

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily (without Sunday), One Year, \$6.00...

SENATOR WOLOTT'S SPEECH.

The speech of Senator Wolcott as temporary chairman of the republican national convention is worthy of the fame of the Colorado senator as an orator. It is an eloquent presentation of the record of the republican party and of the spirit, policy and purpose of the party.

or any state of the northwest that he did not carry in 1896?

Mr. Bryan will get votes in the east and middle west on the anti-trust and anti-imperialism issues, but he is likely to lose as many or more of those who were then suffering from the business depression and are now prosperous, and at all events the number that will be drawn to him by the new issues will not be sufficient to give him the electoral vote of any eastern or middle western state.

Prerequisites of the Feast.

Japan on its ear, Russia on its flank and the rest on the tip of expectation, wonder the balance of power in China is uncertain.

NEBRASKA PRESS COMMENT ON CONTEMPT.

Emerison Enterprise. The fusion supreme judges will not gain much in their contempt proceedings against the Omaha Bee and its editor. It seems too much like trying to put it alone will suffer in the public esteem.

Thankful for a Miss.

Admiral Dewey is not the first American hero to thank God he had missed the presidency. General Winfield Scott expressed the same pious gratification when he learned of his defeat by General Franklin Pierce at the polls in 1852.

The Second Front.

The quiet, subdued and orderly manner in which the democrats all over the country are following Bryan is so different from the usual democratic habit that can be explained only on the ground that they know they are following a general procession.

OFFICERS.

Omaha, The Bee Building, South Omaha, City Hall Building, Twenty-fifth and N streets. Council Officers: President, J. H. ...

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While Omaha business men are apprehensive that the failure of the census to show a substantial increase in the population of Omaha may react to the detriment of the community it is worth while for them to remember how the plan to consolidate Omaha and South Omaha in advance of the census-taking was frustrated by the veto of the present fusion governor.

In anticipation of the present situation the last legislature passed a bill incorporating several new provisions and amendments into the Omaha charter, chief among which was one designed to facilitate the annexation of South Omaha. Had this bill become a law the question of annexation would have been submitted to the voters of the two cities at their spring elections and would unquestionably have received the necessary majorities.

The reference of Senator Wolcott to the currency question was particularly interesting, because of his attitude hitherto. He declared that the effort to drive this country into an alliance with Mexico and China as an exclusively silver-using country impelled a settlement of the problem and the recent action of congress has eliminated the danger which its further agitation menaced. He said the policy of the republican party had not only made stable and permanent our financial credit, but it had left the populist democracy a dead issue it can never again galvanize into life and "compelled them to seek to create new issues growing out of a war which they were most eager to precipitate."

He declared that the passage of the gold standard bill marked the termination, forever final, of any sort of difference between republicans of the east and of the west, growing out of currency problems. "Even if the stern logic of events had not convinced us," said Mr. Wolcott, "our deep and abiding loyalty to the principles of the party, our belief that the judgment of the majority should govern, would lead us to abandon further contention." He said the thousands of republicans in the west who left the party four years ago are returning home.

Regarding the island possessions, Senator Wolcott said we are owners of the Philippines by an undisputed and indubitable title and he charged that the insurrection against our authority there was chiefly inspired by the democratic party. "Never since 1864," said the Colorado senator, "when the voters of the country were called upon to determine whether the efforts of Abraham Lincoln to preserve the union should be continued, or whether they should be abandoned and other measures attempted, have questions so vital been presented to the American people for settlement. Their decision must determine the maintenance or the degradation of both our national credit and our national honor." A democratic president could paralyze the operation of the new currency law, would infuse new life into the Tagal insurrection and obliterate our influence in the settlement of the vital questions certain to arise when China shall be opened to foreign commerce.

Certainly the task of presenting the republican record and the position of the party could not have been more ably and eloquently performed. It was a keynote speech which will tell strongly everywhere and especially in the west.

HAS BRYANISM GROWN?

