The Semi-Weekly News-Herald

PUBLISHED ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS
. . . BY THE . . .
NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY,
J. E. MARSHALL, Business Manager.

DAILY EDITION.

One Year, in advance,	$5 00
Six Months,	2 50
One Week,	10
Single Copies,	5

SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION.

One Year, in advance,	$1 00
Six Months,	50

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION
Of any Cass County Paper.

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1899.

THE Missouri legislature has at last adjourned sine die. The session lasted 138 days.

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S recent report of the operations in Manila lends addition proof that the boys of the First Nebraska are the best fighters in the Philippines and that they have performed the most dangerous duties.

THE people of Kansas are going to make a strong effort to get the Twentieth regiment sent home intact instead of mustering them out in San Francisco in order that they might show Colonel Funston and his men what they think of their work.

EACH month the treasury publishes a report of the money in circulation and an estimate of the national population. On May 1, according to this authority, there were 75,875,000 people in the United States, an increase of 138,000 for April, and of 545,000 for the four months of the calendar year. Counting new possessions, the census of next year will be in the neighborhood of 85,000,000.

THE Kearney Hub relates the following facts: "An Omaha newspaper alludes to the fact that the Greater America exposition company has set aside a fund for advertising to be used with the newspapers of Nebraska and Iowa. It might have added that the placing of this advertisement has been given to an agency that will wheedle the newspapers into doing the work for half or quarter price, if they permit themselves to be worked, insteading of dealing direct with the publishers. There is no reason why the Greater America company should not pay full commercial rates for all of its newspaper work, because it is purely a commercial scheme and is not in position to ask for any gratuities."

THE governor wanted a new "mansion" to be bought and furnished at the expense of the state. Some men in Lincoln wanted to sell property to the state at two or three times its actual value. A bill was forced through the legislature giving the board of public lands and buildings power to buy the property. The appropriation was $25,000. Republicans were induced to vote for the bill because of the threat of the executive veto for their own measures. The state board advertised for bids in the usual public way, and then met in star-chamber session to open the bids. This performance brings to mind the "complimentaries" mentioned in the Palm-Cornell correspondence. The public now wants to know why the state board is afraid to do business in the open light of day. Was there a codicil attached to one of those "bids" that necessitated a star-chamber session?

SPEAKERSHIP GOSSIP.

Perhaps the most interesting feature in the current gossip regarding the speakership of the next house of representatives is the opinion expressed by some members of the house that Mr. Reed may be a candidate, says the Bee. Representative Ray of New York expressed doubt as to the alleged determination of Mr. Reed to leave congress, while Representative Bromwell of Ohio is of the opinion that the ex-speaker may be induced to accept re-election and proposes to urge him to do so. It is stated that there are other members who will advise Mr. Reed not to withdraw from the present congress. Of course if he should heed such advice he would have no difficulty in being again chosen speaker, but it is not at all probable that he will give it any serious attention.

In regard to the contest of the avowed candidates the situation appears to have undergone no material change in the past week. Sherman of New York is still regarded as the leading candidate, but according to the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune his chances are less favorable than a fortnight ago, while those of Colonel Henderson appear to have improved. It is now said that the Iowa candidate is likely to get the vote of Pennsylvania, while he will certainly have support from New England and he has a number of friends among the southern representatives. Conceding to Sherman the leading position at present there appears to be no doubt that Henderson is a close second, with the chances very good for making further gains.

INFORMATION AND OPINION.

What becomes of pins? This common household conundrum has at last been solved by an old gentleman in London. By a series of experiments conducted in his back garden, he has discovered that pins go the way of all flesh, and are resolved into dust. Hairpins, which he watched for 154 days, disappeared at the end of that time, having been resolved into a ferrous oxide, a brownish rust, which was blown away by the wind. Bright pins took nearly eighteen months to disappear; polished steel needles nearly two years and a half; brass pins had but little endurance; steel pens at the end of fifteen months had nearly gone, while their wooden holders were still intact.

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Admiral Sampson has never regained the weight he lost while in Cuban waters. General Ludlow is also in this difficulty. One of the latter's friends recently said to him: "Well, at any rate, you didn't leave a limb at El Caney." "Perhaps not," replied General Ludlow, "but I left nearly forty pounds scattered all the way from Siboney to San Juan."

