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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROP. E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

Now there is a chance for Boss Keyes. How (v) are you Wisconsin!

FRANK HATTON will be allowed to carry the dead postmaster general's portfolio for a few days.

WISCONSIN has passed a law taxing palaces and sleeping car companies at two per cent upon their gross receipts.

AND now some cookney will be found to suggest that it was Fenian funds who greased the steps on which Queen Victoria slipped the other day.

A STRAIGHT stream of gold is flowing towards the United States from Europe which is a good indication that the balance of trade has steadily set in our favor.

The latest republican combination for 1884 is Edmunds and Harrison. There is no combination which can now be made that a republican convention will not be able to pick to pieces a year from next June.

It now turns out that the pilfering cashier of the Second National bank of St. Paul received the munificent salary of \$80 a month. Directors who hire \$1,000 men to do \$4,000 work are entitled to no sympathy on account of defaulting cashiers.

IN AN interview with a reporter of the Chicago Tribune, Senator Manderson expressed the belief that a little rotation in office is a good thing. Within less than six years the senator will experience a change of heart on the benefits of a little rotation in office.

It has finally been decided that the new two cent stamp will bear the head of Washington. The Chicago Times suggests that Dorsey's vignette might properly replace Andrew Jackson's plus as a delicate recognition of his efforts in promoting mail facilities.

DUKES the seducer and murderer has been branded with the mark of Cain. The Pennsylvania legislature has decided that he shall not be allowed to take his seat, former friends refuse to recognize him, Harrisburg declines to entertain him and the guilty assassin skulks at his mother's house in Fayette county afraid to show himself to the world.

This is the last week for registration. All voters should make it their especial business to see that their names are on the new lists. Every citizen who desires to take a hand in securing good government for Omaha through the elective franchise ought to be promptly on hand before the lists close. If he fails to register he has no right to grumble over the result of the election.

If the sewer bond proposition carries, Omaha will have street crossings which can be traveled over without wrenching wagons and breaking springs. The construction of the two storm water sewers proposed will relieve the gutters in the central portion of the city, from the torrents of water which rush down our hills after every rain and carry the surplus to the river by independent conduits. When this is done there will be no need of the high gutters and deep gulleys at the crossings which now deface our streets.

CHICAGO papers are appealing to the conventions to nominate honest assessors who will do their duty to the city and not let large property owners off with nominal assessments. If Chicago assessors, who are now growled at because the value of property at one-half of its market price, will come to Omaha they can get a number of points on low assessments from our city assessors. A valuation of a quarter in Omaha as matters go is high. Every one of our wealthy tax shirkers could howl themselves hoarse before the board of equalization if they were asked to pay taxes on a valuation of 25 per cent. The fact is that the majority of our heavy real estate owners escape with an average assessment of 19 per cent on a true valuation of their property, while many do not pay more than one-twentieth. And this is why Omaha is advertised throughout the country as a city of 50,000 inhabitants with a property valuation of less than \$8,000,000.

TAKING UP LANDS.

It has been the opinion of some of the ablest lawyers in this state that taxes can be legally collected on the unpated Union Pacific lands when ever they are properly listed for taxation in the respective counties where they are located. This opinion is based upon the decision rendered by the United States supreme court in the famous, or rather infamous Platt case, whereby it was decreed that the Union Pacific land grant mortgage constitutes a disposal of the lands conditionally donated, and, therefore the lands cannot revert to the United States for homestead entry under provisions of the Pacific railroad charter.

In other words the supreme court holds that the land grant mortgage vests the title in the holders of the bond, who are temporarily the owners of the land. This, they hold, constitutes a disposal just as much as any bona fide sale, but whenever the mortgage is cancelled the land reverts again to the Union Pacific. The issue of the patent to the road would therefore not be material, since the title has already passed from the United States by the act of congress making the land grant and the acceptance by the government of the road as completed in accordance with the conditions of its charter. Whether the title is temporarily vested in the land grant bondholders or whether it ultimately will be vested in the Union Pacific is immaterial. The land is no longer exempt from taxation, because the United States has forever abdicated its right and title to it. Acting upon this view of the case, the commissioners of Buffalo county decided a few days ago to list the 45,000 acres of unpated Union Pacific lands in their county for local taxation. When this action was under discussion before the commissioners one of the attorneys of the Union Pacific called attention to the decision of the U. S. supreme court in the case of McShane for Douglas county vs. the Union Pacific, in which it was held that the unpated lands of a railroad were not subject to taxation. This decision was, however, rendered four years before the "Platt" decision, and doubtless had reference only to unpated land grants or lands in which the United States still held title.

