THE DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

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George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending May 21, 1892, was as follows:

Sunday, May 15	28,035
Monday, May 16	23,996
Tuesday, May 17	24,015
Wednesday, May 18	25,735
Thursday, May 19	24,987
Friday, May 20	24,500
Saturday, May 21	24,038
Average	24,489

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 21st day of May, A. D., 1892.

SEAL. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Average Circulation for April, 24,416.

THIS is the last week of the Methodist conference and spring chickens are beginning to roost lower.

WELL, if England turns her back on free trade where will our friends, the enemy, look for sympathy and condolence?

ON THE same day a prisoner in a Cheyenne jail captures the sheriff and a passenger train is held up in Des Moines by road agents. Whither are we drifting?

IT IS customary for lecturers who are short of funds to take as their text: "The Road to Wealth." It is to be hoped, however, that the man who lectures on "Brains" is not devoid of that commodity.

IF THE paving contractors have formed a combine to raise prices or to prevent competition or to foist inferior material upon the city, it becomes the duty of the mayor and council to protect the taxpayers.

THE signal service weather clerk of this city has indulged in a good deal of wild guessing within the past thirty days and his confidential advice to farmers to plant their corn crop within the next three days will be taken with a grain of allowance.

THE excise commissioners of New York City have decided that they cannot permit three saloons to be in existence on four corners. This is a strange position for New York excise commissioners to take. Do they want the sons of Tammany to perish of thirst?

SPAIN has at last removed the embargo on American pork, and now the American hog may be found on ice in all the markets of the world. But the genuine American hog is found only in the dining car on every limited express train on both sides of the ocean.

JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN, the newly elected president of Cornell university, is only 38 years of age. The old idea that a college president must be a venerable minister with a taste for metaphysics seems to have given way to the modern conception of a business man who can handle the faculty and secure funds for the institution.

THOSE who believe that the proposition of the Nebraska Central Railway company would, if carried out, be of great advantage to Omaha, should work zealously to promote that view. In order to make success certain the proposition must have the earnest and constant advocacy of its friends, because there will be an industrious opposition to overcome. The bridge monopoly will fight hard to defeat it.

IF THE action of the council in overruling the Board of Public Works in its specifications for paving material and the ten-year guaranty will result in delaying public works sixty days or longer it becomes a very serious matter. Our working people have already suffered great hardship by reason of the continued rains, and any needless delay of public works will aggravate the situation and cause greater hardship.

THE determination of the democrats to take no chances on New York in selecting their candidate for president is plainly apparent. "By no ingenuity of figuring," says the San Francisco *Examiner*, "can New York be dispensed with." THE BEE has frequently pointed out that the fight in the Empire state was rather significant. Every war-whoop of the factions there will have to be taken into the account in trying to make out where those thirty-six electoral votes are going.

ONE of the most preposterous things suggested to Uncle Jerry Rusk is the scheme to extend the telegraphic weather service to the farming communities in our suburbs. In the first place the farmers have no faith in the predictions and in the next place it would be idiotic to expect farmers to leave their fields in the busy season or when the roads are almost impassable and drive or ride five or ten miles to the telegraph station to find out what the weather guesser predicts for the same day. The average farmer is like the tree toad—he can come about as near guessing whether it will rain before nightfall as can the man who sits in the tower of the signal station.

WHO ARE THE MEN?

Who are the men that are organizing the opposition to President Harrison? To what extent have they any claims to be regarded as leaders of the republican party? What have they done to entitle them to a commanding voice in the party councils? These are questions which it is pertinent to ask at this time and to answer for the information of those who may not be familiar with the records of the chief plotters against the unity and harmony of the republican party.

