Garage and the second second

Carlo and an analysis and an

mice, has gradually enlarged its sphere of

action, and we hope will be able to continue

to labor for and with the people for many

years yet. We have no desire to faunt our

flag defiabily in the breeze, although we

have in an unequal and birrer contest with

comparing contemporaries surresided not-

withstabiling their repeated predictions of

failure. Our eireplation in Omaha is today

equal. If not larger than that M any news-

AT-E-T-T-T-T-T-T-T-T-T-

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 19, 1896-TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

We would fain direct attention to the to 1872 with calmness and confidence. It is,

Quarter-Centernial Anniversary of the Birth only a few years previous and had described of The Bee.

How Edward Rosewater Came to Found an Macon. March 22, 1879-My Dear Sir. Your Omaha Daily.

Baccoss Athieved Despite Adverse Conditions and Persistent Opposition.

ALWAYS A FIRM FRIEND OF THE PEOPLE

Informal Public Reception Tonight in the Court of The Bee Building to

All Subscribers, Patrons and Friends of The Bec. With vesterday's issue The Bee com-

pleted the first twenty-five years of its existence and now enters upon the second quarter century of the career. Pounded June 15, 1871, it has grown from a little two-page sheet into the magnificent newsnamer of today. It has worked uncensionly for the welfare and progress of the people of Comaha and Nebraska, and has shared their fortunes and their misfortunes for twenty-five years. It has advocated republican principles and fought the battles of true republicanium, and can book back upon a twenty-five years' career of which it has reason to be proud. The history of The Bee is an bound up

and intertwined with the history of Omaha. Nebraska and the great west during the same period that to tell of the one is to tell of the other. It is a history of ploneer work in the field of western journalism The Bee having almost from the first won and maintelned the reputation for leading instead of following. The Bee stands for enterprise and progress which are summed upon every page of the story of its develop-

In commemoration of its quarter-centernial authorizary. The Ree for today is a special illustrated souvenir number devoted to the history and achievements of the paper and its founder. In addition to the complete news of the day, it presents special festures which cannot fall to be interesting entertaining and instructive to its many faithful friends and loyal readers.

In further celebration of this memorable occasion, the editor and founder of The Ree, Edward Rosewater, will be at home to subscribers, patrons and friends generally from 8 until 10 o'clock this evening in the beautiful court of The Bebuilding. The Bee building will be specially filuminated and decorated both exterior and interior. To this informal general public reception a cordial invitation is here extended to all readers of The Bee, with whom the editor will hope to renew and strengthen his personal acquaintauce and express his thanks for past support and much appreciated encouragement

BIRTH OF THE BEE.

Founder Tells the Story of How He Came to Enter Journalism.

How did you come to start The Bee" That quention has been frequently asked but never before answered by me in print In the winter of 1870 I held the position of manager of the Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph company. Omaha was then a town of about 15,000 population, with two daily papers, the Omaha Berald and the Omaha Republican each representing one of the two great politi cal parties. The Republican was a prosper ous concern with a incretive party patronage but its proprieter Major St. A. D. Balcombe was not a pratical newspaper man, and, although the republican party was in the ascendant in Nebraska and growing stronger from year to year, the paper had been greatly distanced by its democratic competitor, ably eduted by Dr. George L. Miller. Among the runk and file of the republicans there was much dissatisfaction, and party leaders who had endeavored to induce the owner of the Republican to infuse more vitality into the paper finally decided to start a widezwake republican daily unless Major Balcombe would sell his paper, or a controlling interest. His refusal to part with the property except at an exorbitant price left no other alternative than to establish a rival to the

At that period, and for some years previous. I had been the telegraphic correspondent for the New York Herald, Chicago Tribune, Cinunati Commercial and St. Louis emocrat, now the Globe-Democrat During the six years ending in 1865, while acting as the local manager of the Western Union Telegraph company, I had also been agent of the Associated press. My practical Me., proprietor of the Monitor Printing comexperience as a telegrapher and news gathever placed me in close contact with the the Monitor company was acquired by the pross and afforded me an excellent opportunity for journalistic training Incidentally it is pertinent to state that I was an ardent republican trained in the abolition school. and had passed through the fiery ordeal of a union man living in the heart of secession at the outbreak of the war, and participating in several campaigns with the union armies. CONNECTION WITH OMAHA TRIBUNE

