THE DAILY BEE.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETORS.
E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

THE DAILY BEE.

Sworn Statement of Circulation.

State of Nebraska, } s. s.
County of Douglas. }

Geo. B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of the Daily Bee for the week ending May 6, 1887, was as follows:

Saturday, April 30	14,300
Sunday, May 1	14,000
Monday, May 2	15,625
Tuesday, May 3	14,430
Wednesday, May 4	14,310
Thursday, May 5	14,200
Friday, May 6	14,365
Average	14,461

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of May, 1887.

[SEAL.] N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Geo. B. Tzschuck, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing company, that the actual average daily circulation of the Daily Bee for the month of May, 1886, 12,439 copies; for June, 1886, 12,298 copies; for July, 1886, 12,314 copies; for August, 1886, 12,464 copies; for September, 1886, 13,050 copies; for October, 1886, 12,989 copies; for November, 1886, 13,548 copies; for December, 1886, 13,237 copies; for January, 1887, 16,206 copies; for February, 1887, 14,198 copies; for March, 1887, 14,400 copies; for April, 1887, 14,316 copies.

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of May, A. D., 1887.

[SEAL.] N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

THERE is an abundance of natural "gas" in Omaha but we want cheap fuel for manufacturing purposes.

ST. JOE'S boom is spreading. Two loaded dynamite bombs were discovered in a cellar in that city recently.

THE Washington monument is being defaced by vandal visitors. The monument ought to fall over and hurt somebody.

THE telegraph, telephone and electric light wires are to be placed under ground in San Francisco. So it should be in every city.

THE New York *Sun* is howling itself hoarse for "Grady for vice president." It will hold an election in a few days and elect him.

JUDGING from yesterday's score it would be very difficult to convict either the Omaha or Lincoln club of playing base ball on Sunday.

WILL the new city council enforce the existing contract between the city and the B & M. railroad, for the construction of a viaduct at Lower Farnam street?

THERE are volcanoes which can be accused of innocuous desuetude, but the one that has just opened up business in Arizona may be credited with pernicious activity.

GREELY'S rain storm has not yet struck this section of Nebraska. The street sprinklers are unable to lay the dust in Omaha, and General Greely should hurry up his storm.

THE judgeship question having been settled, that railroad blatherskite Captain Humphrey has renewed hope of getting on the bench. He would make a fine brass-collar exhibit.

THE fiery Frenchmen who are marching on to Berlin have not yet got beyond the walls of Paris. They'll find a watch on the Rhine which will indicate to them that it is time to go slow.

NEXT winter justices of the peace will be thicker than fleas in Omaha. Eighteen of them are to be elected in November, under the old state law requiring two justices for each precinct.

MR. DILLON in the house of commons says he will prove the editor of the London *Times* to be "a base and cowardly liar." The house of commons is getting to be a very common place.

MR. THURSTON ought to have resigned that railroad attorneyship years ago, before he went into the oil-room business. He is a little too late now in masquerading in anti-monopoly garments.

THE activity of the railroad companies in extending their mileage is a practical and convincing answer to their professed fear that the new law for their regulation would destroy their business.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S jubilee would have been incomplete without the presence of Buffalo Bill in the heart of London. It is a cold day when Colonel Cody is not in the heart of the city wherever he may be.

BEFORE the stone flagging is laid around the court house provision should be made by city and county authorities for one or more public fountains, from which water can be drawn for pedestrians or animals.

IT is a little too early in the day to trot out candidates for congress in this district. But it is safe to predict that the republicans will not venture to nominate anybody who cannot get the hearty support of this paper.

THE world moves. Trial by jury has been adopted in Spain, and thus has the sphere of the jury fixer been enlarged. Several professional fixers of Omaha would no doubt find a good field for operation in old Spain.

THE mugwumps are not entirely satisfied with the Kentucky democratic platform. In so far as it commits the democracy of the state to Mr. Cleveland they approve it, but its hostility to civil service reform causes them great anguish of spirit. This is an effect of their declaration which the Kentucky democrats may have anticipated, but which in any event will not displease them.

The Police and Fire Commission.

The names of the Omaha police and fire commission, appointed by Governor Thayer, have been officially announced. The members of the commission are gentlemen who enjoy the esteem and confidence of this community in an eminent degree. Governor Thayer's admirable letter of advice and instruction to the commission will doubtless be taken as the keynote of the reform to be inaugurated in our police system. First and foremost the commission will be expected to reorganize the police on a civil service basis with military discipline. There are to be no appointments as a reward for political activity and no removals except for misconduct and incompetency. In the next place the commission are enjoined to enforce strict discipline and sobriety in the police force, and make the streets of Omaha as safe in the night as they are in the day time. The governor takes pains to impress upon the commission that under the law which confers upon him the duty of their appointment, he regards himself as personally responsible for the success of the metropolitan police system in Omaha. It is doubtless this view of his responsibility that has inspired the governor's choice of commissioners, who, as he declares, are identified with the two great political parties, but expected to discharge their official duties as non-partisans.

