TRIBUTES TO GEN. CROOK.

Yesterday's Meeting of Representative Citizens at the Boyd.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE.

Many Eloquent Expressions of the Esteem in Which the Great Soldier was Held in This City.

The Dead Major General.

Only a few brief months ago a brilliant assemblage of Omaha's representative citizens gathered in banqueting halls, and amid dazzling splendor did honor to General George Crook. It was upon the eve of his departure to assume the higher office to which the recognition of his far famed record as a soldier and citizen had called him. The adieu was a royal one—royal not only in form, but in heart. Great banks of rare, bright flowers re-echoed soul-stirring benedictions which silvery tongues called down upon the guest of the evening. Those were benedictions born of an appreciation never before surpassed in this city. And, too, wit, mirth and music were there, well completing the magic of the charmed occasion.

Yesterday there was another gathering of many of the guests of that memorable occasion. But how different the import of the hour. The pall, bowed heads, and subdued words now spoke what gay flowers and enlivening music had told the few months ago—farewell. The honored guest of the brilliant banqueting hall was now being borne to the grave. It was the farewell spoken into limitless eternity, that so closely had followed the good-bye wished for a limit spanned by time.

If a hundred did honor to him then a thousand paid homage to his memory yesterday at Boyd's opera house.

Judge Doane presided, while about him upon the stage were General Brooke, General Hawley, Hon. John L. Webster, Judge Wakeley, Judge Savidge, Rev. W. J. Harsha, Hon. John M. Thurston, Judge Clarkson, Herman Kountze, Lewis S. Reed and J. E. Markel.

The service was opened by an eloquent prayer by Rev. Mr. Harsha, after which, on motion of Dr. George L. Miller, Mr. McShane was made secretary of the meeting. A letter of regret from Major Clarkson was read.

On motion, Judge Savidge, Dr. Miller, Moses O'Brien, S. S. Curtis and Lewis S. Reed were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions befitting the occasion. The committee immediately retired and prepared the following:

"The citizens of Omaha, assembled together to signify their estimation of the character of Major General George Crook and their sincere grief at his sudden and untimely death, do adopt the following resolutions:

"They deplore in common with the entire republic the loss of a soldier whose conspicuous courage was repeatedly tested as well at South Mountain, Antietam, Chickamauga, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Apomattox, as on the Rosebud, the Powder and the Tongue rivers, and the defiles of the Sierra Madre. With the people at large, too, they recognize in his career the persistent purpose, the shrewd foresight, the untiring energy, the wise humanity, the truthfulness, the patient firmness and determination which especially fitted him to cope with the savage tribes of the mountain and desert, and largely contributed to their present complete pacification.

"To his brilliant renown as a warrior he added the no less imperishable fame of the philanthropist. His victorious sword was never stained with unnecessary blood. His knightly word once given was never recalled. His sympathy with the vanquished, the ignorant and oppressed was ardent and outspoken. With his bravery in martial conflict was combined the loftier courage of the moral hero who maintains his own conviction of justice and right in the face of detraction, ridicule and acrimonious criticism.

"But the people of this city have learned in years of intimacy to cherish the memory of General Crook, not only for characteristics patent to all his countrymen but for the daily beauties of his life. Though gentle, retiring and unobtrusive, he was always hospitable and generous. Those who enjoyed his society never heard from his lips an unkind word of foe. His manners were winning, his habits unostentatious. Every acquaintance became his friend, every friend his lover.

"A long period of cordial relations with him and his family emboldens us so far to intrude upon the sacred sorrow of one who knew better than any of us that chivalrous nature and kindly heart, as to assure her of our earnest sympathy and our strong hope that she may find in the general and high appreciation of her husband's life, if not consolation, some assuagement of her grief.

"And the secretary of this meeting is instructed to transmit these resolutions to General Crook's family."

In moving the adoption of the resolutions Judge Savidge made a brief and eloquent reference to the warrior whom they honored.

Mr. Webster spoke upon the adoption of the resolution. "He who would do true honor to the soldier in describing his experience in the battle," said the speaker, "must be possessed of finer faculties than am I. General Crook came to this community clothed with the honors he had won in wars, and all in Omaha felt and continued to feel a just pride in him. He stands forth as the great man, filled with great thoughts, and yet when he walked the streets of our city the humblest hand could grasp his."

