

The Omaha Bee.

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

THE Apaches call Gen. Crook the "Gray Fox," while after a campaign the soldiers nickname him "The Black Crook."

NEBRASKA has one newspaper to every 2,400 persons, which is more papers to the population than any state east of the Mississippi river.

AND NOW it is charged that the pope has been bought with British gold. Mr. O'Dynamite Ross probably knows better than Cardinal McCloskey.

THE circus is now on its annual round, and men who find it hard to pay their grocers' bills find no difficulty in taking their families to see the elephant.

MR. DANA, in the Sun, denounces emphatically the possibility of Mr. Tilden's candidacy in 1884. The party will have to look for new timber, and a plank to take the place of the one which refused to "condone" fraud.

A GENERAL invitation has been extended to public men to assist on Thursday in the opening of the East river bridge. David Davis is said to be the only one excluded, as Engineer Roebling positively declines to run the risk of his weight being added to the extraordinary strain on the cables.

OMAHA merchants are beginning to discover that advertising pays. That discovery was made some years ago in other cities and it has lost none of its force by time. Judicious advertising in newspapers that reach the people is a better investment than plate glass show windows or handsome counter jumpers.

Two days of sunshine have made our farmers feel happy. We have had a cold and damp spring, but for all that the crop prospects are excellent throughout the state and planting has been finished nearly as early as usual. Our corn is pretty well in and a week of warm weather will bring it well above the ground and save replanting. Two years ago corn was planted as late as the 10th of June and last year's floods and rain failed to interfere with a magnificent crop in the fall.

THE adjutant general telegraphs from Washington, under date of May 18th, that General Crook had 250 Apache scouts and fifty cavalrymen with him when he started on his expedition. As this information was printed in the newspapers more than two weeks ago, the matter is important only as showing the rapidity with which "official news" travels to Washington from army departments. The press beats red tape nine times out of ten.

REPUBLICANS in Pennsylvania are betting that Blaine will have three-fourths of the delegates of that state in the next national convention. Jas. G. Blaine is not an angel by any means, but the republican party might easily nominate a worse standard bearer. He would shoulder more votes than some other candidates who might be named, in spite of the Mulligan letters, which seem to agitate democrats whenever Mr. Blaine's name is mentioned in political conventions. James G. Blaine has done good work for his party, and that is one reason why his party is not likely to forget him. Still, for all that, Mr. Blaine will not be nominated.

GENERAL BADEAU, who has been holding consular appointments steadily since 1869, is very indignant because Judge Ferris, of Washington, decides that he cannot draw pay as a retired officer in the army. An act of congress of some years' standing provided that officers on the retired list who accept civil office should be deemed by that act to have resigned their commissions, and under this provision General Badeau was several years ago decided by the attorney general to be out of the army. Under a subsequent act, which Auditor Ferris holds cannot apply to officers who had left the army, Badeau's name was restored to the rolls by the secretary of war. General Badeau is now out in the cold, cold civil world, and must satisfy himself with drawing his consular pay without any outside perquisites.

RUNNING DOWN GRANT.

There is a tendency on the part of the democratic press to make a serious matter out of General Grant's defeat for the presidency of the Army of the Potomac. The New York Star says that "the general's name has ceased to have magic in it even for the army," and adds that Grant "had his Waterloo at Chicago in 1880, and since then that everything that he has said and done in public has dropped him to a lower and a lower niche in the country's regard." This is the rankest kind of partisanship. General Grant was not a candidate before the Army of the Potomac meeting. His name was offered without his knowledge or consent and was placed in nomination after General Newton's canvass had practically decided the contest. There was no issue as between General Grant and any other soldier, and it is unfair to use the incident as the test of his popularity in the army or anywhere else.

General Grant is more popular today than he was when he left the presidency. No man has suffered more from evil advisers and foolish friends, but few great men could have suffered less. Entirely aside from unpleasant political recollections, which will wear off with the advance of time, the position of General Grant in the country's regard is as secure as it ever was. All the voluminous histories of the rebellion that have been written since the war, have failed to obscure his fame or smirch his record as the first steadily successful general of the union armies. As president he made many mistakes, but they were the mistakes natural to a soldier whose first experience in civil command was gained as the chief executive of a nation in a very trying time of her affairs. For the defeat of the Chicago convention the general can blame advisers who ought to have known better, and whom the country and their party have held responsible for a grave political blunder. But it will take something more than honest errors of judgment to lower the estimation in which the American people hold Ulysses S. Grant as a man, as a soldier, as a very creditable national representative abroad and as a private citizen who never talks except when he has something to say and whose views upon topics of current interest, social or political, are always characterized by sound horse sense.