Out the Judicial Muddle.

The opinion rendered by the supreme court with regard to the muddle over the judiciary apportionment bill settles the mooted question as to the validity of the recent judicial appointments made by Governor Thayer. The court strains a point in favor of the new judges, by declaring that the bill in so far as it creates new judges is valid, while the section which relates to the additional judge in the second district is pronounced void, thus leaving ten judges in the district undisturbed.

While this is a very satisfactory solution of the knotty question involved in the failure of the legislature to enroll the right bill, we are reminded by the decision of the celebrated Union Pacific bridge case at Omaha, in which the court held that the bridge was part of the main line, and at the same time was not a part of the main line so far as bridge tolls are concerned.

Immigration of Skilled Labor.

In considering the very important subject of immigration, which by reason of its present extent is now commanding a good deal of attention, the proportion of skilled labor coming into the country is of great interest. The New York *Post* has been studying the treasury reports since 1883, and it found the average proportion of skilled labor under the treasury divisions, during four years of the largest immigration, to be about 10 per cent of the whole. It has been observed with respect to the immigration of the current year that only a very small proportion of it is skilled labor, and it is very likely that the percentage of such labor this year will be less than for the previous years of largest immigration.

It is shown by the returns that those countries where industry is least developed and supplying an increasing proportion of the non-mechanical labor. The United Kingdom, France and Germany send fewer skilled laborers, showing either that the relative conditions in these countries as compared with those offered by the United States have so much improved that the chief inducement to emigrate has been modified, or that the attractions offered by the United States have declined. On the other hand, such as Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Italy, Russia and Sweden are supplying a far higher proportion of unskilled labor, some of which is of questionable value. The emigration from these countries passing through German ports last year was largely in excess of the previous year, while that from Germany recorded at the same ports showed a very considerable decrease.

These facts will be reassuring to the skilled labor of the United States since they show that while the coming of this labor in the past has not been on a scale to threaten damaging competition it is likely to be still less so in the present and the immediate future, industrial growth in Europe retaining it there. The increasing immigration of unskilled labor presents a problem which offers a wide field to the economist and legislator.

The Mission of O'Brien.

The arrival in America of William O'Brien, editor of *United Ireland*, on a mission at once novel and important, is an incident of the absorbing Irish controversy of more than passing interest. The purpose of Mr. O'Brien is to enlighten the people of Canada respecting the character and conduct of their viceroy, Lord Lansdowne, as a landlord. It is not a self-appointed mission on which the editor has crossed the ocean to confront the nobleman. He has come as the representative of the tenantry of Lansdowne, who is one of the largest owners of land in Ireland, and as O'Brien will doubtless be able to show, one of the most exacting also. He comes fully equipped with the facts and figures showing the valuation of the holdings, the rents collected in the past, and the merciless treatment the tenants who were unable to meet the demands upon them have suffered. Probably no man could have been selected better qualified, both in ability and courage, for such a mission.

It is noteworthy that as soon as Mr. O'Brien had departed for America, a systematic effort was begun to forestall and break the affect of the disclosure he would make by public statements exonerating Lansdowne from all personal responsibility for whatever difficulties had taken place with his tenants from which they were subjected to hardships. The convenient agent of the marquis in London assumed all the responsibility, and has made at least two public declarations designed to relieve his principal of every charge of bad faith. By some means also, the Wiltshire tenants of Lansdowne were induced to sign a letter certifying to his good character as a landlord. One or two correspondents of American newspapers, whose sympathies are known to be susceptible to influences not of the people, have been instrumental in giving these statements favorable to the noble land owner the strongest possible presentation. It is not probable that Mr. O'Brien will find this attempt to weaken in advance the story he has come to America to tell any obstacle to the attention or the belief of the people he will address.

