

THE DAILY BEE.

OMAHA OFFICE, NO. 914 AND 916 FARNAM ST. NEW YORK OFFICE, ROOM 63, TRIBUNE BUILDING. WASHINGTON OFFICE, NO. 345 FORTNEY ST.

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THE WEEKLY BEE, Published Every Wednesday. TERMS: FORTY CENTS. One Year, with premium, \$2.00; Six Months, with premium, \$1.25; Three Months, with premium, \$0.75.

Now is the time to thaw out your thermometers. JIM LAIRD has given his war dance, but Commissioner Sparks' scalp still remains on his official head.

There are rumors of another approaching cold wave. General Hazen should be promptly court marshaled for cruelty to animals.

Now that the supreme court in its wisdom has decided that double taxation is not double taxation, the next thing in order will be a judicial decision that black is white.

MISS MINNIE DISNER, the sleeping beauty of Columbus, Neb., has been asleep about three months. Some one ought wake her up and tell her that she has been sleeping long enough.

The Mississippi river having been frozen over, the St. Paulites can now go on with the construction of their ice palace. The cost of this structure will appear in the St. Paul building statistics for 1893 to swell the grand total.

With the gutters banked five feet high with snow and the streets ridged with heavy drifts, the first thaw will cost Omaha merchants thousands of dollars in damaged stock. A foot of shoveling is worth a painful of hauling.

HAVING tried her best to Christianize Burma by annexing it to India, the political missionaries of England are protesting against the sinfulness of the inhabitants, who prefer heathendom and liberty to British rule and religion, and who are boshwacking in the neighborhood of the missionaries' lack yards.

SENATOR HOAR has introduced a bill which provides that congress shall meet every other year in October, and on alternate years in November. This announcement will send a cold chill down the backs of voters and tax-payers who feel that congress is already in session under existing laws much too long for the good of the country.

GENERAL MILES makes haste to telegraph that he isn't hankering after the Apache taming job in Arizona. By a singular coincidence President Cleveland announces on the same day that there has been no idea of relieving Crook and sending any other general to the front. Mr. Miles' friends have discovered that a king will not overrule an ace.

THE snow banks on Farnam street should be immediately removed, otherwise when the January thaw comes there will be flooded cellars all along the line, and thousands of dollars of damage will be done, for which the city will be responsible. The city council to avoid suits for damages should not lose a moment's delay in taking steps to clear off the snow on Farnam street.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSIONER BLACK, of Washington, is raising a tempest about his ears because he declines to receive callers without previous notice by card. Mr. Black should be promptly removed, and an outrageous departure from the standard of Jeffersonian simplicity deserves fitting rebuke. When the time comes that the average congressman can't answer into the departments as he sauntered them, bang his hat on the spittoon and his feet on the mantle piece an indignant public will rise as one man and protest against such an abuse of official power.

SPEAKING of grand juries, the Herald ought to be indicted at the next term of court as a common scold. Continued abuse of reputable citizens and officials for personal and political ends is so absorbing the mind of its editor that he is violating the ordinary proprieties in order to score a point for the slate. It must be agreeable for James E. Boyd to hear his administration denounced as that of a gang of thieves and scoundrels, while he boasts in private that it is as good as the best that Omaha ever had.

COL. MORRISON, of Illinois, has learned from his experience in the last congress that talking tariff reduction and securing tariff revision are two very different matters. He declines accordingly to state his position until after the organization for work of the committee on ways and means, but intimates that he is satisfied with the outlook. So are the friends of Mr. Randall and the great lobby which organized for the protection of protected industries several weeks before the names of Col. Morrison's committee were read from the speaker's desk. The heaviest tariff revision will be made on paper during the coming session. That is no more divides the party to-day than the issue of the continued coinage of the silver dollar.

The democratic leaders who conceal their thoughts on a tariff reduction with a cloak of meaningless verbosity fear a reduction of the party majority more than they do anything else. This is why it is again announced that the present congress will probably take a conservative course in dealing with important questions. In nine cases out of ten, congressional conservatism means individual cowardice backed by financial inducements to inaction.

