

The Omaha Bee.

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CORRESPONDENCE--All Communications relating to News and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor of The Bee.

THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Prop. & ROSEWATER Editor.

Nothing seems to be going on in Washington nowadays but the poker clubs.

This is a great day of relief in Nebraska for chronic claim seekers. J. N. Pearmar, Tom Kennard and Bill Stout are relieved to the extent of several thousand dollars at the expense of the state treasury.

SWEET BILL MAHON received the cold shoulder from Virginia in the late elections, but as long as the Federal patronage hold out he will repudiate Virginia sentiment as readily as he helped to repudiate Virginia bonds.

FANNY KELLOGG BACHERT has sued the Morning Journal of New York, for declaring that she is out of her head, and Mr. Bacherit out of her heart. Mrs. Bacherit sings in her libel suit to the tune of \$50,000.

FRAUDS have been discovered in connection with the Freedman's hospital at Washington. In the light of past experience, the name freedman, connected with any charitable institution, leaves an unpleasant taste in the mouth.

The marine band will play regularly in Washington this summer. The band is the smallest salaried and most effective portion of the establishment consists in getting sick at sea and marching in procession on land.

We are to have another sectarian college in Bellevue, in the interests of the Presbyterians, for which contributions are requested and plans being drawn. Every new addition to Nebraska's educational facilities ought to be encouraged.

HARVARD COLLEGE has refused to confer the degree of L. L. D. on Ben Butler. In accordance with the regular custom of the University every governor receives the degree as a matter of course. Ben will now cock his eye towards Cambridge and the fur may be expected to fly before many weeks.

GENERAL CHALMERS, the hero of Ft. Pillow and the "Shoe String district," longs to steep his glittering blade in the gore of Col. Galloway, of the Memphis Appeal. In the ensuing conflict, Col. Galloway will have the heartfelt sympathies of the country. If nothing else but a duel will dispose of Chalmers, let the good work go on.

SECRETARY LINCOLN was under fire several times during the war but he says the experience was a mild one compared to the fire which he has had to endure since taking the war portfolio. Four years of wrestling with competitors for soft army positions on the staff are enough to turn any secretary's whiskers as gray as Geo. Edmunds'.

EVERY once and a while our city officials are taken with a violent spasm in enforcing the law. A few days ago an inefficient peddler, who sold his preparation on a street corner, was arrested for obstructing the streets. Although he showed his license, which under the ordinance permits huckstering, and notwithstanding that half a hundred peanut peddlers and fruit stands line our thoroughfares, and occupy from five to ten times the amount of space, the culprit was dragged to the police court, fined \$4 and costs for violating the city ordinance, and warned against selling his patent grease eraser on the sacred streets of Omaha.

There is a good deal of petty persecution in this performance. No one believes that the ordinance against street obstruction was ever intended to apply to a man quietly peddling goods on our sidewalks, so long as his presence does not interfere with a reasonable freedom of travel. In cities whose streets are not more than half as wide as those of Omaha, street vendors are unmolested. Nassau street, in New York, which is no wider than an Omaha alley, is lined with these pedestrian merchants. If the mayor, the marshal, and the police judge are yearning to enforce the laws, there are other ordinances of much more importance than the one against street obstruction that are daily being violated under their very noses.

THE LABOR TROUBLES.

Dispatches from Pittsburgh and other industrial centers bring good news. The great strike of the iron workers has been happily averted by the restoration of rates on merchant iron of last year's price. This means continued work and wages for 10,000 workmen, most of whom have families to support. A lockout of three months would have meant the loss of more than two and a half millions of dollars in wages to the country, and would have decreased by nearly double that amount the producers fund in the United States. It is a matter for general congratulation that the iron workers will continue to work, and that the mills of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois will not close their doors.

In several other lines of industry the relations of workmen to their employers are still in a disturbed condition. It is earnestly to be hoped that conciliation and compromise may win the day. As a general rule strikes and lockouts hurt the working men much more than they affect the employer. Accumulated capital can stand financial loss much better than men who depend upon their daily wages for a living. Just at the present time, when we are suffering from over-production, many establishments can well afford to shut their doors in order to reduce their surplus stock. In such cases a workman's strike will simply play into the hands of the employers. Experience proves that strikes generally happen in prosperous times and on a rising market. When manufacturers can sell all the goods they can produce, and at a good profit, it pays them to submit to a reduction in profits rather than to lose their trade. But when goods are sold on a small margin, and trade is dull, they are often glad to shut down work for a few weeks or months. When production is curtailed prices rise and the goods they have on hand correspondingly appreciate in value.