SOME of these days the ramshackle old building which is called by courtesy the City Hall, will fall to pieces of old age and weakness in the joints. If half a dozen councilmen happen to be holding a committee meeting in it at the time the public may be aroused to the fact that we need a new City Hall.

Since Mr. Snyder's tall tower market house proposition fell through, we have not heard much of the necessity of a new and fire proof building for our city officials, but the need grows more apparent every day. In the first place, the city records are not safe in the tinder box which now does duty as City Hall. In the second place, there is not half room enough to accommodate the city officials and the city is forced to pay out several hundreds of dollars a year for renting offices for the treasurer and city engineer. It was a great mistake that the county court house and the city hall were not joined in a single building on upper Farnham street. We should then have had a structure of which Omaha might have been in every way proud, on a site which cannot be excelled, and which is roomy enough for all city and county purposes. Perhaps at this late date another story might be added to the county court house and with the additional rooms in the basement sufficient conveniences could be secured for housing the city officials. There are some of our citizens who think such a plan feasible and some architects who claim that twenty feet added to the height of the county court house would improve its appearance.

HIGH license has become all the rage. It will therefore be in order for the city council to raise the circus license to \$500. Connell Bluffs exacts \$300 from every circus, and still they don't give her the go-by. But if they should decide to slight Omaha it would be capital punishment, as the school boy said when the teacher ordered him to take a seat among the girls.

TOWN TALK. "Where is Barnum now with his greatest show on earth?" laughed Bill Cody, Sunday afternoon after taking the crowd up to drink for the fiftieth time at a popular bar. "I'll come back to Nebraska next fall with my celebrated Deadwood stage coach chuck full of dollars. I tell you the 'Wild West' is bound to take east. It is a genuine Niagara of novelties all larded from Nebraska and complete in every particular." "Not quite complete," chimed in the Hon. Pat O. Hawes, who had been examining the ceiling through the bottom of a tumbler. "Not quite complete. There are several western curiosities which you might add with profit. Dr. George L. Miller in his great ground and

lofty tumbling act would take like wildfire. Nothing like it has ever been seen in the eastern editorial circles. Then for instance, our 'old friend' 'Hanse' in his favorite character of a western public spirited citizen would be rather apt to create a sensation."

"I don't know who stays at the distillery," said an officerholder from that establishment as he leaned against the postoffice and meditatively whittled a match with his jack-knife. There are four guagers and four store keepers drawing \$5 a day apiece while they work and three new men for each of the two grades are said to have been already appointed by the department. That leaves one guager and one store keeper undisturbed, but no one knows who the lucky ones are. "Balky" would like to balk in his old position but the chances are that he will be forced to devote his attention to improving Sixteenth street. J. H. Lacey wants to stay but the chances are against it. Our civil service reform rules must have full scope at the start and the basis is a clear field and no favors to any but political friends."

"Yes," chimed in a South Platte politician, "but place the blame where it belongs." Our delegation is not united on the policy of wholesale removals. Senator Van Wyck has had no part in the recent executions. He has insisted as he now insists that all federal office holders shall serve out their terms, and that removals shall only be made for cause. This is the open policy of the departments and the senator proposes to hold them to it. The facts of the case are rather interesting. Just at the closing days of congress all the newly elected members of the delegation flocked to Washington overflung with civil service reform and ravenous for patronage. They demanded a general change in Nebraska office holders, and finding VanWyck opposed held a meeting without him in which they determined to ask new appointments in the cases of Surveyor-General Smith and Judge Crouse. Smith happened to be in Washington and was apprised at once, but in spite of VanWyck's remonstrance, Crouse was summarily bounced before he had time to hand in his resignation. The senator then and there informed the delegation that he should not oppose official changes against their wish where terms had expired, but he should protest against and he should oppose removals during official tenure except for well ascertained cause. That's Van Wyck's position."

"So you've been there, have you?" said a Lincoln office-holder. "I wonder whether Lambertson knows that a strong effort was made to secure a vacancy in his office just after he had been confirmed. That's a fact. When Manderson and Luldr and Weaver put in their first appearance at Washington they wanted the moon. Our civil service reforming senator openly said that as he was responsible for the office he proposed to have them dealt out to suit him, or words to that effect. The district attorneyship was a good plum, and it made them sick to see it go to the payoff Saunders' political scores. The question was actually discussed how Lambertson could be disposed of, but common decency and "civil service reform" united to prevent his removal within a few weeks after his confirmation."