Forced to Back Down.

The strike on the New York Elevated railroads last week afforded Governor and his stock jobbing associates another opportunity to exhibit their reckless defiance of public interests. They promptly availed themselves of the occasion, failing to compel the engineers to work at unreasonable hours on an unsatisfactory schedule of prices, and fearing a strike, they decided to make short work of the controversy by suspending travel on the Second Avenue and the Ninth Avenue lines, with the object of throwing the engineers out of employment. Orders to that effect were issued in which they asked the kind indulgence of the public until the matter was settled. The orders were rescinded within a few hours. Mr. Gould and his associates had their attention called to the important fact which they had neglected to consider, that their high handed proceeding was sufficient ground under their charter for the immediate revocation by the state. New York's monopoly managers have been noted for their cool disregard of the rights of the public and their open defiance of the laws, but this performance beats the record of brazen cheek. If common carriers can at pleasure suspend the operation of their public functions, the public at large would be placed in a enviable position of dependence upon the temper of the railroad managers. The refusal to vote bonds to grant rights of way to crush out competition by deciding to patronize rival roads might each and all be made the excuse for putting on the screws. It is remarkable that the managers of the Elevated railroads had the audacity to order such a movement in the face of the decision of the courts in the great freight handling strikes of 1882. The relations of the public to the corporations and their obligations to carry out their charter contracts were clearly defined as follows, in the decision at that time: "These facts reduce the question to this: Can railroad corporations refuse or neglect to perform their public duties upon a contract with their employees over the cost of expense doing them? We think this question admits of but one answer. The excess has in law no validity. The duties imposed must be discharged at whatever cost. They cannot be laid down or abandoned or suspended without the legally expressed consent of the state. The trusts are active, potent and imperative, and must be executed until lawfully surrendered; otherwise a public highway of great utility is closed or obstructed without any process recognized by law. This is something no public officer charged with the same trust and duties in regard to other public highways can do without reflecting himself to mandamus or indictment."

Little by little the men who have created and fostered the idea that the public were made for the railroads, and not the railroads for the public, are learning that they have underestimated the powers which reside in the people for enforcing equity and justice even in corporate monopolies. The trend of all judicial opinions on disputed points is to construe strictly the privileges granted to the corporations and to give wide latitude to those reserved to the people. The history of the past ten years has been one of progress in restricting the aggressions of the great monopolies. The rapidity with which the Elevated railroad managers came to terms after the defeat of back down shows that there is a point beyond which even Mr. Gould and his gang cannot go in dealing with their patrons.

An Unfailing Crop. While the east is worrying over the prospective failure of the ice crop and the speculators are still engaged in figuring up the surplus of grain carried over from the past year, the crop of office-seekers continues to increase in such numbers as to dismay the statistic grinders at the national capital who attempt to estimate its proportions. The hope that the civil service law would reduce the numbers of the legion who are pressing on toward Washington in an insane desire to shed ink for their country has proved a false one. One of the sections of the law appointments to be made under its provisions among the states and territories according to population. It was supposed that this would prevent excessive office-seeking in one section as against other sections. The result has proved to the contrary. According to the report of Commissioner Eaton, Maryland had double the applicants of all New England with New Jersey and Delaware added, although she was only entitled to nineteen appointments to the thousand, Virginia has an equal appetite, while little Delaware had more applications than Vermont, Florida, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Ohio, never modest in her demands, swings boldly to the front with double the applications of Michigan, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, while Indiana also has more applications than the six states just named.

The desire to hold office has become a mania which nothing seems to check. The office-seeker seems to imagine that the public office means plenty to get and little to do. Young men, whose ambitions if turned into other channels would bring them handsome returns, are willing to sacrifice independence and brilliant prospects for the sake of holding down a chair in one of the departments. The only sure thing about a government position is that the longer it is held the more it untits the occupant for any other business. So long as it is earned the salary is paid, but when it stops it stops very suddenly. The chronic office holder out of office is one of the most pitiable sights of the present day.