Dr. Miller was called upon, but begged to substitute Mr. Thurston. The latter began his tribute by a reference to the organization known as the Sons of Veterans, of which he was a member, and said that as such it was happily made his duty to assist in keeping alive the memory of the heroes of the war. "The gentlest man, the knightliest soldier is no more," continued Mr. Thurston, "and it is fitting that our tribute should be as simple as our sympathy is sincere. Mighty and terrible in war, his sword was drawn only to secure peace. He was the trusted companion and lieutenant of Grant, Sherman and Sheridan. The watchword of his life was beauty. In his heart, George Crook abhorred bloody war. He loved to see the scabbord rusting upon the cottage wall, the knapsack being pulled about the floor by baby hands. His comrades sleep by river and by sea—their general is with them now. We cannot see behind the shadows, and yet we believe that God keeps a niche in heaven for our idol."

Mr. Harsha spoke briefly. He said that modest stillness and humility characterized the life of him who had gone. He said that General Crook gave the truest description of the Indian when he said that the Indian commands respects for his rights only so long as he inspires terror in his rivals.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

Dr. Miller arose and said that he would heartily endorse all that had been said. He believed that General Crook was one of the greatest generals of the day. By the joint policy of force and justice General Crook had civilized this state ten years before it would otherwise have been done. Proceeding, the speaker went on to put Crook ahead of General Grant, and closed by saying that General Crook was his (the speaker's) old and personal friend.

Judge Wakeley then moved the appointment of a committee to prepare a memorial which would embody the resolutions and the remarks that had been made.

Judge Clarkson said that it seemed fitting to him that something be said of General Crook by others than those who had been his old personal friends. The speaker had only a passing acquaintance with him, and therefore took great pleasure in saying that he found General Crook a gentle, loveable gentleman. In closing, Judge Clarkson moved that the secretary of war be asked to name the fort at this point, Fort Crook.

As committee on the memorial suggested by Judge Wakeley, Judge Doane announced Messrs. Lyman Richardson, S. D. Barkalow and Rev. Mr. Harsha.

Judge Clarkson's motion was then carried and the meeting adjourned.

Garrison Notes.

Captain Catley has returned from the east.

Lieutenant Arrasmith is in charge of quartermaster and subsistence stores at Bellevue range this year.

Quite a number of the fort people took in "Shenandoah," and a detachment of the Second was upon the stage.

There will be gallery practice hereafter at the fort on Thursday and Friday of each week.

"The dog order" is in vogue again at Fort Omaha and it is worded as follows: "All dogs found within the limits of the garrison will be properly disposed of as usual—shot."

Dr. Hartsuff will occupy the Fletcher quarters, Lieutenant Turner Dr. Hartsuff's quarters and Lieutenant Beaham Turner's quarters.

Debating clubs are in vogue at the fort.

At the meeting of the Fort Omaha baseball association the following officers were appointed: J. Kline president, R. Purcell vice president, E. Gerlock secretary and T. Tarn treasurer.

The Fort Omaha athletic association has sent out a very unique invitation for a dance Wednesday evening, April 9. Omaha's baseball material will be there in uniform.

The Second Infantry band will give a concert on Monday evening for the officers and their friends.

AMUSEMENTS.

"Said Pasha" opened at the Grand last night to a large and appreciative audience. While there is nothing very brilliant in the opera, it affords plenty of opportunity for novel scenic effects and bright costumes. Its music is pleasing, and there are one or two catchy airs. It is in the hands of a strong company—people who combine some action with their singing. Miss Ida Mulle, Miss Bebe Vining, H. Battenberry, Will Rising, Arthur Miller, B. Mansfield and E. Gavan carry the principal parts splendidly. Miss Mulle as Serena, the Pasha's daughter, was particularly clever and entertaining. She is so petite in figure, fascinating in manner and thoroughly artistic in everything she does that an audience falls in love with her at once. The fact that she was able to lift the piece, and seemingly with the greatest of ease, from an ordinary presentation to the highest, most satisfactory and commendable success, not only demonstrated her ability as an operatic artist, but was the subject of enthusiastic comment. Miss Vining as the queen was also greatly admired. Will Rising sang and acted his part excellently, though his fine tenor voice was not heard to the best advantage last night. Mansfield and Cavan, the comedians, kept the audience in good humor, and the chorus, weak as to numbers, yet strong enough vocally, did good work. All in all, it was an enjoyable an entertainment as has been seen at the Grand this season. Many of the songs were encored, and "Life Is Only Sunshine," had four recalls. The company is well equipped for light opera and in concerted music excells most traveling organizations.

ARRESTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

A Young Man Gets Drunk on His Employer's Money.

Joseph Schnurr, who drives a coal delivery wagon for P. H. Mahoney, was jailed last night on the charge of embezzlement. Mahoney says that Schnurr collected $200 of Dr. R. C. McClellan on Saturday which he should have turned over to him. Instead of doing so, Schnurr went upon a spree, and when arrested last night said he had spent every cent of it.

