NEBRASKA ADVERTISER

What a Comet Did.

In 1712, Whiston, an eccentric Millenarian divine and astronomer, who served as deputy to Sir Isaac Newton when Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge, Eng., predicted that a comet would appear at noon on Wednesday Oct. 14, and that the world would be destroyed by fire on the following Friday. The comet came and had an extraordinary effect. More than one hundred clergymen waited on the primate on the Wednesday to request that proper prayers might be prepared, and thousands of men, who believed that the end of the world was coming, on Thursday married women with whom they had been living. Many people embarked on the water, thinking that safer when the fire came, and Sir Gilbert Heathcote, chief director of the bank of England, issued instructions to the fire officers to keep a sharp lookout on the bank, on which there was a prodigious run, presumably by those who thought that, though they brought nothing into the world, they might be able to take something out. The captain of a Dutch ship in the Thames threw all his powder into the river. Whiston is only remembered now by his translation of Josephus.

Cincinnati is about to inaugurate a new and important rule in the common schools, viz: Abolishing grammar and its senseless rules, and substituting therefor elementary lessons in the best English. Cincinnati educators deserve an acknowledgment of thanks. Many of the best teachers in the land have for years practiced this. You can just as easily teach a boy to be a mechanic by showing him theories, or teach him to swim before going into the water, as you can teach him to use elegant English by a set of rules and exceptions learned parrot-like. Years of the life of every boy and girl are thrown away in pushing them into abstruse sciences, when they should be learning to spell and storing the mind with valuable and practical facts of history, geography, etc. A grammar should not be placed in the hands of a child until he is well advanced and the mind in a fair sense matured. —*Inter Ocean.*

The New York *Evening Post*, although formerly very abusive of Vice President Arthur, has changed its tune sufficiently to say:

General Arthur is as different from Andrew Johnson in temperament and training as the circumstances of the country are different from those of Andrew Johnson's time. He is a man of education as well as of affairs, of an amiable and yielding disposition, and hence more likely to be imp essed with the responsibilities of his new station and the fatality through which it fell to his lot than a person of narrow mind and headstrong temper would be. The duty of the people to him in the event of President Garfield's death will be no less imperative and binding than his duty to them. He will be entitled to the forbearance and confidence due to one who has neither sought nor expected the Presidential office, but who assumes it in obedience to law and under very trying circumstances.

There has been drouth in Pennsylvania, too. A Philadelphia telegram says: Great damages over the State are reported from the long drouth. Rivers are lower than ever before. Springs and wells are almost dried up. The corn crop is injured beyond recovery. There will be barely half a crop of wheat. Nearly all grist mills in the lumber regions have been compelled to stop. General alarm is setting in throughout the valley.

State Senator Loren B. Sessions, of the late New York Legislature, who tried to bribe Representative Bradley to vote against Conkling, has "gone to grass." His district has shelved him and nominated another man in his place. This was a very proper thing to do. The Republicans cannot afford to indorse confessed rascals such as Sessions.

Governor Hawkins, of Tennessee offers a reward of $20,000 for the arrest of members of mobs who have recently been engaged in lynching people to death. That's a step in the right direction. Mobs are composed of murderers, usually.

General Pope, in command of the Department of the Missouri, shows his respect for the Kansas prohibitory law by an order that no alcoholic liquors shall be sold to any citizen within Kansas military reservations.

It is reported that Dr. Tanner, the faster, recently, at Frankfort-on-the-Main, fell down a flight of stairs, receiving injuries that caused his death.

Half of the grain in the United States will have been bought and sold on 'Change in Chicago during the last ten days of August.—*Inter Ocean.*

Murphy, the American temperance lecturer, was heartily welcomed in London, England.

Exterminate the Bad Insects.

A Wenona correspondent writes to the Chicago *Inter Ocean* as follows:

"Please notify all the farmers and gardeners, now these dark nights, to gather all the old straw and hay into long rows around their orchards, potato and cabbage patches, and set fire to one end to burn against the wind all night, and they will burn up millions and millions every night of the male insects that fly, and bugs of all kinds and descriptions, such as destroy the trees and potatoes and all the cabbage, and the canker-worms on the apple trees. They will fly right into the blaze and burn their wings off, and drop into the fire. I told a man to do that who said the ground in his potatoe patch was crawling alive with potatoe bugs. He plowed a ditch around and filled it with straw, and he raised a big crop of potatoes. The prairie fires in former years use to burn them all up. Do this and you will soon be rid of the whole miller tribe of insects."

