

The Omaha Bee.

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

LINCOLNITES are putting on their war paint preparatory to beginning the biennial industry.

THE republican members of the Michigan legislature refused to be driven into a caucus unless certain objectionable candidates are barred out.

EVERY railroad organ with a republican bias is clamoring for a legislative caucus. Every honest anti-monopoly republican will govern himself accordingly.

TOM KARB'S real name is Thomas O'Carroll. The score or more of Omaha girls who fell in love with Mr. O'Carroll will be pleased to learn that Tom is of purely Rhenish extraction.

DR. BLISS, who rendered a bill for \$25,000 for writing bulletins during General Garfield's illness, has accepted \$6,000 from the government in full receipt of all claims. The doctor evidently believes that a quarter of a loaf is better than none at all.

THE Nebraska divorce mills have lately been grinding out their usual grist. Two of our judges last week released nineteen unhappy couples from the bonds of ungenial matrimony. When it comes to dealing with "knotty" subjects Nebraska sees Indiana and goes one better.

SENATOR VAN WYCK has directed the attention of congress to the fact that a railroad is being constructed through the Niobrara military reservation in this state without authority of law. But then the senator ought to know that railroad corporations are very frequently above all law.

MR. WHEBOW, of Lancaster, has secured the good will of the U. P. and B. & M. in his candidacy for the speakership, and he is very confident that he can distance all competitors in the race. That depends whether the majority of the house are willing to go on record for a man who is satisfactory to the railroads.

THE Philadelphia Press has once more demonstrated that newspaper reporters can do valuable service in detecting and exposing crime. The recent disclosures of wholesale body-snatching in the city of brotherly love made by reporters of the Press have laid the people of Philadelphia under lasting obligations to the paper that has exhibited such enterprise and pluck.

THERE will be no disposition on the part of the people of the United States to criticize the decision of the supreme court which gives to the heirs of Robert E. Lee possession of the Arlington estate. The property was confiscated by the government in 1862 through a suit brought to secure unpaid taxes amounting to some \$93. Justice Miller renders a sound opinion in which it is held that the government has no right to seize property without a just return. The Arlington estate has been converted into a national cemetery and the bones of fourteen thousand Union soldiers lie buried there. It cannot be relinquished and turned over to private hands, and the only thing for congress to do is to have the property appraised and make an appropriation to satisfy the claim.

THE national republican committee has been summoned by the chairman, Marshall Jewell, to meet at Washington on Wednesday, the 17th of January. The object of the meeting is to hear and take action upon the report of a sub-committee of which Secretary of the Navy Chandler is chairman, which was appointed to prepare a plan for calling the next national convention in accordance with the rule adopted by the Chicago convention in 1880. This rule provided that the national republican committee should prescribe a method or rules for the election of delegates to the national convention to be held in 1884, announce the same to the country and issue a call for the convention in conformity therewith. It further provides that such method or rules shall include and secure to the several congressional districts in the United States the right to elect their own delegates to the national convention.

Another object of the meeting should be to get rid of Star-route Dorsey as secretary of the committee before he is sent to the penitentiary.

attention to the evil, which is a growing one. The ladies are as much to blame as their escorts. Many of them only go to the opera house to show their clothes and to excite comment, and they have an idea that it is the proper caper to sweep into a theatre after an audience has composed itself, and thereby create a sensation. If they heard a quarter of the uncomplimentary remarks made about them by sensible people, the "sensation" wouldn't be quite so agreeable. The custom is becoming a public nuisance. It is robbery, for it swindles a large part of the audience, who have paid for their seats, out of from fifteen minutes to a half an hour of solid enjoyment. On a par with this class of people are those who make a rush for their hats and cloaks before the curtain rings down, and who are half way to the door by the time the performance is concluded. If no other way is found to abate these nuisances the publication of a few names may be found efficacious.

PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY.

The Omaha foundry and machine shops has temporarily closed its doors and suspended work. Mr. Richards, the principal owner of these shops, says he has been compelled to close his doors because many of our builders and capitalists send their orders for iron castings and steam machinery abroad, although their orders could have been filled here and their patronage would have enabled the Omaha shops to compete in price with eastern foundries.

