

THE DAILY BEE. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Morning Edition including Sunday... \$10.00

CORRESPONDENCE. All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to the Editor of the Bee.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors. E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

THE DAILY BEE. Sworn Statement of Circulation.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Circulation. Rows for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Average.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 10th day of November, 1888. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

BY THE WAY, has Attorney General Thurston made up his oil-room cabinet?

GENERAL HARRISON will be obliged to organize a postal service of his own if his daily mail keeps on growing.

THE crop of candidates for the speakership of the state legislature is springing out of the ground like mushrooms after a rain storm.

CHURCH HOWE is laying his wires for the presidency of the state senate, but the Auburn statesman is likely to be tripped by his own private wire.

The bread eaters of the city prefer to pay six cents for a loaf of sixteen ounces rather than pay the bread makers five cents for a three-quarter loaf of twelve ounces.

PAUL VANDERBEM has relieved himself of a bit of self laudation in the Republican. A marked paper will be sent to General Harrison. How would it do to send Paul as minister-plenipotentiary to the Fiji Islands?

IGNATIUS DONNELLY telling the good people of the Black Hills that Bacon wrote Shakespeare may excite some of Donnelly's most cultivated citizens to rim Donnelly out of town at the muzzle of their six-shooters.

Now that the railroad companies are required to pay for the construction of viaducts within the limits of Omaha, no disposition is shown by the council to construct any viaducts, although many railroad crossings in the city are a constant menace to life and vehicles.

The Knights of Labor, in their convention, will in all probability investigate the man Gould who invented or at least circulated the dollar-a-day lie about General Harrison. It seems that Gould used the seal of the order upon his circular with the evident intention of injuring General Harrison. This was a flagrant abuse of the constitution of the Knights of Labor, and in consequence Mr. Gould is in danger of being summarily dealt with.

The railroad war of rates on packing house products, which promised to yield a rich harvest to the Omaha packing houses, is about to terminate in a compromise, the Chicago & Northwestern having agreed to suspend action for one month on its proposal to reduce rates on packing house products and live stock for one month. In the meantime the regular monthly meeting of the association will take place, and as the railroads look after their own interests first, they will doubtless agree upon a schedule of rates, and the promised fact picking for the packing houses will pass into innocuous desuetude.

A REVOLUTION in rapid transit between Chicago and San Francisco and possibly between the Atlantic and Pacific coast is imminent. The proposed special train to be put on the Union Pacific December 5 is only one of the changes that are likely to take place with the new year. Competition has spurred on the Union Pacific to outstrip its rivals, as the Northern Pacific and the Topoka & Santa Fe are negotiating to establish fast through trains from Chicago to California. It is more than likely, therefore, that the Missouri lines will co-operate with the Union Pacific for a solid train from Chicago west.

The railroad question continues to be the burning one. An Oregon farmer who had a great harvest of potatoes, shipped them to Portland by the Oregon River Railroad and Steam Navigation company. The proceeds were just sufficient to pay freight and transfer charges, for the route combines steamboat and railroad transit; and yet the price realized in Portland was a good one. The men of Oregon propose to petition the state to take charge of the improvements in the Columbia river, and to make the Cascade canal and clear a passage through the Dalles as quickly as possible. The work is being done now by the United States, but so slowly that twenty-five years must elapse before the great river Columbia rolls unobscured to its junction with the Willamette. Citizens of Portland fear that their trade will have diminished by that time, so a local board of trade is vigorously endorsing the proposition.

MR. POWDERLY'S MANIFEST UNFITNESS.