Disappointed Demonetizers. Advocates of a gold standard are reluctantly forced to admit that there is little prospect that the silver dollar will be demonetized at the present session of congress. The most careful canvass fails to show a majority in favor of repealing the coinage act. On the contrary, the preponderance of opinion seems to be opposed not only to demonetization, but to any change looking to a suspension of coinage or an increase in the weight of the dollars as now coined. Mr. Carlisle's committee on coinage probably represents the temper of congress on the subject. It is headed by Mr. Bland, and its membership is said to stand outside of the chairman, in opposition to any attack on silver or readjustment in the relative standard of value between the two metals. For some reasons this is to be regretted. The rapid accumulation of silver in the treasury vault under the present coinage law, and the continued decline in the demand for the use of the metal abroad has thrown upon the Uni-

States the maintenance of a heavily sagging market for the product of our mines. A conservative measure for relief which would either furnish a dollar of increased weight or give new outlets for the silver accumulations would some months ago have been generally acceptable. But the fanatical advocates of demonetization and a gold standard overdid so overwhelmingly their policy of bluff, threatening and do-or-fear statistics, that they created a reaction against any change in the coinage laws which would look like an enforced yielding to their threat. The country was informed that the business depression was due to a double standard, that the industrial stagnation, the result of over-production and under-consumption, was intimately connected with a depreciated dollar. The organs of the great Wall street operators teemed with editorials predicting disaster and panic unless the United States followed England's example and enforced the payments of debts on a gold basis. Eastern congressmen were interviewed, and western representatives misrepresented, while the mails were flooded with pamphlets filled with statistics carefully compiled in seaboard banking houses. The attack on silver as a medium of exchange and a measure of value, the two functions of a substantial coinage, was so universal, so bitter, and so persistent, that it destroyed the very object for which it was made.

Why Not? The weather seems to have frozen up several of the railroad projects in this section of the state, but with the approaching January thaw they ought to be floated into public notice again. Next to a line into the northwest, built from Omaha and controlled by Omaha capital, the most advantageous move in the interests of the city would be the direct extension of the Chicago & Northwestern from Fremont eastward to the Missouri at Omaha. Connecting lines from Kearney and Bell Creek would only help matters by shortening by a few miles the distance to the main line. An extension along the old Dey survey would bring the main line of that important system to our doors, and would make Omaha the actual terminus of another transcontinental line. Why cannot Manager Hughitt and his associates consider the advisability of such a movement before definitely deciding upon the construction of the proposed stub northward? With the headquarters of the road removed to Omaha as proposed and the operating force residents of our city, local associations would rapidly foster a feeling of mutual interest which would go far towards removing the antagonism of the past. With the terminus of the main line on the Missouri at this point, the Northwestern would at once be regarded by our people as largely an Omaha road, traffic would increase to mutual advantage and both parties concerned would reap the benefits of the change.

LOS. JOHN M. LANGSTON, ex-minister to Hayti, has been making some sensible remarks on the negro question. Mr. Langston thinks that the negro understands that he has reached the second stage of his social condition since the time of reconstruction, and that he may begin to study the question of civil rights and settle it in the promotion of a wise forecast and patriotic desire. He begins to appreciate that he must bring himself into such relationship with the people of the south, in whose midst he largely dwells, as to blunt the edge of their past animities toward him, and secure, if possible, through political action, a condition of things which will, while it brings him industrial rewards, educational advantages, and general moral improvement, secure peace, thorough reconciliation, and general amity to both classes of the south. No one can doubt the possibility and probability of the moral and social condition predicted. The change which is prophesied soon to come in the south cannot appear to-day to be less reasonable and the prospect of its fulfillment less hopeful than was twenty-five years ago. The change which has already taken place as regards the status of the colored citizen of the north, and the negro problem is to be solved by the negro himself in his cultivation of intelligence, virtue, wealth and good understanding.

