THE DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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Sunday, February 12	26,095
Monday, February 13	25,635
Tuesday, February 14	23,778
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Thursday, February 16	23,784
Friday, February 17	23,911
Saturday, February 18	24,484

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 18th day of February, 1893.
(Seal) E. N. BOVELL, Notary Public.

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OUR legislature is squandering time in instructing the next congress what to do with the Union Pacific instead of devoting all its energies to railway regulation which is its own function.

PARTIES who claim to be informed assert that one-third of all the passengers carried on the Burlington road in December were deadheads. If this be true the company could have reduced passenger rates to 2 cents a mile and made money by making everybody pay. Now, will the legislature do its duty, abolish the pass system and pave the way for cheaper passenger rates for everybody?

THE superintendent of the electric light works in Chicago says that if the city was permitted to furnish electric lights to individuals in addition to lighting the state and city buildings it could furnish arc lights at one-half and incandescent lights at one-third the prices charged by private corporation. If this statement is true it is worthy of notice. Every city in the United States is paying more for its electric light service than it is worth.

NEARLY all the delegates to republican and democratic state conventions are carried back and forth on free passes. Two-thirds of the legislature rides on free passes. Nearly all the county officers and nearly all the prominent lawyers have annuals over the different railroads. Why are the railroads so liberal in distributing passes? Manifestly for the purpose of dominating the state through the machinery of parties. Will the legislature redeem its pledge and enact an anti-pass law?

THE last of the generals of the confederacy is dead. General Beauregard was one of the ablest soldiers in the rebellion, and few on either side achieved greater distinction. As a military engineer he was perhaps unsurpassed among his contemporaries, while as a commander in the field he had not many superiors. Still there were other men in the confederate army who achieved more brilliant success. Beauregard commanded the attack on Fort Sumpter, and no man was more ardently devoted than he to the confederate cause. His place in military history is high.

EIGHT hundred and forty passes and conductors' checks were issued to men and women who attended the Grand Army encampment at Fremont. Most of the passes were distributed by the lieutenant governor and his man Friday, who sits on the right of the throne when the senate is in session. The palpable object of this gift distribution was to utilize the influence of the Grand Army of the Republic in politics and to manipulate its election of officers to suit the interests of the corporations. Will the legislature abolish the pass system, which is pernicious and demoralizing in its influence.

THERE will be universal sympathy with Governor McKinley in the financial disaster that has come upon him, the result of his too confiding generosity to an old friend. Not only will the accumulation of years, a modest estate, be swept away, but the inheritance of his invalid wife is to go also toward the payment of the obligations. Even with this there will still remain an amount unpaid which for some years will be a mortgage on Mr. McKinley's income, unless the creditors release it. The determination of Governor McKinley to pay every dollar for which he is bound is highly creditable to him, but the world would not esteem him less if he should leave his wife's inheritance untouched.

THERE is an opposition to the proposed annexation of the Hawaiian islands which is not at all partisan, but embraces senators of both the great parties. It includes those who believe that it would be dangerous to start upon a policy of territorial acquisition, particularly when the territory to be acquired is so remote, and it embraces others who think that too much haste has been exhibited and that the question should be considered with greater deliberation. Both reasons are sound. The annexation of the Hawaiian islands would be such a radical departure from the traditional policy of this government that the tendency of such action could not be otherwise than dangerous. As to the other consideration, the haste exhibited to get possession of the islands, without giving the representatives of the native population a chance to be heard, does not comport with the dignity of this great country. It is unnecessary and unseemly. The opposition may not be strong enough to defeat the scheme of annexation, with which some statesmen seem to have become infatuated, but none the less the reasons for it are sound and valid.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

Today is the one hundred and sixty-first anniversary of the birth of George Washington. It will not be generally observed with the public demonstrations which a generation or more ago usually marked its celebration. The old method of commemoration is not popular now, but the birthday of the "Father of his Country" is not forgotten nor neglected. It has been appropriately remembered in the schools of the nation, making an impression upon the minds of the young which will tend to make them good and patriotic citizens. It will be remembered at numerous gatherings where the imperishable lessons to be derived from the life and political counsel of Washington will be repeated, inspiring renewed devotion to republican institutions and strengthening the popular patriotism. It is well that on this day all classes of our people should give some serious thought to that great character in American history to whom all nations pay the homage of respect and admiration.

