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Public spirit and James E. Boyd go hand in hand.

When finally completed Mr. Arthur's cabinet ought to be well seasoned.

The issue Nebraska farmers are not in favor of—an unlimited issue of railroad bonds.

It comes to a tussle between Turner and James M. Tymor will more than meet his match.

The Irish situation can scarcely be called an eligible one for young men with political tendencies.

The political forgery dodge in Virginia is said to have seriously reacted upon the chances of the bourbon.

PHIL ARMOUR predicts a fall of ten cents in corn within forty days. Phil owns an elevator and is a perfectly disinterested party.

The health officer at New York has such a lucrative position that he contributes \$10,000 a year for campaign purposes. Quite a healthy office.

There is much complaint from residents in the Second ward over the action of the registrar in neglecting to publish notice of the time and place of his sitting.

NEBRASKA'S representatives to the river convention at St. Louis are J. Sterling Morton, Clinton Briggs, M. L. Hayward, C. S. Chase, Victor Vique, O. P. Mason, J. L. Carson, John W. Pollack, H. T. Clarke and R. B. Windham.

DON KEY is the term by which the late postmaster-general is now dubbed by prominent postal officials.

By general consent the Yorktown celebration was a fiasco. The military display was insignificant, the accommodations for visitors inadequate, and the speeches and orations a bore.

CIVIL service reform does not seem to be making very rapid strides on the floor of the senate when division of spoils is involved. The senate military committee has decided not to report favorably the nomination of three physicians from New York to be assistant army surgeons, not on account of any objection to their qualifications, but because "New York is getting more than its share of new army surgeons."

THE vicissitudes of politics make many changes in congress. Of nearly one hundred and fifty republicans who will be in the next house, only twenty-two were there so far back as the forty-fourth congress, which met six years ago.

LIVING injuries any cause however good. At a meeting of the national prohibition alliance in New York last week Jay Odell, an Ohio lecturer, put the number of "drunkard's wives" in the United States at 1,800,000 and the number of drunkard's children at 6,000,000. The Philadelphia Press says that Mr. Odell has made a statement which every intelligent man knows is false, and which nobody but a fool would make without deliberate misstatement. The estimate makes one child in three the country over the descendant, and one wife in six the consort, of some drunkard. Put this way, the statement is seen by the daily observation of every one to be as ridiculous as the staple assertion that all the "spits" made in this country rolls down the throats of the American people; less than two-thirds do, and less is used this way now in proportion to the population than forty years ago.

JAMES E. BOYD.

Among the prominent residents of Omaha who have for years been identified with her growth and of whose success and public spirit her citizens are justly proud, the name of James E. Boyd stands pre-eminent. Mr. Boyd is a striking example of a self-made man who by industry, perseverance and sheer pluck has worked his way in life from the humblest beginnings. Born in Ireland at an early age he emigrated to America and learned the trade of a carpenter. He was one of the first settlers in Nebraska. Locating in Omaha and working at the bench with hammer and plane he soon became known and respected for these many sterling traits of character which contributed so largely to his future success. Later Mr. Boyd located a ranch on the overland trail, where he ranched for a number of years as a frontiersman. Boyd's Ranch soon became widely known and its proprietor as widely popular. When the Union Pacific road was under construction Mr. Boyd engaged in the work of its extension as a railroad contractor, filling his contracts with that promptness and fidelity to his engagements which has made his word as good as his bond throughout the state. Subsequently Mr. Boyd removed to Omaha, making it his permanent home and undertook the construction of the Omaha and Northwestern road of which he was made president. In his various enterprises up to this date Mr. Boyd accumulated a handsome competency, and seeing the need of a packing house at this point decided to invest his means in erecting the largest structure of the kind in this section of the west, in which business he is still engaged.

The people of Nebraska at an early day recognized the clear judgment, sound common sense and sterling honesty of James E. Boyd and called upon him to contribute his services in modeling the form of government for the state. As a member of the constitutional convention he was unanimously elected on a non-partisan ticket and placed on the important committee on railroads. Although a railroad man, he never forgot that he was a representative of the people for whose benefit he applied the knowledge which he had acquired through his connection with the corporations. It was he who framed that article of the constitution which provided for the regulation of the railroads by the people.

