

The Omaha Bee

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OMAHA PUBLISHING CO., Proprietors E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

JOHN KELLY has buried his hatchet in the brains of his political opponents.

MACADAM, whether of limestone or granite, has played out in every city where it has been tried. Omaha must make no more costly experiments.

The question whether Shakespeare's Hamlet was a woman may yet be unsettled but there will be no dispute over the statement that Anna Dickinson's Hamlet is not a man.

A REDUCTION in the whisky tax urged by the lobby at Washington would decrease the revenue of the government nearly \$25,000,000 annually. This is paying very dearly for cheaper drinks.

OSCAR WILDE has shaken the dust of Chicago from his feet. He pronounces it a blot on the aesthetic universe. Chicago will continue killing hogs just the same as if Oscar had never visited her.

The military committee have made a unanimous report in favor of Col. Rochester's nomination to be paymaster general of the army. The new paymaster is the youngest brigadier general in the service.

The passage of the anti-polygamy bill in the senate was greeted with loud applause from the galleries. The applause ought to have been reserved until proof is forthcoming that such legislation will be effective in dealing with the evil which afflicted Utah.

MR. TILDEN is reported as friarier. He raced three chickens out of his yard at Graystone the other day and stood for two hours on a step ladder nailing up pictures. Another letter from Montgomery Blair on the presidential candidacy is evidently in order.

New York physicians have made a startling change in professional ethics by announcing their willingness to consult with physicians outside of the regular faculty and to make education and character and not his personal medical relations, the test of a physician's right to command the advice of other doctors at the bedside of his patients.

Our aim in extending the premium offer to Daily subscribers was chiefly to induce delinquents to remit their back dues and secure a six months' prepayment, with a view of enforcing the prepayment plan adopted by all metropolitan journals. By this same plan we hope to increase our list of new subscribers. All subscribers now delinquent who do not remit amount due before March 1st will then be stopped. The inducements we offer have never been equaled by any newspaper in this country. Our plan and the full list of premiums can be found on the seventh page.

EDWARD RODDIS. The news of the death of Mr. Edward Roddis, which occurred on Thursday morning at Albuquerque, N. M., will be received with general regret in the city. For ten years past a resident of Omaha, interested in her growth and contributing to her commercial development, Mr. Roddis was widely known and universally esteemed and respected.

Mr. Roddis was a native of England, being born in Northampton in the year 1819. He came to this country as a young man and settled in Milwaukee, where he engaged in the beef and pork packing business for a number of years and won for himself an enviable personal and commercial reputation. Owing to business reverses he came west some ten years ago and settled in Omaha. As manager of Mr. Boyd's packing house, Mr. Roddis assisted greatly in organizing and building up the business until 1878, when he retired and with Mr. George Thrall founded the packing house of Roddis & Thrall, with which he was connected at the time of his death.

Two years ago Mr. Roddis was elected to the city council, in which body he served with that conscientious fidelity to duty which was always so marked a trait of his character.

A wide circle of friends will join with the entire community in extending their heartfelt sympathies to his family in their great sorrow.

FASTER MAIL TRAINS.

An earnest appeal is made by the Chicago press for more rapid mail facilities between that city and the adjoining country. It is pointed out that there is not a mail train leaving any of the depots earlier than seven o'clock in the morning while New York merchants and newspapers are accommodated with trains leaving the city at 4 a. m., and furnishing early and rapid communication with a large area of the neighboring states. Chicago is a postal center ranks second only to New York. She is the great distributing point of the west and the commercial metropolis of the Mississippi valley. While New York merchants under an excellent postal system are enabled to forward letters to their customers and receive replies by mail on the same day Chicago is handicapped by the loss of from twelve to fifteen hours through slow and late going mails. The service between Chicago and Omaha stands particularly in need of reform. The earliest through mails leave Chicago at 12:30 p. m., and reach this city at 9:45 on the following day. Letters mailed the night before in Chicago for Omaha and points beyond are compelled to lie over half a day in the postoffice awaiting a delay whose value in dollars and cents to the commercial interests of the country would pay for the cost of running suitable trains ten times over.

The distance between Omaha and Chicago ought to be made in thirteen hours without difficulty. The Times says it would not be unreasonable to ask that Omaha should be reached in the evening of the day the train leaves here. The postoffice department owes to this city and to the northwest to procure the dispatch of earlier mail trains on the great through lines. But it is not alone Chicago and the northwest that is interested. The mail line from Chicago to Omaha is one of the great links in the transcontinental mail service. If the time between these two points is reduced, or if the service is rendered earlier, the way is opened for a reduction of the time of transporting mails from points east of here to points west of Omaha.

