

The Omaha Bee.

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OMAHA PUBLISHING CO., Prop'rs E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

Now that Gaitere has been "doctored" there should be no more "lost time."

Every disorderly dive closed in our city means less vice and crime among our growing youth.

The visit of Manager Potter to the Pacific coast is believed to have some reference to a Pacific outlet from Denver of the Burlington system.

It looks as though Sargent was the coming man for secretary of the interior. President Arthur will make a grave mistake if he sends in such an appointment.

A NUMBER of Mr. Blaine's friends say that the appointment of Bill Chandler to the navy department will not be considered any compliment to the cause of the retired secretary.

JAY GOULD received in his Christmas stockings a couple of bankrupted railroads and a few millions of highly watered stock. Nearly the entire country has to contribute to Gould's Christmas presents now-a-days.

TENNESSEE is still divided over the question of paying the state debt on which issue a republican governor was elected last year. The entire state is divided into debt payers and law tax men and every possible obstacle has been thrown in the way of carrying into effect the law directing the issuing of new bonds. Members of the legislature who voted for the law have been charged with bribery, but the charges were not maintained; the matter was taken into court in the shape of an injunction suit and an attempt has just been made to influence the supreme court by wholesale threatening, but the attempt failed, all judicial action has so far been in favor of the debt payers, and it is expected upon all hands that a final decision of the case next month will direct the issuing of the bonds, and that the long fight will then be ended. Nevertheless, there is plenty of violent talk, feeling still runs high, and the democratic party is now divided and comparatively helpless.

RECENT newspaper discussion concerning the Popular Science Monthly, which arose from its publishers withdrawing their names from the North American Review on account of its giving utterance to Ingersoll's views on Christianity, has brought Mr. Youmans, the editor of the Popular Science, face to face with those who have accused his magazine of publishing "everything of interest written by pronounced atheists," or of "pronounced atheistical tendency." He denies the charge, in the form presented, but confesses and defends the publication of articles by Herbert Spencer, Huxley and others holding like opinions. The editor draws the line in this manner:

"Between him who believes that religion is a great and sacred reality and him who denounces it root and branch as a delusion originating in fraud and knavery there can be no common ground. There are not the 'same opinions,' but diametrically opposite opinions. A criticism of religious errors, however trenchant it may be, if it gives the subject sincere and respectful consideration, is as different as any two things can be from a spiteful, ruthless, and exasperating assault upon the religious sentiment of the community. And when these opinions are published for no other reason than to startle and shock the public by their audacity, and for no other than a sordid purpose, the case is still aggravated."

Among the twenty articles of this number there are none to be found of the kind so hotly attacked by the religious press of the country, and it is probable the publishers have wisely taken a timely hint

THE great problem of the future for the west is that of cheap transportation. In no other country is cheap carriage of products as essential an element of prosperity. Our export trade is mainly in raw articles grown a thousand or more miles from the seaboard and which must be carried very cheaply to water if it is to bear the expense of transportation across the water. Production is growing very rapidly. Rapid production means low prices, and the pressure

for cheap transportation will grow constantly as the crops to be marketed increase in bulk and prices fall. The less the value of a product the less the cost of transportation must be to enable it to reach the market, for men can not raise wheat when the cost of carriage eats it up before it reaches the consumer.

The railroads are already complaining that the low rates of the last summer forced upon them by the freight war cannot be further reduced and dividends paid to stockholders, and inform the public that no hopes must be entertained of any further extensive cut in rates. They are limited by the exorbitant capitalization of their roads, the extravagant salaries paid to officers, and the great cost of operating these lines.

It is becoming more clear every year that the country must look to water transportation for the solution of the problem for the cheap carriage of raw products to the seaboard. The great water ways of our continent are not limited by man's greed or avarice. Nature demands no dividends on her streams and lakes.

The west demands of the national government such an improvement of great natural highways, as will render them free and unrestricted to all who apply for their use. By such action it will not only furnish cheap transportation but force the railroads to do the same.

