# THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: To the Editor.

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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.

Parties leaving the city for the summer can have the Bee sent their address by leaving an order at this office.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, }
County of Douglas, }

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 27, 1893, was as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday, May 21 | 26,040 |
| Monday, May 22 | 23,813 |
| Tuesday, May 23 | 23,756 |
| Wednesday, May 24 | 23,748 |
| Thursday, May 25 | 23,942 |
| Friday, May 26 | 24,195 |
| Saturday, May 27 | 23,894 |

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 27th day of May, 1893.

N. P. FEIL,
Notary Public


### The Bee in Chicago.

THE DAILY and SUNDAY BEE is on sale in Chicago at the following places:
Palmer house.
Grand Pacific hotel.
Auditorium hotel.
Great Northern hotel.
Gore hotel.
Leland hotel.
Wells B. Sizer, 189 State street.
Files of THE BEE can be seen at the Nebraska building and the Administration building, Exposition grounds.

**Average Circulation for April, 1893, 24,281**

SECRETARY MORTON has returned to Arbor Lodge. Disgruntled office seekers will do well to keep off the grass.

THE death of Cyrus Fry, United States marshal of South Dakota, will be a sad shock to his multitude of friends throughout the west. He was one of the most popular men in the state.

HON. JOHN D. HOWE is a walking delegate to the anti-coal trust convention. When he comes back it is hoped he will be prepared to attack the local coal combine, which flourishes and waxes fat.

THE Wyoming oil fields are being boomed by the Denver papers. When the Standard Oil company sees fit to open them up to the commerce of the world, they will be opened, and not before.

OMAHA is still looking for a direct railroad into South Dakota. If the Northwestern will not close the gap between Hartington and Yankton an effort should by all means be made to secure a connection with the Hill system, which now penetrates the better half of South Dakota.

GOVERNOR FLOWER of New York has declined to appoint delegates to the anti-trust convention because it is against his principles, he says. The governor is doubtless in favor of permitting the trusts to continue to take water. He may think that sooner or later they will all drown themselves.

JAMES J. CORBETT has secured from a San Francisco physician a certificate that his liver is the natural size and that he is in sound physical condition. Now, if the noted knocker-out would secure a phrenological opinion as to the normal proportions of his head a solicitous public might rest more assured.

THE Omaha stock yards people and the stock commission men do not dwell together in unity. Manager Babcock recently demanded of them better bonds, and they have retaliated by demanding a reduction of office rents. Meantime the farmer is holding his stock, in hopes that the price will advance and that the commission men will migrate.

ONE E. A. Mears of North Dakota has been in New York, where he offered "securities" for sale with a chromo attachment. To every investor in a thousand dollars worth of his land mortgages he promised a free ticket to the World's fair. He did not meet with flattering success, but is long on newspaper notoriety. Out here in Nebraska we offer investors colored lithograph chromos in the shape of interest bearing coupons.

A CORRESPONDENT accuses THE BEE of talking about irrigation at long range and ignoring the work done in western Nebraska. This is unfair. No other other paper has had as much to say about the stupendous undertakings in the way of irrigation ditches in Nebraska. We have described them, advocated them and talked for more of them. Irrigation will redeem western Nebraska because it is profitable and in all respects feasible.

THE "outs" may again possess their suspense with patience while the president and his cabinet have their outings. Mr. Cleveland will take a sea voyage outward of Capes Charles and Henry next week; Postmaster General Bissell has already gone for a visit to Buffalo; Secretary Morton has left Washington to visit Chicago and Nebraska for a few days; Attorney General Olney has gone to Boston and Secretary Lamont will be away about the same length of time as the president.

PEOPLE who become excited by the reported discovery of new bonanza gold mines in remote sections of the country will display common sense by waiting to have these reports verified before rushing off in expectation of digging up a fortune in less than no time. There are undoubtedly as rich unknown mineral deposits as any hitherto discovered, but it requires capital to unearth them even when found. About as remunerative diggings as afford opportunity for a man of moderate means nowadays is the average corn field.

