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The BEE PUBLISHING CO., Props. E. ROSEWATER Editor

POLITICAL banking won't yield very heavy returns on the capital invested at Lincoln this winter.

STEPH. DORSEY is finally convinced that President Arthur has no sympathy for him in his star route affliction.

WIGGINS, the Canadian weather prophet, has outdone Venner with his predictions of dreadful storms. Wiggins is a dreadful name.

WHAT congress will do fills a column in the St. Paul Pioneer Press. What congress will not do would fill several pages of the largest newspaper in America.

A REPORT from New York states that the iron work of the Brooklyn bridge is to be painted. The sidewalk men are evidently determined to cover up the steel.

ARABI BEY has been sentenced to death and the sentence commuted to perpetual exile. Arabi was a patriot who didn't succeed, and patriots who don't succeed very often lose their heads.

EX SENATOR CHAFFEE, of Colorado, has a very bad opinion of Senator Hill, of the same state. According to Mr. Chaffee, Mr. Hill is a man with more money than brains. Meantime Mr. Hill remains in the senate, while Mr. Chaffee, with all his brains and money, can't get back into his old seat.

THE Women Suffrage association of Nebraska will hold a convention at Kearney on the 7th and 8th of December. We recommend as an appropriate subject for discussion the following item: "The Utah commission, in its report to congress, will urge the abolition of female suffrage. Were it not for woman suffrage the Gentiles would soon outvote the Mormons." A resolution denouncing the commission would seem to be about the thing under the circumstances.

C. E. YOST and Fred Nye have purchased the Omaha Republican. This looks as though the Union Pacific road was going out of the newspaper business.—York Times.

Only to the extent of dropping one editor from the payroll. The subsidy, amounting to from \$5,000 to \$10,000 a month in job work, continues. Without that railroad patronage, the concern would go into bankruptcy within six months. The Union Pacific has not gone out of the newspaper business and politics in Omaha any more than the Burlington & Missouri will drop politics and go back on the Lincoln Journal at the capital.

THE last session of the Forty-seventh congress begins to-day. The session expires by limitation of law on the 4th of March. There is much work to be done—even more to be undone. The first business will be the passage of the appropriation bills which have been in process of preparation by the committee of ways and means for two weeks past.

Next will come the important question of the reduction of taxation which the people have demanded so loudly. If the republican party is wise it will talk little and devote itself to hard work. Its programme should be the three R's, reduction, retrenchment and reform.

THE telegraph announces the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury, chief primate of England, which took place Sunday in London. Archbishop Campbell Tait was born at Edinburgh, Scotland, December 22, 1811, was educated at Balliol college, Oxford, and became a public examiner in that institution. He first rose to prominence during the Tractarian controversy and attracted marked attention as one of the opponents of Dr. Pusey. He took orders in the church of England, and from 1842 to 1850 was head master of the Rugby school when he accepted the deanery of Carlisle. In 1856 he became bishop of London, and in 1868 succeeded Dr. Longley as archbishop of Canterbury. Dr. Tait was an energetic church worker, and in 1865 originated the successful scheme for raising 1,000,000 pounds for providing increased church accommodations in London. His death leaves a vacancy in the most valuable see in Great Britain.

LET THEM BEWARE.

A prominent official of the B. & M. railroad boasts that the coming legislature will be on sale. He asserts that he has in his possession a letter from a republican member of the legislature, who claims to be an anti-monopolist, which requests transportation for himself and thirteen from one of the South Platte counties to Lincoln and Omaha. He intimates that anti-monopolists will be just as eager for railroad favors as those who train with the monopolies. This is simply boasting that the railroads expect to bribe the next legislature with passes and other favors. A large majority of that body has been elected or pledges to abolish this system. The people of the state tax themselves and pay mileage to every member for going to and coming from the state capital. If any of them are compelled to go back and forward more than once and are too poor to pay their way their constituents will gladly make it up. Passes tendered to members of the legislature who have no other means of exchanging commodities with the railroads than votes are bribes, and they are given with the design of paving the way to further bribery. The man who will accept a gift for which he can make no return except dishonor is unworthy of any public trust.

