THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER EDITOR.

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SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, } ss

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending Dec. 13, 1890, was as follows.

Sunday, Dec. 7	26,000
Monday, Dec. 8	22,850
Tuesday, Dec. 9	22,713
Wednesday, Dec. 10	22,692
Thursday, Dec. 11	22,625
Friday, Dec. 12	22,685
Saturday, Dec. 13	22,880
Average	23,213

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 13th day of December, A. D., 1890.
(SEAL.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, } ss.

George B. Tzschuck, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, that the actual average daily circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the month of December, 1890, was 20,048 copies; for January, 1890, 19,555 copies; for February, 1890, 19,761 copies; for March, 1890, 19,815 copies; for April, 1890, 20,564 copies; for May, 1890, 20,182 copies; for June, 1890, 20,501 copies; for July, 1890, 20,462 copies; for August, 1890, 20,759 copies; for September, 1890, 23,870 copies; for October, 1890, 20,762 copies; for November, 1890, 22,120 copies. GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1890.
N. P. FEIL,
Notary Public.

SCRATCH a southern Alliance man and you find a bourbon democrat.

AS A molder of emerald opinion, the crowbar is entitled to a leading position.

DAVE HILL finds it hard to decide between a senatorship in the hand and a presidency in the bush.

CHAPTER II of the election contest begins in Omaha tomorrow, and in this chapter there will be more meat and less wind.

IN another three weeks the various states will stand face to face with their legislatures. It is a hard trial, but it must be borne.

THE Miles boom is still booming in the newspapers. But the gallant Indian fighter will not get to the white house—not by a good many miles.

SAMUEL GOMPERS has been re-elected president of the Federation of Labor. It is a good choice. Gompers is one of the most level-headed and trustworthy of labor leaders.

THE battle between the Irish factions rages hottest at Kilkenny. The prospect that the history of the Kilkenny cats will be repeated in the history of the present campaign.

THE mania for free railroad passes is well illustrated by the animated struggle for the government directorship. Passes and curses are the principal emoluments of the office.

DELAMATER offers to settle with his creditors at 50 cents on the dollar. Those were about the terms on which the people of Pennsylvania settled his gubernatorial aspirations.

THE manner in which railroad rates are being manipulated nowadays shows a determination on the part of corporations to regulate the industrial interests of the country to suit the whims of the managers.

THE practical settlement of the Douglas street grade insures the erection of a telephone palace on the crown of the hill. The purchase of ground gives fresh force to the fact that elevations are no obstacles to the expansion of Omaha's trade and industry.

IT SEEMS after all that the concentration of the military around the Sioux reservation is a huge farce, an overgrown absurdity. According to the distinguished commissary general of grasshopper notoriety, our own Tibbles, the whole movement is foolish, unwarranted and injurious to the state. It is an inscrutable mystery that the government should overlook such penetrating talent as that of Tibbles and pin its faith on Miles, Brooke, Ruger and others.

THE statistical and trade review published in this issue under the auspices of the Omaha board of trade will be found of unusual interest. All branches of trade are represented and make a showing of Omaha's commercial resources which is at once gratifying and marvelous. It is published in this issue at the request of a majority of the business men represented in order that their houses might receive the benefits certain to accrue for the holiday trade. The board of trade souvenir is now in the hands of the printer and will leave the press by January 1.

MR. LININGER'S example, in opening his house twice a month to the meetings of worthy young men, could be followed by other wealthy citizens with great advantage to the community. If a dozen other citizens should do the same an intelligent and promising class of young men would find places of entertainment attractive enough to keep them profitably employed nearly every evening in the month. The good results would be felt in the community not only now, but for a long time hereafter. At the last meeting of the debating club in Mr. Lininger's art gallery the cause of the French revolution was the subject discussed. It is worth while to remark that free intercourse and discussion between men of wealth and the bright young men of the community is one of the best possible means of guarding society against revolution in these days.

THE LAW OF EVIDENCE.

