmental interference as will give stability to the price of these commodities. The house went into committee of the whole on the pleuro-pneumonia bill. The motion to strike out the section which provides that states shall pay half the expense of the valuation of animals slaughtered as diseased was lost. Mr. Muldrow offered an amendment confining the operations of the bill to pleuro-pneumonia only. Adopted—100 to 73. The committee reported the bill to the house, and pending action on the amendment striking out section four, the house adjourned.

SENATE.—Thursday, February 27.—Mr. Ingalls introduced a bill to remove the injunction of secrecy from the court martial that tried Gen. Fitz John Porter, in order that the members of it may give the details to the public and testify, if called upon.

The senate resumed consideration of the bill to authorize the construction of steel cruisers. Mr. Hale then offered as a substitute for McPherson's amendment a provision that these vessels be constructed in all respects in accordance with the provisions of the acts of August 5, 1882, and March 3, 1883, authorizing the construction of four steel cruisers. Mr. McPherson objected and it went over. Mr. Hawley defended the secretary of the navy and said he would compare favorably with any man who ever filled the office. After further debate McPherson's amendment, reducing the number of vessels from seven to four, was lost—17 to 34. Pending discussion, the senate went into executive session and soon adjourned.

HOUSE.—The house considered the pleuro-pneumonia bill. The amendment striking out the fourth section (quarantine section) was agreed to—yeas 155, nays 118. Mr. Randall offered a resolution recommending the pleuro-pneumonia bill to the committee on agriculture with leave to report any time. Rejected—yeas 139, nays 145; the house thus refusing to recommit the bill. The bill was then passed—yeas 155, nays 127. The bill is passed. Provinces that the commissioner of agriculture shall organize a bureau of animal industry and appoint a chief thereof, whose duty shall be to investigate and report upon the number, value, and condition of domestic animals in the United States, and also the causes of contagious and communicable diseases among them, and the means for the prevention and cure of the same. He is authorized to appoint two competent agents, whose duty it shall be to report upon the best methods of treating, transporting and caring for them and the best means for the suppression and extirpation of contagious pleuro-pneumonia. The bill further provides that the commissioner of agriculture may expend so much money appropriated by this act as may be necessary in paying for animals that it is deemed necessary to slaughter and in such disinfection and other means as may be necessary to extirpate the disease. The authorities of states shall pay one-half the expense of animals deemed necessary to slaughter and one-half the cost for disinfection and care of herds of cattle. It prohibits the transportation from one state to another of any live stock affected with any contagious or infectious disease, and provides for the prosecution of any persons violating the prohibition. Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars is appropriated to carry into effect the provisions of the bill.

SENATE.—Friday, March 29.—Mr. Harrison, from the committee on territories, reported favorably the original bill for the admission of the territory of Dakota. Ordered printed and recommitted. The committee on appropriations reported favorably the military academy bill. Placed on the calendar. The senate resumed consideration of the bill for the construction of steel cruisers. Mr. Sewell's amendment for building the ships at the government navy yards and Jones' amendment that the building being apportioned among the different navy yards being before the body for action. Both of them were rejected. Mr. Morgan withdrew his objection to the vessels being built by private contract, by consent of Hale. The substance of the acts of 1882 and 1883 on the subject were embodied in the bill, together with a proviso that bids may be received from those who are able to satisfy the secretary of the navy that they can, in three months after making the contract, be ready to build the vessels, and the bill was passed—38 to 13.

HOUSE.—Mr. Ransom, from the committee on appropriations, reported a joint resolution introduced by him last Monday and referred to that committee, providing for an appropriation to aid the sufferers by the great storms in the southern states. The committee on education reported back the resolution inquiring into the management of the institutions using funds appropriated for the benefit of agricultural colleges. Adopted. The postoffice appropriation bill was reported by Townshend. Referred to the committee of the whole. Recess was taken till 7:30 p. m., the evening session to be for the consideration of the pension bills. The house, at the evening session, passed about twenty pension bills and adjourned until tomorrow.

HOUSE.—Saturday, March 1.—The following bills were reported: From the committee on banking and currency, to provide for the issue of circulating notes to national banks. Referred to the committee of the whole. From the committee on commerce, to establish a board of inter-state commerce. Referred to committee of the whole. From the committee on invalid pensions, to increase the pensions of widows, minor children and dependent relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors. Referred to the committee of the whole. The house went into committee of the whole on the naval appropriation bill. Mr. Thomas said there were fifty-nine officers for every ship in the service, or one officer to every five seamen. The navy was perfectly helpless. The pending bill had no provision for armament. When the ships were completed there would be no guns to put in them.

Report on the Swine Industry.

The president transmitted to the house the report of the commission on the condition of the swine products of the country. He recommends the views and conclusions of the commission as worthy of the most careful consideration of congress, with a view, if it can be done legitimately, to the removal of restrictions on exports now existing. He also commends the public spirit of the members of the commission and recommends an appropriation to reimburse them for expenses incurred and remunerate them for the time spent. He likewise recommends a provision for special efforts in the direction of investigation into the origin, propagation and means of extirpation of trichinae. The secretary of state also transmits a communication on the subject. He says the report shows conclusively that hog cholera is not present in meat packed for human food, and in no event is the disease communicable to human beings. As to trichinosis, the report is less conclusive, because less is known about the transmission of living trichinae and germs. He advises further investigation.

