

THE OMAHA BEE.

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

The question now is whether the tripartite pool is to become a quartette or a quintette.

SUNSET COX, as the builder of our phantom navy, looks a good deal like the Flying Dutchman.

The brilliant red sunsets are now attributed to reflections from the red-hot angry cheek of Sunset Cox.

SENATOR VAN WYCK has gone back to Washington where he will be received with open arms by Attorney-General Brewster.

The British lion must feel easier now. His tail will probably now be given a rest, as there is not a single tail twister on the foreign committee.

The next appearance of Sarah Bernhardt in America will be under the management of Barnum, although she says she is not a Jumbo.

The Denver mining exposition proved a failure, but when John Longfellow Sullivan "put his dukes" in the exposition building he drew 6,000 people in one night.

It is decidedly refreshing to note that the Omaha Republican has just discovered that there have been land frauds in Nebraska. Ten years hence that paper may find out that the railroads have practiced extortion and discrimination.

There has not been a blizzard this winter savage enough to start a first-class set of far Western stories. For a long time the weather has not given liars half a chance.

Come west young man, and you will get a fair show.

One way to distribute the surplus in the treasury would be to do what Elizabeth Bryant Johnson wants. She asks congress to buy and distribute among libraries 5,000 copies of her "Original Portraits of Washington."

The tripartite combination are singing: "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!" Mr. Clark as Pippo is singing, "I my sheep do love." His Mascotte Cable is singing, "I my turkeys love." Merrill joins in the chorus, "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!"

SPEAKER CARLISE has gone to the North Carolina marshes to hunt ducks with Senators Vance and Beck, who are quite noted sportsmen. If he chances to meet Bill Springer or Sunset Cox anywhere in that vicinity, there will be a dead duck carried home on a shutter.

So far no member of congress has taken it upon himself to formulate in a bill Mr. Blaine's proposition to distribute the whisky revenue in proportion to population. It would seem as if the damper thrown upon this proposition by the press had effectually disposed of it.

The Iowa legislature, which convenes next week in Des Moines, will have a United States senator to elect, but there appears to be no excitement over the senatorship. Senator Allison seems to have a walk-away. He has served eight years in the house and twelve years in the senate. If he lives to serve another six years, he will be just sixty years of age.

The Cincinnati Springer is a much more useful citizen than Bill Springer, the Illinois congressman. Mr. Springer, of Cincinnati, has built and endowed a college of music, has erected fountains, and has bequeathed his art collection to the public museum. Bill Springer is a sort of political sponge, taking in everything and giving nothing away unless he is squeezed.

MARQUEZ TRING has left Paris and gone to London. He was invited to dinner by Premier Ferry on Saturday, but he had to decline. It is said that the loss of that dinner was a great disappointment to him, but the instructions which he received from the imperial government at Pekin left him no alternative but to retire from France. Probably he will console himself by eating a big porterhouse steak and a plum pudding with the Prince of Wales.

WHILE women are not yet allowed to elect our presidents they have a good deal to say in selecting them. Mrs. Logan and Mrs. Blaine were seen walking together on a Washington street, the other day, and it was immediately assumed that Blaine had been won over to the support of Logan for the presidency. Mrs. Logan is admitted to be so excellent a campaigner that if President Arthur had a wife he would have to be on his guard to escape supporting Logan for the nomination himself.

THE NEXT G. A. R. REUNION.

So far the soldiers' reunions in Nebraska have proved very successful, and have compared favorably with the reunions held in other states. At first the reunions were rather small affairs, as Nebraska was thinly populated. Nevertheless, genuine enthusiasm was not lacking among the veterans. With the increase of population each year the reunions have grown in numbers and in enthusiasm. At Grand Island in 1882 it was claimed that there were over 25,000 people in attendance, and this year at Hastings it was estimated that there were over 30,000 present.

Among the people of Nebraska there are a very large number of soldiers. Nebraska is in a great measure a soldiers' state, and it is believed that at the next annual reunion there will be 60,000 people in attendance. The bids for the location of the reunion are to be based on that number. It will be a grand demonstration, and no doubt there will be considerable rivalry among the various cities and towns to secure it. The location will be decided at the seventh annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Nebraska. John C. Bonnell, department commander, will receive sealed proposals until January 25th, at his headquarters in Lincoln, at the various cities, towns and villages of the state which desire to compete for the location of the reunion.