Charles Gascow was brought to the police station yesterday morning with two fearful gashes in his head. He was somewhat intoxicated and told the officers that as he was walking along Thirteenth and Dodge streets a man suddenly whacked him with a fence picket. The officers consider the story a very thin one, and are of the opinion that Glascow got in a row in some dive. He had $2 in his pocket when brought to the station, a fact which seems to show that the assault was not made for the purpose of robbery.

Francis Murphy at Grand Island.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Francis Murphy, the temperance lecturer, has been speaking at the opera house in the afternoon and evening for the past week. The house was crowded at every meeting and a large number were turned away tonight. He has been assisted by all the ministers in the city and a very large number of people are wearing the blue ribbon. He believes in reforming the voters first and having them pass personal prohibition laws, so that when the state passes prohibition laws there will be some one to enforce the law. Saturday afternoon Hon. Richard Trevelick, the noted Knights of Labor orator, spoke here, and in the evening he took Mr. Murphy's place and talked temperance to the knights.

The Schedule Will Stand.

CHICAGO, March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Secretary Brunell of the Players' national league tonight in an interview said:

"The National league schedule was evidently made up on the lines laid down by the Players' national league. The first National league schedule for ten clubs was issued, as I believe, for the purpose of drawing our fire, and not to stand. This was understood at our Cleveland meeting, but we considered that the official notice showing our club changes during the playing season was a sufficient guide to the National league if it chose to change its policy of crush, and let others live as well as itself. The public wanted our schedule and got it. I have no idea that it will be changed. It suits our clubs, the prizes in it were well distributed, and it was adopted unanimously. The National league had evidently determined to conflict with us as much as possible. That suits me so long as the National league goes on record as the party forcing the conflict and as the season goes along, and we prove our superiority to the National league in caring for the public and giving it better baseball than it has ever seen before, the average attendance in our favor will increase."

A Brotherhood Game.

NEW ORLEANS, March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Cleveland and Chicago Brotherhood teams played an interesting game today, the Clevelands winning by a score of 8 to 6.

Knocked the Pug Out.

PEORIA, Ill., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Frank Engelk, a coal miner, and Raymond Russell, a local pugilist, both middle weights, fought thirteen bloody rounds here today. Much to the surprise of most of the sports, Engelk knocked Russell out. Large sums of money had been bet on Russell.

Wants to Fight Choynski.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 23.—E. Booth, an Omaha sport, signifies his willingness to back Jack Davis, a promising young heavyweight of the Nebraska metropolis, to the extent of $5,000 against the winner of the Wilson-Choynski battle next Wednesday night.

The Schweinfurth Craze.

CHICAGO, March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A dispatch from Richmond, Ky., says that the community is terribly agitated over the departure of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Francis, Mrs. D. P. Armer and Miss Cornelison, who have started for Schweinfurth's "heaven" at Rockford, Ill., to attend the convention now being held there. Much indignation is felt over the misrepresentations made by Schweinfurth's proselyter who has been working here. Mr. and Mrs. Francis, it is asserted, have given considerable of their worldly property to Schweinfurth.

Nervous decility, poor memory, diffidence sexual weakness, pimples, cured by Dr Miles' Nervine. Samples free at Kuhn & Co.'s, 15th and Douglas.

The Fire Record.

HAMILTON, Ill., March 23.—Fire here this morning destroyed the main business part of the town; loss, $60,000; partly insured.

CANTON, O., March 23.—The Canton glass works burned today; loss, $80,000; insurance, $35,000.

Be sure and use Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for your children while teething. 25 cents a bottle.

TOOK A DOSE OF MORPHINE.

Mrs. Williams' Desperate Attempt to End Her Existence.

ALL ON ACCOUNT OF A MAN.

The Timely Arrival of a Physician Prevents the Would-Be Suicide From Accomplishing Her Purpose.

She Wanted to Die.

A woman's voice in a pleading shriek:

"Don't! Oh, I pray, I beg of you, don't leave me or I'll kill myself! I will as sure as heaven!"

The utterance was heard about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon by roomers on the second floor of the block northwest corner of Sixteenth and Capitol avenue. They rushed into the hall just in time to see a fine looking young fellow tear himself from the arms of Mrs. Rose Williams, a pretty brunette, the occupant of room No. 1 on the same floor. The young man disappeared immediately, while she from whom he had escaped dashed to her room, and before the lookers-on could arrest her hand had drank the contents of a mysterious little box, flung herself upon a couch and gasped:

"There! I've done it at last—taken poison. It will be over soon, thank God!"

The neighbors rushed for doctors and soon had a couple of them present.

"I demand that you tell us what you have taken," said one.

"Morphine," gasped the woman, and added: "When I'm dead send my little boy to my folks in El Paso, Tex."