At the urgent request of a large number of prominent republicans, I ventured upon the of the hardest of hard work I succeeded in securing \$30,000 in subscriptions to the stock which was subscribed by myself. I had not or of seeking any position in connection with the paper. My plan was to induce some man with a national reputation to come to Omaha and establish a name for it that would insure its supremary in this section: With this end in view I addressed letters to several of the most noted editors of the country, and among these were Horace Greeley and Samuel Bowles. The autograph response of Horace Greeky, which is preserved by me as a memento of the greatest of American editors, deciphered into plain English, reads

NEW YORK TRIBUNE, NEW YORK. March 27, 1870 - Dear Sir: I have yours of the 18th inst. In my judgment, Mr. Beeman Brockway of Watertown, N. Y., would make such a paper as you want. He is able, honest, well informed and temperate. He was formerly editor of the Reformer at Watertown and has been one of our republican

case be should be absent. Yours.

HORKOR GREELEY

E. Rosewater, Esq., Consha, Neb. Sam Bowles had been across the continent impress upon him the advantage of locating

suggestions are very fiattering. I should like on many accounts to share in the unuilding of a good journal at Omaba, but I PROGRESS TO ITS POSITION OF INFLUENCE fear it is altocether out of the question. I am pretty strongly anchored here. It improvise either a journalist or a journal. appearance. It was a handsome sheet in its is a very difficult thing, may, impossible to I cannot at this moment put my thought

New York Tribune.

The 25th day of July dawned upon us, but in one of the future great cities of the west. Mr. Thomas had not reached Omaha. The Mr. Bewies made the following response: high-sounding prospectus had set everybody THE REPUBLICAN. SPRINGFIELD on tip-toe to see what a swath the great New England editor would out, and a great dijemma confronted the board of directors. A council of war was held and my offer to edit the paper in conjunction with Harry Gerald until the arrival of Mr. Thomas was accepted. Promptly at 2 p. m. on Monday. July 25, the Omaha Daily Tribune made its typographical make-up, in fact, too easily for a town of the size of Omaha. For a whole week the

editorial columns. were filled by myself and Gerand on one in Omeha had discovered that

you write him, ask the P. M. to forward in Gerald was an Irishman by Mrth and had followed by the impeachment of Governor Pacific and Great Western Telegraph comheld a lieutenant's commission in the Brit- David Butler, in which I had taken the panies, and could not in the nature of things number: ish army in India. He was a polished initiative, had a far-reaching influence, not take an active part in public agitation writer and had served an apprenticeship only upon Nebraska politics, but Omaha There was no way open to exert influence with William Cullen Bryant on the New journalism. The ascendancy to power of the upon the public mind in support of the York Post and with Horace Greeley on the anti-Grant botters faction infused new life | board of education bill, except by circular into the Tribune, which had by that time better, pumphlet or paper. It so happened Mississippi." I endeavored in my letter to EXPERIENCE AS TEMPORARY EDITOR. Dearly swamped the men who had em- that Harry Gerald, who had so ably assumed barked in the venture. The Republican was me in editing the Tribune during the first correspondingly weakened. In March 1871 the Tribune changed from an afternoon to a meeting daily, thus foreing the fighting general distribution in the business portion which culminated in the consolidation of the Tribupe with the Republican, under the name of the Tribune and Republican. The pany, was cheerfully accepted by him. controlling interest in the mammeth consolidated, as the paper was then called, was in the hands of the new senatorial dynasty. with C. E. Thomas as editor-in-chief and St. A. D. Balcombe as manager. The part I had taken in the impeachment of Governor Butler and my pronounced hostility to the man who had suddenly rome into power subjected me, very naturally, to constant attacks from the Tribupe and Republican. Dr. Millier's Herald was not very friendly. either, although it had expressed preference for General Thayer as his own successor in the senate, and had endorsed the course of can't call it the Garette, the Commercial, lowing paragraph.

week of its career, was then foot-loose. My proposition to him to start a fly sheet for of the city and in the Omaha Academy of Music, then necessed by a theatrical comness friends and acquaintances for a few advertising eards, and arranged with Redfield Brow. Job printers, for the type and press work of the new unity

On Monday morning, June 19, 1871, Harry Gerald and myself stood over the forms which made up the new two-page paper, or rather theater program. At the head of the first page. In large, black type, appeared "The Omaha Punchinelle." "What do you want to call it The

Punchinello for " excisimed Gerald. "Ob." said I, "what should it be? the great Massa. The Douglas delegation in the legislature in the Chronicle or Intelligencer. It's only a

presented, free of charge, what may, without emaggeration, be called the rectified essence of digraal history."