On Friday last a St. Paul dry good house received a consignment of springs dry goods occupying a train of twenty-five cars. This is the biggest single shipment of such goods ever received by a single house in the history of commerce. If Omaha had a dry goods house that handled goods in this wholesale fashion, our trade in this line would amount to something. It is a lamentable fact that Omaha has but two wholesale dry goods houses, one of which does only a limited business. There is plenty of room in Omaha for two or three first-class dry goods houses, and our board of trade in conjunction with the jobbers in other lines of goods should take steps to secure the location of such a house here at an early day. It would help the wholesale trade generally. Omaha has just as good territory as St. Paul for the proper steps are taken to supply the demands of general trade.

DE LESSEPS has scored a point in favor of further assistance for his Panama canal. It is announced that the French government has finally agreed to send a commissioner to Panama to investigate the affairs of the canal company. If a favorable report is given, then the government will assist in floating a canal loan, but if otherwise the whole enterprise is to be abandoned. There can be little doubt as to the result of this arrangement. The government commissioner will be so well treated and so deluged with arguments and facts that he will make a glowing report, and then will follow a government loan and a temporary boom in canal stock.

ANOTHER bank cashier has struck for Canada and liberty. The theory of public justice has received a heavy blow from the statement just published that the small-pox epidemic in Montreal failed to attack a single member of the American banking colony. The first precautions now taken by new eastern bank employees are to learn the combination of the safe and to have their vaccination marks renewed.

The People's Friend. St. Louis Republican. Charles H. Van Wyck is a candidate for reelection to the United States senate from Nebraska, and is supported as the "people's friend."

POLITICAL POINTS.

Mahone is still kicking. He opposes conferring the presidential nomination. There are four prominent aspirants to the field for the seat of Senator Maxey of Texas. Ex-Congressman Crisp wants the next republican nomination for governor of Massachusetts.

Fitzhugh Lee continues to decline the gifts sent him, even when they come in the shape of thoroughbred horses. Francis E. Willard says the two old parties are the sworn allies of the saloon. She insists on having a third party at once.

Ex-Senator Wm. Stewart has built a house at Carson City and expects to get back into the senate from the Sagebrush state. A New York correspondent says Sheriff Hugh J. Grant is to be the real chief of Tammany under John Kelly's faded wig.

The temperance people in Virginia propose to hold the democrats in the legislature strictly to the pledges made in favor of local option. It is said that there will not be many changes in the organization of the New York county democracy this year. Combinations against Tammany are brewing as usual.

The New York Star says the habit congressmen have of appointing their relatives as clerks of committees is less objectionable than that of appointing newspaper men. The Philadelphia Press urges the senate not to confirm Gen. Rosecrans' appointment on the ground that he slandered Gen. Grant. Old lines is a little to free with his tongue, but he has been shockingly aggravated.

The Galveston News calls attention to the fact that while tributes to the memory of "Bob" Toombs have plentifully come from all parts of the country, none has been dated from Beauvoir, Miss., the home of Jefferson Davis. Seven editors are members of the present house of representatives. They are Boutwell of Maine, Parkside of Mississippi, Daltzer and Merriam of New York, and Seranton and Swope of Pennsylvania.

Senator Ingalls, of Kansas, believes that the issue in the next presidential campaign will be the relations between capital and labor, the protection of American industries, the control of railroad corporations and the currency. Speaker Husted, of the New York assembly, in his opening speech that although it was only eight years since he was before elevated to the same office, not a single other member who sat in the assembly then was a member of the present body. This shows how few members of the legislature manage to suit the people.

Lost in the Shuffle. Populist Times. Dawes' senatorial boom evidently lost itself in the recent blizzard. Gifted With a Sharp Sting. Richmond (Mo.) Bee. We are indebted to Captain C. A. Morse, of Omaha, for a copy of the Omaha Bee; a robust old honey-maker that is evidently gifted with a sharp sting. Hope No Mistake Has Been Made. Chicago News. Nebraska trappers, who have been taking observations at the beaver dams, predict an early spring. Considering that there are upward of forty thousand postholes still in the hands of the public within the last few years, and the democratic brethren who are sitting out on the sidewalk in linen dusters and straw hats, that the beavers have made no mistake.

