

The Omaha Bee

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CORRESPONDENCE: All communications relating to News and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor of The Bee.

OMAHA PUBLISHING CO., Prop'rs E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

THE contingent congressman back pay grab meets with universal condemnation throughout the state.

DENVER justices of the peace are reported to earn more than double the salary of the governor of the state each year.

THE pool lines have curtailed editors' privileges on their roads. Editors will probably retaliate by refusing to give \$500 worth of free advertising.

WE thought as much, Dr. Miller wants the name of Sherman avenue changed to Sheridan avenue.

SPEAKER KEIFER finds that the speaker's chair is not a bed of roses. The house has never been more disorderly than at the present time.

NEW YORK and Philadelphia brokers have organized a new telegraph company composed of thirty members of the stock exchanges of the two cities.

IN a court organized to convict August Arndt, as might have been expected, has been found guilty.

CAPTAIN EADS sends us a pamphlet containing the views of well known engineers on the feasibility of his ship-railway across the isthmus.

YOU do not see any railroad schemes popping up in the legislature. Not at all. The managers are waiting till the busy days of the session when log rolling is easy.

VALENTINE was sat upon with a loud thud on Wednesday while trying to push his bill for packing minerals at the Atlanta exposition through the house.

THE boss tax-dodging corporation is the Pacific Mail Steamship company. The laws of the state of New York provide that corporations shall be taxed where they have their main office.

IT is stated on excellent authority that the measures which have been introduced into congress to declare forfeited to the government the unearned land grants of various roads meet with the cordial approval of the administration.

LIMIT THE DEBATE

The board of trade meets to-night to take action on the report of the paving committee. That report contains material enough for a six months debate if each proposition is to be fully discussed.

The debate to-night after hearing the reports of special committees should be limited to these vital questions which are the only ones that require immediate decision.

A DUBUQUE dispatch of the 19th inst., says: "Last week ex-Senator George W. Jones of this city and Mayor Sweetzer of East Dubuque were sent to Washington to induce Secretary of War Lincoln to grant the city of Dubuque a charter to build a wagon bridge across the Mississippi at this point, south of the railroad bridge.

OMAHA needs a wagon bridge a good deal more than Dubuque. Communication between Omaha and Council Bluffs under present conditions is almost as difficult as between Omaha and Chicago.

THE house of representatives should promptly concur in the bill introduced by Senator David Davis and passed by the senate, providing for the immediate retirement of Justice Hunt, who for two years has been entirely incapacitated for work in the supreme court.

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TWO grandsons of John C. Calhoun make significant statements in the February Century, in Mr. Edward Atkinson's striking paper on the Atlanta Cotton Exposition.

One of the grandsons, in referring to the elder Calhoun's belief that the two races could not exist on the same soil except in the relation of masters and slaves, made this surprising remark: "If my grandfather and his associates had known as much about the negro as I know, and could have had the same faith in his capacity for progress which I have attained from my own experience, there would have been neither slavery nor war."

THE Pennsylvania law regulating primary elections had a severe test at the very outset. While the recent republican primaries were not materially changed by its operation the machinery provided by the statutes was not used and there is promised a vigorous attempt to have offenses against the law punished in the courts.

AN important equity case has just been decided by the United States circuit court at Springfield, Ill. The case was brought by the attorney-general of Illinois against the ferry companies and the bridge company at St. Louis, for combining and pooling their earnings.

TO a close observer and reader, the daily record of railroad movements, of new lines projected and combinations formed, is a succession of surprises. The great trunk lines of the east and west have already obliterated from the map a vast number of local roads, and the process of amalgamation continues only on a more extended scale.

WESTERN RAILROAD PROGRESS

THE purpose of this contract is to make the interest of the parties in the business mentioned joint. They agree not to compete and to make common cause to prevent competition by others.

THE Missouri bridge business is also worthy of consideration. From Maple Valley Junction to Wisner, on the Elkhorn Valley via Missouri Valley and Decatur, is 135 miles; and via the Maple Valley, Omaha and Decatur it is 125 miles, just 30 miles shorter.

THE Grand Junction coal fields are proving valuable. A Des Moines man recently made an offer of \$20,000 for a farm of sixteen acres near that place for the purpose of mining it.

THE sheep breeders of Iowa have called a convention, to meet in Des Moines on February 1st, for the purpose of organizing a Wool Grower association and to take measures against the ravages of dogs and wolves.

THE report of the railroad commissioner of Minnesota shows that 173 miles of road were constructed in that state last year, making a total of 3,373 miles in operation at the close of the year. Nearly 200 miles of road bed are graded and ready for the iron.

THE increase in miles of railroad in operation is five per cent. in gross earnings, 30 per cent., and in net earnings 27 per cent. The state revenue derived from railroad taxes for 1880 was \$323,443, an increase of \$74,000 over 1879, and for 1881 they will approach \$400,000.

THE Northern Pacific is between two fires in congress. The company are straining every nerve to comply with its charter and earn the lands granted by congress, but stock jobbers and lobbyists have raised a loud and patriotic cry against land grants generally.

THE building of the branch of the Milwaukee road to Sioux City next season will surely call for some new moves. The Milwaukee will, by that branch, bring Sioux City within 520 miles of Chicago.

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THE financial condition of the Denver & Rio Grande is shown by the circular of President Palmer to be in a flourishing condition. The entire unfunded liabilities of the company are \$2,224,015, against which the company has on hand cash, and its equivalent, \$2,900,865; due from the United States for mail service to November 30, \$2,229,834.