"Attention is directed to the special tele-

graphic dispatches of The Omaha Bee, con-

teiping the latest intelligence up to the

hour of going to press. Thoroughly our

denned, the telegraph news of The Ber will.

t is to be hoped, afford some evidence, in

addition to the other proveities, that the

editor of this journal in determined to de-

of tournalistic effort. To the Omaha public

column of the present Bee. bers. The four-page edition was full with four columns to the page. On the lith of July the paper was still rumone under the heading "H. Geralde, Editor and Poblisher," We and in the editorial columns appears the fol-

maner in the city, and the reciple of this serve success in a hitherto untrollen field state are gradually but surely advancing The Bee to the front rank us the organ of ever requipt to recognize enterprise. In thus the people of Nebraska. Our patrons may The "ensence," so called consisted of two- encouragement by unswercing felelity to thirds of a column of telegraph from home principle and undaunted and vigorous exand foreign points, equal to one-third of a posure of corruption in public places. dentified personally with Dmahu and Ne-The Bee became a four-page paper on the brushs for the past nine years having 3d day of July, after printing twelve num- shared is her early and continued struggles, we shall continue to our effects to advance our rity and state on the high road toward prosperity and civilination. In this we need past support is a criterion we have no fears for the future. We therefore, look forward



but I may be able in a day or two to sug- the appearance of the gest one for you. What you should do is dawned upon me that to buy out the present republican paser was sure to be a great sink-hole. this most earnestly. It is a great deal

1872 - 79.

SAM'L BOWLES. ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED.

into with Hon. Joseph Hall of Portland pany, by which the job printing plant of Omaha Tribune company. Mr. Hall had been secretary of state for the state of Maine and was reputed to be a man of good business capacity. Under the agree ment made with him, the machinery and printing materials which were brought to Omaha were upon appraisal to be exchanged for Tribune company stock. In those days a job office was considered an indispensathe adjunct of every newspaper and our acquisition was considered most fortunate.

Shortly after I had received the letter task of organizing a stock company having from Samuel Bowles, declining to assume for its object the establishment of a first the editorship of the new republican daily class republican daily. After three months an application for the position was received from Mr. C. H. Thomas, accompanied by a recommendation from Mr. Bowles of the Tribune Printing company, \$2,000 of which endorsed Mr. Thomas as a polished writer and experienced journalist. Mr. the remotest idea of ever becoming an editor | Thomas hailed from Duxberry Mass, had received a collegiste education, and for a number of years had been editor of several New England papers, notably the Worcester After considerable correspondence we engaged Mr. Thomas for the position of

editor-in-chief of the Omaha Tribune In June, 1870, the prospectus of the Tribune was issued and the announcement made that the paper would be published every afternoon, except Sundays, and its first copy was to appear on Monday, July M. In due time Mr. Joseph Hall, with his Monitor job printing plant, landed in Omaha and were installed in very commodious quarters in what was then the most central carting of the city, on the west side of

Pourtoeath street, near the corner of Far-

was ready to begin publication of the

Tribune. About that time a literary genius by the name of Harry Gerald Strifted into Omaha and was added to the editorial staff. Harry not yet arrived. It Governor Butler, and in purging the state to be a newspaper. I can't give it a polition the all important topic here—the High of the downfall of intolerance and bigotry, goes without sayhouse of corruption ing that I felt de-

the public schools of Omaha. At that period

the graded schools of Omaha were under

the control of a common school board.

ing. This board had a salaried treasurer

regents of the Omnha High school. Chur-

tered by the territorial legislature, this body

create an academy on the grounds occupied

institution. When the bill came before the

legislature authorizing the lastic of bends

for the erection of the Omaha High school

building I made the proposition that the

board of high school regents should be con-

also the proposition that the directors of the

common schools should assume the manage-

ment of the high school as well as of the

Thereupon I set to work to frame a bill

for the creation of a board of education for

graded schools.

