

Bismarck Tribune.

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BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE

NEWS GOBBLED FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

The Army Bill Up Again--Widow Oliver Denies Ever Intending to Blackmail Simple Simon--The Wreck of the Steamer St. Martin--Miscellaneous Notes.

[Special Dispatch to the Tribune.]

THE ARMY BILL.

ST. PAUL, March 29.—The army bill came up in the House yesterday, and the debate was listened to by prominent senators. The clause forbidding the use of the army in elections being especially considered. The House referred the memorial of J. J. Wilson, claiming to be elected to Congress from Iowa. The committee have not yet been announced by Randall. It is supposed that Blackburn will be chairman of the appropriation committee.

A GAIN FOR GREENBACKERS.

The Democratic State committee of Ohio have decided to hold its meeting on Jan. 4th, the time of the meeting of the Greenback convention. This is regarded as a victory for soft money. The Greenback members of Congress have adopted resolutions favoring an increase of silver coinage to the full capacity of the mints, and the purchase of silver at bullion rates; the re-issue of greenback notes held for redemption, fractional currency for payment of pensions; legal tender notes for national bank notes, and tax on incomes of over \$2,000. Bills embodying these principles are to be proposed.

THE WIDOW OLIVER CASE.

In the Oliver-Cameron case the widow was recalled and denied that she had ever said she was going to blackmail the venerable Simon.

WRECK OF THE ST. MARTIN.

Details of the loss of the Haytian war steamer, St. Martin, so far as received, show that she was a six gun ship, commanded by Commodore Nadal. She had on board part of the 27th Haytian regiment, and Gen. Martport, military governor of Cape Hayti. Of the one hundred and fifty persons on board, only seventy-two were saved.

STRETCHED HEMP.

Knox Martin, the colored murderer, was hung at Nashville yesterday. Twelve thousand people were present. He confessed the crime before the execution.

TALMAGE'S TRIAL.

Talmage's trial drags on in Brooklyn and promises to last four or five weeks.

FOREIGN.

Bismarck has granted antimony to Alsace and Lorraine.

TELEGRAPHIC SPARKS.

Boynton has reached Evansville, Ind.

The Eads Jetty canal shows twenty-five feet of water.

A boiler explosion at Evansville, Ind., yesterday, killed one man.

Hadissat Douglass was shot by a man named Saylor, at Harrisburg, Pa., yesterday, who then shot himself. No cause is given.

The Catholic clergy of Chicago, who have been taking measures to relieve Father Pineell, are violently disagreeing over the appointment of a receiver of funds.

The Yellowstone Country.

[New Northwest.]

Mr. D. L. McFarland, who has a contract for surveys on the Yellowstone, was in Deer Lodge this week. He left Helena in August last and was in the field six months. It will require two months more to complete the surveys under his contract, and with his force he will start out again April first. Mr. McFarland speaks favorably of that portion of Montana. Although some cold weather was experienced in December last, as a rule the temperature is much milder along the Yellowstone than in other Montana valleys. The altitude of the Yellowstone is about 2,000 feet. It will be the best fruit producing portion of Montana in time. Wild grapes grow in profusion, and all varieties of fruit can be abundantly grown there. Pine and cottonwood timber is abundant, and has partly occasionally found thickets of ash. The country is settling up fast. Mines have been found in places, but they are not sufficiently rich to pay for working. Agriculture and stock raising will be the chief industries of this portion of Montana, which is at present attracting so much attention in the eastern States.

District Court.

A general term of the District Court for Burleigh County will convene at Bismarck on Tuesday the first day of April, next. Hon. A. H. Barnes, District Judge presiding. The Territorial Legislature at the last session changed the time for holding court in this county from May to the first Tuesday in April. It is expected that this will be an important term and that the old townsites cases which have long been on the calendar, and in which nearly all the residents of Bismarck are more or

less interested, will be disposed of. The Criminal calendar will be large but of an unimportant nature. The civil calendar will contain about fifty cases, and court will probably be in session two or three weeks.

THE HOMESTEAD LAW.

One Hundred and Sixty Instead of Eighty Acres.