The propositions must guarantee the use of at least 240 acres of land for the reunion, suitable for camping, and it must be fully staked out and prepared for the camp. Seventy-five tons of hay, fifty tons of straw, and one hundred cords of wood must be furnished, and a guard provided for such property. Water must be furnished in barrels for the use of 60,000 people, and enough stock water for 3,000 teams of horses and mules, for one week. Forty tons of ice must also be delivered. The tents, camp equipage, munitions of war, must be transported free from any point in the United States, and returned in the same way. They shall be hauled to the camp, and the tents pitched, and when the reunion is over the material shall be returned to the railroad company. The reunion must be advertised to the extent of at least \$350. All property must be insured.

All expenses incident to the reunion in the way of ammunition, and material needed and used in the carrying out of programme of parades, sham battles, amusements, sunrise and sunset guns, caring for the pavilion, lighting same for camp fires, hiring of saddle horses for the commander of camp, and his staff, must be borne by the city, town, or village that shall secure the location of the reunion; and all the rights to maintain, and rents accruing from sutler stores, booths, dining hall, and all business firms, games, pieces of amusement, shows, etc., shall be received by the said city, village, or town. No dances hall, no gambling, or place to vend spirituous liquors, wines, or malt beer, shall be allowed on the grounds of the reunion, and all places of business or pleasure shall close at 10 to 11 o'clock p. m. each night, if so ordered by the commander of the camp.

In addition to the above, the locality must give a certain sum of money as a cash donation for securing the reunion; said sum to be paid to the department commander by or before August 1, 1884, for use of the department of Nebraska, G. A. R.

The only position of any prominence which Nebraska holds in the territories is the surveyor-generalship of New Mexico. That position has been held by Henry M. Atkinson for eight years. Mr. Atkinson's grip on federal offices has been steady and persistent. It extends way back to 1861 through a continuous line of lucrative appointments, varying all the way from land-office receiver to commissioner of pensions and surveyor-general. Mr. Atkinson belongs to that class of political economists of whom Dorsey, Spencer and Kellogg are fair types. In fact, Mr. Dorsey and Mr. Atkinson are fast friends and are members of the old ring organized in Washington under the old Grant regime, and transplanted to New Mexico about the time that Jim Boaler started his ranch. This ring has received a check in the star-route exposures, but its operations are still among the mysteries that remain to be uncovered by congress. It is not at all surprising that the two great ring organs in Nebraska, the Omaha Republican and Lincoln Journal, are both lavishing their praises upon this great Nebraska statesman in New Mexico. Both of them on the same day have discovered that Mr. Atkinson does not want to be reappointed to the position of surveyor-general, although they urge it is eminently proper that he should be. There may be good reasons why Mr. Atkinson should not push his claims too hard. The coming investigations into the land frauds in the territories will make it altogether too disagreeable for him to continue in that office.

The Nebraska congressional delegation had better inquire into the character of men before they recommend them for positions in the public service. The other day they foisted into the railway mail service a scoundrel, who is notoriously dishonest, and who last year ran away from his family in Omaha with another woman. It is currently reported that our delegation recommended for appointment to the North Platte land office, in place of Dr. Buckworth, a man who stole a ten dollar counterfeit bill from a bible, belonging to his room mate, and then paid his board bill with it. He was compelled to redeem the bogus note, and the

HIGH LICENSE IN NEBRASKA.

