

THE DAILY BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETORS. R. HENKLE, EDITOR.

ALL is quiet at Salt Lake. After all the principal agony on the Mormon question seems to be in Washington.

Snow in the gutters means water in the cellars when the January thaw begins to get in its most unpleasant work.

Now that the thermometer has risen the "oldest inhabitant" is thawing out his reminiscences. The State Historical society leads the way.

So far three representatives in congress have failed to introduce a bill at the present session. They are still confined to their rooms by sickness.

MAYOR BOYD proposes to wait until the 1st of April. If the mayor expects a new council who will sneeze when he takes snuff, he may find himself an April fool.

THE Herald informs us that Mr. Clark has returned and intimates that he stands ready to push the Omaha & Northrup. Why doesn't he do it then? Who is holding him back?

A LARGE batch of presidential nominations have passed muster in executive session. The senators who howled so loudly about preventing confirmations seem to have been left out in the cold.

SEVERAL newly-appointed Nebraska postmasters now read their title clear, having been confirmed by the senate, but we fail to observe the name of J. C. Morgan, of Kearney, among the lucky ones.

HAVING disposed of the gas question the puffers and ice men should now be made to toe the chalk mark. An agitation against the charges of these public benefactors is as safe a raid on the Mormons.

FLORIDA is growing over the cold wave which has ruined her orange crop, and Delaware produces a peach famine next summer. California has not yet been heard from. The first editor to announce frost in that section of "God's own country" would be lynched by an excited community.

THE great powers are urging Greece, Servia, Bulgaria and Turkey to demobilize their armies. With the great powers watching the first chance to seize upon their territory, the smaller powers are too shrewd to accept the invitation. Disarmament and demobilization in Europe go hand in hand.

NEW YORK is now at fever heat over the question of high license, and clergymen, brewers, editors and distillers are all taking a hand in the controversy. Nebraska settled the question several years ago to the satisfaction of her citizens and has no desire to change it for either low license or prohibition, which means no license.

GEN. LOGAN is preparing for the greatest effort of his life in the speech to be delivered against the Fitz John Porter bill. It is to be hoped that he will give due prominence to Gen. Grant's personal letters which the general addressed to Logan after his careful revision of the performed testimony upon which a brave and gallant officer was crushed in disgrace after saving John Pope's army from destruction on August 30, 1862.

If the Republican will turn to the BEE of Monday, January 4th, it will find that story, "Cleaned out the House," etc., which it reprints and credits to the Chicago Sun. The Sun stole the article from the BEE and put a date to it: "Lander, Wyoming, Jan. 4th." This enterprise on the part of the Republican is equal to its recent publication of a patent plate article on a "A Novel Jail," which originated in the Council Bluffs page of the BEE several months ago.

FOUR thousand bills have already been introduced into congress, of which 3,600 are private bills. Some of these days congress will see the folly of lumbering up the calendar with this class of projected legislation and will provide a proper tribunal to dispose of such material. As things now go ninety-nine out of a hundred bills of this class will be introduced never to see the daylight of debate.

PHILADELPHIA wholesalers think they have invented a scheme for keeping track of their drummers. The Merchant Travelers' Protective society will probably take action on the subject at their next meeting. The flight of a drummer on his tour is as unrestricted as that of a Jay bird in the spring, and the profession will indignantly resent such an invasion by their employers upon their inherent privileges.

THE bids for the South Omaha viaduct show a difference between the various bidders ranging from \$5,000 to \$40,000. Whether this difference represents the ability of any one company to do the work better and more substantially than another we do not know. We suppose there must be a considerable divergence in the plans. The lowest bidder appears to be the Missouri Valley Bridge and Iron company. The difference between their bids on Tenth and Eleventh streets is \$5,954 on a twenty-foot viaduct and \$9,005 on a thirty-foot viaduct. This is a trifling difference compared with the difference to be derived from the location of the viaduct on Tenth street, with the attendant advantages of a union depot, safe crossings and the preservation of Tenth street as a thoroughfare.

American Landlordism.