Pulling out his medicine case the doctor who had addressed the woman had a big dose of belladona down her throat before she could think a second time. By this time a couple of officers had arrived and asked her to state the cause of her act. Between big gasps for breath she said that her husband was an engineer on the Union Pacific railroad, though she refused to give his initials. They had not lived together for about three years, but were not divorced. The young man who had just made his escape from her was Peter Milbroth, a German, who lived at Ninth and Izard streets, and drove a butcher's wagon for the Hammond packing company. He had been calling on her for about a year past and her attachment for him had reached a point where she couldn't get along without him, but he refused to reciprocate her affections. Life was nothing without him and so she had decided to die.

"Well, you are not going to die this time, my lady," remarked the doctor.

"You're not going to save me, I hope?" questioned the woman.

"No, not 'going to' save you, for I've done so already," replied the doctor.

"Well, I'll do it yet; I will kill myself."

"You say you have nothing to live for," remarked a reporter. "Do you call your little boy 'nothing?'"

"My folks will take care of him."

By this time the dose which the would-be suicide had taken made its appearance. It consisted of sixteen one-eighth grain morphine capsules, just the number marked upon the box.

From the neighbors it was ascertained that Mrs. Williams is a forewoman in the Troy laundry, and appeared to be a very thrifty little woman. Her room was very cozy and comfortable.

Young Milbroth was called on but declined to say a word, yes or no, when questioned about the affair.

EVIDENCES OF ENTERPRISE.

The Coming Season Full of Promise for Nebraska City.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The coming season promises to be one of the most prosperous for Nebraska City within the history of the town and will more than ever demonstrate the truth of the motto which the city has adopted, that "solid growth beats a boom."

The new wagon bridge across the river at this point will be the largest enterprise for the year and its accession is due almost entirely to the personal efforts of Hon. J. C. Watson, president of the board of trade. The members of the bridge company are all eastern capitalists and connected with the Phœnix bridge company of Philadelphia. They propose expending about $300,000 on the bridge, and ask a bonus of $100,000 from Nebraska City precinct, which will undoubtedly be voted by a good majority. Although there is some opposition to the bonds, it will hardly assume proportions large enough to defeat the proposition. Nebraska City is always ready to extend material aid to any worthy enterprise, and in this lies the city's continued prosperity.

The bridge company is also negotiating for the purchase of the Nebraska City street railway line, and if it can be secured it is proposed to extend the line to the bridge, which the projectors are confident would prove a paying investment. The company is also considering the feasibility of building a large, handsome lake at the end of the bridge and convert the island into a delightful modern pleasure resort. It will be a big thing for Nebraska City.

The next largest enterprise assured for this year is the starch works, for which the required $20,000 stock has nearly all been subscribed. It is to be one of the largest in the country, and will be a valuable addition to the city's industries. Work will probably begin on the building early in the summer.

During the past week another factory has been secured. An eastern gentleman offered to remove to this city with a large lock factory, provided the city would donate to him three lots as a site for the new factory. Hon. S. H. Calhoun promptly stepped forward and offered to give the required lots, and preparations are already under way to bring the factory here. It will employ about twelve men continuously. Mr. Calhoun generously makes a similar offer to any other factory that will locate here.

The Nebraska City distillery, it is predicted, will again be in operation within the next three months, as its proprietor is confident he will win his suit against the whisky trust. With the distillery, cereal mills and starch factory in operation, Nebraska City will be the best market for cereals in the state.

The Nebraska City Driving Park and Fair association buildings, which were destroyed by fire last fall, are being rebuilt and preparations are being made for spring and fall races, with possibly a fair in the fall.

Street paving will begin within a few weeks. The material to be used will be home manufactured brick, which will doubtless be the only material used in this city in the future, as it is pronounced to be superior to all others.

Items from Holt County.

DOTY, Holt County, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Quite a number of the squatters on the east end of the Nebraska strip have been driven off by the police, and it is quite probable that all will have to go. A town site has been located on the Ponca near the point where the Fort Randall trail crosses it. It is only a town in imagination and will so remain until the expiration of the six months from the date of the president's proclamation. The reports which have been published in some of the papers along the line of the Elkhorn Valley railroad are calculated to mislead the minds of people at a distance, and will in many cases cause inconvenience. Some of these papers have published as a fact that there has been a new town laid out near the center of that portion of the strip which will become attached to Holt county, with the intention of booming it for a county seat of a new county to be erected; that several substantial buildings have been erected; that it already numbers a thousand inhabitants; that a paper has been started there, etc. There is not a word of truth in the report, and the publication of such statements tends to mislead and work hardship to many innocent people. That there will be a town and a county seat there when the proper time arrives there can be no doubt, and several newspaper men are on the watch to put in an outfit there as soon as practicable.

Every day assures the fact that the mineral find of Keya Paha is no myth, but a reality.

