

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. For the month of February, 1894, was as follows: Total for the month, 628,694. Less returns, 17,823. Total sold, 610,871. Daily average net circulation, 20,354. Sunday, 20,354.

When the grand jury is once called there will be a scattering of lame ducks in these parts such as has not been witnessed in years. The city detective force should be reorganized on the basis of integrity and efficiency. There should be no place on that force for libertines, black-legs and blackmailers.

Emperor William and President Cleveland must have entered an active competition to see which can take the greater number of vacations during the period that they are to be contemporary rulers. The cats that don't catch mice must be dismissed from the detective force. Detectives that have no eyes to see nor ears to hear, unless there is something in it for them, are dangerous to good government.

The friends of Chairman Wilson will not advise him to hasten his return to Washington. Should he be present to watch the mutilation of the Wilson bill the shock sustained might lead to a relapse that would prove exceedingly detrimental to his recovery. The fact that all bills regulating telegraph and telephone charges introduced into the Iowa legislature have been reported adversely from the committees to which they were referred is pretty good evidence that the electrical lobby managed to get in a few of its persuasive shocks.

President Cleveland evidently does not think that the future prosperity of the country depends solely upon the fate of the Bland seigniorage bill. At any rate his deliberation in considering the question whether he should sign it or veto it shows that its urgency at this particular moment is not uppermost in his mind. We are told that the best authorities in New England predict a failure of the maple sugar crop this year. This is most assuredly due to the business depression and the uncertainty that has surrounded the sugar schedule of the new tariff bill. The trees cannot be expected to give a full yield when all other industries are running on short time.

Auditor Moore's efforts to bring the recalcitrant insurance companies to time and to compel them to comply with the laws of Nebraska ought to be given the co-operation of the agents of those companies which are living up to the law. No discrimination in this matter ought to be tolerated for a moment. It is due to the companies in legal operation that the illegal business be promptly suppressed. Those people who are shouting to have the tariff bill passed by the senate and sent to a conference committee in a few days, or even in a few weeks, must be entirely ignorant of the usual course of legislation in the United States congress. It is idle to expect the tariff bill to be carried to a third reading by any such parliamentary trick as succeeded with the Bland seigniorage bill. One lesson of that kind is enough.

One good result has already accrued from the irrigation convention held here last week, and that is the awakening of the business men of Omaha to the possibility of expanding our commerce by stimulating immigration to the western part of this state. Irrigation may attract many settlers, but irrigation can be introduced but slowly. In the meantime, a systematic advertising of Nebraska's resources will do much to attract the attention of immigrants. Omaha business men can do much for themselves in this way. Taking the usual experience of the written petition at the hands of congress as precedent, the probable action upon the presentation of the proposed living petition by no means encouraging to contemplate. The average memorial that is sent to the clerk's desk in either house is either placed on file, where it dies a natural death, or is referred to the appropriate committee, where it comes to a violent end by being smothered in a convenient pigeonhole. The living petition would probably refuse to remain on file in silence, and the committee pigeonholes are scarcely large enough to accommodate it without extensions. But it cannot escape the inevitable fate of all petitions that find their way to congress.

The new Broad street railway station in Philadelphia has just been completed sufficiently to permit the greater part of it to be opened for public use. The Philadelphia Press seizes the occasion to say that "the new station with its grand trainshed makes one of the finest railway terminals in this or any other country, and is a great credit to the enterprise, liberality and taste of the Pennsylvania Railroad company." In the meantime Omaha is still putting up with the rattle-trap shed that goes by the name of a railway station. Would that we could pay a compliment of this kind to some one of the railways centering in this city, but alas, their enterprise, liberality and taste in the way of affording terminal facilities is sadly lacking.

THE DUTY OF THE BAR.

When Cunningham B. Scott was elected as a member of the bench of this district there was general conviction among attorneys that his temperament and mental disposition totally unfitted him for the exercise of judicial functions. Within less than a year after he had been inducted into office his eccentric and erratic behavior on and off the bench became so offensive to the great body of the bar that the unprecedented procedure was instituted by that body to investigate the actions of the judge with a view to his removal from office or bringing about his resignation.

The bar committee to which this matter was delegated took a great deal of testimony concerning his judicial conduct and we understand the findings of the committee were withheld upon pledges given by the judge that he would endeavor to give no further cause for complaint.