That the story will have a great deal of interest for other people than those of Canada cannot be doubted. But the value of presenting it directly to the people is obvious. The popularity of Lansdowne in the Dominion is confined to a very limited circle. He has very little to commend him to any except the courtiers, who may profit by his favor. Neither his ability nor his moral standards are high. He is notoriously avaricious and without private or public generosity. He draws heavily upon the public treasury of the almost bankrupt Dominion to maintain a show of royalty for which the country gets nothing in return. Were he a wise, liberal and progressive man, the expenditure could be patiently borne, but as it is he is a useless and costly incubus whom a majority of the people would be glad to be rid of. It is possible that O'Brien may be able to help them to this result, unless Lansdowne should wisely conclude to avert such a such a catastrophe to his personal fortunes by doing justice to his tenants, in which case the sole object of their representative would be attained.

THE last advices from the earthquake region of Arizona and south of that territory are interesting. The first report of a volcano having been opened by the earthquake is verified, the location of the eruption being in the Whetstone mountains. This is the only volcanic eruption in that quarter since the first white conquest of the country. The region is volcanic in its past history, and lies within a belt of not unfrequent disturbance. As an earthquake has been defined to be merely and unsuccessful attempt to establish a volcano, the result of the recent disturbance is entirely consistent with scientific observation. The eruption appears to have been disastrous, destroying the town of Montezuma and killing 150 persons. A number of persons were also killed and injured by the earthquake, but the visitation was not entirely a calamity, since it brought to the surface a body of water that will irrigate a great deal of country much in need of it, and which has indeed been almost worthless for want of water. It is reported to have also opened a couple of large gold veins. In the end it may prove to have been a very profitable disturbance.

THE returns of the foreign trade of the country for three-fourths of the current fiscal year are very satisfactory. Our exports of nearly all commodities show a large increase over the corresponding period of the previous year, and the growth of our trade in some directions is interesting. Thus England bought more of our wheat and less from India, while France also very largely increased her imports of American grain. The trade with South America shows a steady advance. We increased our export of cotton cloths to South American countries from less than $1,500,000 to more than $2,500,000, and our exports of cotton cloths to China from less than $3,500,000 to considerably more than $4,000,000. Our exports of steam engines and miscellaneous machinery to South American countries increased from less than $600,000 to nearly $900,000. The increase in canned beef exports was mainly to England. In spite of Bismarck there was an increase in the export of bacon to Germany, and the bacon exports to the rest of Europe more than doubled.

THERE is most favorable promise that by next winter most of the railroads of the country will have adopted some method of heating their trains that shall do away with the stove and obviate the inevitable firing of the cars in case of accidents. A number of the roads have been carefully experimenting with devices for this purpose, and the best of them will doubtless come into general use. The loss of more than fifty human lives last winter in burning cars was a fearful price to pay for the agitation of this subject, and it is to be hoped that the lesson may never again be impressed upon the people and the railroad managers in so terrible a manner.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN feels confident that he will reach the age of two hundred years on the diet of peanuts and cold water, with daily sun baths and exclusive association with wet nurses and children. This will be a piece of consoling news to to the parties whom George Francis proposes to sue for the recovery of several hundred acres of land in the heart of Omaha. Long after they have climbed the golden stairs George Francis, still in the prime of life, will be on hand to push his suit against their heirs. There's millions in it, and for the next three generations the lawyers, employed by their great grand children, will wrestle with the psycho claimant of Madison square.

THE disinterment of the bones of Peter C. Ney, the Frenchman buried at Third Creek, N. C., at the request of the Historical society of Wisconsin, took place recently. Its object was to prove or disprove the man's identity with Napoleon's famous marshal of the same name. Unfortunately the work of decay in the grave had been so thorough that the bones were so badly decomposed that the one link of evidence—the marks of a trephining operation—was lost. The famous marshal's bones may or may not rest in North Carolina. The matter will always remain in doubt.

IF Governor Thayer's suggestions are carried out by the commission, very few members of the present police force will retain their star. If every policeman who hangs around saloons and gambling houses is to be dismissed, there will be a great many second-hand uniforms for sale presently.

THE liquor license board should issue no license to any keeper of a notorious dive or den. Nor should any resort, which has been complained of before the police court as disorderly, be licensed to sell liquor. The line must be drawn at disorderly houses and dives.

PRESIDENT DIAZ, of Mexico, denies that he is a candidate for re-election. He probably wants more time to attend bull fights, but to the average American at this distance, it would seem that there is more excitement in Mexican politics than in bull fights.

STATE AND TERRITORY.

Nebraska Jottings.

Columbus will shine with electricity.

Clearwater is promised an opera house for a bonus of $1,000.

Indianola proposes to issue bonds to build a $12,000 school house.

The third bank is soon to be opened in Neligh. Iowa men will back it with $50,000.

Citizens of Beatrice are chipping in to bring the fire department to a uniform color and cut.

A teamster on the railroad grade near York, was run in for whipping his horses and heavily fined.

