THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1896, was as follows:

1	17,246	17	18,410
2	18,188	18	15,413
3	18,253	19	19,030
4	18,325	20	18,723
5	19,425	21	18,204
6	18,306	22	18,231
7	18,277	23	18,182
8	18,309	24	18,289
9	18,249	25	18,538
10	18,205	26	19,019
11	18,286	27	18,143
12	19,199	28	18,346
13	18,556	29	18,123
14	18,231	30	18,107
15	18,291	31	18,070
16	18,265		
Total			560,846
Less deductions for unsold and returned copies			6,204
Net sales			553,642
Daily average			18,182

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3d day of February, 1896.
(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

And the entries of favorite sons in the presidential race have not yet been closed.

The Transmississippi exposition bill is a measure on which all the western representatives and senators can unite without reference to their divergent views on the silver question.

The Chicago Sunday newspapers have by agreement discontinued the chromo art supplements with which they have been inundating their subscribers. The chromo never will be missed.

It will be noted that the two new Utah senators lost no opportunity to demonstrate by their votes that they are in favor of the immediate enactment of a 16 to 1 free silver coinage law.

It is to be noted that the democratic newspapers always direct their anteconvention shafts at only those candidates for the republican nomination whom they would fear most as candidates in the election.

Control of the senate only gives the free silver advocates a longing for control of the other branches of government whose assent is a necessary prerequisite to the enactment of a 16 to 1 free coinage law.

If any Nebraska farmer still harbors doubts as to the advantages of diversifying his crops by cultivating sugar beets, he should by all means attend the Beet Sugar convention at Fremont and be convinced of his errors.

The Chicago Sunday Tribune devoted a half column on its editorial page to "the city's embarrassed finances," but nobody in or out of Chicago will be idiotic enough to charge the Tribune with being an enemy of Chicago.

What John M. Thurston said three years ago about silver is of no moment. What Senator Thurston does in the United States senate as the representative of Nebraska in 1896 is of consequence. The opinions of wise men change, those of fools never.

It will be as difficult for the democrats of several states to secure desirable candidates for governor this year as it was for them to prevail upon ex-Governor Campbell to run in Ohio last fall and upon Senator Hill to run in New York the year before.

It is suggested that there is no reason why the present session of congress should be prolonged beyond May at the furtherest. The horde of congressional employes, onhangers and lobbyists whose pay stops with the adjournment of house and senate will undertake to furnish reasons galore.

The congressional contingent from the Pacific slope is said to be enthusiastically harmonious for a government-subsidized cable to the Sandwich islands. Quite natural. They would also in all probability be enthusiastic for a water grant in aid of an air line railroad from San Francisco to Honolulu.

Collis P. Huntington says that he is anxious to pay back to the government every dollar of money advanced in aid of the Central Pacific. Well, what is stopping Mr. Huntington from paying up? If he is so anxious to repay the government loan why doesn't he pay a little of it now and liquidate the remainder on the installment plan?

The traveling men of Nebraska have awakened to the importance of home patronage. Now that they are organized for a campaign in behalf of Nebraska they will talk the doctrine of home industry in every city and hamlet in the state. The traveling man is a commercial missionary. He is capable of making many converts to his way of thinking.

The legal luminary of the Lincoln Journal has unearthed another great axiom of law. This time it is that "all other branches of government exist merely that we may have courts." The whole machinery of government in all its ramifications and details, so we are told, has been constructed and supported solely that we may submit our disputes to judges and juries. What a beautiful political philosophy! Is it any wonder that judges become imbued with an exaggerated sense of their own self-importance when there are such journalistic sycophants ready to exalt them above the popular sovereignty, if not above the divinity Himself?

CALLING ON THE BANKERS.

The chairman of the house committee on banking and currency desires that the bankers of the country shall advise congress what to do regarding the financial situation. He says there never was a body of legislators more anxious to know what ought to be done under the circumstances and more anxious to do the right thing than the house of representatives, and he holds out the assurance that congress will enact any measure that the bankers are agreed among themselves will relieve the national treasury. Mr. Walker further says that if this session of congress adjourns without passing some comprehensive measure to compose the finances of the country the bankers will be wholly to blame for its failure in standing off and refusing to come to the assistance of the committee on banking and currency while the committee is begging them to come to its relief with their counsel and support. As to which it is suggested that the bankers of the country have had such poor success in impressing their views upon any congress that they are not likely to be in a hurry to respond to this appeal. It is very probable, however, that Mr. Walker does not represent the sentiment of the house in this matter, though he may that of the committee of which he is chairman, in which case it would be very desirable to have that committee reconstructed. Of course, Mr. Walker understands that it is impossible to get any such agreement among the bankers as he suggests, and if the banking and currency committee is depending upon this the best thing it can do is to drop the consideration of the matter altogether. A committee appointed to consider and report on currency and banking propositions which pleads helplessness without the aid of the bankers of the country would better not attempt to deal with such questions at all. Besides there is no urgency for a measure at this session of congress to "compose the finances of the country."