In New York the head of the opposition to the president is ex-Senator Platt, who resigned his seat in the United States senate at the same time that Roscoe Conkling did, in 1881, on account of a controversy with the Garfield administration. Ever since that time "Me Too" Platt has been playing the role of a political boss in the Empire state, greatly to the injury and disadvantage of the republican party. His bossism has cost the party thousands of votes in every state campaign, and is in very great degree responsible for the fact that New York is now completely under democratic control. Platt has been dissatisfied with the distribution of federal patronage in New York, which he has not been permitted to control to his liking, and hence his opposition to the president.

The opposition of Senator Quay of Pennsylvania is well understood to spring from a like cause. He is essentially a spoilsman, and President Harrison incurred his displeasure the moment he declined to allow him to parcel out the federal offices in Pennsylvania at his pleasure. Nobody will deny that as the chairman of the national republican committee in the last presidential campaign Quay was a valuable man, but except this he has not been useful to the republican party. Thousands of republicans in Pennsylvania have denounced and repudiated his machine management of politics, and it was this which enabled the democrats of the state to elect the present governor. His public life has not been above reproach, and as a senator from Pennsylvania he has made no record that will be remembered to his credit.

A less important and influential member of the combination seeking to defeat the renomination of the president is Clarkson of Iowa, for although he has denied having anything to do with the movement, there is not a reasonable doubt that he is in it. The position of Clarkson is that of an ingrate, he having been recognized and honored by President Harrison far beyond his merit. As a state politician he has always been a dead weight upon the republican party of Iowa, and to his blind and blundering attempts at leadership are very largely due the democratic successes in the last two state campaigns.

Such are the men who are the real promoters and managers of the opposition to the president—political bosses whose dissatisfaction springs from the fact that they have not been able to do as they pleased with the administration. There are some others whose names are identified with the movement and have given it a character which the men named could not alone have done, but the arch-plotters, who are threatening the disorganization of the party, are the three whose record we have briefly referred to. They are in no sense representative republicans, nor are they men whose counsel the party can safely take. The disastrous consequences of their leadership in their respective states should be sufficient to warn the party at large that it could make no more serious mistake than to permit these men to direct its choice of a presidential candidate.

SILVER IN THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

Representative Harter of Ohio, a democrat, who is opposed to the free coinage of silver and made a strong fight against it in the house of representatives, professes to believe that there will be no serious controversy regarding silver in the national democratic convention. His opinion is that the convention will not declare for free silver, and that no very vigorous attempt will be made to induce it to do so.

Mr. Harter's confidence in this matter may be well founded, but if it shall prove to be correct the surrender on the part of the silver men will be most remarkable, in view of their ascendancy in the house of representatives and in the rank and file of the party. Everybody knows that a free coinage bill would have passed the house of representatives if it had not been for the nearly solid republican vote against taking up the measure, the democratic vote being largely in favor of such legislation. It was shown that the democratic representatives from a majority of the states were for free silver, and it appears reasonable to conclude from this that a majority of the platform committee of the national convention, which will be composed of one representative from each state, will be favorable to free silver. An estimate recently made by a democratic paper gives free silver a representation of at least twenty-seven on the convention committee on resolutions, with a probability of several more.

If this should turn out to be approximately correct, it is not easy to believe that there will be no fight over the silver question in the national convention. It would seem to be in the highest degree probable that what the advocates of that policy failed to do in the house of representatives they will endeavor to accomplish in the national convention; that is, commit the party fully to the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Practically this is what the vote in the house did, but it does not have the same binding character as would the declaration of the national convention in favor of free silver, and it is hardly conceivable that the silver men will forego such an opportunity to make a square issue before the country on this question.

Perhaps the selection of a candidate may have an important influence in determining action regarding silver. Obviously there will have to be accord between the platform and the views of the man chosen to stand on it. If the convention should select Cleveland it could not declare for free silver, and this is one of the considerations which appears to militate against the chances of the leading candidate. In any event, however, the democratic party cannot deceive the country as to its position regarding silver. The record made by its representatives in congress is conclusive evidence that a large majority of the party favors free and unlimited coinage, and this record will not be lost sight of in the presidential campaign whether the national convention makes any declaration regarding silver or ignores the subject as it did four years ago. It is impossible for the party to escape from the position in which it was placed by the large vote of its representatives in congress favorable to the adoption of a free coinage measure, and it will be called upon to answer to the country for that action regardless of what the national convention may decide to be expedient.