my first editorial upon a man worthy of your consideration, experience. Within thirty days from Tribune It the paper and then get better men into it. I advise expenses had by far outrun its receipts, and its circulation was less four weeks after it better and easier than to undertake to oust had started than it had been on the first day. As a member of the board of directors I requested information from the manager concerning its financial condition, but he In April, 1876, negotiations were entered declined to go into details. My resignation from the board was thereupon tendered, and was fortunate enough to induce other members to take my stock without less. The campaign of 1870 was intensely ex-

cidedly flattered by

citing as it involved the election of a United States senator. The stalwart or Grant wing of the republican party was marshaled to the support of General John M. Thayer, who was then serving the last year of his term. Theyer was a very popular party leader, and in spite of the most bitter opposition succeeded in carrying the republican primerses and nominating a leginlative ticket pledged to his support. A rival legislative ticket was put in the field by the faction opposed to Chayer, and this bolters' ticket was supported vigorously by the Tribune. With unparalleled imbecility and pusilanimity, the Omeha Republican remained neutral in the fight for fear of offending the leaders of the bolting anti-Thayer faction. The Thayer stalwarts were therefore compelled to have a campaign guages; by a dozen active republicans, induding myself. This campaign sheet was insued from the job office of Redfield & Bros. where The Bee was subsequently usbered into life.

The regular republican legislative ticket. n which I had accepted a nomination for the lower house, was triumphantly elected. and I was thus launched into the political arena, in which I have since played a more or less conspicuous part.

The re-election of General Thayer to the United States senate would have been a death-blow to the Tribune, but it was dedemocrats with the anti-Grant independents. cemented together by a large amount of boodie, resulted in the retirement of Thayer By the middle of July everything and the triumph of the faction of republican renegades that had supported Andy Johnson and his policy.

INPLUENCE OF POLITICS.

A conlition of all the

o pass out of the hands of the Buard of Regenta, several of whom were prominent

dorsed by the people. Neither of the ex-

an active interest was the reorganization of idea is to punch up some of the old fossils." seif."

"Well," said Gerald, "why not call it The Bee. That would also be suggestive. The to take the form largely of signed communi-Bee gives honey and it stings. It is also cations until July 27, when the following an emblem of industry. After all this may become a newspaper and you might wan and secretary. There was also a board of to retain the name after it once is started "We will call it The Bee, then," said I

It matters very little to me anybow, bewas entirely independent of the common cause I don't expect to have much to do school board. Its original design was to with it after the school bond election. So the heading of "Punchipello" was by the territorial capitol and to make it an taken out and that of The Omaha Bee was exclusive, somewhat aristocratic educational inserted in its place

Another question presented itself: "Who's to be the responsible editor?" I did not want my name connected with the insignifican't sheet which would at best perish within a few weeks and might subject me set, to make The lice a newspaper in the solidated with the common school board, or to ridicule and contempt. So we inserted true meaning of the word. that the board of regents assume the man- at the head of the editorial column on the agement of all the schools. These proposi- second page, Harry Gerald, editor and pro-E. ROSEWATER. tions were contemptuously rejected, as was prictor.

GENESIS OF THE BEE.

Darly Struggle for Existence and Sub-

The history of The Bee is a panorama of the city of Omaha. This bill was modeled the history of a mighty struggle against adafter the laws governing the boards of edu- verse circumstances, formidable opposition, cation in the cities of Detroit. Cleveland and obstanles which during infancy seemed and Cincinnati. It conferred upon an elec- almost insurmountable. It is a history of tive board of education the control and years of ceaseless toil crowned with popular supervision of all the public schools, in approval and support. Its success is not due deding the High school, and made the city to mere accident or good luck, but is the retreasurer of Omaha eg-officio treasurer of sult of twenty-five years of hard labor the board of education. This bill was and untiring exertion

pushed through the legislature by me in | The Ludly Bee made its first appearance spite of all opposition and remonstrance on the 19th of June, 1871. It was a twofrom the regents. The only concession I page 12:18 sheet five columns to a page was forced to make was that the ratifica- and had the appearance of a theater protion of the act was to be submitted to the gram. In fact the program of the voters of the city of Omeha at the special Academy of Music filled all but two columns dection called for voting on the bonds for of the first page. Five hundred copies were the erection of the High school. I had struck off at Hedfield Brothers' job office, of taken great pride in this measure and felt which about 500 were laid upon the seats at a deep interest in having my work en- the Academy of Music and the remainder isting Omaha dailies was disposed to favor botels

