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

THE DAILY BEE.

Sole Statement of Circulation.

Filed for record at the County of Douglas, S. D.
George H. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending December 8, 1888, was as follows:
Monday, Dec. 2, 1888, 18,118
Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1888, 18,118
Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1888, 18,118
Thursday, Dec. 5, 1888, 18,118
Friday, Dec. 6, 1888, 18,118
Saturday, Dec. 7, 1888, 18,118
Average, 18,118

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 8th day of December, A. D. 1888.
GEO. H. TSCHUCK, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company.
N. P. FELL, Notary Public.

State of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
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HASCALL, as president of the city council, would amount to a municipal calamity.

DENVER is happy over the completion of its cable road system. And now the Denverites will howl along just like the people do in Omaha.

CHICAGO need not depend on the anarchists for blowing up buildings. The explosion of an oat meal factory would indicate that dynamite is in the air.

WITH HASCALL president of the city council and Southard the city clerk, the contractors will gain some advantage in forming the new combines now under the way.

THE inter-state railway commission threatens to take an active hand in the railroad war, if the managers do not come to an agreement. Chairman Cooley has blood in his eye.

THE state printing has always been a rich plum for the politicians of Lincoln. It is safe to predict that the same old ring at the same old stand will trade it off at the same old terms.

IF Dr. Billings had inoculated himself with the hog cholera, the virus thus obtained would have had sufficient strength of self-assurance to carry every hog in Nebraska safely through the disease.

TO THE man up a tree it looks very much as if the Union Pacific was indifferent as to the result of the suit between that company and the Western Union over the control of the telegraph lines to the Pacific.

ONE day of breathless anxiety has passed and our war ship Galena has not suffered the fate of the Tallapoosa in being sunk by a coal barge. Evidently the Galena has gone forth to do battle with Hayti in dead earnest.

MR. HASCALL ought to be an authority on the subject of wine rooms. But his amendment to the proposed ordinance will make its provisions practically ineffective, which was doubtless his intention.

NOW it transpires that the election of McGinnis and Smith, republicans, and of Pendleton and Wilson, democrats, in West Virginia, has exactly divided the delegation to congress. Could all the counting and recounting in that state do no better than that?

CALIFORNIA estimates the total wine yield in that state for the season of 1888, at seventeen million gallons. The total yield will not compromise itself, however, by taking a sip or two of the vintage. The lowness in the color of the wines indicates a very small percentage of alcohol.

THE Douglas county delegation to the legislature will do wisely to inform itself of the necessary character amendments. The citizens and taxpayers, the merchants and mechanics, the mayor, the board of public works, the council, the city officials are in position to give most valuable information as to the needs and the proper safeguards to protect Omaha's best interests.

THERE is a possibility that Nebraska may secure the appointment of commissioner of agriculture. It is more than likely that the place will be elevated to the position of a cabinet officer, and there are now men in the state of national reputation, who are well qualified for the trust. It would certainly be a well deserved recognition of Nebraska as a great agricultural state for General Harrison to appoint one of her sons to the post.

THERE are few more pathetic spectacles in these days of holiday anticipations than that of the hungry-eyed children of the poor, lingering about the windows of the toy and candy stores. A little thing makes the Christmas of childhood the brightest in the calendar; the lack of that little thing makes of it a day of miserable disappointment. Realizing this, the Rev. Mr. Harsha and others have made arrangements to distribute the gifts of the homes of all the poor of the city, and his appeal should meet with a cheerful response.

A PRACTICE THAT MUST STOP.

Every instance of a firm and decisive stand on the part of the inter-state commerce commission against the pernicious practices of the railroads is to be heartily welcomed. The course of the commission has not been so uniformly of this character as could have been desired. It has doubtless been governed by the best intentions and been entirely conscientious, but it has in many cases laid itself open to the objection of leaning too much in the direction of a conservative leniency, as if disposed to cajole the railroad corporations into a performance of their obvious duty under the law rather than to enforce obedience to the plain requirements of the statute. Consideration of this sort is not usually appreciated by the corporations, and it is hardly to be doubted that there could be fewer evil and unlawful practices to be remedied if the inter-state commerce law had been enforced more rigidly, with a closer regard for its letter and spirit, than it has been. Certainly the experiment would have received a fairer test.

