THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to the Editorial Department.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks and postoffice orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors

THE BEE BUILDING.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska } ss.
County of Douglas. }

Geo. B. Tzschuck, secretary of THE BEE Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending December 19, 1891, was as follows:

Sunday, Dec. 13	28,370
Monday, Dec. 14	23,131
Tuesday, Dec. 15	24,355
Wednesday, Dec. 16	23,110
Thursday, Dec. 17	2,000
Friday, Dec. 18	23,109
Saturday, Dec. 19	24,251
Average	24,052

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 19th day of December, A. D. 1891.

SEAL. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

The growth of the average daily circulation of THE BEE for six years is shown in the following table:

	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891
January	10,078	16,269	15,206	18,574	19,555	28,440
February	10,205	14,198	15,060	18,906	18,791	25,812
March	11,537	14,409	15,880	18,854	20,816	24,005
April	12,191	14,316	18,744	18,859	20,561	23,928
May	12,439	14,227	17,181	18,620	20,186	26,849
June	12,298	14,147	19,244	18,858	20,360	29,917
July	12,814	14,093	18,653	18,748	20,082	27,921
August	12,464	14,151	18,183	18,651	20,759	27,368
September	13,030	14,349	18,154	18,710	20,870	25,567
October	12,989	14,353	18,084	18,997	20,767	25,109
November	13,348	19,226	18,986	19,310	22,180	24,699
December	12,237	15,041	18,223	20,048	23,471	.....

THE State Board of Transportation is not achieving much reputation of which to be proud either in railway regulation or the grain business.

SENATOR PLUMB'S estate is placed at $1,000,000, though to look at him on the floor of the senate one would never have suspected him of such business thrift.

MAYOR-ELECT BEMIS will make no Christmas presents to his constituency, and stockings hung up in the passageway to his office will not be stuffed with promises.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD loves the American people—especially the newspaper folk. Sir Edwin has all the keenness of an oriental merchant in pushing his business.

CHANCELLOR CANFIELD has Michiganized the Nebraska State university by gerrymandering the courses. It should be added, however, that the result will probably be beneficial to the college and to the students.

GARZA, the Mexican bandit, is neither so brave nor so shrewd as Geronimo, the last gentleman from this side the line whom Captain Bourke interviewed in Mexico. It is safe to say also that Geronimo was Garza's superior in other particulars.

ST. JOSEPH has been agitated from center to circumference over an ordinance prohibiting the leg drama and the operatic ballet. But the baldheaded men in the council were in the majority and the ordinance to introduce Minneapolis morals has been pigeonholed. St. Joseph will hereafter as heretofore permit the appearance of table limbs without pantalettes.

OMAHA looks out over the state this morning with a Christmas smile upon her otherwise unruffled countenance. She has passed through a season of depression safely and sees prosperity ahead. In common with the state at large, she has felt the depression incident to a partial failure of crops, but, like the state at large, she has shared the prosperity of the farmer and felt the gradual restoration of confidence.

A NUMBER of the patrons of THE BEE Bureau of Claims have that organization to thank for a specially enjoyable Christmas. The Bureau is less than eight months old and of course this is its first Christmas. If its success in the future can be gauged by that of the past, the next Christmas will show a host of people who will have been benefited by its energy and faithfulness within the coming year.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD has come and gone, but his going has been almost as welcome as his coming. His visit to Omaha was made memorable by a very marked disregard of common courtesy, for which Sir Edwin Arnold has always heretofore been noted. Whatever may have been his contract with the lecture bureau, he should have resented any attempt to close the doors of the lecture hall in the faces of the people who had come to hear him and held tickets that entitled them to that privilege. The refusal to refund the money might have been condoned, or charged up to a dishonest agent, but the refusal of Mr. Arnold to entertain them left a very unfavorable impression, to use a mild term, as regards his moral stamina.

BISHOP JOHN SHARP who died in Salt Lake City on Wednesday was one of the best known as well as most progressive Mormons in the territory. He was a polygamist and has four families living near each other in Salt Lake City. However, when the Edmunds law was enacted he voluntarily accepted the situation and agreed to abide by the law, living the remainder of his days with his first wife but supporting from his fortune the others with their families. He was ostracized for a time by the church but afterward others followed his example and respected him for taking the initiative. He was foremost in the development of the material interests of the territory and died, as he had lived, possessing the confidence of the business community of Utah without regard to religious faith.

THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

The return of the Christmas holiday season is apt to suggest to most persons how rapidly the years go by, so short seems the time since they last gave and received the gifts of friendship and affection, exchanged the salutations appropriate to the season, and participated in its gladness and festivities. Yet those who pause to reflect upon the flight of the years welcome none the less heartily the return of this season, with its boundless cheer, its wealth of child joy, its priceless evidences of affection, its generous charities and the sweet and tender memories it calls up.

Charles Dickens makes one of his characters say, in reply to another who had called Christmas a humbug: "I have always thought of Christmas time when it has come round as a good time; a kind, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely." This is the proper spirit in which to regard this time, and there are none so poor, or so afflicted, or so unfortunate in any respect as to be justified in regarding it in any other light, for be it remembered that He whose birth is celebrated today had a manger for His birthplace. It has been well said that if Christmas did no more than to make people feel their common brotherhood, their dependence upon each other, and to think of the needs of each other, it would still be the best of all days in the year.

While Christmas is rich in valuable lessons and kindly influences for all, its greatest worth is in the happiness it brings to the children and the elevating and ennobling impression it makes upon child life. It is especially the children's day, and the highest duty in connection with it is to make the hearts of the little ones glad. It is an edifying reflection that all Christendom is of one thought and one feeling in honoring this day, whatever may be the sectarian or denominational differences and controversies that divide it at other times.

COUNCIL BLUFFS AND OMAHA.

Council Bluffs claims to have a grievance against Omaha ever since a delegation went to Washington to present Omaha's claims for the location of the national republican convention. Some very touchy people of our sister city considered themselves slighted because they were not offered places on the delegation and asked to accompany it to Washington.

The truth of the matter may as well be bluntly told. When the project to place Omaha on the track for the national convention first came up, assurances were given by prominent parties on the other side of the river that Council Bluffs would join with Omaha in raising the guaranty of $50,000 to $100,000 to meet the expenses of entertaining the convention. When the guaranty papers were presented to the citizens of the Bluffs they declined point blank to sign a dollar, and the invitation that they contribute a portion of the $3,000 toward defraying the expense of sending the delegation to Washington was responded to by a very discourteous refusal all along the line, including hotels and the bridge motor company that were expecting to profit largely by the convention.

Inasmuch as our neighbors over the river had contributed nothing, and would guarantee nothing, they have no right to feel aggrieved over the fact that they were not given places on the delegation. If they imagine that they deprived Omaha of Mr. Clarkson's support by their remonstrance they simply overrate their influence on the Great I Am from the state of Des Moines. He never intended to give Omaha loyal support, and had decided to disregard the resolutions of the Iowa republicans months before the committee met.

It is equally puerile for Council Bluffs to duplicate Senator Manderson's Omaha mint bill with the idea that it will beat Omaha out of a mint. The fact is, there is not the remotest probability of congress locating any new mints during the present session. Omaha will not go into a spasm if the mint bill fails to pass, any more than she did upon failure to secure the national republican convention.

One thing the Council Bluffs people ought to know by this time; they cannot hope to build up their own town by trying to obstruct the growth of Omaha.

SILVER MEN SATISFIED.

The advocates in congress of the free and unlimited coinage of silver are said to be entirely satisfied with the composition of the house committee on coinage, weights and measures. This committee consists of thirteen members, and the majority of them are known to be uncompromisingly in favor of free silver coinage. These are the chairman, Bland of Missouri, Williams of North Carolina, Kilgore of Texas, Pierce of Tennessee, Epes of Virginia, McKeighan of Nebraska, Bartine of Nevada, and probably Johnson of North Dakota. As already noted, the composition of this committee is regarded as indicating that the speaker is favorable to the passage of a free coinage bill, and undoubtedly such a bill will be introduced.

But there is less probability now of a free coinage bill passing the house than there was before the organization. Mr. Mills and his supporters were committed against silver legislation at this session in order that the party should not be compelled to make it an issue in the next campaign, and there is no reason to suppose that they have abandoned this view. If they adhere to it they are strong enough, in union with the republicans, to prevent silver legislation. The chances are that there will be a very interesting contest in the democratic ranks over this question. The representatives from the eastern states are a unit against touching the question, and all the Cleveland influence, the value of which in existing circumstances it is not possible to determine, will be employed to keep the subject out of controversy pending the presidential campaign. It will hardly be possible to accomplish this, however, but the result may disappoint the expectations of the silver men.

