

# The Bismarck Tribune.

## LIGHTNING RODS.

As forest trees in a prairie country derive much of their value by performing the functions of lightning rods in changing the electrical status of the lower currents of atmosphere from a positive to a negative condition, thereby creating an affinity between the lower negative and the upper positive currents which always facilitates a commingling of these differently charged currents and results, generally in cloud making and rainfall, it necessarily follows that in the absence of trees a reasonable diffusion of genuine steel lightning rods would answer a similar purpose.

There can be no rational doubt that if every householder in this or any other prairie country were to place an effective lightning rod upon his house, barn and other valuable buildings, so that an extensive area of country were brought under their conducting influence, it would afford an entire and certain protection against lightning not only to the buildings on which they were erected, but to the grain and hay stacks in the whole region where they influence prevailed, and that in addition to this it would materially increase the amount of annual rainfall throughout the region where they prevailed. The deep-rooted prejudice existing against lightning rod peddlers has very naturally extended itself to the rods themselves. Yankee clock peddlers as an early day were as shrewd swindlers as ever lightning rod peddlers have shown themselves; still a Yankee clock is of great service in everyboddy's house. So with lightning rods. The peddlers may be sharpers, too frequently are but that does not ruin the value of lightning rods in the preservation of property and the production of increased rain fall. Wisdom says discard the peddlers but encourage and adopt the use of the lightning rod. Every hardware merchant owes to his customers and to the success and prosperity of the country to keep on hand a good supply of lightning rods at fair prices; and every householder owes it to his safety and to the success and welfare of the land of his adoption to provide himself with one or more of these substitutes for trees until he can protect himself by artificial forests, nature's natural lightning rods.

In the present weather continues, or if the predictions of Vennor come true, then it will not be impossible for farmers in this section to do some plowing during the next twenty days. In regard to plowing this month the American Agriculturist says: "Few fully appreciate how much a freezing of the ground does to set at liberty the plant-food locked up in almost all soils. Water, in freezing, expands about one-eighth of its bulk, and with tremendous force. Water, if confined in the strongest rock and frozen, will burst it asunder. The smallest particles of soil, which are in fact only minute bits of rock, as the microscope will show, if frozen while moist are broken still finer. This will go on all winter in every part of the field or garden reached by the frost; and as most soils contain more or less elements that all growing plants or crops need a good freezing is equivalent to adding manures or fertilizers. Hence it is desirable to expose as much of the soil as possible to frost action, and the deeper the better, for the lower soil has been less drawn upon, and is richer in plant food. Turn up the soil this month wherever practicable. If thrown into ridges and hollows, in field and garden, the frost will penetrate so much deeper. Further, plowing or spading the soil now exposes insects and weed roots to killing by freezing. Still further, soils thrown up loosely will dry out earlier in spring and admit earlier working, which is often a great gain when a day or two may decide in favor of a successful crop."

ONE of the most striking evidences of the climatic advantages the Missouri slope has over the Red river valley, is that while at Bismarck it is dry and dusty, at Fargo for two weeks past the merry jingling of sleigh bells have been heard. At Fargo on Thanksgiving the thermometer registered twenty-nine degrees below zero, while at Bismarck on the same day it was, according to the government official record, thirty-four degrees above; a difference of sixty-three degrees in Bismarck's favor. At Fargo the thermometer has been to thirty degrees below zero this fall while at Bismarck the lowest point was thirteen degrees below, on the 19th inst. Yesterday

the thermometer was up to forty-eight degrees above and to-day it will reach a still higher point. The TRIBUNE's daily weather report will be found of interest.

Just how long the farce at Washington is to continue is yet a matter of conjecture. It now looks as if the "insanity dodge" would lodge Guiteau in the asylum instead of eternity. The Washington Republican in arguing that the prisoner is not really insane says: "In his case we note particularly the extreme fear he manifests when not in the midst of the court and a posse of guards. As a correspondence aptly applies it, 'On entering the corridor which leads to the court room door he crowded his hat over his eyes and rushed through, dragging his guards after him, and only ceased when within the door.' If he were really a lunatic this peculiar fear of personal violence would not be so strangely exercised. He may be 'crazy,' 'insane,' or a 'lunatic' or 'off his base,' or any other of the dozen things that come under the same head, but he is not too insane to be terribly afraid when he thinks the occasion is not wholly conducive to his personal safety."

THE Alert hopes that the rumor to the effect that the Bismarck Daily TRIBUNE will soon suspend publication is not true. The TRIBUNE is too good a paper to die so young.—Jamestown Alert.