Within the past few months members of the bar have become convinced that some decisive action must be taken by the bar as a body to preserve the dignity and respect for the court of this district. It is now manifest that the bar has a duty to perform which it must not shirk. This duty it owes not only to itself, but to the public. The time for action can no longer be deferred and the bar would urge that a meeting of the district bar be called to take such a course as may be deemed proper under existing circumstances.

DEATH OF GENERAL ESTABROOK.

The announcement of the death of General Experience Estabrook will cause most profound sorrow in this community. General Estabrook was among the sturdy pioneers who helped to found an empire west of the Missouri and left his indelible imprint upon the political foundations of our commonwealth. A man of massive intellect and heroic mold, with clear and decided views upon every issue, General Estabrook was a soldier leader and gallant fighter in the struggle that preceded and followed the war. A true lover of freedom in its broadest sense, General Estabrook battled for his opinions whether he was with the majority or stood alone. In all his career he never covered before an enemy or flinched from what he believed to be a duty. Among men of the legal profession he occupied the first rank, and the records of our highest courts attest the fact of his eminence as a constitutional lawyer.

THE QUESTION OF FREE SHIPS.

There will probably be reported to the house of representatives at an early date what is known as the Fithian free ship bill. This measure provides for the unrestricted purchase and registration of foreign-built vessels by American citizens. Free of duty, such vessels to enjoy the same rights as are accorded to home-built craft, except that they are not to be permitted to engage in the coastwise trade. It is reported that vigorous efforts are being made by certain democrats in congress to awaken interest in behalf of this bill and that agents of British ship builders in eastern cities are exerting themselves in its favor. At the same time there is being manifested a strong opposition to the measure on the part of American ship builders, who plausibly urge that it would be destructive of their business. In these wages have been reduced to the British level. One of these ship builders said that the measure, instead of being called a free ship bill, ought to be called a bill to wreck American ship builders, or a bill to promote that industry in Great Britain. It might also be viewed in a political and diplomatic aspect and entitled a bill to provide a neutral asylum for the English merchant marine in case of war between that country and other maritime powers. "If that bill should become a law," said the ship builder, "the construction of merchant vessels would cease in this country until such time as American workmen were willing to accept British wages." For the demands of the coastwise trade would not sustain the sea-board ship yards. At present all material used in the construction of ships for the foreign trade comes in practically free of duty—that is, there is a drawback of 99 per cent on it. Hence the cost of materials for constructing a ship in the United States for the foreign trade is precisely the same as the cost of the materials in British ship yards, with the slight difference caused by freight. The material difference in the cost of constructing a ship on this side of the Atlantic and on the other is in the cost of labor. That is nearly double here what it is in Great Britain.

The purpose of this bill is to restore the merchant marine of the United States in the ocean-carrying trade, and it therefore possesses general interest. The people who grow grain and carry it to foreign markets which are exported to foreign markets have as great an interest in the question of an American merchant marine as the manufacturers of the east, and should not regard the matter as one remote from their concern. Last year less than 12 per cent of our imports and exports was carried in American vessels. The amount for the current year will undoubtedly be still further reduced. It is estimated that the yearly freight charges on our current commerce, inward and outward, amount to about \$150,000,000, of which \$132,000,000 goes to foreign and only \$18,000,000 to home ship owners. If there be added to the amount of freight charges the sum that annually goes to foreign ship owners from American passengers, the total will be fully \$230,000,000. This is a great drain, for it must be understood that practically the entire amount goes abroad. A little reflection upon what the producers of this country are annually contributing to a foreign interest cannot fail to show the importance, general and far-reaching, of the question of restoring the ocean-carrying trade of the United States, so that this great drain, or a large part of it, may be stopped and the charges for transporting our commodities to the ports of both the farm and the factory, may go into the pockets of our own ship owners. Nor is this the only advantage to be considered. An American merchant marine would be of incalculable value in promoting and extending American commerce. It is, indeed, absolutely essential to the extension of our foreign trade and to enable us to successfully compete with our great commercial rivals. All this being admitted, the question is as to the practical and judicious policy for attaining this object. This has been a perplexing question for years, during

which the merchant marine has steadily declined. It is now proposed to make a radical departure from the policy that has prevailed all these years and allow American capital disposed to invest in shipping to buy vessels abroad, give them an American registration and sail them under the American flag. The objections to this policy are certainly not without force, but the great fact which its advocates have on their side is that the present policy has not only failed to restore the merchant marine, but that interest has rapidly declined under it. This alone presents an argument which the opposition to the proposed change of policy will find it difficult to overcome.