AN IMPORTANT INQUIRY.

The proposed inquiry by the house ways and means committee in regard to restrictions or discriminations in certain countries against American products, also the effect of the commercial treaties or agreements with foreign countries upon our trade with them and the result of the abandonment of such treaties, is one which ought to be made. It is important that the country should be supplied with trustworthy information as to the nature of the discriminations against our products and the causes alleged therefor, so that public sentiment may be intelligently expressed in the matter. The exclusion of our cattle and meats from European countries, on the pretext that they are not healthy, in spite of the fact that they are subjected to the most careful inspection before being exported, is regarded generally by our people as wholly unjust and unwarranted and as justifying a policy of retaliation on our part. A thorough inquiry by a committee of congress would show whether or not this view is right and would enable the legislative and executive departments to determine what action, if any, should be taken respecting these hostile regulations of foreign governments.

No less desirable is the proposed inquiry regarding the effects of the reciprocity agreements upon our trade with the countries with which we had such agreements and the results of the abandonment of that policy. It is true that the statistics conclusively show that reciprocity was becoming profitable to this country, that under its operation the exports of our products to several countries were increased and that there was every reason to expect that this trade would continue to grow until the results met the highest anticipations of the advocates of the policy. But in spite of this there are those who insist that there was no benefit to this country from reciprocity and none would have been realized if the policy had been maintained. A report from the ways and means committee on this subject will furnish trustworthy information that will satisfy a popular demand.

There should be no delay in instituting this inquiry, so that the information obtained can be made available in the coming national campaign.

AS TO CONTRACTION.

It is said there is no fear at the Treasury department that any undue contraction of the currency will result from the absorption of $110,000,000 into the treasury cash in payment for the bonds during the next four months. The payments are distributed over so long an interval that there will be ample time, it is suggested, to import gold to swell the circulating medium in case the effect of contraction is felt, and if this tendency arrests gold exports it will be one of the effects for which the treasury is striving. It appears that the national banks are already preparing to fill any void which may occur in the circulation by making advance applications for new notes. During January the applications were for $10,000,000 and would swell the bank note circulation from $213,000,000 to $223,000,000. The fact that the banks have already ordered new circulation, without knowing to a certainty whether their bids for the bonds will be accepted by the treasury, is regarded as an indication that still heavier orders will be made after the new bonds are awarded. If the banks get the same proportion of the bonds as of previous issues they would have the capacity for increasing circulation about $27,000,000, or to a total of $240,000,000, and it is highly probable they will be in a position to do this. This would not fill the vacuum, but it would be a source of relief to the market if any were needed, which in the present state of business may not be the case.

It would seem that there is no good reason for apprehending any serious effects from the contraction incident to the sale of the bonds, since with the additional bank circulation already ordered this will be less than $100,000,000, and of course all of that amount will not remain in the treasury, but it will be gradually restored to the circulation in meeting current obligations. It is not intended that the gold obtained for the new bonds shall be a permanent addition to the reserve now on hand, but the excess will be available for ordinary expenditures and will be paid out as the demands upon the treasury render necessary. As to drawing gold from abroad it is hardly to be expected that any very large amount will be added to the circulation from that source, nor is it apparent that it will be necessary. Exports of gold have been charged in part to a redundancy of the currency, and if there is soundness in this the diversion of $100,000,000 of currency from the channels of circulation to the treasury ought not to necessitate or invite importations of gold. Some gold has already been imported and the fact that the amount has been small, must be accepted as showing that bankers do not think it will be needed.

The fact is contraction has already taken place to the extent of the subscriptions to the new bonds, the amount of which will be known when the bids are opened at the Treasury department tomorrow, for the gold to pay for the bonds is withdrawn from circulation as completely as if it were in the treasury. The effects of the contraction have, therefore, been adready discounted, and it is not apparent that they have been at all serious. The truth is that the business of the country for the past two or three years has not needed so large a volume of currency as the country has had and just at this time less is required than at almost any other period since the beginning of the depression. Consequently no injurious results are to be apprehended from the withdrawal of $100,000,000 for investment in government bonds.

WHAT WILL THEY DO ABOUT IT?

