

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$1.00. Daily Bee and Sunday, one year, \$1.50.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 17c.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building. South Omaha—City Hall Building.

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMIT BY CHECK, EXPRESS OR POSTAL ORDER payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: C. C. Rosewater, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being sworn, deposes and says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee during the month of February, 1906, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Number, Copies, Total. Rows include 1. 31,300, 2. 31,500, 3. 32,200, 4. 30,500, 5. 31,700, 6. 31,400, 7. 31,550, 8. 31,450, 9. 31,400, 10. 32,700, 11. 30,000, 12. 31,550, 13. 31,200, 14. 31,200.

Total 878,310. Less unsold copies 9,162. Net total sales 869,148. Daily average 31,274.

C. C. ROSEWATER, Secretary. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 28th day of February, 1906. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN. Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Jefferson Davis will be the new senator from Arkansas. Senator Tillman will have to look to his laurels.

General Shipoff of Russia is said to be pessimistic regarding his country's future. The general might take a hint from his name.

Russian moderates would seem to have an excellent opportunity at present if there are enough of them to keep out of jail.

Now that Iowa promises to investigate its insurance companies, our Hawkeye friends may find some recreation from the business of politics.

Since Midshipman Meriwether has been permitted to resign from Annapolis some other midshipmen may regret their hazing was so mild.

The destruction of an irrigation dam in Wyoming by high water may cause eastern congressmen to wonder why the dam should be thought necessary.

In the light of the report of Mr. Pierce, Chinese dislike for America seems to have been warranted from the character of some of our consuls.

Douglas county will have to have a new court house before long, but there will have to be a substantial agreement upon a single plan of operations before any steps are taken.

From the opposition the Moors are now showing to the plans of the delegates at Algiers it is evident that the sultan has heretofore been counting on division among his would-be masters.

Now that coal miners have approved the action of their scale committee and operators have approved the action of their scale committee, it will surely take wise men to avert a strike.

Every one concedes that Hennings has made the best city treasurer Omaha has ever had. His promotion to be mayor would give Omaha a chief executive who would measure up with the best.

Nebraska may be fortunate after all in the discovery of coal at Peru on the eve of a strike in the old mining districts; but work should be rushed if owners expect to profit by the impending fuel shortage.

By all the rules of the political game Broatch is in honor bound to abide by the endorsement of Benson as the candidate of the Fontanelles, which he also sought for himself. But Broatch never had any political honor.

As the primary election campaign draws near its close, look out for the usual campaign fakes and rortbacks. The favorite trick of the campaign fakir is to look back his stage thunder until it is too late to expose it or answer it.

Perhaps Governor Cummins refused to engage in joint debate with George D. Perkins that he could have more time to devote to Senator Elkins. It is not the worst thing to have one's antagonist at the end of a telegraph wire.

With the suggestion of a new 22,000-ton battleship to be built by the United States the British government will learn that it must increase its shipbuilding facilities if it is to keep ahead of the Washington newspaper correspondents.

It must have made Senator Culberson feel peculiar to have the stock raisers of his state send him a memorial to pass the Hepburn bill as it stands the day after he had shown to his own satisfaction how the measure should be changed.

SENATOR KNOX'S SPEECH.

Senator Knox's speech takes such radical and sweeping ground against the Dooliver-Hepburn bill as apparently to put him in opposition to the whole movement which it represents. As a lawyer of conspicuous ability, as a member of the cabinet, for a long time at the head of the Department of Justice, it was expected that Mr. Knox would, as a member of the senate, render valuable assistance in perfecting legislation embodying the policy of the president, with whom he had been so intimately associated. The extreme ground of opposition thereto which he now takes is correspondingly disappointing.

The weight of the Pennsylvania senator's argument goes for allowance of the utmost possible subordination and complication of the Interstate Commerce commission, with the courts. That is precisely the evil, inseparable from the delays, expenses and other difficulties which it is one of the paramount aims of the people to get rid of, and his protest against the Dooliver-Hepburn bill is in effect that it attempts to afford relief in this particular.

