

THE DAILY BEE.

E. BOSWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily and Sunday, One Year, \$10.00; Six months, \$6.00; Three months, \$3.50; Sunday Bee, One Year, \$5.00; Weekly Bee, One Year, \$2.00.

OFFICES. Omaha, The Bee Building, 8 Council Bluffs, 12 East Street, Chicago Office, 36 The Bockery Building, New York, Rooms 11 and 12 Tribune Building, Washington, 32 Fourteenth street.

CORRESPONDENCE. All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to the Editor of the Bee, Omaha, Neb.

BUSINESS LETTERS. All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Neb., care of the post office, to be made payable to the order of the company.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors. The Bee Building, Farnam and Seventeenth Sts.

The following is the rate of postage necessary to mail single copies of The Bee out of the city. Single paper, U. S. 1 cent, Foreign 2 cents; 10-page paper, 1 cent; 12-page paper, 2 cents; 16-page paper, 3 cents; 24-page paper, 4 cents; 32-page paper, 5 cents.

KNOWN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Table showing circulation statistics for The Daily Bee for the week ending April 19, 1896. Includes daily circulation, Sunday circulation, and average circulation.

Sworn to before me and subscribed to in my presence this 19th day of April, A. D. 1896. Notary Public.

State of Nebraska, ss. County of Douglas, ss. George B. Tschick, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, and that the actual daily circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending April 19, 1896, is 10,500 copies; for the week ending April 12, 1896, is 10,500 copies; for the week ending April 5, 1896, is 10,500 copies; for the week ending March 29, 1896, is 10,500 copies; for the week ending March 22, 1896, is 10,500 copies; for the week ending March 15, 1896, is 10,500 copies; for the week ending March 8, 1896, is 10,500 copies.

The military barbers of Fort Robinson possess the necessary talent and vigor to straighten tangled hair.

With Colorado developing a peculiarly fragrant tobacco leaf, the chances of annexing Cuba become painfully remote.

The oleomargarine patents having been officially pronounced dead, every boarding house can now become its own bogus butter maker.

There is a painful suspicion in the Iowa democratic wigwag that Governor Boies is sliding into the republican camp under the canvas.

RAILROAD activity is vitalizing the commercial currents of the Black Hills. The new lines under way will bring all the Hill cities into communication with the outside before the close of the year.

The sheep men of Iowa are applying all possible pressure to congress to sustain the proposed advance in the wool duties. It remains to be seen whether congress will consent to shear the country for the benefit of the Ohio mountaineers.

The Louisville Courier-Journal proposes to add to its varied features a department devoted to the great national game of poker. Since one of its editors dropped nineteen hundred dollars in a social game of draw, the necessity of educating amateurs in the mysteries of the game justifies the new departure.

In its "penny wise and pound foolish" policy the Union Pacific substituted Chinese for white men in its Rock Springs coal mines. The few dollars saved by cheap labor is now rapidly going up in smoke. Dispatches report a destructive fire, started by the cheap Johns, raging in the best mine owned by the company. If it becomes necessary to flood the mine the loss will reach one million dollars, a sum far in excess of the amount saved by employing incompetent and careless Mongolians. Cheap labor is dear at any price.

The first annual convention of the state business men's association will be held in Omaha May 12. The local organization extends an invitation to every business man in the state to visit the metropolis, partake of its hospitality and participate in the deliberations of the convention. Questions of vital importance not only to individual interests but to the commercial welfare of the state demand consideration, and it is expected that the invitation extended will bring together representative business men from every community. An interchange of opinion on the various matters affecting the business interests of the state will bring about a harmony of action and unity of purpose which cannot fail to produce beneficial results.

