THE OMAHA BEE.

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

SENATOR VAN WYCK has wedged in another resolution to stop a land grant steal.

FRANK JAMES is getting worse. He proposes to be a robber to the last. By dying he will rob justice of its dues.

SENATOR DAWES has introduced a postal telegraph bill. Out of the numerous bills there is a fair possibility that congress will take the best features of each and pass a bill establishing postal telegraphy.

SAN FRANCISCO comes to the front with a respectable failure. She has the reputation of never doing anything by halves, but in this case there is an exception to the rule, the failure being for a million and a half.

THE *Judge* has a cartoon this week representing Uncle Sam ordering the sergeant-at-arms to send for Huntington who is the most complete letter writer in America. The only existing copy of his work is worth about $40,000,000.

SAMMY TILDEN has been bunkoed by a couple of New York confidence men, who beat him out of $3,000. It was Samuel D. Tilden, of Hartford, and not Samuel J., of New York. The sage of Grammercy park says that he has not been bunkoed since 1876.

REV. ADIN BALLOU, of Hopedale, is preparing a history and genealogy of the Ballou family, and desires correspondence from all of the name or descent. The Ballous are supposed to be of Huguenot extraction, and it is particularly desired to ascertain whether this were so or not. The home of the first American progenitor was near Providence, R. I.—*Springfield Republican.*

This is very suggestive to some of the descendants of the Ballou family who reside in this city and state.

SEVEN lawyers met in Lincoln and resolved that they were the state bar association, and laboring under the delusion they resolved that the state bar association should instruct the Nebraska delegation in congress to urge the appointment of Judge Dundy to the vacant circuit judgeship. The seven lawyers remind us of the nine tailors of Tooley street who resolved that "We, the people of London," &c.

PAT. O. HAWES is still at Washington representing himself as authorized to prosecute some claims which Nebraska has against the government. By what authority is he acting? Have we not three congressmen and two senators at Washington to attend to the business of this state. Why should the state be put to the expense of keeping Pat. O. Hawes or any other outsider in Washington?

WE believe we are in the bounds of moderation when we assert that the growth of Kansas City within the next ten years will rival that of Chicago in any decade of the most palmy days. * * * In ten years more we will have a great city here, rivaling St. Louis in population, wealth and business.—[*Kansas City Times.*

Kansas City is a modest town, to say the least. What surprises us is that the El Mahdi of the *Times* did not prophesy that Kansas City would outstrip London and Paris within the next ten years. Kansas City doesn't brag any, oh no! it's all a mistake.

THE complimentary visit of Agent Llewellyn and his Jicarillias Apaches to President Arthur, which was noted in THE BEE, has created quite a sensation in Washington. On coming into the presence of the executive Augustine, one of the band weighing about 200 pounds, rushed upon Mr Arthur, threw his arms about his stomach and yelled out, "God is good, but the great father is better!" The president was placed in a very awkward position, and did not relish the aroma which encircled him. Augustine will probably be substantially remembered by the president.

THE city council have acted wisely in taking the preliminary steps towards strengthening the Omaha fire department, which is sadly in need of it. Acting upon the suggestion of Chief Engineer Butler, they have authorized that officer to pay at least fifteen members of the Pioneer Hook and Ladder company two dollars each for attendance at fires. It is doubtful, however, whether this inducement is sufficient to insure a good working force at fires, particularly on a cold night, when two dollars will hardly tempt a man to roll out of a warm bed and rush off to a fire, where he is likely to receive a bath of Missouri river water from the nozzle of a hose-pipe. The department needs more bracing up thus, and the sooner it is done the more it will be appreciated by our citizens.

INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS.

Omaha needs a building inspector, and such an official ought to have been appointed long ago. No further delay should be had in this matter. Under the present loose way of transacting business anybody can erect the flimsiest sort of buildings, which may fall down at any time, or prove a dangerous fire-trap. The duties of a building inspector should be to see that the provisions of a building ordinance are strictly complied with, and such an ordinance should be passed providing, in a measure, how buildings must be erected to comply with the requirements of safety. The minimun thickness of walls should be definitely fixed in proportion to the size and height of the building. The inspector, of course, must be a practical builder, as much would be necessarily left to his judgment as to the safety of buildings. Another duty would be the inspection of buildings already erected and the suggestion of remedying existing defects. He would also be called upon at times to condemn buildings as unsafe. None but an experienced man could safely be entrusted with such important duties. The ordinance should also provide that no building should be erected without a permit from the inspection department.