Any other man in such a position if disposed to work with the railroads could easily have inserted provisions which would have made all railway legislation inoperative. But James E. Boyd, after a careful study of the Illinois and other state laws, threw around the subject every provision for the protection of the people and gave to the voters of Nebraska a constitutional right to regulate the corporations and prohibit those abuses which have been a blot upon the history of railroads in our state. Subsequently Mr. Boyd served in the state senate with equal credit to himself and universal satisfaction to his constituents. He was always reliable, outspoken in his opinions and unwavering in what he believed to be for the best interests of the state.

No man has been more closely identified with the growth of Omaha than James E. Boyd. Here he has sunk several fortunes, and by the most indomitable pluck and energy he has wrangled success out of failure. In every emergency where Omaha has been threatened by rival interests Mr. Boyd has always been at the front to ward off the impending danger, and in every instance where a public enterprise has been inaugurated he has never withheld his helping hand. In the bitter fight against the Holly water works Mr. Boyd was the first to place himself at the head of those who applied for an injunction against the water company and backed his position by becoming a bondsman and assuming any damage suits that might arise from a failure to carry the point through the courts. It was the bold and fearless stand which he took in this emergency that induced others more timid to stand behind him in opposition to a band of sharks, whose operations, when they became fully exposed, would surprise our citizens by the extent of the conspiracy against the public interests. Summoned to the city council against his wishes, and elected to the mayoralty of our city, Mr. Boyd, in the discharge of executive functions, has fully justified the confidence reposed in him by the people of Omaha, and in many trying occasions which demanded a firm and decided policy, he has invariably taken the position, which was held by the better portion of our community.

It is not necessary to speak in detail of the crowning enterprise of Mr. Boyd's career in the erection of the beautiful opera house which he has given to our city. No other man in Omaha dared to undertake it. It was begun and carried to completion by Mr. Boyd while he was already engaged in heavy operations which taxed his energies and capital. By its construction another installment is added to the debt which the

THE PENSION OFFICE.

Notwithstanding the earnest protests of Commissioner Dudley that his office is working smoothly and satisfactorily reports of irregularities in the pension bureau continue to be published in eastern journals and are repeated in the letters and dispatches of Washington correspondents. The charge is made that a conspiracy has for some time been in existence among the clerks, who have co-operated with outside pension and claim agents in pushing through fraudulent claims.

The entire pension office needs investigation. The arrears of pensions set which was pushed through congress by the boldest demagogues through open thimble rackets to fraud and perjury, and inaugurated a raid on the treasury which has cost the government millions of money paid out to bogus claimants. Under this act a pension for fifteen years already paid was conferred upon men who had never believed themselves entitled to any pension at all. The methods of taking testimony for applications without cross examination or opposing witnesses placed a premium of from \$1,500 to \$2,000 on perjury and proved a bonanza to a host of pension and claim sharks who scoured the country for subjects on which to realize their bonuses.

The increase in the number of pensions has been enormous. The Buffalo Express has pointed out that within three years the annual cost to the government in the payment of its pensioners will scarcely fall below \$100,000,000, a sum sufficient to support a standing army of 200,000 men in France or Germany.

Before the new laws took effect there were only 242,755 pensioners on the roll. There are now 275,000 and the number is increasing at the rate of nearly 8,000 a month. In the twenty years since the close of the war the government has paid out more than \$300,000,000 to its pensioners. Instead of the pension lists decreasing in that time as they certainly should have done through the death of beneficiaries they have shown a steady increase since the new law came into operation. In 1871 the pension expenditure was \$34,443.60. From that date it slowly fell, dropping in 1878 to the sum of \$27,137,000. In that year the average of pensions set came into operation and the figures rose in one year to \$35,121,000, in 1880 to \$50,777,000, this year to \$60,000,000 with a prospect of \$90,000,000 in 1882, \$100,000,000 in 1883 and an unlimited amount thereafter.