SHALL JUSTICE BE PERVERTED?

The autocratic and unamerican attempt of Judge Scott to muzzle and terrorize the press and humiliate and degrade the bar of this city under pretense of upholding the dignity of his court impels me to enter an earnest public remonstrance against a proceeding which is without a parallel either in this country or in Great Britain. I question whether the case of all the Russias would in this enlightened age undertake to punish an editor or reporter for any violation of the Russian press laws without giving him a chance to defend himself through attorneys, and whether he would assume for himself the roles of prosecutor, witness and judge under the most provoking circumstances.

Looking backward over a period of more than twenty years since the Bee was founded, this is the first time that any member of its editorial staff has been arraigned before any judicial tribunal on the charge of impeding justice by improper criticism. All men familiar with my editorial career will bear witness to the fact that in the discharge of the highest duty and prerogative of the press, namely, the free and fearless discussion of public men and measures, I have never flinched or proved recreant to what I deem to be a sacred trust. From the highest to the lowest, from president to postal clerk and petty federal official, from the occupant of the supreme bench at Washington to the master commissioner of the United States district court, all have been subjected to periodic censure and even denunciation for official actions which were deemed pernicious or prejudicial to the public welfare.

During these long years more than a score of judges have occupied the bench of this district, but not one of them for the irreducible and unreasoning judge who temporarily occupies the criminal bench of this county to make an exhibition of himself by venting his spleen upon the court reporter of the Bee, insult and abuse the attorneys employed for his defense, and attempt to strike down the bulwark of American liberty—a free and untrammelled press—by threats of exclusion and condign punishment. The animus which he has exhibited and the tyrannical methods he has pursued on this occasion will forever remain a blot upon the court record and tend to lower popular respect for our judicial system.

The rancor displayed by Judge Scott in dealing with Reporter Bennett and the assaults which he made by innuendo upon myself in the course of his violent tongue-lashing of the unfortunate reporter show to what extremes he would go in holding the scales of justice on trial of one who has incurred his ill will. And this brings me to a matter of personal as well as public concern.

On the day before the late election I addressed an open letter to the citizens of Douglas county over my signature through the columns of the Bee, under the caption: "A Last Word of Warning." In that letter an earnest appeal was made to the voters against the re-election of George A. Bennett as sheriff on the ground of incompetency, gross neglect of duty and flagrant disregard of law by himself and his deputies. In substance the letter charged the sheriff with permitting the custody of prisoners in the county jail to fall into the hands of non-negligent and law-defying deputies. Jail deliveries had become frequent and an instance was cited where a citizen prisoner was released from jail by a deputy without an order of the police judge or mayor. It was further charged that prisoners who were presumed to be in close confinement in jail were encountered in saloons and questionable resorts, some times in company of the jailer and some times alone. In one instance a prisoner, whose name was cited, who had been arrested as an embezzler, was taken to a gambling house by the jailer and left there to amuse himself at a game of faro, while the jailer also took part in games. Attention was likewise called to the Mosher scandal and the liberties which the bank wrecker had enjoyed while in custody of the sheriff, followed by other revelations too vile to be detailed. Then followed this declaration: "Suffice it to say the proof is overwhelming that under Sheriff Bennett the Douglas county jail had not only been turned into an assignation house, but a hell, in which custodians of prisoners acted the part of procurers." etc.

In concluding the appeal I called attention to the fact that the candidate was making desperate efforts to sustain himself with members of the A. P. A. on the ground of fellowship, and I then said: "If it is the purpose of the A. P. A. to stand by its members right or wrong, to uphold a public official who has debauched and scandalized the public service, because and only because he is one of its members, then the order would be manifest to free American institutions. I am loth to believe that any decent or reputable member of the association will stand up for him, and, by enforcing him for re-election, make the infamies that have been perpetrated by him as custodian of the county jail."

About two months after the election I was apprised by a prominent citizen that the county attorney had been requested to bring an action for criminal libel against me on behalf of the late sheriff, but that he appeared to be embarrassed because he did not want to give offense to myself. Thereupon the county attorney was invited by me to call at the Bee office and he did so. I assured him that he need not be embarrassed on my account and if the parties feeling themselves aggrieved insisted upon his filing complaints he should by all means do so and prosecute the case the same as if I had no relation to politics and the press.

