

THE FRONTIER.

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NEBRASKA.

A free reading room has been opened at Cedar Bluffs.

Headquarters of the state board of Christian missions is to be located at Lincoln.

Highwaymen are becoming quite numerous in Omaha, as the cold days approach.

Plattsmouth has a boy preacher who seems to have the gift of speaking by inspiration.

A dog at Weeping Water hunts rabbits all by itself and always brings home all it catches.

Rev. W. Lipe, pastor of the Lutheran church at West Point, surprised his parishioners by tendering his resignation.

James Hall, a poor man living near Indianola, lost a pocketbook containing \$110, which the finder has so far failed to surrender.

The ministers of North Platte are speaking out in meeting against gambling, which the Telegraph says is being run openly in that city.

John Welin, a Swede farmer living in Woodville township, Platte county, was adjudged insane and taken to the asylum at Lincoln. His trouble is of a religious character.

Mrs. Semlisky of Wilber had her left hand amputated on account of a wound made by a needle penetrating the hand while she was washing some clothes a few weeks ago.

Dr. C. M. Duncan, of North Platte, is under bonds of \$5,000 to keep the peace, having made threats against his wife. An effort is being made to have him treated at an inebriate hospital.

George Mooney, a carpenter, working on the building of the King Press Drill company, at Nebraska City, fell from the roof, some twenty-five feet. His left ankle was broken and he was considerably bruised.

A Cedar county farmer named Hebron came home full of whiskey and ordered his wife to get supper and when she informed him that the cupboard was empty he tried to decapitate her with a buck saw.

Two traveling grocery fakirs giving the names of John T. Lucas and Boone Humbert, who were arrested in Tecumseh for jumping a board bill at Oakland, had their trial in county court and each sentenced to a fine of \$35 and costs.

John Miller's hardware store at Wilber was entered by burglars, who were discovered while engaged in looting the place. They escaped on horseback, taking some razors, spoons, revolvers, cartridges and a small amount in money.

Tax Commissioner Sackett of Omaha has completed his compilation of the assessment rolls sufficiently to show that the total assessment of the city real and personal property for the current year will reach above \$34,000,000, as against \$17,000,000 last year.

The members of the Kearney fire department are doing all in their power to raise money for the purpose of giving the delegates to the volunteer firemen's association, which will be held there next month, a royal entertainment. The volunteers of America have reopened headquarters in Kearney.

Frank M. Dunlavy, a tenant farmer, about 35 years old, unmarried, who has been farming about eighty acres northwest of McCook Junction, after gathering his crop of corn, took a trip back to Western Iowa last week to visit his relatives and old home. A telegram has been received stating that he had committed suicide by cutting his throat.

Sheriff H. W. Phillips, of Cuming county, with Deputy Sheriff Smith, of Dakota City, placed William C. Ream on horseback under arrest on a mandate from the supreme court stating that the decision of District Judge Evans, sentencing Ream to six years in the penitentiary for cattle stealing, had been affirmed. Ream was sentenced February 17, 1897, and after serving six months was released on a super-seedeas bond, pending a hearing of the case in the supreme court.

Washington dispatch: State Senator A. R. Talbot, who left the city this evening, has been in the city several days working in the interest of T. P. Kennard's claim against the state of Nebraska, amounting to \$28,000, growing out of the Pawnee Indian claims. Mr. Talbot is anxious to secure for his client a ruling from the interior department that the state has received the money that he claims. Mr. Talbot also put in a week in the pension bureau in the interest of clients in Nebraska.

The manufacture of sugar from the sugar beet which is now attracting general interest in this country, will be shown in a practical manner at the trans-Mississippi exposition. The department of agriculture will be represented by the exhibit made by the United States government. The Nebraska delegation to congress will endeavor to secure an appropriation of \$10,000 to cover the cost of a sugar beet plant of the exposition grounds in order to show the processes of manufacture of the sugar beet into a staple article. The plant will be completely equipped with approved machinery for grinding, bleaching and refining the sugar, ready for use. All grades of sugar will be made in plain sight of the spectators, and the subject of sugar beet growing from the time the seed is planted until the crop is matured will be exemplified.

The millinery stock of Mrs. J. Armstrong, of Nebraska City, was damaged by fire, smoke and water to the extent of \$2,000 the other evening. Partially insured. The fire is believed to have originated from the explosion of a lamp.

