

The Omaha Bee.

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

BUSINESS is improving and our retail merchants are smiling over the prospect of a better trade in the future.

REPUBLICANS are proverbially ungrateful, and republican ward clubs sometimes don't carry poles long enough to bring down the persimmon.

"SEE, there goes Bill Vanderbilt with his hands in his own pockets," exclaimed Bill Travers, the wag of Wall street, the other day.

OMAHA needs a few more wholesale houses and shops in a fair way to get them. A large jobbing dry goods establishment would be a paying investment.

The campaign of '84 is now open. The Third ward republican club has resolved to boost Mayor Chase into the governor's chair or a seat in congress.

St. Louis has put down nearly ten miles of granite paving during the past year. The city knows that the dress which will wear the longest is the cheapest in the long run.

THE Pioneer Press says Senator Van Wyck is fond of posing as a land grant reformer. The senator is less fond of posing than of exposing the shameful frauds by which the country has been robbed of its domain.

MOODY and Sankey have arrived in the United States and are prepared to attack Bob Ingersoll. Bob is too busy defending star route thieves at Washington to mount the lecture platform until cool weather puts in an appearance.

HAVING done so well with his "Portrait of a Lady," Mr. Henry James should not devote himself to sketching "The Portrait of a Boy." Mr. Conklin's address is still New York, and is likely to remain so.

In shutting off the wind of the star route trial, Judge Wiley has deserved a medal from the government. He has saved thousands of dollars in lawyers fees to the treasury department and assured the ultimate payment of the national debt.

THERE has been a large decrease in railroad building this year. Railroad building is the most insatiable absorbent of floating capital. The check to construction is an indication that there is such a thing as overproduction even in railroads.

MEMBERS of the republican Third Ward club will report for duty at police headquarters, and such as cannot ornament their coats with brass buttons and tin stars will report to Mike Mesny for duty with pick and shovel.

By order of Mayor Champlin S. Chase. J. J. L. C. Jewett, City Clerk, and ex-officio Secretary of State.

ENGLISH interest in the United States is increasing as British interests in America increase. Millions upon millions of British capital have found a safe and profitable investment in the United States during the last ten years and the influx still continues. If our wildcat securities and reckless management of railroads have frightened the capitalists of Lombard street, our magnificent cattle ranges and boundless wheat lands are daily growing in favor. Among our western cattle kings we already boast of several English noblemen. The Duke of Sutherland, Earl Dunraven, that enthusiastic sportsman, the Earl of Airlie and others are largely interested in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana ranges. Mr. Labouchere, of the London Truth; Barling Bros., the famous bankers; Sir Thomas Brassey, and other millionaires have large interests in the west and Mr. Hampton Whalley is now here looking after land investments in Texas where father and son propose to purchase several hundred thousand acres for cattle raising. "The grand tour" on the continent is becoming scarcely as popular as a tour on the grandest continent on the globe where in connection with an endless variety of scenery, business may be profitably combined with pleasure.

SOME EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

Plans have been adopted for the new school houses by the board of education, and the contracts will be let as soon as possible. It is pleasing to note that the extension of our facilities is going hand in hand with a rapid improvement in our school system. Our city schools have never done as satisfactory work, since the days of Professor Nightingale, as they are doing, thanks to a solid and hard working board and an intelligent and practical superintendent, aided by an excellent corps of teachers. Superintendent Henry James is loud in his praises of the efficiency of his staff, and Mr. James has had every opportunity to judge of what he speaks, backed by a long experience in the city schools of Cleveland. The Bee, which has always taken a deep interest in educational matters in Omaha and which claims a little of the credit for Mr. James' appointment, congratulates our city upon the progress in its public schools during the past year. There is no reason, with the ample school funds which we now have, owing to the operation of high license, why Omaha's schools should not excel those of any city of its size in the country.

