### THE UMAHA DAILY BEE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1891.

provision be made for the appointment of a commission to agree upon and report a plan for dealing with this debt.

### The Census Bureau

The work of the census bureau is now far advanced and the great bulk of the enormous labor involved completed. It will be more strictly a statistical exhibit and less encumessays than its immediate prede-The methods pursued have been bered by COSSOTS. fair, careful and intelligent, and have se-cured the approval of the statisticians who have followed them with a scientific and nonpartisan interest. The appropriations neces-sary to the early completion and publication of the authorized volumes should be given in time to secure against delays which increase the cost and at the same time diminish the value of the work.

### Irrigation Discussed.

The report of the secretary exhibits, with interesting fulness, the constition of the ter-ritories. They have shared with the states the great increase in farm products and are bringing yearly large areas into cultivation by extending their irrigating canals. This work is being done by individuals, or local corporations, and without that system which by and of the irrigable lands would enable them to adopt. The future of the territories of New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, in their material growth and in the increase, independence and happiness of the increase, independence and happiness of their people, is very largely dependent upon timely legislation, either by congress or their own legislatures, regulating the distribution of the water supply furnished by their streams. If this matter is much longer neg-lected private corporations will have unre-stricted control of one of the elements of life and the meter test of the avial and the life, and the patentees of the arid lands will be tenants at will of the water companies. The United States should part with its ownership of the water sources and the sites for reservoirs, whether to the states and territo ries or to individuals or corporations, only upon conditions that will insure to the settlers their proper water supply upon equal and reasonable terms. In the territories this whole subject is under the full control of congress, and in the states it is practically so as long as the government holds the title to the reservoir sites and water sources and can grant them upon such conditions as it chooses to impose. The granting of franchises of enormous value without recompense to the enormous value without recompense to the state or municipality to which they proceed, and without proper protection of the public interests, is the most noticeable and crying evil of present legislation. This fault should be omitted in dealing with a subject that will before many years affect so vitally thousands of our people.

### Polygamy and Statehood.

Polygamy and Statehood. The legislation of congress for the repres-sion of polygamy has, after years of resist-ance on the part of the Mormons, at last brought them to the conclusion that resist-ance is unprofitable and unavailing. The power of congress over this subject should not be surrendered until we have satisfactory evidence that the people of the state to be created would exer-cise the exclusive power of the state over this subject in the same way. The question is not whether these people now obey the law of congress against polygamy, but rather, would they make, enforce and maintain such laws themselves, if absolutely free to regu-late the subject. We cannot afford to exper-iment with this subject, for when a state is ment with this subject, for when a state is once constituted the act is final and any mis-take irretrievable. No compact in the enabling act could, in my opinion, be binding or effective.

#### Town Government in Alaska.

I recommend that provision be made for the organization of a simple form of town government in Alaska, with power to regu-late such matters as are usually in the states under municipal control. These local organizations will give better protection in such matters than the present skeleton territorial organization. Proper restrictions as to the power to levy taxes and to create debts should be imposed.

### AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Its Labors Attended With Greatest

Success-Meat Inspection. If the establishment of the department of agriculture is regarded by anyone as a mere concession to the unenlightened demand of a worthy class of people, that impression has

WORDS OF WISDOM. [CONTINUED FROM SECOND PAGE.] nearly \$1,000,000 annually to save the lives of shipwrecked seamed. Set is rigidly inspected and required to adort the most approved safety appliances. All this is good, but now shall we excuse the behalf of the lack of interest and effort in behalf of this army of brave young men who, in our land commerce, are being sacrificed every our land commerce, are being sacruced every year by the continued use of antiquated and dangerous appliances. A law requiring of every railroad engaged in interstate com-merce the equipment each year of a given per ceut of lus freight cars with automatic couplers and air brakes would very soon and very greatly reduce the present fearful death rate among railroad employes.