It is intimated that great pressure will be brought upon the Buffalo county commissioners to revoke their order placing the U. P. lands on the assessment roll. It is to be hoped these efforts of the tax-shirking monopoly will not succeed.

If they can as they claim evade their taxes legally until the patents are issued, then establish this right to tax exemption through the courts. There will be no trouble in securing an early decision, as all such cases have precedence on the docket. Let them if they dare risk a review by the U. S. Supreme court of the jug-handle fraud of Platt vs. U. P.

Let the issue be made and fought out now. The people of Nebraska and other states that have been carved up by railroad land grants cannot afford to bear these unequal burdens of taxation until congress shall see fit to afford them relief. Quite apart from the rank injustice of the thing, these untaxed railroad lands are a serious drawback to the development of our state. They prevent the rapid settlement of the section in which they are located. Had the Union Pacific lands in the Platte valley been subject to taxation, they would long since have been sold to thrifty settlers, and the country north of the Platte would today be more densely populated than the region south of the Platte, on the line of the Burlington & Missouri road, which has long since taken out its patents.

MEMBERS of the late Nebraska legislature will be delighted to learn that they were not the only legislative body in America predisposed to pilfering. Last Wednesday the New Jersey house of representatives was thrown into a fever of excitement by the discovery that nearly all the waste paper baskets had suddenly disappeared. "Those thieving pages," at once arose in an accusing murmur from every side. The pages heard and were silent. Not having the privilege of the floor to that extent, it was not in their power to hurl back the imputation into the teeth of their calumniators, and ask for the appointment of a committee of investigation, with the power to send for persons and papers. For twenty-four hours these pages have been regarded with great injustice by the country as had little boys who stole baskets. Time has vindicated them, however, and they very promptly. They did carry away the baskets, but did it because they were told to do so by representatives of the people, who considered that the floor was good enough for their waste paper, and the basket a valuable perquisite which would make an admirable Easter offering for their wives. So, with one consent, they filled their baskets with old bills and documents and had the unsuspecting pages convey them to their several boarding houses. Some hog-like members, not content with splitting away their own baskets, confiscated their neighbors' also, and it was their excessive greed which led to the

exposure of the petty larceny which the guilty solons sought in vain to fasten upon the unoffending pages.

A DANGEROUS DISEASE.

There seems to be a fashion in diseases just as there is in bonnets. Years ago biliousness was supposed to be responsible for half the ills to which flesh was heir and no woman was believed to be entirely fitted for domestic life unless she was prepared to take full charge of her husband's bile and understood the virtues of sulphur and molasses in the spring time. The specific excellence of salts and senna and half a dozen other equally delicious doses were known to every one and a refractory liver was forced to bear the responsibility of nine-tenths of the crossness and crankiness of disgruntled humanity. But with advancing civilization has come a change in the fashion of human ills and "malaria" is now the most convenient label for the majority of human infirmities.

Like charity, "malaria" covers a multitude of sins. What used to be called "chronic laziness" in old-fashioned times is now characterized as "a touch of malaria." Parents notice it often in their children just before school time as the spring advances and the only certain remedy seems to be a tardy mark or an absence. We have known men who have been "out all night with the boys" to complain bitterly of the "effects of malaria" the next morning at the breakfast table, and order an immediate investigation of the plumbing of the house to detect the cause of the trouble. But perhaps the most remarkable effect of this dangerous disease is noted in the case of Rev. A. M. Woodworth, pastor of a church at Otisville, N. Y.

The reverend gentleman while suffering from this health destroying evil, lost himself the other day, and was found by an acquaintance in Port Jervis, totally oblivious in a bar room trying to play cards with an apparent loafer. The acquaintance told the people of Otisville about it, and the next Sunday when the pastor went to his church to preach he found the doors closed against him. When he met his congregation he told the following remarkable story which deserves the widest publication: He had suffered greatly from malaria and had endeavored to counteract the depressing effects by taking quinine and whiskey at home, the jug of whiskey which was furnished him by a member of his congregation. One morning after swallowing the nauseous and malarial-destroying mixture he walked out for exercise, and the first thing he was on board a railroad train with no definite knowledge of how he got there or where he was going. The deadly malaria had effaced his memory. He got off at Port Jervis, and remembers going into a saloon—nothing more. His trip home is also a blank. Dr. Woodworth's people accepted his explanation with tears of joy in their eyes, and promptly and properly forgave him. It was a clear case of moral aberration, caused by acute malaria, for which, of course, the good doctor was not responsible. The case is, however, a warning to all persons, secular or clerical, to use the greatest care in treating this dangerous disease. It is plain that Dr. Woodworth took too little of the drug medicine prescribed by a member of the congregation. If he had doubled the dose he would probably have either scotched the disease or killed the patient. In either event he would not have been able to board a train of cars, ride twenty miles, and engage in a soul-staining game of "seven-up" in a common bar-room while under the influence of "malarial excitement."

