

Saturday Morning Courier.

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OBSERVATIONS

There are questions involved in the Irvine case, the discussion of which is liable to give offence to certain persons, and we observe that the daily papers, with one exception, have carefully avoided the subject. The *News*, however, which took a bold stand at the time of the tragedy, discusses the new phases of the case in its issue of Monday night, and its remarks are interesting, and on the whole, very sensible.

The defense of Mrs. Irvine in the divorce proceedings at Salt Lake is well calculated to enlist the sympathy of those not fully conversant with the facts; but, the *News* says, it reads like a lawyer made one, one made to fit the circumstances and to dovetail with the incidents that stand out so prominently in the case. Our contemporary further truthfully says:

The fact that she made an appointment to meet Montgomery and travel to Chicago on the train with him, that she consented to register at an obscure hotel under an assumed name and to occupy adjoining and connecting rooms, that when Irvine asked her where she stopped she deceived him, taken in connection with her admission as to going driving with Montgomery on previous occasions, are prima facie evidence that she either did wrong or intended wrong—and were at least sufficient justification for her husband believing her guilty.

But be this as it may, it must yet be plain to all fair minded people that Irvine's conduct since the shooting of Montgomery has been despicable. Notwithstanding the fact that he had committed murder, Irvine was upheld by a great many people, for it was believed that he had been cruelly wronged. And at the conclusion of the trial he left Lincoln in the enjoyment of a degree of public respect. This, we think, he has since forfeited.

Irvine was saved from hanging by the conduct of his wife at the trial. She had it in her power to make the killing of Montgomery an unjustifiable and cold blooded murder, or an spontaneous act of vengeance for which there had been much provocation. Inspired by what motive we know not, Mrs. Irvine chose to assist her husband, and he was acquitted. Irvine left the court room in this city such a debtor to his wife that no sacrifice on his part could have squared accounts. Admitting all that has been charged concerning her past life, he should still have been willing to meet any reasonable demand on her part. On the contrary his conduct toward her was most base. His treachery had commenced before the murder trial, and he kept it up after he had been acquitted. He apparently exhausted every means in his power to render miserable the woman who is the mother of his child and who had saved his life, and then commenced divorce proceedings which have, as all newspaper readers are aware, fairly reeked with villainy. One would think that for the sake of his daughter, Flossie, if for no other reason, he would have refrained from unleashing the avalanche of horror that for the last week or two has inundated Salt Lake city, and which must for ever have a distressing influence upon the daughter.

It is reported, and we regret to say that there is some show of plausibility in the report, that Captain Phelps Paine is circulating a petition among republicans asking for the appointment of Major J. D. Calhoun to the postmastership. Major Calhoun is a staunch democrat and he has not hesitated to flaunt his democracy in the face of his republican friends, but he is nevertheless, very favorably regarded by those of opposite political faith, and if the democratic successor to Mr. Gere were to be chosen by the republicans in this city, the Major would sail into office by an overwhelming majority. Possessing as he does the respect and good will of the republican, we cannot imagine why he should deliberately jeopardize his popularity with the latter by intrusting a petition to Paine, who hasn't any standing among republicans, and whose friendship may be a positive detriment. Cal doesn't need Paine's help, and if the petition is in his hands, the major ought to promptly call it in. It is possible that Paine is circulating the petition without the Major's knowledge. We hope.

There are differences of opinion as to just how far a newspaper should go in its professed policy of protecting the interests of the public; but we imagine most people will applaud the enterprise of "Toby Rex" of the *News*, in tele-

graphing to New York to substantiate the charge of literary theft against the mongrel aggregation that recently appeared at Funke's opera house, under the name of "Paige's Players;" albeit we are surprised that the astute and more or less original gentleman known as "Toby Rex" should have thought it necessary to send to New York for his information. But he performed a real service in ridding the town of these theatrical marauders, and we congratulate the *News* on its courage in exposing an imposture notwithstanding the fact that it was treading on the toes of an advertiser.