The following is the Homestead act introduced by Mr. Kidder and approved March 3d:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

That from and after the passage of this act, the even sections within the limits of any grant of public lands to any railroad company, or to any military road company, or to any State in aid of any railroad or military road, shall be open to settlers under the homestead laws to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres to each settler, and any person who has, under existing laws, taken a homestead on any even section within the limits of any railroad or military road land-grant, and who, by existing laws, shall have been restricted to eighty acres, may enter under the homestead laws an additional eighty acres adjoining the land embraced in his original entry, if such additional land be subject to entry; or if such person so elect, he may surrender his entry to the United States for cancellation, and thereupon be entitled to enter lands under the homestead laws the same as if the surrendered entry had not been made. And any person so making additional entry of eighty acres, or new entry after the surrender and cancellation of his original entry, shall be permitted to do so without payment of fees and commissions; and the residence and cultivation of such person upon and of the land embraced in his original entry shall be considered residence and cultivation for the same length of time upon any of the land embraced in his additional or new entry, and shall be deducted from the five years' residence and cultivation required by law: Provided, That in no case shall patent issue upon an additional or new homestead entry under this act until the person has actually, and in conformity with the homestead laws, occupied, resided upon, and cultivated the land embraced therein at least one year.

Amusements.

Manager Sam Whitney has given a good show during the week, under the excellent supervision of Mr. Chas. A. Keene. Mr. Keene has recently accepted the position of theatrical correspondent to the New York Mercury.

Mr. Davenport, in the character song of "Vagabond," is particularly distinguishing himself.

The new star, Miss Annie Hazleton, the renowned club swinger, is simply immense, and has the muscle of a gladiator. Charley Pomeroy and Maude Farrer close next week. They have given eminent satisfaction. Maude Leigh still continues to "please the boys."

Mr. Whitney will arrange his theatre as a summer garden during the summer months, placing trees, etc., in the building, making a fac-simile of a forest.

The Golden Eagle.

Mr. S. F. Johnson, general eastern manager and transfer agent for the Golden Eagle mining and milling company, Black Hills, arrived by stage Friday, on his way east. His business east is to sell enough stock to build a large mill this season. The mines, three in number, belonging to this company, are among the richest in the Hills and all that is needed is development. The quartz will run from \$20 to \$25 per ton, growing richer lower down. The mine is situated near Central City in close proximity to the Father De Smet, Erin, Belcher, Buckeye and other mines of equal genuineness.

Political Pointers.

The Chicago Tribune says that "certain Missouri Republicans talk too much about the next Republican candidate for the Presidency," and that "unless they are prepared to give the electoral vote of the State for a Republican they had better let out the talking on this subject." We notice that the Tribune has a good deal to say about the next Democratic candidate for the Presidency. Is it willing to take a dose of its own medicine, and turn the electoral vote of Illinois over to the Democracy? If not it had better let out its talking to somebody else.—St. Paul Globe.

Dakota Dots.

The Rose Bud and Big Horn, of the Coulson Line, have been launched at Yankton.

There has been almost double the number of seeders sold in Yankton this spring of any previous season, which is an indication that the farmers are sowing much more grain this year than in former seasons.

Gen Sherman has ordered the Eighteenth infantry, now in Texas, to be at Yankton by the first of April, there to take steamers and be conveyed to Milk River, Montana, where they will be employed in building the new post of Fort Assiniboine.

The Northwestern.

It is reported that the Chicago & North-western railway company will extend their road from Lake Kampeska to Bismarck, and build a line from Tracy to Deadwood, work to commence as soon as the weather will permit.—Sank Rapids (Minn.) Press.

INFERNALLY ROUGH ON THE ICE

THE RIVER BREAKS UP WITH A CRASH,

And Starts the Rotten Surface on a Fair Voyage to the Gulf--The Smash-up and the Grand Rise--Prospects of a Gorge--Everything Flacid.

THE GRAND BUST.