In any event a discussion of the silver question in the present congress is assured. Already a free coinage bill has been introduced in the senate and Senator Stewart of Nevada has made his annual deliverance on the subject, going over the same ground he has traversed many times. Careful investigation shows that a free coinage bill could not pass the senate, but if such a measure should get through both houses of congress it would certainly encounter the executive veto, so that all time occupied in discussing the subject will be practically wasted. It is not quite apparent what valid reasons the silver men can find for their satisfaction with the situation.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

The proceedings of the board of regents of the State university are ordinarily mere routine and uninteresting. At the last meeting, however, Chancellor Canfield submitted his first report and we realize at once that a new pilot has taken the helm. The Kansas educator appears, in less than six months, to have revolutionized the methods of the university. Indeed, so far have his ideas been adopted by the regents that some friends of the institution fear that all thought of conservatism has been abandoned.

The new chancellor has adopted the Michigan plan and the school year is divided into two semesters instead of three. There are to be no regular "classes" hereafter, and names of all students will be printed in alphabetical order with numerals to show their exact standing in the courses. A change has also been made in the accredited preparatory work from high schools, seminaries, etc., in the state, and the pupils will be credited with courses in the university in the new sense of the term "course," by which is meant, under the chancellor's scheme, a topic pursued one hour each day for five days in the week for a semester.

The former graduates will hardly understand the new catalogue when it is issued. The system of classification is so changed and the courses of study are so much reorganized as to confuse them. More attention is given to the agricultural and manual training departments. The students, elect to take such studies as they choose, and are graduated upon new notions of what should entitle them to degrees. The "first year of residence" takes the place of the name freshman, and after that there will be nothing in the catalogue to intimate how long the student has been on the ground. When he completes twenty-five full courses he may graduate if fully prepared upon entrance.

The chancellor speaks in high terms of the beet sugar school, the patho-biological laboratory, the experiment station and the colleges of law and medicine. He also urges the importance of securing aid from congress for the establishment of a $50,000 plant for pursuing experiments in sugar beet growing and beet sugar making. On the whole the report of the chancellor is decidedly refreshing, being so entirely original in its suggestions as compared with the scholarly but more or less prosy reports of predecessors, whose ideas of conducting a university kept them in conventional lines. The impression made by a perusal of the report is that Chancellor Canfield has ideas of his own and has convinced the board of regents that they are worthy of a trial. He has burned the bridges behind him, however, and must either succeed gloriously or fail ignominiously. His radical reorganization of the institution leaves no middle ground.

THE WAR IS ON.

It was not necessary for Mr. Henry Watterson to issue an elaborate manifesto in order to show that there is a serious breach in the democratic ranks. That was made apparent when the democratic caucus set aside Mr. Mills and selected Mr. Crisp for speaker, and all subsequent proceedings have confirmed it, while also tending to widen the schism and increase the difficulties in the way of closing it. What inducement can be offered to Mr. Mills that would lead him to forgive the speaker for the slight put upon him in proposing to give him the second place on the ways and means committee? The Texas congressman so relentlessly relegated to the rear must fight or abjectly surrender, and no one acquainted with his character can doubt that he will do the former. He has a strong following in the house, and, to all appearances, he has the sympathy of the party in the country with him. Most democrats feel that he has been unjustly used, and knowing this Mr. Mills will be very likely to neither give nor take quarter. It is not quite clear how he will seek his revenge or vindication, but that he will find opportunities to make his foes feel his influence is not to be doubted.

On the other hand, what can be done to appease Mr. Crisp and Mr. Springer after the charge that there was a bargain between them? In respect of this, Mr. Watterson is less explicit than some others, but he says of the selection of Springer as the ways and means chairman and leader of the house that it "smacks too much of the discharge of an obligation," and this feeling is general among the admirers of Mills and his extreme tariff views. It is a grave charge, which if true would be destructive of the political hopes of Mr. Crisp and Mr. Springer, and they will not fail to resent it. The speaker is evidently a man not to be frightened or bullied into any surrender of his convictions or purposes, and the chairman of the ways and means committee is credited with intrepidity and self-confidence, so that it will be no easy matter to induce them to harmonize with the men who have presented them to the country in the dishonorable light of having bargained for the positions they occupy.

