

The Plattsmouth Herald

QUEEN VICTORIA is seventy-three years old and has reigned nearly fifty-five years.

THE estimate of the damage done by the recent floods in Sioux City reaches the enormous sum of \$4,000,000.

HILL dodged the vote on the silver question in the senate the other day which emphasizes the fact that he is nothing if not a democrat.

THE democrats are so badly tore up down in New York that the republicans will carry that state this fall by a handsome majority.

THE democrats of Kentucky seem to have the idea this year that it matters not who they put up for president they cannot win; which is about correct.

IN two weeks more the Milwaukee convention will be held and all questions in regard to who will be the next president of the United State will be settled.

THE German government has ordered 180 Maxim guns from American gun makers. Europe is slowly learning that the best of most things are made on this side the Atlantic.

THE name of David B. Hill was hissed in the New Jersey democratic convention, a fact which will hardly facilitate the writing a letter of withdrawal on his part in favor of Cleveland.

THE largest per capita expenditures for municipal purposes in cities of the first class are made in New York, of course, where the democrats have full swing and the Tammany tiger has to be fed.

IT is true, as Senator Sherman says, that "the only way to make gold and silver work in harmony is to put them on a ratio fixed upon market value," and the republican party will never consent to any other method of adjusting the matter.

DURING the year 1891 4,207 vessels passed through the Suez canal, and of these only twenty-six carried the American flag. But just wait until Uncle Sam can have four years more of just such an administration as the one now at work and things will change.

IT is altogether probable that Grover Cleveland will write a letter to Lord Salisbury reproving him gently for giving the snap away. The accomplished nobleman certainly did select an awkward time for confessions, so far as the stuffed prophet is concerned.—Fremont Tribune.

THE country was never before so prosperous as now. The necessities of life were never before so prosperous as now. The wages of labor in honest money were never before as high as now. The syndicate of political liars was never before as voluble, as mendacious and as impudent as now.

AN Irish firm is going to establish a linen factory in New York, the cost of the machinery alone to be used by it will be \$30,000; and this will be spent in American shops. And just a few weeks ago a firm that has been making carpets in England for two centuries, moved its plant to the United States. The McKinley bill is doing its own talking.

THE DO-NOTHING CONGRESS The absenteeism in the house of representatives is a disgrace to the democratic majority. If enough members for a quorum out of a majority of 150 cannot retain in their seats and attend to the duties for which they are chosen there is a very bad state of affairs, which ought to be remedied by some resignations, to be followed by the election of successors blessed with industry and a sense of duty.—New York World, democrat.

A NUMBER of the leading democratic papers of the country have become utterly disgusted with the proceedings of the present house in congress. The New York Advertiser, a thoroughly democratic sheet, says:

What an unscrupulous lot of frauds these democratic leaders are! After shouting about economy all over the country, and after condemning the billion dollar congress, they put through the house of representatives a river and harbor bill which for downright robbery has not been excelled since the war. What would happen if these bashi bazonka had control of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government? Just pause and think!

UNCLE SAM still leads the van. Just last Monday the government made a test of the new armor plate material, nickel steel. The armor plating used is the heaviest yet manufactured. The 500 pound projectile rebounded from the plate without breaking or penetrating it in a dangerous extent. One of the balls bounded back to the muzzle of the gun, a distance of 135 feet. One of the projectiles was of recent American manufacture and was uninjured by the contact. The foreign projectiles used were broken by the impact. This shows that the United States is on the lead for both offensive and defensive armor.

THE dedication of the new court house evidently threw Brother Race of the Weeping Water Eagle into a fit, as the Eagle rose on high this week with a scream and a flapping of wings which was intended to cause the court house to tumble into the Big Muddy and be swallowed up by the raging torrents. But it did not even shake the walls thereof, and the building still stands, so that when Brother Race comes over to the county seat he can walk into one of the county offices in the building, sit down in a chair, take off his hat and cool his over-heated brow.

ON the 6th of last February Mr. Blaine wrote to Col. Clarkson as follows:

I am not a candidate for the presidency, and my name will not go before the republican national convention for the nomination. I make this announcement in due season.

There is no evidence that Mr. Blaine has changed his mind since writing the above. On the contrary, it is well known to Mr. Blaine's intimate friends that he still adheres to his determination not to be a candidate.

THE Atlanta Constitution is discouraged, and closes a long editorial on the democratic situation with "We do not have the faintest hope that Mr. Cleveland can carry the country. He can not carry his own state, and we are firmly convinced that his nomination will divide the solid south." If it will do this, Mr. Cleveland should be nominated. He could afford defeat for the sake of knowing that he had broken up the fraudulently solid south, which is a disgrace to the country. It is solid only by corruption and bulldozing, and democrats even in the south no longer defend it as honest. They simply justify it on the ground that the end justifies the means.—Inter Ocean.

