

THE DAILY BEE

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPRIETORS.

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The presidential election takes place three weeks from to-morrow.

Every voter should see that he is properly registered when the time comes.

Tuesday tells the tale in Ohio. Some hard work is being done in that State today.

Ohio goes democratic in this presidential year it will go back on its record, extending back to 1856.

Nebraska is now reveling in the luxury of the hazy Indian summer—the most agreeable season of the year.

The republican campaigners will march in a body from Ohio to New York on Wednesday next. The Empire state is to be the scene of some pretty lively work between now and November 4th.

Richard K. Fox, who is one of the shrewdest sporting men in New York City, says that the odds are 100 to 75 that Blaine will carry the state of New York, and that the local sporting men are betting on Blaine.

The use of "soap" in political campaigns is necessitated by the unclean records of candidates. If all the reports are true more "soap" will be used in this campaign than in any political contest in the history of the United States.

There is any efficacy in prayer St. John and Daniel ought to triumph in the great contest. While the other political parties are spending their money in drink and riotous living, the prohibitionists will observe the 29th of October as a day of prayer and fasting.

Passenger rates from Chicago to Omaha are quoted at \$1.00 and the war still goes on. This is a good thing for west-bound travelers, but persons going east have to pay the old rate of \$15.00 to Chicago. The present west-bound cut can however be taken advantage of by persons going to Chicago and returning on the cut rate, which makes the round trip only a little more than half-price. It is a little singular that Omaha has never had the benefit of an east-bound cut rate.

Congressman Weaver has blundered, to use a mild phrase, when he challenged James W. Davis to produce proof to sustain his insinuations about Mr. Weaver's hasty flight from Kearney when the Eaton-Howe libel suit was to be tried. Mr. Weaver was not present at Lincoln during the investigation of the senatorial scandal in which Church Howe was involved, and he may never have read the testimony taken before the legislature. If he had read that testimony it was certainly imprudent for him to challenge Davis to the proof.

The annual report of the Western Union telegraph company gives its capital stock at \$80,000,000. The report, however, fails to give the percentage of water, which is not less than 50 per cent. The bonded debt is \$7,214,000. The revenues for the past year were \$19,682,000 and the expenses \$13,022,000. To the \$6,660,000 profits is added \$3,658,000 surplus on hand July 1, 1883, making a total of \$10,268,000. Deducting \$6,110,000 paid for dividends, interest, etc., there is left the surplus of \$4,158,000.

The Bee was mistaken the other day in stating that the board of education would submit two propositions to the voters to issue bonds for the erection of two school houses to cost \$18,000 each. The propositions simply ask authority to spend the money out of the funds of the board, in accordance with the law which provides that any expenditure over \$5,000 by the board shall be voted upon by the people. As we understand it there are no other school bonds out except the high school bonds, which run twenty years from the date of issue at ten per cent.

The question is often asked whether the electric light is a dangerous thing. It is a fact that persons have been killed by electric light wires, and the other evening an electric light in Niblo's theatre, New York, set fire to some artificial roses. This accident led to inquiry among the theatre proprietors, a number of whom gave it as their opinion that the electric light is dangerous to property as well as to life, unless the wires and lights are properly handled and protected. Nevertheless the electric light will continue to grow in popularity, for we venture to say that fewer lives are lost and less property destroyed by the electric light than by gas.

GENERAL GRANT ON SOUTH AMERICAN COMMERCE.

The members of the commission for the development of the trade of the United States with the South American countries called on ex-President Grant the other day to obtain his views on the subject. General Grant, among other things, suggested a very novel way of developing the South American trade. He recommended the reorganization of the consular service in Central and South America, and that instead of scattering consuls here and there, commercial agents should be appointed to every port, and they should have the privilege of engaging in business. They should be permitted to act as drummers for the manufacturers of the United States. They should have samples sent them and be allowed to sell on commission to merchants of the ports at which they are located. The trouble now is that poorly paid consuls have no motive in promoting trade and the merchants and manufacturers have no means of reaching certain foreign markets except by incurring the expense of sending agents to these places. The commercial agents, as General Grant suggests, should perform all the duties now assigned to consuls, receive fees therefor, and besides be allowed to engage in business as ordinary merchants.

We have no doubt that General Grant's plan would materially develop the trade of the United States with South America. This scheme might suit our manufacturers and exporters, as it would save them the expense of drummers and many "incidental expenses." Besides this, such a reorganization of the consular service would afford abundant opportunity for commercial drummers to secure a soft berth, and in many instances build up an independent business, the income of which would make the consular salary no object. In other words, General Grant proposes to substitute a government drummer service in place of the consular service in South America, and relieve the merchants and manufacturers of all expense save the transportation of their goods and the percentage fees which they would have to pay these consular drummers. This scheme may look very attractive on its face, but in all probability the consular drummers would soon have a monopoly of their own, and have our exporters at their mercy.