Our workmen are becoming better educated on the true relations which exist between capital and labor and the causes which affect wages. They do not give up their right to strike, in other words to refuse their labor when they believe the price offered is too low. But they are learning to understand that strikes are more judicious at some times than at others and that compromise and conciliation in labor troubles are generally more effective than brute force and violence. That is a great step forward. The next must be the organization of boards of arbitration, which have proved so successful in England and on the continent.

DOUGLAS COUNTY PROPERTY

There has been a decided advance in Douglas county property during the past year, and good farming lands within a radius of ten miles from Omaha are commanding from \$30 to \$100 an acre. The low price of property and the slow rate of settlement in a county that contains the largest city in Nebraska has often been commented on. The one has largely depended upon the other. Much of our best land has been withheld from settlement by eastern speculators. Large tracts have remained for years uncultivated and uncultivated in Douglas county where their settlement and cultivation would have stimulated the sales of adjoining sections and correspondingly increased the value of all the land in the precincts in which they were situated.

Nothing is better established than that settlement stimulates settlement, and that the active cultivation of farm lands enhances the value of all the property near it. Lands in our county adjacent to Omaha have appreciated rapidly as the city limits have been pushed to the north and west, but the country precincts have also gained greatly as section after section of unimproved land has come into the market and been taken up by actual settlers.

It is times that the population of Douglas county outside of Omaha should bear a fair proportion to that of the county seat. According to the last census there were 37,645 inhabitants in the entire county, of which 30,518 resided within the city limits of Omaha. This left only 7,127 inhabitants in the county precincts, including the towns of Waterloo, Elkhorn and Millard, or less than one-fifth of the entire population of the county. Lancaster county, by the same census, was credited with 28,090, of which only 13,003 resided in the city of Lincoln. In Otoe county the proportion of county to city inhabitants was still more marked.

There is no reason why Douglas county real estate should not bring as high prices as any in the state. It is nearer to the best markets in Nebraska, is just as fertile, as well watered, and as fully supplied with shipping facilities as Lancaster and Otoe, or half a dozen other counties in which farms rule higher than they do in our own. Investors and practical farmers looking for a change of location are beginning to see through a millstone, in which there has always been a very large hole.

The sales of lands in the Otoe reservation on Tuesday attested the value of good farming property in Gage

county. Most of the land went at double its appraised value, and as high as thirty dollars an acre was bid for particularly fine parcels. There is plenty of land in Gage county equally good that could have been bought at half the figures, but the prices obtained at the Otoe sale will probably increase the value of property throughout the county, besides advertising one of the most fertile sections of a fertile state to the four thousand land seekers who were present on that occasion.

OUR NEW LAWS.

Some of the most important laws enacted by the Nebraska legislature last winter, go into effect on the first day of June.

Among these are the act authorizing the state board of agriculture to locate the state fair for a period not exceeding five years at any one time or at any one place; an act to prevent deception and fraud in the issue of live stock pedigrees; and an act to protect sheep husbandry and provide for the appointment of sheep inspectors. This act authorizes county commissioners, upon petition from a majority of the sheep owners in their county, to appoint as sheep inspector the person recommended by the petitioners. The inspector is charged with the inspection of sheep to ascertain whether they are free from scab and other contagious diseases.

Another is the act regulating voluntary assignments, to which we have already referred at length.

Next is an act authorizing district attorneys to appoint deputies whenever they can procure consent from the county commissioners. Several acts governing cities of the first and second class and villages which have heretofore been published, also go into immediate effect. There are mainly charter amendments and revised charters. Then we have an act for the incorporation of churches, parishes and religious societies. This act was expressly drawn for Bishop O'Connor, to enable the Catholic churches and parishes to manage and control their property.

Next is an act amending section 97, chapter 16, compiled statutes. This act simplifies the method of securing the right of way by railroads.

Next is an act requiring county treasurers to publish a complete exhibit of county finances in June and January of each year.

