

The Omaha Bee.

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CORRESPONDENCE—All Communications relating to News and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor of THE BEE.

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

A GREAT MANY POLES seem to be immigrating to Omaha—telegraph poles.

It is a wise remark that the record of a party does not constitute its future.

NEXT to cheap food, cheap fuel, cheap gas will be most acceptable to the people of Omaha.

SUBAN B. ANTHONY will pass the winter in Washington. Mrs. Gougear will be too busy with libel suits to apply for that seat in the senate.

The report of the tariff commission was presented yesterday to congress. The items of that \$6,000 Long Branch hotel bill were probably omitted.

FOREIGN comment on the president's message is said to be unfavorable. What foreign journalists do not know about American politics would fill a large encyclopedia.

The president recommends a large increase in the iron clad fleet. Mr. Robeson knew what he was about when he spent \$70,000 to secure a reelection to congress.

A MINISTER of the gospel who champions the star-route robberies from the pulpit, is in a fair way of becoming an epologist for jobbery and common theft.

The railroads in Nebraska may be out of politics, as their organs assert, but the practical attorneys of the railroads are skimming around throughout the state in a way which indicates that somebody is in politics deeper than ever.

MR. POOR who is paid by the railroads for publishing a manual is out with a letter to the Evening Post in which he states that the railroad kings are governed by public opinion. "The public be damned," was Mr. Van Zeebill's emphatic remark on the same object.

WHILE Attorney General Browder is wrestling over Duryee's expedition of the mails in New Mexico many Omaha merchants are praying for some expedition of the mails in this city which will enable them to secure their correspondence within three hours after the arrival of trains on the other side of the river.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS The transit of Venus over the face of the sun, which begins at thirty-five minutes past seven this morning, is the most interesting astronomical event of the century.

Under such circumstances, those who are in debt to local merchants will be likely to pay, and the situation while calling for the exercise of a conservative temper is not such as to give ground for exciting alarm.

A distinct halt has been called in railway construction. When the methods pursued by the leading railroad promoters shall have been brought more clearly into relief, the salient feature will be the extent to which corporate abuses have served to inflate the stock and bond capital of American railroads.

The iron and steel industries complain of hard times, and several works have already shut down. The fact is that the steel rail makers of the country are resting secure on their accumulated profits and think that there is no time so appropriate as the present to impress congress with the fact that any reduction in the tariff on steel means the destruction of the iron industry, which has been paying in the past two years only a trifle of from 50 per cent to 80 per cent on the investment.

This is the reason why such earnest hopes for clear weather have been expressed. Another December transit of Venus will not occur for 243 years, and it will be more than 139 years before the phenomena will be again witnessed. Our government has appropriated \$85,000 for purposes of observation and eight parties will assist in the work.

A LATE CONVERT.

E. K. Valentine has been in congress three years and nine months. During all this period he has never discovered that the vast land grant of the Union Pacific, embracing several million of acres in Nebraska has never paid one dime of any kind of tax.

More than twelve months ago General Van Wyck introduced a bill which is now pending that will compel the land grant roads to take out patents on their subsidy lands. Mr. Valentine could and should have followed that up in the house but he hadn't heard of it.

But, perhaps, it is better late than never. New converts are generally very zealous. We shall, however, insist that Valentine's probation be extended beyond his present term before we take much stock in him as an anti-monopolist.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION. Colder weather has already had its effect in stimulating trade in a number of lines. Although the financial situation is still far from satisfactory, the market is much easier than it was a week ago.

Chicago and St. Louis are now discussing high license and point to the operation of the law in Nebraska as a strong argument in its favor. The general opinion is that it has proved a better mode of checking the evils of intemperance than any prohibitory law which would fall in its enforcement.

It is a good year for the Butlers. Benjamin was triumphantly elected governor of Massachusetts, Hamburg Massacre Butler has just been re-elected senator from South Carolina, and our own David is about to enter public life and is said to have an eye on the senatorial shoes of Alvin Saunders.

THE Washington preacher who has mounted his pulpit to revolutionize public sentiment about the star-route ring has undertaken a mighty big job. Brady, Dorey and the rest of the ringsters may escape the penitentiary, but they will never be acquitted at the bar of public opinion.

VENUS IN THE DARK. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. NEW YORK, December 5.—Reports from the north and east indicate unpromising weather for satisfactory observations of the transit of Venus.

CHEAP GAS.

On the 22d of January, 1868, an ordinance was enacted by the city council of Omaha granting authority under certain conditions to the Omaha Gas Manufacturing company to erect gas works and lay their mains through the public streets and alleys.

This is verbatim the language of the ordinance compiled by John P. Bartlett, city solicitor in 1872. The only inference that can be drawn from the above, is that either the compiler was a knave and changed the language of the original ordinance, or else that the council that granted this charter was a set of idiots.

Gen. Daniel Tyler, a Son-in-Law of Gen. Israel Putnam. General Daniel Tyler, whose death in New York has been announced, was born in Brooklyn, Windom county, Connecticut, in 1799.

At the breaking out of the war he tendered his services to the governor of Connecticut and was appointed colonel of the First Connecticut Volunteers, and afterwards brigadier general of the state forces.

It is authoritatively announced that the U. P. road has gone out of politics and have sold their interest in The Omaha Republican to Messrs. Yost and Nye.

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THE CLAIM AGENTS BONANZA.

The San Francisco Chronicle calls attention to a scheme set on foot in Washington by claim agents to have the Soldiers' and Sailors' Homestead law amended ostensibly in the interest of the soldiers and sailors who fought in the late civil war, but really in the interest of the speculators in land claims.

THE time which the homestead settler had served in the army or marine corps shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title; or if discharged on account of wounds received or disabilities incurred in the line of duty, then the terms of enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title, without reference to the length of time he may have served; but no patent shall issue to any homestead settler who has not resided upon, improved and cultivated his homestead for a period of at least one year after he shall have commenced his improvements.

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