In Buffalo recently a building was hastily and carelessly erected, the roof being put on with no permanent braces for the walls, no iron straps or bolts, and no joints or studding in the third floor. As the building was 120 feet long, 60 wide and 60 high, it is not surprising that when a high wind of from twenty to thirty miles an hour struck the roof and sides the whole structure collapsed and killed several workmen. The wonder is that it did not fall earlier; but there is, unfortunately, every reason to believe that the practice of erecting the empty shell of a building in serene trust that it will be stiffened by floor and roof before a wind comes is not confined to Buffalo. Such an accident is liable to happen in any city where buildings in process of erection are not carefully inspected by a competent inspector.

COUNCILMAN BEHM is said to have expressed the opinion that the Barber asphalt company had bought the influence of this paper, and is represented as saying further that a man who came to the editor of THE BEE and asked him to publish a short item on the merits of granite and he refused to do so, and that the man finally offered him $200 to print it, and he still refused, thereby showing that he belonged to the asphalt ring. "The item offered," says Mr. Behm, "was a legitimate one and proper enough to be printed in any paper." This is decidedly rich. The advertising columns of this paper are open to anybody for any legitimate purpose. Why should the man apply to the editor for the privlege of inserting any advertisement which is unobjectionable. As a matter of fact the man who called at the editorial rooms with the alleged advertisement of the merits of granite, was none other than J. H. Baldwin, Councilman Behm's partner, and the solicitor for the Sioux Falls granite people. The article would have filled about three lines, and on the local page would cost at full rates not more than seventy-five cents. Instead of referring to the merits of granite, it pronounced asphalt an outrageous swindle and fraud, and called on Dodge street property owners to remonstrate against it. The article in itself was libelous. It was offered after the council had awarded the contract, and therefore Mr. Behm, his partner, was a much better party than this paper to remedy the evil, if there was any. Mr. Baldwin was informed that an article was already in type for the next issue of THE BEE, wherein the opinion was clearly expressed that the extremely cold weather, which had cracked the asphalt pavement in many places, would soon test the durability of that material for paving purposes. Mr. Baldwin was told that his little squib, which he did not father with his signature, would serve no good purpose, and he might as well save his money. Thereupon Mr. Baldwin went away, and if Mr. Behm or Baldwin dare to say that $200 was offered for the publication of that article they simply tell a blank lie. The trouble with Councilman Behm is that he shoots his mouth off too much, and is liable to get himself into a pickle by his foolish blowing. If his partner, the agent of the Sioux Falls granite, has any money to spend in extolling the granite pavement, our advertising columns are open to him at the same rates that are paid by any other advertising patron.

GERMANY and France agree upon one thing—the prohibition of the American hog, excepting when he flashes his big diamond and fat purse while making the continental tour, and then they feed and fatten upon him.

"COL." SMYTHE has given an opinion on asphalt. Now let some reputable citizen give us an opinion of "Col." Smythe.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The most important event of the week in the political world of Europe is the Egyptian crisis. After much vacillation the British cabinet advised the khedive to abandon the Soudan to the False Prophet, rather than attempt to reconquer it. The acceptance of this advice, which was more in the nature of an imperious order and a cabinetc risis was precipitated. The Egyptian ministry tendered their resignations rather than to become parties to the humiliating concession. A new cabinet has been formed, with Nubar Pasha, secretary of war in 1878, at its head, and an attempt will be made to strictly adhere to the policy which England may dictate. Although Soudan as well as Egypt is nominally a Turkish province, the porte is in no condition to interfere. Turkey has soldiers who could whip and subdue El Mahdi and his horde, but she has no money to pay them with, and if she had the money she could use it more effectively nearer home. For some unexplained reason the Egyptians have lost their military prestige just as rapidly as they gained it. The porte attached a good deal of importance of the contingent which they furnished for service in the Crimean war, but it proved worthless in the open field, and perished like flies under the hardships of the Bulgarian and Crimean winters. In the last war with Russia the Egyptian troops fared no better. What they were worth in the late curious war with England is yet fresh in everybody's memory. Against the wild tribes in the Upper Nile they are good for nothing as we now see. They actually suffer themselves to be butchered with arms in their hands. Danger seems to paralyze them. To reconquer Soudan Egypt would not only have to deal with the False Prophet, but the Abyssinians, who are said to be arming also, and ready to take part in any fighting there may be in their neighborhood, and they are just as competent to butcher the Egyptians as the Prophet's levies are, and enjoy doing it just as much, although they fight under the cross and he under the crescent. The decision of England has not only aroused bitter feeling in Cairo and Alexandria, but among the French who have an interest on the Nile through the Suez canal. France is about as helpless as Turkey in this crisis. She has a war of her own in Asia, which absorbs all the cash and the troops they can raise at present.