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Miss Lavinia Dempsey, with whom the New York newspapers have had fun ever since she caused herself to be crowned queen of the Holland Dames, two or three years ago, is now being sued by her brother, John A. Dempsey says of his sister: "It would be a slander for me to say that she is crazy, and some insane people are so rational on all points but one that it would be hard to prove it in court."

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The oldest living creature in the world belongs to Walter Rothschild. It is a giant tortoise, weighing a quarter of a ton, and it has a known life of 150 years.

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The most magnificent tomb in the world is the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Hindustan. It was erected by Shah Jehan to the memory of his favorite Queen. It is octagonal in form, of pure white marble, inlaid with jasper, cornelian, turquoise, agate, amethysts and sapphires. The work took 22,000 men twenty years to complete, and, though there were free gifts and labor was free, the cost was $20,000,000.

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The organisms of hailstones have been investigated on two occasions by F. C. Harrison, a Canadian bacteriologist, who has found numerous bacteria and molds, including a bacillus and a coccus hitherto undescribed. The character of the germs confirms Bujwid's theory that surface water is carried up by storms and frozen, producing hail.

Gardening Unhealthy.

Gardening is generally considered one of the healthiest of occupations, but the German Gardeners' Association has issued a warning to those who intend entering the industry. They cite the fact that during the years 1889 to 1897 of the 291 members of the association who died in Germany no fewer than 142 succumbed to consumption and other affections of the lungs.

A Squirrel in Amber.

Flies are not the only things found in amber. In a big mass of clear amber, dredged up out of the Baltic Sea recently, there was distinctly visible in its interior a small squirrel—fur, teeth and claws intact.

Distinguished Wheelmen.

At least one-third of the members of the British Parliament are cyclists.

Flouted Alexander Dumas.

A capital story is told by a gentleman who visited the Chateau d'If. A good woman showed a party the decaying dungeons in which Abbe Faria and Edmond Dantes were immured, and the visitors gazed at these ruins meditatively. "It seems to me," said the narrator of the incident, "that these cells are very near to one another, and Alexander Dumas describes them as being farther apart." "Oh, indeed," said the woman, with a contemptuous look; "when I am talking history, this gentleman quotes a novelist."

Robbed the Grave.

A startling incident, of which Mr. John Oliver of Philadelphia, was the subject is narrated by him as follows: "I was in a most dreadful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunately, a friend advised trying 'Electric Bitters;' and to my great joy and surprise, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50 cts., guaranteed, at F. G. Fricke & Co's. drug store.

Baby's Chances.

The chances at birth that a baby will eventually marry are 9 in 20, or rather less than one-half. This result may seem surprising, but it is largely accounted for by the great mortality of persons under marriageable age, especially infants up to the age of 5.

The Life Plant.

There is a plant in Jamaica called the life plant, because it is almost impossible to kill it. When a leaf is cut off and hung up by a string, it sends out white, thread-like roots, gathers moisture from the air, and begins to grow new leaves.

IN MEMORY OF WM. SCHLATER.

Words of Consolation For the Bereaved Family of Deceased.

In this sad hour it seems fitting that we should express our sympathies with those who suffer more than we. While yet in love with life and enraptured with the world, he passed to the silent and pathetic dust. Yet, after all, it may be best. Just in the happiest, sunniest hour of all its voyage, when eager winds are kissing every sail, to dash against the unseen rock, and in an instant hear the billows roar above a sunken ship; for whether in mid sea, or among the breakers of the farther shore, a wreck at last must mark the end of each and all; and every life, no matter if its every hour is rich with love and every moment jewelled with a joy, will at its close become a tragedy as sad and deep and dark as can be woven in the woof and warp of mystery and death.

Our hearts soften and swell with grief as we sorrow over the loss of a loving, noble, generous, manly friend. In his ever noble manhood it seemed the elements that go to make up a perfect man, mingled with tender love and sympathies, blended together in him and blossomed into a sweet and noble character. In the sterner battles of life he was strong enough to master the rougher, harder things, and brave enough to never falter in times of danger. His affection, sympathy and love were deep enough to touch with tender feeling, and uplift and soften the sorrow of the most lonely and humble. To him the tears of a child were never passed unnoticed, or the groans of agony from the suffering. His generous nature lended balm to the suffering and sympathy for the sad.

Were every one whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep tonight beneath a wilderness of flowers. His acts of kindness and generous nature towards his friends run like a golden cord around them, and bind them today with one sorrowing brotherhood.

