

OMAHA OFFICE, ROOM 65 TRINITY BUILDING.

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That European war cloud seems to have rolled by.

So long as this cold weather continues there need be no fear of cholera.

The question now is has Con. Gallagher been "called" by Mr. Vilas?

WHAT surprises us is that the Atlantic cables can stand the strain of Tennysonian poetry.

OFFENSIVE partisans in the Omaha portfolio have been spotted and placed on the black list.

The president has made Saturday his day of rest. Under the new rules no visitors are now admitted to the White House on that day.

COMMODORE GARRISON left an estate worth \$3,000,000. This is doing pretty well for a bankrupt, upon whom a great deal of sympathy was wasted.

POSTMASTER GENERAL VILAS has given one of his cousins a comfortable berth at Washington. He will take care of his sisters and his aunts in the near future.

GEN. HAZEN will confer a favor on a long-suffering people and the early vegetables by giving the cold wave flag a rest. What we want just now is warm weather, with a few rain showers, and plenty of sunshine.

THE Washington Critic denies that there has been a mob of office-seekers at the national capital. Well, if the crowd that is there does not constitute a mob, we would like to know what size the crowd will be when the mob does put in an appearance.

WHILE Mr. Leeper is the apparent contestant in the election in the thirty-fourth Illinois district, Horizontal Bill Morrison is the party who is most interested in the movement. The defeat of Leeper upsets his senatorial plans, and hence the contest.

THE Russian nihilists have given the czar two years time in which to decide whether he will issue the constitution which was signed by his father on the day of his assassination. Meantime the nihilists will not dynamite the czar, but if at the end of the two years he does not comply with their demand he may expect to be blown into eternity. He certainly has been given time enough to think the matter over.

LELAND STANFORD's statement, which first appeared in an interview in the Omaha Bee, that General Grant's improved condition is due to the use of clover tea has attracted wide-spread attention and caused considerable comment. According to the Boston Globe the use of the clover plant on cancers is not new. Fifty years ago there were "doctors" who traveled over the country selling receipts for a cancer ointment made by boiling clover heads down to a viscid compound like tar, which was to be applied to the diseased part.

It may be amusing for the time being to have a little fun at the expense of the doctors on account of General Grant's improved condition, but that he is afflicted with cancer no one can doubt for a moment in the face of the statements of eminent physicians and surgeons who know what they are talking about. Had it not been for the skillful, untiring and devoted treatment of his doctors General Grant would have been a dead man long before this. The doctors are entitled to the credit of prolonging the general's life. It may be only for a few months, and it may be for years. His case has so far proved a remarkable exception.

EMMA, queen-dowager of the Sandwich Islands, is dead. She was the daughter of a high native chief by an English woman and the adopted daughter of Dr. Rooke, an English doctor in the islands. She was born in 1836, and received an excellent education by American tutors. In 1856 she was married to King Kamehameha IV., who had succeeded to the throne two years previously, and who died in 1863. On the death of King Lunalilo, in February, 1873, his successor not having been proclaimed, Queen Emma and the present King Kalakaua proclaimed themselves candidates for the throne. The legislature was called together in extra session to elect a sovereign, and Kalakaua was successful, Queen Emma only receiving 6 votes out of 45. When the result was announced, a mob of her partisans broke into the legislative chamber and furiously attacked the members. Aid was asked of the American and British war vessels at the port, which was granted, and the insurgents were dispersed. Kalakaua was proclaimed king, and the queen-dowager retired to private life.

OIL UPON TROUBLED WATERS.

The question whether a storm at sea can be calmed in the immediate vicinity of a vessel by pouring oil upon the troubled waters has been discussed from time to time, and experiments have lately been made to ascertain whether it is really practicable. Such experiments have been made at Glasgow, and it is said that they demonstrated the fact that oil will calm the waves. So important is this matter deemed by those interested in navigation, that the hydrographic office of the navy department has for several months been engaged in collecting data to determine under what circumstances the use of oil is most efficacious in diminishing the danger of breaking seas during gales of wind. When sufficient data have been gathered it is proposed to issue a pamphlet giving such directions in regard to the use of oil as common experience of seamen may determine to be best.