"Major Nickerson seems to have got it in the neck at last," remarked a government clerk, on Saturday. All the sympathies of those who know the family will be with Mrs. Nickerson. She was an intelligent, refined and cultivated lady, who bore remarkably with the Major's eccentricities. Nickerson was an inveterate gambler, and would sacrifice everything for his love of play. He was Crook's aide for a number of years, and removed from Omaha to Washington upon securing an adjutant generalship and his majority. Mrs. Nickerson went abroad three years ago to visit a sister in Paris, and there she has been forced to remain ever since until a few weeks ago she received a telegram that her husband had married a young Baltimore girl just out of her teens, having previously secured a divorce on the ground of abandonment. Mrs. Nickerson No. 2, for the Major has been married three times, has returned to this country, borrowing money to pay for her passage, and has applied for an opening of the decree of divorce. This places Mrs. Nickerson No. 3 in an anomalous position, and may yet make the callous-hearted major squirm, as there is already talk of an army court-martial. Nickerson is on the retired list. He carries a dozen bullets in his body, and only half a heart."

"We are to have quite a European exodus from Omaha this summer," drawled out one of our swell dummies as he carelessly adjusted his bang with the top of a silver mounted cane and gazed listlessly at his alligator topped shoes. S. S. Caldwell and family, John McCormick and family and Mr. Fred Millard, have already made arrangements to sail next month and I hear of several more who will follow suit. By the way old fellow, let's time for Charley Dewey to be making another trip somewhere. He is in the furniture business and perhaps that

accounts for it always being moving day with him."

"The roads were in a bad condition on Thursday night," said a gentleman who is never to happy as when dancing, "but that didn't prevent a large attendance at the party given by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kountze at their beautiful home in South Omaha. There must have been fully one hundred and fifty present to enjoy the hospitalities of what is perhaps the most elegantly and tastefully furnished residence in this city. It would pay some of our newspapermen to write up the Kountze house, which has just been completely refurnished and redecorated. Among the art treasures is a beautiful piece of tapestry by Le Brun, made in the 17th century for Louis Quatorze, representing a battle scene in the life of Alexander the Great. This hangs in the front parlor occupying nearly one-half of the east wall from floor to ceiling and was procured by Mr. Luther Kountze of New York during one of his trips to Europe. In a lovely little room just off from the main entrance hangs a painting by Sir Benjamin West, which in subject, drawing and color is in every way characteristic of the earliest American artist of distinction. The mirrors, interior wood work and wall decorations are elegant, tasteful and harmonious and more than all the house wears the appearance of a home and not of a mere picture gallery. Dancing on the canvass enclosed porch to the music of Hoffman's orchestra and a delicious and tastefully served supper closed a most delightful evening."

Don't Laugh Too Soon.

THE OMAHA BEE says that General Thayer has been offered a mail route contingent upon his ability to procure sufficient endorsement as to his soundness as a republican. General Thayer don't need a mail route; neither does his republicanism require any endorsement, and the imbecile politicians who are inclined to accuse themselves at his expense should bear in mind that the brightly old general is still in the ring. Had General Thayer listened to the importunities of friends during the preliminary campaign last fall, there is every reason to believe he would have been elected to congress from this district. He was the man who could have united the republican party of the Third district; his candidacy would have saved the local organizations, given us a majority member of congress and preserved the integrity of the party. But the old gentleman listened to the voice of the street; he was beguiled into the belief that he was the preferred candidate for senator of every Valentine striker in the district and he could almost feel the sensation of Saunders' senatorial shoes adjusting themselves to his political bunions. But General Thayer doubtless sees his mistake now and so do most of the republicans of the district. When a republican district with a clear majority of 10,000 records a majority of 6,000 against a party candidate most any one can see a mistake.

Banqueting the Census Forger.

Dr. Schwenk, of "additional congressman and false census returns" notoriety, and who was branded by the last congress as one of the principal pals in that infamous scheme, has just been honored by his party friends and admirers by a grand banquet. The Norfolk Journal speaks of it and the "toasts" to him, etc. If he had been caught trying to steal chickens, he would have been disgraced; but the shrewdness with which he managed this case, to help the ringsters out, by shouldering the largest part of the responsibility, has been of great value to him, and proves him worthy of the confidence the party managers had reposed in him, and clearly demonstrated that he was a "right man in the right place" and capable of filling any position of honor and trust.

A Doubtful Compliment.

The Omaha Republican says that Senator Manderson is the only recently elected western senator who has not more wives than the law allows. Mrs. Manderson is to be congratulated on her possession of an entire senator.

A Business Man's Opinion.