A $20,000 distillery is talked of in Crete. The product will be shipped to the drought stricken in adjoining states.

The Glencoe base ball club is robed in red, white and blue, with huge chunks of gloom and goose eggs in the foreground.

Columbus is trying to resurrect the Driving Park and Fair association. A moderate sack of lucre would vitalize it.

The Presbyterians of York have adopted plans for a church to cost $10,000. It will seat 600 persons and will be built this year.

A job lot of peddlers are doing the farmers of Gage. They are note makers and forgers, and should be speeded on the road to the nearest jail.

The case of Quinn Bohanan will come up in the United States court next October. Meanwhile, the spelling professor will be fattened for the halter.

The crop of suckers promises to be uncommonly large this year. The verdants of Schuyler were fleeced of $65 last week by a fakir who was licensed to do the job.

Fremont plumbers get $4 a day for nine hours work. Their bills, however, never shrink in the presence of a bank roll. Bankruptcy alone induces shrinkage.

The recent damaging fires in Arapahoe have convinced the residents that waterworks are a necessity. Plans and means to secure a water supply are now under discussion.

Plattsmouth proposes to sink $2,500 in a gas prospect hole. The town lost a great opportunity in failing to secure a century's supply last Thursday. It will never have another.

Ed Oliver, of Beardsley, Ill., rid himself of the importunities of two confidence men by jumping into the Missouri, while the train was crossing the river, east of Wymore. He was drowned.

The Republican Valley Editorial association is called to meet in Oxford to-day. Owing to the sallow condition of the roads and the brief notice of ten days given the members, it is feared the attendance will be slim and shoeless.

The residents of Waterloo, Douglas county, have been invited to move to Valley. An enterprising real estate agent offers to move the houses and give each family a lot in Valley if the residents accept the terms within ten days.

Long Piners proclaim, in stunning pica type: "We are a modest people, we are, because we were made so by nature." The modest section of the proclaim is referred to Atkinson. That nature lavished on them its treasures of mouth speaks for itself.

Anton Schumann, a floating German, was killed in the B. & M. yards in Plattsmouth Thursday night. He was burdened with celebration and attempted to mount the brake beam of a moving freight train. He lived long enough to state that his father resided near Milwaukee.

Amid the crash of mountains, volcanic upheavals, floods and miner disasters, Nebraska City nestles calmly on the towering banks of the Missouri, contentedly pointing to the ninth wonder of the century—a prohibition mule. He pumps water for a brewery.

Officer Dougherty, of Fremont, attempted a long haul of eight tramps who claimed to be of age and entitled to liberty or grub. The officer drew his persuader and popped one of them in the leg, receiving at the same moment a stunning blow on the head. Dougherty gave the tramps the freedom of the road out of town and invested a week's wages in pain killer.

Mr. Fred Fuller, of Crete, was the victim of a surprise party last Sunday. While snoring the happy hours away during the sermon in the Congregational church a fearless thief made off with his horse and buggy, worth $300. The animal was found at Syracuse where the thief borrowed a fresh horse and continued on his journey.

A dusky dancing professor named Nichols is galloping through the southern counties teaching classes when payment is made in advance. The limber-legged fraud invariably skips out as soon as the money is secured. A dilapidated grip, weighted with sour socks, a pair of old shoes and two bricks was left at Elk Creek as a memento of his visit.

Henry Eckman and a tough named Bohier quarreled about a girl in Red Cloud. Eckman was quite handy with his paws and slapped his rival hip and thigh, but Bohier drew a knife and carved a map of the latest addition on Eckman's body before friends interfered. Bohier's nose now points heavenward and Eckman's body is wrapped in liniment.

Sutton's amateurs tackled the "Fruits of the Wine Cup" one evening last week. The heavy villain unconsciously swallowed an overdose of the fruit and knocked down the orchestra leader with a chair just as the latter was scraping an acquaintance with "We Won't Go Home Until Morning." It is hinted that an envious star loaded the sample bottle with forty-rod to produce an artistic effect.

Bert Young, an eight-year-old Columbus kid, while playing near the railroad track, kicked up his heels and concluded to race with the incoming Albion train. He ran along the side of the track, stepped into a hole and fell. His right arm was caught by the wheels and the skin ground from the elbow to the fingers. No bones were broken, but the youngster will wear a sling for several weeks.

The North American Cattle company, of Antelope county, is preparing to feed and fatten 3,000 head of cattle the coming fall and winter. Barns, sheds and cribs, to cost $15,000, are under contract. A large elevator is also to be built at Clearwater station for the storage of fodder. The company expects to turn 250,000 bushels of corn, 2,000 tons of millet and 2,000 tons of common hay into beef next winter, and give surrounding farmers a profitable market.