Omaha's Growth. Populist Times. Omaha has made a wonderful growth during the last year. The prospects now are that the coming year will be one of greater prosperity than the past. Omaha has pushed far ahead of Denver within the last few years, and nothing now will prevent it from overtaking Minneapolis and Kansas City in the near future. Within ten years from today Omaha will be a second Chicago.

Like One Who Had Done His Duty. Chicago News. Our admirable friend, Dr. George L. Miller, editor of the Omaha Herald, announces in double-lined brevier type, at the head of his editorial page, that he doesn't intend to recommend any more office-seekers to the tender mercies of the admission man. "The general of the Doek sneaks like one who had done his duty," Mr. Miller readily like to see a list of Nebraska democrats he has provided with jobs.

The West Fairly Howls. Springfield (Mo.) Republican. Land Commissioner Sparks has raised the biggest storm of any of the officers below the cabinet. The west fairly howls. For instance, Special Agent Webster Eaton, after examining a portion of the Duluth and St. Cloud districts reported that 4500 homestead entries had been made in the last few years, and that the number of actual settlers, and that there were not 100 actual settlers living by farming on the soil in the whole region.

General Crook All Right. Providence Journal. The president will make a mistake if he removes General Crook from command in Arizona, in deference to the clamor of the citizens. In the judgment of Grant, Sherman and the best military authorities, Crook is the best man for the job. He has no officer has been so successful in either restraining or fighting the Apaches. As a matter of fact, the conditions of the problem are such that no man could do better than Crook in preventing trouble, and General Crook has done better than any one else.

'Tis Sweet to be an Editor.' Oregon (Mo.) Press. One of the beauties of a rural editor's life is in his "deadheading" on all occasions. One who has never readied on the sweetest of that bliss can begin to comprehend the glory of his happiness. He does \$100 worth of advertising for a railroad, gets a pass for a year, reads \$25 worth, and then is looked upon as a deadhead. He puts up a concert troupe or a side show \$10 worth, gets a complimentary ticket, and is the passed "free." If he had it crowded he is begrudged the space he occupies, for if his seats were paying tickets, the concern would be so much in pocket. He blows a church festival free to any desired extent, and does the poster printing if they ever have any; at ball games, and rarely gets a "thank you" for his aid in any part of the duties of the editor, and he is given credit it up under. He does more work gratuitously for the town and community than all the rest of the population put together, and gets "cussed" for it all. Oh, 'tis sweet to be an editor, for he passes "free" for you know.

Seasonable Advice. Good Household. Don't let the door stand open, but shut it when you can. Without a bang, without a whang, yes, shut it fair and square. Without a slam, without a jam, without a slam or jerk. For if you've left it open, go shut it, and don't tsk it.

No Christian man or woman, no well-trained clerk or child, will let a door swing idly, to make weak nerves run wild. When chilly winds are blowing—and some are blowing—let the open door be creaking and muttering like a scold.

Haste makes but waste, remember, so plenty take of time. Don't let the door half open—a fault almost a crime. And if you've ever done this, don't do so any more. Whatever else you fail to do, don't fail to shut the door.

A QUARTER CENTURY SHAKE.

Fragments of the First Annual Crush at the Bourbon Court. The Ladies of Administration on Dress Parade—A Charming Display at the White House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8, 1888.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—The much talked of and thought about New Year's reception at the white house last Friday morning set the social ball in motion and there will be no cad to the giddy whirl till solemn Lent pulls down the blinds.

Cleveland has tucked away in that big chest of his, a trifle of the manly weakness called vanity, and being only human, there is no doubt on the subject, he certainly had good cause for keeping up the beaming smile while he stood for four mortal hours pawing out a good welcome to thousands of the great untrifled American people. Whew! What a contract for a man to take! I don't believe Grover Cleveland fully realized how much of a contract he had signed till he was ready to blow out the candle and say his evening prayers, and then I fancy he was tired. If we could only have heard him think for five minutes in the sacred silence of his retiring room, we might have something very interesting, and possibly amusing, to relate. If his presidential life is to be measured by the pleasures New Year's day afforded, what a picnic he will have.