The city is not getting the attention from the postoffice department that its commercial importance entitles it to, and that some of the eastern cities are getting. The subject is earnestly commended to the attention of Messrs. Aldrich, Farwell and Davis. Mails are now dispatched from there on the earliest trains, and the required improvement consists of the department's inducing some of the roads to run earlier trains. That involves expense, but the Chicago postoffice is one of the most profitable in the country, and that city has a good right to demand that a little more of the money which the government makes here should be expended for its benefit.

This railroad lobby in the Iowa legislature have been unusually strong and unscrupulous during the present session. On Wednesday a great sensation was caused in the house by the exposure of a conspiracy in which these gentlemen have had a finger and which involved the clerk of the house committee on railroads. During the absence of the chairman a bill was handed by the clerk to a member of the committee, together with a report purporting to be signed by the committee and recommending its passage. After its introduction suspicion was aroused as to the genuineness of the report, and by request the bill was returned to the committee. It was then found that the minutes of the clerk had been made to conform with the report, which was pronounced bogus by every member of the committee. An investigation of the case is now in progress. The bill is a brief one, and is carefully and adroitly worded for the purpose intended. It was introduced by Senator Hall, of Burlington. It amends section 1,061 of the code by conferring upon railway companies the power to increase their indebtedness to an unlimited amount, instead of confining the same to a two-thirds limit of the capital stock. The opponents of the measure claim it originated and has been engineered by the railway lobby in the special interest of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railway, who confidently expected to get it through. Had the measure become a law, it would have enabled any company in the state to bond its road to such an extent that its revenue would not pay the interest, thus reducing it in the scale of classification, when it could charge greater rates for passenger and freight transportation.

REPRESENTATIVE ANDERSON, of Kansas, has introduced a bill in congress to compel the Kansas Pacific road to take out patents for all unsold lands granted it by the government. The measure should secure a speedy passage, and its provisions should be applied to every land grant railroad whose road has been completed. In the states of Nebraska and Kansas hundreds of thousands of acres of the most fertile lands are now exempt from state taxation, because owned by the railroad companies, and held with no other certificate of title than an act of congress. Nebraska is robbed of many thousands of dollars

annually by the refusal of the Union Pacific to take out patents on the unsold portion of its land grant. The Farmers' Alliance has protested strongly against this gross wrong, which increases the taxation of the producers to enrich a gigantic monopoly. Nebraska's senators have an opportunity to distinguish themselves by making a united effort to remedy the evil.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

At the conclusion of the last parliamentary session Mr. Gladstone made the declaration that when he contrasted the character and ability of the house of commons with the small amount of legislation that they accomplish he felt that he could no longer postpone some method for checking the factious obstruction to business which had disgraced the past session. That his views have not changed during the recess is seen by the introduction of a bill for "closure," or closing the discussion, whose object is to prevent what is known in congress as filibustering, and to enforce the right of majority rule. This so called "closure" differs from the call for the "previous question" as used in our deliberative assemblies. The previous question may be moved by any member at any time, and its adoption by a majority puts the question to a vote without further debate. The closure invests the speaker of the house of commons, or the chairman when that body is sitting in committee, with the right to propose at any time that the main question be now put. This motion is not debatable; but in order for its adoption, if there be a division, it must be supported by more than 200, or opposed by less than forty members. This curious provision is aimed at the obstructionist faction of the Parnellite party. Their average number on purely obstructive votes is less than forty, and hence they will be rendered utterly powerless to delay the business of the house. In fact the rule as stated will not, in practice, deviate very much from enabling a majority to enforce the closure. In a full house the minority could not muster less than 200 supporters without defeat and resignation; and the language of the rule gives 201 members or more power to shut off a minority of any size. On the other hand, the house of commons is never full except on the occasion of important votes. Much of its practical business is done with less than 100 members present. In such cases, the opposition could seldom command forty votes; and again the closure could be enforced against them. As this will probably be the actual operation of the rule, it is not easy to see why the closure should not depend upon a majority vote in the first place, unless it is intended to have the secondary effect of forcing a larger number of members in their places, a most desirable commendation.

Other rules pressed for adoption restrict the right of members to make dilatory motions in committee of the whole, and limits such right to one time for each member during the debate on any one question to move either that the chairman do report progress or that the chairman do leave the chair. No member shall speak more than once on each separate motion, and no member who has made one of these motions may make another motion on the same question. Several other rules confer upon the speaker or chairman an authority very dangerous and open to possible abuse, to silence members occupying the time of the house with irrelevant motions or discussions. There are also proposals for select committees to consider bills and questions and to report them to the house. It seems astonishing that the house of commons, with the affairs of an empire on its hands, should have heretofore occupied so much of its time with the discussion and sifting of details which standing committees dispose of. The proposed committees are to be very large, consisting of from sixty to eighty members, and are to take charge of bills relating to law, trade, shipping and manufactures. Such is the essence of the changes in parliamentary procedure which are now being agitated in England. It is most curious to observe that those which are really valuable are unconscious copies of American institutions.