OUR FOREIGN POLICY

The English journals are violently indignant over Mr. Blaine's Panama canal dispatch, and enquire angrily what business the United States has to have a foreign policy which may conflict with those of European nations. The London Economist proposes that if the United States insist upon abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which guaranteed the neutrality of this country, on all questions affecting the cutting of the isthmus, a compromise may be entered into between the two governments by which the canal, except for the purposes of toll, shall be declared a part of the high seas.

This is decidedly cool and refreshing. The United States is at peace with all the world and intends to remain so. It is for this very reason that she proposes to see to it that no foreign nation shall have an opportunity to pick a quarrel with her on account of her defensive weakness. The Clayton-Bulwer treaty was a decidedly one sided affair in which the United States was overreached. The statesmen of the United States have never regarded it with favor, and, although it has stood for the past thirty years, steps ought to have been taken for its abrogation long ago. Thirty years have made a considerable difference in the circumstances of this republic. Within that period we have grown from 23,000,000 to more than 50,000,000 people. Our commerce, foreign and domestic, is no longer counted by millions, but by billions, and we have a new nation growing up on the Pacific coast. Under this changed condition of affairs the United States can no longer afford to be bound by a treaty the provisions of which give Great Britain, with her prodigious maritime superiority, control of the canal in case of war between the two countries. In whatever light English statesmen and journalists may regard this matter, our own government should insist upon controlling the canal independently of all other powers. No disposition exists to close a commercial highway against England's trading ships or those of any other country in a time of peace. Self-preservation, however, demands that we should secure ourselves against hostile assaults, and neither England nor any other power should be permitted to use the canal for the purpose of attacking our Pacific possessions during a period of war. Great Britain has so managed that an enemy can only reach her Indian and Australian possessions by the way of Cape of Good Hope. In like manner, the United States should take measures to prevent an enemy from reaching its Pacific possessions except by way of China or Cape Horn.

The guarantee of the neutrality of the canal as a portion of the American coast line is necessary for this purpose, and Secretary Blaine's position will receive greater and greater endorsement in this country the more it is studied impartially and in the light of the growth and development of the American people.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The English parliament convenes early in February and will find no end of business laid out for it. Up to December 1, aside from all general and political measures, notice had been given of intention to apply for 244 private bills, but as the list includes 44 duplicates, the real total is reduced to 200. Last year, before December, only 126 independent measures had been started. Of the 200 to be asked for, thirty-five relate to railroads, several of them concerning new lines or extensions, and the others petitioning for additional powers. Among the public measures to be considered will be important amendments of the rules of the house of commons, a bankruptcy bill, the Rivers conservation bill, and the corrupt practices

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

bill, two or three of these being relics of the last session. Quite likely also the English land laws will be brought up for reform, and the omnipresent Irish question will play no unimportant part in the debates and legislation. The liberal majority will not feel as easy as it did in the last session, for in the recent "by-elections" the conservatives have made considerable gains. After the last general election the liberals and home rulers had a majority of 166 over the conservatives, but the liberals over the other parties combined, only 46. The upshot of recent events is that the home rulers are quite inclined to go with the conservatives against their former allies, while, besides this disaffection, conservative gains in the special elections amount to twenty votes. Hence, it is apparent, the loss of a few more seats would seriously embarrass the liberals, even if it did not leave the home rulers actually in possession of the balance of power.

Capital punishment is rarely inflicted in Prussia. But when a lady indulges in the habit of luring poor men to destruction—marrying them first and murdering them afterwards—severe measures become necessary. Moved, probably, by some consideration of this sort, the criminal court of Glatz, in Prussia, has condemned to death a certain Frau Widow Bittner who is proved to have poisoned one husband sixteen weeks after she became his wife, and another before the honeymoon had been thrice told. The kaizer and king is said to be extremely reluctant to sign a death warrant, and he can rarely be prevailed upon to do so; but a man-killing woman is his especial abhorrence, and Widow Bittner is not likely to receive a reprieve.