Mr. Gill's interesting review of landlordism in America, published in the North American Review for January, is attracting widespread attention. The author was sent as a special commissioner by that magazine to investigate the land conditions in some of the western states and territories, and presents the results of his inquiries in a summary which cannot fail to quicken the anxiety and alarm of our people over the rapid absorption of our national domain and its consolidation into the ownership of the few. Mr. Gill observes that it is hard to say which is the more surprising, the rapid growth of landlordism in this country or the ignorance or indifference of its citizens on the subject. There is a popular belief that the agriculture of the country is carried on by the farmers who own their lands. How great is this delusion is seen by an appeal to statistics. The census of 1880 was the first to take note of this subject. It showed 1,024,001 farms rented by tenants. In the five years which have elapsed it is a moderate and well-considered estimate that the number has increased twenty-five per cent. In other words there are more tenant farmers paying rent to landlords in the United States than in the entire United Kingdom. In the state of Illinois there are more tenant farmers than in Scotland. At the same ratio of increase the next census will see us with a tenant farmer population of fully a million and a half. The tendency is noted toward tenancy, even in those who now own their little farms, and the chief cause is said to be debt. Of the 7,670,493 persons returned by the census as being engaged in agriculture, 2,981,396 were registered as nominal owners of their holdings. But thousands and thousands of these small farms are plastered with mortgages. When the farmers who actually cultivate their own lands are deducted from the farmers whose holdings are mortgaged, nearly to their value and from the capitalists who own farms of 1,000 acres or over, the extent of landlordism is more strongly revealed. Capitalists have always looked with greedy eyes upon real estate investments. The growth of land monopoly is steadily advancing as the public domain diminishes. In 1870 25,576,900 acres of government land capable of cultivation and open to settlement was reported. Two-thirds of this vast area has already been gobbled up, largely by syndicates and their tools. The generosity of the government to its citizens has been abused in the interests of land speculators and monopolists. It was the much-abused Land Commissioner Sparks who was the first to give the country official warning of the enormous extent to which the public domain had been plundered. It has been his earnest work in attempting to close the doors upon the thieves that brought down upon him the fury of the land rings and their organs. The time is rapidly approaching when every acre of tillable government land will be exhausted. The outlets for the over-crowded east will be gone. Land will necessarily enhance in value and free homes for the millions will be no longer the cry to turn westward the old time stream of immigration. Then the land question will be presented to America for its solution just as it is now forced into prominence in England and Ireland, and the war against the landlords will rage with as much fury in the United States as it now does across the water.

Our Congressmen.

Gen. Braeg of Wisconsin says a Fitz John Porter restoration bill will be passed by the house by a large majority.

Some of the mugwump papers complain that the democrats in congress have no leaders to suit the complainers.

Congressman Stahluecker, Hiscock and Leve, Springer, Burrows, Cobb and Bliss are among the handsome men of the country, according to a Washington special.

Mr. Lawler, says the Chicago Times, is not on many of the committees. It is believed, indeed, that his duties in the committee rooms will not require even the number of hours that he holds should always constitute a legal day's work.

Mr. William Morrison, familiarly known

as Horizontal Billie, is said to be a "ready to stand or fall by his convictions." This anticipation of calamity accounts for the gracefulness with which the Hon. Mr. Morrison bites the dust every once in a while.

A congressman complains that he received 4,000 letters from constituents, nearly all of which related to office and had to be answered. It is this sort of thing that raises up advocates for Senator Hampton's bill making it unlawful for congressmen to solicit appointments.

Congressman Maybury, of Michigan, has introduced a bill setting aside the St. Clair basin as a national shooting and fishing resort. The president's long stay in the north woods last summer is an assurance, perhaps, that a bill so pleasing to the sportsman need stand in no fear of a veto.

Congressman Scott, of Erie, Pa., takes the shine off everything on the Washington drives with a \$3,500 span of horses. Both are sixteen and half hands high, one by Harry and the other by the Duke of Devonshire, the other by King William, son of John Dillard, and by Washington Denmark. Of course, being Kentuckians, they are good democrats.

Unhappy lies the congressional head that rests on the shoulders of a democrat these days. If his district is made up, as is usually the case, of several counties, each county has a half dozen men who want to fill his shoes. As he has to choose in his recommendation for postmasters in his district between a dozen applicants for every office, he makes eleven men mad when he pleases one. The eleven at once attack themselves to the cause of some one of his rivals and begin to make the district his enemy. The chief of the new candidate, Objector Holman is just now encountering a cyclone of this nature in his district.

Sullivan's Belligerency.

John L. Sullivan must think that Mitchell is a newsboy. He wants to fight him every day in the week.

Nothing Mean About Them.

The land-grabbers would willingly give Secretary Lamar six feet of their earth if he would only die.

Anybody Can Run a Newspaper.

