

THE DAILY BEE.

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Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 15th day of June, A. D. 1889. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

AS A cool summer resort Omaha still holds her reputation. The paving contractors are still enjoying their self-imposed vacation.

EVEN Rhode Island looked into the wine when it was red and pronounced it good. It is charitable to suppose that Mr. Dickey did not know his telegram was loaded.

ONE good show is better than half a dozen poor ones. Let the Omaha showmen get together. AS LONG as the Union Pacific bridge remains the only gateway of commerce, Omaha will continue the Toll Gate City.

COMING down to athletics, Omaha pios her faith upon the ability of her representative runners to carry off the honors at the Cincinnati turfset. CHADRON'S generous gift of eighteen carloads of provisions, horses and wagons for the Johnston sufferers is a worthy tribute of the people of northern Nebraska to the unfortunate in the Conemaugh valley.

THE city of Atlanta, Ga., gives a discount of two per cent on the first one hundred thousand dollars of city taxes paid into the treasury. This is a clever trick in municipal tax gathering which the cities of the west have yet to learn. CALVIN S. BRICE, chairman of the national democratic committee, will deliver an address as orator of the day at a western college commencement.

He should not miss the opportunity to paint rainbow-chasing in glowing colors to young men anxious to enter into politics. WOODRUFF, the confessor, missed his calling. Nature fitted him for a space filler. The charming variety of his contributions, the versatility and frequency of his sensations, his contempt for facts and circumstances, and the easy freedom with which he throws the halter at his colleagues, stamp him as a modern Munchausen hungering for liberty. Give him rope and he'll hang himself.

THE cities and towns of Nebraska are showing unusual interest in the State Developing convention to be held in Omaha June 26. There is every indication that the meeting will be successful and that its efforts will go far in uniting the cities of the state in a common cause. It is of the highest importance, however, that every town should be represented by delegates to the convention. In order that the benefits that shall accrue to the state may be uniformly distributed, all sections and all quarters of Nebraska should make their influence felt in the work of the association to be formed.

OMAHA is now in a fair way of having a surplus of fall exhibitions. The scope and plans of "Merchandise week" have not yet developed, a fat stock show is promised, the Coliseum people are ready to start an interstate exposition, and the Omaha Driving Park association will no doubt offer some attractions. All these enterprises tend to attract visitors to the city and furnish a variety of entertainment, but there is a possibility of overdoing the show business. Success cannot be wrung from conflicting interests. Unity and harmony is essential in this as in all other public movements. The managers should get together and devise and carry out a comprehensive plan of fall exhibitions.

THE construction of a stairway on the Fifteenth street side of Boyd's opera house will afford some additional security to the patrons of the theater, but it is not enough. It is useless to deny that means of exit from the building are totally inadequate. It seems as if the different stairways were purposely designed to destroy life in case of a fire or panic. This is especially true of the balcony and gallery stairs. It is doubtful if one out of ten persons would escape uninjured from either of those places in case of a panic. A radical reconstruction of the stairways is due to the thousands of patrons of the house. Public safety demands that the exits be made so broad and straight that people will feel moderately secure on crowded nights.

GENERAL CAMERON PARALYZED. The veteran politician, General Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, has had a stroke of paralysis, which may result in his death at any moment. Last March Mr. Cameron celebrated his ninetieth birthday, at which time he was mentally and physically remarkably vigorous for such an age. About a year ago he visited Europe and remained away several months, the trip being wholly for pleasure. On his return he was so strong and hearty, having experienced not the slightest deterioration of his wonderful vitality from the journey, that it seemed he might live a score of years longer. Until stricken with paralysis there was no public knowledge that his health was in the least degree impaired.