Eleven years ago Mr. Gladstone declared, in a public speech, that the Irish peasantry had three branches, which it would be his endeavor to hew off. The first was the church and state problem, the second the educational question, and the third the abuses of the Irish tenure system. History will record how faithfully and how manfully he has followed out his purpose, in the face of the most overpowering obstacles.

The government of Russia is becoming alarmed by the universal condemnation which has been expressed in all civilized nations of the persecution of the Jews in that country, and is about to publish a statement to show that it has taken steps to suppress the anti-Jewish mobs and riots, and punish the persecutors. The explanation comes too late, however. The Jewish persecutions have been raging in Russia for nearly a year, and the government has remained

supine until within a few weeks. Not a fortnight ago a call for a meeting at the Mansion house, London, to consider the subject of the Jewish outrages in Russia, signed by thinkers, writers, theologians and statesmen of Great Britain, was denounced by the St. Petersburg organ of the Russian government as an impudent interference. It is only lately that the Russian government has been aroused to tardy and reluctant action by the indignant protests of newspapers and statesmen in civilized countries.

These insouciant of some sort of government being immediately established in Peru, which will suppress riot and anarchy and restore order and law. At present chaos seems to reign supreme outside of the Chilean military. In a collision of two bands of irregular Peruvian troops at Chinlea, some forty or fifty foreigners were killed and property worth \$8,000,000 destroyed. If these stories are true, "interference" by the governments to whose countries these foreigners belonged will soon be an accomplished fact. The lives and property of American and European residents in Peru must be protected at all hazards, and if neither Peru nor Chili can do it, some other must.

The national debt of Russia on the 1st of January, 1880, amounted to \$2,449,929,500, of which \$10,000,000 were usually cleared off each year. In the last two years this debt has largely increased, and it was only with the utmost difficulty that \$3,500,000 in gold was raised last December with which to make a part payment of her foreign interest. It is difficult for even skilled financial experts to understand the mystery of Russian monetary affairs, her resources and outlays being different from that of any other nation. More than once a threatened crisis like the present has been avoided by seizing on the moneys belonging to the church and to charities, or to all individual depositors in banks, for the use of the government. Besides these means of relief all pawnshops, loan and commercial banks in the empire are now under the control of the government. Since the devaluation of 25,000,000 roubles by the Nicholas day, it is proposed that all railways shall also pass under the management of the minister of finance. The present czar has set the example of rigid economy to his subjects during the last year. Seven imperial palaces were closed, and their vast army of officials and servants turned adrift. Whether this would prove to be a popular move or not is doubtful. The enforced imprisonment, for fear of assassination, of the imperial family, and the consequent almost total cessation of the customary gaieties and splendors of court, have thrown thousands of workmen and manufacturers in St. Petersburg out of work, which has not tended to make the new czar more popular. The amount saved by his economies will not lift a straw from the burden imposed on the people, while the stir and impetus given to trade by a central, lavish court is apt to be over estimated by the illiterate masses.

The value of Queen Victoria's presents to the poor last Christmas amounted to over \$1,500, which was divided among over 1,000 recipients. She gave \$500 to the Royal Clothing club also. There are numbers of men in this country whose Christmas gifts exceed those of Queen Victoria considerably, and nothing is said about their charity, but the British papers conscientiously record every movement of her gracious majesty and the entire royal household, and thus this instance of extravagance on her part became known. As she only receives \$1,925,000 yearly out of the treasury, and has a paltry income of about \$500,000 for the sale of eggs, butter and other farm produce, she must exercise the greatest economy lest she might suffer from want. Her household expenditures are large; she has numerous children to whom the parliament only allow about \$500,000 a year, and none of these children are self-supporting, but mainly depend upon their aged mother for their bread and butter, clothes and pocket money. Under such circumstances Queen Victoria can hardly be blamed for not giving the poor more than she does.

Returns of the late general election in Germany have been published, which show that in a population of 45,234,000, while about 9,000,000 exercised this right of suffrage. Among parties the distribution was as follows: German conservatives, 807,000; free conservatives, 393,000; liberals (including 700,000 national liberals), 2,021,000; secessionists, 460,000; progressists, 720,000; independents ("savages"), 140,000; the center, 1,149,000; the Poles, 196,000; social democrats, 335,000; populists, or south German democrats, 119,000, and the Alsace-Lorrainers, 150,000.