TEN years ago the government and the country were startled by the bold efforts of adventurers to invade Oklahoma. The names of Captain Payne and Captain Couch became as familiar to newspaper readers as their actions were annoying to the authorities. They were the leaders of the boomers, and with a zeal worthy of a better cause, persistently agitated and raided the promised land and suffered arrest and imprisonment for the sake of advancing the settlement of the country. When Payne fell by the wayside in 1884, Couch assumed full command of the boomers and for five years kept up an incessant agitation and finally forced the government to open the country to settlement. One year ago last Monday Captain Couch was awarded the honor of leading the stampede to Oklahoma. It was a fitting recognition of his work in bringing the country to the attention of the world and in bringing together the greatest army of land-grabbers the world had ever seen. On the anniversary of that remarkable raid the father of Oklahoma expired from the effects of a gunshot wound inflicted by a claim-jumper. Captain Couch was a brave, earnest and generous man, a self-sacrificing leader, and the sudden and unheralded close of a life of ceaseless activity will be regretted by all.

SECRETARY RUSK'S CIRCULAR. Undoubtedly the farmers of the country will read with great interest the circular just issued by the secretary of agriculture relating to the causes and possible remedies of the agricultural depression. It is issued in response to numerous appeals to Secretary Rusk for an expression of his views on the subject, which he correctly concluded would be best given by reviewing in this way the whole subject and considering it in all its various phases.

The secretary has found great diversity of opinion as to the cause or causes of the agricultural depression, and consequently a variety of remedies proposed, some of which might bring about a state of affairs quite as objectionable as the present situation. His own view is that the depression can be traced to a combination of many causes, some of which it is in the power of the farmers themselves to remedy, while others must be remedied as far as remedy is possible, by law. In the former class he embraces the depreciation of the productive power of the land due to careless culture, a want of business-like methods, and too little attention to the questions of supply and demand and of market prices. For all these the remedy is in the control of the farmers, and it depends upon themselves to provide it. The high cost of transportation, the exactions of the middlemen, the gambling in farm products, and the existence of unlawful combinations to lower the price of what the farmer has to sell on the one hand and increase the cost of what he has to buy on the other, all operate to augment the burdens upon the farmer and lessen the rewards of his industry. Some of these it is the function of legislation to remedy.

But one of the gravest causes of the agricultural depression, in the opinion of the secretary, is the competition of foreign products. The value of these annually imported, which come into competition with like products of our own soil, he states to be nearly one hundred and fifteen million dollars annually, while the total imports of agricultural products, including sugar and molasses, animals and their products, except wool, animal and vegetable fibers, fruits and tobacco, amount to two hundred and sixty-six million dollars, the far greater part of which, says the secretary, amounting probably to not less than two hundred and forty or two hundred and fifty million dollars, could with proper encouragement be produced on our own soil. It need hardly be remarked that Secretary Rusk is heartily in favor of applying the principle of tariff protection to agricultural products, in order to encourage a diversification of production and supply the farmer with a home market for all he may be able to produce. This portion of the circular of the secretary of agriculture will be read with peculiar interest by the farmers, but it may be well to observe that its conclusions, if not its facts, are not likely to pass unchallenged. However, it is proposed in the new tariff bill to afford protection to such agricultural products as the farmers have asked shall be protected, and a year or two will demonstrate whether there is any value in this remedy for agricultural depression.

The secretary favors reciprocity whenever protection is relaxed, advises a law for a thoroughly efficient inspection of meats for export, thinks some relief might be found in a reform of our system of taxation and concludes by cautioning farmers that they can find no relief and no permanent remedy for present ills in "measures which are rather the outcome of resentment than the product of reason." The circular of Secretary Rusk is worthy of the careful attention of every farmer, although it offers nothing for the immediate relief or improvement of the agricultural situation.

AN AMERICAN CUSTOMS UNION.