### REDUCED IMMIGRATION.

The statistics of immigration for the month of February, March and April, while showing an increase in the number of immigrants since the beginning of the year, when compared with the statistics for the corresponding months of last year, show a very decided falling off. The total immigration for the three months of the current year was, in round numbers, 130,000, while for the same months of 1892 it was 170,000. It is noted that while the total has declined there has been a notable increase in the number coming from some of the European countries, as from Germany, England, Ireland, Scotland, Sweden and Norway, and Italy. The month of April brought a very considerable increase, also, from Russia, Hungary and Poland, as compared with the preceding months of this year, though the total for these months was but little more than a third of the number from those countries for the corresponding months of last year.

It is probable that the figures for May and June will exceed those of April, which in round numbers were 75,000, but there is reason to believe that the total immigration for the year will be very much less than for 1892. It is thus made apparent that the greater restrictions imposed by the United States are having the expected effect, and the important question is whether they are operating to keep out the more desirable class of immigrants equally with those not so desirable, or with respect to whom there is the greatest amount of objection. An analysis of the statistics does not supply an altogether satisfactory answer to this question, but it is doubtless safe to say that the proportion of undesirable immigrants now coming into the country is smaller than for many years, and it is entirely probable that this will continue to be the case so long as the immigration regulations are, as strictly enforced as they have been for the last year or two. The people of European countries have become pretty familiar with the restrictions which the United States has imposed upon immigration and the extraordinary care that is being taken to enforce them, and this knowledge does much to hold back the undesirable classes from attempts to come here. At the same time the steamship companies have learned that they can no longer safely take such risks as formerly in accepting all sorts of people, and as a consequence are exercising greater care as to the character of the people they bring over. The system of soliciting emigrants, if not abandoned, is carried on with more circumspection than formerly. The fact that there is very little complaint now regarding the character of the immigration attests that a decided improvement in its general quality has taken place.

There has not recently been any intimation as to whether the next congress will be called upon to consider the question of further restrictions, but it is to be expected that an effort will be made to amend the immigration laws in this direction. It is a matter which offers to certain politicians the opportunity to make capital with their constituents and they will hardly allow a session of congress to pass without making an effort to increase the obstacles to immigration. With the south anxious to secure immigrants, however, it is not at all likely that these politicians will get much encouragement from a democratic congress.

### A LAME DEFENSE.

The effort of ex-Minister Stevens to defend and justify his course in Hawaii will not stand the test of fair and impartial examination. The fact that his action in ordering the American flag to be raised over the government building at Honolulu, at the same time ordering ashore marines from one of our naval vessels to support that action, was in effect repudiated by the last administration, is a sufficient answer to the attempt of Mr. Stevens to vindicate his conduct, which was in every respect unwarranted and unauthorized. There can be no honest difference of opinion as to what the plain duty of the American minister was in the circumstances. It was his right to take whatever precautions he deemed necessary to insure the protection and safety of American interests, but in order to do this he was not called upon to take sides with the revolutionary government, and give it the aid and support of an American protectorate, which he did when he caused the flag of this country to replace the Hawaiian flag and landed an armed force on Hawaiian soil. Having taken such proper precautions as were necessary to protect American interests he should have communicated the situation of affairs to this government and waited for authority from Washington as to what further action he should take.

This, however, was evidently too slow and deliberate a process for Mr. Stevens. He was undoubtedly in the secret of the revolutionary movement and heartily in sympathy with it, and imbued with the idea that it would be a great diplomatic achievement to secure the islands for United States, for which history would accord him the largest measure of credit. He usurped an authority entirely outside of and beyond his diplomatic functions. More than this, he adhered to the wrong position he had taken after he had been informed by this government that his action was disavowed so far as it proclaimed the paramount authority of the United States in the Hawaiian islands, thus ignoring plainly implied instructions from Washington. The Harrison administration was near the close of its term, there was uncertainty as to what the position of the incoming administration would be in the question, and Mr. Stevens determined to make the most of the opportunity which this state of affairs afforded to help the revolutionary cause. In all these respects his conduct was unprecedented, unwarranted and inexcusable.

