

THE DAILY BEE.

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The city council ought to take advantage of the presence of Mr. Myers, the court-house architect, and consult him in regard to the proposed city hall.

"Simul" may become popular in the polite circles of the east, but the cowboy of the rowdy west will stick to the old name for the realm of his satanic majesty.

Now that Omaha is to have her census taken would it not be well to inquire into the inflation methods of Kansas City? Would it not be advisable to engage the population liars of that city to assist our enumerators?

SOME fault is being found with the muzzump postmaster of New York. One of the charges is that it takes longer, as a rule, to get a letter across the river from New York to Brooklyn than from New York to Philadelphia. This reminds one very much of the mail facilities between Omaha and Council Bluffs.

If there is any further change to be made in the grade of Farnam street hill it should be done before the court house approaches are built. Now that Mr. Myers, the architect of the court house, is here, it would be advisable for the city council to consult him in the matter.

The Herald says that the name of "Omaha" has become in the east a by-word and reproach among men on account of its being applied to a worthless war vessel. The Herald might also have said that the fair fame of Omaha is being trampled in the dust by our English base-ball club.

The industry of kidnapping American laborers for railway work in Guatemala has grown to alarming proportions. These men are enticed on board of vessels at New Orleans by agents who get ten dollars a head. This species of white slavery is something that ought to be investigated by the state department.

NORMAN B. HARWOOD, the dry goods merchant who created a sensation in St. Paul some years ago first by his immense business owing to cutting prices, and second by his failure for \$1,700,000, recently died in Florida where he had an orange grove valued at \$600,000.

A SPECIAL dispatch to the Kansas City Journal, emanating from the Lincoln Journal, office announces that Charles H. Gere will be named as one of the secretaries of the railway commission.

Next we find an item of gas for two months, \$3,015. This is about as much inflated as the water-gas with which this city is supplied.

MUNICIPAL OVERLAP.

When Mayor Boyd in his address at the citizens' convention a few days prior to the election asserted that to the best of his ability to keep the condition of the city finances there was not less than \$88,000 of floating debt to be met, he was pook-pooked by the supporters of the Murphy administration, who boldly asserted that the city had no debt at all.

From the message sent to the council last night by the mayor, the following showing of the city floating debt is taken: "I have had an estimate made by the auditor of the total amount of the overlap and find it to be \$111,204.32, made up as follows: To wit: Judgment fund, \$35,827.03; Sewer rebate (board of equalization), 12,558.33; Salaries, police, (four months), 9,500.40; Salaries, fire (four months), 4,000.00; Salaries, central fund (two months), 11,572.88; Bills and accounts allowed, 26,230.71; Gas, two months, 3,015.60; Bills and accounts estimated, 730.00; Omaha sewer accounts, 3,000.00; West Farnam street grade, 3,000.00.

Total, \$111,204.32. Omaha Herald.

We have no desire to re-open the city campaign, but the uncalculated attempt to make political capital out of our municipal debt by parading inflated and misleading figures, demands a prompt and vigorous refutation. When Mr. Boyd, in order to get votes, asserted before the "citizens' convention" that the Murphy administration had piled up an overlap of \$88,000, he might have been excused for exaggerating on the ground of campaign license, but when, as mayor of Omaha, he officially tells the council and advertises to the world that the city has been unlawfully run into debt for over \$100,000 he stultifies himself and does the city great injury.

Now let us see what part of the \$111,000 is an overlap. There are \$36,000 in judgments against the city. A portion of these judgments is doubtless an overlap caused by confession of judgment for damages arising from grading, but there is also a proportion for damages to persons by reason of accidents.

Next we find \$12,558 sewer rebate. In what way can that be called an overlap? The sewers were constructed and the cost assessed upon adjacent property under the prevailing system of special taxation, but through a decision of the supreme court the council was compelled to re-assess, and as a matter of equity it assessed a portion of the outlay against the whole city.