The inter-state commerce commission, in session at Chicago, has been investigating the methods pursued by the railroads in transacting their passenger traffic, and the information obtained shows an amount of crookedness, involving nearly every road centering in that city, which reflects discredit on the entire railroad system of the country. It is deplorable to find that men holding the reputable and responsible positions of railroad managers and agents have recourse to the most pernicious practices, in undeniable violation of law, in order to deceive the public and take advantage of each other in the competition for traffic. Yet this the commissioner has ascertained to be the case. It is found that nearly all the through passenger traffic of the roads has been done through scalpers, for the express purpose of avoiding an open reduction and to keep up the rates between local points. Of the large number of railroad officials examined, not one was able to give a plausible reason for selling tickets to scalpers at a much lower rate than they sell them at their own offices, nor to satisfactorily explain why they have persisted in paying enormous commissions for the sale of tickets to scalpers and others who could command business. The sole excuse was that they had to do it because their competitors did it.

Upon the information obtained Judge Cooley, chairman of the inter-state commerce commission, on Tuesday notified the managers and general passenger agents of the various railroads that the pernicious practice of dealing with scalpers and paying commissions must stop. The chairman is stated to have unmercifully scored the roads which have been guilty of discrimination in passenger rates by secret dealings, but without naming the perpetrators, a far too generous consideration that should not have been accorded. Corporations that thus persistently and scandalously violate the law should be publicly exposed and condemned, and it is an amiable weakness not becoming in a public official that permits railroad managers who by false pretences deceive the public and secretly ignore the requirements of a national statute to escape the personal reprobation they deserve. Nor is it entirely satisfactory that those guilty managers are allowed to escape all present responsibility for their violation of the law. Having been found amenable to prosecution, the injunction of the commission to these managers to go and sin no more appears a piece of magnanimity hardly within the discretion of that body, and certainly not just to the public which has suffered from the unlawful practices of the corporations. Still the action of the commission is a welcome sign of a more decisive policy in enforcing the law.

These disclosures, and others likely to be made as the investigation of the commission is extended to other fields, must serve to strengthen public opinion in favor of maintaining the inter-state commerce law, which has already been assailed in congress. They supply clear evidence of the necessity for the regulation and control provided for by the act and point out some of the dangers to the public interests that would certainly follow its abandonment.

MONTANA MUTTON.

There is a preference for beef among American consumers of meat which has its effect upon the ranges, for wherever cattle can be grazed the cattle men will crowd out the sheep herders. And this is equally true, whether the sheep are raised for their wool or for their flesh. In past years Nebraska has nourished numerous flocks, but the increasing demand for beef has begun to drive them elsewhere. At the same time there is an undoubted gain in the price of mutton in the eastern states, where it has become a popular article of consumption, and the slaughtering of sheep in South Omaha for the refrigerator cars has assumed importance. But this mutton comes for the most part from Montana, and will in time be derived altogether from that source. In that important territory there has been for the past five years an intelligent investment of considerable capital in English rams, and wethers for the purpose of breeding sheep for the market, not for their wool. Instead of Merinos and Cotswolds the sheep owners of Montana have been paying good round sums for Southdowns, both Shropshires and Welch, and the improvement in the flesh of the sheep sent to market has been remarkable. There is no doubt that for cities along the sea coast mutton is more wholesome than pork, and though it is not more nutritious it is more easily digested. In fact doctors assert that it is as digestible as veal, and order it for invalids.

Montana, as its name implies, is a mountainous country, and the experience of the world has been that such regions are especially adapted for the grazing of sheep. There are numerous valleys where the sheep can look after themselves during the winter, for the winds have no such power as they

have on the plains, being continually checked by cross ranges, which prevent them from gathering the fearful force from which the blizzard darts forth upon its errand of destruction. With intelligent shepherds and sheep dogs the flocks can be maintained fairly well in the open all the year round. There is every probability, therefore, that the great cities of this country will in time derive their mutton wholly from Montana, and as one industry always gives birth to another, it is likely that the sheep farms will also be dairy farms, for that is what has happened in Oregon. It has been found that far better cheese can be made by mingling the milk of the cow with ewe's milk than by using either singly, and Oregon is today the only state in the union where the famous cheeses of the continent of Europe, whose price is so much higher than English or American. In fact, foreigners who come to San Francisco eat with great delight the cheese of Oregon and accept it as some new variety of Roquefort, or Gorgonzola. The famous Swiss cheese of Gruyere is made of the same mingling. It is clear that Montana is striking out in the right direction, and in another decade will be hailed as the true pastoral land, the Arcadia of America.