Among the statements recently received at the department is one relating to the experience of the steamship Venos, bound from Savannah to Europe with cotton, in November, 1881. She was running before a heavy northwest gale and was boarded by a tremendous sea. The captain determined to have to, and men were stationed to pour oil down the closet chutes forward and to throw water soaked in oil to windward. The vessel came round without shipping any water. As she kept falling off it was concluded to put her again before the sea, which was done without trouble, and it was found that she kept perfectly dry as long as the oil was used. Again, in January 1884, while crossing the Atlantic to New York, after running before a northwest gale for some time, she was laid to without difficulty or danger by using oil in the manner already stated.

There are several other well authenticated accounts, among them being that of Captain Ritchie, of the English steamer Fern Holme, who while on his last voyage from Baltimore to Shields used oil bags while running before a west-southwest gale. He hung one over each side, just forward of the bridge, and they effectually prevented the ship from taking water on deck. First Officer W. Maljen, of the German steamer Colon, in December, 1884, used oil bags with remarkable effect. Two bags filled with boiled oil were hung over the bow. The oil spreading over the surface prevented the waves from breaking, and the ship rode quite easily during the continuance of the gale. The brig P. M. Tenker, New York to Cuba, in 1872, encountered a northeast gale when four days out. Several heavy seas came on board, doing great damage. A small bag, with holes punched in the bottom, was filled with oil and hung over the stern. The oil prevented the seas from coming on board, and the vessel ran for several hours with dry decks.

Captain Jones, of the British steamer Chicago, while rescuing the crew of the brig Fedore, used oil with best results. It was blowing a heavy gale, with very high seas. The Chicago ran to the windward of the Fedore, and during a lull, oil having been poured on the water, the port lifeboat was successfully launched and started. A can of oil was taken in the boat, and by using this the seas were kept down in the immediate vicinity, though they broke in masses of foam a short distance away. As the boat approached the Fedore the crew of that vessel poured oil on the water, which so calmed the sea that the boat got alongside and rescued the shipwrecked crew without sustaining any injury. About half a gallon of paint oil was used by the boat during her trip.

POLLUTED WATER.

The physicians have been at a loss to ascertain the cause of the typhoid fever plague in Plymouth, Penn., where there have been over 750 cases and about 80 deaths, but it is now pretty generally conceded, after a thorough investigation, that impure water from the wells is the origin of the epidemic. Plymouth has a system of water works, the supply coming from the hills. This system was established some years ago, and then the wells were pretty generally abandoned. Sometimes the water supply from the hills fails, and in that event water from the Susquehanna river is pumped into the pipes. The people, however, do not like to use this river water on account of its impurities, and they accordingly fall back temporarily on their wells. When it became known that the people were not using river water, the wells were investigated, and it was found that the water in them had been polluted by the contents of the many cesspools in the town. The sanitary lesson taught by the dreadful experience in Plymouth is one that should be heeded in every city and town. It shows how seriously the health of people may be affected by the use of polluted water. In cities and large towns there should be no wells. In Omaha, for instance, and particularly in the more thickly settled portion, there are hundreds of wells that are in reality nothing but cess-pools. All the water in them may be clear and sparkling, but we have every reason to believe that it can be shown to be polluted with poison that has seeped through the soil from cess-pools and vaults not more than ten feet distant. Yet people will deliberately persist in using water from such

ARNOLD, THE FANT.

A Six Months Old Town, but as Lively and Tough as a Spring Chicken.

Rapid Settlement of the Loup Valley Farm Land Advancing in Price.

Correspondence of the BEE. ARNOLD, Custer Co., Neb., April 28.—It may be interesting to some of the readers of your valuable paper to know something about the new and growing town of Arnold, Custer county. Little more than six months ago this now fully-developed infant town was born. Your correspondent has seen many fine locations for towns and cities in Nebraska; among which we might mention Omaha, Lincoln, Falls City and Beatrice, cities and towns of which any state might well feel proud. We have, however, never seen a more beautiful place for a town in this state than at Arnold. It is truly picturesque, the town site of Arnold is unsurpassed, if not unequalled.