The following, which the *World Herald* gravely asserts was written seriously by a London editor is scarcely less ridiculous than many of the wise expressions of the London newspaper men concerning American affairs:

The cablegrams announce that Colonel Cody, who will be remembered in London, has been returned as mayor of Nebraska. No better selection could have been made. Colonel Cody was the friend of a man named Boone, who discovered Kentucky in 1803. After marrying the granddaughter of a distinguished gentleman known as Sitting Bull Frog, Cody was twice governor of Chicago, and at one time was made mayor of the Arkansas legislature. He also served in the confederate army under Ben Butler, who so gallantly defended New Orleans against General Longstreet. The province of Detroit rewarded him for his military services by sending him to congress, where he introduced a bill for the relief of the citizens of Buffalo. It was in this that he got his name "Buffalo Bill." While Mr. Cody has a large ranch in St. Louis he finds time for literature and writes for the *Atlantic Monthly*, a newspaper edited by Mark Twain and Uncle Thomas Cabin, a gentleman who made fame by his negro-dialect sketches.

There are, apparently, two entirely different standards erected in the *State Journal* office. Mr. Bixby, the golden haired poet and philosopher, has one standard, and Mr. Jones has another, and between the two there is a wide divergence. Mr. Bixby, whose residence in Lincoln is comparatively brief, is as pure and untainted as the wind that whistles over the Nebraska prairies, and he goes for wickedness and vice with all the poetic fervor and practical philosophy of which he is capable, making the much vaunted reform mayor, who condones criminality and vice instead of attempting to wipe them out, appear in a light not altogether creditable. Mr. Jones, on the other hand, has lived in Lincoln for a number of years, and although he is a man whose goodness is almost a household word in this city, he has, we regret to say, allowed his conscience to become somewhat seared, so far as his management of the *Journal* is concerned, and while Mr. Bixby is writing down sin, he, Mr. Jones, is upholding, through the news columns, the policy of the mayor in allowing the vice that infests the city, to take care of itself. For the sake of consistency, we would advise some slight modification of the positions taken, either on the part of Mr. Jones or Mr. Bixby. The latter should cease saying good words for virtue, or Mr. Jones should cease defending Mr. Weir.

Following THE COURIER'S remarks concerning fads in the public schools, Mr. Bixby, of the *Journal*, takes up the subject in his usual effective manner. He says, and very properly: "With the poor time is precious; and a man who has a large family and a small income cannot afford to keep his children in the schools for years and years, when the most they are acquiring is grace of physical movement and the ability to photograph a toad in crayon, or model an Egyptian mummy in clay. Moreover, not one child in 500 is fitted by nature to become an artist, and the time occupied in penciling the delicate contour of an oak leaf upon the black-board could be more usefully applied in practicing the utilitarian art of penmanship along the ruled lines of commercial note, or studying mathematical problems that may prove of some advantage in after years." We trust the board of education will carefully consider Mr. Bixby's article in Friday's *Journal*. Our school system needs a rigid overhauling, and it needs it right away.

POLITICAL TALK.

Few men have been so thoroughly and artistically "roasted" by the *Omaha Bee* as the Honorable Church Howe when a few years ago he struggled under the hallucination that he was running for congress.

Some people who remember the treatment administered to Howe by Rosewater on that occasion may regard with some surprise the tacit defense of the editor of the *Bee* made by Mr. Howe at

a late conference of leading republicans in this city when it was proposed to demand the resignation of Rosewater from the national republican committee, a report of which appeared in last Sunday's *Bee*.

But those who are surprised at this action of Howe are not very well posted.

Church Howe is an active candidate for the congressional nomination in this district again. This time, as THE COURIER has stated before, the man from Nemaha confidently believes that a republican can be elected to succeed Mr. Bryan, and his desire for the nomination may be appropriately described as ardent.

Mr. Howe does not want another dose of *Bee* abuse. He wants the support of that paper, or at least its silence, and intimate friends of Mr. Howe are aware of the fact that for the last year or two he has boasted that he has "fixed up things with Rosey."

So he has been trimming his sails to catch the Rosewater breeze, which explains his remarks at the secret conference of republicans.

A word about that conference and the way it was reported in the *Bee*:

There was an informal conference of republicans on the evening of the republican jollification meeting at the Lansing theatre, to discuss the desirability of taking steps looking to the removal of E. Rosewater from the national committee. It was held as indicated in the *Bee*, in the headquarters on the fifth floor of the Lincoln hotel, and in addition to John L. Webster, Dave Mercer, Church Howe, L. D. Richards, Brad Slaughter and Tom Cooke, whose names are given in the *Bee*, there were present: Tom Majors, J. H. Ager, John T. Mallalieu, and others. But there was no *Bee* reporter present, and there was none of that excitement so vividly portrayed in the *Bee*.