There was a sharp, swift crack, a sullen roar, a rush of the waters, and the prayers of the pious citizens of Bismarck had been answered. The river had broken, or rather the ice thereon, and the imprisoned water, shaking off its shackles, dashed on its demoralized enemy and drove the still fighting floes tumultuously before it. Or, to descend to poetry, at fifteen minutes past six this evening the river busted. For several days this consummation has been devoutly wished, and as soon as the news arrived the town howled with delight. Two days ago the Heart broke, and its waters coming down with a rush had not a little to do with weakening the ice in the Missouri. Never before has there been such a display of pluck on the part of the Heart, and the Missouri, taking courage from the little stream, made a mighty effort and broke the tormentor that has lain so heavily on its bosom. From the river bank

THE SCENE WAS EXHILARATING.

After the first crack there was an ominous stillness. Then the flashes ran to and fro across the broad expanse as if seeking a retreat. Here and there the water bubbled up like a geyser. A low moan ran from bank to bank, and a horrible crunching sound responded. The great cakes that had formed the grand whole, staggered as if dazed by their independence, while the pitiable wails of smaller bergs, as their selfish superiors crowded upon them, drowned for a moment the wash of the waters and the rush of the masses. Slowly and steadily the waters arose and lapped the banks, which forced them back to the struggle they had inaugurated. The ice quivered and pitched, sinking and rising again, until fairly beaten, it turned from its enemy and fled in dismay.

It is estimated that

THE RIVER AROSE THREE FEET

in less than an hour. Looking across from the east bank toward the mouth of the Heart, the ice appeared to be piling up as if threatening a gorge. Slowly the ice made out from the land, but the example of the braver cakes that made the stand seemed to have little effect on their flying fellows, who rushed past, bound anywhere, anywhere out of danger. At the freight house the keeper and his wife packed up a hasty supper and fled to the hills, but soon came back, as the victory of the water seemed complete and the defeat of the ice signal. What the threatened gorge on the west bank will amount to is yet to be discovered, and there are now no data for prophecy whether or not there will be a gorge at the bend below Point Pleasant. At 9 o'clock the ice was passing out rapidly and comparatively quietly, with a rising river and no aspect of danger to the bottom save in the Heart mouth prospect.

AS THE BROKEN CAKES

floated away towards the mouth of the Missouri, the spectacle was wild. One star, and a sleepy looking moon, occasionally wiping its nose with a ragged and dirty cloud, looked down upon the scene. Up in the northwest a low, red rim hung heavily on the hill-tops, while the rest of the sky was jagged with torn drift. Down in the bottom everything was wet, a wilderness of wet, as if holding reserves, lest the river were whipped in the grand contest. The western bluffs looked down with stern stolidity upon the scene, like a congressman on an office-seeker. Between the bluffs and the red rim on one side, and the stuffy moon and the damp, dark bottom on the other, the torn and wounded ice rushed through the narrow defile of the river banks, followed swift and followed faster by the raging river that swelled in its bullying importance as its foe manifested more and stronger a disposition to skedaddle. And perhaps there never was a more thoroughly disrupted body of ice. Here and there an immense cake straggled along in a ludicrous effort to maintain some kind of dignity. Now and then a berg larger than most of its fellows, tried to assume style, but these efforts were all the more ridiculous when compared with the pitiful struggles of the little cakes, waifs, orphans, bumping around in pathetic endeavor to reach the parent breast, and finding nothing but water where there should have been milk, which demonstrates the inhumanity of bringing up ice on the bosom of a river instead of at a hotel.

But taken as a whole the business had

A DISSIPATED LOOK.

It was tramp ice from the start. There wasn't a clean shirt in the outfit but on the contrary the cakes were dirty, ragged and utterly unfit for business. Big and little they had a squalid look that betokened misery and an advanced state of hard-upness.

Now Bismarck is prepared for business. The river is open and the boats are ready. In a few days they will be prepared to start up the river, and the town is happy, especially Jim Lehmer.

RIVER NOTES.

The steamers Rosebud and Big Horn, which were taken off the ways at this place

last week, are now about ready for the season's business.—Dakota (Yankton) Herald.

Capt. M. Coulson has returned to Sioux City.