The Chinese Immigration Bill.

WASHINGTON, February 28.—The house committee on foreign affairs has agreed to report favorably the bill prepared by the Pacific coast delegation for the prevention of Chinese immigration, having made two amendments, one striking out the clause requiring Chinese students to have certificates and return to China within ninety days after graduation, and the other makes it necessary that the United States pay all expenses of the return of any Chinaman to whom permission is given to land from any vessel referred to under the law. It was a party vote, the democrats favoring and the republicans opposing.

BLOWN TO ATOMS.

An Omaha Powder Magazine Explodes With Disastrous Results—Four Boys Blown to Atoms.

Omaha Herald, 7th.

The shock of an explosion was felt throughout the city at three o'clock yesterday afternoon, shaking the upper stories of tall buildings, and was followed by the ringing of the fire bells on an alarm from box 6, Twentieth and Pierce streets. The nature of the jarring indicated probably a boiler—at least not a dynamite explosion—and the various breweries and manufacturing on the river bank were rumored, one after another, to have been blown up. The explosion was soon traced to the powder magazine of Steele & Johnson.

Presently the searchers made a horrible discovery. Lying on the bank of the brook, perhaps a hundred yards toward the river from the powder house, they stumbled upon the body of a young man decapitated and divested of the right arm. The body had been stripped of all clothing until it was wholly bare, and as it lay the back up-ward and stretched out as if it had fallen from a height, the skin burned blue-black and copper color by powder; it resembled less a human form than a mutilated casting of bronze. Between this point and the powder house a fragment of a scarlet flannel wrapper and two small pink-bordered handkerchiefs were picked up. There was no clue to the identity of the unfortunates. A party of men, who started up the south side of the ravine, came upon an all but shapeless form eighty yards up the slope, where it lay lodged against a sapling, as if had been thrown a yard beyond and rolled down. This body was shattered and mutilated, but some portions of a shirt retained it in its form, and in the bits of clothing was a pack of visiting cards, with the name "Willie Mallus."

Several of the boys who had come passed around the cards, and these gave the first definite clew as to who the victims were. Willie Mallus, Chris. Madsen, John Stitts and Willie Abney, all of South Omaha, had taken two shotguns and their revolvers and started out between one and two o'clock in the afternoon in a southerly direction, for hunting and shooting at a target, and had not been seen after passing the city limits.

How it occurred no one will ever know. One theory advanced is that the boys were shooting at the house and made a hole through some weak point, but experts say that a bullet can never fire ordinary gunpowder. Another theory, is that the men who were hauling powder to fill the house left the door unlocked and the boys trespassed there. The firm say that they suppose the boys were effecting an entrance in some way and that the lock had previously been tampered with. There were stored in the house at the time of the explosion over five hundred kegs and some cans of powder, about three hundred and twenty of blasting and two hundred and fifty of rifle powder, the whole valued at \$2,000.

Work for Your Choice.

WASHINGTON, February 29.—A gentleman who called upon the president yesterday said that certain subordinate officers of the postoffice department in a western state expressed fear of removal in case they advocated his renomination, because a senator of that state is himself a candidate for the presidency and claims their allegiance. The president said he was surprised, and hoped the statement was not true. Official position did not deprive a citizen of the right to express his political preferences and work for the nomination of his favorite if it did not interfere with his duties. He further said that every employe of the government should be protected in the exercise of the widest political liberty.

Yellow Calf in Custody.

ST. PAUL, February 26.—The Minneapolis Journal's Winnepeg special says: Broadview advises say Yellow Calf and other ring-leaders are on the way to Regina in the custody of the mounted police. All is quiet at the agency and no fighting is anticipated. A stormy scene ensued on the arrest of Yellow Calf. Rifles were drawn on the police with threats to shoot. One buck was just in the act of shooting Major Hickner, and but for the interference of one of the men would have killed him, and a general massacre would have followed. The first challenge to surrender was disregarded. This was followed by a parley, in which the Indians agreed to surrender, which they did. The settlers are still excited but the Indians are quiet.

The Perils of a Dakota Blizzard.

VALLEY CITY, Dak., February 25.—The body of Fred Nelson was found five miles from the place where he started in the blizzard. His two children are not yet found. The body of Thewold Gunderson, who left Clark City for his claim just before the blizzard, was also found. It was not before known he was lost.

Bread from Grass.

On the west coast of England grows a sort of sea grass (*porphyra laciniata*) which is made into something very like bread. In the main it is gathered by women; they then wash it and pluck all other plants carefully from it. After this it is boiled for some two hours; then the mass is cut in pieces with knives and kneaded into loaves. Oat meal is then strewed over it to give it greater cohesion and a more inviting appearance, and then it is baked. It keeps in summer for four days and in winter for eight. Many women on the coast of Devonshire earn their living by selling this bread, and most of it is sent to Swansea, in Wales, where it is much liked by the poorer classes.