Our leading dealers make the same complaint regarding the purchase of dry goods, millinery, furniture and other commodities by the Omaha snobocracy, who do not think there is anything good enough for them in Omaha to adorn their persons or their parlors. Men who have made every dollar they are worth in Omaha, and who can only flourish and grow richer by the patronage of Omaha, send to Pittsburgh, St. Louis, or Indianapolis for the castings to ornament their stores, they go to Grand Rapids, Detroit, or Milwaukee for the furniture that adorns their parlors and bed rooms, they go to Chicago for carpets, and their wives import their bonnets, cloaks, and even under garments from New York. And yet Omaha is unsurpassed by any city of twice her population in the immense varied and costly stock of dry goods, furniture, carpets, millinery and wares of every class.

If the tables were turned and some of our Omaha snobocrats should find that their patrons are imposing every thing they wear or consume they would feel outraged. It is safe to say that Omaha has for years paid millions annually in tribute to eastern merchants and factories which could and should have been circulated at home, and if they had been would have swelled our population and contributed vastly to our growth and prosperity. When will this short sighted and foolish policy stop? When will our people learn that they cannot build up a great city without commerce and manufactures? Can they expect our merchants and manufacturers to flourish if they persist in sending their money abroad for articles that could be purchased in our stores or manufactured in our shops? Do those nabobs and snobocrats go abroad because they can save a few dollars? As a rule they can purchase just as cheap in Omaha as they can in Chicago when freight or expressage are added.

What inducements are offered to new industries to locate in our midst if our people continue to throw their trade in foreign hands, and to increase the importance of other cities at the expense of their own? What encouragement is given to our merchants to carry a full line of goods on their shelves, or to import the latest novelties in the face of the fact that our ladies prefer purchasing their dress goods and notions in Chicago and New York for the sake of boasting that their wearing apparel came from Gossage's or Ahearn's? It is a false pride which values an article because it comes from elsewhere. Our business men who suffer from this state of affairs are often as much to blame. Many handsome blocks have been erected in Omaha during the past two years. How much of the materials used in their construction has been purchased in Omaha. In a large majority of instances the iron work has gone to St. Louis or Indianapolis, and the interior wood work and decorations have been done by contractors from Chicago, when Omaha workshops stood ready and willing to perform the work just as reasonably and often more thoroughly.

This is a subject where local pride has a chance to show itself in a practical way. Resolutions and resolutions are an excellent stimulant but liberal patronage of home industries goes a good deal further toward stimulating the growth of a city.

THEATRE NUISANCES.

Omaha is suffering a good deal from the theatrical hog. The theatrical hog is the person who cares so little for the comforts of others that he persists in appearing at the opera house with his lady from fifteen minutes to a half an hour after the opening of the performance, thereby preventing those who are in their seats on time from hearing what is going on upon the stage. The Bee is in receipt of frequent complaints from subscribers about this nuisance. One correspondent writes as follows:

"I was present at several of the performances of the Boston Idealists during their late engagement and invariably reached my seat before the orchestra began the overture. When the curtain rang up the house was not more than three-quarters full. Ushers were running hither and thither, annoying those who were trying to catch an idea of the opera, and the front doors being open, blasts of cold air rushed through the theatre, filling the audience in the back part of the house with influenza and indigestion. It was precisely half past eight when the last man and woman arrived and settled down. And then the greater part of the first set was lost. Can't the press say something to put a stop to this nuisance?"

All that the press can do is to call

attention to the evil, which is a growing one. The ladies are as much to blame as their escorts. Many of them only go to the opera house to show their clothes and to excite comment, and they have an idea that it is the proper caper to sweep into a theatre after an audience has composed itself, and thereby create a sensation. If they heard a quarter of the uncomplimentary remarks made about them by sensible people, the "sensation" wouldn't be quite so agreeable. The custom is becoming a public nuisance. It is robbery, for it swindles a large part of the audience, who have paid for their seats, out of from fifteen minutes to a half an hour of solid enjoyment. On a par with this class of people are those who make a rush for their hats and cloaks before the curtain rings down, and who are half way to the door by the time the performance is concluded. If no other way is found to abate these nuisances the publication of a few names may be found efficacious.