For more than a generation, or from 1845, when he first entered the United States senate, down to 1877, when he resigned his seat in that body to be succeeded by his son, Simon Cameron was a conspicuous figure and a potential force in the politics of his state and of the nation. He entered on his political career as a democrat, having for a number of years served the democracy as the editor of the leading democratic paper of Pennsylvania, and he remained with that party until 1856, when he became affiliated with the people's party in Pennsylvania, subsequently merged in the republican party. This new political affiliation enlisted all his energy and zeal, and as he brought to it a very complete political equipment obtained in the service of the party he was thenceforth to do battle against, he at once attained to prominence and usefulness in the councils of the new political organization. He undoubtedly did more than any other man to build up the republican party in Pennsylvania, and he is entitled to no small part of the credit for the growth of the party in all the northern states. His earnestness and enthusiasm in the cause stimulated others to emulate his example, while his extraordinary skill in political organization caused his council to be widely sought. Of all his methods and practices as a political leader and manager impartial history will not approve. He was not always absolutely scrupulous respecting the means to an end. Neither was he wholly unselfish in his political labors. But among his contemporaries there was no one more sagacious and courageous in political management, and he was unflinchingly loyal to the republican party.

Mr. Cameron was returned to the United States senate in 1857, and was a member of that body when his name was presented to the national republican convention of 1860 as a candidate for the presidency, he having the support of the delegations of several states. In the trying period which followed the election of Lincoln Mr. Cameron showed all the sterling qualities of the patriotic citizen, and he became a member of the first republican cabinet as secretary of war. He remained in this position less than a year, and upon his retirement received the appointment of minister to Russia, a position which he held only a few months. He was out of public life, though continuing active in politics, for about four years, when he was again sent to the senate, and continued there until his voluntary retirement in 1877. Since then he has taken no active part in politics, having in retirement enjoyed the abundant fruits of his many years of successful financial and political enterprises. For Mr. Cameron had business ability no less marked than that which gave him a commanding place in the politics of the country.

A careful study of the details of the political career of any man, extending over a period of more than thirty years, must disclose some things that could not be commended. Unquestionably that of Simon Cameron had its share of blameworthy faults willfully committed. But none will deny that he did his country valuable service, and as one of the earliest members of the republican party, and one of the most vigorous promoters of the cause it championed, Simon Cameron merits an honorable place among American political leaders.

NOTHING TO ARBITRATE. We publish in another column the letter of Messrs. George W. Vroman and Jackson Hoyer, representing respectively the grievance committees of locomotive engineers and firemen now in session in this city. These gentlemen claim that they are not opposed to arbitration; that the difference between the respective organizations and the Union Pacific is whether the company will continue to pay the engineers and firemen in accordance with an agreement heretofore made.

The main question is whether the company can detach a branch of the system and pay lower wages than is paid to men working on the main line. The company insists that the responsibilities of engineers and firemen on branch lines are comparatively trifling. Trains are fewer and generally light, and the labor and danger are far less than on the main lines, where traffic is great and trains heavy. On the other hand, the operatives claim that if they permit a reduction of wages on one branch, it violates the agreement made between the company and the men, and establishes a precedent by which the company can exact similar concessions on all branch lines.

THE BEE cannot be accused of special friendliness toward the Union Pacific firemen. In the twenty odd years of its existence the company has done little to entitle it to commendation. We feel, however, that the engineers and firemen cannot afford to ignore the desire of the company for arbitration. It is folly to say "There is nothing to arbitrate." That sentiment was worthy of a "Stone." It sounded harsh and tyrannical when uttered by the Burlington manager and carried dismay to hundreds of homes throughout the west. The engineers and firemen, with the past for an example, should be the last to set themselves against public sentiment and refuse to accept a method of settlement advocated by the ablest minds in the laboring world.

Whenever there is a dispute between employer and employe there is room for arbitration. The railroad company asserts that it has a grievance, and is ready to submit its claims to a disinterested court. If the engineers and firemen are fortified by an agreement with the company they certainly have nothing to lose by agreeing to arbitration. THE BEE has proven its friendship for labor organizations on many trying occasions, and is ready now to support and advocate their claims if reasonable and just, but insists that wherever arbitration can be had, it is their duty to submit to it. A peaceful settlement of labor disputes is profitable to all concerned. It prevents bitterness and feuds, which every strike engenders, establishes confidence and security, and prevents the embarrassing annoyances which would follow a conflict between the men and the company.