The war of the democratic factions is on, and the promise is that it will be waged not only in congress, but be carried into the next national convention of the party and even beyond. There is no leader at this time whose domination is so complete that he can harmonize these conflicting elements. Mr. Cleveland, if he still aspires to be the standard-bearer of the party next year—and it has been reported that he does not desire to again be a candidate—lost heavily in influence in the defeat of Mills. Hill is powerless to do anything in the interest of harmony, while the futility of the counsel of Gorman, Carlisle and others has already been shown. A new man has gone to the front with the apparent determination to take the reins and guide the party according to his own views of expediency and policy, and thus far he has shown himself more than a match for all opposition. Further developments in this conflict, described by Mr. Watterson as "a revolution both theoretical and actual," will be watched by republicans with great interest.

A PROPER enforcement of the warehouse law will not embarrass the chief inspector, nor will it give the State Board of Transportation trouble. A little common sense and a good deal of devotion to the best interests of the state will keep the relations of the board and the grain inspection department peaceful.

"A MERE adventurer upon the sea of public life" is the way the Louisville *Courier-Journal* characterizes the eminent democrat who will in a very large measure dictate and control the legislation, the policy and the record of the democratic party, upon which it must fight the ensuing presidential campaign.

WHAT sort of consistency is it that places Jerry Simpson on the committee on arid lands and irrigation and Tom Bowman of Council Bluffs on alcoholic liquors?

King David's Double.

Washington Post.

Senator Kyle's remarkable political reach must challenge the admiration of David B. Hill.

Side-Tracked Champions.

Kansas City Journal.

The sidetracking of those two champions of free trade, Cleveland and Mills, had not a little to do with the revival of business activity.

Not This Year.

Cincinnati Commercial.

The venerable editor of the New York Sun smiles sardonically at the suggestion that he should send to Grover Cleveland a Christmas card bearing the familiar "Peace on earth; good will to men."

The Blundering Begun.

Kansas City Star.

Senator Gorman's idea of the present session is that it ought to be a do-nothing congress—an idea that is likely to be fulfilled. Doubtless Gorman thinks that when a democrat is doing nothing he cannot blunder.

Will Business Men Be Warned?

Hartford Courant.

It's the old story (Mr. Plumb's career) of life at perilously high pressure, continuous overwork and overexcitement, the candle burning briskly away at both ends, nature's warnings unheeded, medical advice unheeded, a breathless scurry and rush of "business," and then a sudden stumble into an open grave.

Rival Art Centers.

Butte (Mont.) Miner.

Chicago newspapers which took occasion to brand a Montana artist's potato bug etching as "wild and woolly art" will please give us a little editorial opinion of the advanced civilization which permits the holding up of a mail driver on the principal streets of their city. Mail robbery as a fine art is something with which Montana can claim no familiarity.

The Woman in the Case.

Salt Lake Tribune.

So it seems that it is a vindictive woman instead of an impudent man who has been writing the letters to the London Times from Santiago. Women are naturally better than men, but a mean woman can be meaner than all the men in the block, and this Lady Jordan seems to have the same opinion about the United States that some of the women in New Orleans had in 1862.

Roasted for Christmas.

Fremont Flail.

A white-livered, craven-hearted, leather-lunged, dwarf-souled, chicken-gizzard, pudden-brained, knock-kneed, bow-legged, pigeon-toed, weasel-faced, buzzard-billed, blear-eyed, hawk-nosed, claw-fingered son of Belial suggested a day or two ago that he would rather have the Flail against him than for him. He thought differently before this paper gave him a twist for his meanness.

PROGRESSIVE POOR LO.

St. Louis Dispatch: An Indian has applied for a divorce in South Dakota. Is not this a refutation of the charge that Lo cannot be civilized?

St. Paul Globe: An Indian in South Dakota has procured a divorce because his wife wanted to kill him with an ax. Such incidents are annoying among white people, even.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: At last the Indian shows signs of civilization. A buck has been convicted of forging a bank check in Montana and another has secured a divorce in Dakota.

Baltimore Herald: A Sioux Indian has been granted a divorce from his wife in South Dakota. Lo is fast approaching that stage of development where he may be admitted to all the rights and privileges of an American citizen.

BRUTAL COLLEGE SOCIETY WORK.

