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

MR. JACKSON'S gas company has given Omaha the go-by, or rather they have taken Omaha in.

CHEAP GAS seems to have gone up a fine. To a man up a tree it looks as if the new gas company had been swallowed by the old one.

DR. MILLER is receiving a good deal of attention at the hands of the monopoly organs. They all think that he is a shamefully abused man.

JOHN L. SULLIVAN cleared \$15,000 at his late benefit in Boston. This "knocks out" the largest receipts ever gathered in by the Rev. Joseph Cook from the coliclaw of the Hub.

FRANK HATTON is busily engaged in paring his corns down to get into the shoes occupied by the late Mr. Howe, but President Arthur has other plans in view. Mr. Hatton is not the sort of timber out of which first class cabinet officers are made.

MR. TILDEN is again being groomed for a re-entrance into the political arena. The venerable reformer is reported to be anxious to take a hand in politics, "not more on account of his impaired health, than by his great disgust at seeing the democratic party fritter away the opportunities and privileges gained in the tidal wave triumph of last November." If Mr. Tilden has any hopes of success, his wicked partner in the Oregon business must be kept in the background.

THE BEE again calls upon every voter who has not registered to attend to this important duty before the books are closed. A failure to register will necessitate the swearing in of your vote upon election day. As before stated, under the new law a personal appearance before the registrar is necessary, as the old books cannot be used in making up the new lists of qualified voters. Every citizen who wishes to cast his ballot for good government next Tuesday must take care that he is not disfranchised by his own negligence.

AND NOW Boston proposes to try high license as a remedy for the evils that spring from intemperance. A petition has been presented to the police commissioners, who, it appears, have control of the matter, in favor of increasing the license fees, and it is received with considerable favor. The main considerations urged for it are that it would break up the illicit part of the traffic by making the licensees special officers to enforce the law; that it would subject the traffic to better control; that it would promote temperance by discouraging drinking, and that it would bring a good revenue into the treasury.

The issue upon which the election of a governor in Rhode Island will turn is really that of equal suffrage. Under the present constitution of that state no man can exercise the right of suffrage unless he is a native born American citizen or owns real estate to the value of one hundred and thirty-four dollars, above all incumbrances. This provision acts as a practical disfranchisement to thousands of voters. While the proportion of voters is one to every five inhabitants in Pennsylvania, in Rhode Island it is only one to seventeen.

Governor Sprague is the champion of the landless in the cause of equal suffrage in this contest, the issue being the calling of a constitutional convention to extend the franchise to all male voters eligible under the laws of the United States. The republicans have maintained their ascendancy in Rhode Island largely through the operation of the proviso which has disfranchised thousands of mill hands and thrown the right of suffrage into the hands of the land holding class. Mr. Anthony and his republican colleagues with strange inconsistency loudly advocated universal suffrage in the south, while they supported a restrictive form of government in their own state. On this issue of equal suffrage Mr. Sprague ought to be elected. It is a disgraceful commentary on the boasted freedom of New England that such an anti-republican constitution as that of Rhode Island should have been permitted to exist since 1843 without revision.

PARTY HARMONY.

The political leaders and organs of both the republican and democratic parties are calling loudly upon their followers to close up the ranks and fall into line for the coming presidential contest. There is a loud demand for party harmony, and a desire strongly expressed that the lion and the lamb in each of the two organizations should lie down together. The principal trouble is that in both instances the minority lamb is unwilling to lie down inside of the majority lion, while there is a large class of voters who are following very slowly in the wake of party organizations, and who show a decided tendency to desert to the enemy on the slightest provocation from their leaders.

There can be no denial of the fact that the republican party is more widely split into factions and shows signs of greater dissatisfaction than the democracy. The wounds of the Chicago convention have not yet healed and the political bitterness aroused during the opening months of Gen. Garfield's brief administration, which was intensified by his assassination still remains. The fifteen hundred thousand republicans who last fall refused to affiliate with the party organization have not yet returned to their party allegiance.

It is a serious question whether or not the great majority of these will continue to hold themselves aloof. The lines along which party harmony is to crystallize have not yet made themselves visible. All political history shows that party disaffection is easier to foster than to heal. Parties can readily be split into factions. They can be reunited with difficulty and only when some common issue of admitted gravity presents itself upon which opposing parties disagree.

What issue is now before the people which can call together the shattered republican forces? Certainly not the tariff. The debates in the late congress indicated that free trade or ultra protection cannot become a party issue between democrats and republicans. Both parties are hopelessly divided on the tariff and both will dodge its discussion as far as possible in the coming national campaign. Nor has the anti-monopoly question been considered by the leaders, except from an opposition standpoint sufficiently to make that an issue in the next campaign. All the history and precedents of the party oppose the hope that this all important subject may be made the rallying cry to unite the party and draw back into allegiance thousands of voters who allege that monopoly has for years found an able ally in republicanism. It is difficult to say what steps have been taken by the republican machine to remove the snags against which the party so nearly suffered shipwreck last fall. The evils of a corrupted party organization still exist. Bossism has apparently refused to profit by the lessons of the election and the independent spirit has gained new strength from its successes.