While we are on educational matters we desire to allude briefly to a subject which we would have been glad to have passed over in silence. We refer to the matter of excessive corporal punishment in St. Barnabas church school, presided over by the Rev. John Williams. On facts presented to us by parties entirely outside of the denomination, an article appeared in our local columns, two weeks ago, which treated of an occurrence of common notoriety. There has been no denial of the simple facts as stated, viz: that several boys have been very severely beaten; that Mr. Williams felt obliged to openly discuss the subject from the pulpit, and that he tendered his resignation, in order to secure an endorsement of what he called his "method of discipline." If the case alluded to had been an isolated one, if the boy then punished who, from all accounts, richly merited discipline of some kind, had been the only pupil so treated, the matter would have been passed over in silence as possessing no particular public interest. But very unwisely, as it seems to us, one of the teachers of the school has rushed into print and assailed our statement as groundless and malicious. It is therefore due to ourselves to say, that the severity of corporal punishment in St. Barnabas school has long been a matter of comment, that it has been earnestly protested against by patrons of that establishment; that several children have been withdrawn from the school in consequence, as we understand; that in a number of instances parents have expostulated with Mr. Williams over permitting either his temper or a misguided sense of duty to get the better of his discretion in matters of discipline and that the effect of the exhibitions upon other children had been exciting, and had to the last degree. It is an exploded idea that the rod is the best schoolmaster. A well disciplined teacher can always enforce discipline without assuming the functions of a slave driver, and where instances do occur in which physical force seems the only remedy, it is much better for both teacher and scholars that incorrigible pupils should be removed. The proper place for a boy who is amenable to nothing but brute force is the reform school. We say this in all kindness to the principal of St. Barnabas school whom we believe to be a high minded and a conscientious man actuated by what he believes to be a high sense of duty. But his ideas of discipline are none the less mistaken on this account.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The week which has elapsed since the decisive defeat of the Gladstone government on the affirmation bill has only brought fresh evidences of the declining influence of the ministry. The spell of their success is broken and a few months at the most will determine the tenure of their power. The failure of the premier to secure the passage of the affirmation bill was due to a Tory-Whig Nonconformist-Catholic coalition. Another defeat was scored on Tuesday in the withdrawal of the proposition to pension Lords Wolsley and Alcester, and to continue the annual grant to their heirs male. The outcry against saddling the nation with two additional and perpetual pensioners was too strong for the ministry and Mr. Gladstone accordingly was compelled to announce that each of the heroes of the Egyptian war would be given a lump sum of money instead. This is practically a second defeat and is due to the Radical opposition, which wing of the Liberal party alone stood firmly by the government in their misfortune of last week. The weakness of its opponents alone prevents the immediate fall of the Liberal party, but signs of its waning power are as clear as they were in 1868 when the Irish university bill failed. If the conservatives felt sure of this position on any of the pending issues or if the impending alliance with the whigs which must come sooner or later could be forced in ad-

vance of an election, Sir Stafford Northcote would doubtless be called upon, very soon, to form a new ministry. But the small groups of voters into which parliament is divided are not so easily controlled as the great political camps which battle in our presidential campaigns. The issues and divisions which slowly eat into the strength of English parties are more complex and less coherent than in the United States and the present ministry shorn of its strength may yet drag along in control of the government until an overwhelming disaster in parliament may force a still more overwhelming defeat at the polls.

There are those who believe that disaster may come in the shape of the "Tenant's Compensation bill" which will shortly be introduced by the ministry. This measure guarantees to farmers compensation for such permanent improvements as they may make on their holdings, and provides for arbitration as a means of settling disputes between them and their landlords. Power is given to a referee to determine the increased rental value of land made by the tenant's improvements and to prevent unjust evictions. The bill also provides that the power to dilate for rent shall be limited to one year, and it is evident that the measure is intended as a concession to the radical wing of the liberal party, which has of late grown very restive under the domination of the territorial lords who have so large a share in shaping English legislation. Undismayed by his recent defeat over the affirmation bill and by the threats that many old whigs will combine with the Tories to defeat the bill, Mr. Gladstone announces that he will make the acceptance of the bill a question of the confidence felt in the ministry. The Tory land-owners will fight the tenant farmers' bill to the bitter end, and look for much outside assistance.