It is a very ungrateful and very distasteful task to advocate the reduction of salaries and the dismissal of men from the public employment whose services can be dispensed with in the interest of economy. The political rabble that hovers around the fleshpots will neither forgive nor forget, while the masses, whose property is being confiscated by excessive taxation, take the efforts made in their behalf by a fearless newspaper as a matter of course. But The Bee does not for this reason propose to shirk its duty, although it has been, and will remain, alone among Omaha newspapers to oppose extravagance, boodle schemes and raids upon the treasury.

Now that the council is on the eve of making the tax levy for 1896, The Bee feels constrained to make another appeal for relief for the taxpayers from burdens that have become almost unbearable. It was to have been expected that pressure would be exerted upon the council by every department head and every subordinate branch of the municipal machine to prevent the cut being made in their respective offices. Like Artemus Ward, who was willing to sacrifice his wife's relations in the war, they are willing to see the tax levy reduced if they can only make sure that the reduction will affect the other departments and not their own.

Will the council yield to the clamor of payroll men and contractors, or will it heed the demands of the people who pay the taxes and are vitally concerned in maintaining the credit of Omaha unimpaired? Will it ratify the tax rate recommended by its finance committee or will it rush headlong along the paths that have well nigh wrecked the city's finances? Will it persist in a policy that will compel property owners to incur the penalties of delinquency and leave the treasury without means to meet ordinary expenses? Will it take a course that will send warrants 'way down below par and force employes of the city, who are obliged to pay their way as they go, to suffer wage reduction through warrant shaving, that will be more disastrous than a downright cut in salaries? Will it pursue a policy that will flood the town with unpaid warrants that will draw 7 per cent interest, and thus roll up a floating debt that will eventually swamp the city? If, as has been all along asserted, measures have already been adopted by which the running expenses of the city will be reduced by from $30,000 to $40,000 for 1896, what excuse is there for levying the same tax this year as was levied last year?

If the council can curtail expenses, so can the police board. Why should the police commission dictate to the council how much it shall raise for police purposes? What is true of the police commission is equally true of the school board. These bodies persistently ignore the changed conditions of the city's income and the ability of its citizens to pay taxes. In this crisis, the council cannot evade the responsibility. As the board of directors of the municipal corporation, it cannot defiantly disregard the expressed wishes of the property-owning taxpayers who constitute the stockholders of the corporation.

There are forty insane patients in the Douglas county hospital. For the care and sustenance of these wards the taxpayers of Douglas county must pay, while they also pay one-tenth of the cost of maintaining the state asylums for the insane. The law contemplated that all insane people of this county be removed to the state institutions where they belong. Efforts to do so have been met with the statement that the state asylums are full to overflowing. In other words, boards of insanity in interior counties have shown much more activity in getting rid of insane people than has the board in this country. It would be dollars in the pockets of our people to have this discrimination stopped.

Senator Allen's bill to authorize and encourage the holding of a Transmissisippi exposition in Omaha in 1898 has been read twice and referred to the select committee on international expositions, of which Senator Thurston is chairman. There ought to be no difficulty in securing the passage of the bill. It is in good hands in the senate, while the entire Nebraska delegation in the house will push it through the committees and to final passage. With prompt congressional action on this important matter it will be easy to secure support from state legislatures throughout the west.

If misery always loved company Omaha would derive some comfort from the following extract from an editorial in the Chicago Tribune: "In a few days the council will have to make the appropriations for the present year. It will have to do so with the full knowledge of the fact that the revenues will be fully half a million less than they were last year, while the legitimate expenses are much greater. To make matters worse there is a floating debt of several millions, a part of which ought to be paid off at once."

The next event in Omaha of statewide importance is the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, booked for February 11. Local committees promise no less than 1,000 delegates, for whose entertainment unusual preparations are being made. Questions of moment in which veterans all over the union are interested will come up for discussion at the encampment. Omaha will extend the approved brand of hospitality to the veterans and their ladies.

The Omaha postoffice receives during a year about $100,000 in gold, which is deposited in the bank designated as the United States depository. The suggestion has been made by an eastern postmaster that all gold received at postoffices be shipped directly to the United States treasury and not deposited in local banks. A very good idea, indeed, and one which is likely to grow in force and momentum.

Unaccountable Neglect.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Up to this writing the chaplain of the house has not called the attention of Deity to the crime of '73.

The Subject Exhausted.

Globe-Democrat.

The Monroe doctrine has been sufficiently discussed for all practical purposes, and the country does not care for any more speeches upon the subject.

Political Prayers.

Chicago Chronicle.

The excreable habit of inflicting a stump speech into the body of a prayer at the opening of the congressional sessions is an adequate cause for abolishing the chaplaincy, which never, at its best, was more than a useless ornament. It has now become an excrescence.