THE DAY WAS PERFECT. clear, balmy and delicious as an early spring day. Indeed, "Old winter" was slumbering in the open air wearing on his snuffling face a dream of spring, and everybody, not otherwise engaged, took to the streets. People of all kinds and colors, people of many diamonds and few brains, people of many brains and few diamonds, people of lofty airs and bad breeding, people with moulty smelling linen, of ancient styles, minus front and in short, people who had been "waiting twenty-five years to shake hands with a democratic president," fell into line at an early hour in front of the executive mansion and good-naturedly while their turn to be seen by a nod and a wink passed over his face as he entered his carriage, no doubt thinking of the past, present and future.

Senator Call of Florida, accompanied by his wife and two children, a beautiful child, received much attention from the president and Miss Cleveland. A Michigan member of the house, with his wife and five small children, the youngest not being over two years of age, was also present with special attentions. These are a few of the many incidents seen in the Blue room.

THE BEST OF ORDER PREVAILED throughout the entire reception. Everything ran with the correctness of well-oiled machinery. Col. Wilson, who had the air of one doing a pleasant official duty, with extra pay, discouraged all of the "social" advances, and called out the names in a clear, full voice, distinct enough to flatter the most conceited caller. Nothing is more pleasing to a caller than to have his name loudly spoken and being introduced to the president.

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Said one who has grown grey in attending New Year's receptions at the white house: "This is the best conducted and largest reception of the kind I have ever attended and there is nothing to equal it on record." Most gratifying to the administration, and if the year ends as it has begun, hope will tell a flattering tale in the ear of the democratic party. The custom of keeping "open house" on New Year's day is not likely to go out of fashion in Washington, even if New York society does close its doors and go out of town to their winter resorts. They were generally observed and if men were made drunk they did not appear in public.

Grotesque Performances. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. A recent writer argues that certain animals have the sense of humor, in common with human beings. Surely even the most solemn mule man will feel his laughing when he looks at the antics of the present administration in the matter of reform.

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THE BLUE ROOM.

lighted with gas wrote all the parlors, except the east room, was largely banked with plants and flowers, and it was a relief to see a perfect jam behind the receiving party as on former occasions. Mrs. Call, Lamont and the president's private secretary were among those standing in the rear, and some very pretty young girls simply and daintily dressed, seemed to enjoy the sights as young innocent girls can, and were ready to make an attack upon every young boy who came along. Among the noticeable contrasts to be seen at such times, was the elegant Manning, faultlessly dressed, standing beside Senator Patton of Ohio. A western cyclone couldn't have made clothes look more huddled together. A tall, gaunt man, who will never see the sunny side of sixty years again, his thin eyes not twinkling as they met the long head, which seemed to come to a point at the tip of his nose, upon which rested a pair of gold specs, and through them was peering at the crowd, standing on the end of the row, with his hands thrust under his coat-tail. With his crushed, old-fashioned dickey, around which was a thin black tie, with the knot just under the left ear, he had the appearance of having been fished out of an oil well. The contrast between these noted men was very striking. Manning always poses with great advantage, and seems to keep his legs, which are not much favored, small for his stout body, out of sight. Sitting beside a lady on a sofa as the colored veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic passed along, said the elegant Manning: "I would not shake hands with those fellows were I in the president's place." These side remarks are very interesting to a mere looker-on.

The Hon. Sam Bland, who is a model man socially was sufficed, but his sides by the overbearing ovation he received from the president and party in the blue room. With him the president talked through a smile, and then called, jesting him over his defeat in the election, and telling him he should have a black mark if he didn't do better in the future. Sam looked happy and was the center of attraction for the next few minutes. Next to claim the attention of the crowd was Senator Logan. The lion's share of public honors bestowed seem to take away his whole self-control, and while he is in a short, people who have been in his skin being darker and thicker, he really seemed to be embarrassed over the attention paid him, and slid out of the crush as quickly as possible. A very quiet, but a very good man, with a merry twinkle passed over his face as he entered his carriage, no doubt thinking of the past, present and future.

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