France is rapidly extending her dominion in the South Sea Islands and England is becoming exercised over the fact. The great European republic, it appears, does not think of glory in Tunis to the exclusion of the idea of power in the Pacific. There is considerable confidence in England that a route for ships across the Isthmus of Panama will sooner or later be constructed. This will to a great extent change the course of travel from Great Britain to New Zealand and Australia. On the direct line between Panama and New Zealand lies the Low Archipelago. There is no other suitable place for a coaling station between the Crimea. New Zealand is a British colony. Public opinion in England of course puts this and that together, with the conclusion that the insignificant islands of the archipelago must be held under British control. But France long ago, with shrewd foresight, discovered the same advantage, and now seeks to extend a protectorate over the coveted soil. The greater part of Eastern Polynesia is under the French flag. The French only last year gained possession of the society group, and it is believed, they propose to annex everything east of Samoa. The Fiji Islands, almost alone, are left to Great Britain, north of New Zealand. Over these various plots and counterplots, the enlargement of colonial power and maintenance of cheap prestige, there are many heart-burnings among the jingoes on both sides of the channel. Just now, however, beyond doubt, the French are getting ahead of the English. And yet English control is preferred to French by the Polynesian natives.

The electric railway in Paris has been so successful that it has found capitalists who are ready to support a scheme for its permanent establishment, and Messrs. Siemens are engaged in settling the preliminaries for an elevated electric railway around the city. The proposed railway is to be about fifteen feet wide, carried on pillars 130 feet to 160 feet apart, which would occupy but a comparatively small proportion of the total width of the boulevards. The proposed gauge is four feet, and there are to be stations at intervals of 400 yards, so arranged that an intending passenger would not have to traverse more than 200 yards to reach a station.

Lord Roseberry, a man careful in his statements and friendly to America, said in a recent speech that the worst Irish outrages were perpetrated to satisfy contributors in America to Irish relief funds. Lord Roseberry doubtless believes this; but he, like other Englishmen, is blind to the fact that England faces in Ireland not a row stirred up from abroad, but the last problem which can overtake any society, a challenge by force to the existing distribution of property. Such a challenge may be crushed by force, but the collapse of the Irish Land Court, under a flood of appeals, shows that it cannot be met by any concession short of the cure involved in local self-government. If England cannot concede this, there is nothing for England to do but hang another bundle of bayonets on the safety valve.

The Italian senate has broadened the electoral base of government several fold by adopting the lowest grade of education, reading and writing, stripped of any property qualification, as the basis of suffrage. It is one of the singular anomalies of

Italian politics that the radical deputies and the liberal left come from the ignorant, and the conservatives, with most of the centre, from the better educated provinces in northern Italy. It will not be surprising if this change adds to the national Italian legislature what Italian politics have long needed—conservative balance.

PEPPERMINT DROPS.

"Excuse the impudence of the clerk, as he is my son," is the sign hanging up in an Iowa hotel.

A New York tourist who ate an alligator breakfast in Florida didn't get the taste out of his mouth until he had eaten half a peck of onions and four dozen herrings.

New Jersey is exhibiting a cow which has hooked two boys to death, broken a man's arm and crippled a woman. A defaulting bank teller would stand no show in that state.

"What is the moon good for?" asked Prof. Miller; "what are its principal uses?" And the smart boy looked up from the foot of the class and said: "To rest the gas companies."

"What is the greatest charge on record?" asked the professor of History. And the absent-minded student answered: "Seventeen dollars for back hire for self and girl for two hours."—Puck.

In special asylums for the relief and cure of the afflicted, Germany is declared to have the largest number of any nation in the world. For deaf mutes she has 31 asylums, for the blind 31, for lunatics 30, and for epileptics 11; her total is 178. France ranks next after Germany 70, England with 65, and Russia last, with only 18 asylums.

Since 1867 no fewer than 2,800 houses in Edinburgh that were pronounced unfit to live in have been pulled down; more than 82,500,000 was at the same time spent in city improvements. The result of this on the death rate is interesting and instructive. In 1863 it was twenty-six in a thousand. Now it is twenty in a thousand.

Large numbers of socialists have recently been expelled from three important German towns; they number in all 420. For each town the number is as follows: Berlin 155, Hamburg 195, Leipzig 70. Nearly all have wives, children and relatives dependent upon them for the necessities of life. Many of them have gone to England to seek new homes and many have come to these shores. Four of them had been in the German parliament.

