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

ALL the senatorial candidates are rabid anti monopolists "on principle."

TURKEY has a new set of ministers. Of course the old ministry of Turkey ended after dinner on Thanksgiving day.

VENUS was a coy goddess yesterday. She succeeded in hiding her face from more than half the world who were especially anxious to see it.

EVERY railroad organ in the state is now a convert to the commissioner system. A commission is a good deal easier to buy up than a majority of the legislature.

THE proposition to give Omaha cheap gas was laid on the table at the last meeting of the city council. Any councilman who opposes cheap gas will be laid under the table the very first time he runs for re-election.

"LET us talk about the weather," was the remark of the daughters of the major general in the "Pirates of Penzance." There was a good deal of talk about the weather yesterday among observers of the transit of Venus who had been praying for a clear day.

EMIGRATION continues to pour into the country in an unprecedented degree. During the first eleven months of this year there arrived at Castle Garden 435,638 immigrants, which was 18,784 more than for the corresponding period last year. The greatest number in a month was in May, 88,768 or an average of 2,823 per day.

GENERAL LOGAN is all cooked and primed for another greatest effort of his life against Fitz John Porter. Logan was made a major general before he enlisted as a private, and of course his opinion on military matters is worth more than the cool and unimpassioned judgment of such a greenhorn in the art of war as U. S. Grant.

THE board of education are considering the advisability of a new school building in the northwestern portion of the city. Some steps to relieve the overcrowding of the high school ought to be taken at once. Full schools are complimentary to the school management, but overcrowded rooms are at once detrimental to the discipline of the schools and to the health of the scholars.

It looks as if congress intends after all to settle down to business and to let the late election take care of itself. It was as much the record of the last session as any other cause which precipitated the November storm, and if anything can drive away the clouds which have gathered around the republican party it will be a clean, vigorous and public spirited policy put into execution by the representatives of the people who will shape legislation during the next three months at Washington. The first subject which must be disposed of is the appropriation bill. One of these, the Indian bill, has already been reported. The others are in the hands of the committee of the ways and means, and will be rushed into the house as speedily as possible. There is no doubt that the department estimates will be very materially cut down. In every case they exceed the appropriations, large as they were, for the current fiscal year. The sum total is larger by \$20,000,000 than that voted for 1892, and this does not include the river and harbor bill, or any estimate for the postal service as it is expected that the government revenue from that source will more than meet expenses. In the present temper of the people congress will be worse than blind if it refuses to cut down both the expenditures and the income of the government. The demand for a prompt reduction of taxation is loud and pressing. It will be suicide if the republican party, which is now held responsible for the conduct of the government, fails to meet it. We are paying off the public debt too fast. The people need the money, which is drawn from them to fill the treasury to overflowing, more than the government cost. The government can borrow all the money it needs at three per cent., but it is worth more than this rate to the business public.

THE NEW TRANSCONTINENTAL ROUTE.

The first excursion train over the new southern transcontinental route left on Tuesday for California by way of New Orleans, over the recently completed Southern & Texas Pacific route. The junction of these two lines of railway at El Paso gives a new outlet for the produce of the Pacific coast which seeks an eastern market, and is of the highest importance in opening up a heretofore undeveloped country to the manufacturing and trade interests of the Mississippi valley.

Shortly after the completion of the Union Pacific, May 10th, 1869, the Southern Pacific company was consolidated with several small roads in California. By an act of congress in 1871 the company was authorized to connect with the Texas & Pacific at Fort Yuma, which connection was effected in May, 1877. Since then the work of construction eastward has gone steadily on until now the road is considered complete, it having outlets and connections with New Orleans, the principal cities of Texas, and with St. Louis over the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and the Missouri Pacific.