In view of the fact that it is proposed in congress to commit this country in favor of a policy of commercial reciprocity with other American countries, it is interesting to know how this matter was regarded by a majority of the members of the Pan-American conference. The question of a customs union was considered in the conference by a committee of eight, and two reports were presented. The statement of views adopted, with only the representatives of Chili, Paraguay and the Argentine Republic dissenting, was that unrestricted reciprocity was in principle acceptable, because all measures looking to the freedom of commerce must necessarily increase the trade and the development of the material resources of the countries accepting that system, but the belief was expressed that it is at present impracticable as a continental system. Among other reasons for this opinion is the fact that the import duties levied on foreign trade constitute the main source of revenue of all the American nations, and such of them as are not manufacturing countries would thus lose more or less of such revenue on which they depend in a great measure to defray their national expenses, while the manufacturing countries, as the United States, would have to abandon, at least partially, the protective policy which they have adopted to more or less extent. It was said besides that a reciprocity treaty mutually advantageous between two contiguous countries might prove onerous if extended to all as a continental compact, especially as the products of many of the American republics are similar.

In view of these obstacles it was the opinion that it seemed premature to propose unrestricted reciprocity among the natives of this hemisphere, though that end might be attained gradually and partially. It was suggested that the first and most efficient step in that direction would be the negotiation of partial reciprocity treaties among the American nations, whereby each may agree to remove or diminish its respective import duties on some of the natural or manufactured products of one or more of the other nations, in exchange for similar or equivalent advantages. This would be merely experimental, and it was recommended to such governments as may be interested in partial reciprocity to negotiate such treaties with one or more of the American countries, as it may be in their interest.

It will be seen from this that the prom-

ise of effecting anything in the nature of a customs union, regarding that as meaning unrestricted reciprocity between the American nations, is far from favorable, and although an expression on the part of this government looking to the promotion of such an arrangement may be altogether desirable and proper, it is not likely to accomplish much. The obstacles in the way are so great and so numerous as to be practically insurmountable, and it is obvious that if this country shall ever enjoy an extensive share of the trade of other American countries it will be by concessions and enterprise on our part that will give us at least an equal chance with the countries which now control that trade.

DESTROYING THE PARK.

When the natural wonders of the Yellowstone region were made known to the world by explorers, congress responded to the general demand of the people and reserved it for the exclusive use of the public as a national park. The purpose and spirit of the dedication was that the famous park should be preserved as nearly as practicable in its natural state and that private interests and corporate greed should not be permitted within its boundaries. Reports from Washington indicate that mercenary schemers are at work to set aside the spirit which prompted the dedication and obtain exclusive rights for a railroad through the park.

For two years a corporation known as the Montana railway company has maintained a lobby at the national capital for the purpose of securing this important privilege. Under the plea that the railroad is necessary to develop the mineral interests on the boundary of the park, the lobby has succeeded in persuading the house committee to sacrifice the rights of the whole people for the petty interests of a local corporation. The claim that there is no other practicable route to the mineral district than through the park is a subtlety to gain a valuable right. The truth is, if the mineral in the district was as valuable as the park raiders claim, they would not hesitate to tunnel the mountains. But the chief object is to obtain a foothold in the park for the exclusive benefit of the Northern Pacific. The Montana Mineral company is merely a cloak for the parent corporation, which seeks to obtain, by underhanded means, the privileges which it dare not openly work for.

The people of the west, outside of the corporations interested, are a unit against the despoiling of the park. They see in the proposed charter the entering wedge that will eventually parcel out the wonderland among the railroads, deface its grandeur and destroy it as a preserve for the remnants of prairie and mountain game. If a charter is granted to one company, similar privileges cannot be denied to others. The only safe course for congress to pursue is to reject the overtures of corporations and rigidly maintain the park for the exclusive benefit of the people.