AS MIGHT have been expected, the recent acquisition through the United States court into the alleged frauds in the surveyor-general's office of Nebraska has brought to light nothing more than what was brought out by the investigation in the legislature last spring. The present system of public surveys is almost as old as the government itself. It began with the division of the northwest territory in 1787 into what became the states of Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, and has continued without material change under democratic, whig and republican rule. The system has had its defects, and they have been corrected from time to time. That there have been flagrant abuses and outrageous frauds there is no doubt, but the present surveyor-general of Nebraska, Gen. Smith, is not responsible for them. Congress has fixed the rate which contractors, who hold commissions as deputy surveyors, are to receive for their work. The work is inspected by competent surveyors, and when certified to by them, is approved by the surveyor-general. His agency begins by letting the contract at the rate fixed by congress for the work to be done and it ends when he gives his approval to the contractor for the work done. The surveyor-general handles no money except his own salary and the expenses of his office. These vouchers are forwarded to the general land office and that office sends a voucher to one of the auditors of the treasury department and that department transmits the pay directly to the contractor. The latter may divide his profits with whomever he sees fit in the same manner as a contractor for public works may disburse his income as best suits him.

If the work has been honestly done the government is not defrauded. When the rates for public surveying were fixed by congress, some years ago, the contractors were allowed a liberal margin, owing to the risk from Indian depredations and the incidents and accidents usual in frontier life. These margins became a source of corruption when the risks of losses of stock and teams no longer existed. At its last session congress reduced the rates for public surveying, so that contractors will have no surplus to divide with anybody, and the applications for surveying contracts will not be as numerous as they have been. This change in the system was brought about by the efforts of Senator Van Wyck, who was the first man in congress to call attention to the glaring frauds perpetrated under the "deposit" system.

The aim and object of the grand jury inquiry seems to have been to verify the charges made by the Omaha Herald last spring, that great frauds had been perpetrated in the surveyor-general's office at Plattsmouth, in which it was confidently predicted Senator Van Wyck was more or less implicated. It was expected that sufficient proof would be found to cause the indictment of Surveyor General Smith. The outcome has vindicated both the senator and surveyor general.

The building used as the office of the Nugget, at Phelps, Neb., and which was burned a few weeks ago, was also used as a court house. Immediately upon receipt of the news of the fire THE OMAHA BEE charged fraud in the Phelps county election and asserted that the republican candidates had been fraudulently counted in, and the court house burned to destroy the records of the election. This seemed like a bold charge to make, but THE BEE maintained it to be true and said it had information from Phelps which made it certain. The bottom is completely knocked out of the matter, however, by the facts being developed that the poll books, ballots and canvasses of the votes were saved from the fire. Now, if there is any suspicion of fraud, the matter can be investigated. Judging from the outcome of the charge of burning the court house to get rid of the election records, we are inclined to think that the frauds in Phelps county exist only in the mind of the imaginative editor of THE BEE.—Seward Reporter.

THE BEE received its information of the burning down of the Phelps county court house and the destruction of the records from what it had every reason to believe was reliable authority. The same charge was also made by a number of papers along the Re-

publican valley which were issued before THE BEE, containing the report, was printed. It was not until a full week afterwards that it was suddenly discovered that the poll books, ballots and canvasses of votes, which were reported as lost, had been miraculously saved. So far as the existence of the notorious frauds in Phelps county, that will be fully developed when the next legislature passes upon the contest from the senatorial district of which that county forms a part.

THE Schuyler News thinks that when the result of the election in the Third district is examined that Turner's canvass wasn't such a side splitting farce after all. Its editor rises to remark: A great deal of fun was indulged in at the expense of the Turner convention because it was comprised of but seven delegates. The result, however, shows that each one of those delegates represented one thousand votes, while those in the other convention represented but eighty-three votes each. Following out this method of mathematical calculation and it indicates that three more delegates would have elected Mr. Turner. It was remarkably easy to be funny with seven, but somehow 7,000 don't seem to be suggestive of humor.

THE Republican protests against the idea of the tariff. The trouble with the Republican is that it is a railroad organ "for revenue only."

The Latest Convert.

Kirkers Valley News.

"OUR Val" is the latest convert to anti-monopoly principles. We greatly fear, however, that it won't help Val's senatorial bloom to "catch on."

