

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of December, A. D. 1901. M. B. Notary Public.

The collapse of the Asphalt trust is bound to create distrust in all trust securities.

This is the time for the horoscope man who prides himself on his powers of prediction to get in his work.

The man who took lemon extract in large quantities on the last day of the old year has sworn off and will stick to it.

Governor Savage should find the atmosphere cooler in Louisiana this fine January than he would at home here in Nebraska.

Omaha has no complaint to make of the year that has passed and is expecting as much, if not more, for the present one.

A Chicago robber was kicked senseless by a woman when he stooped to pick up her pocketbook. Those Chicago feet were not designed in vain.

It is to be noted that State Treasurer Stuefer is negotiating his bond purchases nowadays direct with the authorities of the counties issuing or funding them.

A party of California scientists is preparing to excavate a number of large shell mounds on the coast. The project is all right, but don't bet on what is under them.

Dr. Loeb of Chicago is rapidly becoming the Nikola Tesla of the medical fraternity. His daily bulletins of wonderful discoveries are as interesting as a Jules Verne novel.

An Illinois man has a bible which he asserts is 348 years old. Plenty of men in Chicago could keep one that long. If their life was protracted, and never gave a thumb mark in it.

There is nothing small about Omaha. With nearly 800 acres of park ground and \$400,000 of park bonds outstanding, we are still talking of laying out extensive additions to the park system.

A shipment of 800 carloads of American agricultural machinery is now at Philadelphia, destined for Russia. This does not look as though the little tilt over sugar had ruined the American trade in Russia.

All the bad railway wrecks would not be avoided by double-track systems, but the double-track makes the danger of wrecks far less imminent. The double-track must come on every important artery of railway traffic.

The family of the late Frank Peavey, the elevator king, will be able to keep the wolves away from their front porch. Mr. Peavey's life was insured for \$1,376,000 and by the time the estate is settled a respectable balance will be found on hand for distribution to the heirs.

The reorganized Burlington railroad has paid \$10,000 into the state treasury for the privilege of incorporating under the laws of Nebraska. If the Burlington could only be induced to incorporate once a month with a like deposit in the state treasury nobody would seriously object.

A Kentucky inventor asserts he has discovered a system by which not only telegraph signals can be transmitted without wires, but the sound of the human voice can be intelligibly conveyed in the same manner. When the invention is in good working order it may be possible to hear from the back districts in Kentucky in something less than two weeks after election.

PARDON OF EX-TREASURER BARTLEY.

On the 13th day of July last Governor Savage ordered the release of Joseph S. Bartley, serving a twenty-year sentence in the penitentiary for embezzlement of state funds, on a sixty-day parole.

I have given Bartley a sixty-day furlough, but whether that time will be extended remains to be seen. I have imposed some pretty hard requirements upon Bartley and I shall impose some still harder ones. If he does what I ask him to do, I will let him out of the penitentiary. But if he does not, then he will have to go back. I do not care to say just what these requirements will be, but I am confident they will meet the approval of the people of the state.

The impression naturally created by this declaration, which Governor Savage repeated from time to time to allay the storm of indignation, was that as a condition of the parole he had exacted a pledge from Bartley to turn into the state treasury a large part of the embezzled money, anywhere from \$100,000 to \$200,000. Bartley himself persistently denied that any conditions whatever had been imposed upon him.

On the eve of the assembling of the republican state convention, August 28, Governor Savage admitted that no conditions had been imposed upon Bartley, but that he had confidently expected him to make restitution of a large part of the stolen funds, in which expectation he had been grievously disappointed.

In the face of this explanation and notwithstanding the personal appeal made on behalf of Bartley by Governor Savage from the convention platform, the delegates, by a vote of 908 to 108, adopted the following resolution:

The republicans of Nebraska disclaim for the party any sympathy with custodians of public moneys found guilty of the betrayal of sacred trusts. Without impugning the motives of the governor in any case, we deprecate any exercise of executive clemency tending to create the false impression that the republican party is disposed to condone the willful embezzlement of public funds under any circumstances, and we request the immediate recall of the parole of Joseph Bartley.

The prompt revocation of the parole was interpreted as an admission on the part of the governor that its issue was a mistake. And now Governor Savage has been persuaded that he made a mistake when he revoked the parole and has issued an unconditional pardon to the state treasury wrecker.