There will perhaps never be a time in the career of the republic when the American people cannot beneficially consult and study the admonitions and the example of George Washington. The world has long conceded that as the apostle of freedom, as the pure and incorruptible patriot, and as the wise and unselfish ruler, his is the most illustrious figure in all profane history. Such is the testimony of the greatest men of modern times, and the relentless hand of the iconoclast has failed to take from this first of Americans a single one of the attributes which commend his name and memory to the love and reverence of his countrymen. The address in which Washington announced his permanent withdrawal from public life is a fountain of wise and patriotic counsel to which the American citizen cannot too often recur. Addressed to a few millions of people just entered upon the perilous task of building a nation, it is as a whole as applicable today, when that nation has grown in domain, population, wealth and power vastly beyond anything conceived of by the founders of the republic, as it was when it was written. Both in its admonitions and in its warnings the "Farewell Address" of Washington is still vital with wisdom and instruction. The value of national union is most earnestly enforced, and the danger of sectional division forcefully presented. He warned his countrymen against the founding of parties on geographical discriminations and against "the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally," which he declared "serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration."

In no respect is this address of Washington more valuable than in what it counsels regarding the policy to be pursued by the republic in its relations and intercourse with other nations. "It is our true policy," it says, "to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world." The tendency has been, and it is stronger now than ever before, to disregard the admonition of Washington in this most important respect, and there is great danger that the nation may drift far away from the course pointed out by Washington as the only safe one to pursue. Time has most amply vindicated the wisdom of his counsel and there can certainly be no mistake in continuing to be guided by it.

NO BONDS WILL ISSUE.

At a meeting of the cabinet yesterday it was decided not to issue bonds for the purpose of strengthening the treasury gold reserve. This, it may safely be assumed, disposes of the question so far as the present administration is concerned. There has been such diversity of statements and rumors on this subject during the past two weeks, all tending to confuse and unsettle financial circles, that the final decision will undoubtedly be received with a sense of relief by all interests concerned.

It is well known that the president has steadily opposed the proposition for an issue of bonds. He naturally desired to avoid if possible, increasing the public debt during his administration. An excellent record has been made in the reduction of the debt, over $337,000,000 having been paid off, an amount more than $60,000,000 in excess of the reduction under the preceding administration, and although in order to do this the surplus was wiped out, the president wished to keep the record unimpaired. Another and perhaps stronger reason for his opposition to an issue of bonds was his belief that the run on the treasury for gold has been mainly due to a conspiracy of speculators and bankers, and it is quite probable that he had substantial grounds for this view. At any rate it was a strong conviction with him and he determined not to yield to what he regarded as an attempt to coerce the government into a confession of insolvency, which would inevitably be more or less damaging to its credit. Doubtless no one is more anxious to maintain the credit of the government than President Harrison, and if he had believed the emergency demanded it would have acquiesced in the bond proposition, which there is reason to believe Secretary Foster has, for some time, favored, but the president has at no time felt that the situation required this.

Within the past few days the conditions have somewhat improved. The receipts of gold by the treasury have increased, while there has been no growth of demand. At this time the treasury has an ample supply of gold to meet the call upon it for this week, provided it is no greater than for several weeks past, and it is not believed that it will be. It is highly probable that if there is a conspiracy, as alleged, at the bottom of the gold export movement those engaged in it will, now that a final decision has been reached in the question of issuing bonds, conclude to abandon any further operations against the treasury and the credit of the government. Whether mercenary or political reasons, or both, have been at work to produce the existing situation, the promoters must by this time see the futility of their efforts. There has been no intimation as to what course the incoming administration may pursue in this matter. Mr. Carlisle has been in almost daily consultation with Secretary Foster and is consequently entirely familiar with the situation. His information has undoubtedly been communicated to Mr. Cleveland. It is reasonable to assume that a policy will be decided upon to take effect as soon as practicable after the new administration comes into power, but there has been no outgiving to indicate what it may be.