About two weeks later two complaints were filed in the police court, one by George A. Bennett and the other by Sophia Bennett, his wife. At the outset of the trial the ruling of the police judge that the burden of the proof was upon the defendant placed me at great disadvantage. This ruling was so manifestly at variance with usage in criminal proceedings that eminent lawyers, both in and out of the city, expressed surprise at the procedure adopted in face of the fact that under the criminal law the presumption of innocence is in favor of the accused, and this presumption is to be regarded in every case, to the benefit of which the party accused is entitled. Our statutes moreover expressly provide that to be criminal a libel must be both false and malicious. The adverse ruling of the judge was not the only disadvantage under which the de-

fense was placed. It is at all times difficult to get witnesses, however depraved they may be morally, to testify about their own acts of immorality, but in this case witnesses were intimidated by threats and spirited away, and others made to withhold important testimony by feigning forgetfulness. Other witnesses, who were cited for purposes of impeachment, were either conveniently missing or represented as having left the town. When in fact they were in the city, and the prosecution must have known it, in spite of all these drawbacks, evidence enough was produced before the trial was half over to sustain the charges of reckless negligence, debauchery and violation of prison rules and laws, so that there was virtually nothing left for the prosecution, if animated simply by a desire to vindicate the law, but to dismiss the case.

That was the consensus of opinion among all classes as expressed freely in and out of the city. As for myself, I was willing, and anxious, to go to the bottom of the case, because I desired to satisfy and convince the public that every charge made had come to me from credible sources; that the horrible state of affairs in and about the jail was not exaggerated, but underrated; and that I was actuated by a sense of duty in the course I had pursued.

There was one episode in this remarkable trial which the public may not have clearly understood. When the trial began two lawyers took seats behind the prosecuting attorney, and during its progress they played the role of prompters from behind the scenes. One of these prompters had achieved notoriety, if not fame and public esteem, as the attorney for the Holstenstein claims; the other had gained considerable prominence in a semi-political society. Inasmuch as these whisperers had not announced themselves as assistants for the state, or as attorneys for the prosecuting witness, their conduct naturally became inexplicable.

The trial had dragged along about ten days when one of my attorneys reported to me that he was informed by a high official of this county that it had been arranged and foreordained that I should be bound over on one of the two complaints in any event, and that I should be forced to stand trial before Judge Scott in spite of his known prejudice against and bitter hatred toward me; that Scott would do everything in his power to have me convicted so that he could place a stigma upon me, although his judgment might be set aside and reversed the very next day. This information was decidedly startling and the deep resentment I felt over the conspiracy of which I was to be the victim made me rise in open court and protest against chamber proceedings. The information conveyed to me by my attorney was subsequently confirmed by a lawyer who claimed to have knowledge of the dastardly plot and by reports freely circulated among business men.

The outcome of the trial gave the report coloring, if it did not actually fix confirmation. There was not a scintilla of proof offered by the state during the entire trial that I had ever entertained or expressed any malice toward Mrs. Bennett. I had never known her until she had testified on the witness stand. Her name even had not been mentioned in my letter, except as it might be construed as referring to her where I spoke of the matron of the jail. It takes the greatest stretch of the imagination to make that reference libelous and not privileged. The mere statement that it was represented to me that the matron had knowledge that an abortion had been committed in jail does not charge her with a crime nor does it reflect upon her, unless it be by inference that it was negligence on her part in not preventing its commission. Suppose I had said that Mosher was allowed to receive visits from Nellie Sayre in his cell with her knowledge, would that have constituted a criminal libel upon the matron? Most assuredly not.

The court ruled that the revelations made by me concerning the sheriff were privileged because he was a candidate and officeholder, and although the matters charged might be false, nevertheless if I believed them to be true and they were published to the voters in good faith, the action would be justified in law. But the court held that the same rule would not hold good concerning the matron, because she was not a candidate. This is a most extraordinary ruling, and any public official in America, concerning the office of the sheriff, the conduct of his deputies and the management of the jail, the matron was part of that management, and anything that happened in the jail under her care and supervision was a legitimate subject for discussion and comment relating to the office of sheriff and the custodians of the jail under him. If all the matter relating to the sheriff and his deputies was privileged that relating to the matron was equally privileged.