The old, old story of woman's weakness and man's perfidy closed with a funeral in Aurora last week. The woman's name was Emma Peterson, and death mercifully shrouded her and the evidence of her shame. The inhuman brute who caused her fall deserted her and left her to die among strangers. The fate of a Randall will not overtake him, for he has respectable and powerful relations, but there is a hot hereafter in store for his miserable carcass.

The star-eyed goddess of reform, armed with a Richelieu sabre, would find among Nebraska mail agents a rich field for slaughter. North, south and west complain of miserable mail service. Aurora, Hamilton county, complains that the Sunday BEE never reaches there before Tuesday, sometimes on Wednesday. Plattsmouth, Nebraska City, Tecumseh and towns on the St. Paul & Omaha complain of annoying delays. The service seems to be a go-as-you-please all along the line. Is it uncompleted democracy or indifferent republicanism? "Turn the rascals out."

It was an old-fashioned musket and it was loaded. Anton Burnham, a nine-year old, sneaked up to it, gazed on its polished shape and mused on the angelic possibilities stored within. Anton was not ready to join the upper choir, but Jakie Christians, the three-year old son of Christ, was ripe for the slaughter. Anton pulled on him and blew his head off. He sleeps on a hillside in Crete, and two families are plunged into grief. Youngsters and muskets were never intended to abide in peace on earth.

The trial of Gilson P. James for the murder of Charles C. Hays, a blacksmith, at Callaway, resulted in a verdict of not guilty. Hays was a local tough and a masher. He visited the James mansion on the night of December 9 last, and finding James absent concluded to have a social evening with his wife. James returned to find the usurper on his claim, but was forced to leave the house by Hays. On returning the second time he was ordered into bed and failing to respond with sufficient alacrity, Hays jumped out of bed and made a pass at him. By this time the Job-like patience of James petered out and he promptly cracked the skull of the intruder. The verdict of the jury is not only a wise and just one; it stamps with disapproval the bucolic custom of three in a bed.

Iowa Items.

Atlantic struck natural gas at a depth of fifty-eight feet.

The expenses attending the Dubuque encampment amounted to $2,490.25, all of which have been paid.

The city council of Keokuk is negotiating for the purchase of the waterworks now owned by a company.

A bed of gypsum has been uncovered near Fort Dodge. The find is very valuable and will, it is believed, add immensely to the industrial growth of the town.

A farmer of Scott county exhibits a grasshopper that measures three and one-half inches long and three inches high when on unbent legs. The monster is so young that his wings haven't been developed.

The city council of Burlington has decided to remit the taxes for five years on manufacturing establishments whose products are not now made there, and not to increase the tax on any manufacturing for the next five years.

The mysterious disappearance of John Sullivan, of Missouri Valley, is causing great excitement at that place. The last seen of him was on April 27. He was a merchant of excellent financial standing, and the only theory of his absence points in the direction of foul play or derangement of mind.

J. B. Cooper, an Ottumwa barber, has just had his old age shook up with joy at finding his daughter, lost twenty-five years ago. On the advent of the union army at Raymond, Miss., he found himself free, and in April, 1863, he struck out for the north. He then had a daughter seven years old belonging to a man named Smith, whom he had never been able to find or hear from. A couple of months ago he was telling a friend about her and succeeded in interesting him in the hunt. Letters were immediately written to the neighborhood in which he had left the daughter, and a few days ago word came from Raymond that "Lis" was living in the county on a farm and "one of the finest looking women in the neighborhood."

The second trial of competing car brakes and couplers begins to-day in the railroad yards at Burlington. There will be some new competitors and the companies represented last May will be on the ground with improved appliances from which they expect still better results than were obtained last year notwithstanding the favorable showing then made. The tests last year developed some weak features in the appliances then under trial and pointed out new possibilities of which the quick-witted inventors and master mechanics hastened to avail themselves. Nearly all, if not all, of the brakes this year will have electric attachments; none had last year. They all have improvements which it is believed will enable them to make quicker stops and do so with less shock and rebound. The "close coupler" will probably have something to do with the diminishment of the shocks.

Dakota.

The thirteenth church is going up in Sioux Falls.

Saloon license in Bismarck has been advanced to $500 a year.

The narrow gauge railroad and smelting works schemes continue disquieting uncertainties in Rapid City.

Deadwood will pay a large premium for definite assurance that a railroad will reach town before snow flies.

A party of fifteen Russian families are going from southern Dakota to join the Salem colony in Morton county.