Mr. Stevens is not suspected of having any personal interest in the annexation of the Hawaiian islands. It may be conceded that his motives in the matter have been entirely patriotic, that he sincerely believes that it would be a great acquisition to the United States to secure possession of this foreign territory, but this does not excuse his course as a minister of the United States, with well defined diplomatic duties and obligations as the representative of this government. As to what the ex-minister says regarding the desirability of annexing the Hawaiian islands it is not likely to make any change in the public sentiment on this question. He offers no better reasons for annexation than have been presented before and which have failed to convince most thoughtful and conservative people that it would be wise or safe for this government to depart from its traditional policy and enter upon that of incorporating remote territory. The advocates of annexation have exhausted their arguments and they are overbalanced and outweighed by the practical and the political considerations against annexing the Hawaiian islands.

### TAKE THE BROAD GAUGE VIEW.

Some members of the Business Men's association are taking a rather narrow view of the relations that subsist between the producer, tradesman and consumer. While they admit that the tin-pail brigade is the backbone of the tradesman they forget that the tin-pail brigade can only be permanently kept in a city where the necessaries of life are abundant and cheap.

The intrusion of the peddler whom the retail trader wants to fence out by high license is not an unmixed evil after all. In this city the peddler chiefly deals in fruits and vegetables which are perishable and would in nine cases out of ten go to waste on the hands of the commission house instead of furnishing the poorer classes with what formerly was a luxury and is now regarded as essential in every household.

The well-to-do classes patronize dealers who solicit orders at their doors and deliver goods at their houses. If it is wrong for the licensed peddler to hawk his wares in the open street is it right for the unlicensed dealer to hawk his wares from house to house by his hired clerk? True, the peddler pays no store rent, but he does pay house rent and, after all, does not seriously interfere with legitimate traffic. If he cheapens the price of bananas, oranges and grapes, or disposes of a few dollars worth of domestic articles of trifling price nobody is ruined. On the other hand the peddler is a consumer of things that he must buy from the butcher, baker and candlestick maker. He is a contributor to the income of other people and it takes all kinds of people to make a city.

It is altogether different when we come to consider the ruinous competition of cheap john supply houses that ship inferior wares from Chicago and St. Louis to Nebraska towns and undersell the local dealer. This class of middlemen contribute nothing to the general welfare or building up of a community. They draw from the towns, but never leave a penny, excepting, possibly, the amounts paid to hotels by their traveling salesmen.

AT THE recent meeting of the National Board of Fire Underwriters in New York the usual complaint of the unprofitableness of fire insurance was of course heard. The president of the association in response thereto urged as a practical means to increase the prosperity of the business, the reduction of expenses and increase of income. In view of the fact that the fire loss in this country for the year 1892 is reported at more than $151,000,000, and the actual amount of insurance paid by the companies exceeded $81,000,000, a very commonplace expedient would seem to be to curtail these heavy losses by taking greater precautions against fires. One of the surest means of accomplishing this would be by securing improvement in the construction of buildings, especially in the character of those used for commercial and manufacturing purposes. The report shows that the fire loss last year was a large increase over that of the year preceding. The building and legislative committees of the board could not more profitably engage their time than by devoting attention to this matter. The most disastrous fires occur principally in large towns and cities and is attributed principally to the faulty construction of the buildings. Wise municipal legislation in reference to the character and style of architectural construction, the increase of safeguards and improvement of fire-extinguishing service, greater precautions against the origin of fires and vigilance in the suppression of incendiarism are some of the matters that might profitably engage their attention.

The comptroller of the currency seems to be looking after the national banks with as much vigilence as the circumstances will permit, and it is not improbable that he may find a number throughout the country in the condition of the two in North Dakota which he ordered closed. The statement regarding these institutions indicates that there has been some very loose methods recently in connection with the organization of national banks, to say nothing of carelessness in their supervision. The evident purpose of the comptroller of the currency to discover the weak institutions cannot fail to have a wholesome effect. It is stated that the president is taking an earnest interest in the subject of bank supervision and intends to give the comptroller the fullest support in his efforts to improve the system of examinations, which quite generally has been very bad for some time. Not only are practical men only to be appointed as examiners, but they will be required to give closer attention to their duties. The reforms said to be contemplated are all judicious, but it will take time to institute them and some will have to await the action of congress. Sound and conservative bankers will welcome all changes in the direction of improvement.