A REVENUE COMMISSION.

The revenue laws of Nebraska ought to be revised. This is admitted on all hands as necessary to secure a juster distribution of taxation. Under existing conditions a great deal of property that should be taxed escapes altogether, while other property does not pay its proper proportion of taxation. The burden of supporting government is thus unequally divided and the great body of farmers and small property owners are compelled to bear the larger share of it. Such a state of affairs should not be permitted to continue longer than is necessary to provide a remedy.

It is the duty of the present legislature to provide for a commission to revise the revenue laws of the state. It cannot undertake that task itself with any probability of performing it in a thorough and satisfactory manner. It is a work to be done by practical men who know something about the principles of taxation and who can devote whatever time might be necessary to a careful examination of the revenue laws of the older states whose operation has been approved by long experience. Such a commission could study the statutes of Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, for example, and from these it should be able to formulate revenue laws that would be just in their operation and insure an equitable distribution of taxation. Such a commission should consist of not more than three members and should be nonpartisan. The period of its existence need not be long, so that the expense involved would not be great. If it were not practicable to make the revision within the legal lifetime of this legislature a recess might be taken before the expiration of that time until a date when the commission would be able to report, reserving say one week for consideration and action on the report by the legislature. The matter is of sufficient importance to justify doing this and obviating the necessity which there would otherwise be of waiting two years longer for a revision of the revenue laws. The gain to the revenue of the state by adopting this course would repay many times the cost.

The existing revenue laws of Nebraska, besides the injustice they do to a large majority of our people in the unequal distribution of taxation, are a drawback to the state, for the unfair operation of such laws tends to check material progress. A reform in this direction is most urgently demanded, and the present legislature will be derelict if it fails to provide for a commission to make a thorough and intelligent revision, guided by the best experience of the older states, of our revenue laws.

HOKE SMITH'S APPEAL FOR HARMONY.

Mr. Hoke Smith of Georgia, who is to be secretary of the interior in the next administration, realizes that there is serious division in his party and has made an appeal for harmony. Speaking to his fellow citizens of Atlanta, he said that "in unity alone will we find democratic strength," and he urged that if there are differences upon the tariff and upon financial questions "one line must be found and those of us who do not entirely agree with it must yield, because by such means only can we accomplish any result whatever." Herein we get a suggestion of Mr. Smith's idea of statesmanship, but granting that the counsel he gives is wise, what is the prospect of its being followed?

Take the financial question. For weeks Mr. Cleveland put forth every effort through the agency of his most trusted friends to induce the democrats in congress to repeal the silver purchase law and save his administration the responsibility of having to deal with this perplexing question. They refused to do this, and in doing so they proposed no alternative that would have made the silver problem less troublesome to the incoming administration. A majority of democrats in both branches of congress put themselves in uncompromising opposition to the wish of the president-elect in this matter, regarded by Mr. Cleveland himself as of the first importance. Who will make the concession necessary to harmony when this question is before the next congress, probably called in extra session to act upon it? Will the anti-silver men recede from their position or will the pro-silver men yield something, and which element shall define the one line where both can meet and agree? Obviously the task of establishing harmony in the democratic party on this question is going to be an extremely difficult one.

As to the tariff the promise of harmony is not much better. The members of the cabinet thus far announced are not of one mind on the subject. At least one of them is an uncompromising free trader. Mr. Cleveland has selected his secretary of the treasury with a view to the preparation of an administration tariff bill. There are indications that it is not the intention of Mr. Cleveland to go to the extreme in carrying out his policy of tariff reform. His views, whatever they may be, will undoubtedly be acquiesced in by his cabinet. There will probably be no great difficulty in finding a line upon which the next president and his heads of departments can stand in perfect harmony. But how will it be with the radical tariff reformers in congress and the democrats in that body and outside of it who believe, and who represent constituents who believe, that the principle of protection is unconstitutional? How far will Mills, Breckinridge and others of like views regarding the tariff be willing to go in surrendering their opinions for the sake of harmony? Presuming they are sincere and conscientious in their convictions, will they endeavor to fix the line on which the factions shall meet, or will they complacently allow the more conservative element of the party to do this?