THE proposal to appropriate between three and four million dollars to reimburse those who lost property by the confederate invasion of Pennsylvania, which has been approved by the house committee on war claims, may, if adopted, lead to the disbursement of a considerable part of the surplus for similar claims. Perhaps the losses sustained by citizens of Pennsylvania were greater in amount than those of the people of other states invaded by the confederate forces, but if it be assumed that three and a half million dollars would settle the Pennsylvania claims, which is improbable, those that would follow from the other states and which could not be ignored, would swell the demand upon the treasury for this purpose to a good round sum. The memorable Morgan raid in Ohio would furnish a considerable list of claimants for damages; the loss of property from confederate invasions of Maryland must have been considerable; Kentucky could be able to make a large showing; Indiana could present a demand, and altogether twelve or fifteen million dollars at least might be disposed of in this way. It is a matter of no consequence that the southern members of congress are up in arms against this proposal. They would naturally be. But it is questionable whether there is any just reason why the government should now pay for these losses, and manifestly in the present situation of the country it would not be expedient to do so.

IF OMAHA capitalists are disposed to unloose their purse-strings, there are scores of interests of more importance to the city than visionary sewer lines. Why not give the time and promised means wasted on impracticable schemes to the construction of the Nebraska Central bridge? Why not aid a public enterprise controlled by Omaha men, the value and necessity of which is recognized by all? Why not assist the construction of a railroad into Dakota, whose trade has been knocking in vain at Omaha's door for five years? Compared with these two enterprises a sewer line between Omaha and Nowhere is insignificant. The energies and means of our people should be concentrated on what is practicable as well as profitable right at home. After the city has secured a competing bridge and a northern road—two enterprises essential to her commercial prosperity—it will be time enough to squander money on a wild goose chase after Pittsburg trade. Home interests demand home support.

While John Custer was playing on his farm near Berwyn, Jackson county, the other day he unearthed the skeletons of three grown persons, a child and the skull of a dog. About a mile and a half from the find there is every indication, says the Broken Bow Republican, of the Avonk battle of A. Hennes, who settled in that locality eleven years ago, says that indications of rifle pits were plainly defined at that time. Various parties at sundry times have dug about the locality, but without success on the ground near the rifle pits. Mr. Custer last year found a knife. From appearances there was a camp ground of general resort on the Avonk battle field. The bones were from the locality where the bones were unearthed. Here would evidently be an interesting locality for the mound digger.

Iowa Items.

Clear Lake wants an opera house. Work has been suspended on the Estherville road. The auditor of Powshelek county paid out

convicted thirty of six fully, and for the past six months they cheerfully cooperated with Mr. Murphy in applying the one true temperance remedy—appealing to the better natures of drinking people. It is safe to say that Mr. Murphy has accomplished more real temperance reform than all the sumptuary laws enacted, or the combined labors of his opponents in Omaha.

THE Philadelphia purveyors of water gas in Omaha cannot see how a rival company can dispense illuminating fluid for one dollar and a quarter a thousand. A few years ago they could not see how it was possible to furnish gas for two dollars until the city authorities performed a surgical operation on their short-sighted optics.

The tactics of the bulldozers in South Omaha against annexation should be encouraged and continued. Their desperate efforts to perpetuate outlaws and municipal extravagance forcibly appeal to the taxpayers and the better classes of residents to rally at the polls and vote for decency, economy and prosperity.

Cemetery vandalism should be promptly and vigorously suppressed. Despoiling burial places of flowers and shrubbery has become an unbearable annoyance, especially in Prospect Hill, and active measures should be taken to capture and punish the vandals.

An Elisha Not Forfeiting.

Wanted, but impossible to find: A democrat big enough to wear the mantle that dropped from the shoulders of Samuel J. Randall.

We and Our Southern Neighbors.

There is a substantial unanimity among the masses of the republican party as to the necessity for reciprocity in trade between this country and the Central and South American nations, and there is an equally close agreement as to the means for bringing this about.

Noted For Its Candor.

THE OMAHA Bee is one of the most candid journals in the west. It says editorially: "To make Omaha a great city we must stimulate the establishment of more factories, mills and elevators," and then the Bee goes on to formulate a plan to steal from Des Moines her pet starch factory. Future copies of Des Moines journals will, doubtless, be printed in red ink.