IF YOU want to start any wildcat scheme of finance or commerce that may be devised by short-haired women and long-haired men, just locate in Kansas, where all the cranks in creation are allowed to experiment without let or hindrance. The latest of these crazy-quilt reforms is the scheme to substitute pasteboard checks for money and circulate the pasteboards among working people and farmers as mediums of exchange redeemable with commodities of equal pasteboard value. This mode of exchanges will soon restore to us the primitive system that antedates Noah and his ark. The next thing we expect to hear of is the manufacture and export of Kansas pasteboard exchange checks by the thrifty and ingenious Connecticut Yankee who has been driven out of the green goods business by Uncle Sam's detectives.

THE state of Nebraska has sued ex-Treasurer Hill in the courts of Douglas county to recover certain money that evaporated during the Capitol bank explosion last winter. Yesterday Mr. Hill demurred, pleading lack of jurisdiction. He observes that Lincoln is in Lancaster county, the scene of the disaster, and he wants a Lancaster jury to try the case. All this is very queer. THE BEE has never posed as an oracle of the law, but has won its spurs as the exponent of unadulterated horse sense. Ex-Treasurer Hill, while in office, had in custody the funds of the state—the people. The district court of Douglas county is a state court and in every sense the peer of the Lancaster county court. Up here this important case can be tried by competent judges and by a jury of unbiased citizens. At Lincoln the jury must necessarily breathe an atmosphere that is made to order especially for state officials and their camp followers. The chances are the jury would be composed of men whose sympathies are, and have been with those whom misfortune has overtaken and wrecked. This is the truth about it. Why not say so?

PRESIDENT PAGE of the Manufacturers and Consumers association addressed the Business Men's meeting. He advanced a proposition that will not meet any great opposition at the hands of printers and publisher. Mr. Page scored the business men of Nebraska who send their orders for printing and lithographing to eastern houses. He said the publishers of this state had cheerfully cooperated with the men who had made home patronage popular in this state and were entitled to better treatment. The logic of this statement is so clear that no one will challenge it. Business men expect much of the press and are not always thoughtful when opportunity to reciprocate presents itself. They must remember that no enterprise can be extended throughout this state without the aid of the press.

THE filing by the Chicago-Great Western railway, in the counties of Iowa which its lines penetrate, of a mortgage of $80,000,000, given the Manhattan Trust company of New York, is construed by the Sioux City *Journal* to mean that Mr. Stickney has at last accomplished the scheme of reorganization upon which he has been working for a year or more. Among the extensions projected by Mr. Stickney is one line that will have Omaha as its terminus. The present financial stringency may, however, delay the Missouri river line for this season.

**A Redeeming Feature.**
*Globe-Democrat.*

The only redeeming feature of the prolonged session of the Illinois legislature is the fact that it is making the state republican for the next twenty years.

**Fall to Excite Sympathy.**
*St. Louis Republic.*

A few failures among the big wholesale coal dealers may make the coal kings who have been extorting from customers during the past winter a little less anxious to hog things next winter.

**Premature Candidates.**
*St. Paul Pioneer Press.*

Levi P. Morton does not look like Hercules, but it is suggestive of that Augean stable job when people announce that if he will carry New York this fall he ought to be the republican nominee for president in 1896.

**Mourners Mighty Scarce.**
*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

There is every evidence that the Whisky trust is suffering from severe exhaustion consequent upon a recent attack of delirium tremens. And there will be few regrets outside the ranks of the conspirators if the combine never recovers.

**What Reform Means.**
*New York Tribune.*

At the present rate of putting out the old and putting in the new, when Mr. Cleveland gets ready to promulgate his grand scheme of civil service reform, by which the offices are to be filled by a commission and, once filled, are to be emptied only by death, he will have a full set of democrats in them to start with.