The agents of the various trust and loan companies that have investments in this part of Nebraska are here for foreclosing the mortgages or taking deeds for the lands.

Many thousands of acres of land are being bought by agents of various corporations under tax sales and titles to secure a 20 per cent rate on their money invested and a rich harvest of litigation will be reaped in future years from the seed now being sown.

Hon. Frank Hatton's views on the legal restriction of the liquor traffic, as applied to Iowa, suit nine-tenths of the people here. Fanatical prohibition is not a winning card here, at least.

The Poncas Want to Move.

NIOBRARA, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—For some time past there has been great anxiety for the removal of the Ponca Indians, located opposite here, to the balance of the tribe in Indian territory. Standing Bear, who left the Poncas there years ago, and whose fight for his rights resulted in Judge Dunlap's famous decision that "an Indian is a man," is now desirous to return with his following, numbering twenty-two families. The department refuses to grant his wish, and now Standing Bear declares that he will go and has made a demand for the children of his following who are attending the government school at Santee agency. Agent Hill has refused to grant this request. A council was held in the office of the county judge yesterday and means will be resorted to by which the agent will be compelled to give up these children.

Standing Bear's people refuse to take advantage of the allotments, not being by nature accustomed to make a living on the farm. But there are a few crafty squaw men who are trying to persuade these Indians to take allotments, and then if they desire to go well and good. This land will then be under the ban of a twenty-five year restriction so that these squaw men can go to work and fence in a large slice of the Indian lands for stock purposes. Niobrara naturally feels that such a movement is detrimental to the best interests of the state and is strongly opposed to it. The Poncas must take the land within the limits of their old reservation if they take any, and under the law they will have to, to a great extent, look out for themselves. A lively time is in store for the future.

Atkinson on the Boom.

ATKINSON, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—With the opening of spring Atkinson is coming to the front, both in substantial improvements and the addition of a desirable class of people to its population. Last week twenty families, comprising seventy-two persons arrived here from Eagle, Cass county and settled upon farms in the northern part of this township. These farms were mostly purchased last fall by parties sent ahead for that purpose. They brought with them fourteen car loads of stock, farming implements and furniture, and are all well-to-do farmers and desirable citizens. Several more from the same locality are negotiating for lands here and will come out this spring.

Atkinson is about to close a contract for the erection of a system of waterworks to cost about $7,000, to consist of a pumping plant and stand pipe. For the present there will be about fifteen hundred feet of water mains. This will give very fair protection to the business part of town from fire.

J. S. Bartley, the enterprising and public spirited president of the Exchange bank here, has the plans and specifications completed for the finest bank building in northern Nebraska. It will be three stories in height, built of pressed brick and cut stone, in the latest style of architecture, and will cost about $20,000. The building will have all the modern improvements and conveniences. This is only one of the many valuable improvements for which citizens of Atkinson are in active preparation.

The Silver Hill mining company, composed of Atkinson citizens, has secured a number of claims in the Keya Paha mining district that show good indications, and have sent for a drilling machine. Some fine specimens of quartz, showing the gold, said to have been found in Turtle Creek township, this county, were exhibited here the past week, but the finder refuses to give any definite information as to the location of his bonanza at present.

Weeping Water Items.

WEEPING WATER, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The Nebraska and Colorado stone company, whose crusher was burned last fall, is building a new one on a larger scale. The increasing demand for Weeping Water stone makes the enlargement necessary. The company expects to open up soon with a much larger force of men. The Van Court quarry has been in operation all winter, giving employment to seventy-five or one hundred men. That quarry will soon increase its facilities.

An investigation will soon be made as to the quantity of clay found west of town, to test its adaptibility for making tile. This will give rise to a new enterprise here. The Missouri Pacific railway company is grading for its seventh track to enable it to handle its enormous business here. Thus far it has a monopoly of the $200,000 yearly business, but it looks now very much as if there would soon be a strong competition for a portion of this.

The ladies of the Congregational church gave on Tuesday and Wednesday nights the finest entertainment seen in Weeping Water for some time. This was a trades carnival. The business men took hold with their usual vim and helped to make the affair a complete success.

Improvements at Crete.

CRETE, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Thursday evening the first fire company ever organized in this city and the first hose cart ever owned by the city paraded the streets to the great satisfaction of property owners and citizens generally. The hose cart has been purchased from the Chicago rubber company and is entirely satisfactory. Now all the city needs to have first class fire protection is the settlement of the dispute between the contractors and builders of the water works and the Crete improvement company. The works are finished so far as the laying of pipes and completion of the pumping station is concerned. The reservoir on the hill is full of water, but is not acceptable to the improvement company, which claims the reservoir is not being substantially built and not up to the contract. It is expected that the difference will be settled in a short time, when Crete will have a system of water works for fire protection and general use second to none of any city of its size in the state.