A Hero in Homespun.

That was heroic thoughtfulness on the part of young Carpenter Wheeler, of Bayonne, N. J., whose legs were cut off by an engine, to dictate a telegram to his wife explaining his injuries before he was removed to the hospital. It was plain to see that to dictate the message, he had to lie on his back, and to place it to wish in the height of his own suffering, to soften his wife's sorrow at the shocking news.

STATE AND TERRITORY.

Nebraska.

A gun club has been organized at Broken Bow. A Grand Army post will be formed at Broken Bow. The Cass county fair will be held September 15 to 18. A company of Sons of Veterans is to be organized at Norfolk. The Nebraska association has been organized at Norfolk.

A new bank has been organized at Sterling with \$25,000 capital. The Norfolk brick works will start up soon with a capacity of 2,000,000 bricks. Postmaster Hudson of the Springfield office will resign on account of poor health. Editor Hamilton of the Plainview Herald has been appointed marshal of that town.

A man who was killed at Odele after having been struck by a train, and whose other doctor, the store of James Myers at Odele has been closed under mortgages amounting to \$18,000. Dodge young men have organized a bicycle club and seven machines have been ordered. A school building, school house and a \$9,000 Christian church are being erected at Sterling.

N. G. Hoshav has returned from the Greeley Democrat and M. B. Geason assumes editorial charge of the paper. At Harvard four head of cattle have died with hydrophobia and three more are suffering with the same complaint.

James W. Powers of Superior has been appointed to the vacancy caused by the death of R. Hollingsworth. The first will contest case ever tried in Carter county was heard in Newark. Zera Wheeler died and left all his property to his sister, but his wife and children now put in a claim to the estate. The judge reserved his decision.

A drunken man who was refused credit at Jenkins store in Coleridge took revenge by throwing a package through a show case. He was arrested and fined for the destruction and placed in the notorious citizen in jail to cool off.

Says the Bayard Transcript: Stage Contractor Reed of Gering made his first trip to Wetville Tuesday. The mail consisted of one letter and one postal card. Nothing was returned. This time and the sand hills route are worth as much to the country as is Congressmen George W. E. Davis.

The county commissioners of McPherson county have requested all citizens of the county to turn out next Saturday and help bury the bodies of the women who were killed in the construction of the Nebraska Central bridge. Why not aid a public enterprise controlled by Omaha men, the value and necessity of which is recognized by all? Why not assist the construction of a railroad into Dakota, whose trade has been knocking in vain at Omaha's door for five years? Compared with these two enterprises a sewer line between Omaha and Nowhere is insignificant. The energies and means of our people should be concentrated on what is practicable as well as profitable right at home. After the city has secured a competing bridge and a northern road—two enterprises essential to her commercial prosperity—it will be time enough to squander money on a wild goose chase after Pittsburg trade. Home interests demand home support.

Believing in the assertions of a drunken man Quong Lee, the Chinese laundryman, was made a victim again, says the Plattsmouth Herald. The man had been in the possession of the laundryman for some time, and when they arrived in San Francisco last week the customer of the laundryman is out of his mind and the laundryman is out of his mind as a consequence.

At the concert given last Saturday evening by local musicians at Central City, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Raymond, Mr. Seward and Mr. C. G. Couch of Omaha and Miss Limbocker of Harvard, the feature of the evening was the violin and piano playing of Miss Limbocker. The lady, says a correspondent, seems to have acquired what so many pianists fail to achieve, the secret of finding the real sentiment of the composer in the selections she plays. She is a brilliant performer, and handles her instrument with great gracefulness. As a violinist she is probably equalled by few young women, comparatively an amateur with that instrument, she exceeds most of the professionals in purity and accuracy of touch, and in the precision in handling her instruments.