The reported remarks of Mr. Howe are, however, so closely approximate to what he actually said, and the report bears such other peculiar earmarks that there is, in the minds of a great many people who have considered the facts, a very strong suspicion that the report was either written for the *Bee* by Church Howe himself, or prepared jointly by Howe and Rosewater, the one furnishing the information, and the other writing the story. We are, perhaps, understating it when we say that there is a strong suspicion that Church Howe furnished the report. We should say that it is almost absolutely certain, there existing a number of known facts to corroborate such a theory. Howe likes better than anything else to be cute, and he performed this trick in the conviction that it was a marvel of strategy. In representing to Rosewater, and through the *Bee* to the Rosewater adherents, that he opposed the movement to ask for Rosewater's resignation, he imagined that he was gaining the co-operation of the pilot and his supporters; but there are those who are emphatic in the opinion that the shrewd politician from Nemaha has in the present instance overreached himself.

It is a fact that Rosewater is not all powerful in this congressional district, and there are certain influential republicans in Lancaster, Pawnee, Richardson, Nemaha, Cass, Otoe and Johnson counties whose opposition to Mr. Rosewater is of a most violent type, and they will have none of a candidate who has, in their opinion, truckled to the *Bee* editor. Some of these gentlemen have already expressed themselves regarding Howe's attitude in a manner that leaves no doubt that his candidacy is likely to run against some very hard rocks prior to and at the congressional convention. So it seems that in attempting to placate Rosewater, Mr. Howe has stirred up the animals. One shrewd politician in this city assures us that Mr. Howe has, by his latest strategic move not only aroused the determined opposition of the anti-Rosewater men, but has failed to accomplish his purpose with Rosewater. "Rosewater," he said, "has his opinion of those who truckle to him, and notwithstanding Mr. Howe's very extensive saluams, Rosewater will not give Howe any assistance in his campaign. It would not surprise me at all if the *Bee* were to fight him openly."

The Howe coup d'etat is the talk of the politicians, and there are few who believe the wily campaigner has gained anything by deliberately betraying the proceedings of a private conference and publishing a garbled and over-wrought account of the meeting.

It may be added that no definite action was taken at the conference relative to the course to be pursued with regard to Rosewater. The feeling was almost unanimously hostile, but there was a decided difference of opinion as to the best way to manifest the same.

BUSINESS FIELD

Strongly corroborative of the opinion entertained by Lincoln bankers, to which THE COURIER has made reference, is a letter published in the *Omaha Bee* Sunday, signed "Travelling Man," in which it is asserted that the recent departure of the Omaha banks will have the effect of injuring Omaha's wholesale business. This writer says: "I read your offer of the columns of the *Bee* for discussion in the matter of our banks charging exchange on checks sent by the country merchant on his local bank, or only receiving the checks for collection, etc., and would like to add my testimony that their present way of handling checks is driving trade from Omaha. Chicago and Milwaukee receive checks for accounts the same as Omaha used to, and it gives a good feeling to the country merchant to think his check is good there and he is inclined to turn against Omaha because she refuses his check. Sioux City jobbers got out their notice of refusal to take checks a few days ahead of the Omaha jobbers, and nearly every merchant you met would show the slip and remark: 'That ends our trade with Sioux City.' Omaha sent out the same kind of a notice a few days later and it seemed to be about a standoff for a while, but now all the wholesale grocers in Sioux City (I am not posted as to other towns) allow their travelling men to do their collecting. They receive checks or cash and this does away with exchange. Sioux City gains Omaha losses."

He adds: "That these circumstances are driving trade from Omaha I positively know, as any person can soon learn with a little inquiry among the merchants of northeast Nebraska." Letters received by Lincoln bankers from the country banks show that the feeling which has been aroused by the action of the Omaha banks is distinctly favorable to this city.

In some respects Lincoln has not made as rapid progress this year as last. Building operations have been restricted, due to the scarcity of money, and the general depression has affected the retail business more or less unfavorably. But in one direction, and we are not sure but it is the most important direction, Lincoln has made a distinct advance in the past twelve months. We refer to the manufacturing and wholesale interests. THE COURIER, in pursuance of its purpose of representing to the public, from time to time, interesting phases of the local business field, has been at some effort to obtain accurate and reasonably thorough information touching these two branches of commercial activity—what the concerns already established have accomplished during 1893, what new enterprises have been secured and what development there has been in the way of the addition of manufacturing or jobbing branches to different kinds of established retail business, together with the plans and outlook for the future in this field.