The people will have their eye on next legislature, and the conduct of every man will be scanned from the outset. There is no doubt that some men have made pledges which they do not intend to fulfill, but they will never be able to violate them without disgrace. Let the members of the coming legislature beware how they permit themselves to be tampered with. The agents, strikers and pass distributors of the corporations are already at work. The railroad managers have a favorite way of holding their pass records as a club over the heads of the men that accept these so-called favors or bribes. They always try to procure a written request or receipt, which is carefully filed away and at the very first chance they use the weapon to kill off the man that refuses to do their bidding dares to oppose their political favorites, or attempts to curb their greed.

THE PULPIT AND MR. INGERSOLL.

A number of local clergymen have been interviewed as to the causes of Bob Ingersoll's popularity. The reasons they assign can be reduced to three: curiosity, desire to listen to eloquence and wit, and a sinfulness which seeks some escape from the consequences of guilt other than that offered by orthodoxy. It is a little singular that no one has suggested that a large measure of Col. Ingersoll's popularity might arise from the fact that many of the intelligent and thinking public are dissatisfied with the character of the pulpit itself. Not with the moral teachings of religion, but with the narrow and cramped and prejudiced interpretations of truth which are doled out to pew holders Sunday after Sunday in our pulpits. When the teacher is intellectually below the average of his hearers, when the exposition of theory takes the place of preaching whose object is to induce practice, when stale, trite and slovenly methods of expressing thought on the most important subjects usurps a clear, practical and inspiring teaching, the waning influence of clericalism is not to be wondered at, and the curiosity to listen to so well an advertised man as Ingersoll ought to be no cause for surprise. Col. Ingersoll himself attributes his success in attracting audiences, to the fact that others are thinking what he dares to assert. In a limited sense this is so. The tendency of thought for over a century has been towards the assertion of the idea that religion is conduct, not speculation, and that no belief which does not go into action has any efficacy either in improving the morals of the holder or in ameliorating the condition of society. Of the thousands who listen to the mingled sermons and wit, combined often with shallow logic joined to burning eloquence which pours from the lips of the brilliant orator, a very small proportion accept his conclusions in their entirety. They may laugh heartily at his denunciations of the bigotry, intolerance and intellectual stagnation of the pulpit; they do not necessarily give in their adhesion to the lecturer's arguments that the pulpit should be abolished or that good living and good clothes ought to be the chief end of life. They may applaud his biting satire directed against the incrustations with which dogma has surrounded great moral truths, but they do not deny those great truths themselves. And while with Mr. Ingersoll they shake their sides in mocking criticism of what men have said about the conduct of life, which after all is the one great aim of all religions, they utter no anathemas against those central ideas which the best men in all ages have agreed upon as at once vital to the preservation of the highest type of humanity and civilization. It is something more than mere curiosity that draws together nightly thousands of men to listen to Mr. Ingersoll. It must be that he meets some want in his hearers' minds, or reflects,

though in an exaggerated degree, opinions which they themselves entertain. If the pulpit is losing its grip on the masses it is because of the inefficiency of those who occupy it, and the intolerance of men who seem determined to force from the rank of the clergy every man who dares to clothe his thoughts in a garb of originality or to array his interpretations of truth in the language of independent thought. The fault does not entirely lie with the people that Col. Ingersoll attracts 3000 persons every night that he cares to lecture, and vulgar curiosity is a shallow explanation of the success of the arch infidel.

THE BASIS OF ASSESSMENT.