**What About the Cash?**
*Clay Center Progress.*

By reviewing the evidence which the respondents gave in the impeachment cases one would infer that they had been going down in their own pockets to help build the prison walls. Every item they gave in was several thousand dollars short, but had been paid for. It might be proper to ask where they got the funds to make up their shortage.

**Let Them Suffer the Consequences.**
*Blair Courier.*

We have had but little to say as to the guilt or innocence of the accused state officials, whose hearing is now over and under consideration of the supreme court. We do not wish to place the men concerned under the public censure undeservedly, but only remark that we would tremble with fear were we in their place under the testimony. We believe that had these gentlemen paid more attention to details and exercised ordinary prudence that the volume of unfavorable testimony against them, as the case now stands, would never have accumulated. It is a long chain of official negligence that careful officials never have to confront that now confronts them. Should they be released upon any technicality, this same volume will remain in the vaults, to stare at them for all future time. If no technicality prevails, the impeachment cannot fail. Fine turnouts, parties and "hair powder" should not be indulged in by the servants of the public when skill and attention to business forms part of the oath of office. They must suffer the consequence, whether they be light or whether they be heavy.

**Jefferson Davis in History.**
*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

The reinterment of the remains of the late Jefferson Davis presents occasion for southern orators to pay formal tributes to his memory, and a good deal of rhetorical exaggeration is to be pardoned in such a case; but when the governor of Louisiana solemnly characterizes him as "the greatest man in modern history," the extravagance reaches the point of absurdity. It is not to be denied that Davis was a man of considerable ability, but he lacked the essential elements of greatness. He does not stand comparison for a moment with other conspicuous figures of his time. There were inherent faults in his character that prevented him from taking rank with statesmen of the first class, and from gaining the best form of popular respect and affection. It is not true that the south loved him in the sense that the north loved Lincoln. He was not a man who inspired reverence and tenderness on the part of those over whom he ruled. His temperament, his training, his tastes did not commend him to the masses. He was autocratic, egotistical and supremely selfish. There was never a time when he was on good terms with his associates, or when the people of the south felt as kindly toward him as they did toward other confederate leaders. He was not truly heroic, and his place in history must always be that of a man who failed to live up to his opportunities.

It can never be forgotten that when the ill-starred confederacy reached the last ditch, and the only remaining question was that of the terms of surrender and the conditions of future peace and welfare, Davis was not present to share the humiliation and the responsibility. When he saw that the end was at hand, he hastily collected his personal effects and fled from the scene, intending to escape to a foreign country. If he had been a man of real greatness he would not thus have deserted the people who had trusted him in the hour of their extreme sorrow, but would have remained with them, scornful of personal consequences. His flight was a confession of weakness for which there is no excuse. When he was captured in disguise and brought back to face the situation, the world looked upon him contemptuously, and his subsequent conduct only served to still further depreciate his reputation. He tried to play the part of a martyr, and only succeeded in advertising himself as a man to whom life was a burden and a misery because of his own folly and madness. In permitting him to live on unmolested after the war the government that he had sought to destroy inflicted the severest possible penalty upon him. His persistent snarling throughout those years of waiting for death was not indorsed by the southern people. They treated him with a certain measure of honor on account of the cause he represented; but in their hearts they did not love him as they did Lee, for instance, and it is idle to suppose that history will ever conceal or modify the simple truth about him.

### NEBRASKA AND NEBRASKANS.

Barhydt & Livingston of Ashford have started for Arkansas with several hundred head of horses.

Lightning struck R. B. Thompson's barn and granary near Cowles and both buildings were entirely destroyed with their contents.

A stable belonging to Barhydt & Livingston of Ashford was destroyed by fire and a lot of harness and other property was destroyed.

The editors of newspapers located in towns on the Burlington between Holdrege and Cheyenne will hold a convention at Curtis Saturday and organize an association.