Arnold is on the banks of the Loup river, and about seventy miles from its source. The valley at this place is about five miles wide, and becomes narrower east and west, thus presenting a basin-shaped appearance; the surrounding hills are irregular and mountainous, and as we watch their faces looking upward we exclaim with the poet: "Ye crags and peaks I'm with you once again!" South of the valley we have immense prairie or table lands, the soil is rich, deep and dark, and the crops raised on them last year were equal to, if not superior to those raised in the valleys. The vegetables raised in this vicinity were immense "if 'bigness' is any sign of quality, and 'takes the cake' in the vegetable line. Your correspondent gathered some of the soil here, and could not find its equal in grand old Otoe county, and yet we find men paying \$25.00 and \$30.00 per acre for land no more improved and no better than land to be found here for from \$5 to \$10 per acre. "Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!" Fine roads and improved farms are to be found on this table land. Nearly all good government land is taken up to some good pasture lands left. Good claims sell on the table at from \$150 to \$450, deeded land at from \$5 to \$10 per acre. Some claims near Arnold have sold for \$1,000 to \$1,500. There are, however, some splendid bargains in land still to be found at low figures. There is another tract of beautiful table land lying north of Arnold. This land extends from east to west about thirty-five miles, north to south fifteen or twenty miles, covered with blue stem—a fine hay grass. Between this north table and Arnold we have a splendid range of canyons, running from east to west. These canyons are sublime in appearance; an artist brush could not do them justice, and a word-painter, unless indeed he be a Homer should not attempt to describe them. The practical utility of the canyons is found in the excellent shelter they offered for stock, the immense hay to be found in the canyon valleys, and the timber. These canyons abound in cedars, box elder, elm and ash, much of this timber has been destroyed by settlers. In many places, however, the timber is better than such as pines, cherries, blackberries, currants, grapes and raspberries are to be found in great abundance.

THE LOUP RIVER. The channel of the south Loup here is narrow and at about equal depth at all seasons of the year. It is fed by innumerable springs and on account of these springs the water is cold and clear all summer, and it does not freeze during the winter. The steep ascent from west to east causes the water to flow rapidly, thus affording an excellent

MILL POWER. We have one large frame flour mill here now and another five miles east of here. As the country develops and more milling capacity is required mills will be built every mile or apart without danger of backwater or overflow.

RAILROADS. As yet the nearest railroad point is Gorhamburg, on the Union Pacific road, a distance of some thirty-five or forty miles. The B. & M. railroad company have made several surveys up the Loup valley. This is the nearest route to the coal and oil regions of the great northwest, and a railroad will certainly be built in the near future.

LOTS have been selling at very reasonable figures. Good lots have been sold at from fifteen to thirty dollars. An advance will be in all probability made soon. Mr. J. O'Brien, of your city, (Omaha) has a plot of the town for public inspection.

CHURCHES. The Methodists have just completed a church building, a pretty square roof structure, large, the material is acid, our western brick, but it is floored and oiled and will be cemented within and without and will look, when completed, just like a building made of solid limestone. This church, the M. E., number, I believe, about fifty members. The Rev. Nathan English is the pastor. The Disciples or Christians have some fifty members here, Elder Correll preaching for them every Lord's day. The members of this body have made arrangements to build a large frame church structure this summer; already some four or five hundred dollars have been promised for that purpose. We have two Sunday schools; the Methodist and Union. Both are well attended. Of secret societies we have two: the G. A. R. and the Good Templars. The last named order numbers some thirty-five members. Temperance societies abound in Custer county. At the county seat, Broken Bow, there is a lodge of 100 members. There are no saloons in the county.

ON THE WAR PATH.

Red Devils of the North-west.

The question whether any of our border Indians will cross the line and take part with their belligerent congeners in the Northwest territory has assumed great importance, writes a Washington correspondent to the New York Herald, and many inquiries are being made as to the number, character, and location of such of our aboriginal wards as, by their proximity to the disturbed district, or their affiliation or later course with the Canadian Indians, are supposed to be within the reach of temptation. The only Indians in the United States who would be likely under any probable circumstances to yield to such temptation are those located on the Devil's lake, Turtle mountain, and Fort Berthold reservations, and the northern portion of the Sioux reservation in Dakota, and on the Blackfeet reservation in Montana. There are all together about eighteen thousand Indians on these reservations, about forty-eight hundred of whom are males over eighteen years of age.