Anybody can run a newspaper. Of course they can. It is light, easy, congenial employment, to be successful in which neither capital, business experience nor brains is absolutely essential.

Pleasantly That Follows the Blizzard.

Now that a blizzard has swept through Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, it will be presumably followed by the cheerful anecdote about wearing dusters and gathering wild flowers that bloom in the blizzard.

The Debate Ought to Close.

Two men robbed the bank at Clinton, Mass. One of them, an ordinary bank robber, is now in Canada. The other, a brilliant young student of Harvard university, is in jail. The debate over the comparative advantages of practical and theoretical education ought now to close.

Jew or Christian.

We think we may not know something about the merchants of New York, and we aver that among the Jewish merchants who reside here, there are men of high character and of principle superior to any form of cheating. In truth, the Jews are no more dishonest than Christians, nor is the proportion of rascals in them any greater than it is among Christians.

Church Howe's Retirement.

The Omaha Bee announces that the Hon. Church Howe, of Nebraska, has retired from politics. This strikes us as being a state news. Unless we are grievously mistaken, Mr. Howe retired very permanently from politics about eighteen months ago, when he went down south with the intention of going to the office to carry the old slave states for Jim Blaine. As we distinctly remember Mr. Howe's fall into a big hole just about that time, and it was reported at the time that he pulled the hole in after him.

The National Silverites' View.

An able correspondent wants to know what, in brief, is the position of the silver question. It is that silver is a money metal, and that we have coined enough of it—enough, at least, for immediate use—and that congress should have sense enough to stop the forced production of silver dollars. The only objection in going on with the coinage of silver, as the case stands, is to depreciate our money standard and confuse our commercial relations. This is not desirable. It would degrade us from our position as a first-class nation to lower the standard.

Omaha as a Port of Entry.

Senator Manderson has succeeded in getting Omaha recognized as a port of entry. This we think eminently proper. Omaha is unquestionably the eastern gateway to a mighty territory—a fertile paradise of numerous cowboys, marauding aborigines, scrub catwags, thieving Indian agents, and conscienceless land sharks—an infinite expanse of sand and buffalo chips, coyotes and prairie dogs, cyclones and blizzards. Yes, we can see why Omaha should have been created a port of entry; but he who passes her should leave all hope behind.

The Bovine Aristocracy.

In the cattle-growing industry of the west an attempt is making to build up a bovine aristocracy by making the owners of less than 50,000 head ineligible to seats in the annual convention at Denver. Although there is more or less objection to the arrangement on the part of small owners, they are not left entirely without resource. The western cattle raiser with a bunch of a hundred head, or more, can easily get a cow to travel from his ranch to Denver, is a very poor stock raiser for that part of the country.

Active and Experienced Liars.

The active and experienced liars employed by the land thieves to attack and misrepresent Land Commissioner Sparks through the columns of the New York Tribune and other organs of the ring are striving to deserve the full measure of reproof administered to their cause by making the owners of less than 50,000 head ineligible to seats in the annual convention at Denver, is a very poor stock raiser for that part of the country.

Miss Cleveland Positively Handsome.

Washington Correspondent, Group News. It is encouraging to state, in the midst of gloomy forebodings, that Miss Cleveland is unquestionably handsome. This may not have its true value in the opinion of outsiders, but with a cloud that contains a silver lining, it is a good thing that there will be a civil service and a dozen other pestiferous things bothering the administration, the consciousness that a good-looking woman presides at the white house is full of balm. She always had an excellent face, and now

Hymn to a Plumber.

Sweet man, so cool, so calm, so bright, O'ner of earth and sky! I fear it's going to freeze to-night—It's in your eye.

STATE AND TERRITORY.

Nebraska Jottings.

The boiler house of the Fremont foundry was destroyed by fire Tuesday.

Several Dixon county farmers will expect to improve the blizzard next season.

The Citizens' bank of Plattsmouth has increased its capital stock to \$100,000.

A store building and several residences were destroyed by fire in Gothenburg last Saturday.

An old man named Dickman, living near Scribner, blew his brains out with a shotgun last week.

The store department of the B. & M. at Plattsmouth handled \$2,000,000 worth of material last year.

Fourteen engines were wrecked while bucking snow drifts on the Burlington & Missouri line last season.

The Plattsmouth shops of the Burlington & Missouri have received an order to build four pony engines and ten way cars.

Work has been resumed at Trinity college, Blaine, Mo. The four-story brick structure is owned by the Danish Lutheran society, and is the only one of its kind in America.

