THE ENTERPRISE.

J. B. Smith, Proprietor.

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THE Republican Congress should round out its grand record by giving the people one cent letter postage. It was promised in the last national platform, and the promise ought to be fulfilled before the fourth day of March next.

THERE are many good reasons why the farmers who had for a quarter of a century voted the straight Republican ticket should have voted the Farmer's Alliance or "People's" ticket at the late elections, but there does not exist a single sensible reason for expecting those Republicans to follow the southern wing of the National Farmer's Alliance, which dominated the recent Ocala convention, into the Democratic party.

AFTER a month's deliberation everybody agrees that the Mckinley tariff bill did it. —Elyria Democrat.

YES, it was an excellent club to handle to defeat us at the late election. But we venture to say that there is not a man in Lorain county that realizes any difference in the price of the articles. It reduced the annual revenues on imports $14,000,000, and increased the duty on silks and plush goods just what was necessary to do, but for all that our Democrat friend over in Elyria thinks it will prove to be oppressive.

THE young Emperor of Germany claims to be progressive in his ideas, and to be aiming to keep the mighty empire, founded by the iron will and hand of Bismark, abreast of the front rank of modern civilization, and yet he has just recognized the Brazilian republic. Royalty and progress do not assimilate in this age, nor, in fact, did they ever assimilate in any age. This is the era of freedom and the people, and it is only a question of time—a very short time—when kings and emperors will be but relics of a bygone period.

IT has now been ascertained that C. S. Brice and family were enumerated in New York city last June. This, of course, has no bearing upon the case to establish his citizenship in Ohio previous to his election as Senator. Mr. Brice had not been a citizen of Ohio for many years, and it certainly was no credit to the General Assembly to elect a man for Senator whose place of residence would be disputed, when there were so many able men in the field deserving the position. Mr. Brice appears to be somewhat alarmed over the matter, and well he might be, as the indications are that his seat will be declared vacant at the convening of the fifty-second Congress.

THE apportionment bill agreed upon by the House Census committee is, perhaps, all things considered, about the best that could have been framed. It makes the House consist of 356 members —it's a pity the number could not have been reduced—which is at the rate of one representative to every 173,901 persons. Of the 24 new members added to the House, no state, with the exception of Nebraska, will obtain more than two, and no State will lose any of its Representatives. Of the 24 new members, the North and West will get 18 and the South and Southwest 6; and taking the political standing of the States to be what they were at the last Presidential election, the Republican party will gain 17 and the Democrats 7. Now that the bill has been agreed upon, let the Republicans in Congress see to it that there is no unneccessary delay in passing it.

THE indications are good for passing the Federal Election bill after the holidays. This we consider a move in the right direction. Ever since the Southern States were reinstated, there has been constant complaint entered that the colored race were not permitted to go to the polls and vote without fear of personal violence or intimidation. A number of laws have been passed for their protection at the polls and up to date they have neither been enforced effectively or if they have been, they are of no practical benefit. Now considering them all to be a failure for reasons unknown, other plans must be substituted to try and secure that freedom to the colored elector which he is entitled to. What is known as the Federal Election bill is now before the Senate, and let them pass it forthwith, then if the colored man gets his rights, which he is entitled to, there will be no cause to enforce it, but if not, put it in force and see how it will work and if it proves to be just what is required, we will consider that a victory has been gained and if it proves adverse to public good, it can be repealed.

Letter from Dakota.

GRAND RAPIDS, N. DAKOTA, Dec. 5, '90.

To the Editor of THE ENTERPRISE:

The last month of the fast receding year. How time flies! And yet we are not so surrounded by pleasures or the gayeties of life that we take no note of time. Ah no. The rushing work of the fall months in Dakota, leave few leisure moments. From daylight until dark, every day must count, for the chilly blasts of old winter may be lurking near, ready to spring upon us at any moment and woe to the ones who are caught napping, where once his icy breath sweeps down from the north-west, fastening itself with a tenacity from which there is no escape usually, until the warm rays of the returning sun loosens little by little its icy fingers and slowly but surely relaxing its grip, it slips away and once more Dakota blossoms forth with—but I digress. Instead of balmy spring, I look out and see the snow covering the earth and realize it is December. We had the finest weather all through November, much more like June, but since the beginning of December colder weather has prevailed and a light fall of snow is now on the ground. There is always so much to do on a farm in any country, but our winters here require more preparation than with you, but thank fortune we never have the rain and mud to contend with. Stock of all kinds is going into winter in fine condition. The hot winds which so "demoralized" our crops did not effect grazing which was abundant. Wheat averaged from nothing to 8 bushels per acre in this county, of poor quality, very few oats and no millet. A light crop of rye will be about the only feed raised in the county. The situation I must confess, is anything but flattering. Deplore it as we may, it nevertheless remains a fact, that the continued poor crops are compelling a great many to leave and seek other fields of labor, a few returning to their former homes in the several states, while the majority by far, are pushing on west to Washington and Oregon and a few to Idaho, etc. Probably 30 or more from hereabouts have located in Duluth, but "we still live!" No doubt of those remaining, not a few have invested in land stock and machinery, made extensive and expensive improvements and realize that to leave now, would be simply to abandon everything, for there is absolutely no sale for any of these things. It is not an easy thing to do, so they still hold on and "hope on, hope ever" I would not have you believe there are more staying here from choice, for there are many such and they are taking the advantage of the less fortunate ones and increasing their herds, acres and implements, etc., at their own figures. The ground was in excellent condition for plowing, better than since '84, one thing favorable towards next season's crop. A great many farmers are buying sheep. Thousands of head are owned in this county alone and thousands have passed through on this line for South Dakota. The low price of dairy products and beef have somewhat discouraged a good many cattle owners and sales are slow. Dressed beef can be bought for 3½ cts. per lb, but H. H. has been buying a few hundred gauges of cream per week at 15 cts. per gauge. He closes up the creamery this week, but will buy dairy butter and dressed poultry for the western market. He has paid out over $3000 to his patrons the past season and although it is by no means what the same products would have brought a few years ago, it is a fair compensation under existing circumstances.

Politics waxed warm indeed here, and although somewhat disappointing in results, I find our record as a State compares favorably with most of our older sisters, who seem to have been "off the hooks" as the saying goes.

La Moure Co. sends a Democratic State Senator, but a Republican to the House. White Co. officers were about equally divided between the two parties. A county composing a district alone as sparsely settled as this is bound to make a stirring campaign. Personalities entered largely into this one, the Democrats being reinforced by so called Independents making a strong ticket. H. H. and myself attended the South Dakota Fair at Aberdeen in October. It was a decided success notwithstanding the sore trials they are facing. One notable feature was "woman's day." The gate receipts that day amounted to over $2400. The day was given up to the ladies and among the many speakers were such prominent women as Susan B. Anthony, Rev. Olympia Brown Anna Shaw and others. Having heard Miss Anthony many years ago, I could but notice the change in public sentiment regarding her since that time. Then she was "Woman's Rights," "Bloomer," Susan', and almost a jest by a majority, but to-day, having stood nobly and loyally by her principles, she was the honored guest of the assemblage and was received by an applause worthy of her strenuous efforts to see her sex given the right of suffrage. It was lost at this election, but is gaining ground every day and will win yet.

The capital fight between the two cities, Huron and Pierre, was no doubt one reason of so large an attendance. It was a bitter fight. Huron was represented one day by seven full cornet bands in uniforms besides a company of girls numbering about thirty, in uniforms and well drilled, called the "Huron Guards." Pierre was represented by brass bands and had various other attractions, etc. Pierre gained the victory, but it was an expensive one. The display in all departments was excellent, especially so in horses, of which there were some beautiful ones, equaling, if not excelling anything in the same lines anywhere. I saw Dakota grown apples from the crab variety, to a large ruddy cheeked apple, delicious in taste, but don't infer from the above that we have barrels of them and send any orders for the same for fear we could not fill them. The most enjoyable feature of the whole occasion to us, was the meeting of an old friend from Lorain Co., A. O. Johnson, whom many of you remember. He made our stay very pleasant indeed through many courtesies, we appreciated fully. He was Vice President of the association and Superintendent of Grounds, and altogether I should say a popular influential man of S. D. "Long may he wave"

Well, as near as I could judge, farmers in general are about the same financially, as here, with a much larger per cent leaving. I appeal to your readers to know if we are not entitled to their sympathy, that after so valiantly withstanding drouth, hail, gophers, hot winds, etc, we should now have visions of our own precious scalps, dangling from the belt of a Sioux indian. Ugh! Verily, the way of the Dakota pioneer is through thorny paths, but after the clouds, sunshine.

BLANCHE.

OBERLIN.

The jury failed to agree in the case of Luman vs Trustees of the M. E. church Elyria.....Norwalk people celebrated the natural gas opening on Tuesday night. Pipes have been laid to supply public and private buildings with gas for fuel.....The death of Col. N. B. Gates, of Elyria, occurred on Tuesday of this week. Col. Gates was an old resident, and one of the most public spirited, and most highly esteemed residents of Lorain county. He was for many years Mayor of Elyria.—News.