Then an act authorizing the county commissioners of Douglas county to grade, pave and improve roads leading into Omaha, which has been already discussed in these columns. An act relating to the duties of county commissioners provides for the levying of taxes, the keeping of the county records and the publication of proceedings, and also of the meetings of the board of equalization, and also that all claims against counties shall be verified by the affidavit of the claimant. Another law which goes into effect permits county commissioners to issue coupon bonds for the payment of outstanding county obligations, subject to a vote of the county electors. One of the most important acts, to which we shall hereafter refer at length, is the law to provide for township organization whenever the qualified voters may vote for such government. This measure is copied largely after the excellent township system of New England. Two acts relating to divorces provide that all judgments in divorce cases shall be liens against property as in other actions, and the refusal of the husband to give security for alimony shall subject his property to sale upon execution. Another act prohibits bogus tickets at elections and provides fine and imprisonment as a punishment for its violation. The amendment to the militia laws granting privates two dollars a day, pay commissioned officer three dollars a day and the adjutant general \$300 a year, also goes into effect to-day.

BURGLES AND CONFIDENCE MEN

are entirely too numerous in Omaha at the present time. Scarcely a night passes but that we hear accounts of houses entered and money and valuables taken in the most thickly settled portions of the city, while the police court records show no reports of commitments for larceny or burglary. Where are our police? This is a question which Marshal Guthrie is respectfully invited to answer. Many citizens will be interested in his reply.

THE FREE OIL PIPE BILL

was defeated in the Pennsylvania legislature yesterday. The Standard oil lobby still rules the roost at Harrisburg.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The illuminations have faded out in Moscow, the crown rests on the head of the imperial Russian and the costly pageantry over the eyes of Europe once more turn to the more commonplace but vitally important problems upon the solution of which depends the peace of the continent, and the maintenance of the present equilibrium. The conviction is forcing itself upon the minds of others than alarmed French statesmen that the triple alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy, so lately consummated by the iron chancellor constitutes a supreme tribunal of Europe, which is capable of enforcing its will and caprice upon any or all other European powers, and without whose consent no European question can be decided. The note of alarm is already sounding from the French press. It is asserted that

Van Molke has been making a silent journey along the Italian frontier and examining with soldierly care the mountain passes. The watch along the Rhine is doubled, the Depretis ministry in Italy falls at a nod from Bismarck and a new cabinet is forming which will work in harmony with the consuls at Berlin. France is being encircled with bayonets while French troops are amusing themselves with fetes and frivolities or pursuing a bootless search for undesirable territory in the eastern archipelago. The picture may be overdrawn, but it has a background of sober reality. In the event of war the vast armies of Austria, Germany and Italy would comprise 3,561,333 men. Each would be so many parts of one gigantic and perfectly elaborated machine, every minute movement of which would be directed by the German general staff just as the armies of Bavaria, Wurtemberg and Baden were directed in 1870 by the Prussian staff. The power to throw 3,000,000 soldiers against her frontiers is the danger with which Bismarck now menaces the French republic. That such a power exists in Europe is itself a menace to peace.

Through sickness and weakness Bismarck's star still shines in the ascendant. His domestic policy has been an apparent failure, but his plans for increasing German influence and prestige abroad are working continually towards their consummation. Having welded together the North German confederation in 1866 and the German empire in 1871, the great chancellor is now wielding a still greater military and political equal in extent to the empire of Charlemagne, and intended eventually to embrace the whole of Central Europe, Italy and the countries contiguous to the Vatican.

Parliament has accomplished little during the past week. The government seems to gather its shattered forces together anew, and Irish obstruction has found a new field for operation in the grand committee. The debates have been systematically protracted, with the result of withholding measures from the house, where few important bills are ready. It is expected that by the end of another week the tenant farmers bill will be in readiness for a debate which may be expected to last through several weeks. Some time has been wasted in a further fruitless attempt to discover the exact nature of England's conference with the Vatican regarding Irish matters, but Mr. Gladstone's note is so clear, and silence gives good grounds for the charges which the Irish members are still making against the government. The movement known as the "Suez Canal," which has made good progress, commends France's foreign policy, and the continued ill health of the queen, who has been removed by special train to the quiet and seclusion of Balmoral, make up the chief topics discussed by the London press. There is some ill-adviced talk of a reopening of the Alabama award question, but the United States for the undivided surplus, but the discussion awakens no response from the government or the great London journals.