A Painful Hump.

New York Sun.

The position and curve of the handle bars on the new bicycles exhibited promise to turn out even more dyspeptic-looking wheelmen than have yet been seen. A very large percentage of the wheels had handle bars adjusted extremely low and curved both downward and forward, compelling a rider to assume more the position of a frog than of a man. For the sake of preserving human gracefulness and identity, cyclists are earnestly requested not to encourage the scorcher's pose by using this sort of handle bars.

Two Sides to the Question.

Philadelphia Ledger.

Populist Allen's bill to prohibit the purchase or use by the government of any articles made by convict labor revives the old discussion on this subject. The populists and labor unionists take the ground that prison labor competes with that of free workmen and puts the latter at a disadvantage. Mr. Allen's bill, therefore, is in the interests of the working classes—or what they consider their interests. On the other hand, prison labor not only tends to improve the moral and physical condition of the prisoners, which modern civilization considers a somewhat important point, but also enables them to pay part of the cost of keeping them, which taxpayers consider another important point.

Combine of the Coal Barons.

Buffalo Express.

This gigantic coal and railroad combination—second in size only to the Joint Traffic association—thus is prepared for business on the monopoly principle. That it is in defiance of state and national laws is apparent. Competition is suppressed and the public is told to accept the prices fixed or go cold. What will be done about it? Are the laws to be defied or will they be changed? One or the other alternative must be accepted. The real question is whether it is possible to enforce the anti-trust laws as they apply to the railroads. Thus far very little success has attended what efforts have been made. The test case is that begun recently in the United States court in New York against the members of the Joint Traffic association. The public will be keenly alive to the issue of that action.

The Vicksburg National Park.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The present congress will be asked to appropriate money for the purchase of 4,000 acres of land surrounding Vicksburg, which the armies of Grant and Pemberton occupied during the siege of that city. The land will cost $28 an acre, making the entire expense $112,000. It is stated by the Vicksburg National Park association that the price per acre is more than twice as much as the lands of the Shiloh battlefield would have cost had the government availed itself of the option held by the Shiloh Battlefield association. It may be treasonous to suggest that we have now battlefields enough converted into national parks, but evidently we must stop somewhere. Not every place in the south where important fighting took place can be sequestrated from useful occupancy to preserve the memorials of battle. We have already sufficient object lessons in Gettysburg and Chickamauga. The idea is admirable, but it can be overdone.

Defense and the Jingo Spirit.

Philadelphia Record.

With foreign possessions a powerful navy would seem a necessity. But without them it would not be required. With the progress of invention and military science our seaboard towns can be defended, and readily defended, by adequate ordnance and an adequate torpedo service. And we may add that in the present uncertain state of our foreign relations no time should be lost in supplying such ordnance and in bringing into requisition such service at all vulnerable points.

We cannot help thinking that a spirit is abroad in our country that is in direct conflict with the spirit of our earlier policy—the policy of Washington and his successors. It is the spirit of expansion, the desire to go beyond our borders, and to plant the stars and stripes in the islands of the seas. Senator Lodge suggests the acquisition of Greenland; for what practical object it is vain to conjecture. We have done well so far by adhering to the doctrine of the fathers, and it is a safe motto to let well enough alone.

Clerical Plea for Arbitration.

Chicago Tribune.

A long and formidable array of English divines of all denominations, headed by Dean Farrar, has published the text of a declaration which will be sent to this country for signatures, urging the establishment of a permanent tribunal of arbitration for all the English-speaking nations. So far as the United States is concerned, if its people are wise, they will reply to the English peacemakers that they will be ready for arbitration when they are prepared for self-defense and not before. When we have a complete armament able to stand off an English fleet we shall be ready for arbitration, and the English will be more anxious for it than we. As long as we are at the mercy of England she would dictate the terms of every arbitration and probably the decision of it also. We cannot afford to give our consent to any Quaker business until our coast cities are no longer liable to be ruined by English shells or can only be saved from ruin by paying a heavy tribute. There is nothing that would so absolutely insure arbitration as heavy long range guns and formidable floating batteries of the Puritan style.

THE EXPOSITION.

Illustrating the Development of the Transmississippi Region.

Chicago Tribune.

A movement is on foot to hold a Transmississippi exposition at Omaha in 1898, to be open six months. The purpose is to make a grand display of the resources of the whole country, but especially of the twenty-four states and territories west of the Mississippi river. It is the intention to let the world see what a magnificent region west of Chicago there is still to be developed and made the home of many millions of happy, prosperous people. It is hoped to make the exhibit as a whole second only in splendor to the great World's fair which was held in this city in 1893, and no effort will be spared to make it take that rank in history.