THE experiment of frightening a man to death has again been tried, with perfect success. Joseph Hardin of Wellington, Kan., was the victim and practical jokero condemned him to death, blindfolded him, placed him on what they called his coffin, gave the command to fire, fired in the air while one of their number tapped him on the head with a small stick. Hardin died instantly. The bullet did not strike him, but the idea of the bullet was just as successful and stopped the heart beats. There is nothing new in such shocks, but it is something of an argument in favor of influencing the mind when the body is diseased. If a man is killed by the idea that he has been shot, why should he not be helped to get well by the idea that he will get well? One is as reasonable as the other.—Ex.

COMMERCIAL disaster has followed the repeal of tariff laws or the radical reduction of duties in every instance in the history of this country except in 1846, at which time we were engaged in a war with Mexico, which was followed immediately by the Crimean war, when England had most of her pauper labor enlisted as soldiers. Even then distress was only delayed. When the facts of war abroad and the discovery of gold in California wore off, the free trade tariff of 1846 got in its work and brought on the delayed but still inevitable panic. In 1857 the country learned that while the evil might be retarded and delayed, ultimate escape from the panic that always follows democratic "tariff reform" was impossible.

THE PARTY CAN STAND A CONTEST.

Senator Quay, in saying, as he has just said in a newspaper interview, that "a forced nomination of any one would be unfortunate," shows a nervousness regarding the situation which is altogether unwarranted. According to this notion a contest in the Minneapolis convention would be hurtful to the party. The nomination must be practically unanimous, or at least must be conferred on the first ballot, to be of much service. This is a theory which was never prominently suggested on either side in the past, and which will not com-

mand ready assent now. It might be well, of course, to settle the question of the nomination without a fight. Contests are apt to provoke ill feeling between the rival aspirants and their friends, and sometimes they produce feuds which endure for years, and which hamper the party in which they exist. Such results, though, come seldom. Rivalries subside after the convention, and, in most cases, the jealousies and bitterness engendered, so far as regards their active manifestation die out before the campaign is ended, or, at any rate, are confined to the unsuccessful aspirants themselves, and do not affect their friends. The esprit de corps which exists in both the great parties prevents any extensive or prolonged sulking among the defeated men and their followers. The excitement of the canvass and the remembrance of former battles stir the blood and make the rank and file on each side eager for victory. For these reasons contests in national conventions seldom reduce a party's strength at the polls.

It will be conceded, of course, that Mr. Blaine could not afford to take the nomination, providing he were willing to take it in any contingency, unless it came to him without a struggle. His position is peculiar in this respect. He is the foremost in his party, he once led the party to defeat, and he has repeatedly disclaimed any further aspirations toward the nomination. Nothing short of a spontaneous, overwhelming and virtually unanimous demand from his compatriots for his candidacy would justify him in accepting it. None of the other men, however, whose names have been coupled with the nomination, not even Gen. Harrison, are under any such embarrassment. The president could take the nomination after two or three ballots without any material sacrifice of dignity or prestige. It is true the renomination of Jackson and Grant was unanimous, but either of these men would undoubtedly have accepted the candidacy if it were gained by them as the result of a struggle. Lincoln's second nomination came to him on the first ballot, but not by the unanimous voice of the convention, as the Missouri delegation voted for Grant. A contest in the convention would not have hurt any of these men at the polls to any perceptible degree. Nor would Harrison be injured if he were compelled to make a struggle to regain the prize. Neither Sherman nor McKinley would suffer in any way in the estimation of the party by the acceptance of an honor which part of the members of the convention preferred to give to somebody else. Therefore, the party is not at all alarmed at the prospects that a contest may take place in Minneapolis. The longest and most exciting struggle which ever occurred in a republican national assemblage took place in 1880, in which thirty-six ballots were taken, but Garfield, the candidate, was triumphantly elected.—Globe Democrat.

HOME PROTECTION COLUMN.

CONDUCTED BY THE W. C. T. U. O the wrongs, the misery, the suffering, the woes unnumbered and unutterable which are being heaped today upon the heads of the helpless and the innocent, upon wives and mothers and little children through the agency of the drink traffic! Murder, outrage, suicide, ruin, disgrace—so the awful story of the work of rum goes on day by day through the hideous catalogue of vice and crime. What are you doing, christian men and women of the land, to turn aside this torrent of death and desolation? What have you done, what are you going to do?