The Southern Pacific as now completed opens the southern portion of California, and the available parts of New Mexico and Arizona territories both to the benefit of eastern trade and to the immigration and capital of foreigners and natives of this country. Heretofore the rich agricultural and grazing lands of Southern California, which embraces nearly one-third of the entire area, and three-fourths of this 50,000 square miles suited to cultivation, have scarcely been used at all. The road passes through the famed wheat lands of the Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Tuare, Kern river and other fertile valleys, probably the richest in the world. In the territories agriculture is not so well adapted to the country through a lack of rainfall. In some districts, however, irrigating methods are being used with profitable results as the soil is equally as rich as that of California. With the settlement of the country a great rainfall will occur each year and in consequence a better adaptability of the soil to agriculture and grazing. As the Southern Pacific is controlled and operated by the Central Pacific the former system will now receive some of the benefits derived from its connection with the Union Pacific, which can legitimately be taken from the latter road. These advantages certainly will be considerable, especially the eastern bound business now handled together by the Central to the Union Pacific company. The eastern terminus of the road is at El Paso Del Norte, towards which point railroads are being constructed, while connections are already made to New Orleans and St. Louis. The latter place will derive considerable benefit from the opening of the road and its merchants have already sent their envoys to grasp the trade of the newly opened country in advance of competitors. Besides its entering the field as a formidable competitor with the ocean grain carrying vessels for through business, the advantages to be derived from the new road may be thus summarized. It will be a material auxiliary in taking the Mexican trade from, and now controlled by European cities, and giving it to the American cities. It will give the southern states a route to the Pacific coast, and an interest in the commerce of Asia and Europe. It will open up a new section of country heretofore undeveloped owing to the want of proper machinery and capital. It will bring into the market millions of acres of valuable lands hitherto unavailable for lack of proper transportation and markets. It will aid the national government in the transportation of Indian and war department supplies, and be a factor in the solution of the Indian question. Finally it will draw together a vast amount of capital hoarded in the east and tend to its expenditure on the new section of country opened by the road.

The BEE takes the value of the railroads, adds the amount of their indebtedness, and says that they ought to be assessed for the whole business. This is the first time that the claim has been made that a man who owes a debt ought to be subject to taxation on that debt. Rosewater knows that the railroads of Nebraska are valued as high as other property, and we know that the railroads of Nebraska are rated comparatively about three times as high as the property known as the Omaha BEE. Will the editor of that sheet deny it? This is not in defense of the railroads, but in the interest of truth.—Omaha Republican.

The value of any species of property is what it will bring in the market or at forced sale. If the property is mortgaged and will sell at a given sum with the mortgage cancelled, then the property is worth just what it will sell for with the mortgage added. To illustrate: Suppose that a farm is mortgaged for \$5,000. Does not the assessor value it at what it would bring at a forced sale, under the mortgage? Suppose it could be sold for \$5,000, what would its real value be? Would it not be worth \$5,000 more than the mortgage or in all \$10,000. Now then suppose the assessor made it his practice to assess farm property at one-third of its real value, that would make the farm

worth for assessment \$3,333.33, whereas if he assessed it only at one-third of what it would sell for regardless of the mortgage the owner would only pay taxes on \$1,666.66. On the same basis of a railroad that is mortgaged for \$45,000 per mile sells in the market at \$83,000 per mile, its real value is \$128,000. If the rule of one-third is applied to railroad property as it is to other property, it would have to pay taxes on \$42,666.66 per mile. This is exactly the condition of the Union Pacific, which, instead of paying taxes on \$42,666.66, has for years only paid taxes on \$10,000, and its to-day taxes only on a fraction over \$11,000 per mile. When we say the real value of the Union Pacific is \$128,000 per mile, we mean that the aggregate value of all its property, and the income it enjoys from a monopoly of the traffic, which is the franchise is worth \$128,000 per mile. It is not true that the property of the BEE pays taxes on a basis, less than one-third of that on which the railroads are assessed. The machinery and personal property of the BEE paid taxes on over \$8,000 last year and the real estate was taxed about one-third of its market value, whereas the Union Pacific railroad has been taxed at less than one-tenth of its market value. What we insist upon is that all property, both that of corporations and of individuals, shall be taxed on the same basis.

We are as yet unable to learn why the council laid on the table the ordinance proposing to give the right to a competing gas company to establish works in Omaha and to lay pipes in our streets. This council has given the right to an Electric Light Company to erect poles in our streets with a view of competing in illumination. Why should they refuse to give us competition in gas. Electric lights can only be used by a limited number of consumers. It is more expensive than gas, hence it will not or cannot for many years become an active competition. But when a responsible concern guarantees to furnish gas at \$1.80 per thousand cubic feet and of double the illuminating capacity of that for which Omaha is now paying \$3.50 to \$4.50, we cannot comprehend how any man or set of men dare to interpose objection. All the talk of vested rights and exclusive privileges is banal. In the first place, the Omaha Gas company have long ago forfeited whatever rights they had under their original charter by violating the provisions in every way. In the next place no exclusive franchise to the use of streets in any city can be granted by any legislative body. This has been the decision of a dozen state supreme courts and the U. S. supreme court has also ruled upon it.