Then we have \$27,000 in salaries of the police force, fire department and city officials generally, which is computed for the last quarter of the fiscal year. This also is charged as an overlap, and although the salaries are payable under Mr. Boyd's administration, his predecessor is charged with this so-called overlap.

an aggregate of \$63,250, which represents the overlap that Mr. Boyd found when he came into office in April. Deduct from that the \$40,000 overlap which Mr. Boyd transmitted to Chase and Murphy and we have an excess of \$13,250 created during the past two years. During that period the city expended nearly a million for public improvements. There is more than \$13,252 left unexpended in some of the special funds. Why then should Mayor Boyd let it go abroad that there has been such a reckless and lawless expenditure of money. One would almost believe that Omaha is on the verge of bankruptcy, if it were not for the fact that our five per cent. bonds command a premium of .03 above par. This premium, paid by a leading local bank, which is thoroughly familiar with our municipal finances, affords striking proof that this false alarm about the \$111,000 overlap does not affect shrewd financiers. In spite of false promises and reckless assertions the overlap at present is but a trifle larger than it was two years ago. It will be wiped out entirely by the funding bonds. Nobody will be entitled to any credit for that result except the people who voted the bonds as a measure of economy.

ANOTHER GEORGIA WONDER.

The state of Georgia continues to carry the prize banner as the wonder-producing region of this country. It was from Georgia that the electric girl came. She was followed by a man who was a Hercules in strength. The greatest snake stories have originated in Georgia. The most startling social sensations are hatched in that state. Nowhere can such big watermelons be found as in Georgia. And now the latest Georgia wonder appears in the shape of a revivalist, who is meeting with the most remarkable success in converting the people of the south. He is the sensation of the day, and no such religious excitement has ever been stirred up in the south since that which has been created by Sam Jones, as he is called. He is not a graduate of any theological school, and has no such a title as "reverend." He is a plain, uncultured man, and does not claim to be even an evangelist. Sam, however, has a head full of sense, and his ideas are expressed in language that is plain and pointed, even if it is not always grammatical. He is a philosopher in the rough, and an enthusiast in the cause of religion and reform. Sam Jones talks to the common people as well as at them, and his quaint sayings and apt maxims, peculiar to the wonderland of Georgia, have struck a popular chord. Wherever he appears he attracts immense crowds, and the work that he is doing is certainly having a telling effect. He is coming northward, and his march is one grand triumphal procession. Sam Jones has reached Nashville, Tennessee, where it is no unusual thing for him to talk to fully five thousand persons. The gamblers and saloon-keepers of Nashville caused bitter attacks to be made upon him, but instead of retaliating he simply said: "I am tired of hearing these liquor dealers and bartenders abused, because if these Methodists and Baptists and Presbyterians would quit drinking whisky the half liquor saloons would be closed. A woman that marries a man with whisky in his breath is the biggest fool in the world except one who struts his toddy for him after she is married." We are led to conclude from the fact that several saloons have since been advertised for sale that "these Methodists and Baptists and Presbyterians" of Nashville have taken Jones' advice and sworn off.

As to culture, the Georgia revivalist says, "It's only whitewash on a rascal. I'd rather be in heaven learnin' my A B C's than in hell readin' Greek." The lesson taught by this sentiment is that without honesty and manhood culture is worthless. He holds out the promise that every good man will be provided for in some way, as "heaven is on a dead level with every good man," and that "God will feed an honest man if he has to put the angels on half rations." Here are a few samples of Sam Jones' epigrammatic sentences which go straight to the mark like a bullet, nearly every one of which is a text within itself for a sermon: "I despise theology and botany, but I love religion and flowers." "A lie is always on the down grade, but the truth you have to hitch an engine to." "I can get along better with most everything in this world than with people who talk too much."

The best woman in this town is the woman who has waded through trouble that an angel's heart could not have endured. When God wants to strike us with affliction let us not run, but stand and take 'em. Many good Christians send so sound that the devil can come up and saw off their heads with a dull case-knife before they wake. A novelty is always appreciated, and Sam Jones is certainly a novelty in religion. He has a broad field before him, and we venture to say that he will create the greatest enthusiasm in the way of revivals ever known. A cordial reception awaits him everywhere. In his own peculiar way, Sam Jones is as great a philosopher and as great a wit in the interest of religion as Bob Ingersoll is in the opposite field. He will prove the great antidote to Ingersollism, and hence his advent will be hailed with delight by religious people everywhere. While he aims to influence the common people, the more cultured and refined are attracted to him by his eloquence, wit, logic and philosophy.

