

The Omaha Bee

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OMAHA PUBLISHING CO., PROP'RS. E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

A CAPITAL joke—calling out the troops at the requests of the railroad company.

The strikers don't seem to have much respect for members of the special grand jury. Call out some more militia.

There don't seem to be many candidates for the council this spring. What is the matter? Have they all gone on a strike?

Some of our home guards are repeating with deep feeling Minister Lowell's lines:

"This kind of soldier's sin is a bit Like our November train, For there a man could run in doors If it rains only rain."

No less than thirty applications have been made for the shoes of Dr. Garnet, who recently died while minister to Liberia. The climate is said to be sure death to an unacclimated foreigner, but even the prospect of death awakens no fears in the average office seeker.

The item "funeral expenses" in congressional appropriation bills is held to cover a large amount of what Bill Nye calls "improved cemetery promoter." Over \$300 worth of cocktails were consumed by congressmen who attended Garfield's funeral, and the item was passed as a legitimate expenditure of that ceremony.

COMMISSIONER FINK says the passage of the Reagan bill to regulate interstate commerce would be a great calamity. We have no doubt of it. Just as soon as congress regulates the management of the trunk lines by law, the trunk lines will dispense with the services of the commissioner, and Mr. Fink would be without an occupation.

It will pain many persons to learn that Vanderbilt's palace which cost nearly \$5,000,000 is not an entire success. The kitchen is so arranged that the odors of the cooking mingle with the smell of fresh paint in the pantry parlor and the gilt on the frames in the art gallery. Beef-steak, oysters and onions and tapers are well enough in their place, but too close a connection is apt to spoil the effects.

The president has given congress good and sufficient reason for placing the troops under General Crook at the disposal of Governor Nance. Now let the governor give President Arthur sufficient reason why he imposed on the president by telegraphing him that he was unable to suppress the alleged insurrection in Omaha before he had any personal knowledge of the situation, and before he had made the slightest effort to quell the riot.

SENATOR EDMUND'S bill to regulate retirements from the army is an improvement on the present method, but falls very far short of the plan now in successful operation in the navy. It provides for the retirement, voluntarily or otherwise of officers who may receive thereafter a compensation graduated to the length of their service. Officers who have served ten years will receive a bonus of one year's full pay. Two years full pay is offered as a bonus for fifteen years service. After a certain limit has been passed in the service, the retiring officer is to be entitled to a pension, twenty years entitling him to an annual pension equal to one-half of his full pay; twenty-five years to a pension of two-thirds and so on until forty years of service has been reached when full pay will be allowed as a pension. Provision is also made that none except general officers shall be allowed to serve after having reached the age of sixty-two years and general officers having reached that age will only be continued at the will of the president. Senator Edmund's bill is an improvement, on the one which suggests half pay only for officers who remain in the service after sixty-two years of age. We are of the opinion, however, that what the army needs to increase its efficiency is a rigid compulsory retirement law similar in design and scope to the one now in operation in the navy and which will infuse new life into the service by spurring ambition and stimulating energy by holding up the certainty of steady promotion and an honorable retirement and ample provision when the approach of old age makes their active services no longer available for the government.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Living wages are wages which will enable a man to sustain life, provide for his family and with economy lay aside a little for a rainy day. The question as to what are living wages in Omaha must be decided after a comparison of the cost of house rent, fuel and provisions in this city with other parts of the country. It is the purchasing power of money which gives it value. Where a dollar can only buy what a year ago could be bought for eighty cents, we say that prices have risen twenty-five per cent. More properly, the purchasing power of a dollar has decreased by one-fifth, and workmen who receive one dollar to-day really receive only eighty cents in the value of the wages which they made last year at the same rate of pay for their services. In Omaha there has been an advance of from fifteen to twenty per cent in the cost of provisions of all kinds. House rents, which have always been enormous, have not fallen. Meats have gone up from 2 to 5 cents a pound, fuel has advanced thirty per cent. Flour, bread and potatoes have advanced from thirty to fifty per cent. But while there has been a general advance in the cost of living there has not been an equal advance in wages. Workmen who had hard work to make both ends meet on last year's prices find it impossible, with the greatest economy, to support their families this year on the wages they have been receiving. This is the cause of the general demand for higher wages which is being heard in Omaha and in every part of the country. The question of the justice or injustice of this demand cannot be considered apart from the question of the cost of living. When common labor in Omaha asks for a dollar and seventy-five cents a day it is in reality asking for wages equal to those of a year ago. A dollar and seventy-five cents this spring will buy very little more meat, flour and potatoes than a dollar and a quarter would have purchased last year. The purchasing power of a dollar has decreased and workmen are the first to feel the effects and to demand the remedy in increased wages.