PROTECTION AND RECIPROCITY IN ENGLAND.

In his speech at Hastings last Wednesday Lord Salisbury made a distinct and unmistakeable admission of the disastrous results of free trade in England. The principle of taking in the goods of all nations duty free might be very noble, he said, but it was not business. "I would impress upon you," he continued, "that if you intend in this conflict of commercial treaties to hold your own, you must be prepared, if need be, to inflict upon nations who injure you the penalty which is in your hands, of refusing them access to your markets."

Coming from so high an authority as the prime minister such an admission of the disadvantages of free trade is very significant. "The power which we have most reason to complain of," says Lord Salisbury, "is the United States." And again: "The commodities from the United States must have a duty levied upon them just as English goods are dealt with over there."

Such utterances as these, just as a political campaign is about to open in England, show that Lord Salisbury is too shrewd an observer not to have noted the dissatisfaction that prevails in that country among the farmers and manufacturers as well as the toiling masses in consequence of the hardships occasioned by free admission of foreign goods. To some extent his lordship may have been fishing for votes for the tory party, but at any rate he expressed a sentiment that prevails extensively in England. The agricultural and manufacturing interests there have suffered and the laborer dependent upon those interests has been impoverished by the American protective system. While the volume of trade does not seem to have been reduced since the enforcement of the new tariff law in the United States the profits have fallen so low as to create alarm. In the nature of things such a cutting down of profits in a country where the producer's margin was not large before must result in a reduction of expenses, and here the workingman comes in. His condition was bad enough before, but now he must see his wages shrink still further because free trade will not permit his employer to pay a good price for work that brings an insignificant profit. English workingmen have long contended in vain for better pay, and now they seem to have learned for the first time that the free admission of foreign products is a factor in the problem. They have felt the effect and now they are clamoring for the removal of the cause. This is logical and the wonder is that they did not think of it long ago, for they suffered by free trade long before the McKinley bill was dreamed of.

The farmers, manufacturers and workingmen of the United States will find food for reflection in the utterances of Lord Salisbury on this subject. The English prime minister has not avowed himself in favor of a departure from the old system without full knowledge of the dissatisfaction which it has caused. He is a shrewd politician and may be depended upon to feel the public pulse to some purpose. He knows that the English workingman is beginning to perceive why the workingmen of America are able to save money from their earnings while he is barely able to live upon his slender wages. Our toiling masses complain sometimes because they are not better paid, but when they remember that prices generally are tending downward while their wages remain substantially unchanged, they realize that their condition affords no ground for discontent.

It is not to be expected that a tariff law will soon be enacted in England, for the sentiments of her prime minister will meet with a vigorous opposition, but it is significant that such sentiments should have been expressed at all.

INEXCUSABLE MISMANAGEMENT.

That there has been inexcusable mismanagement in the county court house for years is a matter of common notoriety. The collapse of the north wing of the county hospital and the wretched condition of the portion of that structure which remains intact afford striking proof of the reckless disregard of business methods on the part of former commissioners.

That is, however, not the only legacy of neglect and mismanagement that comes down to the present board from its predecessors.

It is reported on good authority that there is no record of contracts made with the county during the past twenty years; that the county hospital contracts are all in a heap; that the bonds of contractors are not cared for and no one knows where they may be found when wanted; that no record is kept of bills paid and that numerous instances have arisen where bills have been paid twice. Innumerable claims are made against the county, but no record is kept of their disposition. It is said that there is not a single ledger account kept in any county office. Warrants are drawn to the full amount of the general fund levy, when everybody knows that no more than 90 per cent of a levy in this county is, or has been, collectable. This practice has gone on for years, so that now there is a discrepancy of $72,000 as a result. In other states it is the practice to issue warrants to the amount of only 75 per cent of a levy, and any excess collected is turned into the sinking fund.