The brass band has been made an important feature in the art of advertising. We venture to say that, as a consequence, Omaha has more music in the square each day in the week than any other city in the country. The testimony of the Brighton ranch company in the United States court shows that it owns 3,500 head of cattle,

but the company has returned only 700 of that number to the assessor of Custer county. This is what might be termed reducing stock with a vengeance.

SENATOR VAN WYCK.

The Nebraska Republican who is said to be a favorite at the White House.

Washington Special dispatch to the Graphic. Reports have gone out from Washington that Senator Van Wyck is the most welcome and influential of republican visitors at the White House. The tidings will not excite much alarm among those who recall the sturdy fight made by Van Wyck during the past winter to forfeit the unearned railroad land grants and to curb the rapacity of the land grabbing corporations generally. It is a good deal of local business, which is thoroughly familiar with our municipal finances, affords striking proof that this false alarm about the \$111,000 overlap does not affect shrewd financiers.

We are engaged in a work which in the end, through much labor and obloquy, will triumph. The world moves slowly, even in the portion where we boast that the people direct. We have been tending towards the same condition as when the barons allowed the vassals barely bread sufficient for subsistence. It is a good deal of local business, which is thoroughly familiar with our municipal finances, affords striking proof that this false alarm about the \$111,000 overlap does not affect shrewd financiers.

The Question of Silver Coinage. In view of the importance which the silver question is likely to assume upon the assembling of the Forty-ninth congress, and the undoubted attitude of opposition to further silver coinage on the part of President Cleveland, whose views as expressed in his inaugural may or may not be modified, the action of foreign governments on like subjects is a matter of considerable interest to the American public.

The double standard men of Germany, although not numerous, are well organized and active in all the world's affairs. They claim that for a country which is anxious to extend its dominions and its commerce beyond the seas a silver currency is essential. They therefore believe that the government, being now fairly embarked in sundry schemes of colonization, and feeling the necessity of relieving the farmer of the stress of low prices, would consider favorably a proposition to convert the forty-ninth congress into a silver conference. With this view they introduce in the present re-chastat a resolution to the effect that "the chancellor of the empire be requested to take initiatory steps toward a new meeting of the monetary conference which adjourned in the year 1881, in order to bring about the resumption of the coinage of full weight silver coins by the United States, by the Latin union, by the German empire, and by all such states as would join with these countries."

The resolution was signed by Von Schönerer, Von Kardorff, Frege and Leuchner, all members of the re-chastat and belonging to different parties. To their great disappointment the government declared that there was an ample supply of gold coin; that the monetary conference had not been held; that the government had coined 1,922,000,000 of marks in gold; that of these there were still in circulation in Germany, according to the latest statistics, not less than 1,700,000,000, which amount was deemed sufficient to meet all the wants of commerce and that the necessity of a change in the government policy with reference to the standard had not been shown. The resolution was after a lengthy and interesting discussion, put to a vote and defeated by a large majority.

Sly Sam Randall.

A noted democratic congressman, whose name we are permitted to use, would add weight to his words, said to me last night in regard to Logan's election: "President Cleveland has received a great blow in the election of Logan. It is not directly at the administration, and in favor of the policy and principles which are diametrically opposed to it. Logan has been an open opponent to civil service reform. He has been opposed to tariff reform, and he has been one of the bitterest denunciators of the confederate holding and supremacy in government councils. The fact that the republican was elected in the democratic district means that the democrats are disgraced, and are willing to let the administration know it by keeping away from the polls."