As Col. Donan, of the Fargo Argus, started the rumor, it is now opportune for that gentleman to "take it back." Evidently some one never read the following which appeared in the first issue of the Daily TRIBUNE:

"Henceforth and forever, the Bismarck Daily TRIBUNE will appear. It is an institution founded to meet the requirements of a prosperous and enterprising community, and will strive in every particular to merit the support which is necessary for its success. Identified as the TRIBUNE has always been with the growth and prosperity of Bismarck, it now marks a new era in the metropolis of the great northwest by issuing a daily."

THE Omaha Herald comes to the front in support of Guiteau and asks, "Can the United States afford to punish a lunatic for crime?" When lunatics rise up and assume to control the government by keeping the chief magistrates in abject fear of their lives it is time a remedy was applied. It is better to sacrifice the lives of a few lunatics than the life of a noble president, and the good name of a great country. If Guiteau escapes the punishment he richly deserves, no man can foresee the peril in which the government and its officers are placed.

THE authorities of Montana should take some measures towards staying the wholesale slaughter of buffalo now going on. The law should prohibit hunters from killing the animals just for the hides and tongues, and oblige them to use the carcasses for meat or else let the buffalo roam unmolested. The buffalo is of too much value to be killed and left on the prairie.

THE track of the North Pacific has reached Miles City and the voice of those who a month ago knew it would not reach that point this winter is lost in the shrill whistle of the locomotive as it steams into town. Monday was a great day in the history of Miles City, the metropolis of the Yellowstone valley.

SUNDAY, which was such a pleasant day in Bismarck, with the thermometer forty-three above, and the streets dusty, was a cold, misty day at Fargo, 200 miles east. A few sleighs were out but the citizens generally remained indoors. It was a sort of London fog.

GUITEAU continues to write insane letters which are brought back for evidence. It is too thin a game, but it may work with a jury who have no knowledge of the facts, except as they appear in the case.

It may be interesting to know that returns from the back counties in Wisconsin are still coming in.

### Wedded on a Railroad Train.

[Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer.]

A novel wedding of first-class people near Macon. A train pulled up to a station, when a couple suddenly stood up in the aisle of a coach, and there in the presence of the astonished passengers were made man and wife; the whistle sounded and the happy pair sped away to the exposition at Atlanta. The affair was not, as would appear at the first glance, a runaway match. It was only a scheme to avoid the wedding cards, wedding breakfast, claw-hammer and white dress nonsense.

It is stated that Capt. Howgate is visited in his cell each by day his mistress.

## CURRENT COMMENT.

SNOW at Otsego, Michigan, is nine inches deep.

SENATOR LOGAN believes that Guiteau was insane.

DAKOTA spends \$600,000 for educational purposes a year.

BIDS for mail routes for Dakota will be opened January 6.

THE grand jury has indicted Jones for assault with intent to kill Guiteau.

"BRICK" POMEROY's reputed immense fortune made in Colorado is said to have vanished.

DR. CARVER defeated Eden in London, for five hundred dollars, shooting thirty-five out of fifty pigeons.

DEMOCRATS in Washington regard Mr. Carlisle, of Kentucky, as the ablest man in the lower branch of congress.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR, JR., is naturally a favorite in New York society. He is two years younger than the late President Garfield's oldest boy.

G. M. PULLMAN, of palace car fame, has given a check of \$100 to Mayor Boyd, of Omaha, for the Watson B. Smith citizens' reward fund.

THE widow of Jim Fisk speaks a good word for Jay Gould, by saying that he has never been unmindful of the needs of those deserving his charity.

GEN. LONGSTREET is authority for the statement that President Arthur will announce no nominations for his cabinet until after the Christmas holidays.

A. ST. LOUIS mathematician has calculated that Baldwin, the New York cashier, will be sentenced according to the New Jersey rules to something like 13,000 years.

OF sixty-one members of the New York legislature who voted for Lapham, twenty have been re-elected. Of twenty-eight who voted for Conkling, but one is re-elected.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD'S memory is to be honored in London by the founding of a home for working girls to be called "Garfield House." A lady has given \$1,250 for this purpose.

THERE is a general tendency among congressmen and senators at Washington to abandon housekeeping and take to flats. The new apartment houses are fully occupied.

MISS ADA PRICE, of Fargo a bride that was to be" accidentally took a dose of arsenic on Thanksgiving day, from the effects of which she died, Friday. Miss Price was a most estimable young lady and a sister of Mrs. Jos. Lamont, of the Headquarters hotel.

THE Denver Republican tells of a once prosperous banker and county treasurer in Wisconsin who has been reduced to poverty, in spite for life-long honesty and integrity, and is now carrying a hod in Denver in order to obtain the necessaries of life.

THE verdict of the coroner's jury in the case of Ed. Maxwell, who was lynched at Durand, Wisconsin, last Saturday, is nothing if not sardonic: "Came to his death by falling from the court house steps and breaking his neck," and this is the latest and most perfect flower of northwestern civilization.