the change. The Omaha Republican vigor-The name of H. Geralde appeared at the ously opposed it. It glso became apparent bead of the column of paragraphs as editor that much of the opposition was due to the and publisher, but the real publisher and founder was Edward Rosewater, who was at friendship of the patrons of The Bee. It is neglected his business and was accordingly fact that the control of the \$290,000 to be expended on the High school building was that time manager of the Atlantic and Pasife telegraph lines and withheld his name | pendent course in discussing fearlessly and he was no longer councied with this cato avoid disagreeable notoriety in connection with what he then regarded us a venture that would not survive sixty days. No lng subscription list and advertising patron. effect in the paper. This, of course, greatly I was still manager of the Atlantic and prospectus was issued, but the following age. Of bumble and unpretending origin, angered Anderson at The See establishment

voting for the impeachment and removal of little funnygram and I don't expent it ever communication of Hon. Edward Rosewater we hope, to be an era of universal reform, ical name, either. Funchinellie is odd and school question. The communication needs of commercial progress and prosperity not One of the measures in which I had taken suggestive of pun, wit, surensm, and my no eulogy at our hands. It speaks for it only in Omeha and Nebrasha, but in the

> Mr. Rosewater's contributions continued announcement was given to the public

EDITOR DISCLOSES HIS IDENTITY Hee as a granuitous advertising medium mountain bowitzer drawn by an ironclad and the general desire expressed by a dog and a revolver in his mouth. This was large number of our citizens for its en- the first pictorial newspaper work done in brygement as an evening journal warrant the hope of its future success as a thoroughly fearless and independent exponent of public opinion. Mr. Harry Geralde will continue as editor-in-chief, assisted by gentlemen of journalistic experience. It will be the aim of the publisher, from the out-

"EDWARD ROSEWATER.

"Publisher and Proprietor. On July 27, 1871, a second enlargement took place, making The Bee four pages, 10x 20, of five columns each twelve ems wide. The third enlargement came August 28, 1871, when it comprised four pages, 12x24 inches, six columns to the page. The price of subscription was 12% cents per week, or 50 cents per month. On September 12 1871, notice appeared as follows:

"NOTICE-Mr. Robert Anderson is

"E ROSEWATER Proprietor." On September 6 of the same year The Weekly Bee was established, since grown plicated in the crime: to magnificent proportions and catering specially to the intelligent farmers and labor-

the first year, the youthful Bee indulged in the rear, and were running up the outside these optimistic reflections taken from its of the building on the south. editorial columns of December 30, 1671. under the caption, "The First Year:"

COMPLETION OF THE FIRST YEAR. city and state, we desire to express our some months past as the bookkeeper

whole union."

FIRST ILLUSTRATIONS.

The first number of The Bee for 1872 had upon its front pare a cartoon of a peaceable citizen going for his mail to the Omaha postofice. It represented a man armed with "The popular favor accorded The Omaha about a dozen firearms, several knives, a

> On Monday, April 15, 1872, C. B. Thomas, who had severed his connection with the Tribune and Republican as his editor, made a temporary engagement as associate editor of The Bee. This engagement terminated, however, a few days after the establishment was destroyed by fire June 11, 3872.

On May 6, 1872, The Bee was again enlarged, this time to double its size, and the publication office removed to 510 (old number) Twelfth street, two doors south of the original office. The proprietor had purchased a new dress of type, but the press work was done in the Redfield building on a Cincinnati drum cylinder press, operated

BURNED BY INCENDIARIES.

Early on the morning of June 11, 1872, The Bee office was destroyed by the torch of an incendiary, and the first announcelonger connected in any capacity with this ment of the fire was made by The Bee on paper and no responsibilities incurred by the afternoon of the same day. The detailed account of how the fire was discove ered and extinguished constuded with this reference to its origin and the parties im-

"The fire was undoubtedly the work of at incendiary, as the fiames when first discovered were breaking forth from the base-As marking the successful completion of ment and first story of The Bee office in been no fire in the building for nearly ! month past. From these circumstances if was concluded by nearly everybody that \$ was the devillah work of an incendiary "In closing a most eventful year and en- For various reasons the finger of suspicion tering upon the yet unknown future, preg- was almost universally pointed to a Robnant no doubt with many changes to our ert Anderson, who has been employed to heartfelt appreciation of the support and The Bee. Last week he got drunk and especially gratifying to us that our inde- discharged. To give the public notice that impartially all questions of public policy tablishment in any manner whatever, it has been rewarded by a constantly increas- became necessary to insert a notice to that