SLY SAM RANDALL'S DEEP GAME. "Sly Sam Randall has had his finger in the pie, and it is him that Logan must thank for his election. Sam Randall is playing a deep game here at Washington, and he intends to run the democratic party or ruin it. It was not at all surprising that his hated Morrison and tariff reform. Randall's friends in Illinois were told that Logan must be elected and Morrison defeated. This intimation being circulated in the country where the new man was elected, together with the dissatisfaction with Cleveland, easily accomplished the result. I think Sam Randall is laying his plans for 1886, when he will be a candidate to become the presidential candidate of his party. It is true he has lately pronounced himself as an advocate of Cleveland's renomination in 1888, and he thus forces Morrison, Carlisle and his other enemies to follow him in this cry. Now, Cleveland in his letter of acceptance distinctly declares that he will not be a candidate for a second term, and after Randall's being so kind as to point him to the front Cleveland cannot do otherwise than remember Randall and decline in his favor. Besides Randall's principals, those of the east, are the same as Cleveland's, barring the civil service reform ideas which will, I believe, die a natural death before four years have passed, and he will want a man chosen in his place who will carry out his policy. I can tell you there is no deeper, slyer, and more far-seeing wire-puller in the democratic party than Randall, and he is not ready to give Cleveland and hanging around the white house for anything less than the biggest game in the hunting fields of American politics.

"Suppose he doesn't get it?" "Well, you have heard the story of the blind Samson, who pulled down the temple when he meant to thought he was powerless. Randall defeated will be the blind Samson of the democratic party, and if he goes down he will not fall without bringing down the whole structure." Three inches of rain fell in and around Nebraska city, Wednesday. A number of bridges were swept away and serious damage done.

THE NEW TEMPLE.

Douglas County's Modern Court House Dedicated to Its Use.

An Immense Crowd of Sight-Seeing Visitors Under the Great Dome—Lively and Interesting Ceremonies.

Douglas county's magnificent new temple of justice was according to previous arrangements, formally opened to the public yesterday and last night. By ten o'clock farmers, with their wives, sons and daughters, began to arrive in the city and went their way toward the great center of attraction. The heavy rain of Wednesday put many husbands behind with their spring work, and also left the roads in rather bad condition for travel, prevented, however, as large an attendance of the country people from coming as were expected.

But notwithstanding these difficulties, hundreds of wondering eyes peered into the decorated halls and embellished apartments of that stately pile, then went away with their owners, pleased and gratified with the work performed and result accomplished. During the afternoon hours an increased influx of visitors enjoyed a tour of interesting sight-seeing through the beautiful structure. Doors were all thrown wide open, and the county officials, though rushed with business, were ready to extend each visitor a hearty welcome and do all possible to make their stay pleasant. The most delightful treat of the occasion was to be had from the balcony view around the dome. It cost a little climbing effort to get up there, but the scene presented more than repayed the effort. Lying below, the city embraced in green foliage, and stretching away in every direction the broad rolling prairie, and through its centre the "Big Muddy" winding and rushing on its ceaseless course to the briny deep, a finer picture could not well be conceived.

At 8 o'clock dedicatory exercises were to take place. Long before that time, the building was crowded with people, and hundreds went away who could not gain admittance to the court room. Scores of the city and county's fair and lovely ladies graced the occasion with their presence, and three bands furnished music. They were the Musical Union, the Union Pacific and the Ancient Order of Hibernians organizations. On his own responsibility, County Clerk Leavitt had gotten up an elaborate program, the aim being to present an excellent set of the building and these words: "Dedicated May 28th, 1885 cost \$204,151.06."

On the second page was this inscription: "Opening of the new court house, Douglas Co., Thursday, May 28, 1885, at 8 o'clock p. m., the officers of the court and members of the bar in their respective places, the bar in their hands, fresh remembrance of these rude pioneers and territorial beginnings strongly contrasted with the surroundings of this hour. Architecture is a development of civilization, yet in its lateral and best sense not of human origin. The Almighty in the plan and framework of his universe, teacher and the sublime rules of grand symmetry. Humane architecture is an evolution, developed into aspirations for elegance, grace, finish, beauty. When the people of this county directed their commissioners to get forward with this work, they expected of them that in its design and arrangement, in its details and entirety, it should meet the requirements for which it was ordered, and now that the work is accomplished, they are ready to say to these, their servants, 'well done.'"