The labored plea put forth by the governor to justify his course will not change public sentiment so tersely expressed by the republican state convention. Nothing has happened since Bartley was returned to prison to make executive clemency any more justifiable now than it was four months ago. The petitions gotten up and circulated by Bartley's paid attorneys and signed for the most part by his bondsmen and beneficiaries were on file with Governor Poynter and Governor Dietrich, both of whom positively declined to be persuaded to accede to the appeal.

It was publicly charged and can be proved that a large sum, said to have been over \$300,000, was held out as an inducement to secure Bartley's pardon from Governor Poynter. It is a matter of notoriety also that money has been freely spent to create sentiment in the interest of the liberation of Bartley, while at the same time threats of impending exposure of parties said to have been implicated in Bartley's financial deals were frequently and persistently sent out of the penitentiary greenhouse.

It is a matter of notoriety also that state money borrowed from Bartley has been paid back to him since he has been in the penitentiary, but not one dollar of it has yet reached the state treasury. In the face of these facts, the palaver of Governor Savage about the travesty of justice in the conviction and sentence of Bartley and his laudation of Bartley as the savior of the state's business interests by propping up tottering banks with money lawlessly taken from the state treasury for his own private gain, will scarcely touch the chord of popular sympathy. The persuasive powers that have induced Governor Savage to look upon Bartley as a martyr to the public welfare and victim of judicial tyranny will not reach the great body of the people who were pillaged and plundered by Bartley and his confederates. The common people will insist upon asking what was so pointedly asked in the republican state convention, if a man who steals more than \$500,000 of public money is entitled to a pardon after serving only one-fourth of his sentence, why should not the poor man who steals a horse worth only a few dollars enjoy the same favor?

The universal verdict of the people of Nebraska, excepting those who have been directly or indirectly mixed up with Bartley and his beneficiaries, will be a decided disapproval of the Bartley pardon. Fortunately for the republican party, this flagrant abuse of executive clemency cannot be justly laid at its door. The party, through its chosen representatives, has expressed itself positively and without reserve against Bartley's liberation and cannot rightly be held responsible for public officials who set up their individual judgment above that of the rank and file whose will they are expected to carry out.

A manifesto has been issued by the president of the Nebraska Press association calling attention to the alleged ruling of the Postoffice department excluding from the mails newspapers whose subscription has not been prepaid and pointing out that this ruling is sure to prove ruinous to a large number of Nebraska newspapers. As a matter of fact, no such order has been issued by the Postoffice department and the third assistant postmaster general gives assurance that no such ruling was ever contemplated. It was a false alarm, doubtless gotten up by parties who are interested in giving away publications circulated promiscuously through the mails at 1 cent a pound, with the sole object of enabling

THEIR OWNERS TO SELL ADVERTISING SPACE ON FICTITIOUS CIRCULATION.

MERCER HAS THE FLOOR.

Congressman Mercer still has the floor for an explanation of his inexcusable conduct in connection with the bill to establish a quartermaster's supply depot at Omaha. The bill was originally drawn by Assistant Secretary of War Meiklejohn, in compliance with the expressed wishes of the wholesale dealers and manufacturers of Omaha. It was introduced in the senate in the month of February, 1900, and referred to the committee on military affairs. The bill was recommended by the Treasury department and reported favorably by Senator Carter from the committee on military affairs on May 31, 1900, with the following explanation, which appears in its report, No. 1901:

The changes that are now being made in the old postoffice building in the city of Omaha will not materially interfere with its proposed use as a quartermaster's depot. So far as your committee has any direct information, the addition to the new postoffice building will be commenced within a few months and will give, with its completion, a floor space suitable for a city of 300,000 people. The building is advantageously located and it is believed that the occupancy of certain floors by the Department of the Missouri for its headquarters would enhance the service and provide an occupant for the new postoffice in every way desirable.

The bill passed the senate and was, on June 2, 1900, referred by the speaker to the committee on public buildings, of which Mr. Mercer was chairman. This reference was made by Speaker Henderson, because he had taken it for granted that Mr. Mercer, as a representative of Omaha, would report the bill back without delay. But Mr. Mercer put the bill in his pocket and kept it there, and never even submitted it to his committee for consideration.