While W. M. Barnheisel, proprietor of the Kearney paper mill, was investigating some machinery at the mill his hand was caught between two rollers and the flesh on two fingers was stripped from the bone.

The seventh annual session of the Long Pine Chautauqua will be held from June 30 to July 12. The grounds are undoubtedly the prettiest in the state and furnish more opportunity for variety of recreation than any other Chautauqua grounds in the west. A fine program has been arranged for the occasion and a successful assembly is assured.

Burglars rifled the depot at Ames recently, but instead of taking money they paid all their attention to the ticket case. They took tickets out of the center of every bunch, which at their regular price could be sold for about $1,500. They stamped the tickets with the station stamp and fixed them in every way just as well as the agent could have done. The agent did not miss the tickets until he received a communication from the officials that three tickets sold by him for Portland, Ore., had turned up in the hands of brokers in Denver. This is the third time the depot has been broken into this year.

### PEOPLE AND THINGS.

General Willie Mahone of Virginia has decided not to make a farewell appearance in politics.

An eastern publication announces a premium chromo styled, "The Landing of Columbus in Oil." A Standard work, doubtless.

The legislature of Michigan has sent to the governor for approval a "jag cure" bill. Should the measure become a law bums in the second degree will be taken out and shot—at a gold cure institute.

A son of General Zabala, the commander of the Nicaraguan insurgents, who recently won a victory over the government troops, is attending school in Boston. He was much elated at his father's military success.

Mrs. Anna C. Fall, a young lawyer of Malden, Mass., has been appointed special state commissioner by Governor Russell. Mrs. Fall is not permitted to unite couples in marriage nor to read the riot act, although authority to perform these acts is vested in men holding similar offices.

F. G. Appley, a member of the Pawtucket, R. I., Boat club, has had an aluminum-racing shell made for him for the express purpose of rowing all the way from Pawtucket to the World's fair. He reckons on doing it in from six to ten weeks, and if he succeeds he will be duly placed among the exhibits.

General Lord Wolseley, whose vanity is notorious, is said to be savage over the arrival in England of Lord Roberts, the retiring commander-in-chief of the Indian army, who is attracting an immense amount of public attention. Wolseley believes himself to be about the greatest soldier England ever produced, and resents attentions shown to any one else.

Lieutenant Nixon, who designed the cruiser New York, which beat all records the other day, is a graduate of the Annapolis academy, but left the navy to enter the ship yards of the Cramps. The battleships Indiana and Massachusetts are being built from his designs. Lieutenant Nixon was sent to England to study naval architecture, but seems to have surpassed his teachers.

### JUNE POSIES.

Philadelphia Record: "Why do you refer to Mr. Brown as a cannibal, Clara?" "Because in the summer time he lives on his father."

Pittsburg Press: The latest thing in dress is the new born baby.

Vogue: Herdso—Do you believe in the faith cure? Saldso—Yes; one treatment cured all the faith I had.

Inter Ocean: I wonder how she keeps such a beautiful creamy complexion!
Mrs. Sellmilk—I suppose she puts very little water with it.

Philadelphia Times: As representative of politics the eagle at least is not a typical national bird. It never thinks of feathering its own nest.

Detroit Tribune: "My lines are not cast in pleasant places," sighed the poet, as he stood helplessly by and saw his wife throw his latest effusion into the kitchen stove.

Indianapolis Journal: "I wonder if his life will be a happy one," said Mrs. Noocuppie, as she leaned over baby's crib.
"Oh, yes," answered the happy father, "I shall see to it myself that he has a rattle in good time."

Lowell Courier: It is not unusual for a high-tempered person to make curs-ory statements.

Troy Press: The fact that a man's mind is made up is no sign that his conclusions are artificial.

Troy Press: The camel is a lucky brute. It never has to hump itself.

Atlanta Constitution: "Just from Washington?"
"Yes."
"Have any luck?"
"Lots. Boarded at a hotel, played poker with a congressman, shook hands with the president and loaned a senator $10."