While John Custer was playing on his farm near Berwyn, Jackson county, the other day he unearthed the skeletons of three grown persons, a child and the skull of a dog. About a mile and a half from the find there is every indication, says the Broken Bow Republican, of the Avonk battle of A. Hennes, who settled in that locality eleven years ago, says that indications of rifle pits were plainly defined at that time. Various parties at sundry times have dug about the locality, but without success on the ground near the rifle pits. Mr. Custer last year found a knife. From appearances there was a camp ground of general resort on the Avonk battle field. The bones were from the locality where the bones were unearthed. Here would evidently be an interesting locality for the mound digger.

Iowa Items.

Clear Lake wants an opera house. Work has been suspended on the Estherville road. The auditor of Powshelek county paid out

as bounty \$150 on 1,500 gopher scalps one day last week. Six tons of creamery butter were shipped from Pomeroy last week.

Improvements aggregating \$150,000 are under way at Emporia, Kan.

The dentists of eastern Iowa will hold a convention at Independence in July.

A Masonic temple association has been organized at Dubuque with \$100,000 capital stock and a building under way.

Mrs. Nancy Diggins, the oldest person in Union county, died at Cromwell Friday at the age of ninety-seven.

A Muscatine watermelon grower says his crop averages about two cent loads to the acre and he receives \$60 a car for them.

An unfortunate family named Jensen, living near Moorhead, Monona county, lost seven children in the past two weeks from cholera, and the child and only remaining child is suffering with the same dread disease.

A Cedar Rapids gentleman recently wrote a letter to the postmaster at South Bend, Mich., and not knowing his name addressed the letter "To the Postmaster," etc. A week later the letter was returned unopened and stamped "undelivered."

An Akron boy attended school the other day in company with a bottle of whisky, and after imbibing education and the contents of the bottle at regular intervals for some time adjourned during the teacher's absence, and the other scholars from the room with the stopper.

Rev. G. E. Stump, pastor of the M. E. church at Pomeroy, denounced an unwholesome amusement, and the other day found the following notice, signed "White Caps," tacked to the door of the parsonage: "To the White Caps: We hereby notify you that there is an organization in this community for the sole purpose and object of putting a stop to so much lying about innocent people's names, and to the effect that you are indignant over the matter and promise to make it warm for the writers of the notice if detected."

An interesting bit of family history was brought to light by the death of one of the Daventry Democrat. Mrs. A. M. Cook presented the incomplete naturalization papers of her father, desiring their completion. The father, who had been a citizen of the United States government, and it is required by law that she take out naturalization papers, she having been born in England. Her father, James Cook, took out his papers in Cambridge, Ill., in 1861, but before taking out his second papers he started overland for California, and while on the way the party was attacked by Indians, his mother was killed and the father, Mrs. Cook, then Mary Fletcher, a girl of fourteen, and her two-year-old sister, were taken prisoners. Mr. Fletcher afterward escaped, the elder daughter's liberty was bought, while the younger sister, if alive is still a captive of the Indians. The father died in Lake City, where he was buried, and the second papers were never taken out. So Mrs. Cook got a completion of her father's papers and this makes her a naturalized citizen of the United States.

The Two Dakotas.

Hermosa is to have a system of waterworks. Winter wheat is four inches high in Pennington county.

A public library association has been formed at Aberdeen.

A new town in Jackson has been christened New Hope, in honor of Secretary Noble.

Hot Springs will have an electric light plant in operation by the middle of June.

A larger acreage of wheat will be sown in McPherson county this year than ever before.

A combination of children, matches and gunpowder is responsible for the destruction of the barn, sheds and horses of Horace Cveklet, near Hermosa.

Hutchinson county claims to be the leading farming county in South Dakota, and the Parkston Advance wants a wooden mill located in the county.

A buffalo cow escaped from a ranch near Edmarck the other day and was chased by a pack of dogs until she was nearly exhausted. The animal was valued at \$300.