Niobrara Full of Business.

NIOBRARA, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Since the fine weather has opened up the town is full of new arrivals seeking locations. Two new business enterprises have started up within the week and parties are contemplating opening others. If the Omaha and Niobrara committees succeed in inducing the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad managers to fill in the twelve mile gap this spring Niobrara anticipates an unparalleled boom for this section of the state. As it is, a good spring trade is assured and merchants are stocking accordingly.

Ashland Notes.

ASHLAND, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—L. W. Jesperson was handling his revolver somewhat carelessly yesterday and shot a ball into his hand. The ball struck in the center of the palm, passing into the wrist.

O. A. Pierce, ex-county sheriff of Saunders, is lying very low, and little hopes of his recovery are entertained by his friends.

Prof. Caldwell of the state university has been inspecting the condition of the high school with a view of extending the time for which Ashland was accredited.

Money is being raised by the relief corps and the school children to purchase a large flag for the high school building.

The Alliance Will Investigate.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Otoe county Farmers' alliance has taken the matter in hand of investigating the different county officers, who have been accused of being slightly irregular. An effort was made by the citizens last fall to investigate the charges, but it was smothered by the commissioners. The alliance now promises to see it through and learn the truth of the charge.

THE SENATORS SHOULD ACT

A More Vigorous Policy Advocated in Election Contests.

WOULD GO BEHIND RETURNS.

Representative Houk Thinks Our Lords Have Little Back Bone—Senator Pettigrew's Views—Farmers Legislation.

Too Much Bogus "Courtesy."

WASHINGTON, March 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—"If the republicans in the senate would show as much interest in their party as republicans do in the house, there would be a good deal of change in the sentiment of the country before the close of the present session," said Representative Houk of Tennessee today. Judge Houk has been one of the leading members of the house committee on elections during the past three congresses and has made some of the strongest speeches on the contests which have been decided recently. He is an intense partisan and a strong believer in the ability of the republican party to break up the solid south. He continued:

"I believe in going behind the returns in deciding whether a senator is entitled to his seat. Of course we cannot compel people to vote, and every time a legislature is chosen by a minority representation of a state it is not prima facie evidence that there has been a suppression of votes. But in nine cases out of ten it is indicative of something wrong. We are compelled to go behind the returns in the house, and the country demands of the republicans and of the democrats—the party having control in the house—to see that only men who receive the largest number of legitimate votes are seated. I sometimes think that the senators have a too high regard for 'senatorial courtesies,' and that they are afraid to enter into details of an election.

"There is just as much reason in going behind the returns in the election of a senator as there is in entering into the primary fact which resulted in the selection of a congressman. There is no possible difference in either the spirit or the letter of the law between the election of a senator and the election of a member of the lower house of congress. If the republicans in the senate, when a democrat is certified upon a vote of one-fourth or one-third of the voters of a state, go behind the returns and ascertain why there was not a larger vote cast at the election which resulted in the selection of the legislature, they would ascertain that there was a suppression of votes by violence or a threat of violence, or that there was fraud committed in the count. If we would only refuse to seat a few of the brigadiers certified from the south, and would do it on the ground of intimidation and fraud, we would soon break up the minority representation of the south, and secure control of some of the republican states in that section. We offer no encouragement whatever to independent and fair-minded democrats in the south or to republicans of the south. The republicans in the house have taken the matter in hand and are going to see that justice is done these men who go out with their lives in their hands and make a race for congress; but the republicans of the senate sit meekly down and talk about the 'dignity of the law,' 'the constitution,' etc., and seat every bulldozer who is certified by a bulldozing governor. I believe that there are not more than two or three democratic states in the south. I think that Georgia and Texas are the only ones that would give democratic returns if there was an honest election and an honest count. The rank and file of the democrats in the south are heartily sick of the methods which have been employed to make the south solidly democratic, and they only want to have their hands strengthened and they will see that the elections are honest."

One of the most courageous men in the senate is Mr. Pettigrew of South Dakota. He is one of those who believe that intimidation and fraud at the polls should be stamped out effectually. He was familiar at the time of the methods employed by the democrats to carry Montana, and which resulted in the certification by a democratic governor of two democrats to the United States senate, and which has just resulted in a report from the majority of the senate committee on elections in favor of seating the two republicans who were certified by legislative officers and the lieutenant governor. A short time after the eight democratic state senators ran away from Helena for the purpose of breaking up a quorum in the upper branch of the legislature and preventing the formal election of two republican senators, and when it became known that there would be two sets of senators certified to the senate here, Senator Pettigrew met one of the oldest and most dignified republican senators, when the two men fell to talking about the situation in Montana.