While no one asserts that judicial review of the rates and orders of the commission can be altogether abolished, for the federal constitution interdicts confiscatory action, yet between confiscation of railroad property on the one hand and extortionate rates on the other, there is a wide field as to which there is no constitutional requirement for judicial review. It is precisely within this field that judicial interposition has been found to be so vexatious and destructive of public interest. It is a fair inference that the railroad corporations want judicial jurisdiction extended to the utmost over this field, not to promote, but to defeat the ends of equity as between them and the public, and they are now for that reason concentrating every effort in the senate upon this point.

THE CANAL INVESTIGATION.

The senate committee having jurisdiction over the Panama canal, after a mountain labor of investigation, seems about to give birth to even less than a mouse, a disagreement on the capital point, the type of canal being foreshadowed by Washington advice. The administration had gone vigorously forward under the law by which in spite of urgent representations congress at the last session had failed to give the executive sufficient powers, and through the majority of the advisory board of engineers had reached a conclusion favorable to a lock as against a seal-level canal. But the senate committee took upon itself to open afresh and re-consider the whole subject, going even into the engineering technical minutiae and all sorts of collateral questions of management.

There may have been no design on the part of the committee or of any influence behind it to embarrass the administration or to delay the work on the isthmus, but its investigating digression was planned at a time when a large part of the senate was under serious suspicion of entertaining design to embroil and discredit the executive department, by covert if not by open means. Whether so intended or not, the scope and method of the investigation have necessarily implied a certain lack of confidence in the results reached by the administration in the canal enterprise.

A failure of the committee to act on the type of canal after such an investigation would be tantamount to throwing the responsibility back upon the administration. The work cannot be held in suspense a year for another session of congress, its action one way or the other being doubtful even then. Such procrastination would defer the enterprise to another generation if it should not altogether defeat it.

If, however, the senate inquiry comes to nothing and congress now fails to act, as seems the probable outcome, the country will rest on the assurance that President Roosevelt will not for a moment shrink from his responsibility, but will go straightforward under such powers as the existing laws confer upon him, deciding questions as they arise and actually constructing the canal, which is the thing the American people want done.

THE PERKINS LARCENY CASE.

The arrest of George W. Perkins, late first vice president of the New York Life Insurance company, on a charge of grand larceny growing out of contributions from that company's funds to the national republican committee, means a conclusive test of the criminal aspect of the case. The prominence of the defendant as well as of his associates in insurance, political and general business circles, rendered such a test inevitable in existing state of public feeling and under all the other extraordinary conditions. The criminal question having been mooted specifically and conspicuously before a grand jury and a judge, to fail to bring it to decisive issue, even if there were no doubt that a criminal prosecution would fail for lack of legal merit, would be to excite suspicion in many quarters of favoritism to prominent personages, or at least certainly to open opportunity to mischievous sensationalists.

There is no one now to defend the practice of interference by public corporations through large money contributions to political campaign committees, and least of all in case of funds of the special trust character in the keeping of life insurance companies. Rarely has there been such universal agreement on any point of public policy as lately on this point, even among those who as insurance and other corporation officials and party managers have engaged in the practice or in one way or another connived at it. Nor will intelligent and

candid minds be less agreed that such contributions made with honest intent, although the policy be harmful and indefensible, and possibly subject to civil liability, lack the essentials of larceny under the law as it is usually understood, although appropriation of the funds with felonious intent would be within the criminal boundary.

It is opportune to call a halt to corporation money connection with party organizations. The practice had become prevalent among all the important campaign committees. Those of the one great party not less than those of the other have importuned and pressed, sometimes threateningly the controlling officials of corporations for such contributions, and it has been no uncommon occurrence that the latter would contribute to both party committees at the same time. And it is well to remember that the practice has obtained, not only in the case of great corporations like the life insurance concerns in national contests, but also in innumerable smaller corporations of every description in state, county and municipal politics.

Anything that helps on the movement to put the axe to the root of this upas tree that has grown so vast and so deadly will hure to the public good. The mere raising of the criminal question in the case of so conspicuous an individual as the late vice president of the New York Life, although few seriously believe there was in fact criminal intent in his case, will tend to enforce powerfully the point of policy upon the public mind.

THE TWIN BOLLERS.

Although Broatch in his candidacy for the majority nomination represents those who are clamoring for a wide open town, and Benson stands committed to a platform of Puritanical law enforcement, they both stand on common ground as twin bollers.