BLESSED SILENCE.
*Detroit Tribune.*

The bell that rang for liberty
Is prized 'bove all the rest.
Its message grand to all the land
It tolled, and now is blessed.
But not alone for service then
We guard it well from ill—
'Tis much esteemed, though cracked and seamed,
Because it keepeth still.

### NAMING THE DAY.

*Kansas City Journal.*

One evening in the month of May,
He begged that she would name the day.

He would suggest some time in June,
But that, she said, would be too soon.

"What did he think of February?"
He thought that she was cruel—very.

There surely was no reason why
It should be later than July.

At last she came down to October—
Would that suffice? He still looked sober.

Just then her father, stiff as starch,
Walked in and said quite gruffly, "March!"

### EXPOUNDING A PLATFORM PLANK.

OAKLAND, Neb., May 29.—To the Editor of THE BEE: The leading editorial in your morning issue of May 29, entitled "An Object Lesson," has attracted unusual attention and stimulated debate among the people all over the state on the money question. The position taken, or rather the conclusions implied in that editorial, are to my mind so far fetched and illogical as to challenge the spirit of resentment in the mind of every true democrat who read the article. The opinions of THE BEE on financial questions are generally regarded as reliable, but in this instance, whether it be correct or not, there is a widespread feeling of opposition to the idea "that the collapse of the Columbia bank of Chicago and its dependent banks, in any manner furnishes an argument against the repeal by congress of the 10 per cent internal revenue tax on state bank issues," or "that if the tax was repealed and state banking corporations re-established the result would be that depositors would put in national currency and have their checks paid in (worthless) state bank currency," or "that adequate safeguards would not by law in all the states be thrown around all these state bank issues." The object of the editorial to which I refer is, of course, to use the incident of the failure of these so-called "banks" as a covert attack upon the last national democratic platform and supposed democratic policy on the circulating medium question, and if democratic interests were represented by a democratic paper in Omaha, capable and willing to take up the gauntlet thrown down in your "object lesson" attack on the democratic party, of course, we common people would keep silent and be satisfied with our champion. But no such champion has appeared. Not a word in the World-Herald, or any other paper that I have seen, taking issue with your assumption that if democratic policies prevail such financial disaster as came to the Columbia band and its dependencies would be the rule, and, following as a consequence of such policies, the currency of the country would become unreliable.

This idea, no doubt honestly entertained by your editorial writer, is undoubtedly based upon the ante-bellum days, when more or less difficulty was experienced with the unsecured and uncertain paper so often designated by THE BEE in previous allusions as "wildcat money." This will be readily admitted, and a return to an irresponsible paper currency period is no more desired by my party than yours. The question cannot be discussed in all of its bearings in a newspaper article. But it may be said, incidentally, that this is an age of improvement and of such common sense and practical improvements that the immense resources of the Anglo-Saxon race seem to be equal to every emergency.

The winds were found too slow and uncertain for modern navigation and steam was harnessed to facilitate the necessities of commerce. The merchant marine of a nation was threatened by an almost irrepressible leviathan, and the heart blood of the people stood still, in awe of the inevitable! Inevitable? No, for the emergency there was a man of genius, and the Merrimac was destroyed. The increase in the necessities of the people brought into existence the cotton gin, sewing machine, mowing machine and many other inventions as they were needed, while in this generation, time, space, sound and distance, have been overcome by electricity. An adequate circulating medium is the greatest factor in a nation's development, and its prosperity increases with the expansion of that medium, providing in character it is sound; or becomes correspondingly depressed by its contraction.

In twenty years the government debt, in all human probability, will be paid and every United States bond will have been called in and canceled. This must result in withdrawal of those national bank bills, to which your financial editors cling so tenaciously, and a contraction of the currency, if no substitute is provideed, of nearly one-fourth. How are you going to remedy this? What will be the foundation of the national banks when the government bond is canceled? What will be the security of the people handling their notes? Do you say congress will provide? Do you mean that a government debt is to be maintained and increased, to be borne by the masses, in order that a moneyed class may be maintained at the expense of the people? A plutocracy maintained by law to enslave and eventually degrade the common herd? I think not. I know that the heart of the great editor of THE BEE beats in sympathy with those striving for the best interest of the people, and it is not found in increasing by illegitimate means the opportunity of the moneyed aristocracy.