And Lincoln may well be proud of the showing we are able to make. Growth in manufacturing and jobbing has been gradual, and it has been accompanied by no sensational features. Consequently it has been, to some extent, unnoticed. But though unnoticed it has been, all things, including hard times, considered remarkable. And the growth has come in such a way—in a perfectly natural manner,—that it may be regarded as a, tiredly stable and an indication of much more rapid development in the near future, when Lincoln's advantages as a manufacturing point and a center for the distribution of supplies, will be more generally understood and appreciated.

It is, perhaps, a reason for congratulation that what manufacturing there is in Lincoln is done by a number of comparatively small concerns, instead of by one or two big establishments whose shutting down in dull times, would cause general deprivation. THE COURIER has already pointed out how, on account of the diversification of business in this city, there being many small employers in diverse lines instead of a few big proprietors in one or two kinds of trade, the effect of the existing so-called hard times on the working classes, and on the public at large, has been reduced to a minimum.

In addition to Lincoln's most valuable natural advantages for the location of wholesale houses and manufactories,

there are many other things that are drawing the attention of outside operators to this city—favorable rail way rates, abundant railway facilities, banking capital and a disposition to render any legitimate enterprise all possible aid. And it is the opinion of careful business men in this city that Lincoln, resting firmly on the solid foundation of Nebraska's unrivalled agricultural prosperity, will in a brief period, acquire an independent importance by reason of its large and diversified manufacturing and jobbing interests. This development has commenced, and it will not stop.

The Western Mattress Co. commenced business in 1890 in a small way with a capital of \$3,000. The business proved satisfactory, and in 1891 was enlarged, since which time rapid advancement has been made, and the capital stock increased from time to time until at present they have a paid up capital of \$15,000. They employ about thirty hands, have three representatives on the road, and their sales for 1893 will show a marked increase over those of 1892, and is considered a very satisfactory showing for a year of general business depression. Their books show them to have sold goods in the following states: Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Utah, Montana and Nebraska. During 1894 the Western Mattress company will put in expensive machinery and add new lines to their manufactured products.

The Zehring Glass and Paint Co., wholesale and retail paints and glass, is incorporated; commenced business in the early part of 1893; has had a fair share of trade in this line, and has become quite well known for the length of time in business; has a working capital of some \$10,000 to \$12,000.

The Nebraska Implement and Forwarding Co., wholesale dealers and transfer agents for farm machinery, is the name of a new concern which is making active preparation to meet the long felt demand for a general distributing and transfer house at this point for all classes of farm machinery and implements; will occupy the fine five-story brick building at 600 608 L street, one of the best equipped buildings in the west for this line of business. John A. Buck staff, H. W. Stowe and others are the enterprising men who have this enterprise in charge, and already have contracts with some twelve or fifteen manufacturing concerns to store, transfer and forward their machinery for the 1894 trade; among this number are some of the largest manufacturing establishments doing business in this state.

Jones & Ainsworth, wholesale and retail paint and glass, commenced business in the early part of 1893 as the J. E. Riggs Glass and Paint Co., with Mr. Jones as the principal owner; but the firm is now composed of J. N. T. Jones and F. A. Ainsworth. They have enjoyed a very fair share of the trade in this line since they started in business; carry a well assorted stock and are pleased with the outlook for future business.

The Yates Findings Co., wholesale leather findings, is comparatively a new concern; incorporated and commenced business September 4, 1893, with a capital stock of \$5,000; succeeding E. E. Gustin. The incorporators are: Ed G. Yates, H. H. Branch and C. W. Branch, all having had experience in this and kindred lines. This concern is now represented on the road by nine men who handle the goods, and the books of the company show them to have made sales in the following states: Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Washington and Nebraska. Prospects are regarded as good and the interested parties are pleased with this new enterprise as a business venture and feel confident in every way.