The population of the states and territories west of the Mississippi river increased from 5,665,683 in 1870 to 14,215,409 in 1890, the proportion for the extremes of the twenty-year period being about 100 to 250. The gain in wealth was far greater, and the increase since 1890 is a large one. Roughly speaking, one may say the population is three times that of a quarter of a century ago, which was soon after the completion of the Pacific railroad connection between the east and the far west. The development of that vast area has not much more than begun. Not only the precious metals, but other minerals are being taken from the ground in vast quantities, and the artificial irrigation of soil in the semi-arid regions is being pushed with a vigor that promises soon to bring under cultivation untold millions of acres that a few years ago were vaguely alluded to as constituting a part of the "Great American Desert," never to be made of use to man. Twenty-five years since Nebraska, on the eastern edge of which the exposition of 1898 will be held, was thinly settled, with little or nothing beyond the distance of 150 miles west from the Missouri river; and west of that was literally a wilderness. Nebraska now contains more than 1,000,000 people, with 1,000,000 acres of land under irrigation, and barns and farm houses extend all the way from the Missouri to Cheyenne. The then territories now are states, though not all of them merit that distinction. The population of Nevada was less than 46,000 in 1890, and now does not much exceed that total.

The population of Chicago has increased at even a greater pace. The census total for 1870 was 298,977, and that for 1890 was 1,208,669, or more than four times greater. The 1,750,000 persons now estimated to reside within the limits of Chicago are nearly six times as many as those of 1870. This similarity of development is far from being merely accidental. Chicago has been and still is the principal market of the vast transmississippi area, and there is no reason to think it will not continue to be so, though several minor centers have sprung up and others may arise while the population of the area west of this city is trebling and quadrupling as it must be expected to do in the course of the next few years. Undoubtedly this further filling up will be reflected into this city as its principal focus, though the smaller cities of Omaha, Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Des Moines and St. Louis will also share in the development. So Chicago is greatly interested in all that tends to foster the industrial activities of the area beyond the Mississippi; and its people, with those of other portions of Illinois, ought to take an active part in the exposition. A local company has been organized at Omaha for preliminary work, but each state will be asked to recognize and co-operate, and a bill offered by Senator Allen now is pending in congress, the object of which is to make the work of the organized directory more comprehensive and effective than it otherwise could be.

BUSTLING BOOMS.

Globe-Democrat: Colonel Bill Morrison seems to suit both the free silver and the sound money democrats, but can he keep on doing so by leaving his views in a state of masterly suspension?

St. Louis Republic: If Senator Cullom wants to figure as a presidential possibility he ought to get elected as delegate-at-large to the republican convention and place some other candidate in nomination.

Buffalo Express: Ex-Governor Pattison of Pennsylvania has practically been declared a candidate for the democratic presidential nomination by Chairman Harrity of the democratic national committee. Is he a real candidate or only a dummy put up to bag delegates for President Cleveland?

Kansas City Star: McKinley is likely to secure the Louisville delegation to the republican national convention. He is developing considerable strength in the southern states, which will be of small value to him in the electoral college, but which will be of great importance to him at St. Louis, where the presidential fight is likely to be decided this year. It is rather curious, though, that McKinley, who promises to show up stronger on the first ballot than any of his competitors, is the man of all others that the democrats would choose to lead the opposition if they were permitted to have a voice in the selection of the candidate.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The original St. Paul was a land lubber, too.

Even though the race was lost, the St. Paul displayed considerable sand.

The sultan of Turkey appears to lie on the bear side of the world's diplomacy.

Turkey denies the report that a treaty with Russia has been concluded. But Turkey also denies that there have been any massacres in Armenia.

Senator Tillman cruelly stabbed the memory of an ancient member of his party when he called Secretary Carlisle a Judas. It is related that Mr. Judas had a decided weakness for silver.

The ex-eminent and amiable John L. Sullivan leaped from a moving train in Illinois the other day to escape the importunities of a writhing zoo. There wasn't room for argument on the train.

Mrs. Dimmick, who is to wed General Harrison, married Walter Dimmick, a brilliant young lawyer, fifteen years ago. He died while they were on their wedding tour. For eight years she wore mourning for him.

A Cincinnati banker accused of embezzling $160,000 was given the marble heart by the prosecuting officers and sentenced to a term in the state senate. Meanwhile the palladium of civil rights exhibits a groggy feeling.

Chicago is coddling the notion that 3 cents is abundant compensation to extract from a street car passenger who is obliged to stand up. But the advocates of the reduction reckon without Yerkes and his council.