Twenty families from Maine and Vermont have reached Hittenger county, in north Dakota, where they locate.

The adjusting agent for the Northwestern road has been through Kingsbury county and settled with the farmers in full, paying out over $5,000 for losses that the farmers suffered by the great fire of a few weeks ago.

Minden Matters.

MINDEN, Neb., May 5.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—Many substantial advances toward building a city here have been made the last few weeks. A stock company has been organized for building and operating a creamery with a capital of $5,000, the same to be in operation within sixty days. Three large substantial brick blocks are under the first stages of erection, each 44x80 feet and two stories high. One of the greatest needs is a good fire proof hotel. Any person desiring to launch in that kind of enterprise will find this a splendid point and no difficulty would be experienced in forming a stock company.

Since the establishing of the Kansas City & Omaha railroad to this point five additions have been platted comprising over 300 acres, and as lots are sold at living prices people in moderate circumstances are taking advantage of same and securing homes for themselves.

We invite the inspection of all classes, capitalists, laborers and merchants. Besides a good hotel we need a bank, a steam laundry, a foundry, clothing house, a good dry goods house with dress making department, two lumber yards, elevators, in fact a filling up in all lines, as we have the country to support an increase in all our present lines.

Black Hills Farming.

BUFFALO GAP, DAK., May 6.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—Ho for the southern Black Hills, Custer and Fall River counties. There is more farming done to the square foot than ever was thought of before. Wheat and oats look well, as fine as I ever saw them look in Iowa or Nebraska at this time of the year, and a great many of the farmers are planting corn. The outlook is splendid for a large crop of hay, better than for some years past. Especially on the uplands are the crops, both hay and grain, doing finely.

Our artesian well is just fairly started. They have drilled 125 feet through clay and slate rock, which will soon determine whether our town is to be supplied by artesian water a half mile from town or have to draw her supply from the springs two miles west of town.

Our new grist mill is nearing completion and will soon be in running order. It has as fine a water power as there is in the west, drawing its supply from the Beaver creek, half a mile above town, by canal, and has over twenty-five feet fall. It will have plenty to do, as there has [illegible] al of wheat sown.

PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS,

Their Rapid March Recorded From Different Sections of Nebraska.

A BUILDING BOOM AT CALLAWAY

The Great Rush of Home Seekers to Keith, Chase and Cheyenne Counties—Activity at Fairbary—Minden Matters.

Callaway's Substantial Growth.

CALLAWAY, Neb., May 6.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—Callaway's boom has been rapidly developing in the last two week. In that space of time over twenty new buildings have been contracted to be completed within the next forty days and many more are in contemplation. The greatest drawback we have now is the scarcity of lumber and the inability of the only lumber yard we have here to draw in lumber fast enough. We also need carpenters, and, more than all, a firm of plasterers and painters. There is only one plasterer here and he cannot begin to fill the demand in his line. We cannot get painting done for the need of workman at that business. Laborers cannot be found to dig the cellars needed. Now is the time for mechanics and laborers looking to locate a home in the prettiest and most thriving new town in this part of the state, to come at once and join the ranks of our citizens pushing forward to wealth and prosperity. Our location for health, purity of water, beauty of site and territory for trade is not equaled in Nebraska. With two lines of the Union Pacific graded to our doors, and the surveys of two other leading roads crossing our limits, we are the envy of larger and older neighborhoods.

About a week ago the citizens of Callaway organized and are incorporating an association, with a capital stock of $10,000, to be called the Callaway Business Men's Protective association. Its object is to push forward all enterprises improving and developing our town, and to guard against all endeavors of any who may attempt to encroach on our interests. A fire company has also been organized, composed of twenty-six members. This company will take steps at once to secure a fire apparatus. The organization of a silver cornet band has also been perfected, with Prof. Webster as the leader and instructor. Mr. Webster was formerly of the Twenty-first regular infantry band, and is the gentleman who trained the Broken Bow cornet band to such excellency that they took the first premium at the last state reunion at Grand Island. The boys propose to soon give a series of concerts in Smith's opera hall at this place that will be a treat to the inhabitants of the South Loup valley. With such a leader as they have been fortunate enough to secure, we predict a brilliant future for the Callaway cornet band.

Our population is now over 200, and we are only waiting until the 2d of June, when our county board meets to incorporate. We then expect the advent of a few modest saloon men into our midst.