The death of Postmaster General Howe takes another distinguished leader from the arena of American politics. Mr. Howe was not a man of brilliant genius like his late colleague, Matt Carpenter, but he was a man of unbending integrity, imbued with patriotic devotion to the cardinal principles of republicanism as enunciated by its founders, among whom he was from the outset quite prominent. During and since the war Mr. Howe bore a conspicuous part in the councils of the nation. Thrice honored with a seat in the United States senate and more recently a member of the cabinet, Mr. Howe has filled the full measure of his ambition.

A WASHINGTON dispatch announces that Gould is scheming to get possession of the telephone business in this country. It is stated on what is said to be very good authority that he, together with the Western Union telegraph company and the Bell telephone company have agreed upon a plan, the outline of which is that the telephone companies shall water their stock and assign one-third to the Western Union telegraph company. In return for this it is stated that the Western Union agrees to permit the use of its wires for telephone purposes and the Bell telephone company agrees to sell their instruments to local exchanges at a fair price instead of charging rent as at present. This arrangement is said to be the result of an awakening on the part of the Western Union to the fact that the telephone company is soon to take a great part of their business over long distances. Recent experi-

ments with the wires of the postal telegraph company show that conversation can be carried on with ease between Cleveland and New York, and probably between New York and Chicago, a distance of 800 miles. In fact the capabilities of the improved telephone have yet to be fully tested. Some union of the telephone and telegraph systems may be expected in the near future as a matter of mutual protection and profit. The tendency of the age in all business undertakings seems to be towards consolidation, and the telegraph companies have always been in the front of the consolidators.

THERE was a ridiculous fuss made over Queen Victoria's having slipped and sprained her knee and over her bravery in taking a ride in an easy carriage afterwards. If a hundred equally respectable old ladies had broken their necks it would have created no greater excitement. There was a great deal of funkyness and toadism mixed with the solicitude about the royal knee which was particularly out of place in Omaha.

STATE JOTTINGS.

When the breakup in the Missouri occurred the Blair bridge contractors had two piers in the channel completed, and the pier on the bar down to bed rock and built up to the water mark. The indications are now that the bridge will be completed by next November.

Last week smoke was seen issuing from the jail at David City and the people thought the place was on fire and brought out the engine. Upon inquiry it was learned the prisoners had built a fire in one corner of the iron cage to keep warm by. No damage was done.

About three years ago a business man of Alexander, named Joe Brigham, slooped with a woman and left his wife and children. Last week he was arrested in Texas and will be prosecuted by his wife for abandonment.

A meeting was held in the Alma court house last week for the purpose of taking steps for the establishment of a graded high school at that place. A majority of the citizens are in favor of the project. The mayor of North Platte gave a banquet to the city council last week, and made the remark incidentally during the evening that it was the first time the whole council were together at one time.

A citizen of Pawnee City publishes a card in the local paper warning the people against patronizing grain scales in that city, on account of their being imperfect and giving short weight.

According to the Nebraska Bee Keepers' convention, which was recently held at Wahoo, there are 23,000 stands of bees in the state. One keeper reported harvesting 6,000 pounds of honey.

A colony of sixty-two people from Clinton, Ill., have settled in Aurora. The transportation of their effects required a train of 24 cars and represented a money value of \$100,000.

The commissioners of Stanton county opened the bids for the construction of a new court house last week. A Lincoln contractor got the award for something over \$10,000.

The case of the widow whose husband was recently killed by Oakland whiskey, against the saloon keeper who sold it to him, will soon come up in the county district court.

Charles E. Gridley, who was recently convicted at Winbur and sentenced to thirteen years in the penitentiary for shooting W. A. Whitcomb, has been taken to Lincoln.

Clark, Neb., is progressive more ways than one. On last Saturday a young man and woman, named there for the first time. On the following Monday they were married.

A prairie fire in the south part of Antelope county last week burned a stable containing two horses, and as soon as the fire rescued the animals a young man was badly burned.

The new reform school building at Kearney will be located 150 feet from the present building, which, as soon as the new one is completed, will be turned into work-shops.

The Crete mills are so overrun with orders that they cannot fill them. The mill owners send side tracks to their establishments in order to facilitate business.

A prairie fire started Saturday night east of Red Cloud and burnt a large quantity of stacked hay, besides doing a large amount of damage to other property.