The statistics regarding railroad assessment and valuation in Nebraska published by THE BEE are attracting wide spread attention throughout the state. They furnish a foundation for deliberate and well considered action on the part of the legislature which is soon to meet. If they prove anything, they show beyond question of a doubt that the corporations traversing our state and paying dividends from the exorbitant tariffs which they levy on our people have succeeded for years in evading their just share of the burden of taxation. There can be no doubt of the evils complained of. What the coming legislature must look for is a remedy which will meet the emergency and put a stop to the abuse. There may be three methods used to ascertain the value of property: We may first enquire what it cost; again, what it will sell for, and, finally, what sum it will afford a reasonable return upon, according to the usual profits or income of the property. If a city lot was purchased last spring for \$10,000, and if property has not depreciated, it can safely be valued at that sum. If an offer of the same amount was refused for it last week, it would be equally safe to list it at that price. Or, if the leasehold is valued at \$1,000 per annum, no property holder could complain if it was considered worth ten times that figure. Either of these three methods are safe guides in ascertaining the actual value of the railroads. All three combined afford a secure and certain basis of valuation. In the table published by THE BEE last week the cost, market value, and income value of all the railroads in Nebraska were carefully compiled. The showing taken from any of these standpoints is a startling one. With a permanent investment of capital which yields a net return of \$6,468 49 per annum the Union Pacific is valued for taxation at only \$11,358, while it is claimed to have cost, and will today, with a mortgage of \$45,000 per mile, sell for at least seven times that amount. The actual value of the road there is nearly \$130,000 per mile. The real value of a piece of property is what it will sell for unencumbered. If it is mortgaged and sells for a given amount then its real value is that amount and the mortgage added. The B. & M. railroad proper is assessed \$10,559 upon property which yields a net annual income free of taxes and expenses of management, of \$3,741.94, while the whole C., B. & Q. system in this state is valued for assessment at a little more than 10 per cent. of its cost value. The time has come when the people of Nebraska demand a thorough overhauling of their accounts with the railroads whom they support and protect. They insist that they shall bear their share of the expense of conducting the state government either by taxation levied upon their cost value, their market value including their franchises, or upon their net income. The present levy is based upon nothing but the whining and expostulations of the railroad managers, which every year succeeds in inducing the board of equalization to shift the taxes from wealthy corporations upon the shoulders of the already overtaxed producers of this state.

TWENTY-THREE hundred people assembled in the Coliseum theatre in Cincinnati on Thursday to witness the shooting of an apple from a woman's head. A fault in the rifle, a slip in the hammer, a premature shot, and a young actress lying dead on the stage, is the rest of a pitiful tragedy whose details have been spread by the telegraph and are now almost forgotten in the busy hurry of life. It is a serious question at just what point the law ought to draw the line in these affairs. So long as multitudes will flock to see such performances there will be found persons to take the risks which they involve. It is the consciousness of actual peril that is the chief attraction in these spectacular sensations. Break-neck adventures on ropes and wires, balloon ascensions guaranteed to be extra hazardous, and target practice that endangers innocent lives will always be popular so long as permitted. The shocking tragedy on Douglas street last June would never have occurred if the law against such an exhibition had been enforced, and the tragical business of Thanksgiving day in Cincinnati could never have taken place had a proper legal inspection been exercised over blood and thunder dramas like the one which ended so pitifully. It is one of the chief pro-

negatives of the law to protect the lives no less than the property of citizens. Every incident like the one above mentioned bring out in stronger relief the necessity of legislation forbidding these dangerous and extra hazardous exhibitions.

DR. ANSBOTT, of Fremont, handles the pen with as much skill as the scalpel. With him an Nye for an Nye and a tooth for a tooth is the golden rule.

STATE JOINTINGS.

Hay is only \$2.50 a ton at Oakland. David City and Ulysses want tallors. In the little town of B-llewood ten buildings were erected in the past month. Coe Bros. are erecting a new bank building at Hampton. Springfield, a young town in Sarpy, has a newspaper—the Signal. Colfax county has a contest over the office of coroner, the old one declining to turn over to the newly elected officer. There is hardly a county in the state that hasn't got one or more vacancies in its corps of teachers.

The Table Rock lyceum is "a disreputable mob," according to the local papers. A new bank has been established at Central City by J. G. Holden and a couple of other citizens.

The York public schools have an enrollment of 560 pupils. The new Episcopal church at Blair is receiving the finishing touches.