The general report made by Powderly to the Knights of Labor sitting in convention at Indianapolis will but confirm the opinion entertained by a few friends of labor reform outside of the order, that he is a thoroughly incompetent man. This judgment was passed upon him at the time of the Missouri Pacific strike, and more recently the Burlington strike, when it was in his power to render a great service not only to his order but to the general cause of labor. He is unfit for a leader, and he is unfit for a figure head. He has no tact, he has no comprehension of circumstances, and he is utterly unable to catch the drift of public sentiment, and of the feelings of those workingmen who are not knights. Like all weak men in high position, he interprets dissent from his policy to be treachery to the order. His annual report is simply a series of excuses and complaints for the diminished numbers of the knights. Nothing could be in worse taste or more foolish.

Mr. Powderly should be the last man to discourage the order because its unwieldy mass has been shrinking away from various natural causes. He ought to know enough to know that the promiscuous recruiting of men of all grades and ranks into the order was sure to drive out of it the wage-working class. Any man with a thumbnail of sense would not have foreseen that the professional knights who have invaded the order for personal and political ends would form a wedge to split the order unless they were excluded by the reorganization of the order on a strictly workingman's basis.

Mr. Powderly has shown himself to be a man of shallow mind, ready to embrace and advocate theories that are utterly impracticable and at variance with the natural laws that govern the labor market as they do the wheat market.

The mission of the knights is not, and should not be, to fight the trades unions, nor yet to dominate them, and Powderly has done both. Such actions cannot but be detrimental to the cause of labor, and naturally have tended to disintegrate the knights. Their strength lies in the fact that they by their organization can bring into harmonious action with the trades unions the men, and the women workers, too, whose labor cannot well be organized. Not only can they do this, but they could be a potent factor in assisting the trades unions in their disagreements with non-union men. Nothing can be clearer than that in all contests with capital the trades unions are badly handicapped by the dead weight of unemployed labor. This unemployed labor could be gathered under the banner of the knights and might be so handled that capital could not in future rely upon it. At present, whenever there is a strike capital lies back confidently, and calls this element to its aid. With a general master workman in control who understood things, matters might be so managed that the knights could organize these men in such a way that they would act with the trades unions—not against them. Hitherto the policy of the knights, at least as far as outsiders have been able to judge, has been to endeavor to utilize unorganized labor to enable them to dominate the trades unions. Nothing can be more detrimental to the interests of the order than such an attempt, which is diametrically opposed to the common sense of workingmen, and has been productive of very bad results. This policy grew out of the disease of the big head, which seems to have been fatal to general master workmen generally. If any knight has been taught or has led himself to believe that his organization was destined to take the place of the trades unions he is deceived, and the truth is not in him. The trades unions must ever be the basis of all labor organizations, and the knights can never be more than a supplementary order, which will pass into desuetude when the battle has been fought and the victory has been won.

WHY CHANGE FORT OMAHA?

The scheme to re-locate Fort Omaha never has been favored by any considerable number of the citizens of Omaha. Our business men have practically been a unit against the project, and so expressed themselves through the board of trade when the bill was pending in congress two years ago. Both Generals Howard and Crook were most decidedly adverse to re-location and every commander of the post and staff officer attached to department headquarters has given expression to the same views. General Brooke, the present department commander, would doubtless oppose the re-location were it not for the fact that congress has passed the bill to establish a new fort within ten miles of Omaha.

Senator Manderson, who has been chiefly instrumental in the passage of that bill, has time and again assured our citizens that this measure was inspired by General Sheridan, who, at the head of the army, had adopted a policy of isolating the forts from large cities, and refused to approve any further appropriations for enlarging and improving the present fort.

It was only because General Sheridan refused to permit Fort Omaha to be improved on its present site that objections from leading citizens of Omaha were finally withdrawn, and the bill passed without remonstrance. The fact is that General Scofield is at the head of the army, it would seem to us that the projected removal of the fort is no longer a military necessity.

If the leading business men and property owners who regard the removal as a detriment to our city take prompt steps to stop further proceedings toward the purchase of a new site and enlist Senator Manderson in this effort, we have no doubt that the relocating bill can be promptly repealed in December and a liberal appropriation secured before congress adjourns to enlarge the old fort and erect substantial quarters for all the troops that may be stationed here.