The Devil's lake reservation is seventy miles south of the Manitoba frontier, and is occupied by 851 Ojibwa, Sisseton, Wapeton Sioux, 218 of whom are young men and warriors; but as they bear the marks of being good Catholics who attend church regularly on Sunday, work the rest of the week, and don't get drunk or use profane language, there need be no apprehension that they will go on the warpath. The Turtle mountain Indians are quite another stamp. They consist of thirty-one families of renegade Chippewas from Minnesota, and about twelve hundred individuals of mixed blood, and are represented to be in a state of abject poverty and ignorance with an insatiable craving for whiskey. The Indians and half-breeds are only five or six miles from Manitoba, and can not be very desirable neighbors. The number of grown males among them is not known but assuming that they average about 25 as the other Indian tribes—25 per cent.—there will be more than 340. The Upper and Lower Yanktonais, Uncapais and Blackfeet Sioux with 113 Indians of mixed blood, making altogether 5,721, of whom 1,107 are males over 18, are at the Standing Rock agency, in Dakota, about 200 miles from the British line. Their agent reports that every family is engaged in cultivating individual fields or garden patches; that the late crop of potatoes of Sitting Bull have been quite industrious, and that the leading young men have had their hair cut, from which it may be inferred that they are trying to be "good Indians," but the chance of a little of their old-time diversion with rifle and scalping knife may upset all the good resolutions which their agent has formed for them.

The northern boundary of this Fort Berthold reservation is in some places thirty-five in other six miles south of the British line. The occupants are 544 Aricokas, 347 Gros Ventres, and 311 Mandans, who are represented as "largely honest and truthful," also peaceable and friendly to the whites, but in some fear of their old enemies the Sioux, as well as the Canadian Chippewas, who are at deadly enmity with them, and their ponies, and plunder them by wholesale. It would seem, therefore, that if these Indians "take a hand" in the existing troubles it should not be against, but on behalf of the British settlers, for the purpose of getting even with the treacherous Chippewas. There are 358 Aricokas, Gros Ventres, and Mandans capable of bearing arms.

The Blackfeet reservation in Montana is the largest in the United States, excepting only the great Sioux reservation in Dakota. There are three agencies on it—namely, the Blackfeet in the western portion, the Fort Belknap agency in the center, and the Fort Peck agency in the southwestern part. The Blackfeet, Bloods, and Piegan were formerly known as the Blackfoot nation, but are now called Piegan by the authorities of the Indian office. They number 2,300, of whom about 700 are males over 18 years old. Prior to 1870 they were considered very bad Indians and were blamed for all the depredations and murders committed in their vicinity. In fact, so bad were their reputation that in the winter of 1869-70 J. M. Baker, of the 24th cavalry, with several troops of his regiment, was sent to chastise them. He surprised a band under Chief Red Horn on the Marias river, killed 173, and captured as many more. Since then they have been submissive and generally well behaved, but as for two or three years back, the government has kept them on the brink of starvation—it could not be very surprising, if forgetting the severe lesson they received fifteen years ago, they were to dig up the rusty hatchets and join their namesakes and relatives, the Blackfeet, Bloods, and Piegan.

The Fort Belknap agency, which is some twenty or thirty miles from the frontier line, is devoted to 1,150 Gros Ventres and 1,000 Assinaboines, who are to be friendly toward the whites, but poorly fed and often, like Oliver Twist, asking for more, which the agent Uncle Mr. Bumble, would be glad to give if he had it. It is not impossible that hunger and the example and solicitation of their brethren in the northwest territory may lead these Indians into mischief. They could muster between five and six hundred fighting men.

The Fort Peck agency consists of 1,195 Assinaboines, 3,542 Yankton Sioux, 423 Santee Sioux, and 205 Ojibwa and Teton Sioux, who are said to be obedient, well-behaved, and industrious. In case of hostilities they could muster from 1,200 to 1,400 men. The same trouble exists here as in all other agencies in Montana—short rations. For the last two years congress has had to make special appropriations for the relief of the Indians at the Blackfeet, Fort Belknap, and Fort Peck agencies.

Having given a brief account of the Indians on the northwestern border, it seems proper to state how the troops who are supposed to be looking after them are distributed. Montana and Dakota, with the adjoining states of Minnesota, form the department of Dakota, commanded by General Alfred H. Terry, with headquarters at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. There are two regiments of cavalry, the 1st and 7th (except troop G, which is at Fort Leavenworth), one light battery of artillery (F, of the 4th) and seven regiments of infantry—the 3d, 5th, 11th, 15, 17th, (except company G), at Fort Leavenworth, 18th, and 25th—under General Terry's orders, distributed as follows: The light battery and four companies of infantry at Fort Snelling. In Dakota—Two companies of infantry at Fort Sisseton, two at Fort Peabody,

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