An open rupture between the railroad company and the men would be disastrous to the business interests of the entire west. It would inflict incalculable damage on thousands of innocent people, and bring distress and poverty to hundreds of homes. Any means which will avert such a calamity is commendable, and the operatives can not expect public sympathy and support if they insist that "there is nothing to arbitrate."

THEY ARE AWAKE. Referring to the report that the democrats of Montana propose to gerrymander the legislative districts so as to secure the legislature and the two United States senators, the Helena Herald says it is well understood that the attempt will be made, but the republicans of Montana are awake and ready for the fight in whatever shape it may come. The Herald says if it is thought the republicans of Montana will allow such a scheme to succeed without the biggest fight North America has ever witnessed, those who think so do not know the republicans of that territory. "The voters of Montana," says the Herald, "are fresh from the experience of a democratic administration and want no more of it. They have been persecuted in every interest and in every manner that ingenuity could devise to prevent the settlement of our lands and the development of our interests and industries. The democrats have about as heavy a load of national issues as they can carry, and if they attempt to take on an offensive gerrymander there will be a repetition of the result of last November." All this is in the right spirit, and if the Herald voices the sentiment prevalent among Montana republicans, as undoubtedly it does, the democratic hope of controlling the new state is very likely to be disappointed. The result of last November can be repeated if the republicans of Montana are vigilant, active and harmonious.

TO G. M. HITCHCOCK. Your impulsive outburst is pardonable and at the same time deplorable. You have unwittingly gratified the malice of Fred Nye, a vindictive, dirty little whelp, with a soul no larger than a pin-head and a head the size of a nutmeg. You compel me to reassure you in print what I have vouchsafed to you verbally several years ago on an occasion when the Republican charged that I had hounded your father to his grave. The fact is that my feud with your father was fanned into flames by just such detestable creatures as Fred Nye, who himself waged war upon him politically. What I wrote before and during the senatorial campaign of 1876 was true to the best of my knowledge and belief. It was written in a defensive war waged against me by political cohorts supplied with money by Paul Vandervoort and others that materialized in a murderous assault with a slung shot, by a powerful negro who was liberated from the penitentiary by a pardon procured and handed in person to the assassin by your late father. Such warfare has left indelible impressions upon my skill, and became part of the history of THE BEE.

THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION. The county assessment roll for 1889 perpetuates the inequalities of former years, but in a more glaring and unjust manner. It is a notorious fact that in several wards assessors were elected last fall pledged to reduce the valuation of property and the returns show that they have faithfully carried out their bargains. In the First, Third, Fifth and Sixth wards there is a significant decrease in the total valuation, a fact which indicates that the assessors were not in the business for their health. In these wards there has been considerable improvement during the past year, and while property values have not materially advanced, there is no justification for a reduction. In other wards, particularly the Second, the valuation of property has been increased, even where no improvement has been made. This is rank injustice, which the board of equalization is in duty bound to remedy. While the recent decisions of the courts practically tie its hands in individual cases, the board has the power, without complaint, "to ascertain whether the valuations in one township, precinct or district bear a just relation to all the townships, precincts or districts in the county, and may increase or diminish the aggregate valuation of property in any township, precinct or district, by adding or deducting such sum upon the hundred as may be necessary to produce a just relation between all the valuations of property in the county." The law is directive, not optional. The board cannot plead ignorance of the facts. It is well aware that there has been no decrease in property valuations in the wards referred to, and it is its duty to set aside the friendly work of these assessors and make all property bear a just and reasonable share of the public burdens. That the whole revenue law is an incentive to fraud is beyond question, but the board of equalization possesses the authority to remedy the flagrant wrongs and favoritism displayed in the assessment roll.