The cases of Charles Counselman, a commission merchant of Chicago, and of James C. Peasley, treasurer of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, who refused to answer certain questions propounded to them in the course of the investigation by the federal grand jury at Chicago of alleged violations of the interstate commerce law by certain western railroads, have become of wide noteriety and interest because they involve an issue that will be finally passed upon by the United States supreme court. The cases are somewhat different. Counselman was asked to tell the jury whether within a year he had obtained for the transportation of his grain to Chicago a rate less than the tariff or open rate, and whether he had received any rebate, drawback or commission. He refused to answer on the ground that if he should do so it would appear that he had violated the interstate commerce law and the admissions might be offered against him hereafter. Peasley, while admitting that he knew nothing of the transaction being investigated, refused to answer certain questions propounded to him and also to produce papers and documents called for by the grand jury, stating that he had been advised by his counsel not to do so, because he would thereby criminate himself and the railroad company. In both cases the judge of the district court, Blodgett, decided that the witnesses must answer, and they were remanded to the custody of the marshal.

The cases were taken to the circuit court on habeas corpus proceedings, and after very careful deliberation Judge Gresham sustained the decisions of the district court. In both cases the petitions averred that the fourth and fifth amendments to the constitution of the United States justified the attitude of the petitioners before the grand jury and the district court, and that the action of both was without jurisdiction and void. In the case of Counselman, Judge Gresham said that under the fifth amendment a person cannot be compelled to disclose facts before a court or grand jury which might subject him to a criminal prosecution or his property to forfeiture, but if there be a statute, as there is, which declares that the testimony of a witness in a case or proceeding shall never be repeated against him or his property in any other case or proceeding, there is no necessity for claiming the privilege secured by the amendment. Such a statutory provision is section 860 of the revised statutes, and if the protection of that section, said the court, is co-extensive with that of the constitution, a witness is entitled to no privilege under the latter. Hence the sufficient answer to the position of Counselman was, that should he hereafter be prosecuted for the offense, section 860 would not permit his admissions to be proved against him. As to Peasley's case, his testimony having shown that he was not guilty of the offense being investigated, therefore the production of the papers demanded would not criminate him, but if he had made a different showing the same rule that applied in Counselman's case would have applied in his. And having no claim to immunity under the constitutional amendments for the benefit of himself he could not claim it for the benefit of another, consequently his refusal to produce the papers called for because their production would criminate the company of which he is an officer was based upon nothing in the interstate commerce law or the constitution.

These are obviously very important decisions, and if sustained by the supreme court what would otherwise be a formidable obstacle to conviction of persons charged with violating the interstate commerce law will be removed. If persons are allowed to take refuge behind the fourth and fifth amendments to the constitution, ignoring the protection given them by statute, it would manifestly be next to impossible ever to establish collusion between railroad officers and shippers in violation of the law.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

It is announced that the president will send a message to congress on the financial situation, which gives credibility to the reports that the cabinet has been giving this matter very serious consideration. It is understood that the president will recommend legislation for the issue of additional currency, based on increased silver purchases. Meanwhile the secretary of the treasury is in New York conferring with bankers as to the best method of affording prompt relief, and he is also said to favor the purchase of the present stock of silver and an additional amount equal to the annual retirement of national bank notes. The active concern manifested by the administration will impress the country as to the serious nature of the financial situation, and it should have a favorable effect upon public confidence. A more or less disturbed condition of the money market has now prevailed for more than four months, but it has recently appeared that the situation was rapidly mending with good prospect of an early return to satisfactory conditions. Gold has been coming in freely for a week past and there have been other encouraging evidences of the improved financial situation abroad, all of which should have contributed to the restoration of confidence here. Doubtless there is a better feeling than existed a few weeks ago, but it is evident that there is still a great deal of distrust which must be removed before financial affairs will resume a normal and healthy condition. Various causes are assigned for the existing situation, but it is less important to discuss these than to consider what is necessary to be done to relieve the situation.

For this purpose bills proposing all sorts of plans have been introduced into both houses of congress, all these measures contemplating an increase of the currency. Without reference to their order of merit these various measures provide for an unlimited coinage of silver, for silver coinage limited to the production of American mines and preceded by the purchase of the silver now on the market, for an interconvertible bond bearing a low rate of interest, for restoring the government deposits from the sub-treasury to the national banks, for releasing the reserve of $100,000,000 in gold from the treasury by means of government appropriations, for adding $15,000,000 to the circulation by allowing the banks to issue notes up to the par value of their bonds, and for mortgage bonds to be accepted by the government at the rate of 2 per cent interest, enabling farmers to secure money on their lands. Here, certainly, is a sufficiently varied supply of remedies, and some of them have the authority of men distinguished for their ability in financial affairs. It is a little remarkable that so soon after the reports of the secretary of the treasury and the comptroller of the currency, showing that the volume of the circulation among the people is larger now than it ever was before some of the wisest and most conservative financiers in congress should be found vigorously advocating schemes of inflation. It is a great many years since there was witnessed such radical changes of front regarding a currency policy.