It is said of Broatch that since his first term as mayor nineteen years ago he has not voted for a single republican candidate for that office, except when he himself was running for it. When Frank E. Moores was elected Broatch barricaded himself in the city hall and refused to surrender until compelled to do so by court order. His treachery to Linniger, his secret knifing of Bemis and his open espousal of the democratic candidates against Moores are on record. A typical example is found in the following letter, which Broatch published over his own name in the local democratic organ, pledging himself to W. S. Poppleton for mayor in 1900:

OMAHA, March 4, 1900.—To the Editor of the World-Herald: Dear Sir—In the issue of this morning The Sir-charged me with being the source of your information respecting your articles on what occurred at the reception of Admiral Schley by the Loyal Legion. You know this to be false and I ask you to deny it editorially. I have too high a regard for the "Military Order of the Loyal Legion" to drag it into the mire of politics, but as The Bee has taken occasion to deny the truthfulness of the statements of what happened at the time stated I think I am justified in writing this letter. I was present at the reception to Admiral Schley and heard the paper read by Mr. Moores. It was too indecent for publication and shocked every one at that largely attended meeting. One companion from a sister city said that his two young sons entertained a very exalted idea of the Loyal Legion and wished to attend one of its gatherings. The father, thinking it a fitting occasion, brought his two boys and afterwards said that he blushed with shame and could not look his boys in the face. At a subsequent meeting a committee was appointed and made a report, which was unanimously adopted. This report demanded an apology from Companion Moores, which he has not yet made. I shall vote for Mr. Poppleton because I believe him to be a clean, capable man and more likely to promote the interests of our community. I am a republican and believe in the national policy of my party. I do not believe that in refusing to subordinate the best interests of Omaha to personal ambition I am damaging the future of my party. W. J. BROATCH.

As to Benson's record as a bolter, only recent history need be cited. Three years ago he went into the republican convention with one ward behind him and when his followers failed to buy the second delegate needed to give them control, he had himself projected as an independent candidate and got upon the ticket by means of a populist nomination for the express purpose of beating the republican nominee.

Widely divergent as Broatch and Benson are in their professed ideas of the kind of government Omaha should have, they are alike in this, that if either is nominated he will be kept busy explaining his record as a bolter and lose to a large extent the force and influence which the nomination might to give.

The World-Herald thinks it sees in the re-election of the democratic mayor of Council Bluffs a fine example for the democrats of South Omaha to follow next week. It is notorious that the Council Bluffs mayor was re-elected by the gamblers of Council Bluffs, who have been unmolested and want to continue unmolested. The advice of the World-Herald, therefore, is nothing more nor less than advice to South Omaha to vote for a resumption of open gambling. We doubt whether South Omaha is disposed to take this sort of advice.

When the charter was up for revision The Bee took the position that the city attorneyship ought to have remained an appointive office and it still believes it should be appointive. The new charter, however, makes it elective and imposes upon the voters the duty of selecting the most competent attorney for the place from among the candidates presented. On the question of competency it should not be hard to judge.

Advisers of the car are certainly entitled to the pain for successful establishment for the way they handled the recent "rebellion" which was rendered futile, while soldiers were practically

all in the east. Now they are ready with a reorganized army to face any internal disturbance.

If Governor Mickey is still unpermeated that his police commissioner, Broatch, is dragging the police and fire departments into politics, he is cordially invited to come to Omaha and satisfy himself by personal observation. There are none so blind as those who will not see.

The so-called Good Government league has discovered that it made several mistakes in the ratings accorded candidates in its book on the political race track and is trying to correct them. The voters at the primary and at the election will correct the rest of the mistakes.

Splice of Variety.

Chicago News. There appear to be only eighty-seven varieties of rate regulation calling for attention in the senate, instead of ninety, as there would have been but for three vacancies.

A Bull's Eye.

Boston Transcript. "Standard Oil owns the Republic" makes a striking headline and one that is true in at least a limited sense. The mystery of the ownership of the Republic Oil company has been cleared up.

A Difference.

Chicago Record-Herald. The release of the packers would be all that their friends could desire if they had proved their innocence instead of merely establishing a legal right to protection against their own testimony.

The Audacious Pitchforker.