There was abundant testimony to show that the information relating to the alleged abortion came to me from credible sources such as any prudent editor would have reason to believe to be true. Hence, it follows that there was no fabrication and no malice on my part, and the prosecutor ought to know enough to know that no honest man or set of men would vote to place a stigma upon an editor under such circumstances.

Now I do not contend or desire to intimate that Judge Berka would knowingly allow himself to be used as a tool in the hands of political conspirators, nor do I believe Judge Scott would knowingly be a party to such an infamous plot, but that such a conspiracy has been hatched I firmly do believe.

The question is shall justice be outraged and the machinery of the courts used to perpetrate a monstrous wrong? I have voluntarily undergone a costly four weeks trial in the police court, an order that the truth might be thoroughly sifted and both myself and the county spared the needless expense of a protracted jury trial.

Now where is there any warrant or excuse for placing this case on the docket? If it is under pretense of vindicating the majesty of the law then why does not the county attorney vindicate the law by seeing that men who plead guilty of forgery and grand larceny are sentenced and punished as the law directs? Why does he not file information against the men who in the Bennett libel trial have committed rank perjury and the men who have committed felonies in playing in gambling houses and high misdemeanors by releasing prisoners from confinement imposed by law, for converting the jail into a dream shop and bawdy house and for gratifying their lust upon prisoners committed to their custody and care?

Characteristic Stupidity. Indianapolis Journal. It is characteristic of the national stupidity that while the nations of Europe are engaged in negotiating commercial treaties and the United States should adopt exactly the opposite policy by revoking recent treaties and opportunities to destroy the income tax feature of the bill.

Smoke Locates the Fire. Chicago Record. There are rumors of corruption in the Chicago council, but getting too ambitious for a city of her size.

Emulating Bland. Washington News. Those Omaha gentlemen appear to have found the constitutionally permissible way to be made by coining a vacuum.

The Senate's Business Capacity. Louisville Courier-Journal. Let us give the United States senate its due. It is at least able to pass the time.

HERE AND THERE.

It may be remembered that in Adam's case judgment speedily followed confession. "Liver failure" promises to rival heart failure as a mask for medical misinformation. It is a question whether widows or partisans hold the balance of power in Washington. "Carry out the platform," exclaims the Atlanta Constitution. Second the motion. Send it to the garbage heap or burn it. The movement in favor of Vice President Stevenson for president in 1896 is enthusiastically applauded by those who reverse his memory as a headman.

The financial crookedness of McKean has reached \$70,000. The ex-loss was fortunate in flying from the wrath of his victims. He is reasonably safe in Sing Sing. Who are you getting pretty mad? "I'm going a courting, kind sir, said O. may I defend you, my pretty mad? Your clatter annoys me, sir, she said. It is said that Mrs. William Betts, the new woman deputy United States marshal at Cincinnati, is the second woman to receive such an appointment. The first one is now in service in Oklahoma Territory.

Commenting on the midnight ruling in the Producers' case, the Chicago Herald notes on the part of the bench a "fondness for usurping legislative and executive functions." The Herald continues business at the old stand. William Finney Teeple, who died at Manchester, Pa., a few days ago at the age of 76 years, was famous as a deer slayer. He began killing them when 11 years of age and is said to have shot not less than 3,000 of them.

The evolution of a Chicago alderman from a clerkship at \$2,000 a year to a pious salary of \$15 a year as a municipal law-maker is inexplicable to the uninitiated. The cruel, selfish, remorseless world will never be a better place until every man sacrifices that settles and bubbles in the aldermanic breast. "Soapy" Smith, the slippery heeler who was conspicuous in the defense of the city hall in 1892, is reported to have returned to his militia, as is possibly inoffensive in our ears as Canada Bill, and as smooth a con man as Doc Boggs of olden memory. Soapy was in the swim in the petty days and worked the town so gracefully as to command admiration as well as cash from his victims. Once when his pile ran low he imported an army of "petty giants" from Denver, buried it some distance from town, and had it "discovered" later on. The discovery was announced with brass bands. Soapy played the "petty giant" and the whole town chipped in 25 cents apiece to see the wonder. A doctor accidentally discovered the material of which the giant was built, and the same day the giant disappeared. Creede between days.