The division in the democratic party on leading questions which Mr. Hoke Smith frankly admits and the dissatisfaction with some of the cabinet selections are conditions which promise to give the incoming administration a great deal of trouble. Meanwhile it is safe to assume that Mr. Cleveland will pursue his way in characteristic fashion, showing that he has more confidence in himself than in the leaders of his party.

IN THE HANDS OF RECEIVERS.

The Reading railroad company, the backbone of the anthracite coal combine, has passed into the hands of receivers. The prediction was made months ago by excellent financial authorities that this corporation would soon find itself in straits in consequence of the steady impairment of its credit due to popular opposition to the coal monopoly in which it is engaged and its policy of reaching out for the control of more railroads than its limited finances would justify. It is only a few weeks since the annual report of the Reading company was issued, and the affairs of the company were then stated to be in such a condition as to afford the brightest hopes for the future. But the stockholders who put faith in that report of President McLeod have since seen the stock of the company decline twenty points, and now they find a receivership appointed to administer the affairs of a concern which they were led to believe was securely on its feet a month ago.

Much has been said in praise of President McLeod's generalship in securing control of the railroads in New England territory which have lately been added to the Reading system, but it now appears that this move has turned out to be a source of weakness instead of strength. It has antagonized the capitalists interested in competing roads and they have broken down the credit of the Reading. This was not a difficult undertaking, for it is acknowledged even by President McLeod that his company was trying to carry on an enormous business on a capital that was not commensurate with the magnitude of the enterprise. The scheme of the Reading management was of the Napoleonic sort, and like all schemes of that character it was full of risk. While it was possible to deceive the ordinary stockholder with fairy tales of what the deal was sure to accomplish it was not so easy to convince the capitalists who were furnishing the money for these ventures. When they became suspicious and wary the stock of the Reading began to decline with great rapidity and the crisis could not be long delayed.

Will the public gain anything by this change in the fortunes of the Reading? So far as can now be seen the gain will be purely a moral one. President McLeod declares that the company is not insolvent and that it will continue to develop its system. The combination with the Lehigh Valley is to be maintained. The receivers will manage the affairs of the crippled corporation in the interest of the stockholders and creditors and there is little prospect that any change of policy in respect to the coal combination will result from the financial difficulties that have overtaken this hungry and venturesome corporation. But the fact that a universal popular prejudice against the monopolistic operations of this company had much to do with weakening its credit makes its present difficulty a virtual victory for the people. Sooner or later the combine must fall, and every enterprise connected with it and dependent upon it must share a like fate.

THE Boston *Herald* hits the nail squarely on the head when it says that "as for Canada, the United States will never lift a finger or spend a dollar or fire a shot to compel political union."

Provoking a Rustler Rebellion.
St. Louis Republic.

A Wyoming cattle company has let a contract for putting fourteen miles of wire fence around its pasture, and it will still have a good deal of pasture that is not under fence when the contract is complied with. It does not take much evidence of this kind to explain why the cattle companies and the homesteaders do not get along well together.

Wealth Useful but Not Indispensable.
Washington Post.

The idea that a cabinet officer is required to provide terrapin and champagne for the mob at stated periods, in order to uphold the government properly, is a vulgar and preposterous absurdity. Cabinet officers are expected to attend to their public duties, of course, but their domestic affairs are subject to no regulation of any kind except such as may be imposed by their own taste and inclination.

Profitless Protestations.
Globe-Democrat.

Despite the frantic protestations of the pirates of the Clarkson class and the Chinese thunder of Bate, Harris and a few other of the representatives of the paleozoic period of statesmanship, Judge Jackson's confirmation was unanimous. This is well. A republican president has placed a democrat on the supreme bench. Now let the incoming democratic president reciprocate by putting a republican in that tribunal when the next vacancy occurs.

A Picture of Prohibition.
New York World.