Springfield Republican. Senator Tillman sets up his "cornfield law" against the constitutional law of the great jurists, much to their astonishment. It is only another of the senator's audacities, but it helps to clarify the discussion.

Rate Regulation in Canada.

New York Tribune. Sir Thomas O'Shaughnessy, president of the Canadian Pacific railway, thinks American railroads "are making altogether too much opposition to the proposed legislation." He says the people are entitled to regulate rates and that government regulation of rates in Canada "is satisfactory to both the railroads and the shippers." It is possible that the senator might have to change a famous saying to read, "They order these things better in Canada."

Coal Piles Ripe for Raisin.

Springfield Republican. To regulate the mines, the anthracite coal operators make announcement that they have within a radius of 100 miles from New York City a reserve supply of over 9,000,000 tons of merchantable coal. This is nearly a fifth of a whole year's need, and if accorded to the coal dealers' hands it is possible that the coal operators' requirements may exist above ground. If there is a strike it will assist the operators in disposing of this large surplus stock at much better price than they would otherwise get. They will gain more from it than the miners can.

IMPENDING POSTAL CONGRESS.

Importance of the Forthcoming Session in Rome. Trox, J. N. Times.

Great interest will be taken in the Universal Postal congress to be held in Rome early next month. This will be the sixth of these gatherings, the first of which was in Bern, Switzerland, in 1875. That assemblage marked a departure which has borne most important fruit and which has led to the formation of a study little republic in which also there stands that admirable organization known as the Red Cross society, whose symbol on the battlefields and in the plague spots of the globe is the promise of humanity and tender care, to the vast diminution of death and suffering.

While there is no fixed law governing the matter, there is a sort of understanding that the postal congresses shall be called at intervals of about three years. As a fact, however, only five of these conferences have been held, the coming one forming the sixth. Various reasons have led to the postponement of the congress from time to time, the principal cause being other affairs which have occupied the time and thought of a number of governments. Until the season was propitious and convenient Italy, on which devolved the obligations and reported by the host, did not feel justified in extending the customary invitations. But obstacles seem to have been cleared away, the notice has been given in due and regular form and the assemblage will be held in accordance with the methods made and provided. All leading nations will be represented, and delegates carefully selected with a view to obtaining the most practical returns from the congress. Those sent on behalf of the United States are Captain N. M. Brooks, Chief of the Foreign Division of the Post-office department, and Edward Rosewater, editor of The Omaha Bee. Captain Brooks is an eminent and experienced officer in his official duties and has been a member of all the preceding postal congresses; hence he may be regarded as especially fitted for the work before him. Mr. Rosewater, with close knowledge of postal needs, will ably support his colleague.

Several other nations mentioned as likely to come before the congress, in which the proceedings are quite sure to be deliberate, owing to the diversity of languages spoken, which will require translation and comparison in order that there may be no misunderstanding as to whatever agreements are reached. One of the two candidates to come up is the devising of a universal postage stamp—that is one that will be accepted in any of the countries included in the postal union as a fair equivalent for the amount of postage that would be charged on a letter mailed there. The situation is somewhat anomalous. From the official duties and has been a member of all the preceding postal congresses; hence he may be regarded as especially fitted for the work before him. Mr. Rosewater, with close knowledge of postal needs, will ably support his colleague.

There are numerous other topics scheduled for consideration, and the time of the congress is likely to be well occupied. Judging from the outcome of those that have preceded it, a great deal of permanent peace affecting the international transportation of mail may be anticipated.

THE MAN FROM MISSOURI.

Something About the Man Who Pumped the Standard Oil Company.

"I am neither a professional reformer nor a trust buster. I am attorney general of the state of Missouri, and as such I propose to see that all corporations which do business within our borders keep within the law." This is the declaration of Herbert R. Hadley, the young lawyer who pursued the mandates of the Standard Oil company and compelled them to admit that the company owned and controlled the Waters-Pierce and the Republic Oil companies, who with the controlling company monopolized the oil market of Missouri. Mr. Hadley, who is barely 24 years of age, had been pitted against an array of legal talent representing the best that the Oil trust can gather. The aggregate yearly income from the practice of the gentlemen opposing him is estimated to be something like \$50,000. As attorney general of Missouri Mr. Hadley draws a salary of \$3,000 a year.