A writer about law and order in the Indian Territory says:

The Indian Territory has in it eighty-seven thousand red men and women, speaking thirty-two languages, and belonging to thirty-seven tribes. It has in it churches and school houses; it has in it no tramps and no saloons; and it has a thorough-going, iron-clad prohibitory law. It has something better still back of it, and that is a mounted police of Indians, with the United States uniform and gun on shoulder, out after the man who dares infringe their law.

Did we not read of so much crime in the I. T. we'd think, from the above that it was a sort of paradise.

The Lincoln *Democrat*, although the bitterest opponent of prohibition, wants the present liquor laws enforced. It says:

Those men who violate the Slocumb law, now that it is pronounced constitutional, are the worst enemies of the liquor traffic, and will make it necessary to enforce the law at all hazards. "Free whisky or free beer" should not be tolerated; a decent license is the best regulator of decency in saloons, and the best mode to restrict drunkeness. License does not make wine, beer or whisky any higher to the consumer than no license; but license regulates, while no license, as prohibition, disorganizes. We want the Slocumb enforced, because it is law, and because there is no appeal from it except through the next legislature. The low rum shops are murderous hellholes to the body and soul, and we are apposed to them; we favor respectable saloons and reasonable licenses alone can secure them. Those who violate the Slocumb law are not better than Finch himself; they become his allies by disorganizing the trade and enabling him to continue his crusade; they are playing into his hands and against their own interests.

It is well known that many American cattle are sent abroad, but it is not so well known that the hides are sent back to America to be tanned. Taning bark is growing scarcer every year in Europe, and costs from $35 to $70 a ton in England, while American hemlock bark is worth in this country only $3 to $5 per ton. For many years American hemlock-tanned sole leather has been exported to European countries, and the exports now reach $10,000,000. The exports of live cattle from New York were 22,500 in 1876, 70,000 in 1877, 100,000 in 1878, 33,295 in 1879, and 84,406 in 1880.—*Inter Ocean.*

Of Major Daniel, the Bourbon candidate for Governor of Virginia, the Greensboro (N. C.) *North State* says that he "is the same man who made a speech in the Court House in Greensboro last year, and advised the young ladies to ostracise all young Republicans. He said: "Don't go to church with them; don't go riding with them; do not be seen in any public place with them; they are not fit associates for you."

The Wabash Railroad Company are being sued by the Magill Bros., of Clinton, Ill., for damages to a large shipment of wool which was caught during the flood at Toledo. The company refuse payment on the ground that the flood was the act of God, and they are therefore not responsible. Many other cases, amounting to near $1,000,000, will depend on the decision in this case.

During the recent session of the international law conference at Cologne, David Dudley Field, of the United States, offered a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, providing that neither assassination nor attempted assassination, as a means of redressing grievances, should be deemed a mere political offense within the meaning of the treaty, and that the privilege of asylum should be denied the perpetrators of such crime. That should have been the law long ago, beyond doubt or quibble.

A Young Scotchman Bilked Out of all His Money.

Omaha Bee.

Yesterday a young man was made the victim of a confidence game by a couple of men at the U. P. depot. The young man, whose name is Alexander McQueen, arrived at Omaha yesterday from Scotland. This afternoon he went down to the depot to look after his baggage and while there was accosted by a well dressed man with a red face and about six feet tall. The man asked young McQueen where he was going and he replied that he was looking for work. The confidence man said his father was a Scotchman and was looking for a young man of his nationality to take care of his horses. After some talk the confidence fellow engaged McQeen to go to work for his father. At this juncture another individual appeared, who presented what purported to be a bill for freight against the first confidence man. The man last appearing said he had left them at the freight depot and would not haul them up town until he had got his money that he had advanced for freight charges. The first man said he had a check for a large amount, but no cash. He asked young McQueen whether he had any cash, and being answered in the affirmative, presented a check on Caldwell, Hamilton & Co.'s bank, drawn in favor of George N. Hamilton for $720 and signed by Howard & Son. The young man advanced the money on it, to the amount of $60, all the money he had on earth. After the men went away he began to suspect that all was not right, so he went up to the U. P. office and asked a person that was there if it was. The man saw that the young man had been duped, and telephoned to the bank about it. The bank replied that the check was a forgery. The young man rushed up town and got officer McCune to his assistance. The officer is looking for the man.

Grand Island will probably have six more saloons running next week, and the school fund of this city will be augmented to the extent of $3,000.—*Grand Island Times.*