William Lloyd Garrison Roasts the Faculty of Harvard College.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 24.—William Lloyd Garrison has published an open letter to the president and faculty of Harvard college in which he says: "The secret society known as the D. K. E. has long been a source of scandal and private indignation. Aside from the witty penalties attending the initiation of members, a cruelty has been superadded, akin to the barbarism of the Fiji islands and the pratices of degraded Indian tribes. As a culmination of ceremonies, and as an indication of pluck and endurance, the victim's arm is bared for branding. In the case which has just come under my observation, six deep and savage burns from the shoulder to the elbow were inflicted with a lighted cigar. Lifelong scars and disfigurement are bad enough, but the shock to a system already reduced in vitality by previous physical exertions is severe and dangerous. In comparison with a cigar a branding iron would be merciful, but it seems necessary to add to the danger of burn that of blood poisoning. Outside the circles of the university, such mutilation would call forth quick interference by law, even though the weak and foolish subjects yielded their consent, and it deserves to be an indictable offense.

"In common with other crimes which flourish in your sight, a bar providing intoxicating liquors is here maintained contrary to law and decent morals. Only last year many of our respectable citizens had the mortification of seeing their sons arraigned in open court and fined for this offense.

"I ask with solicitude whether such proceedings are beyond your control? If you are powerless to protect the charges confided to your care in the respects just mentioned, there yet remains to parents the alternative of invoking the interposition of the courts. If you have the power or the influence to abate these evils, the responsibility resting upon your shoulders is a heavy one. If you have not, with whom does the accountability lie?"

CORN FOR FAMISHED RUSSIA.

Every Nebraska County Asked to Contribute a Car Load.

UNIVERSITY REGENTS IN SESSION.

Radical Departure in the System of Instruction, and All Class Organizations Abolished—General Lincoln News.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 24.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Commissioner Lugden is up to his shoulders in work in connection with the project of sending a train load of corn to Russia. An effort will be made to raise a car load of corn or its products in each county of the state. Today Mr. Ludden sent out a circular letter to all of the county clerks in the state, in which he said:

We have no opportunity to organize the various counties for this work. I have asked the various county agricultural societies and county officers in the various counties to take charge of the work of raising at least a car load of corn or some food supplies in each county. We have had during the past year a bountiful harvest, and if the majority of the farmers in the various counties would give a few bushels, we would have no trouble in making a generous response to this appeal for aid. We have in many counties of the state a great many Russians, some of them quite wealthy, and we will need some money to pay the necessary expenses attending this work, and in having printed in the Russian language full directions as to the best method of using corn for food. We hope you will use every effort to secure from all interested in this humane work corn, food supplies and cash contributions. I think if you would ask the local papers to publish the appeal sent out by Governor Thayer, and at the same time ask the clergy of the county to present the matter to their congregations, you would have no trouble in raising your share toward this noble work. In just what form or shape the food supplies will have to be packed for shipment I do not know. I am awaiting instructions upon that line from Secretary of Agriculture Rusk of Washington. I may state further that the millers of the state, many of them, seem ready and willing to give food products in this good cause, and a word from you to them would possibly wheel the millers of your county in line. Let me hear from you by return mail upon this matter. If we can have prompt action by the county agricultural societies and county officers, I think we will be the first state in the union to respond with a ship load of food for the Russians.

University Regents in Session.

The Board of Regents of the Nebraska State university met in annual session this morning. The first business taken up was the resignation of C. H. Gere as chairman of the board. C. H. Morrill was selected to succeed him. Among the items gleaned from the secretary's minutes are the following: The fiscal year was made to begin April 1 hereafter. A chair of electrical engineering, to be associated with the department of physics, was established. A committee, consisting of Chancellor Canfield, Regent Morrill, the director of the experimental station, dean of the industrial school and steward, was appointed to take some action looking to the proper representation of the university at the Columbian fair. A committee of three was appointed and authorized to advertise for bids for the erection of the new library building. Chancellor Canfield was authorized to engage additional instructors in modern languages, zoology and political science, with a view of strengthening the course of study.

"Michiganized" the University.

A radical departure has been made in the system of instruction in the Nebraska State university. The system has been modified to what is known in educational circles as the "Michigan plan." Hereafter there will be no regular classes in the university. The first year, now designated as the freshman, will be known as "the first year of residence." After the first year there will be nothing to designate how long a student has been in attendance at the university. The names of all the students will be printed in one list, alphabetically arranged. Following each name will be two numerals, the first of which will indicate how many full courses were required of him, and the second, how many of these courses he has completed. A glance at the list will show just how long the student must remain before graduating. In order to graduate the student will be required to complete twenty-five full courses.