### IMPROVED ELECTION METHODS.

### Appointment of a Non-Partisan Com-

### mission Recommended.

The method of appointment by the states of electors for president and vice president has recently attracted renewed interest by has recently attracted renewed interest by reason of a departure by the state of Michi-gan from the methods which had become uniform in all the states. Prior to 1832 various methods had been used by the dif-ferent states, and even by the same state. In some the choice was mide by the legisla-ture; in others electors were chosen by dis-tricts, but more generally by the voters of the whole state, upon a general ticket. The movement towards the adoption of the last named method had an early beginning, and went steadily forward among the states until, in 1832, there remained but a single state, South Carolia, that had not adopted it. That state, until the civil war, continued to choose its electors by vote of the legislature, but after the war it changed its method and but after the war it changed its method and conformed to the practice of other states. For nearly sixty years all the states save one have appointed their electors by a popular vote upon a general ticket, and for nearly thirty years this method was universal. After a full test of other methods, without impor-tant division or dissent in any state, and without any purpose of party advantage, as we must believe, but solely upon the consid-eration that uniformity was desirable and that a general election in territorial divisions not subject to change wasmost consistent act subject to change wasmost consistent with the popular character of our institutions, best preserved the equality of the voters and effectually removed the choice of president from the baneful influence of the 'gerrymander,'' the practice of all the states was brought into harmony. That this con-currence should now be broken, is 1 think, an unfortunate and even a threatening episode, and one that may well suggest whether the states that still give their ap-proval to the old and prevailing method ought not to secure, by constitutional amendought not to secure, by constitutional amend-ment, a practice which has the approval of all. The recent Michigan legislation provides for choosing what are popularly known as the congressional electors for president by congressional districts, and the two senatorial electors by districts created for that pur-pose. This legislation was of course, ac-

compassed by a new congressional apportionment, and the two statutes being the electoral vote of the state under the influence of the 'gerrymander.'

### Evils of the "Gerrymander."

These "gerrymanders" for congressional russes are in most cases buttressed by a "gerrymander" of the legislative districts, thus making it impossible for a majority of the legal voters of the state to correct the appor-tionment and equalize the congressional districts. A minority rule is established that only a political convuision can overthrow. I have recently been advised, that in one county of a certain state three districts for the election of members of the legislature are constituted as follows: One has 65,000 population, one 15,000 and one 10,000, while in an-other county, detached, non-continguous sec-tions have been united to make a legislative district. These methods have already found effective application to the choice of senators

and representatives in congress, and now an evil start has been made in the direction of applying them to the choice by the states of applying them to the choice by the states of electors of president and vice president. If this is accomplished, we shall then have three great departments of the government in the grasp of the "gerrymander"—the legis-lative and executive directly, and the judi-ciary indirectly, through the power of ap-pointment.

Free and Fair Ballot Demanded.

An election implies a body of electors hav-ing prescribed qualifications, each one of whom has an equal value and influence in determining the result. So when the consti-tution provides that "each state shall appoint (elect), in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors," an unrestricted power was the legislatures in the selection of the meth-ods to be used. A republican form of gov-ernment is guaranteed by the constitution to each state, and the power given by the same instrument to the legislatures of the states to prescribe methods for the choice, by the state, of electors, must be the state, of electors, must exercised under that limitation. The ssential features of such a government are officers, and the nearest practicable equality of value in the suffrages given in determin-ing that choice. It will not be claimed that the power given to the legislature would support a law provid-ing that the persons receiving the smallest vote should be the electors, or a law that all electors should be chosen by the votes of a electors should be chosen by the voters of a single congressional district. The voters must choose, and under the pretense of regulating methods, the legislature can neither vest the right of choice elsewhere, nor adopt methods not conformable to republican insti utions. It is not my purpose here to discuss the question whether a choice by the legislature or by the voters of equal single districts is a choice by the state, but only to recommend such regulation of this matter by constitu-tional amendment as will secure uniformity and provent that disgraceful partisan jugglery to which such a liberty of choice, if it exists, offers a temptation. Nothing just now is more important than to provide every now is more important than to provide every guaranty for the absolutely fair and free choice by an equal suffrage within the respective states of all the officers of the na-tional government, whether that suffrage is applied directly, as in the choice of members of the house of represen-tatives; or indirectly, as in the choice of senators and electors of president. Re-spect for public officers and obscience to law will not cease to be the characteristics of our people until our elections cease to declare the will for majorities, fairly ascertained, without fraud, suppression or "gerrymander."

unfailing test of sincerity in election reform will be found in a willingness to confer as to remedies and to put in force such measures as will most effectually preserve the right of the people to free and equal representation. An attempt was made in the last congress for the people to free and equal representation. An attempt was made in the last congress to the general government for the correction of frauda against the suffrage. It is important to know whether the opposition to such meas-ures is really vested in particular features supposed to be objectional, or includes any disinclination to give to the election laws of the United States acequate to the correction of grave and acknowledged evils. I must yet entertain the nope that it is possible to constitutional or statutory changes as may be necessary to secure the choice of the officers of the government to the people by fair ap-portionment and free election.