OFFICIAL ANXIETY.

There is said to be a great deal of uneasiness among our consuls abroad, many of whom expect to lose their official heads very soon after the next administration comes in. There will doubtless be a very careful investigation of the consular service, and in that event numerous changes are to be expected. The present administration has not been entirely fortunate in selecting men for this service, and it is to be improved a considerable number of individuals who are now representing this country in foreign lands will be asked to come home. But it is to be hoped the next administration will be enabled to introduce such necessary reforms in the consular service as will give it a higher standard of usefulness and efficiency than it has thus far attained, and in order to do this something more will have to be done than the mere replacing of incompetent men in the service. There were some excellent suggestions on this subject in the president's message. Mr. Cleveland referred to the reorganization of the consular service as a matter of serious importance, and so unquestionably it is. A great commercial nation must have such a service, and this country has vast and growing interests which demand that its consular service shall be equal to the best in the world, which is admittedly not now the case. Fewer officials of this kind, better salaries, an assured tenure for capable and efficient service, and the appointment only of men of approved worth and capacity, are some of the reforms required for an improvement of the consular service, and they are to be expected of the next administration.

AN APPOINTIVE LICENSE BOARD.

"It will be a serious mistake," says the *Republican*, "if the friends of law and order in this city undertake to place the liquor license system under control of the board of fire and police commission." No one can deny that the license system, as now existing in our city, has been a source of corruption and irregularity. It has had a demoralizing effect upon members of the city council and the city clerk. It has exacted political support from the lawless and bums; it has compelled the orderly liquor dealers to support with money and influence the very worst element of the city, and has used the liquor men to do the dirty work at primaries and elections. The reason for this is easy to find. The license board is made up of the mayor, president of the city council and city clerk, each holding an elective office. The temptations to abuse the position as a member of the license board are manifold. There are opportunities to make corrupt bargains. In return for pecuniary or political support a member of the board can grant license to disreputable individuals or wink at violations of the license law. The average member of the license board plays for political power, for re-election, and he keeps his eye to the main chance to gain the solid support of the liquor men.

To vest the powers of the license board in the police commission removes this source of danger for the reason that the police commission is an appointed body composed of citizens wholly divorced from the council and independent of local elections. Such a license board would protect the interests of the city and the interests of the better element of the liquor dealers, since it has no political bargains to make and no political debts to pay. Our elections would be purified of the taint of corruption in the council would be materially lessened. The city of New York has found the appointed police board the best solution for the difficulty, and it behooves our citizens to foster the city's interests by placing the granting of licenses in the hands of the police commission.

THE VIRTUOUS MR. HOLMAN.

The virtuous Mr. Holman, of Indiana, wants the judiciary committee of the house of representatives to investigate the alleged voluntary contributions of money expended in the late elections, and to report what legislation is necessary to suppress such contributions and expenditures. Of course, any such investigation, if ever made, would be the merest farce, and the Indiana congressman, who is so fond of clap-trap, knows it would be. Doubtless an honest inquiry would show that there was more money raised by the democrats in the late campaign, from voluntary and so-called voluntary contributions, than by the republicans, and for exactly the same purpose. What ever evil there is in this matter both parties are equally guilty of, and it is not doubted that the judiciary committee would fail to find anything seriously reflecting on either party more tangible than the newspaper statements on both sides. More to the purpose is the bill

of Mr. Howard, of Indiana, to punish crime against the elective franchise, which provides that the corrupt use of money in any election for representative in congress shall be punished by disfranchisement for from six to ten years, and disqualify the persons for that period from holding any office of honor, trust or profit, under the United States.

A MEETING is called to arrange for the proper celebration of "Forefathers' day." The descendants of the pilgrims are numerous in Omaha, and any efforts which stimulates them to emulate the virtues of their ancestors is commendable. These annual reunions too are productive of good results in cementing the natural friendliness of natives of the same states or countries. The west owes a good deal to New England, and the proper celebration of this anniversary is a fitting acknowledgment.