Ex-Mayor Bullene of Kansas City, was recently in St. Joseph, and was interviewed by the Herald. Mr. Bullene is the head of the great dry goods house of Bullene, Moore & Emery, whose advertisements appear regularly in the Lover. He said, in reply to a question, that he attributed the success of his firm "to good times and extensive advertising. Advertising," he said, "was necessary to secure trade." His firm expended \$10,000 last year for advertising, and would expend between \$12,000 and \$15,000 this year for the same purpose. This, he said, was for newspaper advertising alone. He also added:

"The newspaper is the only proper medium for a live merchant to employ. I wouldn't give a cent a bushel for chronlers, doggers and sign boards. When you find a merchant trying to do business without advertising in the newspapers, you can make up your mind he is not anxious for customers. The people read the newspapers now-a-days. Why, sir, to show you the value of advertising, let me tell you we spent a round sum for a full page of the St. Louis Globe Democrat and Republican, and we were astonished at the results. People thought we were crazy to advertise in St. Louis, but we secured customers from Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas that could be traced directly to these advertisements." "You advertise regularly; this is, constantly?" said the reporter. "Yes, sir! Our contracts are for six months and a year. The dull season is the very time we advertise. People are always ready for a bargain, and we know our policy is to put as much money into newspaper advertise-

ing as into store expenses--that is rent and light. All the successful merchants of to-day owe their success to legitimate newspaper advertising."

The Pipe-Line Fight.

The Standard Oil company might as well buy out the other pipe lines and effect a consolidation now as to wait longer and have to pay a larger price. The corporation gained its pre-eminence through securing transportation advantages from which all its would-be competitors were shut out. With its powerful hand on all the channels of communication between the oil regions and the seaboard, it had everything its own way for a long time, and made its stockholders enormously rich. But the pipe line business troubles it. If it can not keep other corporations from invading the territory it considers its own with their pipe lines, the conditions of ordinary competition are upon it. And this is horrible for a Standard Oil man to contemplate. It wants control of all the pipes as well as all the railroads.

Therefore, it is alleged, it has purchased land, and the exclusive right from the owners to lay pipes in other land wherein pipes owned by other parties shall not be permitted to penetrate. It can be seen that by purchasing a strip six inches wide around the oil territory, or any portion of it, it could exclude every competitor. It has, it seems, adopted this policy, and shut out other pipe lines out from a large amount of valuable territory. For this reason there is a bill pending before the Pennsylvania legislature giving pipe line companies the right of eminent domain wherever they want to go. Should the bill pass, the Standard Oil cake would be mostly dough, and it would then have to buy up its rivals, just as the Western Telegraph company, after fighting the new telegraph companies at every point and being overcome, buys them up to retain the monopoly. There is, of course, a limit to this kind of business, for as long as corporations charge rates for service which will pay large dividends on their watered stock, they tempt competition, and rivals will spring up who can perform the service for what it is worth. The only way to escape this is to keep charges down to where the profits are not so tempting, and this is what the Standard Oil company will eventually have to do, or go out of business. But in the meantime it can afford to buy out quite a number of new organizations.

It may succeed in defeating the pipe-line bill in the legislature this time, but some such measure can not long stay defeated. The motives animating the opposition are too transparent for that. The argument that it has privately purchased the right of way for its own lines, and that other companies should be made to do the same, will not go down, under the circumstances. It is a fortunate thing for the Standard Oil company that coal oil is an easily procured and cheap commodity. If its prices were high enough to seem oppressive, the performances it has gone through in the monopoly line would have attracted a very uncomfutable amount of attention to it.

THE MAGIC CITY.

A Small Boy and a Gun at Wymore--Celebrating the Second Anniversary.

Special Dispatch to THE BEE. WYMORE, May 21.--A fatal accident occurred here yesterday, young Master McKay accidentally shooting young Master Wilson, who died 15 minutes after the accident. Each lad was about 16 years old. Both families are almost distracted over the sad occurrence.

To day is anniversary day in Wymore, this being our second anniversary. About five thousand people participated in the celebration. It has been a grand gala day, all our people being present, and many from other parts of the state. Business was suspended. The Wymore artillery was out in uniforms, the Nebraska National Guards, the Beatrice National Guards, and other local societies. The procession was forty-five minutes passing a given point as all marched to the park.

Wymore, two years old to-day, contains twenty hundred people, and is the protidgy of the nineteenth century. The Otse reservation, which will be thrown upon the market May 31st, drew many people here from other states.



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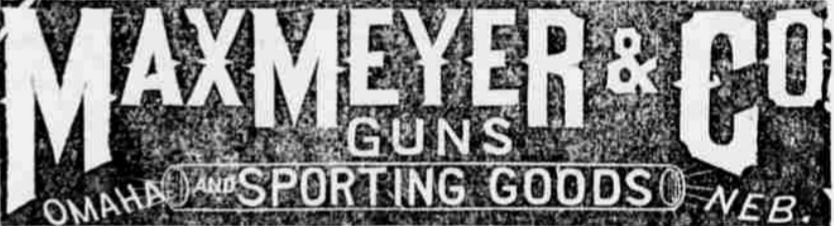
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