No nation in the world bears such an enormous pension burden because no other nation has so loosely managed its pension department and given so many opportunities for frauds and swindlers to prey upon its treasury. No citizen of the United States begrudges to the disabled soldiers of the nation the pittance which they receive from the government. More than cheerfully do they submit to the direct and indirect taxation which such disbursement of the national funds necessitates. But it is a fact which no soldier will dispute that there are thousands of men now drawing pensions from the government who never served gunpowder on the battle field and whose pretended disabilities were incurred hundreds of miles away from the seat of war. Were the pension lists examined and the names on the roll sifted it would be found that dead men were drawing with great regularity drafts from the national treasury, that thousands of pretended wounds had never been received and that injuries on which fifteen years back pay had been embossed from the government never had any existence except in the office of the agent interested in paying through the bogus claim.

It is the duty of congress to protect the treasury. The howls of demagogues, who fear for the "soldier's vote" should be unheeded when justice is at stake. A law should at once be passed requiring proper proof of claims. Ex-parte testimony where no cross-examination is permitted should be rigidly prohibited. An examination should be made of the claims already passed upon as far as practical, and the treasury saved from a continuance of the raid which threatens to prove a more serious drain upon its resources than the funding of the national debt.

The nomination of Hon. E. D. Morgan as secretary of the treasury will probably be acceptable to the country at large and will strengthen Mr. Arthur's cabinet in this confidence of the community. Mr. Morgan was one of Mr. Lincoln's war governors and as chief executive of New York during the war strengthened the hands of the president and promptly and invariably responded to every call for aid. As United States senator, as governor of a great state and as a business man of wide attainments and great force of character, Mr. Morgan will bring to the portfolio vacated by Secretary Windom valuable executive experience, a practical

acquaintance with business methods and acknowledged ability as a financier.

It is in accord with the eternal fitness of things that J. Sterling Morton, who for years has been a notorious monopoly capper, and is an out and out opponent of all legislation prohibiting extortion and discrimination by railway corporations, should be one of Nebraska's representatives at the St. Louis cheap transportation convention. Score another for Governor Nance.

There was a time, and that not long ago, when the publishers of that wonderful magazine for young folks, St. Nicholas, were able to put into one fat volume their monthly issues for one year. It speaks well for the enterprise of the publishers that two well-known names were never intended to bind in permanent form the twelve numbers of the magazine issued during the year. The parts for the year ending November, 1881, are now received, and a veritable treasure-box of useful and beautiful things is this two-volume book. Do the young people of these more fortunate times appreciate their advantages? Do they know that their adventure in St. Nicholas the finest magazine for young people ever produced in the world? The finest and best of its kind that is now in existence, or ever has been in existence? It is impossible to speak in too high terms of this magazine. It is confidently and unapproachably in its peculiar field. It is a marvel of perfection, both as regards its literary excellence, its artistic merit, and its singular adaptability to the requirements of an eager and alert generation of young readers.

The volumes of 1881, now before us, maintain the high standard set by the guidance of those who have devoted their best talents to the production of St. Nicholas. The index contains the names of some of the foremost writers of the land, and among its serial stories are two or three which are likely to be classic works with the girls and boys of the United States. Here we find the breezy and wholesome story of "Phaeton Rogers," by Rosette Johnson, who has struck an entirely new vein in story-telling for boys. William O. Stoddard's "Sailito Boy" is another capital series of sketches and pictures for young folks; and the papers entitled "In Nature's Wonderland," by Felix L. Oswald, are almost as good as anything in that famous book of adventures on which so many boys of a past age were brought up, "The Swiss Family Robinson."

The Philadelphia success of St. Nicholas is due, probably to the wisdom of its editorial management and the liberality of its publishers. It may be reckoned among the curiosities of modern literature that so many eminent persons have been pressed into the service of writing for young people. It is very likely that, if this magazine had never appeared, we never should have heard of Longfellow, Bryant, Whittier, Bret Harte, Charles Duley Warner, Mrs. Oliphant and Bayard Taylor as being engaged in juvenile literature. Perhaps, when they first ventured into this rich field, they were surprised to find that St. Nicholas had been surprised to find that they had in themselves the rare faculty of interesting the children as well as the older folks. If for nothing else than this, we should be grateful that St. Nicholas has been brought into the republic of letters.