When the Fifty-sixth congress reconvened in December the bill was still in the pocket of Mr. Mercer. In spite of all the efforts to get him to report it back, he declined to do so and through this deliberate treachery to the interests of his constituency the bill failed to receive consideration before the final adjournment of congress on March 4, 1901.

Mr. Mercer pretends that this is a matter that does not merit his serious consideration. If he is sincere, why did he introduce practically the same bill through the present session and why does he pretend now to favor the bill? Mr. Mercer cannot truthfully say that the passage of the bill, either in June or in December of the year 1900, could have influenced the War department with regard to army headquarters. The department had completed all arrangements to remove the headquarters from the Bee building in May, 1900, and was established in the old postoffice building by June 30. If Mr. Mercer had any fear in June that the army headquarters would remain one month longer in the Bee building, why did he not report the bill in December, 1900? Why did he not report it back in January, 1901, or in February, seven or eight months after the army headquarters had been removed to the present location?

Did Mr. Mercer kill this measure, so important to the interest of this community and section, because he feared that John M. Thurston would get credit for its introduction or because he feared that the editor of The Bee would get credit for helping to expedite its passage through the senate?

PROBLEMS OF THE NEW YEAR.

The second year of the century presents some momentous problems for solution to the national legislature. With the impending retirement of the army of occupation from Cuba and the gradual pacification of the Philippines, the untold policy of insular civil government will tax the ablest statesmanship at the helm of the nation.

All experiments hitherto attempted in organizing civil government for annexed territory have been made with populations living in and adapted to the temperate zone. The new possessions in tropical regions, peopled by native races whose modes of living and faculties for industry are at variance with the customs prevailing among the mass of Americans, will require different treatment in many respects from that accorded to the inhabitants of the domain embraced in the original Louisiana purchase, Texas or California.

Another difficult problem confronting the nation is the readjustment of the national revenue laws to the changed conditions that have followed the re-establishment of peace and the extension of commercial activity into the world's markets. While the army and navy will now on now draw more heavily upon the national treasury than during the many years preceding the late war with Spain, the war taxes have yielded a large surplus above the actual needs. While the last congress made a material reduction in these war taxes by the abolition of the stamp duties, there is still room for further reduction without running the risk of a deficit.

One of the most serious problems to be solved will be the supervision and control of gigantic combinations among public carriers and corporations engaged in extensive industrial enterprises generally classed as trusts. Recognizing these vast aggregations of concentrated capital as the natural outgrowth of the new era of centralization in all departments of trade and industry, the question is how far they shall be permitted to trench upon public rights and menace the safety of our entire financial fabric by speculative operations that, unless checked, must sooner or later precipitate panics that will carry into wreck and ruin millions of people.

The marvelous strides now being made in the domain of science and invention by which new and undreamed-of economies are to be effected in production and the modes of fabrication and communication are to be revolutionized will have to be reckoned with as a factor in shaping the new policies of the law

MAKERS. IN DEALING WITH THE BUSINESS INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY THE GOVERNMENT WHILE IN DUTY BOUND TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE AGAINST THE GRASPING AND OVERREACHING FORCES OF MONOPOLY CANNOT WITH SAFETY UNDERTAKE TO BLOCK THE PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS OF THE AGE.

Investigation shows that the indemnity of \$18,000,000 to be paid by China to the United States is largely in excess of the amount necessary to pay the claims of citizens who suffered loss in the uprising and of the expenses of the relief expedition. If this is true what must be the condition in the case of other countries, the amount demanded by the United States being confessedly by the most modest of any? History will doubtless write this as one of the grobberst pieces of international highway robbery, and civilization should be ashamed of itself.

The new German meat inspection bill is not likely to become effective for some time. Just at present Germany is somewhat hungry, with no other place except the United States in a position to supply the demand. While the bill is pending the agrarian can be satisfied and in the meantime the German laborer secures his meat at a reasonable price.

Gerónimo, the Apache chief, is to be released from confinement, according to an order of the War department. The books at Washington may show that the old chief is in confinement, but the facts are that he has been enjoying more liberties than most men who have to earn their own living.

Liberal offers of market grounds continue to pour in upon the council, but the question is, Where is the money to come from to pay for the grounds and what advantage would the market grounds be to the city unless it can build a market house within a reasonable time?

PROBLEM OF THE NEW YEAR.

Louisville Courier-Journal. Does the inventor who telephones without wires do his talking through his hat?