THE new and reputable members of the council may be depended upon to steer clear of entangling alliances with the old combine which has controlled that body for two years. Some of the best men in the city will soon take their seats in the council for the first time, and the people endorsed them because they believed that the corrupt ringsters would be repulsed in their raids upon the city treasury. On this proposition THE BEE stood with the people, and is confident that the new members will not be long in making their presence felt.

DR. MILLER feels very confident that he can fly in the face of public opinion and erect his electric motor poles where he will. But he will find the current of public opinion more powerful to contend with than any electric current he may wish to send on an overhead wire.

HITS TO THE HUNGRY.

Tickets to the inaugural ball in Washington next March will cost \$5, super extra. Economical officeholders are earnestly requested not to take their supper with them. That would be too painfully Jeffersonian.

Would He Care For Them?

Up to date forty-four babies, two gas wells, a mountain and a new variety of apples have been sent to the west side of the state in the last few days, and there is likely to be considerable confusion before Harrison makes way for his successor. Why not give Levi Morton a share of the honors?

Canada Will Get There in Time.

We mean that Canada shall become a nation, allied in freedom and inviolability with the democratic industrial system of America. We also mean to get rid of the empire bush, old dices, old rags, old rubbish of all sorts, and to go right ahead, a free people in a free country.

The Clamorers Patriots.

Petitions are circulating in a dozen or more cities in Nebraska asking the forthcoming president to appoint the petitioning citizens to the office of postmaster. A man of good business ability can earn more money with less labor in almost any other avocation than that of government postmaster, but this certain fact does not reduce the number of clamoring patriots in the least.

His First Financial Lesson.

Baby Gould—Grandpa, I want to buy some candy, but I have no money.
Grandpa—Go to the candy store, my child, and offer the man a liberal sum for his candy, give him bonds for the amount based on the value of the candy, then demand the issue of stock, sell one-half to other parties, pay the man his money, and you will have one-half the store. See?

The Speakership.

Wire-pulling for the speakership of the Fifty-first congress grows more interesting daily. At first Reed and McKinley were mentioned for the place, but Cannon of Illinois soon started in an active personal canvass. Now Michigan puts in a claim for Burrows, and with the understanding that Alger would go into the contest, there would be a pretty full field of candidates. A man of good business ability can earn more money with less labor in almost any other avocation than that of government postmaster, but this certain fact does not reduce the number of clamoring patriots in the least.

The Supper Will Move West.

With the admission of the three or four territories which will undoubtedly come into the union between this time and 1892, the political conditions will change. New York will no longer be the pivotal state. The partisan center of power will be on the west side of the Mississippi. In 1892 the Mississippi valley will furnish the presidential candidate for the democratic party unless David B. Hill be selected. The south already sees the march of partisan empire westward, and announces that the time has come to throw off the yoke of New York.

The Premature Skater.

Now the skater premature,
When the frost-bound ponds
allure,
Does the steel again.
See how swift he glides and sleek!
What—a swif—A plank there
is his tri—A quick—
Saved—But stiff as any stick.
Trot him up the lane.

PROMINENT PERSONS.

Mrs. Hancock, widow of the general, is now comfortably settled in her new home on Sixteenth street, Washington, D. C.
Mr. Gladstone will start for Rome in ten days. The Irish residents there are preparing to give him an enthusiastic reception.
General Harrison recently sent \$2 to the erection of a church near New Haven, Conn. Two bricks are to be marked with his name and put in the corner of the building.

Secretary Whitney is said to have had every newspaper reference to him since he became secretary of the navy clipped out and pasted into a scrap-book. The scrap-book now contains forty-five volumes, and is kept in a safe.

Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria, has received from the pope, in recognition of the fortieth anniversary of his accession to the throne, a golden medal and a beautiful portrait of the Virgin Mary in mosaics, made in the work shops of the Vatican.

Warden Osborne, of the Tombs in New York, has inaugurated a sensible reform, and one which should be adopted in every prison in the country. He absolutely refuses to permit presents of flowers to criminals, and has ordered that any woman who has been addicted to that sentimental idiosyncrasy.

General Boulanger, it is known, receives large subscriptions of money from many different sources, and is a sensible reformer. He is surprised to learn, as is declared in the London journals, that he has received \$50,000 from admirers, compatriots, of course, in the United States.