NEBRASKA AND NEBRASKANS. Wilber has organized a camp of the Independent Workmen of America, with eighteen charter members. Champion, Chase county, citizens are going to tap the earth to a depth of 1,000 feet in search of artesian water. Red Willow county is devoting a large acreage to alfalfa and ever this year. One ranch alone has put in 600 acres. Pawnee county's Woman's Temperance union will hold a semi-annual convention at Table Rock on Friday and Saturday.

Ed Stouffer, one of the pioneer settlers of Republic county, Kansas, died suddenly of heart disease at his home near Huling. Fourteen-year-old Harry Deck, living at Table Rock, had his shoulder dislocated by a horse falling with him while chasing cattle. Albert H. Jones, treasurer of Red Willow county, died at Flagstaff, Ariz., while on the way to California for the benefit of his lungs. The Grant Sentinel and Perkins County Herald have consolidated with a hyphen and with B. S. Littlefield as editor and C. F. Smith as publisher. Three-year-old Set Strong overturned a can of lye which had been standing on a shelf a little higher than his head. One of his eyes was severely burned.

William Graham, hardware merchant of Christian, Kan., returned from England that by the death of an uncle he has fallen heir to a small fortune. At Niobrara the waters of the Big Muddy were so angry that they were tying up the skipper refused to venture out without oil to calm the troubled billows. Samuel Sagasser, an old soldier, wandered away from his home in North Platte over a week ago and has not been heard of since. It is thought that he went west. He is quite dead and rather feeble-minded. Ladies of Surprise were very much surprised to learn that they found, after they had been to great trouble to prevent the granting of a liquor license to Druggist Leard, that Mr. Leard had made no application for such a license.

Old John Rigler, the noted Chadron gambler, who died a short time ago, left a fortune of some \$1,000 and \$1,200, and now his will is being contested by a squaw at Round Grove who claims to have been married to him in days gone by. In an article on the possibilities of Columbus, the Argus of that place challenges contractors to any point in America for natural advantages. With the Lou river on the one side and a range of good clay hills on the other, between 200,000 and 300,000 acres of the most generous soil lying "as pretty as a picture for irrigation purposes," the Argus considers the invitation to develop the resources of the neighborhood as irresistible to an enterprising people.

Discrediting Real Reform. Louisville Courier-Journal. The result of the temperance reform into politics has been to withdraw attention from a large degree from those moral forces that have done so much in the past sixty years to moderate the evils of intemperance. To be sure, the latter have not been abandoned, nor have efforts in that direction been barren, but the temperance reform has the distinct tendency of the work for prohibition to discredit "moral suasion" as something not to be relied on. Even the total abstinence societies have to a large extent driven out all but prohibitionist not, indeed, by disavowal, but by making the organization of prohibition agencies. There is good reason to believe that the prohibition idea, pursued as it has been with intolerance, has been a positive drawback to the progress of temperance reform.

Works in Every Town. Des Moines Register. Courage is a powerful factor in the development of any city, and the expression of faith in the future of a town goes a great way toward making it what its advocates claim for it. It is in the nature of a tonic to the business men to speak as hopefully and as encouragingly as possible about the business situation. By doing so they have confidence in others and they strengthen the whole community. The practical effect of this may be seen in the investment of capital. For even capitalists are affected by the feeling which exists in a community. If the people who live in a town are confident and full of hope they will feel that it is a place in which they may invest their money with safety.

Their Maiden Effort. Chicago Times. There will be a municipal election in Kearney, Neb. The women of that lively town have held a convention and nominated candidates of their own for every office. Moreover, they have adopted resolutions to the effect that all the male candidates are "too cowardly to do their duty in regulating vice and corruption." We hope this last sentiment is not true, but it remains with the men of Kearney to prove its falsehood.

Incomprehensible. Chicago Record. The question of the revenue bill should be passed that will produce more revenue than is required by the government will be passed by one of our members. He questioned whether Senators Hill, McPherson and other dissatisfied democrats will not make the first opportunity to destroy the income tax feature of the bill.

Smoke Locates the Fire. Chicago Record. There are rumors of corruption in the Chicago council, but getting too ambitious for a city of her size.

Emulating Bland. Washington News. Those Omaha gentlemen appear to have found the constitutionally permissible way to be made by coining a vacuum.

The Senate's Business Capacity. Louisville Courier-Journal. Let us give the United States senate its due. It is at least able to pass the time.