Rev. J. B. Maxfield, of this city, is said to have written a letter to Mr. John B. Finch recently, in which the opinion is expressed that drunkenness and debauchery are on the increase in Nebraska since high license has been substituted for low license. A statement coming from such a source may make capital for Mr. Finch in his debate with Dio Lewis but it is absolutely untrue. No candid person will claim that high license has done away entirely with drunkenness, and it stands to reason that the closing of more than one half of the saloons has materially diminished the evils arising from intemperance. This is not all. High license has forced many of the lowest dives to close up altogether and thus reduced the number of resorts where thugs, thieves, and vagrants congregate. Here in Omaha, where one hundred and eighty saloons were in full blast four years ago, with a population of thirty thousand, only eighty saloons remain to-day when the population has reached nearly fifty thousand. In other sections of the state the change is even more marked than in Omaha. The high license law of Nebraska does not compel the issue of a liquor license to every applicant who tenders the money to the city or county officials. It is entirely optional with the board whether license is granted or not, and wherever public sentiment against license predominates, no saloons have been licensed. In other words prohibition is enforced in every community that has the moral stamina to sustain it. To attempt prohibition where public sentiment will not sustain it would simply be a farce. But if high license has been a partial failure in some localities, the blame must lie with that class of people who preach temperance but lack the courage to put it into practice. How has it been in Omaha? When did our temperance agitators ever make the slightest effort to compel the enforcement of the law? When did any of these people ever present a remonstrance against granting a license to notorious dens? Is it any wonder that the high license law is often violated when the moral element keeps aloof and refuses to take the responsibility of filing a remonstrance or entering a complaint? Why blame the law for failing to enforce itself? Why pronounce high license a failure to become in some localities the standard of morality in law and public officials do not enforce what the majority of voters are disposed to tolerate.

An effort is being made to revive the viaduct scheme. The proposition is to have a viaduct built either on Tenth or Eleventh streets as cheaply as possible, and with as little inconvenience as the public will submit to. There is no doubt that a viaduct ought to be built somewhere between Howard and Pacific streets, across the railroad tracks. But whether a viaduct is built at the expense of the city, or by the railroads, who by rights should protect the public against accidents, it should be wide enough and substantial enough for all the traffic that passes between the depots and the business center. There should be in the first place double tracks for street railway in the center, and room enough on each side for wagon tracks and pedestrian walks. In other words, the viaduct should be fully fifty feet wide. In our opinion Ninth street would be much better than Tenth or Eleventh streets. It would accommodate all the travel and traffic that passes down Douglas, Farnam, Harney and Howard streets, whereas a viaduct on Tenth or Eleventh street would cut off travel in the lower portions of the city, and to that extent would damage property. Ninth street is already closed at one end by the Union Pacific depot, while Tenth and Eleventh streets are thoroughfares. A viaduct on these two streets would more seriously obstruct travel and traffic than on Ninth street, where it would have to be high enough to pass over the depot, with an extension south of the depot in the direction of Tenth street. This would cost a great deal more than a viaduct on Eleventh street, but the greater outlay would be justified in view of the advantages of accommodating all the business houses on lower Farnam, Douglas, Harney and Howard streets, and giving the lower part of the city the benefit of the street railway. It is self-evident that the street railway would abandon Ninth and Tenth streets, if a viaduct were built on Eleventh.

The railroads are going into the banking business on an extensive scale. The system of railroad checks has been adopted by several of the leading companies. Instead of paying their employes in money through their paymasters and pay-cars, they give them checks on their designated depositories. This gives the banks and the railroads the use of the money until the checks are presented for payment. When it is taken into consideration that this involves millions of dollars, to say nothing of the curtailing of expenses, it is a big thing, even though the money remains on deposit only for a few days.

The sincerity of the democrats in favor of tariff reform will soon be tested. One of the most glaring abuses in the high protection system is the duty on sugar. It is believed that the democrats will endeavor to keep up the high tariff on sugar in order to conciliate Louisiana planters. The republicans, as a matter of policy, will urge that there shall be some reduction on sugar. It is even possible that the republicans may support a bill to abolish the sugar duty entirely, and give a bounty to American pro-

ducers. That would probably suit the Louisiana planters just as well as keeping up the present sugar tariff. It is a question, however, whether this policy of giving a bounty on raw products can meet with much favor among the taxpayers. If it is proper to pay a bounty to the sugar planters, why not pay a bounty to the tobacco raisers, or a bounty on buckwheat, or rice, or sugar-beets, turnips, or any other product that the American farmer might raise. This is one of the problems that is liable to try the sincerity of the democrats in congress.

If the democratic party is true to its principles and traditions, it will be the anti-monopoly party, and on that platform it will be invincible. -New York Star.

If the republican party had been true to its principles and lived up to its traditions there would have been no need of an anti-monopoly platform, much less of an invincible anti-monopoly democracy. If the democratic party had the courage to grapple with monopoly in every shape and form it would have been in power years ago.