A Slight Misapprehension. Baltimore American. Some Iowa newspapers seem to feel that the capital of the United States is to be located in their midst.

Vagaries of Fate. Chicago Record-Herald. The world's greatest steel climber was fatally injured at last by falling from a wagon. Fate continues to have ironical moods.

Some Needs of the Dupes. Philadelphia Record. The asphalt calamity has now reached, in the ordinary course, default and receivership. What the duped shareholders want is full explanation and an accounting.

A Job at the Pit. Louisville Courier-Journal. Omaha is bragging of a successful theatrical performance by deaf and dumb actors. There would be more successful theatrical performances generally if there were deaf and blind audiences.

Room for More Learys. Brooklyn Eagle. Captain Leary married one of the natives of Guam, spanked the clerical cranks, introduced hens, made the sailors learn the "Star Spangled Banner," and never demanded an investigation or called his fellow officers by ill names. There might be more Captain Learys to the national advantage.

Shall We Heed the Protest? Springfield Republican. The demonstration of the inhabitants of the Danish West Indies against being sold to the United States is worthy of the observation of our government. When President Grant set out to buy those islands he sought the consent of the inhabitants. The precedent is not a bad one. The people there have some rights which both Denmark and the United States should heed.

Probation Before Citizenship. Indianapolis Journal. The proposition to increase the probation before naturalization to more than five years is one of the most objectionable. With the requirement that the applicant shall be able to read and write and show a fair knowledge of our form of government, five years is long enough. Indeed, it might be made shorter if a thorough examination should be made of the intelligence of the applicants relative to our institutions. At the same time, no foreigners should be permitted to vote, as is authorized in this and several western states after a short period of residence and previous to complete naturalization. None but United States citizens should vote.

FARM LAND VALUES. How and Why It Increases and Will Continue to Advance. Detroit Free Press. There are increasing evidences that real estate investments in the country are of increasing value. There are reasons for this that will continue and grow more potent with time. It has dawned upon the intelligence of the American people that the abundance of our surplus lands is rapidly dwindling. The ability of Uncle Sam to give every man a farm is terminated and the time is not far distant when he will have none beyond the holdings required for his own use. Another fact affecting values in this line is that population is rapidly gaining upon food production. This is true in the United States, and to a larger extent in the old world. The necessary result is that farming becomes more profitable and the land on which to conduct it more valuable.

When machinery was introduced in the "boundless" west the immediate result was to displace farms in the east and to drive young men from the country to the city. There was a congestion of labor in these centers and much of the trouble it has encountered is the result of this cause. But the west has filled up. Skill and ingenuity have done about all possible in the output of agricultural machinery. This again puts the east on a basis of profitable production. Its farms are advancing in value and many of those that were abandoned during the western boom are being reclaimed. The most pressing demand for help is now in the country and a vast amount went to waste during the last season because the labor required in harvesting was not to be had. Now there is a tide setting in toward the country. The income of the farmer is practically assured and the demands upon his products are bound to increase with each year. The means of communication are being improved and the means of production, such as beet sugar and northern tobacco, are being raised; the farmer is now in touch with the world, and the outlook for him was never brighter.

Railroad Construction

While, of course, the record of railroad construction for 1901 is not complete, it is so nearly complete that we may accept the estimate of the Railway Age as correct for all purposes of comparison. That estimate is 5,057 miles and it exceeds the record since 1850, when 5,377 miles of track were laid.

It has often been the subject of remark that railroad construction in the United States has proceeded in waves. This movement can be traced from the first to the record begins with 1852, when 223 miles of road were in operation, of which 133 miles were constructed that year. Continuous increase followed until 465 miles of track were laid in 1855. There was a drop to 175 miles the following year and recovery was not made until 1860, when 515 miles of track were laid.

The next year we came to the rest of the second wave, with 717 miles. Rapid decline to 159 miles is noted in 1863, followed by an advance which was continuous, except for a falling off in 1868, until the crest of the third wave was reached, with a construction of 2,452 miles in 1867. Then followed a decrease, from which, however, came a swift recovery to 3,462 miles in 1868. An almost continuous decline took place to 660 miles in 1861. After that, with two or three breaks of no great importance, there was progress to the crest of another wave, with 7,375 miles of track laid in 1871.