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Unless the democratic schemes for stealing congressional districts in West Virginia and some other states where the vote was very close are successful, the republicans will have control of the next house of representatives by a small majority. The early estimates are found to have been too sanguine, and now even Senator Quay, whose accuracy of judgment in such matters has been abundantly attested, and whose opportunities for obtaining trustworthy information are the best, does not promise a republican majority in the house exceeding six. This would be a narrow margin, but it would be sufficient, for control, since there will be in the Fifty-first congress no "balance-of-power" men. The next house will be divided on strict party lines, with no shifthers or so-called independents to give solicitude to either side. Regarding the pre-tendent purpose of the democrats to out-republican republicans in the six or seven close districts where a recount will probably be made, the most serious danger to the republican claimants is felt to be in West Virginia, where the democrats are in control of the election machinery. There and elsewhere, however, the republican managers will maintain a vigilant and careful guardianship of the returns, and the democratic schemers will not find it an easy matter to accomplish their suspected purpose of recounting out the republican candidates.

There is a very general impression that the clerk of the house of representatives, whose duty it is to prepare the roll of the members elect, has it in his power to arrange the roll so as to deprive the republicans of a majority, particularly in the event of the majority not exceeding two or three. This is a mistaken impression. The law gives the clerk no discretion in preparing the roll of members elect where regular credentials of election are presented. It provides that "Before the first meeting of each congress the clerk of the next preceding house of representatives shall make up a list of the names of the members elect, and place therein the names of those persons, and of such persons only,

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WHY CHANGE FORT OMAHA? The scheme to re-locate Fort Omaha never has been favored by any considerable number of the citizens of Omaha. Our business men have practically been a unit against the project, and so expressed themselves through the board of trade when the bill was pending in congress two years ago. Both Generals Howard and Crook were most decidedly adverse to re-location and every commander of the post and staff officer attached to department headquarters has given expression to the same views. General Brooke, the present department commander, would doubtless oppose the re-location were it not for the fact that congress has passed the bill to establish a new fort within ten miles of Omaha.

Senator Manderson, who has been chiefly instrumental in the passage of that bill, has time and again assured our citizens that this measure was inspired by General Sheridan, who, at the head of the army, had adopted a policy of isolating the forts from large cities, and refused to approve any further appropriations for enlarging and improving the present fort.

It was only because General Sheridan refused to permit Fort Omaha to be improved on its present site that objections from leading citizens of Omaha were finally withdrawn, and the bill passed without remonstrance. The fact is that General Scofield is at the head of the army, it would seem to us that the projected removal of the fort is no longer a military necessity.

If the leading business men and property owners who regard the removal as a detriment to our city take prompt steps to stop further proceedings toward the purchase of a new site and enlist Senator Manderson in this effort, we have no doubt that the relocating bill can be promptly repealed in December and a liberal appropriation secured before congress adjourns to enlarge the old fort and erect substantial quarters for all the troops that may be stationed here.

A SMALL MAROON.

Unless the democratic schemes for stealing congressional districts in West Virginia and some other states where the vote was very close are successful, the republicans will have control of the next house of representatives by a small majority. The early estimates are found to have been too sanguine, and now even Senator Quay, whose accuracy of judgment in such matters has been abundantly attested, and whose opportunities for obtaining trustworthy information are the best, does not promise a republican majority in the house exceeding six. This would be a narrow margin, but it would be sufficient, for control, since there will be in the Fifty-first congress no "balance-of-power" men. The next house will be divided on strict party lines, with no shifthers or so-called independents to give solicitude to either side. Regarding the pre-tendent purpose of the democrats to out-republican republicans in the six or seven close districts where a recount will probably be made, the most serious danger to the republican claimants is felt to be in West Virginia, where the democrats are in control of the election machinery. There and elsewhere, however, the republican managers will maintain a vigilant and careful guardianship of the returns, and the democratic schemers will not find it an easy matter to accomplish their suspected purpose of recounting out the republican candidates.