Neal Dow estimates that there are 2,000 habitual drunkards in Maine, and that to cure them by the Keeley process would cost $250,000. He thinks this "pretty expensive for four weeks doctoring," and opposes the bill now before the Maine legislature, which provides for the treatment of habitual drunkards at state expense. But General Dow's admission suggests anew the propriety of trying high license in Maine. He has probably underestimated the number of habitual drunkards in that state, but 2,000 is a bad showing after nearly forty years of prohibition.

Populist Slanders.
Chicago Inter Ocean.

The populist leaders at Topeka threaten to adjourn the legislature before the supreme court can pass upon the question of the legality of the rump house. This would be a confession of weakness and a breach of faith. There is a written agreement to the effect that the question of legality be submitted to the supreme court, and the faction that seeks to avoid settlement or to evade the issue will make a fatal blunder. The populist leaders have been badly advised from the first, and it seems to have been the purpose of their opponents to give them rope and provoke them into hanging themselves on the spot.

American End of the Panama Scandal.
Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

It is plain enough that there is something, and probably a good deal, which some one wants to cover up in connection with the American end of the Panama canal business. All the signs are present. There is the reluctance of witnesses to testify. The congressional committee summons them to appear before it in Washington, and they do not come. One goes off on his yacht, another remains in Boston, and another keeps at home in New York. The only witness who does come is troubled with the familiar feebleness of memory which is so apt to attack intelligent and capable business men when investigating committees ask them awkward questions. The books which this only witness brings are, as usual, not the books which reveal anything.

No Pension for Ex-Queen Lil.
Chicago Herald.

We cut off pensioners of the alleged royal stripe when we carted company with the crown of Great Britain. We have had our full share of pension extravagance. That extravagance was due at least to considerations inherent in our own history and royalty was not comprehended even in its wide purview. We want no return to the poisonous methods that have encumbered the people of another country with a tax of $10,000,000 a year. We cannot touch royalty as any part of our institutions without betraying the sacred responsibility assumed by our progenitors when they cast off crowns and scepters and risked their lives in the undertaking. No royalties on the American pension list!

Howe's Assessors Bill.
Wayne Herald.

One of the best bills now before the legislature, and which has already passed the house, is that of Church Howe providing for a penalty for the undervaluation of property by precinct assessors. The bill provides that an assessor shall be fined from $50 to $200 for each and every offense. It is thought that it will pass the senate without any serious opposition. By the way, for a republican, Church Howe's head seems to be pretty near level, and his votes are generally given to the very best measures before the legislature. It is only when the party whip is cracked over his head that the Nemaha granger goes wrong.

NEBRASKA AND NEBRASKANS.

Tilden hopes to secure the broom factory which is now located at Plainview and employs eight hands.

Diller's new Methodist church, costing $2,800, has been dedicated and a revival service has at once been started in the edifice.

The Kearney Congregational church is stirring around after a pastor to succeed Rev. Dr. Askin, whose resignation has just been accepted.

Little Carl Kingsley of York don't know for sure how it happened, but his nose is broken and three teeth are missing, and he thinks he was kicked by a horse.

Rev. John Meckley and wife, who were married at Wahoo six months ago and started for Africa to do missionary work, died at their post at Mahara recently of fever.

In spite of the fact that his head was cut open, his shoulder blade broken and his arm fractured, as the result of coming in contact with a mill crane at Hardy, Frank Blanvelt is reported on the road to recovery.

A monster wild cat which has been raiding farm yards near Juniata was shot the other night by hunters who had been on its trail for some days. The animal is said to be the largest ever seen in that section of the state.

According to the Valparaiso Visitor a Saunders county young man has developed a queer mania or whatever you would call it. He has been a puzzle to physicians for years. He is affected by what he eats to such an extent that when he eats beef in about an hour he will become restless and wander out in search of the cattle and bellow as an ox and will get down on his hands and knees and eat grass like a cow. When he partakes of mutton his actions will be those of a sheep and he will bleat as plaintively as a little lamb. When he eats chicken he will go out and scratch for worms, which he devours with great relish. After eating fish he will run down to the slough and go in swimming.