The Tekamah Presbyterians cleared \$90 at their recent festival.

The Blair schools are so crowded the board has leased part of the county court house for school purposes.

The wife of the sloping Peppercorn got a decree of divorce by default in the Washington county court last week.

The grand jury at Blair indicted Emil Peppercorn for rape and his attorney filed a plea in abatement on the ground of insanity in drawing the jury.

At a recent church festival at Fontanelle where eighty persons sat down to eat, not one could be found to ask a blessing.

Postoffice boxes at Hardy cost only 15 cents a quarter.

Holt county snake story: While Thos. Morris, of Atkinson, was tearing down a stable he found a nest of garter snakes and killed over 500.

Judge Weaver's resignation takes effect upon the expiration of his succeeding term.

The M. E. church at Exeter was dedicated on the 29th.

Platt Center has a new blacksmith shop. Stromsburg has a public hall called "Lime Kiln."

A Masonic lodge is to be instituted at Table Rock.

The new Pawnee City hotel will probably be opened with a Christmas dinner.

Editor Knickerbocker, of The Pawnee City Buzzer, was married at Fort Madison, Iowa, on the 23d ult. to Miss Ada Wilson.

The Odd Fellows block at Table Rock is approaching completion.

Pawnee City's National bank has been organized and will open January 1st.

Pat Shea, well known in Pawnee City as a "holy terror," was shot and killed recently in Nevada.

Wilber will try to receive the Grand Army reunion next year.

Another national bank is a possibility at Hastings.

It will take the appraisers two or three months to get through with the Otoe records. It is understood values will be so high that the sharks will get left.

The North Bend creamery began work a week ago. It can handle the milk of 3,000 cows.

The Swedish Lutheran people of Nebraska have decided to build a college, and will probably locate it at Wahoo.

A flour mill, run by water power, has been started up a few miles north of Kearney.

German Evangelical church at Madison will be dedicated next Sunday.

Humboldt will soon have two brick business blocks, each two stories high, and 25x30 otherwise.

The Bloomington district school has 150 pupils.

Red Cloud is getting to be a good market for Kansas farmers.

Polk, the Plattsburgh murderer, was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on March 16th.

Alfred Chase was found dead beside his buggy at Amesworth on Thanksgiving day. It is supposed he shot himself as he was setting out of his buggy.

The Grand Island fire department has a new hose carriage.

A young man named Henry, living near Burnett, drank a pint and a half of whiskey one day last week and died from its effects. He was only 18 years old.

Lumber is on the ground for a large Catholic church at Humphrey, Platte county.

Diller needs a shoemaker.

Overton will have a hotel, as soon as a building can be repaired and altered.

Peter Hamm and wife, Mennonites residing in Beatrice, were found dead in bed on the 28th, having been suffocated by gas from a hard coal burner which had an imperfect draft.

Peter Moody, of Omaha, disappeared at the time the steamer Grand Island was wrecked, which he attended, and has not been heard of since. He left a family, a blacksmith shop and a fine business in Omaha.

Frank Fever was recently killed at Plum Creek by a pony that had a trick of falling backward. The horn of the saddle penetrated the stomach, rupturing the man's vitals.

The Omaha, probably the most civilized of the abolitionists, raised several thousand bushels of corn this year.

It is a settled fact that a creamery will be started near Tekamah in the spring. Creameries bring prosperity to a community.

A Nebraska calf, worth \$8, depredated upon a cornfield, and a lawsuit ensued, which was settled by the owner of the calf paying \$55. No wonder beef is high.

Over seven thousand dollars have been subscribed to erect county buildings at Auburn, if the seat of Nemaha county is voted there.

C. F. Johnson, hailing from Plattsmouth, slept in a Tecumseh boarding house on the night of the 25th. He went to bed pretty full and got up about 3 o'clock and walked out of a window, receiving injuries that killed him.

A Kenesaw baby was sitting in a high chair, playing with a button hook. The chair tipped backwards and in some way the baby's face was struck through the child's mouth, requiring an operation and chloroform to remove it.