Literary Notes. The North American Review for January presents a table of contents possessing in the highest degree the character of contemporary human interest. First, the opposite sides of the question of "Eccelesiastical Control in Utah" are set forth by two representative men, whose competence for the performance of the task undertaken by them respectively admits of no doubt, viz.: President John Taylor, the official head of the Mormon church, and the Hon. Eli H. Murray, governor of the territory of Utah. The Hon. Mr. Mitchell writes of the "Tribulations of the American Dollar," recounting the strenuous efforts of the people of the United States to extinguish the national debt, and contending that it is our imperative duty to-day to settle definitely the question, whether we shall have dollars of unequal commercial value in circulation. In an article entitled, "Theological Re-adjustments," the Rev. Dr. J. B. Rylean insists upon the necessity of eliminating from the formularies of belief and from the current teachings of the churches, whether in the East or in the Sunday school all doctrines and all statements of supposed facts which have been discredited by the advance of exegetical scholarship, and by the progress of natural science. Senator Henry W. Blair, taking for his theme, "Alcohol in Politics," declares his belief that another irrepressible conflict is at hand, and advocates the submission to the people of an amendment to the United States constitution prohibiting the manufacture, sale and importation of intoxicating liquors. No one who read in the December Review the first half of "The Day of Judgment," Gail Hamilton's incisive review of Thomas Carlyle's "Thomas Carlyle, the man and his work," will forego the pleasure of perusing the latter half in the current number.

"Evils Incident to Immigration," by Edward Self, is a forcible statement of the mischiefs wrought by the importation into our social and political life of an enormous annual contingent from the lowest stratum of the population of Europe. Finally, the subject of "Bribery by Railways Passes" is discussed by Charles Aldrich and Judge N. M. Hubbard. Published at 30 Lafayette Place, New York, and for sale by booksellers generally.

The extracts from General Garfield's journal of a four months' trip to Europe, made in 1867 with Mrs. Garfield, which are to appear in the January Century, begin with the embarkation at New York, July 13. In his first entry Garfield says: "When I entered Williams college, in 1854, I probably knew less of Shakespeare than any student of my age and attainments in the country. Though this was a shame to me, yet I had the pleasure of bringing to those great poets a mind of some culture and imagination, and my first impressions were very strong and vivid. Something like this may occur in reference to this trip; and, however much ignorance I may exhibit, I shall here speak of what impresses me, whether it be that which has been adjudged remarkable or not."

Not the least interesting part of the paper is the ocean voyage, which the writer bore without discomfort. July 17, he writes: "The (captain) says if this day does not make me seasick, none will. Heard from him the story of his life. Very interesting. I could almost feel the old passion for the sea arise in my heart again. Were I not what I am, I should have been a sailor." The London experiences included visits to parliament, where he heard the debate on the reform bill of August, and which he describes with vigorous pen-portraits of Disraeli, Mill, Gladstone, Bright and others; to hear Spurgeon, to whom a page of description is given; and visits to the British and South Kensington museums, Hampton court, the tower, Westminster hall and abbey, Madame Tousseau's, etc. The trip included also Scotland, Holland, the Rhine, Switzerland, Italy and France.

STATE JOTTINGS.