"I am thoroughly out of patience with this thing of handling democratic corruptionists and bulldozers with kid gloves," said Senator Pettigrew, "and I think it is about time for us to put our foot down upon it. I intend to vote for the seating of the two republicans from Montana, and I do not care anything about more testimony than I have in my mind."

"Oh! my dear senator," exclaimed the dignified old senator, who comes here regularly certified by a strong republican majority, "you should not express yourself in such positive terms until you have heard the testimony in the case. It is not diplomatic, nor is it at all judicious to say in advance of the hearing of a case what your verdict will be."

"Well," said Senator Pettigrew, "I know of my own knowledge that a powerful coporation in Montana took at least one thousand dagos into that state and put them temporarily to work for the sole purpose of voting, and with a view of securing its control of the legislature, their objective point being the election of two United States democratic senators. I know that these men voted at the polls, and their votes undoubtedly made a tie in the senate, which made it possible by the running away of eight democratic senators to break up a quorum and defeat the formal election of two republican senatorial candidates. I know that much about the case, and I tell you now that I intend to vote to seat the two republican senators from Montana, if not another senator in our branch of congress votes with me. I am willing to stand alone on this subject. I don't know anything about the testimony nor I do not care."

"O!" continued the other senator, "you should not talk that way until you have considered the testimony, which will be presented to the committee."

"Your caution and your attitude," said Senator Pettigrew, "reminds me of a story which is local to the people of South Dakota. My predecessor in the house of congress was a Mr. Burleigh. He had a friend in one of our well-known citizens who wanted an appointment to a position in one of the departments here. After Mr. Burleigh had presented the application of his constituent and had praised him for his good character and merits till the constituent's reputation soared skyward, the secretary of the department said this:

"'The position for which you apply is always filled by a lawyer. I presume your applicant is thoroughly versed in the law?'

"'No,' replied Mr. Burleigh, 'he is not a lawyer; but he is h—l on equity.'

"Mr. Senator, that is exactly my position on this Montana case. I do not know anything about the law involved, but I am away up on the equity."

The farmers are having their innings now. There are a lot of propositions which may be rightly placed in the category of class legislation intended specifically to help the farmer. The proposition of Senator Standford, the twenty-millionaire from California, to loan the surplus to the real estate owners of the country at 1½ or 2 per cent interest, thus making money plenty and obviating the necessity of farmers borrowing at from 6 to 8 per cent, is but one of the principal propositions. There is a proposition now pending to pay a bounty on wheat. Another proposition is to pay a bounty upon sugar beets and domestic sugar. Still another proposition is to compel all manufacturers of impure food to brand it for just what it is, the same being in the interest of the pure lard. Then there are propositions to increase the supply of seeds and bulbs at the department of agriculture for supplying the farmers, and to furnish irrigation of arid and semi arid lands in the west, northwest and southwest. Senator Standford's proposition to relieve the financial distress of the farming community and give an impetus to real estate interests by loaning money out of the treasury upon real estate securities, when first suggested at the opening of this congress was ridiculed and provoked derision everywhere. It was believed that it would not be constitutional, and that the country would not sustain such an action, but investigation shows that it would be constitutional, and the proposition is growing in popularity.

Speaker Reed is certainly going to be one of the most popular officers the house has ever had. Before he was chosen speaker he was at times a little harsh in his social relations with fellow members, and it was predicted by those opposed to him that his elevation would make him haughty and austere; that he would be dictatorial and act regardless of the wishes of those who gave him preference. Not so. His elevation has softened his character and has made him a more sociable man than ever. Wide is the contrast between the personal demeanor of Speaker Reed and that of Speaker Carlisle. The former every morning before the time for convening the house circulates among members on both sides of the hall, chatting in a social way and inquiring what is wanted, learns the way things are going, and gets a good inkling of the short and long comings of men and measures. Mr. Reed shows good temper and great social qualities. Speaker Carlisle was never seen on the floor of the house during the assemblage of the members and before the house opened in the morning; he was seldom seen circulating around in a social way during the time the house was in session and he kept close to his private room. Success always shows the two characters of a man more thoroughly than does failure. Mr. Reed has disappointed his enemies and is pleasing his friends immensely. PERRY S. HEATH.

A QUIET SUNDAY.

Everything Peaceful in the Strip—First Stories Exaggerated.

KANSAS CITY, March 23.—Dispatches from several points in the Indian territory are to the effect that this has been a very quiet Sunday in the Cherokee strip, the troops finding few settlers to eject. It appears from the reports of the commanding officers in the strip and from reliable newspaper men that the situation there has been exaggerated by the correspondents who were in the field, and the inhabitants of the border towns which would be benefited by a rush of settlers into the strip. Reliable reports now are to the effect that a great many boomers were citizens of these very towns, and were town lot boomers rather than bona fide settlers.