Says the North Loup Loyalist: One would expect that the present dry and snowless winter would prove a severe test to winter wheat, of which an increasing acreage was sown last fall, but Mr. G. M. Petty, whom we interrogated on the subject a few days ago, reports his in apparently excellent condition, and his testimony is corroborated by a number of others. The wheat has not been covered by snow for a single day, but 2.26 inches of precipitation has taken place at this station since August 28, a period of 170 days, and if the winter wheat does well this season it would seem that the question of the adaptability of our climate to that cereal is satisfactorily settled.

A meeting of citizens at Crete resolved to take steps to discover, if possible, the fate of George D. Stevens, late cashier of the State bank of that place, which was closed in September last. He left home on August 19 and was last seen in Chicago the following week, since when nothing has been heard from him or his whereabouts. At the meeting a committee of eight was chosen to work in conjunction with the Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias to raise funds and institute a search for him. A very general sympathy is felt for his wife and two young children, one of whom has been dangerously sick. Mr. Stevens carried quite a large insurance on his life, which will benefit his wife and children in case he is dead and his death can be proven.

A shooting took place near Keene, Kearney county, which will result in the death of Billy Blanton. February 16 J. Keller left Broken Bow overland for Oklahoma. He took with him a young teamster named Billy Blanton. At the Kearney bridge they caught up with a man named Kettle and his son. The latter wanted to accompany Keller, but he drove on and left them. Sunday afternoon Kettle and his son again caught up with Keller and Blanton near Keene. Blanton and the Kettles were talking behind the wagon, when suddenly Keller heard a shot and a groan. He rushed around the wagon and found Blanton lying on the ground with a bullet in his skull. The Kettles pretended that it was an accident and hurriedly prepared to leave. Keller urged them to stay, and help take care of Blanton, but they refused and throwing a five-dollar bill on the ground left. Young Blanton recovered sufficiently to tell his story, and says it was an accident, but the actions of the Kettles puts another phase to it. They were caught at Red Cloud and taken to Minden to await results. Blanton will die. The bullet struck his finger, entered the palm of his hand, came out at the back of his wrist, struck him in the chin, passed under his tongue and lodged in the base of his brain.

JOKERS' CABINET.

Texas Siftings: Drinking rye won't help a man to attain a rye pole age.

Washington Star: "I have a grate future before me," said the grocer who was purchasing nutmegs.

Philadelphia Times: Between underground postal tubes and other inventions the time may come when a letter given to a man by his wife to mail may reach the box in something less than a week.

Somerville Journal: "I don't think it's wrong for a girl to kiss a young man, even if they aren't engaged, do you?" he asked.

And the telephone girl responded, absent-mindedly: "What number, please?"

"One, please."

Philadelphia Record: Gussy Saphead—So Winley has gone broke on the races. Well! well! there are more fools in the world than I thought. Whitman—Yes, and there is always one more than you think.

New York Ledger: "To whom are you writing, Grace?"

"To Lou Simpson. Shall I send anything from you?"

"Lou Simpson! I think that girl is simply horrid. I wish you wouldn't have anything to do with her. Well, send her my love."

Browning, King & Co's. Monthly: Twynn—What a loud bark Codling's dog has!

Triplett—Yes; it matches his trousers.

Detroit Tribune: "I assure you that I am innocent of the crime for which I am sent here," said the new prisoner. "Oh, get out!" yelled the warden. "Thank you. I shall be delighted," replied the unfortunate as he started for the door.

ROONEY REJUVENATED.

She's my sandwich,
I'm her ham,
She's my Lillie,
I'm her Sam.
Soon I'll annex her,
You may bet
Little Hawaii
Will be my pet.

THERE IS MONEY IN HOGS.

The farmers are a smilin' now,
They ain't goin' to the dogs,
Since they begun to realize
Eight cents a pound for hogs.

Good butter fetches 30 cents,
And hens eggs ain't much loss;
Corn is climbin' up the scale,
And so is wheat, I guess.

And since the farmers realize
Eight cents a pound for hogs
They don't feel a bit like goin'
To the 'tarnal, howlin' dogs.

J. M. G.

MERIT OF GROVER'S CABINET

In Most Cases the Office is Said to Have Sought the Man.

BUG EXPERT RILEY CLAIMS AN EXCEPTION

Declares That He Withdrew His Preference in the Interest of Hon. J. Sterling Morton in Return for Future Favors.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21.