Empress Victoria of Germany and her mother, Queen Victoria, are at Windsor together, and spend a great deal of time in the garden. The empress is a celebrated player in the old days, and used easily to beat her husband, the prince consort, is no match for her daughter, the German

STATE AND TERRITORY.

Nebraska Jottings.

Corn in Dakota will average about forty bushels to the acre.
During the fall four residences and three stores have been erected at Dodge.
The Dodge Congregationalists are raising funds for the building of a parsonage.
A singing school has been started at Norfolk by the Christian Endeavor society.
A steam roller mill, with a capacity of fifty barrels a day, has commenced operations at Dodge.
The motto of the Nebraska City Press is that "omnibus a rusticis deservit the post-office."
The Plattsmouth schools will probably remain closed until after the holidays, on account of illthrift.
The taxpayers of Nebraska City are kicking because of too little tax and too much sand being used in paving.
The Nebraska City saloonkeepers have been ordered to make formal application to take out a license to the city clerk, at the same time depositing with the city treasurer \$1,000. The fact of this application is then advertised for two weeks. The application is then considered by the license board, consisting of the mayor, the city clerk, and the city treasurer. If the application is approved, the \$1,000 deposited is refunded. If it is not approved, the license is issued. In order to secure a license, the applicant must get a recommendation from the mayor, the city clerk, and the city treasurer. The license is then issued for a period of one year, and the applicant must pay the city treasurer \$1,000 for the license. The license is then issued for a period of one year, and the applicant must pay the city treasurer \$1,000 for the license.

Liquor Licenses.

How They Are Procured and Who Get Them.

Saloon keepers are now commencing to take out their licenses for 1889, but are doing it so slowly as to lead to the belief that the number now in business, 367 will be somewhat decreased. The reason for this is the fact that they are now compelled to pay \$1,000 in advance before they will be given permission to do business. This is the first year that the law has been enforced, though the first attempt at its enforcement was made in March of the present year. At that time all the saloon-keepers had paid for their first quarter \$250. The balance, \$750, was then secured, and the license was issued. The license is then issued for a period of one year, and the applicant must pay the city treasurer \$1,000 for the license. The license is then issued for a period of one year, and the applicant must pay the city treasurer \$1,000 for the license.

The Great Northwest.

Hay is scarce in Portland, Ore., and dealers are asking \$1 a ton.

The sugar refinery at Watsonville, Cal., gives \$8 a ton for beets.

A statehood convention is to be held at Spokane Falls, W. T.

Colorado cattlemen expect to ship 130,000 head of beef next season.

Two saloonkeepers have failed in business at Helena, Mont., recently.

The strike on the Montana Union railroad is off, the master mechanic having resigned.

It is proposed to build a seawall 300 feet wide around the water front of San Diego, Cal.

Business gamblers have been hiring substitutes to appear for them in the Los Angeles courts, and have thus escaped.

Prospectors in the Flathead lake region of Montana claim to have found anthracite coal in the Forty-foot thickness.

W. H. Herrington is in jail at Eugene City, Ore., for shooting Frank Rollins. It is thought the wound will prove fatal.

There is a great deal of talk in Wyoming over the suggestion made to divide the territory, half going to Montana and half to Colorado.

Illinois capitalists will erect barns and cowsheds at Miles City, Mont., for the use of native horses preparatory to selling them in the eastern states.

Oregon's tax levy has been fixed as follows: for every one percent of the assessed value, militia tax, 1-5th of a mill; university, 1-10th of a mill. Total, 2-5th of a mill.

W. H. Reed, in boring an artesian well on James M. Macdonald's place, about two miles south of Sonoma, Cal., struck petroleum at a depth of 320 feet. The fluid will be further developed.

The Southern Pacific has been cutting down their laboring force between Helena and Billings. About three hundred men have been discharged and paid off. Most of the discharged men are in connection with the board which is reorganized by a number of the leading members. These claim that their associates as a whole are too modest and careless in their aspiration for office and men entirely unfit for the place.

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There is a great deal of talk in Wyoming over the suggestion made to divide the territory, half going to Montana and half to Colorado.

Illinois capitalists will erect barns and cowsheds at Miles City, Mont., for the use of native horses preparatory to selling them in the eastern states.

Oregon's tax levy has been fixed as follows: for every one percent of the assessed value, militia tax, 1-5th of a mill; university, 1-10th of a mill. Total, 2-5th of a mill.

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