There is an interesting story about the way in which Mr. Hadley happened to run across the trail of Standard Oil in his state, says the New York Times. It was during a legislative investigation last spring of terminal charges at St. Louis and he was counsel for the investigating committee. The manager of the Waters-Pierce Oil company was testifying. He accidentally let slip the information that the Standard Oil company had no agency in St. Louis.

That was enough for the attorney general. "Doesn't it strike you as strange," he demanded, quick as a flash, "that you have no competition in this field from the Standard Oil company?" The manager couldn't see anything peculiar about the monopoly enjoyed by the Waters-Pierce company, but a few days later, while in Kansas City, the attorney general learned that the concern was not represented there. Putting two and two together he decided that there was some relation between the companies and before he was through he had learned that the Standard Oil company had learned that the Republic was also in the combine and, with two smaller concerns, were Standard partners.

Then came the quo warranto proceedings to forfeit the charter of the Waters-Pierce company, which is a Missouri concern, and cancel the licenses of the Republic Oil company and the Standard Oil company of Indiana. On the heels of this proceeding came an application for an injunction restraining the Standard of Indiana and the Waters-Pierce company from dividing up the state, and the Republic and lesser concerns from operating at all. The injunction was granted temporarily and is now in force. "It will continue in force," Mr. Hadley says, "they don't want to fight it. Why, the time was when a man would have to go fifty miles in Missouri to get his oil, no matter if there was a station half a mile away. Now one can buy oil wherever it is for sale. There is no longer any such thing as a division of territory. When I get through the case, however, I will say something about it as an Oil trust. It may take time, but I've four years to keep after them."

Herbert S. Hadley was born in Olathe, Kan., in 1881. His father was in the milling business and owned several farms. Young Hadley commenced his education in the Olathe public schools. Then he went to the State university at Lawrence. Finally he entered the law school at the University of Chicago, where he was graduated in 1904. Immediately he entered private practice in Kansas City. He had made himself heard from when, in 1898, he was appointed first assistant to the city counselor. After two years in this position, during which time he began to take part in politics, he was elected prosecuting attorney. During his tenure in this office he successfully prosecuted the Linniger case, which was heard throughout the country. His term over, he went back into practice for himself and was appointed as attorney for the Kansas City street railways.

When the republican convention of Missouri was held last year he was enjoying the practice of law in Kansas City. He was a power in the councils of his party. He attended the convention, having no idea whatever of seeking office. This is the way he tells of his nomination and election:

"There were three or four candidates for attorney general. None of them seemed to have any chance. On election day I went to try and have a name withdrawn, when they caught sight of me. The first thing I knew I was nominated, and before I could protest I was picked up bodily and carried to the rear of the room. I couldn't get back until the voting had commenced, the other candidates having withdrawn. Then I was in for it. "Party leaders urged me not to decline the nomination. They said it would be a mistake, and that I could withdraw later. In a moment of weakness I agreed to this proposition. Then I went home, and when I saw how my friends felt about it, I began to think that I ought to run. The same party leaders told me to make the race and if by any chance, I was elected, I could resign afterward."

"When I decided to make the race I ran as best I knew how. On election day, after casting my vote early, I went out hunting. Hunting is my favorite recreation. I was in the thick of a covey of quail, way out in the woods, when a man on horseback rode up to me and gave me a telegram from my wife, back in Kansas City. The operator had mixed the message up, and all that I could make out was 'come home at once.' I was pretty badly scared for a minute, for I have two little ones at my house, and I feared that one of them was sick."

"I got on my horse and galloped back to the nearest telephone station. While I was trying to get the message I heard a man talking outside the booth. "It does beat hell," he was saying. "I never believed the republicans would carry Missouri!" "Dropping the telephone and telling the operator to call me if she got Kansas City, I ran out to where the man was standing. "What's that about the republicans carrying Missouri?" I asked. "That's all," he answered. "Maybe Joe Folk slipped in, but if he did he was the only democrat."

"Look here, my friends," I told him. "The show is over. The republicans are a 'serious proposition for the whole damned state,' the man said, ruefully. "That's the first I knew of my election. I got Kansas City and found my wife waiting to tell me of my election. I went into office to stay there, the idea of resigning not appealing to me, and there I am. I'm going to stick to it and do my very best to enforce the laws. I guess that's about all there is to say."