When he lived alone, as he did for a number of years on the frontier, he spent his lonely hours in building up a rich and noble character; and in this sad hour we sit together and mourn the loss of a gem in this rough and stormy path of life. It seems that earth has lost one of its most beautiful objects of love. He was a dutiful son and tender father, and sympathetic neighbor, and sturdy and patriotic countryman.

At several times in his life he was called upon to risk his life to protect the life and property of a friend, and when duty called or danger, he was never wanting there.

Some feelings are to mortals given
With less of earth and them than heaven;
And if there be a human act,
From passion's dross, refined and clear,
It's when friend backs friend with his own life
And sturdy act.

This brave and tender man in every storm of life was oak and rock, but in the sunshine he was vine and flowers. To him life was duty, and his greatest burdens were the sorrows of others. His face was always towards the sun and his hands to the plow. He worked hard, stood many a privation and self sacrifice, but never murmured or complained; nor did he become remorseful and despondent in times of defeat and danger, but saw better things ahead. The acts of his generous life runs like a vine around the memory of the dead, and every sweet unselfish act is now a blossomed flower.

The wires that run from the eastern to the western borders of our state never carried any sadder news, or united in sympathy any stronger the bonds of fellowship that drew his friends together.

It is useless to try to tell the little acts of kindness that come to us in this hour. They flow before us as a river of love from the fountain of life. This earth would be a paradise were all men as sturdy, tender and noble. He was bound with no prejudice nor fettered with the shackles of ignorance, and mingled with men as one who feared neither friend nor foe. He retained and cherished the good of life and cast off the vulgar

For his beloved wife and child there is a multitude of sympathizing hearts today. We grieve with her in this hour of darkness. It is to be hoped that the sympathies we offer today will not be forgotten when the cloud that hovers over most of us will have passed away. May we love, cherish and protect his loved ones as he would have done had it fallen his duty to do so. May we ever have an open heart and a generous affection for them through the rough journey of life.

To his aged father and mother, we trust that they may find a solace and comfort in the towering wealth of character and manhood he developed as a monument of honor to them as they approach the setting sun of life.

Large was his bounty and his soul sincere
Heaven did a recompense as largely send—
He gave to misery all he had—a tear.
He gained from Heaven all he wished—a friend.
No farther seek his merits to disclose,
Or draw his frailties from their dread abode,
There alike in trembling hopes repose,
The bosom of his Father and his God.

—W. C. FRAMPTON.

Weekly Crop Report.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, LINCOLN, May 23.—The last week has been cold, cloudy and wet. The average daily temperature deficiency has been about three degrees. Light frosts occured in northern counties, but no damage was done.

The rainfall has been normal or above in all districts. In the western counties the rainfall was slightly more than half an inch, which is about normal. Heavy rains fell in the eastern counties on Friday and Saturday, the total weekly amount varying from one to more than five inches, and exceeded three inches in a considerable area in the southeastern portion of the state.

The rains of the week have removed all drouth conditions and have been very beneficial to oats, wheat and grass. Heavy showers have washed out corn slightly and corn planting has been delayed somewhat by the wet weather. However, most of the corn is now planted. The low temperature has been unfavorable for germination and growth of corn, but the early planted is coming up nicely with a good stand and cultivation has commenced in southern counties. Small grain and grass have grown well. Following are reports by counties:

Butler—Most of the corn planted; spring wheat and oats doing finely.

Cass—Wheat, oats, and grass making a rank growth; corn starting slowly; planting retarded; ground wet and cold; pastures good.

Clay—Winter wheat and tame hay are a little short; oats good; corn planting about finished; pasturage more than required.

Filmore—Corn nearly all planted; the rains have improved the growth of small grain; some alfalfa ready to cut.

Gage—Corn about all planted and coming up good, first planting 3 inches high; corn washed by heavy rains and some replanting necessary.

Hamilton—Small grain and grass looking fine; corn mostly planted and some up; potatoes up and a good stand.

Jefferson—Heavy rain washed out some corn, but otherwise was just what was needed; oats and corn doing well.

Johnson—Too cold and wet for corn to do well; very heavy rains; some corn will have to be replanted.

Lancaster—Corn and sugar beets coming up; grass and small grain look well; corn planting about completed.

Nemaha—Farm work suspended last of week because of heavy rains; corn much washed; heavy growth of grass in pasture and meadow.