THE ANTI-POLYGAMY BILL.

The Edmunds anti-polygamy bill, which has just become a law, contains provisions that will result in a most radical change in the government of Utah. The bill reaffirms the national act that makes polygamy a misdemeanor, which, upon conviction, shall be punished by fine and imprisonment. It excludes from jury service all polygamists, whether they actually practice plural marriage or merely believe polygamy to be a divine institution. It declares as legitimate the issue of Mormon marriages born before the first of January, 1883, and makes ample provisions for amnesty by the president for past offenses upon proper conditions. All bigamists or polygamists, male or female, are disfranchised. They are also debarred from holding any office or place of public trust, honor or emolument in any territory under the jurisdiction of the United States. The most radical change which this bill contemplates is the abolition of the present Territorial government of Utah and the creation of a board appointed by the president, confirmed by the senate, which shall be charged with the duty of reorganizing the government of Utah. The board is empowered to canvass the votes at all elections, and issue certificates to such persons as shall appear to be lawfully elected. The members of the board are to be drawn from not less than two political parties. The reorganized territorial government will, if the Edmunds bill is strictly enforced, disfranchise the large majority of the Mormon population of Utah, and deprive them of all the rights which our government confers upon settlers in the territories. The obvious design of this bill is to crush out polygamy and the country will watch the result with a good deal of interest.

FOREIGNERS AND STRIKES.

Strikes are only so many mobs, swarming with ignorance, whisky and violence. The spirit of the whole thing comes from the beggarly labor system of the overworked and poorly paid masses of the densely populated districts of Europe. It is engrafted upon this country and fostered and kept alive by the foreign population. —Omaha Commercial Record.

How about the strikes now in progress at Lynn and Lowell, where the strikers are sober and intelligent American men and women, whose ancestors came over with the Pilgrims that landed at Plymouth Rock?

Were the haters of Connecticut that went on a strike three weeks ago foreigners, swarming with ignorance and whisky?

How was it with the historic telegrapher's strike of 1870—the most extensive strike that has ever taken place in this country. More than ninety-five per cent of the telegraphers engaged in that strike were American-born men and women as intelligent as any equal number of men and women of any calling. Will any man who has the least regard for his reputation assert that the telegraphers engaged in that strike were a mob of foreigners swarming with ignorance, whisky and violence?

CHARGE, CHESTER, CHARGE!

With Gatling Guns, Howitzers and Bayonets.

How the Bloodless Insurrection Was Crushed.

The King of France With Twice Ten Thousand Men Marched Up the Hill and Then Marched Down Again.

The Omaha Campaign Viewed by the State Press.

DEMOCRACY AND BAYONETS.

Omaha—a democratic mayor—government troops. Scott—Butler County Press.

THE BOY BROTHER.

Gov. Nance has been at Omaha for a week commanding the brave army at long range. He uses the bridal chamber at the Withnell hotel, which enables him to keep under cover until the cruel war is over.—[Wahoo Times.

AN OUTRAGE ON MANHOOD.

The citizens of Omaha should have armed about three hundred of themselves and given Nance twenty minutes to leave with his militia. Quarantining a little army in their city for nothing but to bayonet innocent and peaceful citizens, was an outrage the manhood of that city should resent.—[Ore Standard.

TROT OUT CARNS.