These are only some of the many irregularities and evidences of shiftlessness brought to public notice within a very recent period. Such a state of affairs calls for radical reform. The taxpayers of Douglas county have a right to insist that their affairs shall be conducted on business principles. It is not a question of poor pay and shortage of help. Each of the five commissioners draws $150 a month or $5 for every day in the year, week days and Sundays. It is expected that this pay is sufficient to enable them to devote their whole time, or at least six hours a day, to the supervision of the affairs of the county. We have a recorder of deeds, county clerk, treasurer and county auditor who, with their deputies and clerks, should be able to keep a complete set of books with checks and balances so adjusted as to prevent mistakes and misappropriations. If the commissioners find that these officers and their clerks are overworked or underpaid they have it within their power to relieve them and make sure that the county's records are kept as well as those of any first class business house.

This is expected by the taxpayers and nothing less will be satisfactory.

NO LEGS TO STAND ON.

When a democrat of the brains and character of Senator Gorman takes a position directly opposed to the attitude of his party upon an important question of national policy it is reasonable to suppose that some of those who have blindly and thoughtlessly endorsed the tactics which he opposes will begin to ask themselves if they have not after all been wrong. The Maryland senator's vigorous hostility to the foolish policy of his party concerning the maintenance of a navy in keeping with the dignity of this country will undoubtedly have a wide influence among sensible democrats and may put a stop to the silly talk about republican extravagance that has formed so large a part of the stock in trade of the democratic orators and press. If its own best men are to deny the justice of its position on the question of expenditures for the navy what is the democracy to do for campaign material?

With its unsavory river and harbor bill record and with men like Senator Gorman favoring the republican policy of liberal expenditure for the navy it is difficult to see where the democratic party is to find arguments to prove that it has a right to exist. A national campaign is coming on and the democracy seems to be very poorly prepared for the battle. Mere noise will not win this year. The people will demand sound arguments.

Tories Absorbing Truth.
Globe-Democrat.

Lord Salisbury declares that the free trade policy of England is not business like. That is the principal reason why the United States refuses to adopt it.

Rejecting the Looters.
New York Mail.

Billion legislation makes a billous people. And when a people's stomach is out of order its expressions at the polls are likely to be more forceful than pleasant.

A Fatal Impediment.
St. Paul Globe.

Governor Boles will not do for a candidate down east. It is reported there that he eats with his knife. It is dreadful, but if he knifes any one it will probably be himself.

Well Within Bounds.
Philadelphia Record.

Minister Reid's statement that he is not a candidate for the vice presidency, but would not shrink from it should it come his way, is well within the bounds of modesty. Some persons have thought that his purpose in coming this way was to meet the nomination and face it.

Doomed to Defeat.
Chicago Herald (dem.).

No one not besotted with faction spirit can longer hold that either of these candidates (Cleveland and Hill) can carry New York state. As no democrat of intelligence is known to exist who believes that the democracy can elect a president without the electoral vote of New York, the absolute necessity of finding the head of the ticket outside New York state would appear to be beyond discussion.

Calls for a Recount.
Philadelphia Record.

Evidence of Puritanical zeal against opening the Columbian exposition on Sunday still accumulates. It is stated, on authority, that petitions containing nearly 400,000 names have been sent to congress from Rhode Island alone demanding closure of the exposition on Sunday. As the population of Rhode Island was only 345,506 in 1890 such an accumulation of names to a Sabbatarian petition affords proof of remarkable industry and zeal in its pious colporteurs.

The Sad House Statesman.
St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Congressman McKeighan of Nebraska is said to take rank as the ugliest man in congress. The experts have not yet decided who is the most monumental ass, there being so many in the class.

Philadelphia Times.