The views and suggestions of the president on this subject will be awaited with general interest, but whatever they may be, one thing seems to be as good as settled, and that is that there will be legislation for increasing the volume of currency. How this shall best be done so as to restore confidence and keep the whole body of the circulating medium up to its present value is the important question to be determined. None of the plans so far proposed can be regarded as certain to do this. Perhaps the president can suggest a plan that will.

THE BUSINESS PULSE OF THE WEST.

It has been the habit of eastern financiers to look upon the business conditions of the west as unstable. During the past six months especially western cities have been set down as unprosperous and likely to experience a very close winter. Borrowing their feelings from these eastern pessimists, western people have themselves arrived at the conclusion that business in this section is suffering from local ailments and is not today in as flourishing a condition as in the country east of the Alleghenies.

These assumptions are entirely false. The west is as prosperous as the east—Omaha shows a stronger commercial pulse than New York or Boston.

This is a bold statement, but it is borne out by every symptom that is open to observation. THE BEE recently called attention to the manner in which taxes have been paid in Omaha during the past year. Over 94 per cent of the year's city levy is already paid and over four-fifths of the county levy. How is it in New York? Figures are not at hand to make a direct comparison, but the noted correspondent, Joe Howard, tells the Boston *Globe* that money was never before so tight among the well-to-do. He cites the experience of a coal firm, doing business only with the substantial classes, who presented 60 bills in one day last week and collected not a dollar. He quotes the treasurer of the local telephone exchange, who says it is almost impossible to make any collections on his monthly bills. Numerous other instances are described, but they are all of the same tenor. They prove that business in New York bears no comparison to the strong pulse-beat in Omaha and other western cities.

Take another symptom. The past four weeks have been marked with numerous and colossal failures in Boston and New York. Some of the oldest commercial landmarks have gone down. This is due doubtless to the tightness of the money market and the inability of firms to borrow. But why this tightness in the great money centers of the east? Certainly not because of the drouth in a few counties of Nebraska. There have been no great failures in this section. In spite of the mild weather business is fair and collections good.

The bank clearings tell the same story. For the week ending December 6 the clearings at New York showed a decrease of 12.7 per cent as compared with last year, and those of Boston a decrease of 7.7 per cent. Chicago's increased 12.9 per cent, and Omaha's 32.4 per cent. We repeat that every symptom open to observations demonstrates that the commercial pulse of the west is stronger today than that of the east, and that the business conditions are in all respects firmer and better.

It is true that there is apprehension in the west as well as in the east, and that business men are beginning to experience some difficulty in making loans. But even this fact cannot be charged to local conditions. It is, rather, the reflection of the unprosperous, uncertain state of affairs in the east. It is due to caution made necessary by the tightness of the money market in the great centers of wealth, and to the difficulty which western banks experience in rediscounting paper at the usual sources of supply.

It is only just to the west that these facts should be conspicuously stated and our people reminded that this section is at least as well situated commercially as the section which has been wont to regard it with an anxious eye.

AN EPITOME OF BUSINESS.

"If advertising will make an old man like myself," said Phineas T. Barnum, "worth $1,000 a day as an attraction, it will do anything, young man—it will do anything."

Coming from the lips of one with the experience of fifty years, whose career is a monument to the efficacy of printers' ink, and whose genius in the art of advertising stands unrivalled, his words are weighted with the force of unquestioned authority.

That Barnum's dictum is fully appreciated by the progressive business men of Omaha is forcibly illustrated in the present issue of THE SUNDAY BEE. It is not only of the world "a map of busy life, its fluctuations and its vast concerns," but it is a mirror of the mercantile activities of Omaha, reflecting the enterprise of business, and forming a directory of those who appreciate the fact that advertising is the primary element of success in trade.

So great is the demand on the columns of THE BEE that double the usual edition of 16 pages is necessary, making the largest paper devoted exclusively to Omaha advertisers ever published in this city. Out of a total of 224 columns, 140 are devoted to advertisements. Even this large space was not sufficient to accommodate the demand, and many columns were rejected so as to prevent an undue contraction of the space allotted to the usual features of THE SUNDAY BEE. No better evidence of Omaha's business prosperity could be had, nor a more gratifying epitome of the confidence pervading all branches of commercial life.