The news from Ireland is a monotonous recital of new trials and fresh convictions of conspirators against the society and the crown. The confession of Delaney as expected paved the way for a speedy conviction of Timothy Kelley on his third trial. Mullet, convicted of conspiracy to murder, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life and in consideration of his plea of guilty, Delaney's sentence of death has been commuted. For three weeks past, no agrarian murder has been reported and the iron hand of coercion seems at last to have proved effective in suppressing crime. Negotiation for the extradition of Tynan, Walsh, and Sheridan are said to have been quietly progressing and a test case in the United States courts may shortly be expected. The treaty conforming to the wishes of the magistrates of the two governments for jurisdiction and authority, upon complaint made under oath, to issue a warrant for the apprehension of the fugitive, that he may be brought before the judge or magistrate, to the end that the evidence of criminality may be heard and considered, and, if, on such hearing, the evidence is found sufficient to sustain the charge, shall be the duty of the examining judge or magistrate to certify the same to the proper executive authority in order that a warrant of extradition may issue. While our authorities will see that all who are accused in connection with the party of assassination in Ireland are enabled to avail themselves of whatever rights the treaty gives them, it may be accepted as certain that our government will do all that it can properly be called upon or expected to do to show its detestation of the crimes which are now countenanced by some of the Irish scoundrels abroad.

In Germany the government and the reichstag seem rapidly to be drifting into conflict. On Tuesday Bismarck's pet scheme of a budget shall be defeated by a reference of the subject to a commission. This effectively blocks any further consideration of the matter until the winter session. If a second reading of the bill is secured at all it will not be until after Whiteanite recess. This result is directly opposed to the wishes of the emperor, who threw all the weight of his powerful influence in the scale to force an early passage of the bill. The rejection of the government bill to increase the duty on wood is chiefly noticeable as showing the strength of the opposition and the urgent necessity which exists on the part of the chancellor to weaken the opposition by a new coalition recruited from the discordant factions. The loss of Prince Bismarck's influence is chiefly among the clerical though the ultramontane party still gives an unwilling adhesion to his policy in the hope of fresh concessions towards the church. Those once attained the chancellor can no longer rely upon Catholic support in the reichstag. Knowing this, like Richelieu he holds out hopes of the future as an incentive to a loyalty which would falter the moment the hopes were realized.

Garcia Calderon, ex-president of Peru, has pleaded his privileges as a prisoner of war in answer to a subpoena from a Chilean court requiring him to testify in a trial turning upon the alleged illegal issue of bank notes while he was chief executive of Peru. The case is of importance chiefly as illustrating the steady drift of Chile towards the permanent occupation of Peru and the treatment of the republic as a conquered province. Two small Peruvian forces, one in the north under Caoceros, and the other in the south under Montero, give sufficient excuse for keeping the Chilean army on a war footing in Peru and supporting it there. The civil government of the conquered country is conducted by 3,000 men, many of the Chilean civil service, who are paid in the same way. Each month makes it more difficult for Chile to return their forces to a peace basis, and the conquering republic steadily approaches the time when its conquests will mean ruin for itself as well as Peru.

The political animosities among the Dutch of South Africa have produced a commercial depression that has come straight home to the sensitive ear of the loyal Britisher by affecting his dividends on African bank shares. The expansive character of commerce in a peaceful colony, where there are peace and prosperity, contributes to

profitable banking, as the experiences of the western banks demonstrate. Between the time of the diamond discoveries and the Transvaal revolt in South Africa, it would have been difficult for the English capitalist to find more improving investments than the shares of the Standard bank of British South Africa. In twelve years the shares rose from £13 to £50, in spite of large additional issues of capital, but the dividends kept up to eighteen per cent. a year. But last year there was a drop of six per cent. in the dividends, and nothing was carried to reserve. The shares have fallen to £32. One bank at the Cape that did a large business in the Transvaal, has suspended payment. The material progress of the country has been sharply checked, and the hostility and exclusiveness of the Dutch are given as the reason. If the revival of business waits for the melioration of Dutch obstinacy, there will need to be patience and long suffering on the part of shareholders in South African banks.