It may be truly said that the boys and girls of the English speaking races have now presented to them, in the annual volumes of St. Nicholas, the best work by the best writers for young people. It will be a happy day for our country when such wholesome, attractive, and enriching literature as this shall displace the wretched stuff with which the land is flooded.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Mr. Aldrich is the youngest member of the Senate. He was born in 1841.

An Ohio Democrat who let on 10,000 majority must saw ten cords of hard wood for a neighbor.

Spencer, the grand old carpet-bag senator from Alabama has spruced up and gone to Washington.

The Republicans of Ohio have elected one colored man to the State Legislature.

Senator Lapham will be 67 years of age next week and has a venerable appearance, as his hair and whiskers are as white as snow.

The qualities which the people of Nevada will not fight a duel, said Senator Mahan; a flesh-wound I could never get—because I'm in skin and bone.

Iowa's representative on the Supreme bench, Justice Miller, is now the senior justice and takes precedence of all except the Chief Justice.

Bayard made \$22,600 by his three day's service as president of the senate, that chemical fire engine allowed a senator occupying that position.

The constitution of Maryland makes ministers or preachers of the Gospel or of any religious creed, or denomination ineligible to seats in either branch of the State Legislature.

A significant fact concerning the Ohio election is that this is the first time the Republicans have carried the State in the year following a presidential campaign since 1869.

The prohibition candidate for Governor of Wisconsin has an eye to the main chance. He has sent his wife out on a stumping tour through the northern part of the state, and it is reported that she is making a vigorous canvass.

The do-nothing Washington that many office-seekers are making haste to withdraw their applications filled before the assassination of Garfield, with a view to re-construction in the matter of arguments and endorsements.

The Rev. Beecher, who is Henry Ward's brother, ran last year, in the Elmira district, at the greatest loss for Congress, and was rewarded with permission to remain at his clerical post. This year he is a candidate for assemblyman. Next year he may be after a commission as constable.

"What shadows we are and what shadows we pursue," murmured Senator John Sherman to himself as he stepped into the supreme court room in the capital while the clerk was calling up case No. 29—Hass against Chester A. Arthur, sued as the late contractor of the port of New York.—[New York World.]

James Redpath got out of Ireland just in time. Had he remained a few days longer he would undoubtedly have been clapped into prison. As it is he is no

disporting himself on the freshwater of America, and can howl at England as loud and as long as he pleases, and none will molest or make him afraid.

President Arthur is an expert fisherman and a very fond of fishing in an amuse-ment, and he takes to piscatorial literature as a pastime now and then. During the session of the Senate, while he was vice-president, he frequently spent an hour or so in the Library of Congress, pouring over the books on fishes and fishing.

Horatio Seymour advised his nephew, State Engineer Seymour, not to accept a nomination for State Engineer for a third time, on the ground that "third terms" were politically criminal. The State Engineer has been widely expected for following this advice. He has been proffered and has accepted charge of some extensive landed interests in Michigan.

Mr. Kelly's organ in New York supports the ticket nominated at Albany in a hearty fashion all its own, as thus: "It is the misfortune of most of the candidates that they are not well known in the state. Their names awaken no enthusiasm. Indeed, most people never heard of them. They have our heartfelt regrets, but shall have our support and votes, nevertheless." An unbiassed and disinterested citizen, Va., expresses the opinion, after carefully looking over the chances of both parties in the present hot contest in that state, that the Republican ticket is the best. The Republican leaders are very confident they will carry both the legislature and the state ticket.

Senator Ha's is living at the old Hooper mansion in Washington, Senator Frye at the Riggs Hotel, Senator Blair at No. 265 East Capitol street, Senator Edmunds at a house on Massachusetts Avenue, and Senator Morrill will soon be in his new residence at 15th and D streets. Senator Aldrich is at the Arlington, Senator Hawley is at the City Hotel, and Senator Platt is at the Arlington. Senator W. W. Phelps is at the house built for Secretary Stanton on Franklin Square.