Gleaned in the State House.

The Crawford & Fort Robinson Motor Line company was incorporated today by Milo A. Manning, Camp E. Ellis and Leroy Hall. The object of the company is to construct and operate a steam or electric motor line from Crawford to Fort Robinson. The capital stock is $50,000.

Rev. L. P. Ludden today received a $5 bill from an anonymous philanthropist, who in a brief note directed him to "forward the enclosed to the hungry Russians."

All of the offices in the state house will be closed tomorrow.

Articles of incorporation of the Citizens State bank of Elwood, Gosper county, Neb., were filed with the secretary of state yesterday. The capital stock is $50,000 and the incorporators are M. T. Jackson, F. W. Perry, Nettie B. Perry, Emma B. Pierce, A. R. Rose and H. M. Hare.

The official plat of the canal to be constructed by the Mitchell Canal and Irrigating company of Scotts Bluff county was filed in the office of the secretary of state yesterday.

In answer to an inquiry as to his opinion of a point of law arising under the enactment of the last legislature regarding the deposit of county funds with some bank, either state or national, Attorney General Hastings said that the law was evidently intended to cover the several county funds represented by currency or cash, and that inasmuch as the state law also provides for the deposit of state funds by the state treasurer, no funds in the hands of the county treasurer should be included with the county funds so deposited by him.

Secretary Nason of the Omaha Board of Trade writes Commissioner Ludden that Omaha will certainly do her share toward contributing a car load of corn to the Russian people.

Fled Without His Clothes.

The police raided a colored dive at 2 o'clock this morning, and as they entered the door some fellow who had been participating in the nocturnal revels sprang through the window and fled. He left his hat, overcoat, shoes and sundry other articles of wearing apparel behind him, and they are now on exhibition at the police station, where scores of persons have identified them as belonging to a citizen of more or less prominence. The inmates, two colored girls, were each fined $10 and costs this forenoon.

Getting Decidedly Interesting.

The tug-of-war at the Lansing last evening developed a contest that was not down upon the program. The Irish team today entered a protest against awarding the result of the match last evening to the freight handlers, and charged trickery upon the part of some of the men of the latter team. This afternoon Captain McClellan of the Irish team challenged the freight handlers to a contest on the side, both parties to put up $100 on the result. The feeling in the matter is running high, and considerable interest is being taken in the controversy.

Christmas for Poor Children.

Following a custom which she inaugurated several years ago, Miss Fannie Newman gave a Christmas tree and entertainment this evening at her home, 1734 L street, to ten boys and ten girls selected from the poorest families in the city. These children are those who have no parents and do not attend Sabbath school. The tree was laden, not only with articles of clothing, but with dolls, toys, candies, nuts and other things calculated to cheer the heart as well as to comfort the body of the little folks.

An Early Morning Blaze.

The large barn on the Funke farm, near the penitentiary, was destroyed by fire this morning at 6 o'clock, together with six head of horses, 500 bushels of corn, farm implements, etc. The contents of the barn belonged to H. F. Wilson, the tenant, and he had no insurance. Wilson believes that the fire was set by personal enemies.

Odds and Ends.

Poles for the extension of the electric railway south on Twelfth street are up and the last of the horse cars will be rung out with the old year.

Mrs. C. O. Strickland, who several weeks ago was robbed of several fine dresses in a most mysterious manner, today reported the loss of a gold watch and chain under circumstances equally mysterious.

J. G. Tate, the Hastings politician, was a Lincoln visitor today.

H. T. Oxnard, the Nebraska sugar manufacturer, was in the city today.

The Industrial Savings bank of this city filed articles of incorporation with the county clerk today.

John Masters today petitioned the district court for a divorce from his wife, Mary. He avers that she is a habitual drunkard, and further that she has abandoned him in spite of the fact that he has given her an income of $4,000 a year.

The Sneedy estate bobbed up in district court today and the matter is still far from settlement.

Robert Barkley applied for a divorce today on the ground that he was forced into a marriage with his wife against his consent and when he was but 20 years of age.

Cases of diphtheria are reported at Seventeenth and Holdrege streets and at 631 North Fourteenth street.

Moses Arlovsky was arrested today for peddling tinware without a license.

Seth Bolen is still alive with a ghastly wound in his neck, but his chances for recovery are slim.

INVOLVING MILLIONS.