The 84 columns devoted to news, editorial, literary and other departments of a metropolitan paper would make 110 pages of the average magazine. Placed end to end these 84 columns would rear a pyramid 150 feet high. They represent in the aggregate 1,000,000 pieces of type metal and the labor of 45 compositors for ten hours each. Almost eight tons of paper have been consumed in this issue of THE SUNDAY BEE and the edition is equivalent to over one hundred and twenty-five thousand eight-page papers. In order to utilize both of the fast presses it has been necessary for the stereotypers to make 70 page-plates for this issue of THE BEE—a larger number than has ever been made for one issue of any newspaper west of Chicago.

THE BEE is emphatically the commercial barometer of the metropolis of the trans-Missouri region as well as *the* newspaper of the west.

NEBRASKA'S LAW MAKERS.

THE BEE presents this morning as one of its many interesting features brief biographical sketches of a number of the members-elect of the next legislature of Nebraska. It was found impracticable to give in this issue sketches of all the new law makers of the state, and those whose names do not appear today will be given in a future issue. It is hoped that all of our readers will carefully peruse these sketches, which will be found highly interesting as biography and instructive as to the character of the men who will enact the laws that must stand for the next two years. It will be seen from these sketches that the next legislature will contain at least an average number of well informed and capable men, and there is good reason to expect that the legislation of the coming session will be marked by an intelligent and honest purpose to subserve the best interests of Nebraska.

A matter about which a good deal of concern is felt is the possibility of statutory prohibition. THE BEE has made a careful canvass of the members-elect on this subject, and the result warrants the conclusion that any attempt to bring about statutory prohibition will be defeated. A majority of the senators have expressed themselves in opposition to it, and while we have received positive declarations against it from only thirty-eight representatives, or thirteen less than a majority, we have such assurances as justify the opinion that a measure for statutory prohibition could not pass the house. We believe, therefore, that all apprehension of legislation on this subject by the next legislature may safely be dismissed. We think it will be found that a large majority of the members of each house believe that the overwhelming verdict of the people against prohibition should be respected as final and conclusive, and that it would be a grave mistake involving infinite injury to the state to attempt to contravene that verdict by an act of the legislature.

With regard to other questions of leading importance to our people no effort was made to obtain the views of the members-elect, but we have no hesitation in expressing the belief that conservative views will prevail. It is to be expected that numerous extreme and radical propositions will be brought forward, but our general estimate of the men who will compose the next legislature is that they will be governed by a sincere and patriotic desire to do only that which offers the best promise of promoting the general welfare.

BOSTON AS A LITERARY SHRINE.

In the December number of the *Cosmopolitan* Lillian Whiting has a very entertaining illustrated paper on "Literary Boston." The topic is one which has engaged the talents of home and foreign authors at various times during the past forty years. In all that long period the literary supremacy of Boston has been undisputed. It has been the Edinburgh of America, producing poets, novelists, philosophers and historians who have earned immortal fame. But these great names are of the past. Whittier, Holmes and Lowell still sit by their winter firesides, but their work and their personalities have passed into the history of our literature almost as truly as those of Hawthorne, Emerson, Longfellow, Whipple, Prescott and Motley It is of the literary Boston of today—the living Boston, with its vital forces playing upon our modern currents of thought—that Miss Whiting has written. And therein lies the interest of her article. Who are the successors of Boston's old masters, and what is their promise? This is a question possessing a broad interest to the people of America, and a particular interest to the numerous sons of New England scattered over the new west.

Miss Whiting justly puts W. D. Howells at the head of the literary workers in the Boston of today. An indefatigable author, still in his prime, he has not won the homage of critics and is not warmly welcomed as the heir of Hawthorne's popularity. But, if his place in literature is to be measured by the patronage awarded to his works and by the attention he commands abroad, he is certainly entitled to stand in the front rank of our native novelists. Another name, which comes but incidentally into Miss Whiting's paper, is that of a literary artist who could stand first among later American novelists, as he does among later American poets, if he possessed the industry and ambition of Howell's—Thomas Bailey Aldrich. He already has an enviable fame, but his genius is capable of much more and even better work than it has so far produced. Both he and Howells worthily sustain the old Boston line of literary achievement, and both are full of promise of good things yet to come.