Affairs in France appear to be drifting quietly along but there is a deep undercurrent of distrust, political and economical, which is apparent to close observers. The army is now at its full force of 2,500,000 able bodied men, regularly called out for training, of whom 1,151,000 are effective for immediate action. Forty-five vessels are in course of construction at the French navy yards, of which twenty-four are first-class iron clad. It is no doubt due to the knowledge of the forces available in time of war that inspired the firm reply of the minister of foreign affairs to the inquiry of the Duc de Broglie as to France's intentions with reference to the triple alliance France cherished, he said, no prospect of aggression, but neither had it any reason to fear the consequences of unprovoked attack. Meanwhile plans of colonial conquest are filling the French mind. In Asia Tonquin is to be placed under French rule, and in Africa the mouth of the Congo. Military prowess is less difficult abroad than at home and the army will be employed in small campaigns outside of France until such time as it is needed to repel foreign invasion or to lead the way to a re-conquest of the lost provinces on the Rhine.

It would certainly seem that the best thing the Hawaiian government can do is to retire from business and put its effects into the hands of a receiver. It appears that two months ago the treasury had only a beggarly \$35,917 in it. When the present cabinet came into office, some nine months ago, the treasury contained \$150,000. The first thing they did was to borrow \$150,000 more, and considerably over \$400,000 was taken in customs receipts, \$400,000 was collected for taxes, \$200,000 for licenses and \$50,000 more was made up out of sundry receipts. It costs the government in the neighborhood of \$30,000 a month for salaries, and the most important sources of revenue are the duties, fines and penalties. No wonder the *Pall Mall Gazette* calls Kalakaua "a semi-barbarous chief," classes him with Catewayo, and advises him to stay at home hereafter, as he cannot learn anything by travel. The United States ought to take the Sandwich Islands to keep them out of the sheriff's hands.

Siberia now ranks only barely below the United States and Australia as a gold producing country. The best Russian authorities think its mines will yield nearly or quite \$25,000,000 worth of the metal this year, and the output is steadily increasing. The great mineral richness of that land of gold and convicts offers some encouragement to those who believe in Alaska's underground wealth. The difficulties of location and climate will hinder mining on the Yukon little, if any, more than on the headwaters of the Lena and the Amoor.

No less than forty-six vessels are in course of construction for the French navy. Of these thirty-one are building in government yards and fifteen by private firms. Fifteen of these vessels are ironclad, representing a value of \$25,200,000.

A well known foreign correspondent, M. Ivan de Wolynsky, who will represent several papers at the coronation, writes that the ceremonies will extend over nine days at St. Petersburg and six days at Moscow. In the latter city householders are already asking 3,000 roubles (about \$250) per fortnight for a suite of four or five rooms. Houses around the Kremlin, hired for the court, are taken at \$750 per day. Cab fares during the fête are already up to \$17.50 per day.

Life in Russia is subjected to many annoyances. No one is allowed to enter Russia without passport duly vised, or to leave the country without permission from the authorities. These passports are, however, of little use for detective purposes, as they simply contain the name, but give no description of the traveler. The hotel keepers at St. Petersburg are obliged, under heavy penalties, to report to the police twice a day the names of all travelers who enter or leave their hotels. Each household in the city is compelled by the government to have a "dvornick" to watch his premises. These dvornicks are men of the peasant class who sit day and night wrapped in their sheepskins at the entrances of the houses, their office being apparently that of half watchman, half spy. An order was issued a short time ago that no one should walk in the streets of St. Petersburg without a passport, but the absurdity and annoyance of the proceeding were such as to compel the withdrawal of the order.

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