Some people in Omaha, we fear, will become so terror-stricken and habituated to calling for the protection of troops, that militia will be ordered out over any common street row. Such are in a trembling condition, and use their influence in having our lieutenant governor arrested there. He's a fighter and might have a soothing effect.—[Saward Reporter.

EFFICIENCY LACKING EVERYWHERE.

The calling out of regular troops to quell the labor troubles at Omaha will shed no luster on the governor of the state, nor on the mayor of Omaha. There seems to be a lack of efficiency somewhere, and the gentlemen occupying the positions above mentioned will merit the reproach of the country for their timidity and indecision in an emergency where the civil authorities ought to have been equal to the occasion.—[Pawnee Republican.

GOOD WAGES, GOOD MEN.

Omaha and Pittsburg laborers are on the strike for higher wages. In Omaha the trouble first commenced with the B. & M. men on the dump, but different trades are now organizing unions and joining in the movement. As a union man our sympathy is with them, but we are opposed to mob violence, and advocate keeping the peace, as it is the only way that laboring men can effect their ends with capital. Everybody knows that \$1.75 a day is small wages to support a family at the prices of provisions.—[St. Paul Free Press.

DEAR GEORGE, YOU LIE STILL.

The Herald says: "Public opinion in Omaha and in the state is like a solid wall of approval and strength" at Governor Nance's back for his methods in dealing with citizens of that town. Perhaps, but we don't believe it. The expression here has been one of condemnation for calling out the militia before any effort had been made to maintain order by the organization of the police. As it is the whole state of Nebraska is made to pay for protecting Omaha from the violence of its own citizens, without their lifting a hand in their own defense.—[Plattsmouth Journal.

THE SAME OLD CROWD.

Senator Van Wyck is getting particularly hazy for telegraphing to the president of the Labor Union. But if Senator Van Wyck will please observe where this hell comes from he will find that it is right square from the shoulders of the man who opposed his election to the United States senate. The animus is apparent. But the honorable senator can rest serenely, satisfied that in telegraphing to a workman, one of his constituents, instead of detaching one iota from his character as a man and a representative of the people, it adds to it a hundred fold.—[West Point Progress.

MORE SCARED THAN HURT.

There couldn't have been much danger in Omaha during the recent strike. We judge so from the mercenary attacks made upon one another by the Omaha press. The Herald set up the claim of being the only great guardian of the city and strike preventive. To this the Republican replied, calling the Doctor an Ass, and claiming that honor. The two together then pounced upon THE BEE as the Nihilist and the special cause of all evil. All in all Nebraska has been thoroughly disgraced by these exhibitions, by these attempts to make capital out of defiance of law and order, if there was such a thing in Omaha.—[Ore Standard.

WHERE THE SHOES PINCHES.

The Nellig Advocate says: "The B. & M. railroad are again making an effort to bring about a compromise of their back taxes due Antelope county. The amount they owe the county is about \$58,000, and we have heard it stated they offer to give \$36,000 for a receipt for all taxes up to date."

And this is the same B. & M. company that didn't have anything to arbitrate with the workmen of Omaha, who were striking for living wages, but is perfectly willing to swindle the taxpayers of Antelope county out of \$22,000 taxes. Call out the troops, Gov. Nance, and make this corporation pony up, and we look for seconds to this motion to Dr. Miller and Datus Brooks, the law, order, and justice editors of the city of Omaha.—[West Point Progress.

FEATHERED RED BRAVES.

Better laws and better adjustment of labor is needed, more brains and less gab at the front. Some study of cause and effect and a little knowledge of political economy might be used, perchance now and then in fixing the relations of man to his fellowman.

If Omaha has 30,000 people, it is presumable 10,000 are males capable of self-defense.

It is said the "mob" numbered 5,000, that really includes bystanders,

so that of aggressive force there was, probably, at best, 1,500 or 2,000.

There is, there must be, in the neighborhood of 5,000 men in Omaha, owning property, keeping stores, doing business, interested in preserving law and order. Why are such men so indifferent to the preservation of law and order, if there was danger of destruction of property? Why not combine to protect each other before calling for the troops and outside aid? Is it indifference or cowardice that usually leaves the impression that the disorderly forces of a city outnumber its law-abiding citizens.—[Plattsmouth Herald.