A party of forty substantial looking men from Illinois arrived in Plattsmouth last week looking for land in this state. If they are pleased they will locate.

The school census which has just been taken at Fremont shows that there are 118 children between the ages of five and twenty-one of age in the town.

The Plattsmouth lodge of I. O. O. F. will celebrate the sixty-fourth anniversary of the order in an appropriate manner on the 26th day of April next.

The members of the Seward Good Templars lodge gave a dramatic entertainment last week, which was well attended and profitable to the lodge.

While Wm. Robinson of Mead was visiting in Wahoo last week he lost a package containing notes and other securities amounting to over \$1,000.

A citizen of Tecumseh, wishing to dispose of his property, has organized a lottery, and the prizes made up of his real and personal effects.

The creamery at Sutton is an assured fact. The stock amounting to \$3,000 has all been subscribed, and the work will be commenced immediately.

A Pawnee City young man got intoxicated last Sunday and then went to church. He finally staggered out, much to the relief of the congregation.

The Oakland brass bands have ordered new horns and soon the inhabitants of that once quiet and happy village will be blown out of the county.

A large number of people from the east have been in Fremont and other places in Deuel county lately, buying up seed corn for the eastern farmers.

Last week a special car containing fifty-two immigrants from Tennessee passed through Madison on their way to Antelope where they will settle.

The extension to the Baptist church at Blair has been commenced, and the improvement will add much to the convenience of the building.

Schuyler is to have two new elevators, and one will be built in North and the building in all probability another one will also be put up in Scribner.

A swindling peddler has arrived in Polk county and is engaged in giving the county people the worst of it as often as he can find suckers to bite.

The foundations of the new flouring mill at Endicott were improperly built. This fact has necessitated a change before the mill can be used.

Auburn has not a single licensed saloon, yet it is thought there is more whiskey sold there than at Brownville, which has several of them.

All the machinery for the Oakland creamery has been bought and the building will be erected as soon as material can be obtained.

A sufficient amount of stock has been subscribed for the Excelsior brick and work on the buildings will soon be commenced.

Plattsmouth people expect their representation at the medical school to carry off

the highest honors at the next annual commencement.

Judge Fisher, of Alma, will soon get \$15,000 from the Japanese indemnity fund and will invest the whole sum in Alma property.

A sick man belonging in Omaha was cared for by North Platte people and sent to his home with money to pay his expenses.

A fire at Grand Island last week destroyed a tailor shop and damaged the Union Pacific railroad hotel to a considerable extent.

Rule is on a building boom. It is said that fully three hundred building of various descriptions will be put up there this year.

An addition will be built to the Presbyterian church at Fremont, to accommodate the new organ and the growing congregation.

Last week the Butler county bank changed its charter as a state institution, and hereafter it will be a national institution.

Over one hundred new residents moved into Brownville last year for the purpose of making it their permanent home.

Lyons has presented a petition signed by forty of his citizens, asking for an incorporation of the place as a village.

The State Bank company at Red Cloud has let the contract for the erection of a brick banking house to cost \$11,500.

Filmore county is filling up with emigrants this spring more rapidly than ever before in the history of the county.

A dry goods house in Schuyler has closed up. A death of business and anxious creditors did the work.

Men at Fairbury are organizing a company of cavalry for the N. N. G. They were on dress parade last week.

Miss Dora Hammond, who for the past nine years had been assistant postmistress at York, died there last week.

The B. & M. company has made a number of improvements at De Witt upon the depot grounds and elsewhere.

D. W. Curtis, a Plattsmouth school teacher, stole \$100 from his room mate last week. He will be punished.

Work on the creamery at Central City will be commenced immediately, the basement being finished.

The citizens of Tecumseh want a new school building to accommodate the increasing population.

The company which is prospecting for coal near Fairbury is under the auspices of the B. & M. road.

Read, the wife murderer, who is now in jail at Beatrice, will have his trial at this term of court.

The building of a new Presbyterian church at Nelson will soon be commenced.

The schools at David City are said to be among the best disciplined in the state.

A stock firm in Schuyler recently sold 45 head of yearling bulls for \$2,700.

The ferry across the Loup at Fullerton will soon commence running.

The population of West Point now numbers about 1,500 people.

The Fremont hay company has commenced the spring work.

Invals in Franklin county is soon to have a cheese factory.

Hastings is talking up the proposition to have a creamery.

The new town hall at Hardy has just been completed.

The people of Exeter are talking about having a park.

Dawson has been incorporated as a village.

Loup City is to have a \$15,000 flouring mill.

Hampton wants a steam flouring mill.

Beatrice wants a tanning factory.

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