If one turn to the democratic party, the same state of affairs, in a less degree only, is seen to be existing. The ensuing session of congress is full of doubtful possibilities to the democrat-statement. The party is only united upon one question and that is a unanimous desire to get control of the Presidency as a means for procuring plunder and patronage. The issue of a strict or liberal construction of the constitution has disappeared under a friendly covering of moss. Centralization or de-centralization is no longer a rallying cry. On the issue of the tariff democracy is more badly split up than the Republicans. The next congress must be used as a manufacturing for campaign material, but the Democratic party is brought face to face with the dreadful certainty that it will be compelled to initiate legislative measures of reform in the very shadow of a presidential election with Henry Watterson at the head of one section frantically urging free trade, and another section in New York, headed by Abe Hewitt, declaring that renewed agitation of the tariff question at this juncture will be political suicide, the prospect for party harmony never looked worse, and the chances of drawing any large number of political proselytes from the republican ranks is not encouraging.

But while in both of the political parties the leaders are scheming to hold together their organizations among new partisans, the opinion is steadily gaining ground that the republican and democratic parties are both too badly demoralized to meet the necessities of the times, or to give the country such a government as is demanded by the best and most intelligently liberal elements of the nation. The old organizations are too shattered to afford a basis for the crystallization of the new issues, and the old war horses who bore the brunt of the battles of a quarter of a century ago have disappeared with the death of the old issues which they aided in settling, leaving none to take their places. All the tendencies of the times point to general disintegration of political elements. It cannot be prevented though it may be deferred by hypocritical attempts to patch up old wounds in existing parties. The spirit of reform is now found among

men whom the appeals for the old flag and an appropriation cannot rally. The masses of independent voters can no longer be hoodwinked and humbugged. They insist upon thinking and voting for themselves. The appeals for party harmony fall upon deaf ears. The crack of the whip of the political bull-dozer has no terrors for men who have no ambition to hold office and care nothing about patronage. Millions of American voters refuse to be harmonized into lines, if by so doing they are simply to perpetuate the evils from which the country has vainly sought relief from either the republican or democratic party.

ANOTHER new departure is the proposed abolition of coroners' juries in New York, and the substitution for them of medical examiners who are to hold office for a term of seven years. Their duties are limited to making a report in all criminal cases, of the circumstances tending to show the condition of the body and the cause of the death, to the district attorney and coroner, the latter being given judicial power to continue the inquiry. Such a law is already in force in Massachusetts, and the Philadelphia Press commends it to the Pennsylvania legislature with the following comment: "Faulty as the proposed measure is in continuing the coroner in existence, almost anything would be better than the present coroner's jury. A reform abolishing both coroners and their juries is needed here and elsewhere. Justice and public morals suffer under our present system, which has been changed for the better in almost every civilized country under the sun."

It is to be hoped the democratic convention to-night will set the example of discarding nominations of conciliators at large by wards. The object of the law is the selection of the best men, regardless of where they live.

KANSAS has promptly presented her claims to the vacancy in the cabinet. Where is Nebraska! Have we no man that would rank with Filley, of St. Louis, or Martine, of Atchison?

Dr. Miller's Reminiscences. Denver Tribune.

Dr. George L. Miller, editor of the Omaha Herald, is contributing a series of interesting and instructive personal reminiscences to his paper. The first was about a conversation the Doctor had many centuries ago with Julius Caesar, shortly after his return from Gaul. The two sat down on the door step of a tavern on the Appian Way and talked cheerily about the Tiber floods, the Roman tariff bill and the corrupt record of one Tiberius Marcius Nitrus, candidate for Alderman in the Latin Quarter. In closing his reminiscences the venerable Doctor draws an ingenious parallel between his friend Caesar and E. J. Tilden, of the present century. The last sketch of the series was published in The Herald day before yesterday and is an account of an interview between Dr. Miller and the Egyptian sphinx. It seems that some years ago ago, the sphinx was a very social fellow, and had a penchant for indulging in railway with every congenial traveler who came his way. Dr. Miller was returning one day from a ten minutes stroll among the pyramids, when Canby and other old family friends of his were buried, when he fell in with the sphinx and the two commenced telling stories. Everything was pleasant and merry like till the doctor attempted to tell a story he once heard a traveling man from Council Bluffs narrate. That was many centuries ago, and the sphinx has not smiled yet.