Boston never had a nobler character, nor one who touched her rich life on more sides, than Edward Everett Hale. He is still, at the age of 67, in the full tide of a marvelous literary productiveness and must be reckoned among the potent influences of today. Two other names may be mentioned among those that, while fully established in reputation, are still contributors to the literature of this generation. Dr. Cyrus A. Bartol, "the gentle mystic," is a poet, a philosopher and an orator of unique quality. Francis Parkman is an historian worthy to be mentioned with Prescott and Motley.

After this first group may be mentioned a second and more numerous class of writers who enjoy wide reputation, fairly earned by a large amount of good work, but who still have, presumably, long years in which to rise to the dignity of the first class of famous Boston authors. These are Louise Chandler Moulton, Thomas W. Higginson, Horace E. Scudder, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Louise Imogene Guiney, Susan and Lucretia Hale, Sarah Orne Jewett, F. J. Stimson (J. S. of Dale,) and Maturin M. Ballou. Some of them will never reach the top round of the ladder, but are sure to stand at a pleasant height.

It is in the third class of Boston writers that we have great promise of things yet to come. It is a numerous list, bred by the literary atmosphere of the Hub and sustained and encouraged by its history, institutions, landmarks and living personalities. What poets, novelists and historians may not sprout from such a bed of promise, grounded in such fertile soil and warmed by sunshine so congenial? Robert Grant, Maud Howe, Arlo Bates, James Jeffrey Roche, Lasseter Bynner, Margaret Deland, Thomas Sergeant Perry, Russell Sullivan and Oscar Fay Adams are examples of this class.

A brief study of the subject convinces one that, though the star of commercial and political empire moves west, Boston is still the unrivaled literary shrine of America.

AS THEY VIEW THE CONTEST.

Beatrice Democrat: The election contest seems to have flattened out after the fashion of the Indian war.

Grand Island Independent: The prohibition cranks all through the contest were willing to sacrifice any and every party in the interest of the amendment, and they are still pursuing the same policy in the hope of securing statutory prohibition.

Crete Vidette: Mr. Cox of the Call was an important witness in the contest case. Cox saw more red "blud" running in the streets of Omaha than any other man. From the character of his evidence we would say that he seems to possess the qualifications requisite for a first class double extra correspondent of the New York Voice. His articles should be printed in red ink.

Fremont Herald: All the evidence yet brought out in the contest case at Lincoln is from witnesses who were supporters of the prohibition amendment, and they naturally believe it was a crime against all they hold sacred when it was defeated. This discolors their judgment a little, and they think Boyd ought to suffer for it. But they haven't produced a single scintilla of legal evidence that there was a fraudulent vote cast or counted for him.

Grand Island Independent: The alliance men have sufficient intelligence as a rule to see the purposes of these prohibition cranks, who sacrificed honesty, decency, self-respect and party interests in the campaign to further the interests of the amendment, and who are now willing to sacrifice all rules of honesty in pushing the statutory prohibition fight, and the alliance men have sufficient honesty and courage to speak out against such thievery in the name of "reform," and disclaim any responsibility for the dishonesty.

Blair Pilot: The testimony so far taken in the great contest at Lincoln over the election of state officers is of a very fakish cast. Nothing has developed except that in Omaha and Grand Island there was manifested some personal hostility on election day towards amendment workers, but no case has been established where any one was deprived of his vote or where any illegal votes were cast. The end is not yet, and no one knows what may be coming, but if based alone on the character of testimony so far taken the contest has little of strength behind it.

Neligh Advocate: The taking of testimony in the contested election cases of Powers vs Boyd and the alliance state ticket vs the republican state ticket has been a roaring farce, and if they have no stronger testimony to offer the officers elected on the face of the returns should fill the offices for the next two years. The Advocate is opposed to fraud in elections or elsewhere, and if Mr. Boyd or anybody else has obtained a majority by fraud, and if that fact is clearly proven, he should be bounced by the legislature; if fraud cannot be proven he should be installed as governor for the next two years.

Neligh Leader: The evidence so far taken in the contest for state officers does not indicate that anyone was prevented from voting for whom he pleased for governor or any other state officer, or even for the prohibitory amendment, though some of the witnesses, who had tickets of all parties with "for the amendment" on them, testified that they were not entertained with bands of music. Not a witness has testined so far that he did not vote just as he pleased, or that he knew of anyone who was prevented from so doing. Just what evidence remains to be introduced no one but those managing the contest knows.