Non-Partisan Election Commission. I believe it would be possible to constitute a commission, non-partisan in its member-ship and composed of patrolic, wise and impartial men, to whom a consideration of the question of the evils connected with our election system and methods might be com-mitted with a good prospect of securing unanimity in some plan for removing or miti-gating those evils. The constitution would permit the selection of the commission to be vested in the supreme court, if that method would give the best guaranty of impartiality. This commission should be charged with the duty of inquiring into the subject of elections as re-lating to the choice of officers of the national government with a view of securing to every Non-Partisan Election Commission government with a view of securing to every elector the free and unmolested exercise of the suffrage and as near an approach to an equality of value in each ballot cast as is attainable.

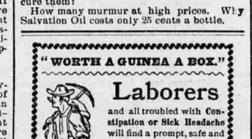
attainable. While the policies of the general govern-ment upon the tariff, upon the restoration of our merchant marine, upon the river and harbor improvements, and other such mat-ter of grave and general concern, are liable to be turned this way or that by the results of congressional elections and administra-tive policies, sometimes involving issues that tend to peace or war, to be turned this way tend to peace or war, to be turned this way or that by the results of a presidential elec-tion, there is a rightful interest in all the states and every congressional district that will not be deceived or silenced by the audacions pretense that a question of by the anticious precesso intra a question of right of any body of legal voters in any state, or in any congressional district, to give their suffrage freely upon these general questions, is a matter of local concern or control. The demand that the limitations of suffrage shall be found in the law, and only there, is a just demand and any just man should resent and resist it. My appeal is and must continue to be for a consultation that shall "proceed with candor, calmness and patience upon the lines of institute on the humanities of the lines of justice and humanity, not by prejudice of justice and numarity, not by prejudice and cruelty." To the consideration of these very gravo questions I invite not only the attention of congress, but that of all patrictic citizens. We must not entertain the delusion that our

people have ceased to regard a free callot and equal representation as the price of their al-legiance to laws and to civil magistrates.

I have been greatly rejolced to notice many evidences of the increased unification of our lots. evidences of the increased unification of our people and of a revived national spirit. The vista that now opens to us is wider and more glorious than ever before. Gratification and amazement struggle for supremacy as we contemplate the population, wealth and moral strength of our country. A transformations in its infinpopulation, wealth and moral strength of our country. A trust, momentuous in its influ-ence upon our people and upon the world, is for a brief time committed to us, and we must not be faithless to its first condition-the defense of the free and the equal influ-ence of the people in the choice of public offi-cers and in the control of public affairs. BENJAMIN HARMISON. Executive Mansion, Dec. 9, 1891.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 9, 1891.

Low-necked dresses are going to be very popular with the lovely young dudines, be-cause if they should catch cold wearing them, haven't they got Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup to ure them!



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Of all druggists. Price 25 cents a box. New York Depot, 365 Canal St. \* FALSE ASSERTIONS

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Scott's Emulsion of codliver oil is an easy food-it is

more than food, if you please;

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Constipction, Disordered Liver, etc.

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are made by unscrupulous manufacturers and dealers in porous plasters regard-ing their curative powers. BENSON'S PLASTERS are the only once indorsed by over 5,000 physicians and pharmacists. Beware of imitations and substi-

# CONTINENTAL CLOTHING HOUSE The Event of the Season.

Over \$50,00 worth of Men's, Boys' and Children's Overcoats and Ulsters from the wholesale stock of the Continental Clothing House of Boston, shipped to Omaha and offered this week at prices averaging about 60 cents on the dollar of the regular retail prices, affording the public an opportunity of buying an overcoat at less than manufacturer's cost. A sale of this magnitude has never been attempted in Omaha. We mean to unload these goods in the next 15 days. Come early.