Rev. John A. Cruzan, at present pastor of the Third Congregational church of San Francisco, has accepted the pastorate of the Congregational church at Sioux Falls.

Grand Forks county is pretty well "waxed." There is \$300,000 surplus in the county treasury and \$1,000 has been appropriated to buy seed wheat for the needy farmers of the county.

In the United States court at Sioux Falls Nebraska, John Charles Mix was tried, was sentenced to thirty days in the penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$100 for selling beer to Indians.

The Redwater Irrigation canal, in Butte county, is completed, and the large number of men employed in its construction are finding work on the different railroad extensions now being graded in the county.

Stock men of Meade county are more than satisfied with the outlook in their business. The calf crop is big, the colt crop most satisfactory, and the prospect for a good year all through, from range to market, is almost assured.

A peculiar-shaped mound was discovered near Mitchell the other day, and in digging it was found to be an Indian grave. The mound was usually found in Indian graves. The mound was covered by heavy sod and everything indicated that many years had elapsed since it was made.

Last week a rich body of silver ore was discovered on Jim Creek, near Rapid City, on the Black Hills. The discovery was made by a man who was on a visit for some time, and when he returned he found about a dozen prospectors had jumped his ranch and were sinking shafts in the ore. The man was so angry, and his wrath was added to by the fact that he had for years been raising potatoes and other vegetables on a piece of ground near the creek, and he was determined to give him an equal share in their locations.

THE AFTERNOON TEA.

A Russian lady proposes, in the columns of a Russian newspaper, that the women of Russia and France should join in forming a corps of amazons to fight with the amazons of Dahlgren.

An educated, accomplished young lady at Potosky, Mich., has split her hair, and when wood with her own hands and has it piled neatly to season for summer use.

She (facetiously)—I suppose you call your horse a "horse" because it is such a love of a horse. He—Not exactly. You see he's blind.

"Miss Barrows, I offer you my hand. I have long loved you. I—" "Say no more, Mr. Baldwin," she said, "it is the hand you write checks with you offer me, I accept with pleasure."

A London genius has invented a hot water apparatus to warm piano keys, so that dainty fingers need not be chilled.

"Now, Alice, dear, I must make a confession. My family is not as perfect as I should like it—I have several very unpleasant aunts and uncles and cousins." "Hush, Tom, don't say a word, so have I."

"I have observed," remarked a man old and bald, "that the women who have had fortune and adds misdeeds to their misfortune thereafter." "Then you ought to marry a widow," responded a lady in black, "and then you can have some hair."

"Bilkins—My language to you has always been poetic and flowery. When I first met you I called you a 'daisy.'" After we were married you called me a 'pink.'" "Mrs. Bilkins—And now when you come home at one o'clock in the morning and I have to come down to let you in, you think I'm a 'night-bird.'" "You are."

Corra Belle Fellows Chaska, the white squaw, once the belle of Washington, was lately an attraction of the dime museums of this country. She had some of her jewels stolen from her, and the country was agitated with anxiety the announcement of her peculiar ruses in light opera which she is to attempt.

Suitors to her father—Sir, I love the very green you do and I love the very blue you do. Father (grimly)—Well, young man, you ain't the first party that's had an attachment for B. Houswaller, if you love it well enough you may help her out by paying the mortgage on it, like Jacob did, you kin marry Sarah.

IT WAS NOT OVERSTATED.

IN THE ROTUNDA.

Judge Kirkald of the Twelfth judicial district, and C. E. Boyd, district court clerk at Abilene, were found at the Murray last evening.

"I happen to have four days with no cases to try, and so I'm improving the leisure by attending to a little general business," said the judge when approached by the rotunda teller.

"The people up our way are feeling good just now over the fact that the short line trains from Sioux City will be running up to us by June 1," continued the judge, "and Omaha must be looking out or the corn palace people will have an important advantage over here."