Mr. Hadley's wife is a newspaper woman. She was a Miss Agnes Lee when he married her four years ago—a graduate of Vassar. The three of the two children is a boy, 8 years old. There is a girl a year and half younger.

Hard and Heated.

Baltimore Herald. Judging from the numerous conferences over the situation and the difficulty of reaching an agreement, coal is a very hard subject to discuss even if it is soft.



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GIVES HIMSELF AWAY.

Unique Answer of a Senator to Iowa's Governor.

Kansas City Times. Governor Cummins of Iowa criticized the senate, especially the senate committee's investigation of the railroad business. Senator Elkins replied to Cummins, and Cummins, in turn, replied to Elkins. Young Elkins once more answers the Iowa governor, and this answer is quite unique. He protests that he is not partial to the railroads, and calls attention to the Elkins anti-rebate law as evidence. That is good evidence, but it is on the other side. That law eliminated the criminal clause of the old interstate commerce act, and that elimination was worth more to railway officials than they lost through any restrictions that the law has imposed.

Mr. Elkins also says that his interests as a shipper are as ten to one compared with his interests as a railroad man, which fact should be considered. Young Elkins is not on the side of the railroads. And in claiming this conclusion, Mr. Elkins admits that he would be influenced in the senate by his interests, whatever they might be. Platt was more candid when he said his duty to the express company was the same as his duty to support him in a square deal. If the square deal has not prevailed in the railroad world, the presidents who yearn for it should welcome the assistance of the government. Secretly they probably do, but outwardly they must maintain semblance of being against "governmental interference with private rights." This is to placate and keep off their backs the stock-jobbing presidents who would come down on them like the Assyrian if railroad legislation should fall in congress. Mr. Mellon's speech might easily be interpreted as that of a railroad man who hopes congress would pass the rate bill, and be quick about it.

FLASHES OF FUN.

"I want to buy an auto, but I don't know what make to get." "But it doesn't matter much, does it? According to your present rate of increase in 'all best.'"—Philadelphia Catholic Standard. "Are you handling Senator Buncom's speech?" asked the managing editor. "Yes," replied the copy editor. "In just writing the lead. Let me see. 'Glittering Generalities' would be just the thing, but it's too long." "Abbreviate it. Make it 'Hot Air.'"—Cleveland Leader. "MacIntosh boasts a good deal about his family, doesn't he?" "Yes, I think he claims the head of his family was the original MacIntosh that Noah had with him during that rainy season."—Philadelphia Ledger.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Count not across a star who has not had an operation for appendicitis—is the present theatrical rule. The editor of the Isle of Pines Appeal, one of the best papers on the island, is Arthur E. Willis, formerly a native of Butler, Mo. Sir John Sinclair, a Scottish baronet, has presented gramophones and records to 300 asylums and other institutions, on condition that they are played to the inmates for half an hour every day. What puzzles the man of the house—or the janitor—is the fact that, though, according to temperature records, the winter was extraordinarily mild, the furnace has consumed about the usual amount of coal. Mr. R. J. J. of Ottawa is the only man in Kansas who raises his own oranges. He has a tree that has been producing the fruit for several years past and that has raised a crop of eighteen or twenty oranges last year. The oranges are not as large as the commercial fruit, but are of good flavor. The tree is of the Mediterranean variety. Frederick is Holbrook of Vermont, who recently passed his ninety-third birthday, is the only one of the famous "war governors" now surviving. He stood with General Curtin of Pennsylvania and Andrew Massachusetts as one of the staunchest supporters of the Lincoln administration when it most needed such support as they could give.

THE GALLERY GOD.

Baltimore American. None of your modern plays for him. With the three of the two children is a boy, 8 years old. There is a girl a year and half younger. "Bring on a hero as valiant as Mars. Who can carve up ten men unaided. All at once in a fight, with sword, dagger or knife, who'll be the first to answer for him. Or play where naught else seems to matter. But give him the real, good, old-fashioned kind. With plenty of blood and thunder. Where the lovers so true are by fathers so cruel. Relentlessly plucked asunder. Give him a heroine lovely as day. No virtue e'er heard of refuse her. And do not forget, if you value your life, The victor." "General," replied the officer, gravely, "it will be the first in the other."

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