The application for space by exhibitors in the exposition are rapidly increasing. Over 200,000 square feet of space has already been allotted. In some instances applicants have doubled and even trebled the number of feet first asked for. Not since the world's fair has there been so great a demand for space at any of the sectional exhibitions held in this country.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

ITEMS OF INTEREST GATHERED HERE AND THERE.

Condensations that Embody a Good Deal of Information Without Requiring Much Space—Foreign and Domestic News Notes on All Subjects.

Monday, Dec. 13.

United States Minister Hay and wife dined with the queen and slept at the Castle.

Dr. Charles F. Kuechler, a prominent physician, died at his home in Springfield, Ill. Dr. Kuechler was the earliest homoeopathic physician in Illinois.

Fitzsimmons exhibited a telegram from his wife denying that she had told a Milwaukee reporter she would release him from his promise to fight Corbett.

Hon. W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska is at Monterey, Mex., on a visit. The distinguished American was the recipient of high municipal, state and federal honors.

Joe Reed, a prominent lawyer of Tangipahoa, and a widely known figure in Florida parishes, was assassinated. He was shot in the back at the court house at Franklinton.

E. H. Winslow, president of the Metropolitan Plate Glass company, confirmed a report to the effect that rates for plate glass insurance will probably soon be cut in every state.

Harry Allends was hanged at San Quentin (Cal.) penitentiary for the murder of Miss Wellberga Fielner and Vinanzi Crozetti. He tottered to the scaffold and it was necessary to support him.

Senator Allen, of Nebraska, has addressed a letter to the secretary of the interior, suggesting the advisability of making an Indian exhibit at the coming Omaha exposition. Secretary Bliss has the matter under consideration.

Tuesday, Dec. 14.

Eugene A. Cashman, a foreman in the street cleaning department of New York City, was arrested today on the charge of embezzling \$25,000 from persons in Nebraska.

Postoffice department officials say they are not aware of the extent of the loss occasioned by the rifling of registered pouches between New York and Philadelphia.

Secretary of War Alger has granted the Northwestern Cricket association a revocable license to use Fort Omaha and the parade grounds from July 25 to 30, during the exposition year.

Judge Morton S. Bailey, populist candidate for governor in Colorado, who was defeated by Alva Adams in 1893, has announced his purpose to act in the future with the democratic party.

In the defense of Adolph L. Luetger in his second trial one witness will swear that she saw his wife coming from her home on the night of her supposed murder shortly after 10:30 o'clock.

At Dayton, O., Michael Dyer was killed in a fist fight with John J. Laughlin. They were formerly members of the soldiers' home. Both were over seventy years old and had been friends.

At noon today Governor Stephens of Missouri commuted the death sentence of William Williams, the Kansas City negro who murdered a Hungarian in that city on the day of the carnival last fall, for harruaging for Bryan.

Secretary of the Navy Long has appointed Lieutenant Commander J. B. Adams to represent the Navy department on the government board having charge of the Omaha exposition, vice Lieutenant McCormack of the navy, assigned to sea duty.

Gen. Von Buelow, of the artillery, is dead. He has been suffering from influenza.

Wednesday, December 15.

St. Louis will soon have a new hotel that will cost \$2,000,000.

New York printers are threatening to strike for a nine hour day.

George W. Vanderbilt of New York has taken out a \$1,000,000 life insurance policy.

The "Bridegrooms" have drafted Elmer Horton, the star pitcher of the Syracuse club.

Officers as well as employes in the Falls River (Mass.) mills will suffer a cut in their wages.

Five members of the president's cabinet attended the funeral of Mrs. McKinley at Canton, Ohio.

Reports to the Illinois state board of Agriculture show one of the smallest areas of winter wheat ever sown.

The war department has been informed of the death today at Butler, Pa., of Col. J. C. McKee, surgeon, U. S. A.

Judge Sanborn in the court of appeals at St. Louis has granted a postponement of the proposed sale of the Kansas Pacific railroad for sixty days.

Hon. Alexander McDonald, minister to Persia under the last administration, and who arrived home from his post only last week, is at the point of death with pneumonia.