There is a very general impression that the clerk of the house of representatives, whose duty it is to prepare the roll of the members elect, has it in his power to arrange the roll so as to deprive the republicans of a majority, particularly in the event of the majority not exceeding two or three. This is a mistaken impression. The law gives the clerk no discretion in preparing the roll of members elect where regular credentials of election are presented. It provides that "Before the first meeting of each congress the clerk of the next preceding house of representatives shall make up a list of the names of the members elect, and place therein the names of those persons, and of such persons only,

NEEDHAM'S BONDSMEN.

They Strive in Vain to Have a Settlement With the Commissioners.

A somewhat heated controversy between the county commissioners on the one side, and Mr. C. P. Needham, formerly county clerk of this county, and his bondsmen on the other, took place yesterday afternoon in the court house. The cause of the discussion was about as follows:

Two years ago it became necessary for the county to raise a fund of general interest books made by the old ones then in use in the county clerk's office, the old books being in a very dilapidated condition. Mr. Needham, who was then county clerk, got the contract and was to be allowed at the rate of 5 cents for each entry made in the new books.

Mr. Needham held several thousand dollars of the county's money at that time, and on leaving office deducted the \$7,000 out of the amount as payment for the work done on the books. Mr. Needham's successor, found fault with the work done by Mr. Needham, and reported it to the commissioners. One of the commissioners, who is no friend of Needham's, took the matter under consideration and notified Needham that he must return the money he had so carelessly expended, and that the county attorney was instructed by the county board to proceed against Needham's bondsmen to recover the money.

Mr. Needham wants to allow the county to go on with the suit. His bondsmen want to settle the matter, and to allow up part of the money held by Needham.

Some of the commissioners say that the books were returned reasonably correct, and that Needham should not be held responsible for the work done, whilst the other portion of the board thinks he should give back the whole amount.

How the case will be settled, future developments will prove.

There is also another matter connected with Needham's case, which has not yet been returned by him during the last year of his term of office.

THE LINING GALLERY.

Another Visit to the Exhibit of the Western Art Association.

"Omaha is full of people who can appreciate a good thing when they see it," said Senator Lininger, yesterday, "and I wish you would inform them that the exhibition of the Western Art association leaves the gallery this week and they must get around. There is no fear that the exhibit will not prove successful. There are 300 people in the association and this exhibition is a stupendous surprise to the most enthusiastic of us, but there are a number of contributors, young girls and others, whose work is worthy of a place in the most European art galleries, who need encouragement. Another thing, the exhibit is a good one, and artists here who must live, and whose pictures are for sale. There are also rich men in the city whose wealth need not prevent them from going to the Old world and paying two prices for work of half the merit. A word to the wise is sufficient."

The attendance at the gallery Thursday night and yesterday was very encouraging, though those who can manage it will get the best satisfaction from an afternoon or morning visit.

The china exhibit, as now arranged, is at the corner of Broadway and 12th streets. Mr. Butterfield, Royal Worcester, vases and chocolate pot are beautiful in design and workmanship, as also are her plaques, border designs and other things, which are very good designs, notably a Marguerite china plaque and a portrait on china. Miss Minnie Blackburn, Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Morrow, Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Silliman, Mrs. Silliman, Mrs. Harriet E. Brown's "Still Life" (5) is much admired. Several scenes show some commendable work, among them Mrs. Silliman's copy of "Studs" and "Nature" is especially remarkable. Mrs. Munnigh's "Coming Home" shows superior skill in both drawing and coloring. Mrs. Silliman's "The Old World" is one of the gems of the collection. It can readily be understood that out of the exhibit there is a great deal to be seen, and can be noticed in a brief visit. Altogether the array is decidedly commendable, and furnishes material for hours of delightful entertainment.

Mrs. Gould Much Improved.

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