Why then does the democratic party oppose the 10 per cent tax on state bank issues?

Because it is an unjust and excessive tax in the nature of class legislation and prohibitory in character. It was designed not to raise a revenue, but to destroy all opposition to the national bank robbers, who conspired during the dark days of the rebellion to control for selfish, personal ends the circulating medium of the country, in order that they might unjustly and enormously increase their wealth at the expense of the common people. During which time the financial operations of the government's agents were so manipulated under the influence of the money lords of America and Europe, that at one period a Shylock with $33,000 in gold could exchange it for paper currency to the amount of $100,000. Invest this in $100,000 interest-bearing bonds—interest and principal payable in gold—deposit these with the government, in its strong and impregnable treasury vaults, and semi-annually draw his interest; and in addition issue his own notes, to the amount of $90,000, thereon, and loan them back to the people at exorbitant rates of interest; thus, under the guise of law, passed in the interest of the gold bags of the world by a sort of legal ledgerdemain, without any equivalent, change his modest capital of $30,000 to $190,000. These circumstances created in the minds of the common people, who were robbed by them an aversion or natural prejudice against the beneficiaries of the system and a natural inclination to undo the legislation that gave them the field without competition, one step of which is to repeal the prohibitory state bank tax.

That it is excessive no one not even the apologists of McKinleyism will dispute. At the time it was imposed everything possible in the heavens above, the earth beneath, and the waters under the earth was taxed. Banks, railroads, express companies, insurance companies, the incomes of the rich and successful manufacturers, associations, all wealthy, as well as all industrial classes, were made to feel the weight of the iron hand of unusual and merciless taxation. It was explained, however, that these unusual impositions were for temporary emergencies, and as soon as the emergency had passed the taxes would be modified or repealed. Well, the crisis passed nearly a quarter of a century ago, and all interests have been relieved and taxes reduced except upon the necessary comforts of the people and their means for securing a necessary circulating medium. On the former the clothing, food and comforts necessary to the enjoyment of life, the percentages on taxed imports have gradually been forced up from 41 per cent, where they were at the close of the war, to 61 per cent under the McKinley bill, and the prohibitory tax of 10 per cent flat on state bank issues still remains a monument to the exactions of the money power and possibly a menace to the perpetuity of an adequate circulating medium.

The tax also is odious to a democrat because it is in the nature of class legislation. If it were possible to do business as a state bank, using these state bank notes as a part of the bank's resources, it would be necessary to submit in addition to local assessments to this government imposition of 10 per cent on the actual circulation, while national banks pay nothing on theirs and banks of deposit only pay their pro rata on actual capital, or about 1 per cent on the same, as they do under our present system of assessing. But of course it never was expected that any one could or would pay this 10 per cent, and the law was passed to destroy and not to build up the institutions.

Now, what would happen if it was repealed? State banks might be chartered by authority of the legislative enactments of different states and the circulating medium increased by the issue of their notes. Now if this could be done under such circumstances and safeguards as to make these state bank notes just as safe and reliable as the national bank notes are, what objection would even the financial editor of THE BEE have to their issue? Do you say it cannot be done? I answer that by saying, as at the start, there is a man for every emergency. Would not it be possible for the banks of Omaha to issue a currency based on the bonded indebtedness of your great city, which is not over $1 to the $20 of your actual valuation, that would be as secure and reliable as the national bank notes they issue based on the debt of the nation? Could not the banks of Lincoln, Fremont, Norfolk, Grand Island, Hastings and other of our permanent cities do the same thing? Would not our school district, town, county and other municipal indebtedness, that must long outlast the government's obligations, furnish a steady, conservative and reliable basis for the circulating of these tools of trade? All of which must be but temporary expedients, preceding that time when prosperity shall so bless our rich and productive country that all indebtedness shall be liquidated and we shall finally reach the only true and stable basis—gold and silver.

A. B. CHARDE.

**At the Head of the Procession.**
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