Reports of a political primary in Washington tend to show that the quantity of blood spilled nearly equalled the amount of liquid rasps stowed under the collars of the sovereigns. As these primaries come but once in four years, the day is necessarily a red letter one.

Just as the Society of Colonial Dames, after due investigation, declared that Ben Franklin was "no gentleman," a Philadelphia savant announces the discovery of nothing less than the existence of a distinct and separate corpuscle of blue blood. If this test should be applied at home and abroad it would show that the author of written pedigrees gracefully wears the mantle of Mulhatton.

Senator Cameron, the father of the retiring senator, was for nearly forty of his 78 years the supreme boss in Pennsylvania politics. For thirty years of that period he was United States senator and an aggressive and influential factor in national affairs. The nomination of Abraham Lincoln for president in 1860 was due in part to his course in abandoning Mr. Seward at a critical juncture in the contest. His resignation as senator was followed by the immediate election of his son, who upon his retirement in 1897, will have occupied the place for twenty years.

The committee of Rochester, N. Y., citizens recently appointed to raise funds for the erection of a monument in that city to the memory of the late Frederick Douglass appeals to all patriotic citizens for aid. The monument is to be placed in position in one of the public parks on August 1, and will cost somewhere about $10,000. The bronze statue of Mr. Douglass will be eight feet high, the granite pedestal nine and a half feet high, with four bronze tablets. The many friends of the great leader of the colored race who may desire to contribute to this worthy cause may send money to the Democrat and Chronicle, the Rochester Morning Herald, the Union and Advertiser, or the Post-Express.

A DAY TO CELEBRATE.

Fortieth Anniversary of the Birth of the Republican Party.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The suggestion of the Union Republican club of Washington, D. C., that there be a celebration this year of the fortieth anniversary of the birth of the republican party, ought to meet with general favor among republicans. If there is to be any general observance of the day, it ought to be held on February 22. On that day of that month in 1856 took place the first national gathering of republicans which ever met. It assembled in Pittsburg, in obedience to a call of the chairman of the republican state committees of Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. As is true, of course, of all political parties, the republican party had state before it had a national organization. The Pittsburg gathering, which was attended by representatives of the party from twenty-four states, framed a national organization for the party, and the national committee then chosen, called the Philadelphia convention of June 17, 1856, which made John C. Fremont the party's standard bearer for president.

It is usually difficult, and is often impossible to fix upon the precise beginning of a great social or political upheaval. Frequently the real starting point of a movement is much farther back than the time when that movement began to take concrete shape. This is particularly true of the genesis of political parties. In the case of the republican party, however, the beginning can be pointed out with a little more confidence than can that of any other great political organization except the federalist. That party had its starting point in the convention of 1787, which framed the constitution. Its antagonist, the republican or democratic-republican party of Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin, had its origin in the debates in the same gathering, but it did not begin to take organized shape until the discussion of the Jay treaty in the house of representatives in 1795 and the presidential election of 1796, while the starting point of its historical successor, the democratic party of Jackson, Buchanan and Cleveland, can be put anywhere between 1825 and 1829. Considerable haze also envelops the actual birth point of the national republican party of 1825-34 and the whig party of 1834-54, the predecessors of the present republican organization.

But for all practical purposes the beginning of the republican party can be pointed out with a reasonable degree of precision. The impulse, of course, which led to its formation was generated by the Kansas-Nebraska bill signed by President Pierce May 30, 1854, opening the territories north of the Missouri line of 36-30 to slavery, which forced all the enemies of slavery extension—abolitionists, free soilers, anti-slavery whigs and anti-slavery democrats—into the combination which took the name of the republican party. The republican name was adopted in Ripon, Wis., as early as March, 1854, before the Kansas bill passed, but when its enactment was seen to be inevitable, Michigan, however, has the honor of holding the first state gathering that selected that name, which met on July 6, 1854. As before mentioned, the first national gathering of the party was that which met in Pittsburg on February 22, 1856. The fortieth anniversary of the party's birth will be at hand in a little over three weeks, and republican clubs throughout the country should take steps to bring about an appropriate observance of the occasion. All the large parties and some of the small ones have rendered valuable service to the country, but none of them were so strong in constructive statesmanship as the republican party or had such a glorious record except the great party of Washington, Adams, Hamilton and the Pinckneys, which laid the foundations upon which the edifice of the government has been built.

SALISBURY AND MONROE.

Indianapolis News: Salisbury is for the Monroe doctrine as President Monroe understood it. But it will not be left to Salisbury to say just how Monroe understood it. We will attend to that little matter ourselves.