PERSONALITIES.

It is not believed that Riddleberger's coat is mortal wounded. The Rev. J. W. Worth, the Parisian man-milliner, is a regular John Bull by birth.

Governor Foster is the first Governor to be elected his own successor in Ohio in ten years.

With the exception of Washington, Arthur is the tallest and largest President in the list.

Sunset Cox, who has enjoyed his trip abroad, will return to this country about the first of December.

John B. Gough has re-written his lecture on popular people. Ah yes; he wanted to get David Davis into it.

Mr. Seddon is reported to be worth \$2,000,000. Fred is a lightning calculator was used in making this estimate.

Secretary Blaine told the Montevideo club he could talk French with them, but he was ready to pick a frog-leg with them at any time.

Harry Garfield plays the piano in a creditable manner. Harry's prospects of becoming a distinguished man, among the ladies, are good.

Parrell has been offered the freedom of the city by the authorities of Dublin, but his facilities for enjoying the honor are not any too great just now.

Prince Victor Napoleon, one of the two young sons of Prince Jerome Napoleon, has, with his father's consent, enlisted as a private in an artillery regiment.

Cornelius Ralph Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield's nephew and heir, is a clever but somewhat eccentric boy. He is shy and reserved and loves music more than classical.

The Siamese Princess recently visiting Paris before leaving bought 350 pairs of gloves, the angry man returned, "but I'll give you all the lead you want," and he shot three bullets into the king's chest.

A refrigerator transit company in the South has elected for its president Charles F. Adams. This is only a remarkably well executed counterfeit of the eternal business of things. The real man called to the position is not the frigid Charles Francis Adams, of Quincy, Mass. That would be too huge a job for the president of this sensitive country to successfully withstand.

A dispatch from Washington states that "the notion still prevails extensively in China and Japan that General Grant is the Emperor of America. Our friends in China and Japan are mistaken; the Emperor of America is a man named Sullivan. He gives \$50 to a man he cannot knock out of time in four months. His name is Yeddo papers please copy.

The late Louis A. Wiltz, governor of Louisiana, whose death has been announced by telegraph, was born in New Orleans in 1843, and entered commercial life at the age of fifteen. He served in the confederate army throughout the war, and became an active politician in New Orleans after its close. He was elected member of the legislature, and alderman and mayor of New Orleans. In the troubles of 1874 he took a prominent part on the democratic side. In 1879 he was elected lieutenant-governor, and in 1879 was president of the constitutional convention. Upon the ratification of the constitution he was elected governor for four years from April, 1880. For a year and a half his health has been gradually failing, and a year ago he took a trip to Colorado for his health. Wiltz was a strong partisan democrat and his administration has been bitterly anti-republican from the start.

IOWA BOILED DOWN.

The Reform School at Eldora has 364 inmates. Hay sells at \$15 and \$16 a ton at Burlington. The Greenback vote of the State will not exceed 25,000.

Chicago City has purchased a \$1,000 chemical fire engine.

The Rock City creamery made last week 2,600 pounds of butter.

There are 122 convicts confined in the Anamosa penitentiary.

There are 525 inmates in the insane hospital at Mount Pleasant.

Pressing hay for shipment is a new industry in Monona county.

The contract for building the Red Oak street railway has been let.

The contract for building the Red Oak street railway has been let.

There are 188 children in the soldiers' orphan's home at Davenport.

Another national bank will open for business in Des Moines, November 1.

A flock of 1,400 sheep arrived in Sac county the other day from Missouri.

The pork-packing establishment at Iowa City has been sold to Canada parties.

A packing house is being built in Okauchee with a capacity of 1,500 hogs per day.

Iowa has a population of 1,624,468, and contains 35,250,000 acres of farming land.

The Excelsior Coal Mining Company, of Des Moines, has filed articles of incorporation.

There are 150 Medics in the Keokuk Medical College, and a class of 250 is expected.

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