In addition to this unique recommendation, General Grant suggested that American steamship lines be subsidized until a commerce has been established to enable them to sustain themselves. One would almost suppose that John Roach had called upon General Grant just before the commissioners visited him.

The question of state regulation of telegraphs has recently been decided in Indiana, in which state there is a statute, somewhat similar to the one in Nebraska, requiring all telegraph companies doing business in that state to transmit messages with impartiality and good faith in the order in which they are received. For refusal or failure to do this the company is made liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars, to be recovered by the person offering the message. In a suit brought against the Western Union set up the defense that the statute was unconstitutional, for the reason that it was an interference with an interstate commerce, the lines and business of the company not being limited to Indiana, but extending to other states. The Indiana supreme court overrules this defense and holds the law constitutional. It says that the statute does not abridge the freedom of commercial intercourse among the states, and declares that a state has the power to require "all persons, artificial or natural, doing business within its borders to transact that business with fairness, diligence and impartiality." It is true, the court adds, that the lines of the company extend and its messages are sent to and received from other states, but "the statute operates upon the parties and the subject matter within our jurisdiction by enforcing the performance of a duty created here, owing here and violated here." This decision is interesting to Nebraska people as it shows pretty conclusively that the telegraph statute in this state is constitutional and therefore the telegraph companies can be made to live up to its provisions. That they do not do it is the fault of patrons in not prosecuting them for their delinquencies, either through indifference or owing to the fact that they are ignorant that they have an adequate remedy.

It is the eve of the battle in Ohio, and all eyes are turned towards that state. It may now well be said as goes the Buckeye state so goes the union. Each party has exerted every effort to mass its own strength and draw recruits from the other. That a very heavy vote will be cast there is no doubt, and that the democrats will attempt all sorts of desperate games there is no question. The Cleveland Leader charges that organized gangs of repeaters are to be brought from neighboring states, particularly from Maryland, to be voted in democratic counties where the democrats have the political machinery in their own hands. Promises of all kinds have been made to the liquor element, which is doing all in its power against the republicans. The Leader, being alive to the importance of a full republican vote, makes the following urgent appeal:

To all this the republicans can only oppose the patriotism and high-souled integrity of their party, and place reliance on the integrity of the people. That Ohio is republican by a handsome majority is a full vote in an undoubted fact, and it is this vote which the republicans must mass at the polls on the 14th inst. There must be no stay-at-homes on next Tuesday. The sick, the lame, and the feeble should unite with the robust in health to discharge a duty which must affect the future of the entire country. Ohio has never yet faltered on the eve of a presidential election, and there is no reason why republicans should now hold back when so much depends upon their action. They have every incentive to do their whole duty, and victory awaits determined action on their part. The old guard can die but it never surrenders, said Cambronne. There will be no surrender on Tuesday next if every republican faces the enemy with a determination to win.

The Pullman car company has been a very successful tax dodger, but it has recently received a set-back at the hands of the supreme court of Pennsylvania. The Pullman company has for years resisted local taxation on its through cars, and in this way has avoided paying any tax at all upon them. The state of Pennsylvania brought a suit against the company, and the supreme court has sustained the right of the state to tax through cars passing over its territory from one state to another. The company resisted the tax upon two grounds: First, that its Pennsylvania business was carried on under a lease from a Pennsylvania corporation, which upon its own part paid its full share of state taxes; and, second, that the levying of such a tax was in the nature of an interference with interstate commerce, the plain intention of the constitutional provision upon this subject being that the citizen of any state should be at liberty to pass through the territory of any other state without rendering any toll or tribute whatever for such privilege. Should the supreme court of the United States sustain this decision, it would give to every state the right of local taxation, but it would seem to us that if the Pullman company shows that it has paid taxes on through cars in one state, it could not be compelled to pay again on the same cars in another state. But that it must pay its taxes on through cars at some place there can be no question.

JIM LAIRD is not only doing a very heavy land office business but is also extensively engaged in pension brokerage and patronage distribution. According to latest advices every democratic doctor in the second district has been promised a position as pensioner examiner, and scores of dupes are ransacking every precinct for votes under promise that they are to get lucrative positions and employment under Uncle Sam.

Every other striker expects to be surveyed, or-general, attorney-general, or judge of some territory, and hundreds have been promised postal clerkships, land-office registrarships and every other kind of office within the gift of the president. The present postmasters are all doomed. Their places are being promised right and left, just as most of them were two years ago when Laird was running for the first time. Fortunately the postmaster-general does not remove men by order of the congressman from the second district, at least not unless charges are preferred and sustained.