Ever since the last presidential election Mr. Bryan has kept himself in the public attention. Very soon after the election he began work on the history of the campaign and also occupied his time with lecturing and speaking at county fairs. When the war with Spain came on Mr. Bryan went into the military service and found opportunity in that capacity not to let the people forget him. As soon as the war was ended he resigned his colonel's commission and went to Washington to advise his adherents regarding the peace treaty, counseling its ratification. Throughout the intervening time he has persistently prosecuted his campaign as a presidential candidate.

Nothing like it was ever before known in our history. No aspirant for the presidency ever worked for the attainment of his ambition so eagerly, earnestly and constantly as Mr. Bryan has done. The reward of his extraordinary efforts to reach the highest office in the gift of the American people is assured so far as the nomination is concerned. He has already received that from the fusion populists and their action will be ratified, without an opposing voice or vote, at Kansas City. He has shown that the mastership of his party is complete and absolute. He holds together the elements that constitute it with a dictatorial authority that is unquestioned. His will is the party's law.

But while Bryan thus dominates the elements which constitute his followers, has Bryanism grown as the result of the efforts that have placed him in this commanding position? Is it anywhere stronger today than it was four years ago? There is nothing in the elections that have since taken place to prove that it is. It is true there have been democratic gains, but for the most part they have been obtained where the cardinal principles of Bryanism were not in issue. In the congressional elections of 1898 a number of republican representatives were replaced by democrats and in nearly all of these cases the silver question was ignored by the democratic candidates. It is certain that Bryanism has lost ground on the Pacific coast. The Oregon election unmistakably shows this. What reason is there to think that in the east, the middle west and the northwest, with their abounding prosperity, it has advanced? Does any rational man believe that Mr. Bryan can carry any eastern or middle state on the Chicago platform,

WORTH REMEMBERING.

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Ticking a Good Time.

The democratic state convention of Montana rejoices "with all its heart" in the noble efforts of ex-Senator William A. Clark to maintain the purity of elections. A state convention is not a legislature, and hence there will be no occasion for inventing the methods employed to induce the Montana convention to hail Clark as a champion of a pure ballot.

Give Them Time.

There is only one radical amendment to the man law that that the pension attorneys have not yet asked for. That is that when a man marries a blind woman he shall in event of her death, inherit her pension. Hereditary pensions once existed in England, but the pension attorney might go further and create a quick market for the widow by enacting that her husband inherit her pension as part of her personal estate.

Small Fight, Large Description.

Lord Roberts, for the first time in the course of his South African campaign, gave way to hyperbole in his latest official dispatch concerning the fight at Estrela. The sight of the men charging in the Boer ranks, he said, "was grand" and in the present case, as in the grandiose reports which General Buller used to send from Natal, the praise of the bravery of the troops (which nobody ever questioned) is entirely correct.

TOM REED'S LITERARY SIDE.

Thomas Brackett Reed, statesman and lawyer, is a lover of books, and has been an omnivorous reader from his earliest boyhood days. When a lad at school all his spare time was spent in reading, but his preference turned to an absorbing novel or a book of poetry than to his text books. Later at college he is said to have often neglected his studies during the earlier part of his course in order to cram his brain with classic literature, as well as with some of the best of the modern novel or a classic. In 1860 Mr. Reed graduated from college, his commencement oration on "The Fear of Death" winning the competition prize.

In his long congressional career at Washington Mr. Reed showed his knowledge of books and literature on more than one occasion. The humor of his speeches was fastidiously by a slow drawl and a high-pitched rather nasal voice. In debate Mr. Reed always preserved an even and tranquil temper. One one sentence, delivered in a somewhat indignant manner, would draw a gush of laughter, an attack upon which an opponent had spent hours of labor. On one occasion when an insignificant member from a southern state, which was also represented by one of the most eminent demagogues of the time of the house, "roasted" Mr. Reed, that gentleman got up and remarked quizzically that it was indeed a great honor for one state to furnish two such representatives, "one to lead the house and the other to bring up the rear." That was all he said. The intention member was completely squelched.