Nuckolls—Heavy rains have washed corn and other grain badly; some replanting have to be done; some hail, but little damage.

Otoe—Oats look fair; heavy rains washed hills badly, flooded lowlands; early-planted corn up and a good stand.

Pawnee—Wheat and oats looking well; corn up nicely; grass looking fine and fruit growing rapidly; very heavy rain.

Polk—Corn coming up well; oats looking thin; wheat very thin.

Richardson—Corn in, some up; good stand; good rain for pasture.

Saline—Corn planting about completed and much of it up; pastures and oats improving; cherries and apples setting fairly.

Saunders—Oats and wheat doing well; corn nearly all planted, some up nicely; good weather for small grain and pastures; cold for corn.

Seward—Cold and very wet; all farm work delayed; corn about all planted; small grain and pastures looking good.

Thayer—Heavy rains have washed out corn badly, but have been very beneficial to small grains and grass; spring wheat backward.

York—Corn mostly all planted and coming up finely; small grain and grass improving; rye beginning to head.

The Peace Conference.

The date for the czar's peace conference has been fixed for May 18th, and the place, as has been before announced, is The Hague, the capital of the Netherlands.

A Long Walk.

A man walking day and night without resting would take 428 days to journey around the world.

VAST AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION

It Filled the Entire Upper Story of Polonyi's House.

The owner of probably the greatest private collection of autographs in the world, Alexander Polonyi, has died in Vienna, says the London Leisure Hour. His collection was so large that it filled the entire upper story of his house. Polonyi possessed the autographs of over 30,000 persons, not only of moderns, but of mediaeval and renaissance persons as well. He was not particular as to age, religion or profession. All he stood out for was that the autograph was to be that of a person of certain historical importance. He possessed original writings which have not yet been printed of Michael Angelo and Marie Antoinette, letters by Calvin and Luther, Schiller and Goethe, pages of music by Wagner and Beethoven, original documents from the eleventh century, private letters of Canovas, old Hebrew scrolls and sermons by famous Hussites. It was Polonyi's greatest pleasure to show his treasures to scholars and to bewilder them with the wealth and variety of the materials which he placed before them in the calculated disorder we have attempted to describe. He began life as an apprentice to a Leipsic bookseller. His greatest success was with a magnificent collection of Durer's drawings, which he happened on quite accidently and sold to the Royal gallery in Berlin for a prodigious sum of money. Polonyi had no scientific or historical knowledge, but he had a genius for collecting, and it was as a collector he was known throughout the world.

CHINESE PRAYER.

Inspired by the First Sight of a Bicycle.

A Baptist missionary once sent home an account of a prayer offered by Wang Cheng Sui on the occasion of the visit of two Americans who were on a tour around the world on bicycles. After the bicyclists had ridden to the mission station Wang prayed: "We thank Thee, our Heavenly Father, that our eyes have this day seen the real pattern of the 'self-going cart' of the ancients. What mysterious wisdom is Thine! How willing Thou art to impart knowledge to men! But our sins hinder. Thy revelations! How stupid have we become through serving Satan so long! Many years have we lived, and yet today for the first time we have seen this marvel of Thy skill, which has enabled Thy servants in the West to understand. Forgive our sins. Restore us to Thy favor. Communicate to us, also. Thy mysteries, and let us share in the wonderful inventions by which Thou dost make Thy name glorious amongst those who serve Thee. Let us be intrusted with Thy secrets, and possess the power of the ancients; so with all our countrymen come to know that we have found the right path, and are servants of the true God." The missionary thinks is very likely that such a prayer will provoke a smile, but he bids us believe that Wang was in red-hot earnest, and that he simply felt that he had witnessed a miracle and was giving God the glory.

The Naming of Vessels.

One of the earliest named vessels was the Argo, which carried Jason and his companions on their quest for the golden fleece. The story of the Argonauts dates from the time of Pindar, 500 B. C., at the very latest. The later Greeks named their vessels, as did the Romans. Our christening or naming of vessels undoubtedly is an adaptation of the ancients' custom of installing the image of a tutelary deity in the tutela or shrine at the stern of a vessel. Thus the vessel that carried Paul from Malta to Rome was "under the sign of Castor and Pollux" (Acts xxvii., 17). The ceremony of breaking a bottle of wine on the bows of a new vessel as it is launched is derived from the libation which the ancients made to Neptune or Poseidon.