Beatrice Democrat: In the state contest Powers and his crowd are simply lending themselves to the prohibitionists. All the testimony so far taken is to the effect that in the city of Omaha prohibition poll workers were roughly handled and driven from the polls. If the contest was upon the prohibition amendment, the testimony would appear to be material, but nothing has thus far been shown to prove that the anti-prohibition bulldozers were specially favorable to Boyd, or against Powers. Straight democratic tickets printed "for" the amendment were taken away from poll workers and destroyed. While a state of things appears to have existed by no means creditable to the metropolis of Nebraska, the prohibitionists have failed to connect Boyd with it in any way whatever.

Sutton Advertiser: The contest now in progress at Lincoln before the notaries is a great farce. The notaries are not a court and have no power to decide the case and the evidence they take will all have to be repeated before the legistature. The wheedling of Powers and the other candidates on the independent ticket into this mode of procedure was a shrewd scheme on the part of their lawyers, who wanted an opportunity to bluster and make a great show of effort in order that they may claim a big fee. It is evident that all parties to the contest now realize the uselessness of the whole proceeding. There can be but little comfort in the hope of obtaining the office by either side, if the entire emoluments are absorbed in advance by useless litigation. In joint ballot the independents have only a few votes in the majority. Those few are the fighting ground.

THIS AND THAT.

The typewriter has invaded the Sioux reservation. It evidently arrived ahead of the army of soldiers and newspaper correspondents, and is doing deadly work. A sample of its work in the hands of a rancher residing on the western edge of the hostile country has reached THE BEE. The gentleman who manipulated the machine explains that it is his first attempt, and he hopes to do better next time, but he is bound that "the outside world should know something about the inside cussedness of this Indian business." Disgusted with the red-tape procrastination of the government, the gentleman launches forth as follows:

It is a well known fact, that the Indians gave notice to the world that thay were gowing to raise Hell with Nebraska, Dakota and the United States in general soma months ago. So the red tape worm a woke and began to wiggle a bout over the country in a mysterious manner. The Indian play-cards anounced the Grate Christ-play to open with a roaring prelude to run the scale from uper C sharp to lower B flat, dureing which time the red divels were to pamp all the red Hell into their worthless carkesses that Lay around loose, for the first act. True to promise the prelude began some three weeks, a go.

After detailing the work of destruction by the hostiles, the settlers' ineffectual pleas for arms, the inactivity of the soldiers and the worthless investigations which did not investigate, the typewriter recounts how one of the ranchers telegraphed to Governor Mellett for arms, which were refused, and to General Miles for protection:

He had better luck with the dispatch for protection, however; as genuine Lieut of the army come down to day to see if the naughty red divelshad got lost from their foster dads and were wandering a bout over the country. He was well armed with a book & bloody pecil, and inquired minutely in to the parteulars of the unnatural actions of the poor reds, and carefully noted down all the (silent) points; as he thought thay wold be of some benefit to the next generation in solving the problem of perpetuating the armey to celebrate the glorious fourth of July.

The typewriter closes his communication in the following impressive style:

Now it is a bout time this cotemptable red tape humbugry was stoped, and these Government Imps taken in and or troops let the Agencies. The probabilities are had the troops stayed a way and not crowded in on them to exasperate and a noy them by their presence thay wold have danced, Whooped, Yelled and filled themselves so full of Hell-hiched divel-tries that they wold have exploded or wore themselves out untill thay were unable to crawl off the Reservation any how.

The gentleman who manipulated the above typewriting is a little deficient in his spelling and grammar, but THE BEE will wager he knows a few more things than a certain clerk employed in a certain leading dry goods emporium in Omaha. The house also carries a stock of Christmas toys. A lady who wanted a Noah's ark for her little girl asked the clerk who presided over the counter where these toys were on sale to show her some of them. As the arks were in plain sight on a shelf, the lady was surprised when the clerk said they had none in stock.

"Don't you know what a Noah's ark is?" the customer inquired.

"Never heard of it," replied the efficient clerk.

"Didn't you ever hear of Noah?" was the next question.

"Noah who?" was the reply.

Seeing that the clerk was not "on," the lady pointed to the Noah's arks and asked what they were.

"Why," said the salesman, "those are hollow blocks with animals in them."