This was followed by a decline to 1,711 miles in 1875. The succeeding wave reached its highest, with a construction of 11,569 miles in the kind of a rapid decline to 3,023 miles in 1885, followed by a still more rapid advance to 12,876 miles in 1887. That year's construction has not been equaled in any two years since. The nearest approach was 6,377 miles in 1890, or 7,500 miles less than the construction for 1887. From the maximum of that year there was a decline to 1,550 miles in 1895. Since then there has been recovery, but it has been slow as compared with the boom movements of the past. It is

DONATIONS OF THE YEAR.

Colossal Gifts to Education, Art, Libraries and Charities. Chicago Tribune.

Two years ago the Tribune noted with great satisfaction that the year 1899 was a record-breaker in donations and bequests to educational institutions, libraries, art museums, charities and religious enterprises of various kinds. The total amounting to "the colossal sum" of \$79,749,956. Last year it expressed moderate satisfaction because 1900 was "a close second," the total amounting to \$62,461,304. Today the Tribune has extreme satisfaction in announcing that the year 1901 goes beyond 1899, and that the total amounting to \$123,888,732, with the possibility that Mr. Carnegie or some other philanthropic millionaire may make it a round \$125,000,000 within the next eighteen hours.

Of this huge sum \$68,856,961 has been given to colleges, universities, academies, seminaries and institutes; \$22,217,470 to charities of various kinds; \$15,388,700 to libraries; \$11,123,112 to museums and art galleries; and \$6,298,489 to churches. The latter sum, of course, does not include the ordinary church offerings, but only specified sums left by will or presented outright. More than half of this great sum has been given by three persons, as follows: Andrew Carnegie, \$42,888,500; Jane L. Stanford, \$39,000,000; and John D. Rockefeller, \$23,859,750. In the detailed list there are twenty-eight gifts ranging from \$500,000 to \$20,000,000, for various purposes, and fifty-one gifts to colleges, ranging from \$100,000 to \$200,000,000.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has been quite fortunate in getting rid of some of those millions which he does not wish found in his possession at the last. He has come much nearer averting "the disgrace" this year than he did last. His favorite work of founding libraries has been largely increased, for whereas in 1899 he set up thirty-four libraries at a cost of \$3,503,500, and nineteen in 1900 at a cost of \$685,000, this year he has planted 109 at a cost of \$12,585,500, making for the three years 162 libraries in various parts of the country. Thus far fourteen states and territories have accepted him, but undoubtedly he will find them out and supply their needs. This done, he must find other outlets for his money, and this he is evidently beginning to do, as he has already offered \$10,000,000, which probably will be increased, to the general government for the national university, and it is intimated on good authority that a million each to Yale and Columbia colleges may come as New Year's gifts to those institutions. It is noticeable also that he is beginning to contribute to charities. Evidently he is determined not to be disgraced.

As to the ultimate consequences of this wholesale and indiscriminate giving to educational institutions, some important questions may yet be raised and indeed some thoughtful persons are already doubting the wisdom of such gifts. But this does not detract from the philanthropic spirit displayed by many wealthy men. It is pleasant to note their liberality, and to compare this magnificent sum of \$123,888,732 given away with the comparatively small sum of \$4,085,559 taken by the embezzlers in 1901.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Kansas made formal protest against baptizing the battleship Missouri with wine, and Kansas did not really want the wine, either.

The December assessment for Philadelphia shows \$42,530 citizens entitled to vote, this being an increase of \$80 over the assessment in 1900.

A New York legislator proposes a censorship for both plays and actors. If it will weed out the misfits in both classes it will fill a long-felt want.

Phya Ahkharai, the new Siamese minister, who has just arrived in Washington, was educated at the Oxford university, England. At the time of his appointment he was assistant secretary of state in Siam, and this is his first diplomatic office.

At the time of his death the late Puvie de Chavannes was at work on a series of frescoes for the Pantheon. The painter, who was entrusted with the completion of the work, died in his turn. The frescoes are now to be finished by one of Puvie de Chavannes's favorite pupils.

Clarence King, whose death was noted a day or two ago, was widely known as a scientific writer and expert geologist. By his manuscripts and letters—shall be packed into air-tight boxes and kept for 200 years. His object is to enlighten the people of the twenty-second century as to the manners and habits of those of the twentieth.

Bottom Drops Out of the Copper Tank and Spills the Water.