WITHIN thirty days the prohibition amendment engrained upon the constitution of Rhode Island only only three years ago will become inoperative. This is the desire of the people of that state by a majority of over eighteen thousand, and all that is now required to complete the abrogation of the amendment is the official counting of the vote and proclamation of the result. This result is exceedingly significant. Three years ago the amendment prohibiting the manufacture and sale of liquor was inserted in the constitution of Rhode Island by a majority of nearly six thousand. In the brief experience under operation the people of Rhode Island had become satisfied that prohibition was a failure and a danger to the state, and they have attested their conviction by casting a majority for the repeal of the amendment three times as large as was given for it when it carried. No man whose reason is not hopelessly befogged by prejudice can fail to understand the obvious sense of this result and to make its inevitable and correct application.

THE objects and aims of the "Patriotic Sons of America" may commend themselves to a small fraction of the people of this country. The members can not be accused of a surplus of modesty when they proclaim their patriotism from the rooftops. Men who find it necessary to publicly air their superiority and advertise their virtues will bear watching. Genuine patriotism is like charity. Its qualities are shown in deeds. Base coin is known by its sound.

THE initiation of Calico Charley Foster into the Sioux tribe, under the title of "Young-Me-Is-Proud-of-His-Tribe," is an event of more than ordinary importance. With Red Cloud afflicted with rheumatism and bed-ridden, and with the warring with death there is every chance for Charley to bloom and blossom as the Bismarck of the Sioux. It is an Arctic day when the Ohio man gets left.

PROPOSALS have just been issued by the naval department calling for the construction of two three thousand ton cruisers to cost over one million dollars each exclusive of armament. Two years are allowed for the completion of these vessels, and when finished they will take rank not alone as the best in our navy but superior to any cruisers of their tonnage in the world.

STANLEY is still pathfinding in the heart of Africa. But nevertheless his agents are arranging dates both in this country and in England for his appearance in the lecture platform next season. This stroke of enterprise due to Stanley's training as a newspaper man.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS. It would seem that the conservative leaders of England had awakened to the fact that the majority of the English people have become opposed to the former policy of suppression and oppression of the Irish. Considering the obstacles with which this policy has been met, in year after year, and the vigor with which Secretary Balfour has executed and enforced the provisions of the crimes act, it is remarkable to find this conservative of conservatives announcing in a recent speech that the tory government will soon undertake three great Irish measures. The Ashbourne act will be broadened in scope before next Christmas and land-lords. There is as much political economy in the scheme as there is household economy in the idea of buying on the "installment plan," and little more. The Ashbourne act really favors the landlord class of Ireland as much as, if not more than, the tenants and small farmers. Although it may relieve to a small degree the poverty of the

farmers, there is nothing in the scheme which will make the Irish satisfied to yield home rule, if indeed any compromise would be accepted now. How long the present peace of Europe will last is a question about which even the most competent observers differ. Prince Bismarck said not long ago that Germans must prepare themselves for war in 1890. But he is accustomed to cry "wolf" when, as on this occasion, he wants something from the roicshtag. Besides, since he uttered that note of warning the situation in France has somewhat changed. Then, no doubt, he took for granted, as did everybody else, that the Paris exposition would be closed before the next election of the chamber of deputies, which under the French constitution must take place on or before the last day of October. But M. Constans, the minister of the interior and the ruling spirit of the "Tirard cabinet," remarking that the exposition has temporarily, at least, extinguished Boulangism, is said to have decided to keep it open until after the new chamber is returned. If the programme believed to have been formed by the Tirard cabinet, under the impulsion of the members, can be carried out, and the outcome of the next general election shall be a republican majority nearly as large as that exhibited in the present chamber of deputies, there seems to be no reason why the peace of Europe should not remain unbroken for a year or two longer. For nothing but the imminence of the appeal to the people, the uncertainty about the strength of Boulangism, and the fear that the overthrow of the republican government may be in jeopardy, holds back the radicals and opportunists from flying at each other's throats. Should the next cabinet be, like the present, indistinctly republican, we shall witness the same strife of factions and the same impossibility of establishing a durable government. A definite foreign policy and a binomial engagement with a foreign power will therefore be no less impracticable than they are now.