A Rome dispatch says General Wm. F. Draper, the United States ambassador to Italy, was present today at the casting of the bronze monument to General John A. Logan, which will be set up in Washington.

Postmaster General Gary has amended regulations so as to require that after April 1 next the bond supplied by letter carriers for the faithful performance of their duties shall be that supplied by surety companies.

Miss Jennie June Croly has been appointed an inspector of public schools by Mayor Strong for the term of five years. Mrs. Croly is known all over the United States as a writer and worker in woman's clubs.

As a condition precedent to the removal of the boycott against the Armour Packing company, the three labor unions involved have demanded an indemnity of \$50,000 to be paid to the union men who have been locked out. Other labor unions repudiate the demand.

Thursday, Dec. 16.

The Kansas Pacific railroad will now be sold February 15.

Mr. Bryan addressed the Mexican congress on the 14th.

The house is spending a good deal of time discussing civil service.

John E. Liggett left an estate of \$4,000,000 at St. Louis, made of tobacco.

The threatened printers' strike in New York has been declared off temporarily.

The proposed celebration of the passing of old New York has been abandoned.

Charles Fleischmann of Cincinnati died seized of \$2,000,000, which his will bequeathed evenly to his wife and three children.

When the Yukon river opens next spring, Moran Bros., of Seattle, Wash., have sixteen new steamers there ready to navigate it.

Senator Allen today introduced a bill to remove the charge of desertion from the military record of Joseph McGraw of Lincoln.

National women expect to raise \$25,000 for a George Washington memorial building connected with the proposed National university at Washington.

The senate committee on public lands has appointed Senators Carter, McBride and McInerney a sub-committee to draft land legislation for Alaska.

Senator Mark A. Hanna laughs at all reports from Washington that his health will compel him to go to Europe, even if he should be re-elected senator.

Commander and Mrs. Booth-Tucker outlined their Arkansas valley colonization plan to a large meeting at Salvation Army headquarters in Chicago. Subscriptions to the amount of \$10,000 were received before the close of the meeting.

Friday, Dec. 17.

Durrant's execution is now fixed for January 7.

Spain's troops are said to have surprised the insurgents and won a decided victory.

Both Durrant and his mother are now much cast down, realizing that the end is near.

It has been decided that another advance in rubber goods of 5 per cent will be necessary.

Populists in congress have decided to hold a caucus to outline their policies on pending questions.

The directors of the Southern railway has declared a dividend on the preferred stock, payable January 30.

The steamer Paragoud sank in the Mississippi river just above the mouth of the Red river. The loss will be heavy.

Joseph Ladue, the pioneer of the Klondike, was married on the 15th to Miss Kittie Mason, of Schuyler Falls, N. Y.

Joseph Banigan, formerly of the United States Rubber company, says that his company will not join interests with the larger corporations.

Although strongly urged to do so, Governor Lee, of South Dakota, said he would not feel justified in expending \$40,000 for a special session of the legislature.

Mississippi and Louisiana yellow pine lumber manufacturers' association passed a resolution yesterday approving the duty placed on lumber by the Dingley bill.

Sir William Edward Maxwell, governor and commander in chief of the Gold Coast since 1895, died at sea while off the Grand Canary Island, en route for England.

It is understood to be the present intention of the president to omit all social functions at the white house for a period of thirty days from the date of the death of his mother.

The convention of business men which met in Indianapolis last January and authorized the appointment of the monetary commission, will be called together again for the purpose of considering the commission's report.

Saturday, December 18.

The treaty of peace between Turkey and Greece has been ratified by King George.

At the interior department is said that there is no destitution at Dawson at present.

There is intimation that Durrant will take his own life before he will go to the gallows.

Union Pacific shops at Omaha have reduced working hours to seven hours a day and five days a week.

The Bank of Perry, Kan., was entered by burglars, who blew open the safe with dynamite and secured \$1,500.

Mr. Alfred Harnsworth, proprietor of the Daily London Mail, has presented the Windward to Lieutenant Peary.

The grand jury at St. Louis has returned an indictment charging Daly, ex-puglist, with murder in the first degree.

Alphonse Daudet is dead. He was dining with his family when he was seized with a sudden syncope and died almost immediately.

The date for the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic has been fixed for the week beginning September 5.