Minneapolis Journal: Salisbury wants it to be understood that he and President Monroe are precisely in accord on the "doctrine." If Colonel Monroe was in the white house today, however, he would notify Salisbury to push the British Guiana line back to the east of the Essequibo river, where it belongs.

Kansas City Star: The only difference, Mr. Salisbury, between the Monroe doctrine in 1823 and the Monroe doctrine now is that when it was first proclaimed it suited the commercial purposes of England, which were opposed to the holy alliance and which objected to the boundary claims of Russia in North America; whereas now its application would interfere with the plans of Great Britain to absorb a portion of Venezuela to which it has no claim. The boot is simply on the other foot. That's all there is of it. The principle remains unchanged, and the United States will see to it that it is supported by proper authority.

Chicago Post: Why not take the British premier at his word? We must drive a peg somewhere. Drive it here. The senate is discussing the form and expediency of resolutions enunciating the principle. Why waste time in haggling over phrases? Why not be content with a congressional reassertion of the rule of policy in the original words of Monroe? When Monroe defined the rule he tacitly admitted Great Britain as a silent partner in the doctrine. She had great dependencies existing in this hemisphere, and with those we agreed not to interfere. Salisbury formally commits the British government and people to the essence of the rule as first laid down; and this admission is a long stride toward an amicable settlement of the Venezuelan dispute.

Brazos River Still Rising.

FORT WORTH, Tex., Feb. 3.—The Brazos river is still rising at Columbia; it rose fifteen feet in thirty-six hours and its current is equal to that of a mountain stream. Seven vessels belonging to the Columbia Transportation company were swept away. The river is now out of its banks and is sweeping over the surrounding country. Near Navastota the Brazos and Navasota rivers have united and are twelve miles wide. Two miles of the Santa Fe railroad track are submerged.

Chinese Government Buying Lumber.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 3.—An agent of the Chinese government has come to the coast to place an order for 50,000,000 feet of lumber. Most of it is intended for the construction and repair of government buildings. The agent says indications are good for a healthy revival of the lumber trade throughout China and Japan this and next year.

Advanced the Price of Nails.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 3.—The Wire Nail Manufacturers association has addressed a circular letter to the jobbing trade, giving news of another advance in prices of 15 cents per 100. This will change the base rate from $2.25 to $2.40 per 100, which is the highest price asked for wire nails in many years. Only a year or so ago the base price was 85 cents.

Young John Robinson Hurt.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 3.—Young Robinson, son of Showman John Robinson, whose menagerie is wintering at Terrace park, near here, was seriously but not fatally wounded by a large leopard which escaped from the menagerie and which he, with others, was attempting to capture. Attendants came to his rescue and killed the animal.

Joseph Cook at Home Again.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 3.—Joseph Cook of Boston, who recently returned from Australia and Japan, is at Clifton Springs suffering from nervous prostration. He is nearly blind, owing to a weakness of the optic nerve. He will be taken to his cottage at Lake George early in the spring, where it is hoped he will recover.

THE CAMP OUT OF DATE.

Wilber Independent: The Omaha Bee is about right when it says that grand army men have become too aged to think of continuing to hold reunions in the open air. That such gatherings should be held in large cities where good comfortable quarters could be furnished the old vets.

Kearney Hub: The Omaha Bee recommends that the Grand Army of the Republic of Nebraska break away from the "barbarous comping out system" and hold their annual reunions in the larger cities where conveniences, comforts, and the best accommodations can be provided, such as will be in keeping with the advancing age of the veterans. The suggestion is good on the one side, but it is probable if the camp-life feature was taken out of these annual gatherings they would cease in a short time and would no longer be reunions except in name.

Hastings Independent: An editorial article in Sunday's Omaha Bee deserves careful consideration by the ex-soldiers of Nebraska. It urges the discontinuance of camp life at the reunions. The veterans, it was claimed, are getting too old and feeble to undergo the exposures and dangers of a week in tents. The Bee suggests that the reunions be held in the large cities and that the soldiers put up at hotels. This is too expensive for a majority of the boys. Besides the large cities are off to one side of the state, too far away for them to attend. The second and third cities can take care of about all who will come to reunions by admitting them into the homes of the people, something that could not be expected from the big cities. The people of Hastings last year could have given shelter in their homes to nearly every veteran who came here had that been preferred to camping out. We presume there is danger to the health of the aged ex-soldiers in spending several days in tents, but they are too noble to admit it for awhile yet.

FARMER TILLMAN'S FURY.

Globe-Democrat: The fact that Tillman was allowed to make his scandalous speech without being called to order goes to show that senatorial courtesy may be stretched to a point where it becomes a culpable neglect of duty.