The national commission of the Columbian exposition has decided to have a synopsis of all petitions against the opening of the gates on Sunday and the sale of liquor on grounds printed for the benefit of the commission, in order that the members might have them for reference when the time comes for the discussion of the questions. The right of petition was enlogized as one of the dearest of American institutions.

The New Jersey legislature passed with but three dissenting votes, a bill to close the state exhibit, and requested the closing of the Columbian exposition gates on Sunday. This makes five states that have responded to our women's earnest pleading.

We are glad to see that increased emphasis is being laid in many quarters upon the importance of temperance work in and through the churches. We need stronger, more frequent and direct teaching on this subject from the pulpit, and we need more of the practice of temperance, and especially of total abstinence, in the pews. A tremendous responsibility is resting upon the Christian church to-day with regard to the liquor traffic. It has the power within it to sweep this traffic from the earth, if it would put it forth. The only question is, when will it put it forth? Surely the cry of the multitudes who are being crushed under the merciless tread of liquor monster is not going up to God in vain: "Vengeance is mine," saith the Lord, I will repay."

Women throughout the state of Illinois voted on April 5 for school trustees. In Evanston Madame Willard, in her eighty-ninth year, cast the first ballot of her life, as the fulfillment of a lofty purpose.

than they have ever been before in the history of the United States. This declaration is made on the statement of the agent of one of the largest glass fruit jar dealers in the west. Presumably he knew what he was talking about, for he was prepared to sell the article in any quantity desired. He stated that last year for a short time there was an advance in prices, but it was not legitimately due to the McKinley law, or to any other law, except that the demand exceeded the supply of jars. The advance did not come early in the season. It came after the dimensions of the fruit crop began to be realized. But this year fruit canners can buy all the jars they want for lower prices than they ever paid before, and they will get American made jars for their money.

THE Burlington, Ia., Hawkeye has made a new discovery in the road problem, which at least has the virtue of cheapness. It says that the discovery of his new idea was made at Carthage, Ill., several years ago during the fair of the Hancock county agricultural board. The weather had been very dry and by the middle of the week the roads leading to the fair grounds had become nearly hub deep in dust, no amount of sprinkling seeming to have any effect. Finally as a last resort a number of loads of straw were scattered along the principal highway to the fair grounds and water sprinklers kept going all night. To the surprise and gratification of the good people of that city the plan proved a fine success and the dust was kept "laid" during the remaining days of the fair without difficulty. Now comes the interesting part of the story. During the various muddy spells that have occurred since the plan was utilized, it was found that the highway thus "strawed" was always in the best condition. Some wise farmers down in the lower part of Hancock county, continues the Hawkeye, taking note of this have spread straw over several hundred yards of very bad roadway in their vicinity, and it is now stated that this piece of road is to-day the only good road in that part of the country. The Bowen Chronicle, in referring to the matter, says: "Straw makes a road that is not muddy in wet weather. Don't burn up old hay or straw; it is just as easy to have it on the roads. There is enough straw wasted each winter to cover the roads of the country."

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To labor leaders, temperance leaders, one and all we have to say: Be of brave heart, ye eager scouts of humanity's vast army. Strike out into the forest and blaze the trees. Slowly we march, we of the rank and file, but we are following straight behind you. Don't you catch sometimes away ahead there the muffled music of our coming feet? Oh, yes, the human biped is a timid creature who loves to march in platoons rather than to strike out swiftly and alone, but he carries a jewel here behind the forehead, and is therefore the single sentient creature concerning whom there is hope. You can change his opinions though they are bone of his bone, flesh of his flesh, and dearer to him than his own right eye. There are forces that can disintegrate from the igneous rock of his prejudice the broader stratifications of a righteous law. What with "line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little" of persuasion founded upon justice, the work is done.

Regular meeting of the W. C. T. U. at the home of Mrs. S. A. Davis on June 1, at 3 o'clock p. m.

Once upon a time a sweet faced, black-eyed school marm who was teaching the young ones how to shoot, in a district not far from Elm wood, and this sweet dispenser of knowledge wanted to come to town every Friday evening and remain over Sunday with her people. About that time in the year there lived a young gentleman in town who owned a livery stable, and he sighed for the company of this young school marm, so he made it a point to "just happen" by the school house every Friday evening with a nice rig and would invite her to ride to town with him, which she did. Finally school was out, the girl departed, the liveryman wrote sweet missives to her but received no reply. He grew desperate and dunned her for \$12 for livery hire, and in a few days he received a money order for the amount. The young man was a fish. The young lady paid for her bait.

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