Men's Overcoats, Boys' Overcoats, Children's Overcoats, Boys' Ulsters, Men's Ulsters, Children's Ulsters,

The prices at v. hich these goods are marked places us in a position to undersell all competitors. This sale means goods retailed at less than jobbers' prices.

We cannot attempt a description. The extent and variety of this stock is bewildering and when it is borne in mind that we sell only reliable, first-class goods, it makes this sale worthy the attention of every person in Nebraska.

Our limited space will allow us to mention only a few of the most attractive

### \$8.00. \$8.00. \$8.00.

Lot No. 1. We call attention to 100 pure, all wool, heavy weight diagonal overcoats, made in the best manner, guaranteed color, and sold in any retail store at \$13. Our price \$8.

# \$6.50

Lot No. 2. We offer 125 black beaver Overcoats, serge lined, silk velvet collars, fly front' and made-up in excellent style at \$6.50 each. Sold in the usual course of trade for \$10.

results already attained. Its influence has been very great in disseminating agricul-tural and horticultural information; in stimulating and directing a further diversification of crops; in detecting and oradicating dis-eases of domestic animals; and more than all, in distributing information by the informal contact which it has established and main-tains with the farmers and stock raisers of the whole country. Every request for in-formation has had prompt attention and every suggestion merited consideration. The scientific corps of the department is of a high order and is pushing its investigations with method and enthusiasm.

### Effects of Meat Inspection.

The inspection of this department of catthe and pork products intended for shipment abroad has been the basis of the success which has attended our efforts to secure the removal of the restrictions maintained by the European governments. For ten years pro-tests and petitions upon this subject from the packers and stock-raisers of the United States have directed against these restric-tions, which so seriously limited our markets and curtailed the profits of the farm. It is a cause of general congratulation that such has at last been attained, for the effects of an en-larged foreign market for these meats will be felt, not only by the farmer, but in our pub-lic finances and in every branch of trade. It is particularly fortunate that the increased demand for food products resulting from the removal of the restrictions upon our meats, and from the reciprocal trade arrangements to which I have referred, should have come at a time when the agricultural surplus is so large. Without the help thus derived, lower prices would have prevailed. The secretary of agriculture estimates that the restric-tions upon the importation of our pork pro-ducts into Europe lost us a market for \$20,-600 000 worth of these products annually. demand for food products resulting from the 000,000 worth of these products annually.

### Increased Crops and Prices.

The grain crop of this year was the largest in our history, 50 per cent greater than that of last year, and yet the market that has of last year, and yet the market that has opened and the larger demand resulting from short crops in Europe, have sustained prices to such an extent that the enormous surplus of meats and breadstuffs will be marketed at good prices, bringing relief and prosperity to an industry that was much depressed. The value of the grain crop of the United States is estimated by the secretary to be this year \$500,000 more, and of all products of the farm, \$700,000 more, and of all products of the farm, \$700,000 more, to surgest here that our sat-isfaction in the contemplation of this marvel-lous addition to the national wealth is unlous addition to the national wealth is un clouded by any suspicion of the currency by which it is measured and in which the farmer is paid for the product of his fields.

### CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

#### Its Work Has Resulted in Much Good

The report of the civil service commission should receive the caractulation of the opponents as well as the friends of this re-form. The commission invites a personal in-spection by senators and representatives of its records and methods, and every fair critic Its records and methods, and every fair critic will feel that such an examination should procede a judgment of condemnation, either of the system, or its administration. It is not claimed that either is perfect, but I be-lieve that the law is being executed with im-partiality, and that the system is incompar-ably better and fairer than that of appoint-ments upon favor. I have, during the year, extended the classified service to include superintendents. teachers. matrons and extended the classified service to include superintendents, teachers, matrons and physicians in the Indian service. This branch of the service is largely related to educational and philanthropic work, and will obviously be the better for the change. I recommend that the appropriations for the civil service commission be made ade-quate to the increased work of the next fiscal war.