The present gas company enjoyed a very lucrative monopoly for a long time. They have gotten a good price for very poor gas. They charge the city, under "the moonlight schedule," \$25 per year per lamp for what is supposed to be 2,300 hours. As a matter of fact, the lamps don't average more than three hours per night or about 1,000 hours per year. The United Gas Improvement company will light the lamps at \$17.50 a year per lamp, by "moonlight schedule" strictly enforced, 2,300 hours, and from a half hour after sun down to a half hour before sunrise, which is all night, for the price now paid. This means a reduction of over 40 per cent on present prices for present service with double the illuminating capacity. Everybody knows that burglars and other criminals are committed principally after midnight, and the lights in Omaha are extinguished at the very time when they ought to be brightest. A large portion of our city is in utter darkness all the year around, and that portion of our city which is lighted is so poorly lighted that burglars operate right under the lamps. The only use our lamps are after midnight, is to afford propa to weak-kneed men who are on their way home from the lodge.

If this gas question is to become an issue, it will be one of the liveliest issues that has ever struck Omaha.

SENATOR SAUNDERS will to-day call up the bill for the admission of Dakota as a state. The democratic minority are not likely to view with indifference the prospect of two more republican senators and three republican electoral votes, and the prospects for the passage of a bill at the present session are not very bright. There are two bills pending, one in the house and one in the senate, but they are both to the same effect—dividing the territory and authorizing the lower hall to hold a convention and frame a constitution. The latter must be submitted to congress to see that it provides for a republican form of government, and is otherwise unobjectionable, before the final act of admission is passed, so we see very little hope of Dakota being admitted under the present congress in any case. The people of Washington are equally anxious for admission, but they have taken time by the forelock, held a convention and framed their constitution without the help of an enabling act, and are now knocking at the door of the union, prepared to enter forthwith. The one objection to their petition is the insufficiency of their population,

which is not more than 100,000 at best. Dakota has more, and is more rapidly increasing at that. But for the bond difficulty of last winter, the enabling act would probably have been passed, and congress be now asked to make good that act and let Dakota enter at once as a state.

It remarks about Thurlow Weed, Henry Ward Beecher said the other day:

It was very rare that life could not afford to spare anybody. He had never noticed that any great element had suffered by the death of anybody. It was like dipping a bucket of water out of the East River. There was a splash, a gurgle, a momentary confusion of the waters, and the water flowed on unmindful of its loss. So in life a man dropped out, the ranks closed up, the march went on. The newspapers made the most of men's deaths, and perhaps perpetuated the impression that the places of great men could not be supplied. Their unswerving columns were filled up with daily reports of a man's condition. Then come reports about his funeral, then reminiscences, so that in these days it really required about a month to fairly get rid of a man. [Laughter.] The man who was apt to think that he was somebody, and that the Lord would find it difficult to supply his place, ought to have no such concern. The Lord will certainly attend to it, and two or three men would spring up who would do the man's work a great deal better even than he. All the great leaders of the church in this country had gone up, yet the moral power of the church in America was greater today than it was thirty-five years ago. Amherst and Yale and Princeton had been emptied and yet had filled up again.

SALINE'S MAN FOR SENATOR.

Correspondence of THE BEE. CREE, Neb., December 5.—Business in our little city is quite brisk; the merchants are having a good trade, the grain men are cribbing about 3,000 bushels of corn per day, and the carpenters are busily engaged this fair weather. Politically speaking everything is unusually quiet. You are not without knowing how the Saline county delegation and alliance stands on the senatorial question. They are unanimously in favor of Gen. Victor Vifquain. And a resolution would have been passed last Monday, the 4th inst., at the regular meeting of the alliance by a unanimous vote, if the most intimate friends of the general had desired such a resolution to be passed, but as the general had not yet signified his intentions in the matter, and inasmuch as Saline is not alone in the choosing of a United States senator therefore it was deemed more prudent by those who advocate his election, to advise with other counties before decisive steps be taken on the subject. The general told his friends that he would attend his decision by the holidays. If it should be the general's good fortune to be selected to fill the high position of United States senator, it will be the cause of the greatest jubilee that ever took place in this county. X. Y.