THE SITUATION IN SHORT METRE.

It has become a very common thing for the railroad companies and large contractors to send out handbills advertising for "500 men and teams," when, in truth, they have not work enough for 100. A large number of men are thus congregated together.

"The labor market glutted," and wages are cut down to starvation prices. The men thus cruelly deceived, have no redress. They soon strike. The doors are opened to all the dens of iniquity; the militia is called in, and a few old men bayoneted. Vagabonds prey upon society. The young men from the towns and villages who form our militia are debauched by the rum-suckers and prostitutes—no responsible as citizens for their behavior, and without the discipline of regular soldiers, the militia have proven itself a more dangerous element than the strikers.

The murder committed by the Nebraska militia has been caused by Jim Stevenson's misadventure, when he advertised for 500 men, while he only had work for 75. —[Butler County Press.

A REMEDY SUGGESTED.

These labor movements when carried to the extent it has been so frequently late, raises profound questions that must sooner or later be settled. No one questions the right to strike for higher wages, but to try by force or intimidation to prevent other laborers from work should be, by statute, made a crime with suitable penalties attached for violation. It is one set of organized laborers combining against other laborers who are unorganized. On the other hand it is possible for wealthy corporations and manufacturers to so control the price of labor as to make it oppressive to the workman. We believe that there is need of some legislation on this matter, or at least provision made whereby a competent court may remedy the evil in cases where there is evident wrong. With this remedy at hand there would probably be no open revolt and destruction of lives or property. Let our law-makers take notice of this emergency and remedy the evil by the enactment of such laws as are necessary to meet the case.—[Hastings Gazette-Journal.

UNNECESSARY INCONVENIENCE.

The actions of the officials of Omaha and of Gov. Nance during the past week in regard to the labor demonstrations in Omaha can hardly receive the sanction of candid thinking men. For the mayor of Omaha to become easily frightened is absurd, and for the governor of Nebraska to call out the militia and telegraph to the president to place the regular soldiers under his control, before he had investigated the need of such action, is a proceeding that can hardly escape criticism. The presence of troops always serves to exasperate a crowd, and should not be called on unless as a last resort. Besides this, the great expense that it causes the state to keep 500 men under pay for a week, and the cost of transportation for the soldiers, should cause a deliberate reflection before such action is taken.

It is no small matter to take 500 men from their business without a moment's notice, and to keep them for a week to the great inconvenience of the men and all who have business to transact with them, and it seems that not only was it unnecessary, but Omaha would have been better off if the militia had not been called.—[Wy-morean.

THE KILLING OF ARMSTRONG.

The occupation of Omaha by state and federal troops, and the killing of an inoffensive old man, is not to be available in assisting to maintain public order. Whichever horn of the dilemma that turbulent community chooses to take, we are of the opinion that the rest of the state should insist upon Douglas county's paying all the expenses incurred in doing what it ought to have done without assistance from any other source.

The condition of things since the first and last assault on the workmen has been quiet. Business has gone on undisturbed. How much of this has been owing to the presence of the regulars and the militia cannot be known. At the public meetings, held daily by the labor union, peaceable means alone are advocated by the speakers.—[Sutton Register.

'Oddities of Southern Life,'

By Henry Watterson.

Editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal.

See the APRIL CENTURY MAGAZINE.

Proposals for Paving Streets in the City of Omaha, Nebraska.

Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned until Saturday, April 15th, 1892, 10 o'clock noon, for the paving of Douglas street and the cross streets between D and Farnham from 16 to 16 1/2 blocks, including 9th and 10th streets.

First, For a foundation of concrete 9 inches in thickness with a superstructure composed of a concrete and brick 8 inches in length set with asphalt 4 sand.

Second, For a foundation of concrete 9 inches in thickness with a superstructure composed of concrete, pine plank 6 inches in length set with asphalt and sand.