REFLECTIONS ON ADAM.

St. Louis Republic: The more we read the developments in the Breckinridge-Hillard trial the more we wonder that the Kentucky Star-Rye Goddess of Reform escaped. Philadelphia Inquirer: Have we advanced no further than the Garden of Eden? Breckinridge makes the same old defense that Adam did—"The woman did tempt me." But Adam got his punishment just the same. Perhaps Colonel Breckinridge thinks Mr. Harrison should have taken Chill out buggy riding.

Globe-Democrat: It was Colonel W. C. P. Breckinridge who characterized Benjamin Harrison's message on the Chilean question as "an attempt to ravish a weak sister." Perhaps Colonel Breckinridge thinks Mr. Harrison should have taken Chill out buggy riding. Washington Star: Adam's pitiful excuse, throwing the blame on the woman, was not accepted, and both Adam and Eve were turned out of Eden together. The decision that case does not present an encouraging precedent for either the defendant or the plaintiff in the celebrated case now pending.

New York Tribune: And yet this "honorable man" must know what manner of people his constituents are, and he is said to be "quite confident" of renomination and re-election. A more amazing exhibition of colossal insensibility to shame and disgrace was never witnessed. We shall refuse to believe, until we are compelled to, that the citizens of Lexington are so lost to all considerations of self-respect as to extend a public reception and a banquet to a man who upon his own admissions has been guilty of offenses that pillory him before all the world as untruthful, dishonorable and unclean.

RIPPLING REMARKS.

Plain Dealer: Yes, man is the stronger vessel—but he is to be often baited out. Detroit Tribune: "Did he get into society very much?" "About \$5,000, as report has it."

Detroit Free Press: Lady—Have you any \$3 a week? "Yes, Huckster—Not much, ma'am; only \$3 a week."

Yonkers Gazette: A hanging committee at art exhibitions is so called because it keeps the artists in suspense. Life: Ralph—Suppose a fellow's best girl gets mad when he asks for a kiss? Curtis—Take it without asking. Ralph—Suppose she gets mad then? Curtis—Then he's got some other fellow's girl.

Indianapolis Journal: "What are you studying to do about the new federal building of the rock-ribbed democrat." "I was just trying to figure out in my own mind whether the man Cleveland is the Jester or the Wise."

Philadelphia Times: Anybody with even half an eye may see the rider is crooked, but that's no proof he stole the bicycle. Tid Bits: "The way to sleep," says a scientist, "is to think of nothing." "That is a mistake. The way to sleep is to think it is time to get up."

Washington Star: "Why, sir," said the young man, "do you refer to this as a river museum poem?" "Because," replied the editor, "it is a freak. It has more than the normal number of feet."

Milwaukee Journal: It is astonishing how much amusement other people imagine that a man gets out of his work. Buffalo Courier: Jillson says he has noticed that some men are a great deal like rivers. When they are swollen they swell you realize it from their mouths.

Washington Star: "What do you think of Senator Sobson's career?" "Oh, I can't say, as yet. It is largely a matter of speculation." Life: "Papa," said the Fiji Island maiden, as she laid down her paper, "I have just read that bill room dresses are daily becoming more and more decrepit. What does that mean?" "It means, my child," replied her grizzled warrior father, as a flush of pride struggled with the Pacific tan on his brow, "it means that, uninvited as they call us, we are not beyond establishing a precedent."

VERNAL JOY. New York Press. There is a pleasure in these sweet spring days of which the poet sings. When Sol has decked the lanes and woods and ways. With crocuses and things. "What is that pleasure?" some one may inquire. "That joy that thrills the soul!" "Oh, I can't say, as yet. It is a little vacation. Or one well heaped with coal."

A BLAMED SIGHT WORSE. Boston Courier. A bachelor, old and cranky. Was sitting alone in his room; His toes with the goat were aching, And his face was o'erspread with gloom. No little one's shouts disturbed him, From noises the house was free, In fact, from the attic to cellar, Or one well heaped with coal.

No medical aid was lacking; The servants answered his ring, Respectfully heard his orders, And supplied him with everything. But still there was something wanting; Something he couldn't command; The kindly words of compassion, The touch of a gentle hand. And he said, as his brow grew darker, And he raved for the hiring nurse, "Well, marriage may be a failure, But this is a blamed sight worse."

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