Important Decision Rendered by the Michigan Supreme Court.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 24.—The Michigan supreme court has rendered a decision involving a greater sum of money than any decision ever rendered by it heretofore.

In 1871 the state brought suit against the Flint & Pere Marquette road to obtain title of 16,000 acres of land which it claimed came to the state under the United States swamp land grant of 1850 instead of the railroad land grant of 1857, under which the road has been in undisputed possession of the land for twenty-eight years. The state secured a verdict in the court below, but coming to this court, the decision is unanimously set aside. The court says that the lapse of time that the state has slept upon its rights effectually stops it from obtaining a title, and that it has no claim in equity, justice or good conscience. The decision affirms the title to lands acquired the same way by the Jackson Lansing & Saginaw and the Grand Rapids & Indiana roads, and of individuals, covering in all 1,500,000 acres, estimated to be worth from $7,000,000 to $10,000,000.

STRUCK A SAND SPOUTER.

Artesian Well-Borers in Wisconsin Given a Peculiar Surprise.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 24.—While August Hubner and his sons were drilling an artesian well on their farm near Forest Junction, fifteen miles south of Depere, and had reached a depth of 105 feet, their work was unexpectedly stopped. It was about 8:30 in the forenoon when they heard an underground rumbling not unlike the rolling of thunder, and suddenly a column of sand was spouted from the well and was thrown nearly 200 feet in the air. The drills, rods and derrick were smashed and bent, while one of the workmen landed about fifty feet from the well uninjured. The sand spouts continued with short intervals, and gradually decreased in force until 11 o'clock last night, when another column was sent up in the air.

Among the sand, which is lying six feet deep around the well, were pieces of clay weighing 100 pounds. At least 100 wagon loads were thrown out. The diameter of the well was twenty-eight inches up to a depth of ninety feet, below that sixteen inches. No sign of water was seen.

TO BOYCOTT THE LOYAL LEGION.

Grand Army Men Tired of the Exclusive Officers' Society.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 24.—There is every prospect that the war inaugurated against members of the Loyal Legion by Robert Chivas post, Grand Army of the Republic, of this city, will spread. Posts all over the state are taking sides in the controversy and Chivas post has been endorsed more than it has been denounced. Its demand is that a boycott be declared against the ex-officers of the rebellion by the ex-privates and non-commissioned officers. The ground is taken that the officers maintain a select organization called the Loyal Legion, to which only officers are eligible, while the Grand Army is open to all who have served their country. For the last twenty-five years the officers have been getting the cream of political offices, say the Chivas post men, and it is high time the privates had a show. To achieve this, they call on all Grand Army men to boycott the Loyal Legion men when it comes election time.

HASN'T SLEPT A WINK FOR WEEKS.

Strange Case of a Farmer Which is Attracting Attention.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 24.—The hospital physicians are on the tip-top of expectation awaiting developments in a new and interesting case which has been brought to their attention in the last few days. December 20 a man was examined for admission who had not slept a wink since three weeks previously. The man does not appear sick. His appetite is good. That he has an enormously strong constitution is evidenced by the fact that he has not broken down under the strain of his long waking. John P. Roberts, the sleepless man, is a wealthy farmer from Adams township, and he is 43 years old. Several months ago, after a severe strain of work, he began to notice the loss of sleep and his affliction at last became so bad that his friends decided that it was best for him to come to this city for medical treatment.

Missouri Pacific Changes.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Traffic Manager C. A. Parker of the Missouri Pacific has appointed W. A. Stith, general freight agent. The appointment is to take effect January 1. Mr. Stith is now general freight agent of the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis road and was formerly assistant general freight agent of the Missouri Pacific, to which he now returns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Packed houses are the rule at the Eden Musee this week and the chief attraction is Jo-Jo, the Russian dog-faced man, born in the wilds of a Russian forest. Jo-Jo is smart and educated. He talks English and Russian fluently and his form is perfection. His face is covered with soft, fleecy hair, six inches in length—a wonderful attraction. Manager Lawler says no is well worth the sum of $100 per day, which he receives. He remains this week only. Come early and see Jo-Jo.