Among the passengers arriving yesterday on the Kaiser Wilhelm II. from Genoa were former Vice President A. E. Stevenson and wife of Bloomington, Ill.

The Yost Writing Machine Company has begun suit in the United States Court at Boston against the Williams Typewriter Company for infringement of patent.

The grain receipts at Buffalo for the year will reach the enormous total of nearly 200,000,000 bushels, as against 154,000,000 bushels in 1896, and 105,580,000 bushels in 1895.

Louis Altman was arrested at Nashville on a charge of embezzling \$15,000 to \$25,000 from the firm of Charles Rosenheim & Co., wholesale china merchants, for whom he was confidential clerk.

A resolution tendering the sympathy of the convention to the textile workers of the North and promising to render all possible assistance in case of a strike, was adopted by the Federation of Labor at Nashville.

SOUNDING AN ALARM.

A NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATOR PREDICTS TROUBLE.

He Seeks to Warn the Leaders of His Party—Predicts All Kinds of Disasters and Pitfalls for the Republicans if They Push Legislation in This Direction.

Chandler as an Alarmist.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Senator Chandler of New Hampshire has written a letter to the Washington Post, in which he says:

"If the secretary of the treasury and his single gold standard associates will cease their demand for impossible currency legislation, congress will pass the necessary appropriation bills, probably take care of Hawaii and Cuba, there will not be a serious party division during the session, and there will be an adjournment in May. Business will revive, the treasury receipts will equal the expenditures, the balance of trade will continue in our favor, and the republican party will in November, 1898, elect a majority of the house in the fifty-fifth congress."

"On the other hand, if Secretary Gage continues to press on congress a bill, the object of which he says is: 'First, to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard, and the immediate effect of which is to throw doubts upon the sincerity of the president's declarations in favor of continued efforts to secure bimetalism, a political turmoil will arise in congress which will split the now united republicans into fragments, while it will unite and consolidate the now inconspicuous opposition.'

"It is not feasible to retire the greenbacks; there is more a probability that a bill be sent to the president to increase their amount. It is not possible to secure the passage through either house of a bill making the greenbacks convertible into gold notes, or authorizing bonds payable in gold. The effort to do either thing will probably result in the passage of a bill for the redemption of the greenbacks in silver dollars, and for the payment of all United States bonds in gold or silver coin in the discretion of the president, who will be commanded to exercise his option for the advantage of the government, and not for the advantage of the creditor."

With such an uproar in congress as these proceedings will create, with western congressmen embroiled therein, with presidential vetoes as threatened by Secretary Gage under angry discussion, it will happen that all business enterprises and funds and investments will be disturbed, prices will fall, insolencies will increase, and the republicans will lose the congressional elections in 1898, as they did in 1890, and beyond the hope of a favorable action in 1900, at which time, therefore a Bryanite democratic president and congress will be chosen."

"Whether we are to have one of these results—political safety, or the other, political destruction, depends entirely upon the course to be pursued by Secretary Gage and those who are pressing him, forward, namely, the gold standard league of New York, and the self-constituted national monetary conference. How much Secretary Gage cares for the republican party is not known. Whether President McKinley, whose good faith toward bimetalism is coming to the test, will stop his secretary in his insane career is not known. It is to be hoped he will. But no political situation has been clearer than the present, to sound eyes, since the republican party began its marvelous career, forty-two years ago. These are times for all things. There is a time to move and a time to keep still and now is the time to keep still."

"It is simply political suicide for the republican party in this congress to affirmatively open the discussion of the money question. We ought to await the progress of international bimetalism, the advent of prosperity, and the filling of the treasury by the normal workings soon to be seen of the new tariff law. Shall we wait for these things or rush on to self-destruction? President McKinley must decide. Will he act for his people, or for his plutocrats? Upon his answer will depend the events of 1898."

Good for the Soldier's Widow.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—In recent pension decision Assistant Secretary Davis of the interior department promulgates the important decision that there shall be no limit to the time in which a widow may file an appeal in competing her husband's claim. The assistant secretary holds the question whether a soldier was entitled to a pension is not settled finally by the adverse decision of the pension bureau, but the secretary of the interior has a right to pass upon the question. The widow's right to prosecute the case to a final adjudication, and to appeal from the adverse action of the pension bureau, is conceded. No just reason, says he, appears for limiting the time for filing such appeal by the person who succeeds to the rights of the original claimant. This decision overrules those of the department made in a number of cases in past years.

