

COST OF A MINNAPOLIS TRIP.

Interesting Data from General McCook's Report.

IT ONLY TAKES TWO HOURS.

But It Requires Over Two Thousand Dollars to Foot the Bill—Work of Western Congressmen—Washington Gossip.

Cost of Making a President.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—[Special to The Bee.]—The annual report of General McCook, the secretary of the United States senate, furnishes a lot of interesting information. This year it tells how much it costs to inaugurate a president.

Officially the incoming president is in the hands of the college about two hours. A senate committee drives up to his hotel, escorts him to the senate chamber, administers the oath, listens to his inaugural address on a big platform, drives him to his new home at the white house. That's all. But it costs the United States government just \$2,525.29 to do even that little. And the sum was not a little that day either.

The grand stand at the east front of the capitol cost \$47,750. Five carpenters at \$3 a day, one at \$2.50, two at \$2, two laborers at \$2.75 and four at \$1.50 were employed for varying periods from February 15 to March 9 to erect and tear down the structure. It took thirty-two extra policemen to watch this stand for three days at \$3 a day. Then it was discovered that these thirty-two were not enough, so that more were added. That's even money, to watch the stand and the people on it.

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The lumber of the grand stand cost \$464.52. Incidentally it took 27,920 of lumber to build that stand, besides 9,782 feet of white pine culs, 1,014 feet of scantling and culs, 1,541 iron pins and other fragmentary material.

The draping of the stand was very beautiful, and the man who did it was an artist. He required 102 yards of busting and two grams of draping dyes. It cost only \$6.25.

The nails, bolts, tacks, etc., cost \$38.10. Every fine red wood nail was counted. There were 1,000 of them. The cost of the nails was \$38.10. The cost of the bolts was \$38.10. The cost of the tacks was \$38.10.

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US A MERRY, MERRY RACE.

The Nebraska gubernatorial Derby Only Seven Months Off.

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Governor Thayer and Richards Neck-and-Neck, With Several Dark Horses Pushing Toward the Front.

AN ORIGINAL GENIUS.

He Understood Human Nature and Made Good Use of His Information.

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He sat on a box which he seemed to have been carrying, and being suddenly overtaken by a policeman placed on the curb-stone, he was obliged to get up. It fell asleep. He was not far from Trinity church, and although the roar of Broadway was around him the sleepers in the churchyard could hardly have been less oblivious to what was going on above them.

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The pedestal is about eight feet high; three and a half feet square at the base and finished on top by a plain moulding. The surfaces are paneled while upon one the panel is inlaid with a marble slab about an inch thick. Upon the latter is inscribed in plain letters:

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Above the pedestal rises a bare rectangular shaft tapering slightly up to the level top. Near the mound, several blacksnakes are growing, one of which, at the side of the mound, overtops it by ten feet or more. The marble slab is silent in regard to the name of the donor and the exact nature of the purpose for which the pile was erected.

There seems to be no authoritative account of the erection of this monument, but there are several legends floating about which attempt to explain its origin. All are agreed that it was erected by a Frenchman, to whom the estate, now used as an orphan asylum, formerly belonged. He is said to have been a very enthusiastic old man and to have run almost wild in his admiration for Columbus. One evening in the year 1792 he invited a number of friends to a banquet at this country residence, and during the evening the fact that it was the tricentennial of the discovery of America was made a topic of the conversation. In the course of the entertainment the host expatiated upon the excellent qualities, the daring bravery, the laudable courage of his favorite hero.

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And so, according to this story, the Frenchman kept his word and caused the shaft to be built as he had promised. Moreover, as old lady who had the honor of being one of the oldest inhabitants of that neighborhood, is said to have asserted that French tourists had frequently been seen to visit that spot as one of the sights of this country. They had heard of the monument before leaving France through the family connections of the host, and had come to a special trip to view the shaft.

But this is not the only explanation. Another tradition relates that the Frenchman had a horse of which he thought a great deal and which he had named Christopher Columbus. This horse is said to have been very valuable besides having been a famous trotter. Upon its death the owner is supposed to have shown his affection for it by burying it in state and marking its tomb by the erection of the monument which still remains inscribed sacred to the memory of Christopher Columbus. Alas! How vulgar minds attempt to dispel the sanctity of the gift by condemning it to service as the tombstone of a horse.

But the admirers of Columbus are in no way discomfited by this second story. The Frenchman was so ardent in his enthusiasm for the discoverer of America that he not only raised a column to his memory, but also named his favorite trotter in his honor. This horse may have died and may have been buried beneath the mound upon which the monument stands, but its death could have no connection with the building of the latter, which was completed the day after the horse had been actually dedicated to the Genesee trotter.

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A COLUMN TO COLUMBUS.

Reared by an Enthusiastic Native of France.

INTERESTING LEGENDS ABOUT IT.

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