His wit is not only spontaneous and flashing, but it is also epigrammatic. "No other man," said Robert P. Porter, recently, "has his power of condensing a whole argument in a few striking words. His epigrams are worthy of the literary artist, in that they are perfect in form. Though struck out on the spur of the moment, you cannot take a word from near them. They have for a solid basis a profound knowledge of human nature and of life, and they exhibit a command of language and a mastery of the art of that prime quality of a true man-of-words sense."

To a blundering lieutenant he once said, with almost brutal frankness: "You are too big a fool to lead and haven't sense enough to follow."

In his home Mr. Reed is never so happy as when in his "den" among his books. Every available bit of space is utilized for book shelves and more books are piled in the corners of the little room, but bookcases are to be found all over the house, and upon his open shelves, in every subject-law, politics, philosophy, history, fiction and poetry.

He is a great admirer of George William Curtis' style, particularly because of the rhythmic quality of his prose, which he believes has added him to a true appreciation of rhythm, without which no speaker can become an orator. Good novels he is intensely fond of, and Balzac and Thackeray are his favorites. A careful and successful student of human nature history, he naturally delights in those authors who have most thoroughly and ably presented that ever varying and always delightful entity.

Thackeray is his favorite novelist and "Pendennis" and "The Virginians" he finds the most interesting of his novels, though he believes that "Vanity Fair" is the greatest of the master's achievements. Charles Reade is another novelist in whom he greatly delights.

Among the poets Mr. Reed prefers Tennyson, though he reads constantly Browning, Longfellow, Whittier and Keats. There is another author in whom Mr. Reed delights and certain poems of the charming Latin poet he reads and rereads constantly.

The catholicity of his poetical taste Mr. Reed illustrates by citing as one of his favorites the following from the pen of Eugene F. Ware:

Once a Kansas zephyr strayed Where a brass-bound ball lay played, And a golden candle basked At the zenith in the sky. Then, it came to the Semblance of a smile, And a half smile in about Half a shy look that pipp. Tipped him over wrong side up! And it calmly journeyed thence, With a barn and a string of fence.

When communities turn loose, Social forces that produce The disorders of a sale; If you need the well known law, But the breeze, but the breeze, it's a rule that will not fail. It's a self-sufficient sort of way, It will land you, without doubt, Upside down and wrong side out.

Incidents and Comments from the Strangled Republics.

One killed, one wounded, one captured, is the record, as far as known, of the Chicago campaign which went to the assistance of the Boers last winter. The corps, composed of Irish-Americans, reached the Transvaal early in April, and went directly to the front as members of the Red Cross. Of course no member of the corps fought in the ranks or grabbed a gun at sight of the redcoats. Perish the thought! They stuck to their humane duty of succoring the wounded, and in doing so encountered stray bullets. The member reported killed is not known in Chicago and is supposed to be either the Boston or New York recruit. The wounded man is Captain Edward G. Healy, formerly an officer of the Seventh Illinois regiment, who saw some service in the Spanish war. The captured member is Thomas F. Murray, an Illinois militiaman, 34 years of age. Murray is reported quite a character by his Chicago friends, and was known by them as "Mickey Fie." After the character in the novel "Charles O'Malley." Friends of the captured man express the opinion that the British have found a hard nut to crack, and whether they succeed in holding him will, in their opinion, depend upon the strength of his desire to escape.

Captain Alexander Nikolavitch Ganetski, the late commander of the Russian volunteers with the Boers in the Transvaal, who was killed at the battle of Wepener, belonged to a very old and noble Russian family. His father was a famous general during the Turkish war of 1877-78. Captain Ganetski entered the Nikolavitch Cavalry Cadet school in 1886, and was promoted a field cornet in 1889, served in Caucasasia and was promoted in 1891 to be captain of the 5th Siberian Cuirassier regiment. In 1895 he left the service and went to Moscow, where he married a rich widow, Mrs. V. N. Pirsanova.

The astonishing eclipse of Lord Kitchener in the South African war occasions a few memories of a British officer in the London Mail. Ralph accompanied the British army as far as Bloemfontein, where he encountered a Boer bullet that bored a hole through his leg and sent him to London for repairs.