Third, For a foundation of concrete 9 inches or gravel 12 inches in thickness with a superstructure composed of concrete 8 inches in length and not less than 4 inches in diameter to be set with asphalt and sand.

Also, the city will consider proposals for paving with Elm blocks or any other material, or any other mode of construction.

All proposals or bids shall be accompanied by the names of proposed sureties, who, in the event of a contract being awarded will enter into a bond with faithful performance of said contract.

The city council reserves the right to reject a bid and to award the contract to the lowest bidder.

Envelopes containing proposals or bids shall be marked "Proposals for Paving Douglas Street and Cross Streets in the City of Omaha," and addressed to the undersigned.

J. L. C. JEWETT, City Clerk.

Omaha, March 10th, 1892.

D. S. BENTON, ATTORNEY - AT - LAW

ARABAC BLOCK.

belongs—at the doors of Mayor Boyd, Governor Nance and the monopoly blatherskite who runs The Herald, seconded by the Republican.

Upon them rests the responsibility for the murder of the inoffensive old man by the military mob, and they should be punished as accessories to the crime.

Although we do not always agree with THE BEE, we heartily endorse its position in this matter, whether taken from motives of policy or from inclination.—[Oakland Independent.

BLOOD, BAYONETS AND BLUSTER.

We went to Omaha on Saturday expecting from the demonstrations made to see our metropolis deluged in blood when we considered the force brought into requisition—Sheriff Miller of Douglas county, Mayor Boyd of Omaha, Gov. Nance of Nebraska, and the president of the United States, backed by the mighty powers within them vested, we expected the turbid Missouri would be dyed blood red with the crimson tide of the strikers. In old bellum days we have seen the bodies of the sturdy foomen mangled and slain, cover the fields of sanguinary strife with less parade than was made to gather the men of steel on Saturday. But our curiosity was unsatisfied, our thirst for gore was unquenched. We saw the steady swarthy ranks file by, we heard the muffled, martial, tread of the veteran and the halting broken tramp of the militia man hopping to catch step with the music as their captain whistled left! left! but alas! they were not confronted by the mighty mob, they found no foeman worthy of their steel and "The king of France with twice ten thousand men marched up the hill and then marched down again." But Dr. Miller was safe, Jim Stevenson was safe and the country was saved. And yet we questioned whether it had not been for the city if the knave who by his abuse of the working men had incited to riot and the wretch who through his malicious sheet had bled his dirty epithets and "mas of bitches" at the angry crowd had been given over to the mob for summary justice. We are a friend of the laboring man, but we have no excuse for a mob. The laborers unquestionably had a right to strike, but they had no right to interfere with the rights of other laborers. The remuneration that the laborers were receiving was not enough to keep together the body and soul of a heathen Chinese. And the poor man don't know what to do. Roswater ahead of them, Miller behind them, and Brooks coming in from their flank—some counselling, some anathematizing and others goading them on. May God have mercy on the poor Omaha.—[North Bend Bulletin.

CHEAP BUT POOR ADVERTISING.

Omaha and Nebraska are getting considerable cheap advertising just now by reason of the massing of troops at Omaha to preserve the peace and to keep the striking workmen from molesting those who wish to work. Although free as air this advertising could well be dispensed with. And from the distance, it really appears as though the local authorities of Omaha and Douglas county took counsel of their fears and their expectations rather than devoted their energies towards preserving order and managing their own affairs. The only unlawful act of any consequence, committed up to the time of calling on the governor for troops, was the driving of the workmen from the B. & M. dump, and mildly thumping a few special policemen. While this, of course, was unlawful and reprehensible, yet the men soon dispersed and the usual quiet was restored. Then was the time for the local authorities to have quietly nabbed the leaders and prosecuted those who had been most active in assailing the workmen. Instead of doing that, however, or making any other earnest endeavor to maintain the supremacy of the law, they appeal to the governor for aid. Now one of two things is true; either the local authorities could have managed this disturbance unaided, or else the citizens of Omaha and Douglas county were in such close sympathy with the strikers that they would not be available in assisting to maintain public order. Whichever horn of the dilemma that turbulent community chooses to take, we are of the opinion that the rest of the state should insist upon Douglas county's paying all the expenses incurred in doing what it ought to have done without assistance from any other source.