A JUDGMENT of \$1,500,000 has recently been rendered against New York city. This is a relic of the Tweed regime. In 1871 Boss Tweed awarded a contract for 10,000 water-meters at \$7 each. The meters were furnished by the contractor, but were never used, and the municipal authorities refused payment. After the disclosures of the rascalties of the Tweed ring there was a suspicion that this contract was one of the ring's jobs, and the city continued to resist payment. The contractor, after several years litigation, has finally won his suit, and the city will have to pay the judgment.

MR. LAIRD'S chief bugleman at Hastings delights in the delusion that the Bee is fast losing its circulation on account of its course in the present campaign. The proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof, and the best evidence that the Bee is more popular than ever is shown by the fact that our daily circulation outside of Omaha has increased 50 per cent during the last six months.

JUDGE McFARLAND, commissioner of the general land office, recommends the repeal of the pre-emption and timber culture laws in the interest of actual settlers. The congressman from this district, Judge Weaver, voted against the repeal of these laws, but he still insists that every vote he gave was in the interest of the people.

The Emperor William is the oldest monarch in Europe. Queen Victoria is 65, King Christian of Denmark is 66, and his wife, the Queen, is a year older. The Emperor of Austria is 54, and his wife is 40, while King Leopold of Belgium, 49 years old, has a wife aged 50. One of the youngest monarchs reigning is King Alfonso of Spain, who has been 27 years, and next to him come King George of Greece, and Alexander of Russia, each of whom are in the neighborhood of 39. The Sultan of Turkey is 42, King Oscar of Sweden 55, Louis of Portugal 40, Humbert of Italy 40, and President Grey, of France, 71. The wife of the Russian ruler is three years younger than her husband, the wife of the German five, and the Queen of Italy seven.

A Freak of Nature and Surgery. Special Telegram to The Bee. CHICAGO, October 12.—A queer case has been brought to light here. Seventeen years ago a daughter was born to a well-known citizen in this city, and was christened Harriet Rury. She grew up like all girls but was rather long-legged and awkward. A short time ago her voice began to assume a manly tone and the eminent surgeons, Drs. Moore and Gunn, were consulted. The result was a surgical operation which turned her into a boy. Her name was changed from Harriet to Barry. He put on boy's clothes and was sent to the east to school to save the blushes of his school-mates.

A Crazy Man Hanged. COLUMBIA, Mo., October 12.—Several physicians to-day made an examination of the brain of Charles W. Butler, executed at Columbia City, Ind., Friday. It is thought that sufficient evidence is found to sustain the theory of insanity urged by the defense.

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THURSDAY'S INVESTIGATION PROCEEDINGS. WEDNESDAY, Feb'y 6, 1877. Seth T. Cole, examined by General Eastabrook. Q. No, sir. I had conversation with Mr. Cowin in the presence of Mr. Rosewater a short time before the state convention, at the corner of Fifteenth and Dodge streets, at the post office, Omaha; we were talking there of the probability of his candidacy for congress; think Rosewater told him Crouse would not be a candidate and that he preferred him to any other man then spoken of; Rosewater asked what support he could get south of the Platte; Cowin said that he could get the support of Weaver, Towle, Howe, Laird and Ashby; Rosewater remarked that Towle was a Hitchcock man, and he presumed Howe was; Cowin remarked that Howe and Towle would both support him, and that he knew whether or not Rosewater then remarked "that was on account of the Kearney affair," he said it was, and then said he knew Towle was to get \$10,000 from the Richardson county delegation in the Patrick affair, and that Weaver was present in the room when the agreement was made, and that at the Kearney trial he had advised Weaver to leave the state, as he would be no more damaging to leave and incur the displeasure of the court than to stay; he said Howe had got money in the senatorial fight, and he believed he was the only one who had not paid the money back.

By Mr. Cowin: Q. Any one present excepting you and Mr. Rosewater? A. No, sir, until the time I was coming down here on the train. You will remember this: Mr. Mills (the witness afterwards corrected this statement and said it was Aaron Cahn) came along and wanted to know where the company had a hand. He had a box of cigars under his arm and you asked him for a cigar, and he said after you were elected congressman he would give you a cigar.

