

COMMENTS ON THE COMBAT

The Nebraska Slinger Statesman's Shrewd

FROM PUBLIC LAND SWINDLERS.

**The Washington Post Implicates
Laird in Bad Practices, Though
Using a Neutral Word—Other**

Acquainted With Land Frauds.
WASHINGTON, July 21.—[Special Telegram to the Bee].—This morning's Washington Post editorially gives prominence to the following, under the caption of "Those Western Lands": "Mr. Laird's assault on Cobb was perhaps the shrewdest method that could have been by him desired to divert public attention from the notorious land studies of the northwest, of which the Nebraska puglist is certainly cognizant, if he is not even more intimately acquainted with them than that neutral work would imply. Mr. Laird knew as well as Mr. Sparks or Mr. Cobb does that a very large proportion of entries of Nebraska farms are fraudulent."

Mr. Laird knew as well as Mr. Sparks or Mr. Cobb does that a very large proportion of entries of Nebraska farms are fraudulent and for the enrichment of non-residents, and he thinks it is for his interest to browbeat and, if possible, discredit everybody who seriously attempts to expose the infinite perjuries and forgeries by which his constituents have covered their tracks. Mr. Sparks and Mr. Cobb are not agents in Nebraska, but they discovered that many of the fraudulent entries were perpetrated by the wholesale, and in going up the valley of our river they found no evidence of settlement on the land which had been pre-empted under a law requiring consecutive occupancy and permanent buildings. Mr. Cobb is entitled to much credit for the energy he has shown in exposing the tricks of the land swindler, and his persistence has made loud robbing more difficult hereafter. In the personal

when off his guard. But his conduct has been fearless and manly throughout, requiring no defense or vindication. He was right in his constituents as the man who did more than any other to defend the American patrimony from its most audacious and insolent plunderers."

PICAYUNE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NAVY.

If it were not for the heat and the late season there would be an interesting dead-lock between the house and senate on the question of rebuilding the navy. Messrs. Carlisle, Randall and Morrison, who control affairs in the house, are determined that the expenditures by this congress shall not be increased to any great extent by new vessels for the navy. The senate is just as fixed in its "inducy," but it is not so determined.

new navy. The prospects are that there will be a compromise and that Secretary Whitney will experiment a little in two or three vessels. The increase of appropriations has already quite frightened the majority in the house.

THE CRITIC ON ROUNDS' PURCHASE.
Editorially this evening's Critic says: "Public Printer Rounds, as will be seen by our despatch to day, has purchased the Omaha Republican for \$100,000 and will shortly resign his official position to take charge of the business of that paper. His son-in-law, Mr. Rathaker, of the Hatchet, one of the keenest and brightest of American editors, will con-

lean, with its special column and its reading columns thus braced up, is bound to stand firm against every storm and march, proudly a success in the Nebraska sunshine."

NO CHANCE FOR AGREEMENT.

The steering committee which has relegated to itself the control of the affairs in the house at this back-to-day, and in spite of the efforts of Mr. Cobb, although the organ was enabled to call up the inter-state commerce bill for discussion, and though he was not able to get a vote upon it. Mr. Cobb, of course, interposed his customary objection by moving to take up the bill to forfeit the Northern Pacific land grant, and thereby won

There was little chance for an agreement between the two houses upon this forfeitured bill, and it is extremely improbable that an agreement will be reached if by any possibility the resolution which passed the house today to adjourn until the 15th inst. should go into effect by the acquiescence of the senate.

THE SPOILS HUNTERS.

Those office-seekers who have been about Washington for some time, and those who have had their eyes and ears turned this way, awaiting the adjournment of congress, are anxious to get some modification of the civil service rules to let them into the service. Over the recent pronouncement on the subject of civil service reform. They say there is no hope now that the rules will be improved, and no hope that there will be more

"An effort is to be made to break up the custom of running through congress during the last six days of the session all manner of

"Not a moment," he continues, "men in the house have held back measures of a questionable character till the last six days of the session, and they have done so because they knew that they passed in the rush of the excitement for then the rules may be suspended at any moment and bill put upon its passage. It is proposed to suspend the rules for any number of bills and fix a day for adjournment only twenty-four or forty-eight hours ahead; in other words, to adjourn at any time or at any place, so as to give the six days. By this method the date of adjournment will only be known a few hours in advance."

"What is the effect of the order of the business committee?" inquired another member.

"Not a thing," replied the first member.

"Not a thing," said the second. "There is a scheme behind all of this pretention to reform. The steering or order of business committee is to be used to control the consideration of business by not allowing any bill of adjournment to be filed in advance. You see

The eyes of the old member poded as he exclaimed: "Infamous!"

PERSONAL MENTION.

Captain Evan Miles, Twenty-first infantry, Fort Sidney, has been granted a leave of one month from August 1.

The President Leaves Washington.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—The president, accompanied by Secretaries Bayard and Whitney and Private Secretary Lamont left for his summer residence at 10 o'clock.

The Surplus Resolution.
WASHINGTON, July 21.—Two members of the senate finance committee were absent from the meeting this morning, and for that reason the surplus resolution was not considered. The committee adjourned subject to the call of the chairman.

An Offensive Partisan.
WASHINGTON, July 21.—Senator Cullom appeared before the senate committee on postoffices to-day to oppose the confirmation of E. W. Kinnaman, to be postmaster at Jacksonville, Illinois. The committee decided to report this case adversely.

A vein of what appears to be first-class burnt timber has been discovered near Newcastles, Pa. It is twelve feet wide