"Our Territory."

It appears that the negotiations between the warring railroads of the northwest were broken off because one of the parties (the St. Paul & Milwaukee company) had recently bought a piece of road some fifteen miles in length, in or near "the territory" of another party (the Chicago, Minneapolis & Omaha company). The latter has taken the position throughout the controversy that this was a war respecting "territory" rather than rates, and that nothing could or should be done to settle this dispute concerning rates until the action of the country belonging to "his" should be staked out, and effectual guarantees provided against its invasion by any evil disposed common carrier. It will be a bad day for the railroads when they avow that it is their policy to fence in particular districts of the country and agree that nobody shall build a road within a certain number of miles of somebody else's district.

On the Plains.

By L. W. Carter. From 1866 until 1871 the winters were mild and the cattle increased on the hills until they numbered quite half a million. Prior to 1871 there was scarcely any sale for beef in the country. The railroads had not reached Colorado, and 60 miles was too far to drive, when beef was worth but 24 cents in the market at Kansas City. In 1871 there came a change. The railroads came, and the price of beef went up in the east and in Europe. In the west it went from two cents to three, then to four and a half, and the end is not yet. From 1871 to 1880 the increase has been so rapid that the country then contained 1,500,000 of meat cattle. Then came the third bad winter, the most disastrous of them all; probably because there were more cattle to kill than there were in 1862. When the spring of 1881 came the 1,500,000 cattle that had entered the winter were reduced to less than 900,000, and our people became importers instead of exporters of beef. With all these losses, stock-growing in the past twenty-two years has been prosperous in the extreme. The losses during that time did not exceed three per cent. per annum. The men who own the cattle of Colorado to-day—has the Prairie Cattle company—were poor men fifteen years ago, and yet they represent now \$35,000,000 of wealth in their own right. There are at the present time in the state about 2,250,000 cattle; 1,000,000 of these are in the south, along the Arkansas and Purgatoire rivers, and the other 1,250,000 are north of the divide, and along the waters of the Republican, the Platte, and in the north, south and middle parts.

"Spent Fifty Dollars in doctoring for rheumatism before I tried Thomas' Eucalyptic Oil. Used a 50-cent bottle of this medicine and got out in one week. For horse and human it is excellent." Jas. Durban, East Pembroke, N. Y.

NOTES FROM ABELEND.

Correspondence of Omaha Bee. ABLEND, December 5.—This staid old town has in no respect a penchant for matters of violence or exaggeration, and so moves quietly on in the even tenor of her way. What is done is therefore well done, and with reference to practicality and perseverance.

Since our last notes to THE BEE, Simington's opera house has been completed and dedicated. It is a stately, substantial brick structure, 44 x 100 feet, and two stories high. The lower rooms are occupied by Simington Bros., dry goods dealers, and by Stratton & Chamberlain, dealers in clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods. The opera hall above is a most attractive room, well lighted and ventilated, and will comfortably accommodate an audience of 700, exclusive of the stage, which is 16x42 feet. There is also a commodious gallery and ample dressing rooms. Clark's Comedy company, a local institution of amateur theatricals, performed the dedicatory work with ten nights of commendable playing before good audiences. The hall was next used for an annual exposition by our Ladies' Decorative Art society, under the management of Mrs. Doye. The display was one of the best of its kind ever attended. The samples of needle work of the crochet hook and of the pencil and brush, would have done credit to more pretentious towns than ours. Mrs. A. B. Fuller, Mrs. J. H. Morris, Mrs. Paddock, Mrs. A. H. Gould, Mrs. J. A. Jory and other ladies are proving themselves real artists.

Mr. Travis has purchased the right for manufacturing a new and improved spring bed, for the counties of Saunders, Cass and Sarpy, and expects to drive a land office business, as he desires to do.