Q. That was liable to take place any time? A. Yes, sir. Edward Rosewater, recalled, testified as follows:

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DEAR SIR:—I never charged that you received any portion of the ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) alleged to have been paid over in 1875 as referred to in my interrogatories submitted at Wahoo. I simply asked if you were present and had cognizance of any such corrupt conference. You deny in positive terms that you had ever taken part in any such conference or were present in any room where votes were being negotiated corruptly during any senatorial contest. You go even farther than that and challenge any man to produce proofs to the contrary. While you admit that you were called to Kearney to testify in the Eaton libel suit, which, as you know, was never tried, because Church Howe did not dare to risk a trial, you deny that you were advised by attorneys for the prosecution to leave Kearney during the night preceding the trial in order to prevent disclosures that would have been damaging both to yourself and Howe. In order to refresh your memory and justify my own conduct I herewith respectfully submit the following extract from the published testimony taken in February, 1877, before the senate committee charged with the investigation into the alleged corruption of Church Howe during the senatorial election of 1875:

THURSDAY'S INVESTIGATION PROCEEDINGS. WEDNESDAY, Feb'y 6, 1877. Seth T. Cole, examined by General Eastabrook. Q. No, sir. I had conversation with Mr. Cowin in the presence of Mr. Rosewater a short time before the state convention, at the corner of Fifteenth and Dodge streets, at the post office, Omaha; we were talking there of the probability of his candidacy for congress; think Rosewater told him Crouse would not be a candidate and that he preferred him to any other man then spoken of; Rosewater asked what support he could get south of the Platte; Cowin said that he could get the support of Weaver, Towle, Howe, Laird and Ashby; Rosewater remarked that Towle was a Hitchcock man, and he presumed Howe was; Cowin remarked that Howe and Towle would both support him, and that he knew whether or not Rosewater then remarked "that was on account of the Kearney affair," he said it was, and then said he knew Towle was to get \$10,000 from the Richardson county delegation in the Patrick affair, and that Weaver was present in the room when the agreement was made, and that at the Kearney trial he had advised Weaver to leave the state, as he would be no more damaging to leave and incur the displeasure of the court than to stay; he said Howe had got money in the senatorial fight, and he believed he was the only one who had not paid the money back.

By Mr. Cowin: Q. Any one present excepting you and Mr. Rosewater? A. No, sir, until the time I was coming down here on the train. You will remember this: Mr. Mills (the witness afterwards corrected this statement and said it was Aaron Cahn) came along and wanted to know where the company had a hand. He had a box of cigars under his arm and you asked him for a cigar, and he said after you were elected congressman he would give you a cigar.

Q. That was liable to take place any time? A. Yes, sir. Edward Rosewater, recalled, testified as follows:

General Eastabrook. Q. I will ask you whether or not you saw an interview with Mr. Cowin where he has made any statements indicating that Howe was guilty; if so, state what took place? A. I used to go to Mr. Cowin's office during the campaign to talk about the campaign prospects and various matters. Incidentally I asked Mr. Cowin about his own candidacy. At that time he was very undecided. It was some time after the Kearney fiasco—that I should have been a witness, but I didn't testify there. At one time in his office I had a private conversation with him and he confidentially gave me this information, and I should have kept it but for the fact that it was made public on the street when Mr. Cole was present. That conversation being public and also his telling Mr. Bristol I didn't consider it a secret. I didn't know that after a trial was over an attorney was bound to keep the secrets of his client. I regret that this matter has come up as I was very friendly to Mr. Cowin, but as I stated, during the trial developments took place which made it very dangerous for the defense—that is, that the indictment against Eaton would be sustained.

Mr. Cowin. Is that the same conversation that Cole has given? A. Yes, sir; but I have more particulars than he has given. You said that the evening before the trial in examining matters of evidence that would be produced there, you found Judge Weaver was actually present in the room when the bargain was made for the Richardson county delegation, and when Weaver made a statement that he would leave the state, he was alone, he was advised to leave Kearney that night, and did leave, and when the trial came on the next morning he was gone, and by same process the thing was worked so that the case was dismissed; I don't know whether all the details as to Weaver's leaving that night were from that trial, but the information was given in a general way, that they were all in a pretty bad row of stumps; I have had other conversations with Cowin; I will state here that in these conversations Cowin didn't state point blank that Howe confessed to him, but I inferred from what he said that Howe and the rest were guilty. I think he said there that Howe was the only one that kept the money, and I took it for granted that Howe had made a confession.

By Cowin: Q. You remember the time I came from Kearney, the time the indictment was found, I had been attending court up there—and you asked me what about it, and I told you that. Then when he told me and said what he said was true, they might be guilty? A. I don't remember it.

Q. Why is it you don't remember that, when you remember so much else? A. Because the information that Judge

THE TRUTH OF HISTORY.

Judge Weaver's Hasty Flight From Kearney.

An Interesting Chapter of Legislative Crookedness Culled from the Investigation of Church Howe in 1877.

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