It is now believed that instead of having any lady remaining permanently in the white house to preside for him, the president will invite the wives and daughters of the members of his cabinet to assist him when he has receptions. He has so spoken already to some of these ladies, and said merrily that he expected them to work hard for him at the white house next winter.

NORTHERN PACIFIC preferred sold at eighty-two cents on the New York stock board on the report that the finance committee have about concluded to make the proposed dividend on the preferred stock, payable in ten per cent scrip, and drawing interest from January 1. This is equal to eight per cent. cash. Common stock is also opening higher.

A DISPATCH sent east says: "The First National bank of Mandan has opened its doors to the public under most favorable auspices. Its authorized capital is \$500,000, of which \$50,000 is paid up. The officers are: C. Edgar Haupt, president; James Bellows, vice president; H. R. Lyon, Cashier, and T. K. Alexander, assistant cashier. The wealth of the stockholders aggregates \$6,000,000."

THE following changes have been made in the office of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba road, to take effect December 1st: James J. Hill was elected vice president in the place of R. B. Angus resigned; Mr. Allen Manvel was appointed general manager, vice James J. Hill; Geo. Stephen was made president. The above named changes were primarily involved by the resignation of Vice President Angus, who will hereafter reside in Montreal, where he will have charge of the general supervision of the financial de-

partment of the Canada Pacific railroad. Mr. Angus still retains his interest in the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba road, and will visit St. Paul as circumstances in the future may require.

A NEW town was recently started in Richland county, D. T., and named Colfax. That gentleman immediately informed the owners that he would pay \$100 for the grist sack of flour sent to him manufactured in the town. Last week he paid the \$100. That sack will make rather dear bread.

THE Omaha Herald says that Mr. Scoville is arresting the attention of the country as a shrewd and able man who keeps his balance under the most trying circumstances. Between a crazy client on the one side and angry public feeling on the other, the husband of Guiteau's sister is fast gaining the sympathies and admiration of the country.

THE wife of the Lord Mayor of London recently gave a reception at the Mansion House, at which there were one thousand guests. A series of tableaux vivants were given in the Egyptian Hall by her family and friends. Afterward there was a concert, and supper was served at midnight in the old ball-room.

MISS ANNA LOUISE CARY is mentioned as the possessor of \$450,000—all earned by her own charming voice. Among her treasures is one of the most perfect emeralds in the world. It weighs twenty-three carats and is valued at \$50,000. It was bought at the sale of Queen Isabella's jewels at Paris.

THE memorial exercises over President Garfield will take place the second week after congress meet. Senator Sherman will deliver an eulogy in the senate, and Randolph Tucker in the house. Congressman Pettibone threatens a poem.

CHARLEY COLLINS says that Clara Louise Kellogg has evidently concluded that Emma Abbot knew what she was talking about when she said getting married has a good effect on the voice. At least Clara will try Emma's medicine.

VENOR predicts storms for the last of this month, with the mercury in the northwest considerably below zero. That is meant for points further east. Bismarck has another climate altogether. Just watch the weather reports.

GUITEAU says: "I am not insane. I am just as sane as anyone. I am not pretending to be insane because I am not. I am only trying to get at the truth. Was it Deity or myself who was responsible for the shot?"

At a Washington hotel: Ohio man—"I say, Mr. Clerk, will you just please to throw the light of your diamond over the register for a minute? I wish to make myself hail from the State of New York, you see."

A CHRISTIAN writes to the New York Sun that he has been told in a vision that the world would come to an end in 1881, and suggests that by publishing this, the Sun will give the wicked a few days to repent.

EDWARD RICHARDSON, of Mississippi, is the greatest cotton raiser in the world, and has amassed a fortune of \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000. He not only raises, but he spins and weaves cotton.

MRS. MILLER, of Waterloo, Iowa, whose husband died two weeks ago, murdered her two children and tried to kill the other three, who got away. She has been insane since her husband's death.

THE Lord has saved my life so far; I am in his hands. I will be in the lecture field within a year and will have \$50,000. Then I will pay all these little debts I owe.—Guiteau.

An exchange thinks "Guiteau may be very crazy, but wait him up to a scaffold and he would know at once that it was not a rostrum for a lunatic lecturer."

PRINCE MURAT was badly wounded at Paris Saturday in a duel with Baron Vaux, whom he challenged for an article published in the Triboulet.

At a meeting of commercial travelers held at Fargo Sunday, a resolution of respect and sympathy to the memory of Geo. L. Mack was passed.

HENRY A. PINGREE, employed by a steamship company at Boston, recovered \$7,000 for the loss of two fingers by defective machinery.