Congressman McKeighan of Nebraska lives in a three-roomed frame house which is roofed with board, upon which a covering of sods is placed. The family goat has the run of the place and has a high old time of it, except when it tumbles down the chimney.

Great Is Saunders County.
Wahoo Wasp.

Sunday's BEE devoted considerable space to Saunders county, her advantages and resources, together with a short sketch of her cities and towns, and the testimony of about fifteen of her citizens who have made snug little fortunes for themselves by tilling the soil. These testimonials were obtained by a representative of THE BEE, who visited this county and interviewed the men personally and published as near as possible their own words. During the past two months THE BEE has published testimonials from the farmers in many counties of the state, and they have all been similar to those of our Saunders county farmers. THE BEE has been to considerable expense in securing these testimonials and the only remuneration it has received for its work has been the sale of a few extra copies of the papers containing them. Of course all farmers have not been as successful as some of those who have been interviewed by THE BEE representative, but there are hundreds in every county who have done equally as well to where there has been one that has failed. You may go to any county in any of the great agricultural states of the Mississippi valley and you will find as large a per cent of farmers who have failed as you will in any of the eastern counties of Nebraska. In proportion to the population you will find as many wealthy famers in Saunders county as you will in any of the best counties of Iowa or Illinois. The Saunders county farmers are, in fact, better off than their eastern brethren, for a large majority of them started in here fifteen years ago with no capital whatever, while a large majority of the Iowa and Illinois farmers at that time owned their farms and were confortably fixed besides.

COMMENT ON THE CONFERENCE.

Kansas City Star: Kansas City was honored yesterday at Omaha by the election of Rev. Dr. Jesse Bowman Young of the Grand Avenue Methodist Episcopal church as editor of the Christian Central Advocate at St. Louis. Dr. Young is admirably equipped for the position to which the general conference has called him. He is a man of wide travel and extensive reading and possesses a comprehensive knowledge of men and affairs both in and outside of the church.

Kansas City Star: The early itinerancy was not without its serious discomforts to the ministry, but it encouraged and compelled a wholesome activity in the church, which kept alive the spiritual zeal which rendered Methodism such a great moral power in the land. The continued modification of the itinerant plan probably presages its final abandonment and a closer conformity to those other modern usages and innovations which began to find their way into the church of John Wesley with the advent of cushioned pews and stained glass windows.

St. Paul Globe: A strong effort is being made in the Methodist conference at Omaha to modify the specifications of the discipline in regard to amusements. The memorial presented on the subject has the support of many of the bishops and clergy. Its purport, however, is somewhat misunderstood. It is not a dispensation to older members to dance, attend theaters or indulge in amusements that have been deemed obnoxious to Methodist decorum. It is not the discontent of the young members at not being allowed to dance and play cards at their social diversions. Nor do the bishops who advocate the change have feet aching to be moved to the music of the fiddle. The effort is to return to the rule of the early time. Until within the past two or three decades the only interdiction of the discipline was of such amusements as "could not be taken in the name of the Lord."

St. Paul Pioneer Press: The Methodist brethren who met in earnest conclave at Omaha last Sunday were in danger of overlooking, in their exceeding zeal for the preservation of the integrity of the Sabbath, the precept laid down for them long ago, that that day was created for man. If correctly reported, their intention is to put out all their efforts, as individuals and as a religious body, toward securing the closing of the World's fair on Sunday. * * * Admitting, as a willing concession to the strenuous workers against the Sunday opening, that Chicago's guests would be better off if they could be induced to spend their Sundays while there in the Chicago churches, it is impossible to suppose that the majority of them, or even any considerable portion of their number, would so dispose of the day under existing circumstances. There is an ancient belief that idleness and mischief are most harmonious coadjutors. Who dare affirm that Chicago herself, and the majority of her visitors during the fair, would not be actually, as well as theoretically, wickeder for Sunday closing than for Sunday opening?

SMILE PROVOKERS.

Washington Star: The Chinese question, as it appears in the mission schools taught by pretty girls, seems to be, "You mally me?"