Copper dropped to 13 cents a pound last week. This is nothing to the average man, but it means millions to the speculators who have tried to hold it up at from 17 to 18 cents a pound.

It was a big "trust," with \$100,000,000 of "capital" and most of the big mines, but no trust yet is as big as all the world, and as long as it is as exacting as the market as if a single mine or firm tried to pool the product and advance the price.

The great bulk of the world's copper comes from a dozen and a half of mines. There is a fair but narrow profit for them at about 15 cents a pound. The best of them can turn out copper for 8 or 9 cents a pound, the poorer mines at 10 or 11 cents. It looks like an easy job to control these mines and mark the price up to 17 or 18 cents. It looked easy to Mr. Secretan in 1888 and it looked easy to Mr. Lawson and his associates in 1899 in the Amalgamated Copper company.

Both failed. As the price rose from step to step more mines came into play. Only two or three mines can produce at a profit on 10-cent copper. At 15 cents all the big mines can work at a profit. At 18 cents the possible output is nearly doubled.

In 1889 Mr. Secretan and his speculation were swamped by the old copper poured out from all over the world. This time new mines were being started and began working the world over. The "trust" kept taking copper as it came. By last August half a year's American product was stored. By this December the burden of carrying the copper proved too big and the price has dropped to 13 cents a pound. The holders of Copper "trust" stock are out about \$60,000,000.

This is a bigger fine than any legislators could inflict, and it is imposed by the inexorable working of economic law. No power can keep any price above the average price over a long period of time. The Rubber trust smashed in trying to do it. The Lined Oil trust did the same. Now the Copper trust goes its way. Others will follow. No trust is safe from this kind of a thing. The "trust" is the strongest thing in the world. The States Steel corporation is that it does not do.

POINTED REMARKS.

Brooklyn Eagle: Patsy—What's de matter wid yer little brother? Chimie—Why, de doctor sez he's got a ulcer on his nose.

Detroit Free Press: "How do you like your new elderberry?" "How do you like your new elderberry?" "Fine. It makes me feel like a bird."

Philadelphia Press: Mrs. Brown—I didn't know your son was at college. Mrs. Malprou—Oh, yes, he has been there two years. He's in the sycamore class now.

Baltimore Sun: "What we want," said the First Pastor, "is honest elections." "I should like to see you," said the Second Pastor. "Why, Heeler promised me \$50 for my influence in my ward, and now he says he never agreed to give me more than \$25."

Philadelphia Press: Mrs. Chellus—The trouble with my husband is that he can't keep his eyes off the women.

Boston Transcript: Bobbit—"They say the key is the frame of the man," you know, Sikkim—Well, I guess this key you should hear my boy when he gets to telling you how much more he knows about things than I do.

Somerville Journal: Dawson—Some people always give inappropriate presents. Lawson—Yes, like the one I got from Sharpe, the advertising solicitor, a bottle of nerve food Christmas.

Chicago Tribune: "This," the salesman said, handing out the package, "is also an excellent substitute for coffee. It's very wholesome. It makes red blood."

"Have I ever seen you?" asked the young woman with the earrings, "that makes blue blood?"

Philadelphia Press: "Your daughter," said the friend of the man, "is a fashionable woman. 'stands well in her class.' But she lacks the—or—navor vive which our other girls have."

"Well," said Mrs. Nurlich, "buy her one and charge it up in your bill."

HER ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR.

Chicago Post. A fine engagement calendar—the first she ever had—Adorned her desk but recently, and made her true love.

But when the entries she had made I chanced to see, my friend said: "There was a similarity that greatly puzzled me."

For January first she had a most surprising "And entered on the calendar no other word than 'Jim.'"

And for the second day I found the entry was the same. Indeed, the month was given to that solitary name.

I jumped to March, and there was as well-just as I really feared—The same three letters, plainly traced, still on the page appeared. But in April, May and also June, in August and July.

Throughout the year, in writing this, no day had she passed by. She blushed when I demanded that she straightway tell me how she had come to this. The meaning of this calendar that confused and puzzled so.

"I had a fickle husband, sir, and so I dare," she said.

"To enter this engagement for the year that has passed."

"And he whose name I've jotted down is true and good and bold. His love has lasted full three weeks and never will grow cold. Because of this devotion I've such confidence in him. That my story is for the year—and more—will be to him."