Sunday evening will occur the first performance in Omaha at Boyd's New theater of the three-act comedy from the French, "Dr. Bell." Much has been written regarding this now famous comedy. It ought to prove to be a big drawing card here. The original production in this country was at the Garden theater, New York, where it was seen for 104 nights. We understand "Dr. Bill" to be clean comedy without specialties, full of fun and a laugh all the way through. The action of the comedy is so quick that it is necessary to precede the comedy with a curtain raiser which commences at 8:15. The comedy begins at 8:45. The advance sale opens Saturday morning.

Two performances of Hoyt's great American political satire, "A Texas Steer," will be given today at Boyd's new theater. A grand holiday matinee will be given at 2:30 today at which the prices will be very cheap. The evening performance will be at 8 o'clock. There are many first class seats left for both afternoon and night, but indications are that the theater will be filled twice today.

On Sunday night the Boston Howard Athenæum star specialty company will give a performance at the Grand.

MERRY RIPPLES.

Chicago points with pride to its volumes of smoke as evidence of advanced literary taste.

New York Herald: Many a miss'll toe the mark on Christmas day when the decorations are fastened to the chandelier.

Yankee Blade: He (admiringly)—And did you make that mat yourself?

She—Yes, I did it all myself, with the exception of a little help I received from my six younger sisters.

Chicago Times: The latest addition to the colony of divorce-hunters at Sioux Falls is a Congregational minister. Sioux Falls and Dwight are running neck and neck as resorts for the upper classes.

THE GRIPPE.
Somerville Journal.

An ache in your back,
As you toss in your bed,
An ache in your head
As if it would crack,—
That's the grippe.

A taste in your mouth
Like a buffalo coat,
A feeling you note
Of lameness and drouth,—
That's the grippe.

A burning sensation
That makes your eyes weep,
A struggle to keep
Back a vivid oration,—
That's the grippe.

St. Joe News: "She told me she loved me no longer."

"Of course you assured her you had stopped growing?"

Life: Husband—What a splendid dinner you have tonight.

Wife (complacently)—Yes, dear, I thought it would please you.

Husband—What kind of a dress are you thinking of getting?

New York Press: Husband—We must economize.

Wife—Well, dear, what do you want me to give up?

Philadelphia Ledger: A Vermont woman has devised a lamp that can be lighted by merely picking the wick. In a pickwicklan sense it should be a matchless affair.

New York Herald: May—Now, wouldn't you call Prof. Pounderoffski's music heavenly?

Frank—Possibly; it's certainly quite unearthly.

Boston Post: Considering Mr. Gladstone's achievements with the ax, wouldn't it be more appropriate to call him the "Grand Old Feller?"

Columbus Post: These mornings make a fellow wish he had less get-up.

BREVITY.
Arkansas Traveler.

Be wise.
Concise.
Have sense,
Condense.
"Thrice told
Gets old."
Be brief,
Relief;
And then,
Amen!

A CHRISTMAS SONG.

Harriet Prescott Spofford in Harper's Bazar.

Sleep, dear, sleep, where nothing ill is.
Let no joy bells ringing in the morrow,
Give your happy dream a thought's surcease,
Screened from all the world of wrong an sorrow
By the lilies
Of your spotless purity and peace.

Sleep, and only hear in dreaming
Far-off music, beating, fleeting—
Never lullaby so sweet and blest—
Christmas bells the heavenly song repeating,
Softly seeming
Angels singing you to deeper rest.

Sleep, love, while the gracious story
Of another Child the bells are telling,
Whose dear hand is holding yours tonight.
The sweet Christ Child bending from the dwelling
Where His glory
Fills the heavens themselves with tender light.

Sleep! the Christ Child keeps the heavens above you,
Stills the song upon your dream intruding,
Folds around you slumber's silent fleece,
Fills the mother heart about you brooding,
So doth love you
That He lends His purity and peace!

A TALK WITH CARLISLE.

Thousands of democrats read The Bee, and for that reason the interview with Ex-Speaker John G. Carlisle of Kentucky,

IN THE SUNDAY BEE

will be of extraordinary interest. He talks about Speaker Crisp, the Silver Question, and tells why the democratic party should not make it a Presidential issue; the tariff in the next campaign; discusses

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES for '92

The great expounder of democratic doctrine says the people are opposed to legislative interference with the currency; gives an estimate of Blaine; says the west and south are coming together; considers

THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL PARTIES

In fact, the uppermost political questions of the day are discussed, forming the most brilliant interview ever contributed to a newspaper. It is from the pen of Frank G. Carpenter, the celebrated Washington correspondent. Read it

IN THE SUNDAY BEE.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

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