The following gentlemen have decided to build business houses just as soon as the lumber can be got into Callaway: C. W. Johnson, S. R. Idell, Chris Nelson, A. W. Darling, C. E. Boget, C. N. Johnson, J. R. King, Wells & Wallace, C. H. Melius, G. C. McMullen, C. W. Gray, J. R. Vining, Charles Whaley, R. H. Evans, C. A. Sherwood and others. Among those who have contracted residences to go up at once are S. R. Brown, C. A. Sherwood, Dr. A. L. Matthews, A. M. Melins, C. Nelson, Dr. Luther Michael, Mr. Wells, William Hastings, A. W. Applegate, G. W. Beebe, F. N. Smith, George Benger, Mrs. E. N. Madison, A. Deems, G. W. Stevens, E. W. Shaw, and others are intending to build soon. Thus you see there is a substantial growth upon us this spring that longs for the laying of the rail on the Wood river line of the Union Pacific to enable us to secure the lumber necessary in an easier way and on quicker time than at present.

For a town not a year old, we feel that our present showing of buildings and the completion of those now to be erected, will place us in a condition to welcome our railroad friends in such a manner and with such a town that Mr. Callaway will not be ashamed to recognize our young metropolis as his namesake—Jim.

The Rush For Homes.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., May 6.—[Correpondence of the BEE.]—The immense rush of home seekers to the fertile lands of western Nebraska continues to increase rather than diminish, and the time is not distant when all the public lands in this state will be settled up. Every train is loaded with land seekers and it is rare that one of these returns without having exercised at least one of the three rights granted to every citizen by the government.

Keith, Chase and Cheyenne counties seem just now to be the favored portions and as a consequence they are rapidly filling up. Keith is the choice of nearly all, and it is only when no vacant land can be found that the settler turns his attention to adjoining counties, but in all the counties named there are golden opportunities for those who desire cheap homes. Keith county having the advantage in the way of railroad facilities and besides being one of the finest agricultural counties in the state, the public land is about all gone. In fact, there is nothing left that would be desirable, but still good claims can be bought at reasonable rates in Keith county; that is, reasonable rates when the value of adjacent railroad land is taken into consideration. Good claims can be purchased all the way from $250 to $1,500, the latter, of course, being very choice. It is not just the thing, however, to say that the occupant of public land offers his claim for sale. He realizes that there is danger in such business. The settler sells his "improvements," and his relinquishment is placed in the hands of the purchaser, who presents it at the land office and files upon the land.

Railroad lands near the B. & M., which crosses the southern portion of the county, are held at from $6 to $10 per acre now, and when the tracklaying shall have reached the Colorado line it is highly improbable that any good land lying between the Union Pacific and B. & M. can be purchased for less than the latter figure. With claims the case is different. Many of them are held by settlers who are unable to make the improvements they desire, and which are necessary. Others are held by non-residents who have filed upon lands simply for the money there is in it, and the time is rapidly approaching when they must sell at some price or their enterprise will be a losing game, as none of this class contemplate settling upon the land in any event. The consequence is that such claims as I have mentioned can be obtained at nominal figures.

If all occupants of public lands were able and disposed to hold their claims, there is no good reason why they should be sold for a cent less than railroad lands in the same vicinity. There is good reason, however, why they should, in that case, command a better figure. All of them have more or less improvements, and none of them are taxable for a period of five years in homestead cases and eight in cases of tree claims, and the time may be extended two and five years respectively, when final proof must be made and a patent issue.

Keith county will boom the coming summer, in fact it is booming now. Several towns have already been located on the line of the B. & M., and the indications now point to a season of unparalleled activity all along the line. It is reported that a large amount of land—railroad land—has recently changed hands, and that a large portion of it will be settled upon during the course of the present year. The government land being all gone the railroad lands will, in the nature of things, be in good demand from this time forward until it is all settled up. But Keith can no longer supply the demands of those who wish government land, and consequently their attention will be turned in other directions.

The question now uppermost in the minds of the citizens of Keith is the division of the county, which is certain to be made as soon as possible. But the people are by no means agreed on the line of division and this is owing to the fact that the voters in the southwestern portion of the county have got it into their heads that they must have a county seat, and in order to assure this, as they think, they are uniting to a considerable extent with the people of Ogalalla, to divide on the north line of Brick House. This would please the Ogalalla people exceedingly, and leave the new county but eighteen miles north and south, and forty-two east and west, a territory too small for sub-divisions. The Grant people assume, of course, that the division being made as indicated they have the strength to locate the county seat, and the territory being too small for two counties the thing would be permanent. This sounds pretty, and if it can be made to work successfully, will be a master stroke. But it is not absolutely certain that the Grant, or southwestern people, may not make a reasonably lively tumble into the pit into which they are so industriously digging for the people of the east and southeast.