Chicago Times-Herald: That a senator should have the temerity to assail the president with such brutal disregard of the proprieties of his position shows how sadly the senate has degenerated since the days of Webster and Clay.

Chicago Post: Senator Tillman's speech in the senate on the bond bill was robbed by its violence of any strength it might have had as an argument. The upper chamber of congress is rarely the scene of outbreaks of this character, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Tillman will not find imitators.

Chicago Chronicle: The southerners in both houses of congress, with very few exceptions, are, or pretend to be, utterly unsound on the currency question. They are either silver repudiators or downright flatists. Their demagogy, dishonesty or ignorance, whichever it may be, would kindle the righteous wrath of Old Bullion Benton and all the other able southern statesmen of the ante-war days and evoke their sternest rebuke.

Kansas City Times: Tillman is not worth the space the press dispatches give him. A demagogue, he loves notoriety as incense to his nostrils. His fitting punishment, that is, if the penal laws do not reach his case which are applied to Most and others who preach treason in the name of liberty and anarchy under the mask of reform, would be not to print a line about him in the decent press of the country. Such treatment would break his heart and end his career in ignominy and the obscurity he deserves.

Indianapolis News: But the senate, low as it has fallen in popular estimation, is still capable of being disgraced. It will suffer severely, because of Tillman's speech. There has remained somewhat of dignity and courtesy in the senate. But what can be said of the dignity and courtesy of a legislative body which allows the performance of yesterday to pass unchallenged? No one cares what Tillman thinks about President Cleveland, but every patriotic citizen will insist that the president of the United States shall be treated with respect in the United States senate. President Cleveland cannot be hurt by the abuse of a blackguard. But the senate is disgraced.

TRITE TRIFLES.

Boston Courier: The Musician's Wife—Have you thoroughly practiced the accompaniments you are to play for Miss Amatoor tonight? The Musician—No, but it doesn't matter, you know. It's a society musicale and nobody ever listens.

Cincinnati Enquirer: "What sort of a position would you prefer?" the congressman asked of his faithful follower.

"Sedentary."

Harper's Bazar: "I really think, John," said Mrs. Severe, "that you smoke too much."

"Well, my love," said John, "if you'd occasionally give me a chance to talk I might let my cigar go out."

Detroit Free Press: He—Haven't you noticed how happy Mary Marbleton looks lately? I believe she is engaged.

She—Either that, or she has given up tight shoes.

Chicago Record: Pitcher, what made you move back to that little town?"

"Well, I want to die where my obituary notice will have a chance to cut a respectable dash."

Texas Siftings: Patient—Doctor, you think I will recover?"

Dr. Sooner—Yes, I am sure of it. You are the fortieth. One in forty recovers from your disease, and the thirty-nine that I have treated are all dead.

Philadelphia Inquirer: Mrs. Slopay invited to her afternoon tea a young doctor who had cured her of a slight cold. The doctor replied: "Enclosed find my bill. I cannot attend your tea, but should like a little 'cough fee.'"

Chicago Post: "Major Bluffton does a great deal of talking about himself and his experiences. He is a very commonplace man."

"Still, his stories have the merit of being true."

"Yes. They are too true to be good."

Cincinnati Enquirer: Bobby—Popper, what do they have to have a man to pray for congress for?

Mr. Perry—They don't. He takes a look at congress and then prays for the country.

Indianapolis Journal: "What is the use," said the Cornfed Philosopher, in a slightly querulous tone, "of woman starting out as a bread winner when she takes the cake already?"

THE VIRTUE OF CONTRAST.

Washington Star.

Hit am wuf a bit o' trouble
Foh ter measure up at last
De sweetness ob our pleasure
By de sorrow dat am past.

Ef hit warn't foh stormy wedder,
Couldn' 'preciate it half.
When de cloud shets up it's cryin'
An' de sky begins ter laugh.

SUSAN SIMPSON.

Boston Globe.

Sudden swallows swiftly skimming,
Sunset's slowly spreading shade,
Silvery songsters sweetly singing
Summer's soothing serenade.

Susan Simpson strolled sedately,
Stifling sobs, suppressing sighs.
Seeing Stephen Slocum stately,
Stopped she, showing some surprise.

"Say," said Stephen, "sweetest sigher,
Say, shal' Stephen spouseless stay?"
Susan, seeming somewhat shyer,
Showed submissiveness straightway.

Summer's season slowly stretches,
Susan Simpson Slocum she:
So she signed some simple sketches,
Soul sought soul successfully.

Six Septembers Susan swelters;
Six sharp seasons snow supplies;
Susan's satin sofa shelters
Six small Slocums, size by size.

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

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE