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

St. Louis has gone into spasms over the "greaser" president.

Where is General Jim Brislin? Some big soldier is wanted as a guard of the Yellowstone Park.

The Brooklyn bridge has cost the city \$17,000,000. No one has yet been able to discover what the Union Pacific bridge has cost the citizens of Omaha and Council Bluffs.

SENATOR MANNEBERG is said to be earnestly in favor of transferring the Indian bureau to the war department. The senator evidently wants to establish an employment bureau for unemployed army officers.

Another disputed railroad grant has been confirmed by the land office. Mr. Julian's remark that the management by the railroads of the land department is in reality an illustration of the management of the land department by the railroads, still holds good.

There seems to be no doubt that Gortchakoff was the victim of poison. Skobeleff was done to death in the very prime of life by a poisoned chalice of wine, and even in extreme old age, it appears, the titled Russian finds no certainty of dying a natural death.

The great Nebraska sunflower is delighted to learn that Mr. Contant is to be postmaster of Omaha. Less than six weeks ago this political jumbo pawed the ground furiously at the mere mention that Tom Hall was to be deposed.

Within sixty days the East river bridge will be completed and the people of New York and Brooklyn will have the satisfaction of using a wonderful structure on which they have expended over seventeen millions of dollars during the sixteen years through which it has been under process of construction. Foot passengers will be allowed to cross free, while single horses and vehicles will be charged ten cents and double teams twice that amount. The bridge will be lighted with 70 electric lamps and horse cars will run from the outskirts of Brooklyn to the city hall, New York.

The press of the country is unanimous in denouncing the acquittal of Dukes, the Uniontown seducer and murderer. The trial was made a travesty on justice, through a packed jury. Dukes, it will be remembered entered the house of a friend, robbed it of its brightest treasure and after rousing the unhappy father to frenzy by two of the most brutally insulting letters ever written, deliberately shot him in his own room. Public indignation is aroused to a fever pitch against both the criminal and his jury box accomplices. The miscarriage of justice has given him his freedom when he ought to be in a felon cell awaiting the hangman's noose. It is such failures of our legal machinery in crimes like that committed by Dukes which justify in public opinion private vengeance upon men of whose guilt there is no doubt. No jury in the country has ever been found to convict of murder the slayer of a seducer.

The tidal wave of immigration is flooding every American seaport. Well informed railway and steamship officials predict that foreign immigration into the United States will be larger this season than during any year in our history. The existing conditions in Europe all favor an exodus to this country. To the standing provocations of rigorous social conditions and governmental oppression in Ireland, the grinding taxation and oppressive exactions of military service in Germany, are added exceptional hardships and disturbances—political, social, and material. The unrest and discontent in Ireland grows worse weekly, and the severe policy of repression finally forced upon the government will operate to create a panic and drive from the island every person who can get away. The floods in Germany, destroying the fruits of the last and the hope of future harvests will hasten the determination of many half or wholly ruined peasant farmers to seek their fortune under more favorable conditions in another land.

MURDER AND DYNAMITE.

The attempted assassination of Lady Florence Dixie following so closely upon the dynamite explosion at Westminster is the answer of the Irish anarchists to the policy of the liberal party. A more suicidal course of proceedings so far as the interest of Ireland is concerned cannot be imagined. As the Phoenix Park tragedies called forth the coercion act, so these latest bloodthirsty outrages will certainly be marked by a quick cessation of all remedial legislation for Ireland on the part of the British parliament. Concessions in the face of the assassination of defenseless men and feeble women and the attempted destruction of public property will never be secured from any English party. Every real friend of Ireland must admit that her cause has been retarded at every stage by foolhardy men who pretend to believe that reform can be hastened by the methods of criminals and cut-throats. Parnell's policy of peaceful resistance of appeal to Irish patriotism and English justice secured greater benefits for an oppressed peasantry in three years of agrarian agitation than all the Fenians and Invincibles since the days of '49. The land league, under the able generalship of such devoted patriots as Davitt and Biggar and Parnell, was a great moral force whose influence shook Westminster and resulted in the land act, under which 90,000 tenants have already secured the benefits of fair rent and long tenures. The brutal murders of Lord Cavendish and Secretary Burke, on the other hand, compelled the coercion act, and these crowning outrages may certainly be depended upon to check for years to come any hopes of a home rule whose dawn was already visible and to the securing of which Mr. Gladstone had already pledged his efforts.

Irish agitators in America must be held largely responsible for the commission of these crimes which are prejudicing the entire civilized world against the cause of Ireland. While a vast majority of Irish Americans do not approve and even denounce such outrages, the support and encouragement of long distance fighters of the O'Donovan Rossa stamp furnishes the sinews of war for those dastardly attacks on persons and property, and reflects most disastrously upon every effort made for the amelioration of the sufferings of the Irish peasantry. They have paralyzed the land league movement, tied the hands of the English radicals and strengthened every enemy of Ireland throughout the world.

Mr. Egan may boast that the aim of the Irish revolutionists is to tire the English parliament out. It will be well if the cutthroats to whom he gives his secret approval do not so tire out the friends of Ireland as to neglect that suffering country to the condition in which she was placed before any remedial legislation was applied to right, even partially, the wrongs which have been heaped upon her. Just at present the fool friends of Ireland are very busily engaged in strangling the blossoming hopes of their country. A few more murders and attacks on women who, like Lady Florence Dixie, dare criticize Irish leaders from an Irishwoman's standpoint, will complete the job. Murder and dynamite will never give Ireland her independence.

Some of the iron and steel manufacturers who are dissatisfied with the rates of duty imposed by the new tariff threaten to raise the question of the constitutionality of the law on the ground that it originated in the senate, and not in the house. The objection does not seem to be well founded. There is no reason to suppose that the supreme court would go behind the plain facts of the record that a bill for raising revenue "originated" in the house; that the senate proposed amendments "as on other bills," and that the house concurred in them. This is all that the constitution requires and this is what congress did. The only point upon which there is room for argument is that of the right of conference committees to legislate for both houses by inserting new clauses changing the intention and meaning of measures as they come from the senate and house. Several items in the tariff bill were raised by the conference committee above the figures demanded by either house in disregard of all precedent. The conference committee on the army bill followed suit by inserting a three line clause opening two staff departments to civilians an amendment which had never been suggested when the bill was under consideration in the senate and house. The duty of a conference committee is to harmonize conflicting amendments, not to introduce new legislation. This is the only objection that can be raised to the method by which the tariff bill was passed. And this objection the supreme court will hardly be called to pass upon.

GENERAL HAZEN has cut down the signal service as a measure of enforced economy. A more sensible measure of economy would be the summary dismissal of Hazen and the abolition of the whole signal service. The country can spare "old probabilities" and dispense with the expense

THE LAND GRANTS.

The Chicago Tribune publishes an exhaustive review of the land grant empire illustrated by an accurate map showing the proportion of territory donated to subsidize American railroads. The vast area containing about 180,000,000 acres has been carved out of the national domain and transferred to corporate monopolies. The greater part of this landed empire has been taken from the people of the United States to whom it rightfully belongs without any equivalent being returned. For more than ten years THE BEE has sought to arouse popular attention to the gigantic frauds of the land grant system. As far back as 1873, the editor of this paper, while chairman of the committee on platform in the republican state convention, reported back a plank demanding the taxation of all railroad lands. Four years ago, when the jag-handled fraud known as the Platt U. S. test case was taken from Nebraska to the supreme court, we called the attention of Secretary Schurz to the imposture whereby a land grant of millions of acres, perfected under the Pacific railroad charter, was held as non-forfeitable because the Credit Mobilier had mortgaged it. Better late than never. At this late day the country, through the great metropolitan dailies, is finally awakening to the facts, and a halt is called to the monstrous land robberies committed with the connivance of the land office, and by the sanction of a lazy supreme court, that confirms corrupt decisions of lower judges, who are notoriously corporate property. The Chicago Tribune reaches the following conclusions as to the remedies which the people may yet apply to compel these land robbers to disgorge the vast domain which they have either never earned, or which they have forfeited by violations of their charters:

1. Grants of about 50,000,000 acres may still be revoked by congress. Prominent among these is that of the Texas Pacific, aggregating over 14,000,000 acres, worth \$25,000,000. This road has never been built. The corporation to which the grant was made has obligated itself to another corporation not to build, so as to give this second corporation a monopoly. Large tracts may be recovered from the Southern Pacific and the Atlantic & Pacific roads, which have fallen into the hands of syndicates swollen with wealth obtained by the violation of all their duties as trustees of the government's bounty and common carriers of the people. Immense tracts of valuable timber and plantation lands in the south are closed to the public because held to await the pleasure of corporations to whom they were granted twenty-seven years ago, but which have never fulfilled the conditions of the grants. The reserve power of public opinion can force congress to take up these millions of acres, if the public thinks it worth while to call out its reserves. Assuredly, if the public does not look after congress, congress will not look after the public.

2. Public lands which lie by the side of the railroad lands, and are now shut to the people because the railroads postpone the surveys, can be opened to settlement. As we have explained, the laws of congress make the roads pay the cost of surveys. Hence the roads call for them only as needed to sell their lands. The bulk of their grants are to-day unurveyed. As the public land cannot be marked off until the railroad lands are defined, the practical consequence is, that, besides the 100,000,000 of forfeitable land grant about 100,000,000 of adjoining lands are effectively, though not ostensibly, withdrawn from public use. The remarks of Secretary Teller and Land-Commissioner McFarland on this subject to our Washington correspondent were by no means candid. It is intolerable that the public lands should be thus looked up for the accommodation of corporations, almost all of whom are in default to the government. The public now have information of the abuse. Only they can make congress remove it.

3. Millions of acres have been stolen outright. They can be recovered. When Attorney-General Brewster has convicted the star-rout thieves he can take hold of the land-grant thieves. Senator Van Wyck should remind him of this.

4. The railroads should be made to pay taxes on their lands. By a juggle of not taking out formal titles they obtain by the help of the supreme court all the advantages of actual ownership of 10,000,000 acres without paying a cent of tax. The English aristocracy, had as they are pay taxes, though on the valuations of 1692. But our landed aristocracy pay none at all. The constituents of the various members of congress have until next December to give their directions on this point to "the servants of the people." If the people have lost their lands they have fortunately not lost the power of taxing them. The wise and prompt exercise of this power may be made to forestall many of the evils with which the country is threatened by corporate primogeniture.

THE TRUE CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Whatever need there may be for civil service reform through the law at Washington, the fact remains that the primary trouble is among the people themselves. The proposed legislation now so largely occupying the attention of the representatives of the people at the national capital has for its real purpose the protection of congress against their constituents. There ought to be reform among the people; they are the only true source of healthfulness in our politics. By general consent elective offices are only open, except in seasons of unusual public excitement, to men who beg them. The offices are treated by the people as rewards for personal service, to be disposed of to the highest and best bidder, and during the suction the claims of electors of influence, real or assumed, are thickly filed. These claims, naturally, are of widely differing character, and the successful candidate at once has a most difficult and embarrassing work before him in closing up his accounts. We have come to understand a "good politician" to be a man who can most skillfully adjust himself to conflicting opinion and who can so hedge his direct pledges as to escape the charge of being traitor to "his friends." This condition, enforced by the people, is destructive of the best popular service. It makes of the "statesman" a dodger, of the high executive a double-dealer, and of the minor official a trickster. We begin at the wrong end when we go to work at our legislative bodies in behalf of genuine civil service reform. Yet we would not discourage the work there, for it is calculated to educate public opinion to a higher standard of political obligation, and to direct popular thought to the fact that all the primary obligations of good government rest absolutely upon the broad shoulders of our free citizenship. There are two conspicuous elements of weakness in the work of choosing public servants. The chief of these is traceable to very many of our most conscientious citizens. They agree that character makes the man, and they profess to be deeply concerned for the moral welfare of the people. They have their set opinions, if not as to means at least as to measures, and before they lend their support to one or another of the candidates for public place they must find him in possession of a harmony of their uppermost hobbies. They are generally caught by the man most ready to promise. The other element of weakness is traceable to those, very likely to be good workers in politics, who only consider the "spoils" feature of the issue. They want profit out of the campaign—patronage before or after the election. This latter class cuts the largest figure in the public thought, but its numbers are insignificant and weak in comparison with those of the class previously spoken of. The wonder is that our civil service is as good as it is, and the only explanation for it is that the average public sentiment, free of selfish warpings, is wholesome, and that to it, after all, the public servant is compelled to answer. The very beneficiaries of his wrong doing will desert him and take refuge in the cloak of private citizenship, when the public sense takes up the prosecution. Men in public life know this, and those of any measurable success are constantly fighting to keep themselves out of the merciless clutches of the vultures of politics, permitted by public sentiment, largely through culpable ignorance, to prey at will. From the very highest to the very lowest conditions of political society there is common sense that the man willing and ambitious to serve in public places must place himself at the head of his own canvass. This is to say, in short, that the man who is unwilling to beg an office, to intrigue for it, to give his time and money to gaining it, subjecting himself to all the pulling and hauling of the traffickers in politics, is by universal consent not to be regarded as available. As a man says that he is not a candidate—there may be regrets, politely expressed, but forthwith no one regards him as longer among the possibilities; every hand that was up for him drops at once. They say if a man will not work for himself he cannot expect others to work for him. It is a sorry state of things. It is the testimony of a wide recognition of the fallacy that the office is the property of the officeholder rather than the sacred trust for the promotion of the public welfare. It cannot be expected that there should be any degree of popular sympathy with the man who simply wants an office thrust upon him by the strength of his friends without any expense of time or money upon his own part. But there should be popular sympathy with the man who desires to hold himself aloof from unwise and dangerous pledges, and who is ambitious to keep himself free of entangling alliances to the end that he may owe no debt except to the public service. Men thus ambitious are naturally reluctant in making positive pledges concerning their course on questions still on trial at the bar of public opinion, as well as with reference to their influence in behalf of individuals intent upon the profits of the public patronage. We think that our public officers are now, against all existing conditions of a contrary tendency, largely holding themselves subject to the best public sentiment; and there can be no better guarantee than this that the larger liberty, for which we plead, in the primary work of their creation is essentially in the interest of the public service, and may safely be extended. The people should get the best service possible—they should cease the business of making choices between evils. They should offer their high trusts of public office to men they may judge best capable of discharging them acceptably—they should cease to farm them out to the most ingenious and persistent beggars. It follows, therefore, that the chief consideration in the disposition of an office should be the character of the man. He should be judged for what he is, and for what he has been, rather than upon what, to get a vote, he may promise to be. Confidence given upon a pledge by word of mouth is very likely to be disappointed; confidence extended upon character that is the growth of years, of which the life and the record of it are the attested testimony, is not so likely to be seriously shocked. Those who dismiss the latter to take up with the hope of the former have no right to complain if they meet betrayal.

Corporation Manipulators.

The West Street News gives the following description of the railroad officials that are to be found in and around New York City: Freight agents are an economical class of gentlemen, who know how to live at the rate of \$30,000 a year on a \$10,000 salary. We have known them to build \$75,000 houses at the same time. They generally say that it is good luck in outside ventures, silver mines, stocks, or something of the sort. The general manager or vice president, too, has his opportunities. We knew of one who came to New York not many years ago, an able man. He commanded \$12,000 a year, and for some time always anticipated pay day and kept an I. O. U. in the cash

Vertical travel, by means of passenger elevators, is rapidly increasing throughout the United States.

Vertical travel, by means of passenger elevators, is rapidly increasing throughout the United States. The first one went into operation less than twenty five years ago, and now between 45,000 and 50,000 are in constant use, New York alone having 15,000. It is estimated that for every new mile of railway which is constructed, a passenger elevator is built. The travel on them is enormous. The eight elevators in the Equitable building in New York carry up and down a daily average of 20,000 people, while several thousand per diem is not an unusual number for large stores and hotels in our great cities.

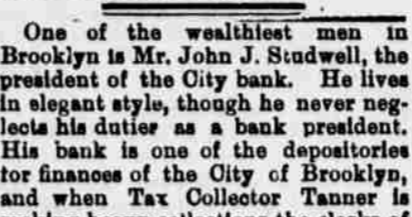
One of the wealthiest men in Brooklyn is Mr. John J. Studwell, the president of the City bank.

One of the wealthiest men in Brooklyn is Mr. John J. Studwell, the president of the City bank. He lives in elegant style, though he never neglects his duties as a bank president. His bank is one of the depositories for the finances of the City of Brooklyn, and when Tax Collector Tanner is making heavy collections the clerks of the City bank have to work till an early hour in the morning. One night not long ago, when the "boys" had to stay quite late, Mr. Studwell promised he would treat them handsomely. The clerks opened their eyes with surprise, but waited anxiously for results. About midnight the president came into the bank with something wrapped up in paper. He unfolded it with great care and displayed a mince pie. "There, boys," he said, "there's a mince pie that Mrs. Studwell made." The clerks looked at one another in mute astonishment. They now entertain fears that Mr. Studwell is likely to die of enlargement of the heart.

Back to Power.

Philadelphia News.

There is no help for it. The price of crockery is going up, and people who keep servants will have to go back to pewter, tin and cast iron.



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