The letter of Sir Lepel Griffin to the London Times, deploring the influence exerted by the Irish in America, should serve to open the eyes of the English people to the folly of expatriating Irishmen to America, either by assisting emigration or any other kind of pressure. The Irish question was comparatively simple until a great Irish population grew up on our side of the Atlantic and began to use their American prosperity and their American citizenship as a fulcrum from which to effect the situation at home. As matters now stand a prosperous Irishman in America is more of a thorn in the side of the British Government than is a distressed Irishman at home; and with the rapid growth of the Irish-Americans in wealth and in influence they cannot fail to become even more troublesome in the future than they have been in the past.

The dissension between the Orangemen and the Nationalists in Ulster is another fact which will prove a serious cause of embarrassment to the English Government. For thirty years, English administrations were occupied with plans and measures for the abatement of the party feeling which has divided Ireland into two hostile camps. The whole of this work has been undone as in a moment by the ill-advised appeal to the Orange element in Ulster as the representative of Irish loyalty and the champions of the imperial connection. For a time, Mr. Trevelyan and Earl Spencer thought it sufficient to prohibit nationalist meetings in Ulster whenever the Orangemen threatened to make a disturbance. This course came to an end because of the protests of the English radicals that it was the business of the government to protect meetings, lawful in themselves, against threatend violence, and not to suppress them. Instead of forbidding the meeting at Dromore, in County Down, they sent troops to protect it and partially succeeded, the Orangemen being kept at the other end of the town until the nationalists had adjourned. That the Orangemen were the aggressors, was shown by their making a detour through the fields to attack the nationalists afterwards, and they must be held responsible for the bloodshed which ensued.

The English liberals have now a signal victory at Ipswich as an offset to their recent defeat at York. Mr. West, who fell 117 votes behind the tory candidate in 1889, now has a majority of 450. This is a positive success, which will tend to reassure the liberal party, whose voting strength has steadily, albeit not very rapidly, diminished since the general election in 1880. The municipal elections this year have also gone against the liberals. Although this is not to be regarded as an unerring sign of public discontent with the party in power, it is not without significance.

Their success at Sontay has had the natural effect of raising the spirits of the French and making their demands more exacting. Not only Bacninh but other points on the Red River are specified now as essential to secure their position in Tonquin, a certain island in the Gulf of Tonquin being the most important. Some Parisian papers demand that the government shall exact of China an indemnity for the half-diplomatic and half-military resistance she has been offering to the claims of France—a stretch of international arrogance far exceeding Prussia's demands of France in 1871.

The pressure for peace from the neutral powers of Europe continues, and the London Times reminds the United States that our treaty with China gives us an especial right to offer our services by way of amicable intervention. The rumor that Japan is ready to act as an ally of France, although discredited in some quarters, is probably true. The insolent and mendacious course pursued by the Pekin government with reference to Formasa and the Liu-Tchiu Islands has produced in Japan a degree of irritation which is threatening in the highest degree.

Latest cable advices from the seat of war continue favorable to the French. Another attack made by the Annamites on the French post was successfully repulsed.