New York Herald: "What made that waiter come down from his high horse?" "Why, I tipped him."

Philadelphia Record: A wild western critic recently wrote of Patti: "There is no bucking up against the fact that she is one of the neatest chirpers now chirping."

In the Furniture Store—Lady—What has become of those handsome sideboards you had when we called last? Salesman (bashful, yet gratified)—I've shaved them off again, miss.

New York Commercial: Crazy Woman is the Wyoming town from which the rustlers are starting on their extra roundup. But in the state where the sex first enjoyed the ballot as a joke, where on earth could the people have obtained the idea of naming their town?

A FUNNY THING.
Cloak Review.

A woman is a funny thing;
She starts with but a dime,
And shops all day. Yet strange to say
She gets home every time.

You do not understand how this
Can be. Yet wait until
Next month from every place she's been
You get a whopping bill.

Then, as you gnash your teeth, you will
In agony exclaim:
"A woman is a funny thing,
But gets there just the same."

Kate Field's Washington: Pretty Teacher—I shall be thankful when vacation comes, for lately my head has been so full of figures that there's no room for anything else.

Puniegh (gallantly)—Yet one would never speak of you as a figurehead.

THE VANISHED DAYS.
New York Herald.

I grieve for the vanished days of yore,
When a barefooted boy I ran about,
And we played upon the rocky shore
And—over
the
fence
was
out!

Washington Star: People should not allow the belief that beauty is skin deep to lead them to decorate the sidewalk with banana peel.

Bradford Era: A mean man will do almost anything to beat a neighbor, but you never heard of a man mean enough to beat a neighbor's carpet.

ANOTHER VIEW OF IT.
Chicago Tribune.

When the dreary drizzle drizzle
Lasts for weary, weary weeks,
Making life a wretched fizzle,
Making oceans out of creeks,
What a bore to press the pillow
Of a cottage chamber bed,
And to listen to the ever-
Lasting raindrops overhead!

Boston Transcript: A jockey just before he mounts a racer is the most stupendously serious and the most morbidly dignified being on earth.

Philadelphia Record: It is remarkable how healthy and strong the sprinters are, considering what fast lives they lead while training.

Elmira Gazette: Jagson says that when it comes to stumping the country the campaign orator isn't in it with the forest fires.

THE PHILOSOPHER TALKS.
Puck.

THE PESSIMIST.

I always pity the pessimist;
His sadness makes me shiver,
And always wish that I could give
Him something for his liver.

THE OPTIMIST.

The optimist is one who thinks
That all is for the best—
And, thinking himself the best, cares not
What's suffered by the rest.

THE EPICUREAN.

"Be merry, eat and drink, my friends!"
The epicurean cries;
And stuffs and gorges until he
Of indigestion dies.

THE STOIC.

The stoic cultivate a face
A yard in length at least,
And with a sad, dyspeptic look—
Sits down at pleasure's feast.

THE TRUE PHILOSOPHER.

Of all the world's philosophers
I hold that one the best
Who simply presses the button
And lets luck do the rest.

WASHINGTON'S BAD WEATHER

It is Worse Than Nebraska's and the People Are Very Tired of It.

READY TO BE RID OF THE CONGRESS

Cheeseparing Will Continue, However, to the Disgust of Busy People — Who Writes Bryan's Press Notices—Nebraskans at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 22.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Washington's climate is noted for its startling changes. They are even more rapid and bewildering than the tergiversations of politicians at the national capital. One week we have rain followed by snow and slush. Another day ushers in spring. Then we have a touch of Arctic cold again, finally winding up with a sample of summer which makes one exchange his ulster for a duster and swop a cap with ear tabs for a white beaver. Just at present the city is sweltering in almost summer heat. The two houses of the capitol, in spite of the great fans which pump millions of feet of presumed cold air into the chambers, are uncomfortably warm. In a short time it will be even more difficult to get a quorum than it has been to hold it during the races and opening of the base ball season.