### Protection for Railroad Men.

I have twice before urgently called the attention of congress to the necessity of leg-faiation for the protection of the lives of rall-road employes, but nothing has yet been done. During the year ending June 30, 1990, 869 brakemen were killed and 7,841 maimed while engaged in coupling cars. The total number of railroad employes killed during the year was 2,451, and the number injur-d 22,390. This is a cruel and largely a needless facultice. The government is spending acrifice. The government is spending

### Our Chief National Danger.

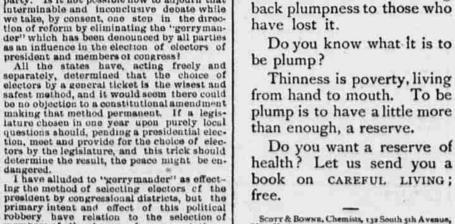
for 15. With every 15 order we give a written guar-antes to cure or refund the money. If you have been unsuccessfully treated by others write to us for scaled book and advice FREE and montion this paper. Address OR IENTAL. MFDICAL. CO., Props for the U.S., SII Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL FOR SALE IN OMAHA. NEB., BY Ruha & Co., Cor. 15th & Doughas Sts. A. D. Foster & Co., Council Bluffs, Ia. If I were called upon to declare wherein our chiof national danger lies, 1 should say without hesitation in the overthrow of mawithout nestation in the overthrow of ma-jority control by the suppression or the perversion of the popular suffrage. That there is a real danger here all must agree. But the energies of those who see it have been chiefly expended in trying to fix resposibility upon the opposite party rather than in efforts to make such practices impossible by either be made and placed in possible now to adjourn that interminable and inconclusive decate while we take, by consent, one step in the direc-tion of reform by eliminating the "gerryman-der" which has been denounced by all parties as an influence in the election of electors of mendiant and members of concreast

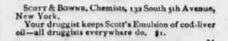
be no objection to a constitutional amendment making that method permanent. If a legis-lature chosen in one year upon purely local questions should, pending a presidential elec-tion, meet and provide for the choice of elec-tors by the legislature, and this trick should determine the result, the peace might be en-dangered.

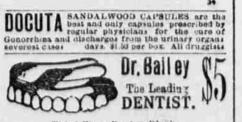
dangered. I have alluded to "gorrymander" as effect-ing the method of selecting electors of the president by congressional districts, but the primary intent and effect of this political robbery have relation to the selection of members of the house of representatives. The power of congress is ample to deal with this threatening and intolerable abuse. Tho

Rheumatism

SCIATICA







Third Floor Paxton Block. Telepone 1085. 16th and Farnam Sts. A full set of teeth, on rubber, for \$ Perfec fit. Teeth without plates or removable bridge work, just the thing for singers and public speakers, never drop down Teeth Extractal Without Pain.

All fillings at reasonable rates, all work warranted. Cut this out for a guide.

Lot No. 3. This is one of the choicest lots in the whole stock, made from a handsome Kersey, handsomely lined, silk velvet collar and in every respect a first class garment, usually retailed at \$18. Our price at this sale, \$11 each.

# \$13.

\$6.50

\$13

Lot No. 4. We offer 75 Oxford mixed Kersey Overcoats, satin sleeve linings, a regular tailor made overcoat of the highest grade, the average retail price of which is \$22; we offer until closed at \$13.

\$14.00

\$14.00

\$14,00

Lot No. 5. We offer 125 Kersey Overcoats in three different shades, goods made by us early in the season for our finest trade, elegantly trimmed, and cannot be bought outside of our store for less than \$20, Our price at this sale will be \$14.

# **ULSTERS** We have sold more ulsters this season than ever before.

At this sale we offer the best values ever shown in this city. Remember, no shoddy at any price. Only reliable goods sold at the Continental,

They have become very popular

# MEN'S SUIT DEPARTMENT.

The balance of the suit stock bought recently from Miner, Beal & Co., of Boston, will be closed out this week. Many of the best lots are still in good shape. Don't miss this opporunity of buying a first-class business or dress suit at a saving of from \$5 to \$8 on each suit.

### BOYS' OVERCOAT DEPARTM \$3.75 84.00 \$3.50 At this sale we offer bargain lots of boys' Cape Overcoats at \$3.50, \$3.75 and \$4.

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### Special bargain lines at \$5, \$5.50 and \$6.

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