By degrees the public sentiment which forced the English parliament to pass the Irish land act is forcing the courts to construe acts already in existence more liberally in favor of the masses of the people. Justice Denham has just decided that under the reform act of 1867, amended in 1878, the occupant of any furnished or unfurnished room who is not a lodger is entitled to the elective franchise. Under this decision manhood suffrage is practically established in English towns and the ballot put into the hands of thousands who never before possessed its power.

The government has divided the disturbed localities in Ireland into five or six districts, each of which is to be under a superior magistrate, who will have entire control of troops and police with a view to prompt action in the event of disturbances. This is regarded as a preliminary step towards the enforcement of the payment of rent. In 60 per cent of the land cases already decided by the assistant commissioners appeals have been taken. There are now on the docket 300 appeals. The chief commissioners sit for the first time as an appeal court at Belfast, on the 6th of January.

Prejudice against American beef does not die out in England, and the consequence is that many butchers sell the imported meat, which is really better than the home-grown, for "English beef," while any one who wants some of the cheaper American beef is given a piece of an inferior British animal. At one London market beef is sold for what it is and has won a high reputation. It is often said that meat which takes an ocean passage of ten or twelve days in a refrigerator is better than that cut up and sold and perhaps eaten the day after killing. The English have a curious practice of selling a "beef critter" at so much a pound through, from whatever part a piece is cut, so that the best pieces bring very much less than in this country, while the inferior parts fetch more. Five years ago Liverpool received no American dressed beef; now it takes 3,000 quarters or more a week.

The official navy list for Germany for the year 1882 has been published, and it appears that the entire fleet now comprises seven armored frigates, five armored corvettes, twelve unarmored spar-deck corvettes, five gunboats of the first class, one armored battery, thirteen armored gunboats, two still in process of construction, four torpedo boats, four mine layers, three gunboats of the second class, eight dispatch vessels, a transport, eleven training and school ships, eleven vessels for harbor service, and eight pilot boats.

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coal in cold weather and costly ice in warm, life is hardly worth living, unless one can be a dealer in one or both of these necessities.—Boston Transcript

Mark Twain said in his Philadelphia speech at the pilgrims' dinner: "On this is the water and milk, and even the deadly lemons. You are on the downward path. In a few years you will surely reach cider. Pause while it is not too late."

When a man comes out in a crowd, and says he will not run for office, he reminds one very much of that other man who pinned a temperance pledge on his coat, so that some one would ask him to drink under the impression that he would refuse.—Texas Siftings.

A Germantown man who owned the house next to him refused to rent it to a young couple because they had children. He has since rented it to four old maids, who, for the sake of companionship, have bought a peacock, a pair of guinea fowls, two howling dogs and a parrot.

A gentleman went home the other night with a very large party of his wife. They have today been told to take hot tea—penney yal tea, barley tea, baked lemon tea, beef tea, curry tea, hop tea, celery tea, liver water, red pepper tea, baked onion tea, mint tea, and baked apple tea, and burnt sugar tea. "Well," said the sympathizing wife, "which do you think you will take?" "If you have no objection," said he, "I think I will take the hot ginger."

Four students of a Wisconsin college having been detected stealing a farmer's gate, were given the choice of expulsion or submitting to any penalty the farmer chose to inflict. So he sentenced them to chop four cords of wood for a poor widow which was done to the music of a brass band and a "large concourse of spectators." The people of the town are putting their gates temptingly in the way of the students in hopes of getting their winter's supply of fuel ready for them.

The Same Dear Hand. The bells ring out a happy sound, The earth is mantled o'er with white. It is the merry Christmas night, And love and mirth and joy abound. And here sit you and here sit I—I should be happiest in the land. For oh! I hold the same dear hand I've held for many a year gone by!

It is not withered up with care— It is as fresh as when I first met you. As sweet to hold and dear to me As when with chimes upon the air, On Christmas nights of years ago I held the same dear, little thing And felt its soft caresses bring The flushes to my throbbing brow.

Ah, we were born to never part— This little hand I hold to-night And I—so, with a strange delight I press it to my beating heart. And in the midnight hour I hush— Bless the little hand I hold! In broken whispers be it told: It is the old-time bob-tail flush!