Boulangism seems a condition precedent to the Franco-Russian alliance, without which war in Europe is improbable. The story of the revival of the plot to seize the throne of Serbia for Prince Peter Karageorgevitch may come from the previous news that the Montenegrin army will be re-organized and put in readiness for service at short notice. And that announcement also throws a possible light on the czar's famous toast to Prince Nikita. Very possibly a proposal to take this military step with a view to Russian use of the army was the occasion of the outburst of affection. There is something rather comical about this close alliance of the bulkiest and the smallest power in Europe. But of its sincerity there can be no doubt. It is founded in Russian aid extended centuries ago and continued to this day by the structure of race, family and religious ties. It is made continuous by the need of Russia to have one trustworthy foothold in the Balkan peninsula, and by little Montenegro's desire for an enlargement of its frontiers beyond those permitted by the Berlin congress, which seem to her so utterly disproportionate to her services and sufferings in the common cause against Turkey. So far as reorganization is concerned, Montenegro is in need of it, since, although all her male population are trained to arms and ever ready to march, she still has no regular army beyond the body guard of the prince, amounting to perhaps one hundred and fifty men.

It is reported that the Italian government is greatly worried over the increasing migration from that country. In spite of the laws which have been passed lately against emigration agents, 195,211 Italians left in 1888, as against 127,748 the year before. The government is annoyed because it loses so many men who are able for military duty, and in the present threatening state of affairs in Europe it thinks it may need every man it can raise. Were it not for this there is no reason why the government should be so desirous to keep the number of so many of its subjects. The country is terribly overcrowded, and not food enough is produced for the people's sustenance. There are no manufactures worth mention to employ surplus labor, and many of the population are on the verge of starvation all the time. There is nothing to keep them in Italy except their ignorance of the fact that they can do better on the other side of the Atlantic in South America. They are now beginning to learn what the Argentine Republic is offering to men who are willing to work, and that hundreds of thousands of their countrymen have accepted those offers and are thriving there. Doubtless more Italians will leave their native land this year than last. The possibility of a war, which makes their time so desirous to keep their own, will make them more anxious to get away from the musket and the knapsack have no attractions for them. The population of Italy is close on 39,000,000, and the productive arable land is not much exceed that of Illinois. The whole trouble there is over-population—too many mouths for the meagre supply.

The little republic of Switzerland has managed to get out of the bad graces of Austria, Russia, Germany and Italy, from the fact that it is an asylum for political refugees. These nations have joined in a demand that Switzerland shall in the future refuse to allow this class to seek safety in her mountain cautions. The Swiss assembly replied with an appropriation of over \$9,000,000 for the purchase of army rifles. It will be curious to observe what attitude France and Great Britain will take on the matter. The English people are probably in favor of supporting the Swiss in their maintenance of the right of asylum, a right which England has always maintained, against the desire of the continental empires. Lord Salisbury, however, is not always influenced by public opinion, and he may refuse to side with Switzerland. France will perhaps take the same line hereafter in some opposition to the united powers, yet it would have much cause for dread if Switzerland should become the property of Germany or Austria.

It has been plan of late that the course of the regents in Serbia was being directed against Austria, and it is not surprising to learn of the threat from Vienna that the present disturbance will be regarded as a pretext for an open war, unless there shall be a change of front. Since the abdication of King Milan Russian influence has been in the ascendancy in the frontier kingdom. The czar has never abandoned his desire to possess Constantinople, and will use every effort to secure a firm foothold in the Balkan Peninsula. Constant plotting, is, of course, a part of the plan. But it is a great gain that is on the board, and the triple alliance may be a change of front. Since the abdication of King Milan Russian influence has been in the ascendancy in the frontier kingdom. The czar has never abandoned his desire to possess Constantinople, and will use every effort to secure a firm foothold in the Balkan Peninsula. Constant plotting, is, of course, a part of the plan. 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