From Ireland comes little news of exciting interest. The papal letter to the bishops has been followed by a general acquiescence on the part of the priests, and a new onerous tax on the part of the people, which shows itself in large contributions to the Farnell fund, an invitation to the pope to mind his own business, and a decided falling off in the amount of Pater's penance. In fact so serious has been the deficiency in this last named fund both in Ireland and America that the Pope has issued an appeal for larger contributions on the ground of the absolute necessity for increased support for the Vatican. It is understood that Mr. Healy and Davitt will shortly be released from prison but in emergency in spite of earnest appeals need be expected for the convicted murderers of Phoenix park notoriety. Fagan was hanged on Wednesday. Coffey on his fate to-day and Kelly will be executed next Saturday. This will complete the retribution for the great tragedy. The Irish members of parliament are, however, have left the country to escape popular vengeance through a probable secret assassination.

From France comes reports of renewed fighting in Tonquin. It is plain that the Asiatic province cannot be acquired without a severe struggle. The defeat of the reconnoitering party, although it resulted in the loss of some of the French officers of prominence, is not itself of much moment, but it shows that the Annamese themselves are hostile to the movement of the French, and this will require the establishment of garrisons in the chief towns, and a large position on which the available force necessary for the invasion. The French Chambers only voted a small appropriation for the expenses of the campaign about \$400,000 and sent out 1,500 soldiers, which, joined to the forces already on the ground, will make an army of about 5,000. Were they opposed by the Annamese alone they would make short work of them, and would very speedily occupy the whole peninsula, but the invasion has aroused China to the fighting pitch. That government has already dispatched 6,000 troops to the frontier, who are well armed with modern weapons. As the Chinese have a splendid fleet, very powerful crews with heavy armaments, and in all respects, except perhaps in the matter of officers and discipline, well prepared to dispute with the French fleet, and have an immense population on which to draw for soldiers, they may make a very stubborn resistance to the French army and navy. In the end they will be overcome, but the contest will be interminable, and will require the intervention of other nations, but that result will require a larger appropriation and more soldiers than were at first thought necessary for the war. Evidences are accumulating of strained relations between France and the Vatican, which are expected to result in open rupture. The coronation of the czar drew out a heavy artillery of the emperor, but neither that nor the rumored death of the Comte de Chambord were sufficient to awaken popular excitement against the republic.

Alexander III, crowned and anointed, still remains in Moscow, receiving the homage of his subjects and the congratulations of his kindly neighbors. The expected general amnesty was not issued, and imperial clemency satisfied itself with a pardon to the exiled Poles. Both the emperor and the congress appear more fearless of danger since the coronation. Both were present at a public reception on Monday, and on Tuesday were the centers of attraction at the great count ball. On Wednesday the great festivities in the theatres, and drew without escort through the open streets. All foreign correspondents comment on the enthusiastic loyalty of the common people, but as the censor of the press would scarcely have permitted any other report to have passed his supervision, nothing can be inferred from the reports expressed by telegraph. It is certain, however, that at present the revolutionary feeling is most active in the higher ranks of Russian society, and that the peasantry is comparatively free from nihilistic contagion.

The anti-German spirit in Bohemia, more especially on the part of the church, is likely to bring about a conversion en masse to Protestantism of the Germans in that region, most of whom are Catholics. The fanaticism of the Czech clergy, from the Bishop of Konigratz down to the smallest curate, leaves the population scarcely any alternative but the renunciation of their nationality or their faith. One of the recent sermons of the bishop ordered the sermons in the church at Tratenau to be held in the Czech language; a most arbitrary step, considering that four-fifths of the population

are Germans. From this it may be inferred that the effect of similar fanatical acts there is in towns and villages in which there is a smaller German population. A sick flourish out at Fort Scott, Got his muscles all tied in a knot, He is now cut again, And says for all pain, St. Jacobs Oil goes right to the spot.

Shipping News. Special Dispatch to The Bee. New York, June 1.—Arrived.—City of Rome, Liverpool; De Ruyter, Antwerp. QUEENSTOWN, June 1.—Arrived.—Wisconsin, New York.

Susan E. Douglas, aged 27, residing in Cumberland county, Pa., during the absence of her husband Tuesday, cut the throats of her three children, two boys and a girl, and killed herself. Insanity.



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NOTE.—Editors.—The above is a good likeness of Mrs. Lydia E. Fild of Lynn, Mass., who shows all other human beings to be truthfully called "Dear Friends of Women." Some of her correspondents love to call her. She is actually devoted to her work, which is the outcome of a life's study, and is obliged to keep at it constantly, to help her answer the large correspondence which daily pours in upon her, each bearing its special burden of suffering or joy as release from it. Her notable Compound is a medicine for good and all purposes. I have personally investigated it and am satisfied of the truth of it.

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