A Decided Brunette.

The Omaha Republican says Mr. Valentine is a decided enough brunette to enter the senatorial race in this state as a dark horse. Yes; he got a very black eye at the election.

Why They Are Uneasy.

Senator Piumb's friends in Washington are reported to be very uneasy about his re-election. Presumably these uneasy mortals belong to the railroad lobby, and are given to advertising a plan of getting the senator out by asking him whether he can conscientiously vote for such a man, or measure. When the senator gets an invitation of this kind he conscientiously votes accordingly. The senator will be a great loss to his friends in Washington after March as Robinson and the rest of the defeated corporationists will be.

Dangerous Favors.

THE OMAHA BEE warns the anti-monopoly members elect to beware of the seductive railroad pass which is expected will soon be tendered them by the railroads as peace offerings. While the Bee article implies suspicion of the men it helped to elect it must be admitted that the practice of railroad companies in keeping the members of the legislature supplied with passes is a pernicious one, and really an indirect system of bribery. Those who accept these favors without consideration know this but they ease their consciences by arguing that what can be obtained from a railroad company is clear gain, not thinking of favors in return in the way of legislation. Yet they find a pass quite convenient, and after awhile come to think the railroad companies not so bad after all. A law making the acceptance and use of a pass by a legislator a misdemeanor, treating it as the nature of a bribe, would be about as good an anti-monopoly step as the next legislature could take.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The Alabama legislature has one negro member.

Mr. Cox is already making the house laugh. Few congressmen would be so much mistook for a clown.

A San Francisco club has been organized which has as its aim the nomination of Robert T. Lincoln for the presidency of the United States in 1884.

Charles S. Lilly, of Lowell, Mass., has decided to contest the election of William A. Russell to represent the Eighth Massachusetts district in congress.

Mayor Ames, of Minneapolis, intends to contest the election of Washburn to congress, upon the ground that the workmen in Washburn's mill were intimidated into voting for him.

Senator Windm said to a Chicago reporter the other day: "The best way for the republicans to indicate that they know what caused the disaster is to say nothing at all, but go to work."

The vote of Louisiana at the late election was the smallest for many years. The democratic vote was 49,185, and the republican 33,391. New Orleans cast twenty-four per cent of the entire vote.

Virginia has a total voting population of 384,000, of which 206,000 are whites and 178,000 blacks. As there were less than 100,000 whites cast at the late election, it is not surprising that the blacks did not vote. This was mainly due to the capitation tax. That is now repealed.

Thus promptly in his career as governor, Aleck Stephens has pardoned twenty-five criminals, some of them sentenced to death for murder. Two of these were his own clients, convicted of a most brutal assassination, whom Gov. Co. might pardon after two hours' appeal by their counsel, who has now become their liberator.

The proposition to submit a prohibitory amendment to the Constitution to the people of Vermont was defeated in the house of representatives because of the opposition of a large part of the temperance leaders, who demand that native wine and cider shall be prohibited. They hope to get a more satisfactory proposition.

A Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia Times reports that Senator Clarendon is seriously considering the expediency of retiring from the senate to succeed Judge Folger in the cabinet, notwithstanding the fact that a democrat would succeed Clarendon in the senate.

There is considerable opposition in Michigan to the re-election of Thomas W. Ferry as United States Senator. Ten republican members of the legislature are said to have signed an agreement not to enter the caucus as long as Senator Ferry remains a candidate, and this has been effected by fifteen of Mr. Ferry's supporters signing an agreement to enter a caucus as long as Jay Hubbell is a candidate for Mr. Ferry's seat.

The democratic candidates for the speakership of the recently elected house of representatives are announced daily. Old politicians will be apt to infer that many of these candidates are merely seeking the chairmanship of an important committee.

The latest candidate of this class, it is to be suspected, is John Hancock, of Texas. The Galveston News says concerning him: "If there be anything like a deadlock between Randall and Carlisle, the Hon. John Hancock, as a member who has won his seat by a manly and frank canvass and by a decisive majority in a district deemed doubtful, will be a strong candidate from the circumstances of his case, as well as from the fact of his eminent qualifications."

PERSONALITIES.

The Princess Beatrice likes speckled beak-tweeds.