It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. While the real estate men and speculators of the northern Nebraska counties howl that reports of the Indian troubles are hurting the country, the poor farmers and homesteaders are reaping a harvest by selling their produce and hauling it to Pine Ridge to feed the soldiers.

An Indian war would also be appreciated by settlers in some other parts of the state—that is, a good many poor people would be glad to secure the work that the northern farmers are now doing on account of the uprising. Letters have been received by THE BEE by the score telling of the suffering and privation that will result this winter as a consequence of the summer's drought. Some of the tales are pitiful in the extreme and would move the heart of the veriest skinflint of a miser.

The railroads are taking a hand in the matter of furnishing relief to these drought-stricken people, but coupled with their charity is a threat. A gentleman from a county which has over two hundred destitute families within its borders, reports that the railroad managers have signified their willingness to transport relief supplies free until the 15th (Monday next), but that after that date the company will refuse to continue the free rate until after the legislature convenes. "If," they say, "the farmer legislature is going to come down on us hard, why we will have to retaliate by shutting off the free business, even if the settlers are without food and clothing. Self preservation is the first law of nature."

The gentleman who gave THE BEE the above bit of information resides in Congressman-Elect Kem's big district. "I have come to like some of Kem's ideas" said he, "although I opposed him during the campaign. I'm an anti-monopolist, but I believe Kem is right on the usury question. A strict usury law in my county would drive a great deal of useful capital out of the country, for the small lenders could not afford to make loans at 6, 7 or 8 per cent and run the risks they do on the kind of security offered." This idea was also endorsed by another gentleman from Valley county, a lawyer. "I know," said he, "what I am talking about. I have defended a good many people who have sold property on which there was a chattel mortgage, and I've never had a conviction yet. All I have to do is to shake the money-shark red rag in the face of the jury and an acquittal follows every time."

Speaking of Kem recalls a story of the late campaign which illustrates how the tariff engrossed attention, not alone in Nebraska but all over the country. The tale is one related by Congressman Outhwaite. During the campaign a worthy citizen of one of the outlying precincts of his district died, and in due time the neighbors and friends gathered to attend the funeral. The preacher for the occasion was a new arrival whom the conference had just sent to the circuit. After some general remarks he said that owing to his short residence in the neighborhood he did not enjoy the acquaintance of the deceased brother sufficiently to enable him to dwell upon the personal merits he doubtless possessed, but if any person desired to pass some eulogy upon the deceased he would gladly give way. No one responded at first, but after a pressing repetition of the invitation a gaunt man arose from a back seat and said he did not remember much to be said in praise of the departed brother, but if it would make no difference he would give them a little talk on the tariff.

Planting His Boom in the Right Place.
Washington Post.

It is now reported that Mr. Cleveland is to take up his residence in Chicago. Perhaps Grover believes in giving the booming west a chance at the next democratic nomination for the presidency.

Both for Parnell.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The people of Kilkenny endorse Mr. Parnell. So do the cats.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

OMAHA, Dec. 13.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Has congress the power to prohibit the sale of liquor throughout the United States. Will you please answer in THE SUNDAY BEE yes or no? A. & L.

No, we find nothing in the constitution to justify the hope that congress could pass any such law.

OMAHA, Dec. 12.—To the editor of THE BEE: Will you please answer in THE SUNDAY BEE how red ink is made, and truly oblige O.

Red ink is usually made from either cochineal or Brazilwood, the latter being the more permanent. But some of the aniline reds are rapidly replacing the former sorts. Boettger recommends one part of good carmine, 120 of caustic ammonia and one and one-half parts of gum arabic. A cheaper ink is made by drenching twelve parts of pulverized cochineal and four parts of carbonate of ammonia with thirty-two parts of hot water.

UTICA, Neb., Dec. 12.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Please inform me whether or not the life of Miss Beechler, who shot H. W. King in Omaha in 1889, has ever been published. P. S. B.

Not that we are aware of except in current newspaper articles at the time of the affair. The files of THE BEE would furnish that information.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., Dec. 12.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Will you please decide the following bet in THE SUNDAY BEE? Five dollars was bet on the election of congressman in the Eighth Iowa congressional district. The returns show that the republican has been elected by 116 majority, but the election has been contested by the democratic nominee. Will it require the decision of the contest to decide the bet, and if the democrat should be seated in the next house would the democrat win the bet? G. C. W.