There is little need to discuss Lord Kitchener's career in either the British or the Boer ranks. In either case the result is the same. The revolutionists are the masters of the situation. The Chinese government is powerless. It cannot or it will not afford to the American minister and his official associates that safety which we have the right to demand and which China ought to guarantee. If it be true, according to the latest rumors, that the American legation has been destroyed, the weakness of the Chinese government has been flagrantly displayed. But whether or not this climax has been reached, the impotence of the Chinese government is manifest in Pekin is a situation grave enough to warrant the most vigorous action. This is an offense against the nation.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

Kansas City resents the offer of 800 convicts. Tickets. It will get 5,000 or bust the deal.

General E. S. Otis has been made a doctor of laws by the University of Rochester, from which institution he graduated in 1858.

An enterprising divine healer in San Francisco healed himself by selling his landlady's furniture during her absence from home.

Campaign buttons and badges are so numerous in Philadelphia that the undorned man is considered a fit subject for a dime museum.

When President Morse of the New York Ice trust was in college he secured a position as bookkeeper at \$500 a year and worked for \$500. Now he is worth \$5,000,000.

Louis N. Megarage, whose column, entitled "Seen and Heard," has for many years been one of the features of the Philadelphia Times, has severed his connection with that journal.

The assumption that lightning is a sure cure for baldness doesn't work in practice. An Ohio man gave it an involuntary trial and lost the few ribs that fringed his nose. But the bolt from the clouds was shattered by the collision.

Senator Platt of New York has asked Commissioner General of Emigration Foxworthy to delay deciding the case of Fitzharris and Mullett, the Phoenix Park murder conspirators, who seek to stay in this country, so that a consideration of the evidence may be had. Since this consideration has already been given there are those cruel enough to insinuate that the senator's interest is purely for political purposes.

The empress dowager of China is the one woman in the world who defies all Europe. She is now about 60 years old and for the last forty years has exerted an all-powerful influence in directing the affairs of China. She is the second wife of the emperor and she has the bare hand and an iron grip. Her wife did not see take precedence. As to education, she has received the best China can give. A native wit and cleverness supply what she may lack in book knowledge.

Education and experience are not always convincing evidence of wisdom. A noted and elderly professor in an eastern college, who married a young woman, expecting to "mould her mind and character," has thrown up the job and is telling his troubles to a court. He alleges a variety of marital delinquencies on the part of his wife, but he would have been there even to the grave if the incorrigible "better half" did not murder his dignity and self-respect by referring to him as "his nibs."

The crushed professor meekly admits that "a fool at forty is a fool indeed."

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: China is in the position of the most populous nation in the world, yet unable to defend any of its harbors. In spite of its long experience in the use of the steam engine never learned the lesson of sea power.

San Francisco Call: The Chinese heathen in his blindness is opposed to the overrunning and rough carving of his country by foreigners. He is aware that when the Chinese become too thick in this country or in the British colonies it is the practice to thin them out by means of war as we did in Wyoming, by burning them in lots of 250 at a time, like rats in a straw-stalk. As the Boer, instead of renting a few bows down to wood and stone, he does not understand that these thinning processes are the prerogative of christian nations only, so he begins a career of imitation of our methods, whereupon the Christian nations land marine and machine guns and proceed to punish him, oblivious that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Washington Post: It is no longer a question of affording protection to a handful of missionaries in China. A point has been reached where national honor is concerned. The maintenance of this honor devolves like a solemn duty upon this government. The American legation is beleaguered in Pekin, in a position of great peril. The capital city of China is in control of a revolutionary force which has grown from an insignificant uprising into a threatening army. This force has either been aided and abetted by a scheming empress or it has overawed a powerless monarch. In either case the result is the same. The revolutionists are the masters of the situation. The Chinese government is powerless. It cannot or it will not afford to the American minister and his official associates that safety which we have the right to demand and which China ought to guarantee. If it be true, according to the latest rumors, that the American legation has been destroyed, the weakness of the Chinese government has been flagrantly displayed. But whether or not this climax has been reached, the impotence of the Chinese government is manifest in Pekin is a situation grave enough to warrant the most vigorous action. This is an offense against the nation.

Life's Prizes of Greater Importance Than Class Honors.