The Boy is Innocent.

AKRON, O., Dec. 20.—The lawyers of Romie Cotell, the boy who was sentenced to the penitentiary for life about a year ago for killing Alvin Stone, his wife and hired man, say the boy was wrongfully convicted. They assert that the confession was extorted from him by detectives, who according to experts, were irresponsible. The lawyers say they know the real murderer and have almost enough evidence to convict him. They promise to cause his arrest soon.

Working Time Reduced.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 20.—Notice has been posted in the Union Pacific shops at Cheyenne and Laramie, reducing the time of the men employed from five to four days a week and from eight to seven hours a day, taking effect immediately. In addition the employes are given a lay off of ten days during the holidays. This is equal to a reduction of 30 per cent in wages. The reduction is said to be caused by a falling off of business on the Union Pacific, equal to 40 per cent of the business done during the summer months.

Seven Years for False Entry.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 20.—Seven years in prison was the verdict imposed upon Banker J. K. Bacon by Judge Marshall of the United States court today. Bacon was last night found guilty by the jury of making false entries in his report to the comptroller of the currency while president of a national bank in this city. Bacon's prosecution grew out of the failure last year of the Bank of Salt Lake, a private institution of which he was president. The court afterwards granted a stay of execution, and the defendant was released on furnishing \$20,000 bonds.

THE SPOILS SYSTEM.

It is Denounced by the National Civil Service Reform League.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 20.—The National Civil Service Reform league re-elected Carl Schurz president by acclamation.

The report of the treasurer, A. S. Friessell of New York, showed receipts of \$4,478.82; balance on hand, \$376.13.

The report of the committee on resolutions, which reported through its chairman, Charles G. Bonaparte of Baltimore, was adopted as follows:

1. The National Civil Service Reform league, in its seventh annual meeting reminds the country of the specific and emphatic pledges of the last republican national convention thoroughly and honestly to endorse the present federal civil service law and to extend its operations wherever practical. The league confidently expects from the president and demands from every republican senator a faithful fulfillment of this distinct and solemn pledge.

2. The league denounces any attempt on the part of republican members of either house of congress to repeal the law to embarrass the administration of any modification of its provisions except to the end that the merit system for public offices and employes may be extended and personal or partisan favoritism in their choice more thoroughly eradicated, and declares it not only unpatriotic and unwise, but a gross, shameful abuse of the party of which no man of honor would be guilty.

3. The league recognizes in the order of President McKinley forbidding removals in the classified service unless for good cause and after due notice to the person accused a wise and just measure fully endorsed by a heightened public opinion, and it demands for the order a fair construction and a practical enforcement with adequate punishment for any officials who may disobey or seek to evade its provisions. The league respectfully urges upon the president and upon the members of his cabinet and of either house of congress who also desire to preserve and extend the merit system of appointment in the federal service the importance of unflinching resistance to the demands of men who wish its destruction. The least concession to demands inspired by such motives will greatly encourage these men and increase their greedy clamor, while making resistance to such pressure more difficult in the future.

4. The league calls attention to the fact that in those states where the party now dominant in federal government has sought intercessions of its state conventions to qualify or evade the unequivocal utterance of its national platform as to civil service reform the results of the late election have clearly indicated the disapproval of honest and patriotic citizens. The league further recognizes with pleasure the steady and rapid growth of sympathy with its principles of conscientious Americans of all classes.

5. The league indignantly stigmatizes the mendacity with which the enemies of good government and better politics, both in and out of congress, have misrepresented the practical working of the merit system, and their persistent repetition of gross and ridiculous falsehoods, clearly and frequently exposed, as insults at once to the intelligence and conscience of the American people.

6. The league demands that the employes of the census bureau be selected for merit and fitness, to be determined by fair, practical and thorough competitive examinations under the direction of the Civil Service commission. With the warning example of the last census before its eyes, it protests against any enactment which may prevent or impede such selections as involving a scandalous waste of money and sacrifice of the country's interests. It would be better to have no census at all in 1900 than one taken by incompetent or untrustworthy political proteges selected according to the well known methods of so-called practical politics.

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