Everybody is disgusted with the weather and everybody and their friends are disgusted with a congress which is only protracting its session for the sake of making political capital, whose performances up to date with the appropriation bills have soured the conservative men of all parties and shades of political opinion. Mr. Holman is holding the reins firmly and with 150 majority at his back and the whip of the great appropriations committee in his hand is able to drive his team of bogus economy rough shod over all opposition. There is certainly going to be trouble before the appropriations bills reach the president. The senate will insist that the democratic party shall not be permitted to make a showing of false economy by crippling all the departments of the government for six months and passing deficiency bills next year after the campaign is over. There has never in the history of the government been such a reckless cutting down of appropriations, entirely disregardful of the absolute needs of the public interests. But the leaders of the house with a subservient majority imagine that a comparison of the small amounts voted at the first session of the Fifty-second congress with the properly larger appropriations made by the Fifty-first will pass current with the country as evidence of an economical and thrifty conduct of the government. Senator Allison and his committee of the senate will see that proper additions are made to the appropriation bills and that such conferees shall be appointed as will struggle to protect the clerks of the government from again becoming the prey of the "ten-per centers" while waiting for the deficiency appropriation to pay their salaries.

The news from the Nebraska convention at Kearney was received with satisfaction at the national capital among republicans who are interested in the state and who were extremely apprehensive that there would be a bitter factional struggle over the selection of the delegation to the Minneapolis convention. There is a hope and belief expressed by Nebraskans in Washington that the party will pull earnestly and strongly together in the coming campaign, not only polling its full vote, but attracting to it many of those who have strayed away from it and after false gods. The instructions for Harrison were confidently expected. Whatever may be chilling in the president's personality, there is no question of his remarkable executive ability, of his perfect integrity of purpose, and of his phenomenal equipment for the duties which he has been called upon to perform. Most of the opposition can be traced directly to disappointed applicants for office, or equally disappointed political bosses disgruntled at the failure of the president to adopt their suggestions. At the same time it is equally certain that the conservative business interests of the country are behind the president, and look to him as the only man in the republican party who, in case of re-election, could be depended upon to maintain the national credit against assault at home and from abroad.

The opposition to President Harrison has been struggling vainly for three weeks to find a stalking horse for the Minneapolis convention. Up to date they do not seem to have succeeded. One by one the suggested candidates have pleasantly declined to be used for this purpose. Several of them are now working earnestly for the president, among them being Senator Cullom of Illinois, Senator Allison of Iowa and Senator John Sherman of Ohio. It is not believed that any combination could be made which could break into the strength of the support already openly pledged to the nomination of President Harrison. Mr. Platt of New York is said to have hopes of holding together the New York delegation, together with those of several other states, not instructed, until such a time as a new card can be sprung. But neither Mr. Platt nor Mr. Hatton have as yet been able to figure out who that man will be. The rumor now is that no definite plan of campaign will be decided upon until the Saturday before the Minneapolis convention. Most of the leaders are then expected to be on the ground ready to make combinations and swaps. The Chicago convention is not, however, likely to be repeated. The colored delegation from the south will probably not find as strong inducements offered them to stray from their allegiance as they did four years ago in the unfinished Auditorium by the side of Lake Michigan. General Alger, though he has not up to date formally declined being considered as a candidate, is understood not to be so anxious for a fight against the administration as he was prior to the publication of his army record, which, while it contains absolutely nothing discreditable to himself, puts a weapon in the hands of enemies which they have already used to his disadvantage, and which would undoubtedly be still more extensively used in a campaign in which he headed the national ticket and appealed to the soldier vote as one of the elements of his strength.

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Neither of the Nebraska senators will be at the Minneapolis convention. Senator Paddock dislikes crowds and says he has too much work to do to get away. Senator Manderson expects to return from his flying visit to Nebraska before the 1st of June, and does not propose to make another trip west after his return.