Congress, in the exercise of its power to decide on the qualifications of its members, will declare who was elected in the Eighth Iowa district. That declaration will decide the bet.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Dec. 7.—To the Editor of THE BEE: I would like your solution to the following: If an irresistible ball should strike an impenetrable wall what would the consequence be? This question has always been a great puzzle to me, also to a great number here. A great many different solutions have been offered. I appeal to your decision. N. S. C.

No human being can tell what would happen in case an impossibility should occur, but we can say that if an irresistible ball should strike the impenetrable head of men who ask fool questions of THE BEE the life of the editor of this department would be comparatively joyful.

OMAHA, Dec. 12.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Please inform me through your paper what effect, if any, the tariff bill has on the cigar manufacturer and retail dealer of tobacco. LOUIS BUECHSENSTEIN.

The new law raises the duty of leaf tobacco suitable for cigar wrappers, if stemmed, from $1.00 to $2.75 per pound; if not stemmed, from 75 cents to $2.00. The former duty on unmanufactured tobacco was 40 cents per pound. The new duty is 35 cents on unstemmed and 50 cents on stemmed. The duty on cigars, cheroots, etc., is raised from $2.50 per pound and 25 per cent ad valorem to $4.50 per pound and 25 per cent ad valorem. The object of these changes in the duties is to stimulate tobacco culture and manufacture in the United States. It has already had this effect, the home production of cigars for the month of November, after the law went into effect, being nearly double that of the production in September, under the old law. You will notice that the duty on unmanufactured tobacco is not raised appreciably, while the duties on wrappers and on manufactured goods is raised almost to a prohibitory point. The effect of the new law must inevitably be to enormously increase the manufacture of cigars in the United States and to increase the cost to the manufacturer and retailer until competition has brought down the prices, as it has in the case of other highly protected goods heretofore. The consumer is not apparently affected at all, as yet, by the tariff changes.

FORT SIDNEY, Neb., Dec. 12.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Will you please inform me through the columns of THE BEE the number of senators taking seats this session, and the number of representatives. Will the next session differ in respect to the number of senators and representatives? A SUBSCRIBER.

Senators, 88; representatives, 331. These figures include the members of both houses from the new states, all of whom have now taken their seats. The next congress, already elected, will contain the same number, but the Fifty-third congress, to be chosen in 1892, will have twenty-five new members if the house if the republican reapportionment bill is passed.

IDEAS ON OUR INDIAN "WAR."

The wild and woolly savage now
is kicking up his feet,
As an appeal to Uncle Sam
For something more to eat.
—Columbus Sentinel.

Nebraska City Press: To shoot or not to shoot; that is the question with General Miles and General Brooke.

Greeley Herald: It is reported that the Indians about Rosebud agency are falling apart. No wonder. They do not get enough grub to hold them together.

Crete Vidette: The Indian trouble has all come about through the blunder of an interpreter. It was "bulls" and not "bullets," "beef" and not "grief" that poor Lo wanted.

Blair Pilot: The vascillating course of the government is fast making it a reproach and a by-word among the populace and yet it persists in its display of imbecility on the Indian question.

Fremont Flail: The Indians now snap their fingers at their foes. Never was an army more decidedly outgeneraled than Brooke's command has been by the braves or sneaks under the direction of Sitting Bull.

Burwell Quaver: The World-Herald's correspondent at Pine Ridge wants Agent Royer fired. The agent should have fired the World-Herald correspondent. The presence of the representative of that paper was enough to drive the poor red-skins to desperation.

Hastings Nebraskans: Starving the Indians with short rations until they are fighting mad and keeping them supplied with arms and amunition to wreak vengeance on the whites, would be all right enough if judgement would fall rightly on the parties guilty of swindling the red devils out of their patrimony from the government.

Fremont Flail: While Miles has been talking to newspaper men, the Bulls and Bears of the tribes have been sawing wood. There is usually too much sentiment connected with the Indian fighting. The humanitarians of the east, imbued with the spirit of Longfellow, look upon "Lo the Poor Indian," as a being that has been so badly maltreated by the Caucassian as to excite their sympathy, and they are full of maudlin sentiment against bloodshed. If Miles is an Indian warrior, let him get to the front and quit his newspaper foolishness until the red skins are subdued.

St. Paul's Ice Incubus.
Chicago Tribune.

The winter palace project in St. Paul is on again. St. Paul proposes and the weather disposes.