Your trust has been discharged with fidelity. You owe no accusation of impropriety or extravagance, and least of all, of corruption, to meet And now we surrender to the people this completed building. It has been reared with the most judicious care, by the means, as they were, by them and for them, as they come after them, it has risen. And now we formally declare that it is dedicated to the public use and the public behoof forever. JUDGE NEVILLE.

Judge Neville was the next speaker called, and he too talked in behalf of the courts. In substance he said: "The wisdom and experience of ages has given to the judiciary regulating power in the machinery of government. The legislative act and intent is considered by the courts and by their judgment the executive forces are invoked. The locality then where such action is asked to be exercised is a spot of pride to the citizen and to that place he points for even-handed justice. This very temple, which the law dedicates, speaks in and of itself the pride of the citizen, the honor of the state, the structure for a grander cause. The intent of the law is, that when erected to its cause, a court house shall be unmarred by the exultations within its walls, of hate prejudice or selfish motives. Let not the thought of extravagance possess any citizen in this construction. The walls that inclose the records of the people, that place the judgments and rights of citizens before the public gaze, are not to be erected in any way that would be extravagantly made. Each citizen of the county must see that a court house erected in this wonderful, growing city could not, with economy, be anything short of what it is. Let the officers who designed and directed this beautiful construction and public temple take unto themselves a full measure of praise. This building, the federal court house and postoffice, the city hall and board of public health, the high school and other school buildings upon every hill top and in every valley, speak in broader tones than I can tell, the enterprise, thrift, and intelligence of our new born state. APPROPRIATE AND HUMOROUS.

One of the most enjoyable speeches of the evening was that delivered by Judge Savage. Being introduced, the judge in abstract said: "I rejoice, Mr. Chairman, that the committee charged with the conduct of the exercises of the evening have given me a power of attorney, coupled with an interest of counsel, to receive on behalf of the people of Douglas county this stately and magnificent temple of justice, a magnificent gift. True, there may be those who will say that it seems a work of supererogation, a vain ceremonial, to make a donation to us of a building bought and paid for with our money, and some grumbling at increased taxation. Many years ago, by rapid strides to the

fulfillment of their destiny, Omaha and Douglas county grew far beyond the capacity of the old court house, and the old building itself became an unsafe receptacle for the vast interests it contained—the warrant of all titles, the condition of all lots and lands, and the judgments and decrees, the labor and results of the courts for more than 30 years. The question of a new building began to ripple in the public mind and gradually grew into activity; but, with all matters publicly considered, so with this movement, there was a great diversity of opinion. Where it should be located, what it should cost and whether it should be built at all. Pending this class of public opinion, encouragement from some, implacable opposition from others, in the month of July, 1878, the board of commissioners, then consisting of F. W. Corlies, B. P. Knight, and Fred Drexel, determined to act, and proceeded to secure a site for the block now occupied. The speaker followed at considerable length, with a history of the building, all of which has already been given in these columns and need not be repeated here. Further along Mr. Cowin referred to his own familiarity with the principal details of the work from its beginning. For the past sixteen years, it had been his duty to advise the commissioners in the capacity of attorney for the county, and during the entire progress of the work from its inception to completion, I have been called to their councils in all matters involving legal interests, and have been acquainted with the labors of the board and its individual members during the whole time. Eventually the entire block was secured at a cost of \$19,913. In September 1880, bonds to the amount of \$125,000 were voted, and also a proposition to the effect that \$75,000 should be appropriated out of the general revenue fund. The bonds were sold at a premium. September 1, 1881, bids were opened, and the contract was let to John K. Coote, of Detroit, Mich., for \$198,610. The actual cost of the building is \$204,151.06, the excess of \$5,535.06 over the contract price being occasioned by changes made necessary as the work progressed.

Finally, in closing he said: "On behalf of the county commissioners I am instructed to say that this building is now ready to assume its duties and perform its functions in the important department to which it pertains. But, grand and majestic as are the monuments rising above the city on the beautiful eminence, looking out upon the habitations and pursuits of more than 60,000 people in this city, and destined to look upon her hundreds of thousands of souls yet unborn; yet their chief importance is what they signify as the abiding place of equity, honor, conscious, wisdom and justice."