The steamer Helena will leave Sioux City for Benton about April 30th.

Geo. Clendenning, of the Coulson line, stationed in Montana, was in St. Louis last week.

The steamer Hattie Newland, Capt. Darragh, struck a snag near Little Rock, Ark., Wednesday and instantly sunk.

The steamer Montana is advertised to leave St. Louis for Dakota, April 3d, and the steamer Dakota for Montana, April 10th.

The Red Cloud goes Tuesday for the Upper Missouri. The old mountaineer, John A. Williams, commands.—Times-Journal.

In an interview with a St. Louis Globe-Democrat reporter, Commodore Coulson said that if he failed to carry out the contract of carrying government supplies this season, it would not be because he was not properly equipped for the task. The boats to be used are the Montana, Dakota, Key West, Western, Josephine, Rosebud, Big Horn, Far West and Black Hills.

Bad for the Buffaloes.

[Chicago Times.]

An army officer who arrived in the city from the Yellowstone valley a day or two ago tells a story of what happened to a herd of buffalo that were migrating southward. The herd numbered 2,500 head. They had been driven out of the Milk river country by the Indian hunters belonging to Sitting Bull's band. The herd struck the Missouri near Cow island, and ventured on the ice with their customary confidence. The animals came upon the river with a solid front, and began the crossing with closed ranks. The stream at the point of crossing was very deep. When the front file, which was stretched out a quarter of a mile in length, had had nearly gained the opposite shore, the ice suddenly gave way under them. Some trappers, who were eye-witnesses of the scene, said it seemed as if a trench was opened the whole length of the column. Some four or five hundred of the animals tumbled into the opening all of a heap. Others fell in on top of them and sunk them out of sight in a twinkling. By this time the rotten ice was breaking off short under the still-advancing herd. The trappers say that in less than a minute the whole body of buffaloes had been precipitated into the river. They were wedged in so thickly that they could do nothing but struggle for a second and then disappear beneath the cakes of ice and the swift current. Not a beast in that whole herd turned tail and tried to escape when the ice began breaking. In a solid phalanx they marched to their fatal bath in the "Big Muddy." In a minute from the time the first ice broke not a buffalo head or tail was to be seen.

Gibbons on Guns.

[Chicago Times.]

Gen. Gibbon has had about as much experience of Indian-fighting as any officer in the army, and his advice as to the arms that should be used to fight Indians with ought to be heeded. He says in the April number of the new quarterly, the United Service, that the small arms at present in use are defective in Indian fighting because they are not accurately sighted nor suitably triggered. The first thing to be done is to ease the trigger. "No man," he says, "can shoot accurately a rifle which requires a seven pound weight to be brought to bear upon the trigger," and yet that is the measure of the force required to fire off an army rifle. The Indians and frontiersmen, and all the sharpshooters, at Creedmoor and elsewhere, have their triggers filed down and their hind-sight replaced by what we know as the "back-horn" sight. This enables them to draw a "fine sight," and, with a hair-trigger, they can, after a little practice, send a ball home nearly every time. What these classes have found by experience to be useful improvements ought to be provided for the soldiers at once. Many valuable lives might be saved thereby. It does appear, however, that the soldiers got "fine" enough sights on the last lot of miserable Cheyennes that they happened to corral.—Chicago Tribune.

"Frenchy."

Last Monday afternoon the river gobbled its first victim in the person of poor "Frenchy," a private in the Seventh Cavalry. "Frenchy" started across on the ice, from the Point, showing another man the way. On the Lincoln side the ice was thin. As he stepped upon it, he turned to warn his comrade, when the ice broke, letting poor "Frenchy" in, and the current swept him under the main body of the frozen river. Among the unfortunate man's soubriquets was that of "Bad Speculation," a name he bore through life but only realized in his last tramp across the Missouri.

The Malls.

Trains will arrive after Monday next at 7:15 a. m. daily, except Monday, and depart at 7:15 p. m. running through to St. Paul in twenty-four hours. There will be no mail out till Monday evening but one may come Sunday night on the extra train to arrive.