Not Like Other Property. Chicago Tribune.

The temper of the modern common carrier is very prettily exemplified in the note addressed the other day by O. P. Huntington of San Francisco and New York, of the Central Pacific and the Chesapeake & Ohio, to the Tennessee legislature. The lawmakers of Tennessee have been deliberating upon the advisability of setting up a railroad commissioner like those of Georgia, New York, Massachusetts, and a score of other states. Thereupon the "King," who desires no other force to enter his world of transportation than those of Nature and his own will, writes a communication to Col. E. W. Cole, intended for the disapproval of the legislature, in which he says: "I should never invest another dollar in the state in railroads if there were to be treated differently from other kinds of property, and I cannot believe that any law will be passed discriminating against railroad property in the state when such property is more conducive to the best interests of the state than any other."

This means that the syndicate, of which Huntington is the spokesman, will build no railroads in Tennessee unless they are left untrammelled by any assertion by the state of its sovereign and immemorial right to compel all common carriers to observe their obligations under the laws. They insist that public corporations controlling the public highways shall be left to themselves as if they were persons like other persons, and as if their property were like other property.

This assertion that common carriers are subject to no restrictions not also applicable to other business men, and that railroads are not to be regarded as different from other property is not a new one. It is the theory on which Huntington and his associates have run the Central Pacific, and on which Vanderbilt and Gould and all the "strong" men of the railroad world would like to be allowed to administer the control of all the highways of the country. Under this theory the Huntington Central Pacific has, according to the official declaration of Gov. Kinkaid in

his last message to the Nevada legislature, made the people of that state "the victims of an injustice in the matter of transportation charges that is well-nigh intolerable." It is by this theory that the same man and his fellows have, according to the official statements of the surveyor-general of Nevada, made rates that destroyed young manufacturing enterprises struggling into life in Nevada, for the reason that if goods were made on the ground the road would lose the transportation on them from the east and from California. Huntington's Central Pacific corporation also informed the farmers of Elko county that if they assessed the property of the corporation in that county any higher than the figures named by the road it would ship grain from California into their own local markets at rates so low that their crops would be unsalable even to their neighbors.

The theory was stated in its most aggressive and offensive form by Leland Stanford, Huntington's partner, and the president of the Central Pacific, in a communication which he sent to the chamber of commerce of New York. He denied in substance that the railroads were public highways and common carriers deriving their existence from the state, and asserted that they owed no duties to the public other than those of the merchant, the farmer, or the laborer. He repudiated the idea of state regulation, which he said was on a par with the principles of the communists. As to the decisions of the supreme court he declared that the "agitator Kearney advocated no doctrine with regard to property more atrocious than the principles embodied in the Granger decisions and the laws they sustain."

The utterances of Messrs. Huntington and Stanford taken together rise to a very ostentatious insolence, considering that their enormous fortunes are the result of the gift to them from the state of charters with almost unlimited privileges, and of tens of millions of acres of public lands, and tens of millions of dollars in money. The citizen who, bearing these facts in mind, can read these utterances of the creatures of his bounty without flaming into anger must be a very equitable person.

Railroad property is not like other property, either practically, or legally, or historically, or in any other light in which it might be regarded. If it is like other property, like the farm by its side, then its owners may, if they choose, operate it or not. The farmer need not plow. The railroad, according to Huntington, need not run its trains. The farmer may charge what he chooses. So, says Sanford, may the railroad. These men by the favor of their fellow citizens get possession of the highways of travel and traffic and then say to their creators and victims, we will do as we please with "our property."

The people of Tennessee will be perfectly safe in repelling the reptilian embrace which has caught Nevada in such a deadly grip. Huntington and Stanford do not monopolize the capital and enterprise of the world. Every civilized nation except the United States has a national regulation of the railroads in force. More than twenty states in the Union have railroad commissions. In no case have they been established but a constant effort of railroad warfare. In their last report the railroad commissioners of Massachusetts say: "No one here has ever enforced a penalty against a railroad corporation for discrimination. No one whose case was proved has ever fallen of redress when he sought a more peaceful remedy before the commissioners."

Railroad capital is safer in a community where the common carrier and the people meet and confer as equals like the railway commissions of Great Britain and a majority of the states than in a community where the insolent and purse-proud despotism of beggars on horseback like Huntington and Stanford defies the historic rights of the public and angers the lower depths of the population into communistic storms like those which have swept over California, and will ravage a wider area if the Central Pacific and other great corporations do not learn in time that they cannot continue forever to keep themselves outside the law and keep the people inside the law.

PERSONALITIES.