A lightning jerker at Hastings recently skipped out of town with a married woman. The deserted husband is now camping on their trail, and a bloody collision may be looked for.

Two locomotives and a plow took a drive at a snow bank near Fairbury last week. When quiet was restored both engines were in the ditch, the conductor and fireman were injured severely.

A party by the name of Smith ran foul of Jack Donovan's shot gun at a ranch ten miles north of Sidney last Saturday.

Edward Anderson, a stage driver, turned up his toes at the notorious hog ranch of Octavia Reeves, in Sioux county, recently. The dive is the headquarters of the worst gang of toughs alive. There was a general fusillade of guns when Anderson dropped, and the murderer cannot be apprehended.

Three Plattsmouth sports started out to search for b'ar on the Iowa bottoms. Tuesday, K. McKenzie, an expert can opener, headed the procession, with Dan Coffey, the Keweenaw warbler, and Dan Coffey, an express messenger, trailing cautiously in the rear. Suddenly a crash was heard and McKenzie and his gun were crossing a slippery cake of ice.

The conclusion of the winter sports in Iowa and sixteenth grains of shot plowed furrows in Coffey's legs. He will be laid up for two weeks, and Iowa b'ar will get a rest.

A sensational scandal struck North Bend within the last few days, which promises to keep the tongue of gossip greased for the winter. Two years ago a young man struck the town with only a good suit of clothes, and a veneer of respectability about him. He hung out his shingle as a lawyer and plunged into the social vortex like a veteran. He became the chief sponser and leader in all reform movements, as well as the defender of the town's interests. A few weeks ago he was married to one of the belles of the town and started for the east on a bridal tour. He had scarcely crossed the Missouri river when an Indiana sheriff arrived in North Bend with a warrant for the arrest of W. H. Claire, the identical leader of society and recently wedded lawyer. Claire's career in Hoosierdom had been so successful that he had been named in Richmond in that state, and borrowed a team and buggy with which he traveled overland to Nebraska and finally sold the outfit in North Bend. This trial of goods was so successful that he moved to Richmond, and shook the confidence of several prominent bankers, one of whom started in pursuit of the bridal party, and they were overhauled in Iowa. He brought returned to her home, and Claire settled with his pursuer.

Iowa Items.

A proposition is on foot at Indiana to establish monthly live stock sales on an extensive scale.

During December Manchester shipped 78,400 pound of butter, 100,200 poultry and 2,050 ducks.

The clock factory which was looking all over Iowa for a location has finally anchored at Rock Island, Ill.

The shot tower at Dubuque is closed, and the proprietors will remove to Omaha, which is a better point for manufacturing.

The Scranton Journal defines a blizzard as "a very thick wind, moving with great velocity, which finds all sides of a building simultaneously."

The state railroad commissioners were at Dubuque last week for the purpose of selecting a location for the union depot that is to be built there this year.

As an instance of the carelessness of Cedar Rapids merchants, in the report of the merchant packing for the year 1885 just published, it is stated that 416 doors and windows and twelve safes were found open, and \$75 worth of goods were left outside of the stores.

Andrew Benedict, of 12 year old boy at Leota, Monday morning while working about the barn was kicked in the face by a horse. The lower jaw bone was broken so badly that a portion of it had to be removed, and all his teeth were knocked out. He is now in the hospital, and the law, the checks are out on from the mouth back to the ear on both sides of the face. The horse had but recently been sharp shod, and the boy lives he will probably be maimed for life.

Dakota.

The improvements in Huron last year amounted to \$202,080.

The packing house at Sioux Falls kills about 750 hogs a week.

When the blizzard struck Deadwood last Thursday the mercury tumbled 40°.

The Big Hills Mining company has purchased 160 acres of land near Buffalo Gap for \$10,000, which will be laid out in city lots.

A number of persons have been cutting

THE RAILROAD PROBLEM.

Lopping Off Withered Branches of a Great Evil, While the Root Spread and Flourish.