The new Methodist church at Edgar was dedicated on the 25th and over \$1,000 subscribed, being much more than was needed.

Joe Little was drunk and disorderly at Fremont on Tuesday night, and when an officer undertook his arrest, Joe cut him with a knife. The "cop" got his man, all the same.

Sunday night a week ago, the stove pipe in the Schuyler Methodist church fell just as services were about to commence. Putting up a stove pipe is ordinarily a tedious job, but when it is hot the job is a bad one, indeed, more especially if the artist is handicapped in a profane sense by the religious surroundings, as in this case.

A couple of I. W. Olive's employes got into a shooting match, at the ranch in Custer county on the 28th, with a German farmer named Schroyer, in which the latter got the worst of it and at last accounts could not live.

Robert Brown was arrested at Central City a few days ago for murder committed in Decatur county, Kansas. He had been in Nebraska since the crime, working at Alda before going to Central City.

Mrs. Arthur O'Neil, aged 60, was found dead in a cornfield near her home at Oakland on the 26th. She was living alone and had been missed, but the people supposed she had gone to Omaha to live with her children.

DORSEY'S SAVIOR.

How Garfield Saved Him from Arrest.

Special Dispatch to THE BEE.

ST. LOUIS, December 2.—An editorial letter in The Post-Dispatch, written from Washington by Mr. Joseph Pulitzer, referring to star route matters, and especially to Stephen W. Dorsey, gives some secret history of the case, obtained, the writer says, from perfectly authoritative though confidential sources. When it was first known that MacVeagh really meant to have Dorsey indicted and prosecuted, Dorsey came from his sheep ranch in New Mexico and went to the White House. President Garfield told Mr. Dorsey not to give himself any unnecessary about the outcome, but to return to his ranch and feel sure that he (Garfield) would be his friend. But in spite of all this MacVeagh proceeded with his case, retained detectives and special counsel, collected testimony and drew upon the promise of immunity from smaller members of the ring, confessions of guilt which were sure to convict Dorsey. Alarmed by reports of MacVeagh's doings, Dorsey returned in the spring of 1881 to the east. While in New York MacVeagh actually procured a warrant for the arrest of Dorsey. The warrant was about to be issued, but Dorsey had his secret agents everywhere. He heard of the move by telegraph. He saw his peril and that there was only one man who could save him. He took the next train to Washington, arrived there late at night, went from the depot to the white house, appealed to Garfield to keep his promise and save him. Garfield sent for MacVeagh and what then ensued may be inferred from the fact that the warrant for Dorsey's arrest was never served, but withdrawn. This history is historical and known to be true by Blaine. It has never been published, but is true, and MacVeagh will not dare to deny it.

McVEAGH'S ANSWER TO DORSEY.

NEW YORK, December 2.—Wayne McVeagh says it is not necessary to answer Dorsey's charge that he violated his confidence. Dorsey's whole letter was a tissue of falsehoods, except that McVeagh objected to secret examination before he came into the cabinet. Dorsey made him out a very bad man. If he was so, why did Dorsey entrust him with confidential business? Dorsey is under indictment and awaiting trial.

COMMENTS OF MERRICK AND KERR.

WASHINGTON, December 2.—The Star publishes the following conversation with Merrick and Kerr on star route matters: "We are going to have a trial," said Merrick, laying peculiar emphasis on the last word. When asked what was to be done next Monday he said: "If Dorsey had published his statement originally the country might have believed it, but the country will bear in mind that Dorsey has had a trial; that he did not go on the stand and swear to it shows that the statement is not true; it is too thin, too absurd." "There is another point," said Kerr, who was standing near, "that if that statement is true, Dorsey committed perjury before the investigation committee." Kerr, speaking of Dorsey's card, said that Dorsey had made a very valuable contribution to the material of the government in the case. He should go on the stand. The statement he intimated would furnish a convenient fulcrum for working the lever of cross-examination.

THE GANG GOT LEFT.

Train Robbers Run Into a Masked Battery.

Special Dispatch to THE BEE.

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