CASS county is struggling with the rest of her neighbors under a mortgage of \$100,000 given to the B. & M. in her early days. The bonds bear ten per cent, and that is where they pinch. The Plattsmouth Journal urges the commissioners to refund the bonds by floating a new ten-year bond bearing not more than six per cent.

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of each year; delinquent, February 1 of each year; penalty, 1 per cent. a month, first three months, 2 per cent. a month, second three months, and 3 per cent. a month thereafter. The tax is levied on the first Monday in October of each year.

Bentley's hot-house, in the suburbs of Dubuque, was burned on the 17th, involving a loss of \$2,500. A barn belonging to the Lincoln cemetery association, valued at \$500, was also burned. The Dubuque Times adds: "But the saddest part of all was the accident which befell Mrs. Bentley, who was quite severely burned and narrowly escaped a horrible death. She ran out upon the roof of the hot-house while the flames were raging below, and slipping on a two-by-four, from which she supports the roof, she fell through the floor and only escaped being precipitated into the flames below by catching hold of the frame of the door, and clinging there until rescued. It is a very painful and serious injury. One of her lower limbs and one arm were badly burned, and her sufferings were intense. Dr. Watson was called and attended to her injuries, which are not serious, but very painful. Her escape from a horrible death was almost miraculous."

STATE JOTTINGS.

Culbertson is clamoring for a harbor. The Crete postoffice did a business of \$40,000.50 last year.

The ice upon the Missouri at Niobrara is eleven inches thick.

A Fremont firm is preparing to go into the iron cornice manufacturing business extending to the west.

The poles are up for the telephone wire at Plattsmouth. Fifty instruments are on the way from Boston.

Will Biles, of Fremont, was kicked by a cold last week and knocked senseless to the ground. He left eyes surrounded with the imprint of a horseshoe.

Central City guarantees a fortune to the man who will establish a brick yard there. Three hundred thousand good brick cost only \$100,000. The most numerous man for last year, \$10 or \$11 per thousand.

George Hart, indicted for murder, broke jail at Grand Island last week and is now at large. Hart is described as being six feet two inches in height, tall thin whiskers, dark mustache and light complexion. The governor has offered a reward of \$200 for his capture.

The Brownville Advertiser says the towns of Calvert and Sheridan are long will be consolidated, both names be dropped, and both towns be known by a new and better name. The people will be called upon to move the county seat from Brownville and build a \$50,000 court-house.

A fat man's club has been organized in Pekamah. Every member must tip the beam at 170 or 180 lbs. The club has a "loy window" of well rounded proportions. No member who can stand straight and see his toes is eligible to office. The secretary is a man pushing a wheelbarrow in which his stomach rests.

The people of Niobrara are having some fun over the new postoffice. The town is being moved farther back from the river to avoid being carried into the sea by high tides as it came very near doing last spring, and a few of the citizens are busy moving the office, while a majority want it changed. Senators Saunders and Van Weck favor the relocation, while Valentine is opposing it.

The grand lodge of Good Templars, in session at Hastings last week, proclaimed to the world "your confidence in the integrity of the state of Iowa. We do most unqualifiedly endorse his administration and pronounce the publication of his treacherous and malicious and libelous as untrue." The Junata lodge was suspended for giving "aid and comfort to the enemy. Knickerbocker has the floor.

Quit a number of Aurora ladies have banded themselves together under the name of "The Aurora Ladies' Aid Society." They are now circulating a large number of "Aurora" and have issued a manifesto which hurls the gauntlet of war at intemperance, gambling and all other forms of immorality. Every man who is guilty of transgressing against us warn us that the time for tempering with these evils is past. As wives, mothers and citizens, we know our duty and we defend it peaceably if we can; with severe measures if we must."

The Union Pacific company is a purchaser of the mining interests of the Blue Brothers at Blue Springs, for \$100,000. The Motor says: "this is certainly an important transaction to the future outlook of Blue Springs, and assures to the location of a round house and machine shops during the present year. The U. P. company will take possession of their purchase next week and we understand they will at once commence work on the new shops."

The board of supervisors of Tama county offer a reward of \$1,000 for the discovery of coal in that county.

Iowa Falls has been established as a freight division on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railroad.

A bill has been introduced in the legislature removing the power of townships and towns to vote aid to secure railroads.

The new depot to be built at Burlington by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy company will cost between \$90,000 and \$75,000.

Benton county has let the contract for a new jail at Vinton to a St. Louis company. It will cost \$10,000 and is to be ready July 15.

A firm with large capital is figuring on building a large pork packing establishment in Creston, together with a soap factory.

Efforts are being made to extend the Washburn railway system from Aladena to Avoca, thence to Harlan, and thence to Sioux City via Denison.

Mr. Tiler, of Monroe county, who has a 35-acre orchard, had a fine exhibit of about fifty varieties of apples before the horticultural society at Des Moines.

As there are a number of members of the First Iowa cavalry in the house and senate it is proposed to have a regimental reunion at Des Moines, \$400,000 credits.

The Legion of Honor has 4,500 members in Iowa. Since March last it has paid nineteen losses, aggregating \$38,000, and has a balance of \$1,721 in the beneficiary fund.

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The Iowa poultry show, now being held at Ottumwa, is largely attended over 250 entries being already made. The display is reported to be the finest ever shown in the history of the association.

Mr. John N. Irwin was elected speaker pro tem, of the house on Thursday. This action is a graceful compliment to Mr. Irwin, as well as to the house, as it will be a vast advantage to the house.

The business done by Monticello last year is figured up by The Express at \$1,007,998. The leading items are: Hogs, grain and live stock, \$400,000; cereals, \$200,000; flour, poultry, feed, etc., \$110,000.