Men's tongues are voluble, And endless are the modes of speech, and far Extends from side to side the field of words," or ready to exclaim with Eliphaz, the Temanite: "Should a man utter vain knowledge or fill his belly with the east wind? Should he reason with unprofitable talk, or win speeches wherewith he can do no good?" But in sober earnest I am one of those who believe that the man who ennobles and dignifies the administration of justice, the more certain is justice itself; that the more clearly are our dwellings the purer are our thoughts; the more magnificent the altar the more devoted will be those who minister at it. "The place of justice," says Hæcæus, "is a haloed glory." Believing that we accept at the hands of our worthy commissioners this beautiful building, and we hope and believe that it will long remain as a monument of their good taste and painstaking care. We hope and believe that it will long look down, by day, upon a prosperous, wealthy, and growing city, upon happy homes, crowded warehouses, and bustling streets.

And if at night it shall look down, as it will, upon far different scenes, upon want and woe, and aching heads, and aching hearts, and penury and disease, and grief, and vice and crime, and passions that ripen into crime, still may the dawn light up the figure with the bandaged eyes that surrounds our dome; that all men may know that within these precincts the outraged spirit find redress, the wronged shall be righted, the criminal shall be punished, the innocent shall be shielded, and justice and equity shall prevail as long as the foundations of our government endure.

THE OLD COURT HOUSE.

Mr. John M. Thurston told about the history of the old court house: "In selecting me to deliver a sermon on the old court house, the reason given was that my appearance and daily walks so strongly resemble one of the clergy." The old court house is deserted. Soon it will live only in our memories. Clinging to its history are events that call for special notice. The fair matrons and lovely misses have there afforded slight fantastic and melodramatic incidents, the wronged shall be righted, the criminal shall be punished, the innocent shall prevail as long as the foundations of our government endure.

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and enhanced expense may declare that the presentation is an example of the biblical aphorism that "It is more blessed to give than to receive." But it is in no such spirit that we receive and accept the same position of this building that these judges have not already appropriated to their own use. And I congratulate all classes of my fellow-citizens upon its completion and transfer. I congratulate the judges, for who could be guilty of a contempt of court within these walls, which can excite only admiration and awe! I congratulate clients, for what jury in an action for personal damages would concern themselves with paltry hundreds when their very jury room is redolent of thousands? And not least, I congratulate my brethren of the bar, for what client would haggle or dispute over three or four hundred dollars, more or less, of a fee, when his cause has been won—or lost, as the case may be—amid carved woodwork and brilliant chandeliers like these.

Here, then, upon this spot where, within the memory of younger men than I, the chieftains of the Omahas and Ootas gazed down the river in spring to watch for the first boats of the returning fur traders and strained their ears to listen to the song of the cordelier, shall soon be repeated the scenes of the old court house. Here will come the homeless and wretched tramp, whose only knowledge of law consists in the constitutional provision that courts of justice shall be always open to listen to the wretchedness of counsel and the repartees of witnesses. Here on my right will sit the jury. Ah! how pleasant would be the administration of justice could the box be always filled as attractively as to-night. The jurymen will be the only ones who will regret the old court house, for they will find the conventional law in front on which they were wont to rest their weary feet, without any fear of scratching the varnish. And here above all will sit the judges, and long may they sit here, hapless victims of loquacity, sighing, in the words of the poet,

"Men's tongues are voluble, And endless are the modes of speech, and far Extends from side to side the field of words," or ready to exclaim with Eliphaz, the Temanite: "Should a man utter vain knowledge or fill his belly with the east wind? Should he reason with unprofitable talk, or win speeches wherewith he can do no good?" But in sober earnest I am one of those who believe that the man who ennobles and dignifies the administration of justice, the more certain is justice itself; that the more clearly are our dwellings the purer are our thoughts; the more magnificent the altar the more devoted will be those who minister at it. "The place of justice," says Hæcæus, "is a haloed glory." Believing that we accept at the hands of our worthy commissioners this beautiful building, and we hope and believe that it will long remain as a monument of their good taste and painstaking care. We hope and believe that it will long look down, by day, upon a prosperous, wealthy, and growing city, upon happy homes, crowded warehouses, and bustling streets.

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