There is some stir in regard to the incumbency of the postoffice here, but it is generally thought that Mr. Chamberlain, the present incumbent, will continue to "hold the fort."

Union Thanksgiving services were held in the Congregational church, being well attended. Rev. H. A. Guild preached the sermon, and was assisted in the exercises by Rev. Wm. Leavitt and Rev. C. H. Hackney.

Efforts are being made for the reorganization of a Masonic lodge, old No. 18 having ceased to work some three years ago. The efforts will no doubt be successful, and we shall soon have a flourishing lodge, for which there is abundant and excellent material.

Mr. A. H. Gould has retired from the furniture business, and will hereafter devote himself to the hardware trade; while his late partner, Mr. J. H. Morris, will alone carry on his large furniture establishment.

The farmers are hauling in wonderfully large quantities of corn, for which they find a lively market, at 33 and 35 cents. The crop was heavy and well matured.

The Baptist church has one of the celebrated Pittsburg lamps in use. It has a repeater, 52 inches in diameter, and burns so safely, pleasant rays into every part of the church, from fourteen burners.

Several brick business houses are on the tapis for the spring boom, and it is expected that a goodly number of fine residences will also be erected.

Prof. Courser is about opening a music and musical instrument establishment on Silver street. He is a fine musician, instructor of our concert band, and master of several singing schools.

Our cornet band boys will give an entertainment at the opera house next Friday evening, which is expected to be the affair of the kind for the season.

Hon. B. H. Shedd, late speaker, lost his little 34-year-old child yesterday morning in a diet of membranous croup, and was buried this afternoon. It was a sweet, promising child, and the worthy parents have the hearty sympathy of all. D. HEAD.

A Bachelor's Wager.

Wilkesbarre Union-Leader. A bachelor lawyer at the LEXINGTON bar had a pretty cousin, at each recurrence of whose birthday he is esteemed entitled to the cousinly privilege of a kiss, though he always has to fight for it. Lately the birthday having gone by during a business trip on which he was away, he asked if he might not have his kiss now, when it came to him. To this she strenuously objected. She said no bills, she said, when the creditor allowed pay-day to pass without calling on her. He proposed a game of euchre, on which he would stake a pair of gloves against his cousinly privilege. She agreed and she won. Then he staked a box of bonbons. She assented and won again. Then handkerchiefs, stockings, and other articles of feminine apparel and adornment were put up, and the bachelor's luck grew no better. They played eleven games, and she was victor of them all. Being in Philadelphia a few days later, the loser called at a leading dry goods house to make his purchases. It was not difficult to ask for the gloves and the handkerchiefs, but when it came to the stockings he was non-plussed. Finally he left it to the shop-girl, who sold him an even dozen pairs, saying: "These long ones will do if she wears suspenders; the others are the ones she wants if she doesn't wear them." As the lawyer couldn't say how this was, he took the whole lot.

"Evil dispositions are early shown." Evil tendencies in our systems are to be watched and guarded against. If you find yourself getting bilious, head heavy, mouth foul, eyes yellow, kidneys disordered, symptoms of piles tormenting you, take at once a few doses of Kidney-Wort. It is nature's greatest assistant. Use it as an advance guard—don't wait to get down sick. Read advertisement.

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METCALF & BRO. 1005 Farnam St., Omaha. METCALF & BRO. IMPORTERS JOBBERS OF TEAS OMAHA, NEB. The farmers are hauling in wonderfully large quantities of corn, for which they find a lively market, at 33 and 35 cents. The crop was heavy and well matured. The Baptist church has one of the celebrated Pittsburg lamps in use. It has a repeater, 52 inches in diameter, and burns so safely, pleasant rays into every part of the church, from fourteen burners. Several brick business houses are on the tapis for the spring boom, and it is expected that a goodly number of fine residences will also be erected. Prof. Courser is about opening a music and musical instrument establishment on Silver street. He is a fine musician, instructor of our concert band, and master of several singing schools. Our cornet band boys will give an entertainment at the opera house next Friday evening, which is expected to be the affair of the kind for the season. Hon. B. H. Shedd, late speaker, lost his little 34-year-old child yesterday morning in a diet of membranous croup, and was buried this afternoon. It was a sweet, promising child, and the worthy parents have the hearty sympathy of all. D. HEAD.

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