Senator Manderson thinks that the battle this fall must be fought out on the same lines as that of four years ago, and that an educational campaign on the tariff will produce good results. Senator Paddock, who is not the advocate of as high a tariff as Senator Manderson, believes that the party should be extremely conservative in their pronunciamento of eulogy on the McKinley bill and contraction of the currency. Both senators expect to take the stump for the republican ticket in Nebraska if their public duties will permit.

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To those who are on the ground, the talk about the possibility of Mr. Blaine being the nominee of the Minneapolis convention is absurd. "Mr. Blaine will not under any possible contingency accept a nomination," said one of the New York "big four" the other day. "He is not only not a candidate, but he will positively and absolutely decline to be a nominee. He is convinced that a year in the white house would result in a white house funeral, and he has no ambition to make a president out of a vice president. The spasmodic attempts to resuscitate the Blaine boom are ridiculous. They do not please the secretary of state and they hurt no one else."

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Charles J. Greene of Omaha was here this week for a day or two. I saw him "tooting" in the White Lot in Senator Manderson's handsome dog cart, with the senator handling the ribbons. Charley says that Nebraska's republican harmony is of a consistency thick enough to cut with a butcher's cleaver, and that the ointment which poured down Aaron's beard is not "in it," metaphorically speaking, alongside of the situation. Speaking seriously, he added that the republicans would present a united front to the enemy this fall and relegate all factional differences to the rear. Mr. Greene is quite a frequent visitor to Washington during the sessions of the supreme court. He is a great admirer of Justice Brewer.

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A newspaper man showed me a curious thing today. It was a well written puff of a congressman by a congressman. It spoke of the eloquent and talented Mr. Bryan, or some such be-adjectived phrase, and it was in Mr. Bryan's own handwriting. William Jennings has been doing so much of this sort of self-advertising that he is a laughing stock on newspaper row. He is a spoiled child with the gift of gab and small intellectual resources upon which to draw for reserves. But he has a surpassingly large estimate of his own importance and sense enough to see that only printer's ink can convince unknown readers that his own footings show up a five-figure total.

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After all how much printer's ink does for mediocre statesmen. Look at William S. Holman for instance, one of the cheapest two-for-a-cent demagogues ever in congress, who has ridden into fame on the rollers of the perfecting press. Take Jerry Simpson, whose presumed denuded feet gave him a prominence which he has been unable to sustain. Look at the bewhiskered Peffer of Kansas, who was wittily characterized by John J. Ingalls as "one of those cadavers who rise to the surface after an explosion." Their names are legion. Some of them are shrewd advertisers, others are shrewdly advertised. Tim Campbell of New York, Tom Ochiltree of Texas, Vaux of Pennsylvania, Riddleberger of Virginia—the list is ten feet long. Nothing is so fatal to prominence as newspaper silence. Nothing so provocative of votes as laudatory press notices.

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I suppose by this time that Judge H. J. Davis has returned to Omaha. He spent a week in the capital, his first in the metropolis of the Potomac. I ran across him one day at Marshall hall shedding tears over a large flat tombstone which he imagined covered the remains of Chief Justice John Marshall, but which in reality was erected to his fourth cousin, Tom. Judge Davis did not thank his informant for disillusionizing him. The judge declined to talk Nebraska politics while in Washington and devoted his time to studying national questions from the galleries of the two houses. I am afraid that he was not much impressed with the statesmanship of the house, and unconsciously compared it with the city council in the old traditionary days, when Barney Shannon held sway and the old city hall, where the Commercial National bank now stands, echoed to the eloquence and the billingsgate of the old regime.

W. E. A.

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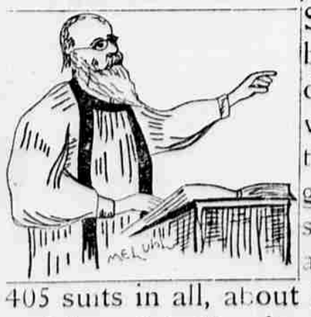

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