True statesmanship will search first for the real cause of evils, and then will seek to apply a remedy equal to the removal of the cause. Accepting symptoms for diseases, treating effects instead of causes, is as disastrous in politics as it is in physics; and the political and medical charlatan can be classed together as alike ignorant of sound principles and harmful instead of helpful to the disorders they would cure. Legislation upon the transportation question to the present time peculiarly illustrates this kind of superficial treatment. The last act in the legislative drama in Nebraska offers a case in point. By it a pseudo commission was established having power to investigate complaints and make recommendations. This is the limit of its authority. Its action under this authority has come to be a laughable farce, with no serious aspect whatever save the one of cost to the people, coupled with regret that any effort by a sovereign state, even though an unchristian one, should be allowed to be barren of result, or entirely powerless to reach the real evils for which it was proposed as a remedy. What are these evils? If any man supposes they are embraced in a great disease of the railroad system, or greater or less inequality of rates on the long or short haul or any temporary inadequacy of conveniences at way stations or terminal points, he has sadly failed to comprehend the situation. These are not the evils which require correction—some of them evils which are far-reaching and injurious. But if there were no more deep-seated and threatening evils, the universal dissatisfaction upon which public opinion has fixed its attention—the disease for which statesmanship must find a cure, or stand confronted with a remediless and fatal malady—could be distinguished by its leading characteristics of modern railroad building. The first of these is the constantly increasing volume of stocks and bonds, the second is the predominant influence of railroad builders in parliament and our courts. The second of these is the corollary of the first. Eliminate the first evil, and the second will eliminate itself. In their comprehension of these facts the common people are in advance of the statesmen. They have realized the primary facts of the case, and have swiftly made the correct deduction. The primary facts are that the enormous and ever-increasing volume of watered securities constitutes a national debt—in every essential feature, as surely as does the United States bonds; and that this debt is, just as surely, as that upon the product of labor of the country, as impossible to escape as the indirect tariff upon the necessities of life, or the direct tax for the support of public schools. The people see a national debt of four thousand millions of dollars loaded upon the producers and consumers of the nation. They see the system under which this was accomplished—under which three dollars in stocks and bonds taken up—going forward with constantly accelerated speed. They see the projectors and owners of railroads loading upon the nation the cost of their speculative operations, with inexhaustible supplies of the ammunition used to hunt legislators and judges; and they see as a logical result enormous accumulations of wealth in the hands of a few, and an ever-increasing increase of poverty for the many, at the same time that the power of our executives are being transferred into the hands of an oligarchy of money, and our judges are being reduced to the position of recording its edicts. The common people have fairly reached the eminence from which they can not only plainly discern all this, but can faintly catch a reflection of the reflection of the reflection of all equality will have ceased, and the principles of republicanism have been trampled under the iron heel of the meanest aristocracy ever known on earth. The statesman who proposes to alleviate their discontent or stop their agitation by filling up stagnant water pools, improving platform facilities, or adjusting trifling inequalities of rates, is not only a fool, but a traitor, who sits his chair of state by the ocean and proposed to stop its billows by a wave of his kindly hand.

Postoffice Changes.

Postoffice changes in Nebraska and Iowa during the week ending Jan. 9th, 1886, furnished by William Van Veeck, of the postoffice department:

Established—Codytown, Loup county, Ashley B. Cooley, postmaster; Longhorn, Dawes county, Thomas J. Brown; Luce, Buffalo county, John Luce; Imperial, Chase county, Thomas Mercer; Mossier, Sheridan county, John W. Mossier.

Name Changed—Wheatland, Webster county, to Saint Ann.

Postmasters Appointed—Danby, York county, Miles J. Jones; Troutman, Deuel county, Madison county, Jacob White; Munson, Madison county, J. W. Davis; Pleasant Valley, Dodge county, John Emanuel; Purple Cane, Dodge county, Mrs. Jane Avery; Saint Ann, Webster county, Jean B. Laporte; Springfield, Sarpy county, Henry C. Liller; Stetta, Richardson county, Edward S. Malone; Verdun, Richardson county, Austin H. Sloan.

IOWA.

Postmasters Appointed—Dean, Appanoose county, Hardin Guinn; Delhi, Delaware county, Amzi D. Barnes; Garfield, Delaware county, R. H. Van Wagner; Forestville, Delaware county, William Wall; Jewell, Hamilton county, George H. Willet; Lawler, Chickasaw county, William A. Liberty; Mapolis, Des Moines county, Henry T. Husted; Milton, Van Buren county, W. F. Edmondson; Norwalk, Warren county, Charles N. Miller; Richmond, Washington county, Michael J. Moran; St. Charles, Polk county, John T. Harler; Scranton City, Greene county, Isaac H. Jones; Wellman, Washington county, V. B. Story; Weaver, Lee county, E. W. Groom; Wilcoxtown, Chickasaw county, Sarah P. Bailey.

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