THERE are now about 2,000 applications for the purchase of railroad lands in Montana filed at the office of the North Pacific.

BUFFALO bones sell for \$12 per ton on the Texas & Pacific railroad, and hundreds of men are busy with teams gathering them.

THE Omaha Herald modestly remarks that it is willing to admit Dakota providing Montana, Utah and New Mexico come in first.

It is stated that the throng of ladies who attend the trial of assassin Guiteau, arm themselves with rattions and opera glasses.

JOHN H. STEVENS, chief surgeon of Stone-wall Jackson [during the war, was found

dead in his office at Dallas, Tex.

GUITEAU expects soon to deliver a lecture on "What I know about cranks."

An exchange pertinently remarks: "Have you ever been vaccinated? If you have not, you are to be pitted."

THE emperor of Japan announces that in 1888 the government will take the form of a parliamentary monarchy.

## Gone to Rest.

Like the light of a candle before a gentle breath, so did the life of George L. Mack pass away Friday morning at 6 o'clock. Careful and attentive nursing, skilled medical care, and the prayers of a devoted and faithful wife, were of no avail. Slowly the patient sank into a state of insensibility, and apparently without a sign of pain, surrendered the battle. He was rational up to within thirty-six hours of his death. The danger of the disease itself had passed away, but it had germinated a fatal spark. For several years the lungs had not been strong, and the strain was too severe. Congestion, followed by inflammation, set in, and the patient was forced to surrender to the inevitable. Had his lungs not been consumptively inclined there would have been no danger. Two years ago Mr. Mack went to Montana, and while there contracted a cold which settled on his lungs, and ever since that time has suffered more or less. Mr. Quincy watched over him with more than a brother's devotion, and Dr. Porter had contributed the most skillful attention, but it became apparent to both these gentlemen Thursday night that the patient must die. He was quietly buried in the presence of one silent mourner, Mr. Quincy, at 12 o'clock yesterday in the Catholic cemetery, where his remains will lie till spring.

Mr. Mack was a young man only thirty-two years of age, universally liked by everyone who knew him. He never did anyone harm; he strived constantly to do some good. He was a most polished gentleman, and one of the most popular traveling men in the northwest. He had always been confident of health, and it was only by the most earnest solicitation of a friend that he was induced last May to take out a policy in the Traveling Men's association for \$5,000. He leaves besides a wife, to whom he had been married but eight years, a mother and sister in Lockport, N. Y. For several years he has been traveling for the boot and shoe house of Gotzian & Co. St. Paul, and had for the past year been living in Fargo. The sympathies of the entire community are with Mrs. Mack, but that is little recompense for this irreparable loss.

## A Fatal Bullet.

Friday evening about 6 o'clock three shots were heard in the O. F. C. restaurant on Fourth street, and a moment after, the lifeless form of Wm. Walker (colored) was seen on the floor, he having been shot through the heart by one Robert Fields, (colored) who immediately gave himself up to the authorities. It seems that Walker and Fields had been quarreling all day about an old matter and that several times the two have come to harsh words. They met in the O. F. C., and almost without a word took out their revolvers and began firing. Two shots were fired by Walker and one by Fields, the former without effect, the latter, fatal. Fields claims that the killing was in self defense, which the circumstances would seem to indicate. The revolver used by Walker was a Smith & Wesson 44, cut off, and that of Fields was same size with full length barrel.

Walker, or "Gunboat Bill," as he was usually called, was well known on the Missouri river. He was one of the pioneer cooks on Missouri river steamers and had made Bismarck his headquarters for several years. He leaves a wife, to whom he was married last summer, and who is now in St. Louis, having gone down on the Gen. Thomas. Walker intended to have joined her at that point some days ago, but having lost his ticket was waiting for the finder, or the issuance of a new one by the railroad company.

Fields, familiarly known as Jenkins, had been in charge of Frank Washington's saloon near the river, called Washington's New Idea. When he gave himself up to Deputy Sheriff Griffin he had, besides the revolver, a huge knife, and had evidently been expecting a finale to the misunderstanding with Walker for some days.

This is the first shooting scrape in Bismarck in a year, the last being at the river between two colored individuals.

Friday's Fargo Argus says: "Superintendent Footner, of the North Pacific express company, arrived yesterday morning and went to work looking after the contents of the burned express car. All the perishable goods, such as poultry and oysters, were sold for the best possible prices. All other damaged goods were sent to St. Paul last evening, so that Mr. Footner would have a better opportunity to give the matter his personal attention. He says that the loss will not be near as heavy as at first expected, and that all losses will be promptly adjusted to the satisfaction of the shippers. The exact amount of the damage can not yet be told, as the invoices would have to be procured before any definite idea could be given. Mr. Footner says about two hundred dollars has been realized from the sale of perishable goods.