One of the merits claimed for Mr. Cleveland's cabinet is that in every case the office has sought the man and not the man the office. There appears, however, to be at least one exception to the rule, and if certain revelations made concerning the agricultural portfolio are correct, Mr. J. Sterling Morton, who has been vigorously hunting the governorship of Nebraska for many years, evidently thought it his duty to be in the neighborhood while Mr. Cleveland was looking for a secretary of agriculture.

Report has it that Prof. C. V. Riley, the entomologist of the Agricultural department, when he heard of the selection of Judge Gresham to be secretary of state, decided to become himself a candidate for secretary of agriculture. Prof. Riley has in the past been an applicant for appointment as consul to Havre, basing his application upon his devotion to the personal and political fortunes of James G. Blaine, at that time secretary of state, and upon his loyalty to the republican party. If Judge Gresham were eligible to the cabinet Mr. Riley could see no reason why he should not be promoted from the position of the expert on bugs to the head of the Agricultural department.

As soon as Mr. Morton heard of this new aspirant for the office which was seeking him, he at once requested the entomologist to withdraw in his favor. Prof. Riley is himself the authority for this statement and for the further statement that in consideration for his withdrawal Secretary-to-be Morton is to have Prof. Riley appointed assistant secretary of agriculture.

Announced the Bargain.

Yesterday Prof. Riley astounded the present secretary, Mr. Willetts, by walking into his office and announcing that his appointment had been definitely agreed on and stating that he wished to become acquainted with the duties of the office. The assistant secretary of agriculture could not conceal his surprise, but of course treated the entomologist with every courtesy. Prof. Riley even sat down in Assistant Secretary Willett's revolving office chair, testing the merits of the spring cushions, and giving them his unqualified approval.

The office of assistant secretary of agriculture is one of especial interest to the scientists engaged in the bureaus of that department. It has been remarked as less of a political and more of a scientific and technical place than any other so near the cabinet itself.

Prof. Riley will be remembered as the man who declared to a committee of congress that he could make as good syrup for the table out of a pair of overalls or a doormat as ever sweetened a buckwheat cake, and that one of the most delicious articles of food was the Kansas grasshopper.

It may be that the feat of Prof. Baird in giving the American public a new food product, the carp, is to be supplemented by Prof. Riley's contribution to the American table of overall syrup and grasshopper a la creme. But, however that may be, Prof. Riley's calm announcement of the bargain between himself and the next secretary of agriculture can hardly fail to disturb the mind of Mr. Morton, and probably will be surprising news to the president-elect.

Miscellaneous.

In the case of Walter Broadbent from Mitchell, S. D., motion for review, Secretary Noble enters a denial.

The secretary reverses the judgment below in the mineral entry case of George E. Bretell against Joseph Swift from Rapid City, S. D., and refers it back for action.

Secretary Noble has denied the application for a writ of certiorari in the law case of Louis C. Grothgran against Joseph L. Johnson from Boise City, Idaho.

Today Assistant Secretary Chandler reversed the commissioner's decision in the homestead case of Henry Degering against William H. Farr from Bloomington, which cancels Degering's filing and accepts the final account of Farr.

Secretary Noble has denied the motion for review of the case of Amanda Watson of Neligh, Neb., which is against her. He says that "whatever rights Lucy A. Watson may have had lapsed during her lifetime, and that Amanda M. Watson has no right in the premises."

Superintendent of Immigration W. D. Owen has gone to Omaha for a few days on private business.

The president has granted a pardon in the case of Pliny Harlan, convicted in Iowa May 14, 1892, of violating the postal laws.

P. S. H.

WASHINGTON DAY.

Thousands of School Children Taught Lessons of Patriotism.

Many of the school houses of the city were clad in a holiday attire of bunting and flowers yesterday in honor of Washington, and the regular afternoon curriculum gave place to programs of exercises appropriate for the occasion. It was a day early, but in several of the schools the event was celebrated yesterday in order that the little folks might have the full enjoyment of their holiday today.