The Curtis & Van Denberg Co., manufacturers and dealers in sash, doors, interior finishings, etc., is an incorporated concern with \$50,000 capital very recently located in this city at Sixth and M streets. One two-story building is nearly completed and two more buildings will be erected as rapidly as possible, one of which is to be a three-story building 50x142 feet. Mr. J. A. Van Denberg will be the business manager, and is a man of wide experience in this line. The company will carry a stock sufficiently large to supply the trade of tributary territory, extending into Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota. Prospects thus far are reported as very gratifying. Employment will be given to a number of people.

The Ermotor Co. is the name of a Chicago concern which will within the coming month open an office and general branch house in this city at 8th and O, for the purpose of supplying their Nebraska and adjoining trade direct from this point. It is a large concern and their increasing trade in this section of the country has brought

about this move as a natural result. They will carry a large and complete stock of their wind mills at this point and will furnish employment to a number of people. Mr. D. W. Peckham will be the manager at this point and intends to make this city his permanent home. Lincoln may well feel proud in securing this house, as an addition to her wholesale interests, an adjoining cities worked very hard to secure it.

The Western Carriage Top Co. manufactured carriage tops, etc., is incorporated with a working capital of \$6,000, commenced business in July, 1893, indirectly succeeding E. M. Fockler. Mr. Charles Hawley is the manager of the present concern and is pushing out for new business constantly, and thus far has met with gratifying results. This concern gives employment to a number of hands.

The Lincoln Upholstering Co. This is one of Lincoln's new enterprises; incorporated, and commenced business in May, 1893, with a capital of \$25,000; their factory and offices are located at 641 643 L street, and as their name signifies, they manufacture all kinds of upholstered furniture, employing at the present time over twenty hands, who have for more than a month past worked 12 hours per day, and even then orders have more than kept pace with them. The company have four to six travelling representatives, and at the present time have advance orders enough to keep their full force employed for forty to sixty days. This concern has already placed their goods in six states, are thus far well satisfied with the amount of business received, and are much pleased with the outlook for the future.

The Wisconsin Furniture and Coffin Co. has been eight years in business. It is incorporated with a paid in capital of \$20,000, giving employment to a force of from twelve to fifteen men, and carries a large stock, sufficient to supply trade at all times. This establishment has customers from Texas to Utah and intermediate territory west of the Missouri river. The 1893 trade has been satisfactory, everything considered, and the holiday trade was considerably beyond expectations. The company will push some new lines in 1894, and are preparing for a vigorous campaign all along the line.

The Henry & Coatsworth Co., wholesale and retail lumber, is an incorporated concern with a capital of \$125,000; has done a successful business in this city for a number of years, and the management is very well satisfied with the 1893 showing as compared with former years; collections over the state reported good, and the prospects for '94 are regarded as encouraging.

The S. K. Martin Lumber company, wholesale and retail, carries a stock at this point of about \$30,000. Business for 1893 satisfactory; outlook good.

The J. C. McKell Lumber Co., wholesale and retail lumber, is an incorporated concern with a capital stock of \$25,000; business for 1893 reported very good to July 1; somewhat dull since that date—however the year's total business will show a decided increase over that of 1892; collections slow in the city, good in outside towns—prospects for trade in spring of 1894 regarded as brightening visibly.

The Western Glass and Paint Co., wholesale glass and paint, is incorporated with \$15,500 paid up capital; has been in business for some years; carries a stock of oils, paints, glass, sash and blinds. Business for 1893 reported very fair considering the hard times; prospects brightening, and looking forward to renewed activity in 1894.

The Lincoln Paint and Color Co., wholesale paints and oils, is incorporated with a paid up capital of \$92,700; has for a number of years done an extensive business and has shown an amount of energy and pluck that has brought it through many trials. The concern now has one of the most complete plants in the west and gives employment to a large number of hands. The business for 1893 has been satisfactory to such an extent that it has recently increased the paid in capital \$10,000.

Hapham Bros., wholesale harness and saddlery, carry an average stock of from \$40,000 to \$50,000; commenced business in July, 1888. Trade has held up well considering the business depression; collections over the state have been good; prospects for spring trade seem encouraging. This firm has made steady advance since starting in business, largely owing to good business management and close attention.

David Wise & Co., wholesale liquor, commenced business in 1882, succeeding Black, Wise & Co.; they do quite an extensive business, principally in Nebraska; carry a stock sufficiently large to supply the trade. The 1893 business, while not fully up to that of 1892, is considered satisfactory.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.)