Ambassador Choate, in a happy little speech at a school commencement at Cambridge last week, put in a good word for the boys who had failed to win any of the prizes offered by any of the class honors. "These lads," he said, "have not been successful in the majority, and in the United States, from which he came and which he was proud to represent, the rule of the majority holds. In these school prizes, however, as in the prizes of life, after a fair allowance for variations in the amount and natural ability, the man who is determined to take life's prizes gets them."

The boys and girls who carry off these school and college honors will deserve the special honor that is paid them upon commencement day. They have fought a good fight in their youthful days, have studied faithfully, have put to the best use the opportunities that have been given them. The chances for greater success in the years to come are all in their favor. They have been put to the test with the best of their fellow workers under similar conditions, and they have proved that they are more than equal to the others in the work given them to do. If they carry into the work that now comes upon them the same ambition, the same determination, the same attention to duty, the odds are strong that they will repeat the successes of their school days in their greater work in the world. There will be exceptions, many of them. There will be failures, many of them. The more surprise of account is the bright outlook, but the prize-winner of the school is mightily apt to be the prize-winner of the world.

Failure to win the prize should not, however, discourage the boy or the girl who made a good struggle for it. He has done it only these who were too lazy or too indifferent or who didn't care, who now have cause to regret these things and to look back through their school days at partly wasted opportunities that have been given them. The chances for greater success in the years to come are all in their favor. They have been put to the test with the best of their fellow workers under similar conditions, and they have proved that they are more than equal to the others in the work given them to do. If they carry into the work that now comes upon them the same ambition, the same determination, the same attention to duty, the odds are strong that they will repeat the successes of their school days in their greater work in the world. There will be exceptions, many of them. There will be failures, many of them. The more surprise of account is the bright outlook, but the prize-winner of the school is mightily apt to be the prize-winner of the world.

SAID IN FUN.

"Chicago Record: 'Mr. Jubbs encourages his wife to attend all these national federation conventions. 'Yes, she must be away now—she's sitting on the front piazza without his coat or vest on.'"

"Cleveland Plain Dealer: 'How does Johnson expect to live when he reaches the other side?'"

"Thee, of course, he's coming back soon."

"Chicago Tribune: 'I am going to halt this blamed chills and fever,' said the sufferer-lad man, 'to the bitter end.' And he took his regular dose of quinine."

Detroit Journal: Somebody proposed equal suffrage. "No," said the woman who had it in mind to be advanced. "I prefer a hobby with a drop frame."

Chicago Record: "The average graduate always pretends to know it all." "Yes, and sometimes he doesn't get over the tendency even when he gets to be a college professor."

Somerville Journal: Mrs. Wigglewagles said last night that you are going to keep a horse and carriage. Mrs. Wigglewagles—your salary was increased last week."

Detroit Journal: The literature was clearly made. "But who wrote the people's jokes," he asked, "and I care not who reads proofs on these jokes."

We reported all this to the proper authorities, calling attention at the same time to the wild, unaided lull in the fellow's eyes.

Chicago Tribune: "Kathleen, did you dust on the chandelier?" "Yes, ma'am, but I told you to do before I went away." "Yes, ma'am, but when I took the chandelier off, I found the dust on the chandelier. They fell all in places, ma'am."

Pittsburgh Chronicle: Mr. Pitt—Not all the democratic state conventions are in favor of the free coinage of silver. Mr. Penn—No, but they seem to favor the free coinage of sympathy resolutions.

Punch: Granpa Macpherson—How many does two and two make, Donald? Donald—Six. Granpa—What are ye talking about? Donald—Yes, I know, but I thought you'd "but me down" a bit.

UNANSWERED LETTERS.

Somerville Journal: "They haunt me in my waking hours. They follow me through all my dreams, when in last ray of twilight die. When the first morning sunlight beams, I cannot drive them from my mind. I think of them by day, and they haunt me. These letters that I might to write."

"Why don't you write them, then?" "To tell the truth, I do not know. I was never better than a scribbler. No longer to be haunted. But somehow I neglect them still. Next time, I'll try to write them. My weary life, and always will write. These letters that I ought to write."

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