Some notion of the cost in England of land transfers may be gathered from a letter recently written by a law firm in defense of their profession against the charge of high fees. The land in question was sold for \$52,500. From the government it was necessary to obtain stamps which cost \$265, and the agent of the vendor, who merely

sold the property, was paid \$1,156, in his pocket. Boston Commercial Bulletin. The law firm which acted in behalf of the purchaser received \$200.

The lord mayor's Jewish relief fund now amounts to £43,000. The widow of Baron James Rothschild subscribed £1,200. A special grant from the fund of \$6,000 has been made to assist 373 refugees who are now journeying from Hamburg to Liverpool, en route to America.

Credos and Deeds. I asked my neighbor, What he thought of God? He looked me over and said, "Unknown answer: 'God I must esteem Unknowable forevermore.'"

I saw my neighbor in the dark. He stole forth and stand with upturned face. The glinting star showed me a soul. 'Thou worshippest, though but empty space.

I asked my neighbor, What he thought of Christ? He said: "Christ was a man like to the rest of us; no God I see. Forehanded in His life's brief span."

I saw my neighbor in the haunts. With vice, and shame, and misery in his face. With spitting hands and holy zeal. And the things which Christ has taught.

I asked my neighbor, What he thought of Heaven? He said: "Heaven is a thought of another world I dream."

I saw my neighbor planning out. Large char ties, from whose success The coming years had most to gain. When he was dead, the world to bless.

Then said I: "Neighbor, what you think With your cool head I know in part - But care not, for I now have found it. What you think of them with your heart."

"And you may cherish as you will Your unbought in all the creeds, So that you keep your faith still strong In the great Gospel of Good Deeds."

"And out of this, perchance, at length A higher hope and joy may spring - Of your life's work the glorious end - Its crowning growth and blessing!" [Hattie Tyng Griswold.]

THE SMALL FRY. Tommy asked his mother if the school teacher's female was a piece of the board of education.

A boy at Moline, Illinois, had to be licked thirteen times before he would consent to be vaccinated, but patience and a peach tree limb finally won the victory.

It was a little boy who saw his father's silk hat very rough and untidy during Christmas week, and who said, "Pa, your hat is waking up from its nap." The Judge.

A girl eight years old, at Newburyport, Mass., got mad because her mother wouldn't give her two cents recently, and shot at her with a pistol. The ball struck the stove-pipe and the mother fainted.

A New Jersey boy blew a bean into a horse's eye and blinded him, and the coachman struck at the boy with his whip and the lash came back, blinding his left eye. Could it have happened in any other state in the union.

Two children are played together in the garden. The little sister says to her little brother, "Which would you rather be, a little flower or a little bird?" The young man, after a minute's reflection, "A little bird - because it eats." [Paris Paper.]

Little Boly, who talks slang to the whole family, said to his father the other night, "There are six stars, six stars, papa?" To which the father replied, "Yes Boly." And then the young rascal asked, "Are they 'well fixed,' papa?" [Philadelphia Sun.]

See all those girls. That is a boarding school, I children. Do they think they are pretty? Well, I should smile! But the teacher does not smile. She is on the look out for flirting or a little bird going. They are going to a private service. School girls are passionately fond of music, children. They will hear the singing and then go home, and those two pale-looking nobs with their teeth. It is very school to go home with a boarding school girl when the teacher is near. - [Yale Record.]

ALMOST CRAZY. How often do we see the hard-working father straining every nerve and muscle, and doing his utmost to support his family. Imagine his feelings when returning home from a hard day's labor, to find his family prostrate with disease, conscious of unpaid doctors' bills and debts on every hand. It must be enough to drive one almost crazy. All this unhappiness could be avoided by using Electric Bitters, which expel every disease from the system, bringing joy and happiness to thousands. Sold at fifty cents a bottle. - [Lah & McMahon.] (8)

CONNUBIALITIES. Friction matches may be described as those made without the consent of the old folks. When a couple make up their minds to get married it may be called a vote. - [Somerville Journal.]

Joe Dunlap, of Franklin, Ind., last week married the girl that carried water to his regiment in Virginia when he was a soldier boy, nearly twenty years ago.

The betrothal of Miss Clara, daughter of President White, of Cornell university, to Professor Newberry, of Columbia college, is announced.

EMERSON'S LIVES AND TIMES! For Sale By BEMIS, FIFTEENTH AND DOUGLAS STS.,

- 175, House 3 rooms, full lot on Pierce near 30th street, \$1,600.
176, Beautiful residence, full lot on Cass near 19th street, \$1,600.
177, Two-story house, full lot on Douglas near 30th street, \$700.
178, Two-story house, full lot on Dodge near 30th street, \$700.
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182, One-story house, full lot on Dodge near 30th street, \$700.
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BEMIS' REAL ESTATE AGENCY 15th and Douglas Street, OMAHA, NEB.