Governor-elect Grant, of Colorado, is a native of Alabama, and is but thirty years of age.

Patti is said to own more diamonds than any woman in the world, worth, all told, \$700,000.

Guth defends ex-Marshall Henry. The gentlemen that said that mid-truces never come singly had a great deal.

Gambetta shot himself in the hand with a toy pistol. England may rule the wave, but the toy pistol looks after the balance of the planet.

Ridgely says he has enough of fighting. The man who is trying to bring about a duel with him has left one antagonist dead on the field of combat.

"They say" that Jay Gould's money has been used by his son, George at present "a high flyer at fashion" to the tune of \$2,500 for a bracelet for Mrs. Langtry.

Gov. Long, who retired in favor of Gen. Butler, has just been elected a manager of the House for Little Waukegan. Mr. Folger should state this item in his hat.

Gov. St. John, of Kansas, expects to lecture in Massachusetts next month. Gov. St. John will be remembered as the gentleman who is claimed to have been banished for an office in the recent election.

John Steele, better known as "Coal Oil Johnny," the fame of whose magnificent fortune and reckless extravagance still lives, is now engaged in manual labor at Wigginsport, Pa., and receives \$2.50 per day for his services.

Illinois is worrying over the question, "Who shall step into David Davis' shoes?" The answer may step into David's shoes, but by the great American desert, he'd better keep out of the old man's trousers if he wants to be found in time to crawl any day.

The Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution says that "Gov. Colquhoun wears puff-bloomed shirts. Senator Brown wears a mink-skin overcoat from Maine, Capt. Harry Johnson wears a coat with solid silver buckles, Judge Lochrane wears spotted waistcoats, and Bob Toombs has his cuffs and collars sewed on his shirts."

The Assemblyman Watson and Benk of the Georgia legislature, an expert in handling the middle Henry Grady declares that they fiddle their way into office, the favorite tunes being "Mississippi Sawyer" and "Valler Gai Come Out Tonight." Young Taylor, of Tennessee, got into congress by the old fiddling two years ago, but last year he was defeated.

An entry of newspapers are now circulating to determine whether George Peck should be believed the friends of Eli Peck, who has the belt for him, are in the ascendency so far, but there is no telling how soon "Guth" will become alarmed and write a yarn that will doubtless discount all of Eli's ruses d'etat.

Robert Thomas, of Georgia, is thrifty, and is one of the richest men in the south. Alexander H. Stephens used to say that at school Toombs was looked upon as a big, oily, awkward boy, who would never amount to much.

Mr. Stephens would add, "when Friday came and the school week was over, we always forgot that Bob Toombs had all the marbles, knives, etc. which had belonged to the rest of the schoolboys."

CHICAGO AND NEW YORK.

The two greatest cities in America, and in many respects the greatest in the world, are brought very close to each other, in time, by the Fast Express of the Michigan Central railroad.

This train leaves Chicago every afternoon at 3:30 p. m., and arrives in New York and Philadelphia the next evening. The dining cars, for which the Michigan Central is famous, accompany this train from Chicago to Niagara Falls, adding materially in the economy of time, and adding comfort and convenience to the enjoyment of passengers. A point that the people should make particular note of is, that although the Michigan Central affords great advantage to travelers, and the highest grade of accommodations, no extra charge is made on the Fast Express, notwithstanding the fact that other roads charge extra fares.

The Boston and New York Express leaves every day at 5:15 p. m., with Dining Cars to Niagara Falls, and Sleepers to New York and Boston.

FAST TRAVELING.

The fast express leaves Chicago today at 3:30 p. m., reaches Detroit tonight at 11:40; Toronto tomorrow morning at 9:15; Niagara Falls 6:55 tomorrow morning; Buffalo 7:10 tomorrow morning, all important cities in New York state during the day, and arrives in New York city 9 to-morrow evening, and Philadelphia 10:20 to-morrow evening. You don't have to change cars to New York, you see Niagara Falls, you may enjoy your meals in dining cars at nominal cost, and you are not charged extra for riding on this fast express, if you take the Michigan Central railroad.

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Good Babies.

"This is a joy day for 'as and West, For children thrive and mother's rest, And the diling gir's all named Victoria, And with the boys, they have Caustoria."

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