Harrington had its first lawsuit on the 21st. Wymore has organized a building association. The paper mill at West Point has been sold by the sheriff. Hubbell and Co. are talking of organizing a creamery company. The dreadful scarlet fever is raging in Cletely Creek, Gage county. A \$1,400 bridge over the river at McCook has been completed. Saline county proposes to test the constitutionality of the township organization act. There is much excitement south of Hardy over the discovery of coal in unlimited quantity. The residence of Benjamin Drake at Humboldt was destroyed by fire last week. It was valued at \$1,000. Another coal mine has been discovered in Dixon county, in close proximity to the district "Volcano." The vein is reported to be six inches thick. A little son of John Myer, living six miles east of Elm creek, was bitten by a mad dog, and was taken to Humboldt and afterwards to Iowa for treatment. The Commercial hotel, of Lincoln, planted a Christmas tree and loaded it with \$1000 worth of presents, which were distributed among the sixty-nine attaches of the house. The morning following Christmas was a scarlet one in the sanctum of The Lincoln Journal, it succeeded in "receiving" the Omaha dailies, the first time in the year, by issuing a paper. J. W. Taylor, whose farm is in that fertile region where Bellwood is situated, raised the past season 2,700 bushels of corn of excellent quality on 46 acres, and 1,264 bushels of oats on 193 acres. Old Mr. Bishop, who was shot up on Dry creek some time ago by one Brod and son, died last week from the effects of the wound. Sheriff Thompson, of Hebron, has the shooting parties again under arrest. It is reported The Lincoln Democrat will branch out about the 1st of January as a metropolitan daily, with a new dress, change of management, telegraph reports, etc.; also that it will be made a joint stock concern with a paid up capital of \$10,000. The battle of the saloons at Strasburg was a warm one and saw ended in a victory for license. Two of the three commissioners signed the petitions to themselves to grant licenses, and are now compelled to face the untold abuse of the temperance people. The Crete Standard says Mrs. Lucinda Tinker will, in a few weeks, celebrate her 103 birthday. She was born in the year 1781 and lived under the administration of George Washington. The old lady is still hearty and bright fair to celebrate her centennial birthday. Tecumseh boasts of a young man who is scarcely twenty-one years old, and stands six feet six inches and a half in his slippers. The school-ardist of The Bee measured seven feet two in his boots when old St. Nihil wrapped him up in a new overcoat on Christmas eve. One of the lady orators at a temperance celebration in this city, who is an "eloquent" person, claimed there was no anguish equal to that of a mother who follows her boy from the first glass down. Few mothers, or even fathers, could follow their boy on an annual "rounder" such as Christmas eve or New Year's. The boy would lay both of them out in his tracks, and not feel that the "spirits" had moved him. About fifteen fiers and drummers held a convention in Lincoln, Monday, the 24th, organized a state association and elected the following officers: President, J. Smith of Hanson; vice president, J. W. Bush; secretary, S. L. Hawley of Plattsmouth; treasurer, Z. Dillon of Dorchester; M. L. Rembrandt, drum major in chief; S. L. Hawley, file major in chief; Z. Dillon, first assistant file major, and R. Morrow, second assistant file major. Although Pozzoni's medicated complexion powder is perfectly harmless and non-explosive, still it goes off and makes a good report. Sold by all druggists.

Control of the Senate. The terms of twenty-five senators will expire on March 3, 1885, and their successors will be chosen during the winter of 1884 by legislatures in part to be elected at the same time with the next president and congress. Of these, fourteen are now democrats and eleven republicans. The democratic seats to be vacated are from Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, and South Carolina. The republican are from Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Wisconsin. Not many changes are apparently possible in these states, and not enough, even making the largest allowances, to change the political predominance in the senate. Some republicans believe that California, Florida, Indiana, North Carolina and Oregon, now having democrats, may send republican senators. Of the republican states some democrats believe that Connecticut, Illinois, New York and Wisconsin may send democratic senators. These nine are the only states which can be called doubtful, even by the most sanguine politicians. The democrats must make a clean gain of five senators. That is to say, they must carry five states now having republican senators, and hold all they now have in order to have a majority of the senate. If they should lose California and Oregon, which are really doubtful states, they would have to carry two more. The republicans could afford to lose New York and Connecticut, their only really doubtful states, and if they gained no senators elsewhere they would still retain control of the senate.

Pacific Railway Regulations. Pittsburg Dispatch. A new member of congress from California, named Sumner, shows his disposition to strike at existing and great evils by proposing that government authority shall be used to reduce the excessive passenger charges on the Central and Union Pacific roads to a par with the charges which are deemed sufficient on all the larger roads east of Omaha. His bill provides that the fare for a first-class passenger per mile shall not exceed three cents. Why some relief on freight charges should not also be granted is an important question. If, as is claimed on good grounds, the authority of congress to regulate the Pacific roads is established there is no reason why the companies who have been paid immense fortunes for building them should not be forced to give as reasonable rates as those who have put their own capital, with only a slight proportion of water, into the unabsorbed railroads. But the proposition to regulate passenger rates is a step in the right direction. The average rate per mile on the eastern roads is less than what the Pacific roads are charging. A reduction to 3 cents a mile would cut down the fare between San Francisco and Omaha from \$100 to \$57. If that can be done by congress it will make a splendid start toward regulating freight rates and abolishing the special contract infamy.

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