Cheyenne county is now the section where a majority of those who pass through here in search of government land are drifting, and the county contains some of the finest agricultural lands in the state. It has an extent of 102 miles by 70 and is comparatively well watered. The North Platte flows diagonally across the county, and the South Platte cuts through the settlement, with the Lodge Pole running through the south central portion, and the Pumpkin Seed through the north central. The county, of course, will be subdivided and there may be a half a dozen counties formed out of what is now Cheyenne. There may be some doubt about the number of new counties formed, but there can be no doubt of subdividing. It is estimated that settlers are going into the county at the rate of 100 per day and at that rate the present season will exhaust the government land to be found there. But lying to the north of the North Platte river, there are thousands of acres of rich, fertile prairie land yet open to entry. This land is from twenty-five to fifty miles from the Missouri Pacific, but it is only a question of a year or two when there will be a road up the valley of the North Platte. Much of the survey has been made, and the right of way has been purchased and paid for some distance. Those who take up the government land there now may be morally certain that a railway will be ready to carry the crop of 1888. It is confidently expected that the road will be built the coming summer.

The people who are settling in western Nebraska are chiefly from eastern Nebraska, western and northwestern Iowa, Missouri, Dakota, Illinois and Indiana, and they are coming to stay. No one inquires why people leave Missouri and Indiana; the only mystery is how they managed to get away at all. It is taken for granted that any citizen of either state leaves as soon as possible. But the complaint of the Iowan and the Dakotian is that the severity of the winters is too much, that the summer's earnings are exhausted in fighting the terrible blizzards, and then when spring comes what little a man may have left is liable to be strewn all over the country by the destructive wind storms. The winters here are very mild, and the terrible wind storms common 300 miles east of here and in all of the states of the Mississippi valley are, up to this time at least, wholly unknown. The past winter in Iowa, when the mercury was quietly sleeping 'way down in the forties, the settlers of western Nebraska were breaking prairie. For six or eight months of the year Iowa and Dakota mercury is pretty drowsy, and for the remainder, when aroused from its slumbers by the balmy breezes of Nebraska, it cavorts about in a wild and unseemly manner, totally unreliable and wholly unmanageable. Those who are in search of cheap homes and who would enjoy a climate not subject to such sudden and violent changes of temperature should not overlook the merits of western Nebraska.

Valuable time and good money can be saved by those contemplating a visit to these rich Nebraska prairies, by profiting by the experience of those who have preceded them. The most reliable information can be obtained from the settlers in the community where the land-seeker desires to locate, and those who contemplate settling upon public lands will do well to heed this suggestion. Fraudulent locators and rapacious land sharks are abundant and a reliance upon these has been attended with more or less disaster. The victim has been shown excellent land and assured with all solemnity that the numbers given him corresponded exactly to the land he had been shown. He returns home and arrives in the spring with his family only to learn that his numbers locate him in the sand hills. These cases are rare, but entirely too numerous for the man thus located.

Fairbury Facts.

FAIRBURY, Neb., May 6.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—The members of the Fairbury board of trade to the number of 125, with the wives of several of them, went on an excursion to St. Joe recently, and were royally entertained by the St. Joe board of trade. The opening of the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska—the Rock Island railroad—to business was the cause of the blow-out. The company very kindly furnished us with a special train of new coaches and the run was made in six hours each way, which is very quick, considering that the road-bed is new and not thoroughly ballasted. There is considerable talk that the B. & M. will build a branch from DeWitt to Fairbury. If the road is built it will give us a direct line to Lincoln and Omaha, which we need very much. There is every indication that the Rock Island will start their south-west branch from here instead of farther west as was at first proposed.

The Kansas City & Omaha have begun work on their Fairbury and Stromsburgh line. The round house and other buildings will be built as soon as needed. As we are the division headquarters of two railroads it is not to be wondered at that we boom.

The building fever continues with all its vigor and new houses are commenced daily. Colonel Harbine has the cellar under the big brick store he is building nearly done and the foundation will soon be commenced. John Price has the basement and part of the wall of his store building under way and will push it as fast as possible. Many handsome residences are being built and more are to be commenced immediately. The additions to the Christian church building are nearly completed. The Methodist church has a new 1,100 pound bell.

Mail will be carried by the Rock Island soon, when we will get our Omaha mail several hours sooner.

The number of school children in Fairbury is 678, which multiplied by five gives 3,390 population, nearly double what we had one year ago.

The brick yards are in full blast with a demand greater than they can supply.

Thousands of trees and acres of blue grass were planted this spring. We pride ourselves on our sylvan appearance.