At the Lake street school exercises were held in all the rooms but two, and these united in a more elaborate program in the large room. The building was beautifully decorated with flags and bunting, the gift of Browning, King & Co. in the name of U. S. Grant post No. 110, Grand Army of the Republic, and each pupil wore a rosette of the national colors, which added to the general atmosphere of patriotism.

The rooms were densely packed with the parents and friends of the pupils, and they had reason for pride in the excellence of the entertainment which the children provided. After the salute to the flag the life of General Washington was outlined in a very well prepared essay by Harold Swain. John Holmes read an extract, "The Flag," and a piano duet followed by Misses Retta Henderson and Henrietta Scroggins. Miss Grace Porter recited "Jennie McNeal's Ride," and Roy Gillespie read a "Tribute to Washington." A piano solo by Miss Murial Homan preceded a recitation by Bert Corbett, and then Captain Kinzie sang "The Girl of Kildare" and responded to an encore. One of the most pleasing numbers was the recitation by Miss Dora Dunham, who rendered "Kentucky Belle" with exceptional success. Misses Marian Turner and Lulu Tuttle played a duet, and the exercises closed with "America," which was sung by the school.

Today's Celebration.

It is probable that Washington day will be more generally observed in Omaha this year than usual. The chief public celebration will be the parade this afternoon and the meeting at Exposition hall this evening, but several societies will observe the holiday with special exercises.

The committee in charge of the celebration desires the following statement published to correct possible misunderstandings:

"At the Exposition hall meeting on Wednesday evening all seats will be free, and everybody is cordially invited. The speakers announced will be present and will speak, and a literary and patriotic feast will reward those who attend. The parade will form at 1 p. m. at the corner of Capitol avenue and Fifteenth street, headed by the Seventh Ward band and a platoon of police, then the speakers of the evening and Mayor Bemis in carriages, followed by the various secret and patriotic orders in uniform or regalia. The second division will be headed by the Walnut Hill band, followed by citizens and children over 12 years of age. It is desired that as many as possible take part in the parade. All societies will report to the marshal of the day, G. A. Bennett, at the corner of Fifteenth and Capitol avenue at 1 p. m. sharp, and they will be assigned their places."

The postoffice will be closed after 10 a. m., and the carriers will be relieved from duty after making the morning delivery. Most of the city and county offices and many business places will be closed.

Patriotic Young Men.

The Young Men's institute will celebrate Washington day Thursday evening with an interesting program.

Miss Jane Goff will read an essay on Washington, and Mr. William P. Flynn will deliver an oration on the father of his country. Miss Gentlemen and Miss V. Rooney will contribute piano solos, Mr. James P. Ford a declamation and an address by P. J. Minahan.

All friends and well wishers of the society are invited to be present at its hall at 8 p. m.

At Leavenworth School.

The pupils of Leavenworth school were gathered in the assembly hall yesterday and celebrated Washington day with special exercises.

An address was made by Rev. A. J. Turkle, Abraham Bernstein recited "The Birthday of Washington," and the several classes gave appropriate quotations. These exercises were interspersed with a flag salute and several patriotic songs, in which all the pupils joined.

TRUTH: AN ACROSTIC.

Kirk Armstrong.

More than a hundred years a **G**o, a well known little lad
Received a little hatch **E**t as a present from his dad;
It was a funny plaything **t O** be given to a boy,
Because it made him look a **R**ound for something to destroy.
As soon as it was mornin **G**, went the little chap with glee,
Into his father's garden, wh **E** re he found a cherry tree,

On which he tried his hatchet. **W**hen his father sauntered out
He saw the tree was ruined, **A** nd for "George!" began to shout:
"My son," he said in sadnes **S**, when young Fauntleroy appeared,
"Who can have killed my c **H** erry tree, which to me was so endeared?"
"Father," the boy said proudly, "**I** cannot tell a lie.
I did it with my hatchet." **N** oble was the lad's reply.
There must have been bi **G** lying in the good old days of yore,
Or the people in the present **T** ime must lie a great deal more.
Else why should we all w **O** nder now because a little youth
Who wasn't yet a statesma **N** told his father just the truth?

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Hopkins.

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