"Politics! Ah, no, excuse me this time. I'll be down this way again soon, when I may know something new in politics. Really the fact is I have been tending strictly to court matters for a long time and haven't had a bit of a chance for anything else. I know this much, that this fall's fight promises to be a hard one."

"How are things looking for Mr. Dorsey in this question caused a somewhat overpowering smile to make its appearance upon the face of the judge. The other party's answer consisted in raising his hands with a hush-like gesture and his politely effacing himself from the scene, leaving his fellow-traveler to finish the story.

"The judge will give Dorsey a tight rub for congress this fall," said Mr. Boyd, in quiet, confidential tones. "And his best posted friend don't think he will win, although I do not think it best to go into any discussion of the matter now. The other party's discovery that has been made up in our country. We have discovered that the alliance and temperance folks are secretly arranging to work together. The partnership means considerable, though just what it will accomplish is as yet totally unknown even to the members of the new firm."

Mr. Boyd added that the Keya Paha county folks are doubling their efforts and have just given up the idea of Big expense. There is no longer any doubt as yet, but that a continuation of the Black Hills mineral rift has been hit upon and that the whole country will hear from the work now being prosecuted.

"What is looking magnificently all through our part of the state," said he. "We have just had some simply glorious rains, and they have given things such a start as makes the season one of almost unprecedented promise." James W. Brennan, president of the Mayor Noonan of St. Louis, was at the Fair yesterday. Mr. Brennan spent the day visiting his sister, Mrs. Henry Ennis, and friends here. He is a princely representative of the Mound city's best young blood, and is very thoroughly posted on the winning points in that same city's present and its immediate future.

"We lost the fair," said he, "but we've got a boom four times as large. Chicago's widest delirium ever pictured. Values are rising daily at a rate which our oldest times say never has been approached before in the history of the city. The latest thing in St. Louis is the most perfectly constructed elevated railway of any city in the world. It is just building and you may have noticed that the New York, London and Paris journals are going little less than wild over it. I notice that Omaha is catching on in the matter of lighting her streets with electricity. She will find it a humming success, just as St. Louis has. Do you know that in our town Omaha is understood to have streets which rival those of Paris for cleanliness? Every time one of our folks makes a trip here he comes home talking about Omaha's magnificent streets, and after a big drive through such as I had over them today I find it no wonder that people praise them as they do."

CORRECTION.

There is being circulated throughout the state what purports to be an extract from the auditor's report of the condition of the Farmers' Union insurance company of Lincoln, Neb. The extract shows the Farmers' Union to be possessed of only \$251,74 in cash assets. This amount is only one item of the assets of the company, but the extract in addition to this the company is possessed of over \$172,000 of assets, leaving a surplus over all liabilities as shown by the report on the Farmers' Union of \$423,741. The auditor has never published a report giving only the figures as shown in this circular. All reports of companies are published in full, giving complete statements of the entire assets and liabilities.

WARDEN SETTLES WITH THE STATE.

A board consisting of Auditor Benton, Treasurer Hill and Attorney General Leese met at the office of the auditor this morning to settle with W. H. Webster, ex-treasurer of Merrick county for all money due the state, and a full and complete settlement was made. This matter has been dragging for some time, but it was finally settled by the meeting of the board of Merrick for two years past and Colonel Webster is, therefore, relieved of the charge of non-payment of the state. The fact in connection with the meeting of the board is created by law for the purpose of settling with county treasurers who have judgments rendered against them and it was the first one ever held in the state.

ONCE MORE FREE.

Charles Lewis again enjoys his freedom. He is the man who assaulted Representative Eggen of Hill county, and who was arrested when caught in the act of robbing his room. He was tried on the charge of assault with intent to kill, and was convicted and sentenced to serve a term of one year in the state penitentiary. Good behavior secured him a lapse of eleven months and the governor commuted the rest of his sentence.

FIRST MARRIAGE.

Hon. T. M. Cook, supervisor of the census, first congressional district, transmitted his report to the department at Washington of the division of