RELIGIOUS.

Bishop Stevens will officiate at the consecration of Dr. Courtland Whitehead as bishop of Pittsburg, to take place January 20th.

Rev. Mr. Jencks having resigned the rectory of St. Charles Episcopal church at Des Moines, the vestry has extended a call to Rev. W. H. Van Antwerp, of Iakway, N. J., but formerly of Omaha.

The Rev. Nicholas A. Gallagher, now Vicar-General at Columbus, O., has been appointed Coadjutor Bishop of the Roman See of Galveston, Texas. The Rev. Mr. Gallagher was administrator of the diocese of Columbus on the death of the late Bishop Loeferer.

Mr. Joseph M. Bennett, of Philadelphia, has given a site in that city, embracing about 11 acres, for the proposed Methodist Orphan Asylum which Mrs. Bishop Simpson is especially interested in, and for which \$20,000 has been raised. The site is at Five P'ints, on the Schuylkill.

The annual sale of the pews in the Central Congregational church, Brooklyn, of which the Rev. Dr. H. M. Scudder is pastor, resulted in the receipt of \$19,000 for rental, and premium for choice of \$2,000. The salary paid to Dr. Scudder is \$8,000, and the annual expenses of the church is \$10,000 more.

The free-church system among the Episcopal churches of Massachusetts has advanced so far that there are now about forty parishes where the sittings are entirely free, some partly through endowments, some through gifts, but many carried on in entire dependence upon what the people conscientiously contribute from Sunday to Sunday at the services.

The congregation of the church in Washington where the late president Garfield used to worship have decided on a plan for the erection of a new memorial church. Enough funds are on hand to warrant a beginning. It is proposed to erect the edifice on the site including that of the old church. It will be eighty-five feet wide and one hundred and ten feet deep.

The Bishop of Rochester, which includes a part of London, says he has 800,000 souls in his diocese. There are seven parishes with more than 20,000 souls, five with more than 15,000, fourteen with more than 12,000, and sixteen with more than 10,000. There are also twenty-two parishes with incomes less than \$400 year where no curate was kept. Seventy-three churches are unoccupied.

On the 24th of January the provisions made for synodical reorganization in the Presbyterian church will go into effect. All the synods in each state will be consolidated, so that the synodical boundaries shall conform to state lines. There will be 23 synods under the new regulation, two of which are already in the field of New York will contain 29 Presbyteries, 1,040 ministers, 792 churches, and 130,374 communicants.

Bishop Hennessy in a recent sermon spoke of the increase of the Catholic church in Iowa. In no state in the union, he said, has the progress of the faith been more rapid, demanding an increased number of priests. Sixteen years ago, when the present bishop assumed charge there were in all Iowa but forty-five priests; now, after the diocese has been cut in twain, the northern half, the less densely populated, has more than 140 priests, and there are some parishes without any priests.

The Rev. John Davies, in the course of his sermon at the Chapel Royal, St. James' Palace, Christmas Day, referred to the appearance of the revised edition of the New Testament as one of the most remarkable events of the present year. The demand for the work among Anglo-Saxon peoples, he said, was an exceptional event in history. He also referred to the importance with which the appearance of the work was awaited in the United States, to which country he said the greatness of future nations belongs.

At Plymouth church Rev. H. W. Beecher received 180 persons into membership during the last official year, 170 of these joining on confession of faith. Forty-nine of the new members were men, the balance women. There were 27 men from the roll during the year, by death, 18 men and 18 women; by dismission, 24 men and 14 women; and by discipline, 24 men and 87 women. This left a net increase of 45 in membership, making the total number of members now on the roll 2,384, of which 1,679 are women. The total number of scholars in the Plymouth Sunday schools and missions given as 2,388, and there are 264 officers and teachers.

A Lady's Wish. "Oh, how I do wish my skin was as clear and soft as yours," said a lady to her friend. "You can easily make it so," answered the friend. "How?" inquired the first lady. "By using Hop Bitters, that makes pure, rich blood and blooming health. It did it for me, as you observe." Lead of it.—Cairo Bulletin. D 15-Jan

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