AN INTERVIEWER'S EXPERIENCE.

DETAILS TO ILLUSTRATE THE ODDITIES OF GREAT MEN.

How the Prominent People of the Country Receive the Newspaper Reporter--A Brief Recurrence with the Big Bug from President Hayes to the Widow Oliver.

THE PRESIDENT.

Of all the reticent men who inhabit the domain of public affairs, perhaps Rutherford B. Hayes is entitled to the belt. When approached by an interviewer he will contrive to say less in 1,100 quarter hours than any other prominent gentleman extant. My first experience with him was at his home in Columbus on the evening of his defeat for the Presidency. Sam Medill, managing editor of the Chicago Tribune (on which paper I was then employed) exiled me for a few days with instructions to "pump Hayes for all he was worth," and election night I spent in vain efforts to glean some views from the then governor of Ohio. Six wholesome, fruitless hours were passed in laborious argument to convince him that the time for interviewing had come, and at length he gave me permission to publish this statement: "It looks as if I were defeated. I don't care for myself, but I do think of the unfortunate negroes in the South, and I tremble as I contemplate their condition under Democratic rule." Perhaps this is not exactly the language employed, but it is the substance. The remark was quoted extensively, but one of the witnesses in the Potter investigation swore he asked Hayes if he had made the statement, "and the President had indignantly denied it." I fancy he does not recollect all he said that night or the next day, and his nervousness on that occasion was testified in his effort to read from the associated press sheets the New York bulletin reports under the impression that they were election returns.

My second experience with him was in Washington on the 25th of December, 1873. I had received a telegram from Medill (which reached me in New York) and I hurried to Washington. It was Christmas morning when I arrived at the White House, and was promptly admitted to the executive chamber. My mission was to learn what disposition was to be made of a certain point that had arisen in the famous Chicago whisky cases. In three minutes the relative positions had changed. Hayes was the interviewer. He questioned me closely concerning the frauds from their inception, and when I had finished, he leaned forward in a sort of brown study. Finally he said, "During our conversation you have frequently mentioned a Mr. Blodgett. With which distillery was Mr. Blodgett connected? Was he in the first or second batch?" In my surprise I rejoined, "Distillery? Hell! Mr. President, he's the United States Judge who sent the distillers to jail." Hayes smiled as I apologized for the remark, but did not seem the slightest abashed when confronted with his lack of information concerning Blodgett's identity.

On a third occasion he took me kindly by the hand and assured me that he had never been interviewed since his accession to the Presidency, and that if Providence spared his health he never would be. He spoke of various pretended interviews with him, and solemnly denounced them as frauds. When he had anything to impart to the country, he would do it through the medium of a message, "whereas," he continued, "if I should happen to give my views to one of you correspondents, I should spend the balance of my term in correcting your report." It may be that the reading public wonder how Hayes' opinions got before them between messages. The explanation is simple. He has a number of confidential channels through which he pours himself into newspaper row, but only Gen. Boynton, of the Cincinnati Gazette, is permitted to approach the Presence proper.

WILLIAM M. EVARTS.

A cavernous mouth, from which stream sentences like the tape from the conjuror's jaws. Reticent, unless involved in an argument, and then speaking for himself as Everts, and not as Secretary of State. At the time of the rumors that he was working for the removal of Schurz, and threatening his own resignation, I applied to him for reliable information on those subjects and got it. The interview was published in the Chicago Tribune, and Everts always stood by it, notwithstanding the efforts of some would-be statesmen to induce him to deny it. In it he referred to himself as like the stone wall, built by a Connecticut farmer, which was four feet high and five feet broad, so that if blown over, it would be higher than before." This was to illustrate his position. If he left the Cabinet and its salary, he would go back to a law practice amounting to several times the amount. During the conversation he alluded to the eccentric eyed statesman from Massachusetts as "Ben Butler," a familiarity which Butler commented on subsequently. Newspaper men will remember the speech, but I question if the fact were ever made public before that Everts wrote a private note to Butler denying that he ever spoke of him in that way, and at Everts' request I published (Continued on Fourth Page.)