The condition of things since the first and last assault on the workmen has been quiet. Business has gone on undisturbed. How much of this has been owing to the presence of the regulars and the militia cannot be known. At the public meetings, held daily by the labor union, peaceable means alone are advocated by the speakers.—[Sutton Register.

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J. L. C. JEWETT, City Clerk.

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ARABAC BLOCK.

HOUSES AND LOTS!

For Sale By

BEMIS,

FIFTEENTH AND DOUGLAS STS.

175, House 3 rooms, full lot on Pierce near 20th street, \$1,500.

177, House 2 rooms, full lot on Douglas near 20th street, \$700.

178, Beautiful residence, full lot on Cass near 19th street, \$12,000.

174, Two houses and 1/2 lot on Dodge near 9th street, \$1,500.

176, House three rooms, two closets, etc., full lot on 21st; car Grace street, \$300.

179, One and one-half story brick house on two lots on Douglas near 25th street, \$1,700.

171, House two rooms, well, cistern, stable, etc full lot on Pierce and 13th street, \$5,000.

179, One and one-half story house six rooms and well, half lot on Convent street near St. Paul's avenue, \$1,500.

170, House three rooms on Clinton street near 24th street, \$2,500.

176, House 2 rooms, \$212 1/2 feet lot on street near Webster street, \$2,500.

No. 158, House of 11 rooms, lot 28x120 feet on 19th near Burr street, \$5,000.

No. 157, Two story house, 9 rooms 5 closets, wood cellar, on 15th street near Poppleton's, \$4,000.

No. 168, New house of 6 rooms, full lot on 18th near 10th street, \$2,500.

No. 164, One and one-half story house 6 rooms on 18th street; car Leavesworth, \$2,500.

No. 162, One and one-half story house 10 rooms near Hancock Park, \$1,500.

No. 158, Two houses 3 rooms each, closets, etc on 17th street near 23rd, \$2,500.

No. 157, House 6 rooms, full lot on 19th street near Leavesworth, \$2,500.

No. 156, House 3 rooms and lot 92x115 near 20th and Farnham, \$2,500.

No. 148, New house of eight rooms, on 18th street near Leavesworth, \$3,100.

No. 147, House of 10 rooms on 18th street near Marcy, \$3,500.

No. 146, House of 10 rooms and 1/2 lot on 18th street near Marcy, \$3,500.

No. 145, House two large rooms, lot 67x210 feet on Sherman avenue (10th street) near Nicholas, \$2,500.

No. 143, House 7 rooms, barn, on 20th street near Leavesworth, \$2,500.

No. 142, House 6 rooms, kitchen, etc., on 18th street near Nicholas, \$1,575.

No. 141, House 3 rooms on Douglas near 26th street, \$1,500.

No. 140, Large house and two lots, on 24th near Farnham street, \$8,000.

No. 139, House 3 rooms, full lot on 16th street, Douglas near 27th street, \$1,500.

No. 137, House 5 rooms and half lot on Capitol avenue near 25th street, \$2,500.

No. 136, House and half acre lot on Cumby street near 24th, \$2,500.

No. 131, House 6 rooms, full lot, on 18th near 21st street, \$2,500.

No. 127, Two story house 8 rooms, half lot on Webster near 10th, \$3,500.

No. 126, House 3 rooms, lot 104x120 feet on 20th street near Douglas, \$2,500.

No. 125, Two story house on 12th near Dodge street lot 52x66 feet \$1,500.

No. 124, Large house and full block near Farnham and Central street, \$8,000.

No. 123, House 6 rooms and large lot on Saunders street near 10th, \$1,500.

No. 118, House 3 rooms, lot 30x50 feet on Capitol avenue near 22d street, \$2,500.

No. 117, House 3 rooms, lot 50x120 feet on Capitol avenue near 15th, \$500.

No. 114, House 3 rooms on Douglas near 26th street, \$750.