Exaggerated reports of the harshness of the troops in dealing with the settlers also originated from these towns, the object being to arouse prejudice against the troops and gain sympathy for the settlers. One of the latter exaggerations was in last night's news dispatches which chronicled the destruction by United States troops of Cherokee City. From the newspaper reports one would be led to believe "Cherokee City" was at least a thriving border town of at least four or five hundred inhabitants. In fact, as appears from Captain Woodson's official report, the town was composed of just four cabins, whose owners stepped over the Cherokee line to avoid detection by the troops and the consequent forfeiture of their homestead rights.

SACRILIGIOUS SCHWEINFURTH.

He Still Insists That He is the Son of God.

ROCKFORD, Ill., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Schweinfurth, the self-styled Christ, delivered his annual sermon today at the Weldon farm. A great crowd of citizens attended, expecting to hear something wonderful, but were greatly disappointed. He simply reiterated his old statements and expressed the conviction that the time is near at hand when his name and fame will spread throughout the world. The daily services at the farm are of a similar nature—a sermon from the alleged "perfect one" and declarations by converts of their belief in his divinity. The convocation will be in session a week more.

A Dangerous Counterfeit.

NEW YORK, March 23.—A new counterfeit 10-cent piece is in circulation which so closely resembles the genuine that it can be easily passed. It differs from the usual counterfeit in that a genuine silver plating covers the german silver, which forms the body of the coin. This gives it a ring very nearly like that of good money and also does away with the greasy feeling by which most counterfeits can be detected. The coin bears the date of 1887. The milling is not so deep upon the counterfeit and the edges are much sharper than those of a good 10-cent piece.

A Fatal Stabbing Affair.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A very serious cutting affair took place in front of Lloyd's opera house this evening, in which a boiler maker working in the Union Pacific shops, named John Tierney, was stabbed in the abdomen by Ernest Wright. The particulars can not be learned, as Wright has fled and Tierney is under the influence of morphine. It is thought the wound is fatal.

Slashing the Rates.

DENVER, Colo., March 23.—The cut in passenger fares from the Missouri river to Pueblo by the Missouri Pacific made agreement today with the Rio Grande road to extend the cut rate to Denver and Colorado Springs and to apply the same east bound. The Santa Fe and Rock Island have met the rate and it is supposed the Union Pacific and Burlington will do the same.

Shot Through the Head.

BRADSHAW, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Clarence Martin of this place was shot through the head three miles west of the B. & M. tracks yesterday morning. It is not known whether it is a case of accidental shooting or suicide. A revolver was found on the track a few feet away. Physicians think he cannot live. He is about twenty-eight years old.

After an Eloping Daughter.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A Cass county farmer, living near Nehawka, made a hurried trip through this city last night in pursuit of a fourteen-year-old daughter who had eloped with an old man. They had escaped into Missouri and their names could not be learned.

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THE PICKTHALL CASE.

He Transfers All of His Property to His Wife.

WOODSTOCK, Ont., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Yesterday afternoon an instrument was registered here by which Picktnall deeds all his property to his wife. The document is witnessed by William Fraser Overton, express agent of Tucson, Arizona, and is executed by Thomas H. Barton, the notary public of the same place. The document transfers Pickthall's land and property to his wife, who will now be in the position to dispose of the same and meet whatever liabilities he has. No letter accompanied the paper—not a word to explain the cause of Pickthall's disappearance, his reasons for staying away or his intentions for the future. All those are as great a mystery to all his friends as to the public.

Destructive Prairie Fires.

CHICAGO, March 23.—A special dispatch from Hurlington, Colo., says prairie fires in southwestern Colorado are doing great damage.

WICHITA, Kan., March 23.—A prairie fire in Keechie township, Sedgwick county, today burned over eight sections of farming land, destroying everything in its path. No lives lost.

Much stock was burned and four farm houses were destroyed. The loss will aggregate $100,000.

The dispatches tonight state that nearly two hundred thousand acres have been burned over and that several houses were destroyed. It is reported that some lives were lost, but this has not yet been verified. The fire was started by hunters.

More Naval Brutality.

NEWPORT, R. I., March 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A case that bids fair to rival that of Commander McCalla of the United States navy has been brought to light in this city. Lieutenant Commander Edwin Long necker, executive officer at the naval training station here, is charged with illegally ordering a seaman named Robert Carbery to be placed in double irons and confined for hours after the latter had been discharged at his own request, and by order of the secretary of the navy. The outcome to the affair is a suit for $10,000 damages by Carbery, and the case will be called in the supreme court in this city at 10 a. m. Monday.

A Trades Carnival.

ELBA, Neb., March 23.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The