A new revival of nihilism in its most aggressive form is reported from Russia. Since the coronation of the czar it was believed that nihilism had exhausted itself. But it seems it was only waiting for opportunities. Scarcely had a sense of security begun to take possession of the public mind when the sleepless and pitiless agents of the desperate cause renew their work and openly proclaim by circulars spread broadcast over the land and fastened even on the walls of the palace, that the present czar shall meet the fate of his father. It turns out now that the recent injury to the czar from the overturning of his sleigh was the result of an attempt to assassinate him; and that the murder of Col. Sudeiken is part of a new system of desperate work which has been carefully planned. For some time past the czar has obscured himself in the fastness of the Gatchina palace; but the avengers have followed him thither, and he is now trembling in the presence of the unseen and ubiquitous danger. Nihilism in Russia has opened a new campaign, and we may expect tidings of blood any day. Tolstoi, minister of the interior, has received a letter announcing that he has been sentenced to death by the nihilists. The letter also intimates that it is the intention of nihilists to murder Murairieff, chief public prosecutor, and Dofroskansky, of the public prosecution.

The Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria, it is announced officially, will make a visit to the pope and will accept official receptions in Turin, Milan and Rome. In the Italian capital the emperor will become the guest of King Humbert, and will reside at the Quirinal. The programme for this imperial visit is so similar to that which was made for the recent official visit of the German crown prince as to impress Italians with the conviction its inspiration also originated at Friedrichsruhe. The Roman officials of the Italian temporal power have, however, made haste to deny publicly that they entertain any fears as to the possible political effect of Francis Joseph's visit. The irredentists, on the other hand, have called meetings to arrange for hostile demonstrations against the Austrian emperor because of the persecution and execution of Oberdank. The most astute of the Italian politicians do not hesita e to declare their belief that it will be unwise and possibly perilous for the managers of the imperial journey to carry out that part of the announced programme which arranges for demonstrations in Turin and Milan in honor of the Austrian emperor. The Turinese and Milanese are excited over the proposed visit, and in a mood to resent it as an insult to Italian unity. The editors of Turin and Milan have already inaugurated a hostile agitation by reminding the people of the bitterness of the unforgotten struggle between the northern Italian states and Austria, and it would surprise no one who well knows the people of northern Italy if they should in their treatment of Francis Joseph greatly outdo the Parisians who insulted Alfonso.

A Rome correspondent says the conversation between the pope and crown prince of Germany consisted of two parts. One will remain absolutely secret, but the other will be published at the proper time. The pope has informed the cardinals that he consigned to the secret archives a detailed account of the conversation, and that posterity may have a statement of much importance. The Italo-Austro-Hungarian-Germanic alliance has long been recognized by the thinking and reading portion of the community as an accomplished fact, but none the less a fact abhorrent to the Italians in general, as far as Austria is concerned, while, for the great uneducated public it was deemed a thing too monstrous to be possible, so that always it has sufficed for a newspaper or for a popular orator to speak of King Humbert as the "Austrian Colonel," to arouse a feeling of aversion against the otherwise not unpopular young king. He is, in fact, colonel of the (most hated of Austrian names) Haynau regiment.

The introduction of "stump" speaking in England is pointed to by The London Telegraph as a striking indication of "the development of our political system." But recently it was thought beneath the dignity of a statesman of the first rank to address any audience outside of parliament, except it be his own constituents and on a formal occasion. Now, however, he thinks it nothing to make an "oratorical progress" not only through his own district, but through others often remotely situated. Having dropped some of his reserve and begun to talk, he soon finds he has much to say, and breaks into some of the periodals with an elaborate discussion of a pending question. This latter practice The Telegraph regards as even more phenomenal than the appearance of the political worthies upon the "stump."

Urged on by a riotous popular clamor, the Mexican congress, which has adjourned until April, dealt promptly and incisively with President Gonzales' nickel coinage scheme. Nickel money is now legal tender in Mexico only to the amount of twenty cents; the government is pledged not to pay out more than 5 per cent in one payment, and agrees to receive nickel for customs to the amount of 50 per cent in January and a lesser sum each month until 10 per cent is reached. The nickel coined whighed 560 tons, the amount legally fixed being four million dollars in one, two and five-cent pieces. Among the reforms promised on the reassembling of congress are a reduction of the tariff and a general introduction of the bonded warehouse system.

The patience of the pope appears at last to have outworn the persistence of Prince Bismarck. The obnoxious Falk laws have been repealed, and the Prussian government again undertakes the payment of the salaries of the Catholic clergy so long denied them.

Arabi Pasha has been heard from. He says he has no desire, at present, to go back to Egypt. He thinks El Mahdi will make matters interesting for the khedive and the English.

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