Rocco Conking is now bald-pated and white-headed. Star Route Redell was a sutler with Gen. Sherman in Georgia. Mrs. David Davis starts married life with twelve dozen pairs of silk stockings. Prof. Hjalmar Hjorth Boyesen has joined his spelling brethren socially. When List was asked to play the other day he said he had been out of practice for ten years. Miss Phoebe Cozzens is setting Moses right by correcting his "mistaken notions regarding Eve." General Longstreet rode thirty-four miles last week to pay a visit to Chickamauga battlefield. Ex-Representative Young, of Ohio, rejoices in the assurance that President Arthur will soon provide for him. Gov. Boynton, of Georgia, used to be President of a bank, but he did not Senator Edmunds; so did Gov. Pattison. Matthew Mamliton, a miner, of West Lafayette, Ohio, claims to be a survivor of the Light Brigade which charged at Balaclava. L. W. Pond used to be worth \$1,000,000 and own car shops at Worcester, Mass. He is now working in those shops at \$3 per day. Pion-Plan will never make a raise as a bill-sticker in Paris. Judging from his picture, a job of pie-sticking in this country would pay him better. Ex-Queen Isabella, of Spain, appears unattended and almost unnoticed in the fashionable promenade of Seville. In size she is a fair match for David Davis. The Vanderbilts had a coat-of-arms? I only just heard of it. It is worked on all their table linen and is a heart pierced by a dagger. Something like the Father Matthew temperance emblem. John Bright, at a public meeting recently stated that his father was a hand in the factories in Todd lane, Rochdale, and that he made up his mind that he would marry when his wages reached a guinea a week, that is, about five dollars. Secretary Folger has become as melancholy as Hamlet; he never smiles nowadays. But this should not surprise anybody. A man must needs have the humor of Artemus Ward to see any fun in a defeat by 200,000 majority, and to take it smilingly. Col. A. K. McClure, of the Philadelphia Times, lately lectured at Bloomfield, Pa., where he was "railed" and once worked in a tannery. The old tannery is standing, and the railroads are still being built by friends. "I tan hides still, but not in the old way."

The English translation of the name of the Malagasy envoy Ravalambitrincivo

"One who has brought ten thousand, yes twice ten thousand more than ten thousand joys to parents singularly blessed in having so bright, glorious, pretty, good looking and likely a lad." This name lays over Jean Maria, Miguel, Apollinaris, Margarita Hunyadi Janos Trinidad member of the Colorado legislature, by at least 50 per cent.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Rutland, Vt., elected Miss Isabella M. Brown town clerk at the recent election. The Kentucky state prohibition convention will be held at Louisville April 19. The democratic candidate for mayor of Atchison is a young man with a full barrel which he has already tapped.

The Ohio republican state convention will be held on the 5th and 6th of June next, and will consist of 595 delegates. Thomas Maher, Isaac Street and Joseph Myers, of Philadelphia, convicted of making a fraudulent return as election officers, were each sentenced to three months, fined \$100, and disfranchised for four years.

L. L. Sadler, the republican candidate for mayor of Cincinnati, is acceptable, it is said, to all elements of the party, and his election is considered certain. He is president of the board of councilmen, and fought through the war as a private soldier.

Eight members of an Illinois legislative committee who visited St. Louis last week went away leaving their hotel bills hanging up behind them. It will be a cold day when any legislature in this country snags a law to impede the process known as "hotel bills."

Seven committee chairmen in the senate had their sons as clerks during the past session. These senators are Voorhees, Mahone, Harris, Conger, Johnston, Saunders and Lapham. The house congressmen Joyce, Orth, Van Voorhis and Honk had near relatives in committee clerkships.

Jere Black is of the opinion that Senator Conger, of Michigan, would make an excellent candidate for the next presidency. As an accomplished and habitual democrat, Mr. Black probably feels it his duty to suggest to the republicans a candidate whom his party would have no difficulty in beating.

There are now in the state of New York 12,424 notaries public. This does not include those appointed for the convenience of banks, and there is besides a considerable number of commissioners of deeds appointed in the cities; but, putting these aside, there is one notary to about every four hundred of the men, women and children in the state.

Ex-Gov. Stone, of Iowa, one of the most active prohibitionists in that state, says that hereafter he will resist with all the power at his command any attempts to make the temperance question a party issue. He will urge a thorough separation of the liquor question from politics, and says: "The republican party can gain no strength by sheltering the liquor question, and I have never thought the temperance question one that could be safely dragged through the pool of party politics."

The Maine legislature has adjourned after a session of seventy-one days. It has redistricted the state, making four congressional districts out of five; voted a prohibitory amendment to the constitution; repealed the law against animal and the punishment of willful murder; added new penalties for the shooting of game out of season; prohibited the shooting at pigeons as targets; forbidding the sale of adulterated and the sale of adulterated food and counterfeit butter, under severe penalties. From which it would seem that the Maine Solons have been unusually active.

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