#### THE DAILY BEE

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THE BEE BUILDING.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION

EWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION

State of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee

Publishing company, does selemnly swear
that the actual circulation of Thir DALLY BEE,
for the week ending May 24, 1891, was as
follows:
Sunday, May 17. 29,139

Monday, May 18. 26,102

Tuesday, May 19. 26,144

Welnesday, May 20. 21,268

Thursday, May 21. 20,214

Friday, May 22. 22,255

Baturday, May 23. 26,485

Average..... GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 23rd day of May, A. D. 1891. N. P. FEIL. Notary Public.

Notary Public.

County of Douglas, [88]

George B. Tzschuck, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Ber Publishing company, and the actual average daily circulation of The Daily Ber for the month of May, 1800, 20,180 copies; for June, 1890, 20,201 copies; for July, 1800, 20,52 copies; for August, 1800, 20,752 copies; for September, 1800, 20,752 copies; for November, 1800, 22,471 copies; for Junuary, 1801, 28,486 copies; for February, 1801, 28,312 copies; for March, 1801, 24,065 copies for April, 801, 53,228 copies.

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 2d day of May, A. D., 1891.

N. P. Ferra,

Notary Public.

SAINT JOHN is not pleased with the Cincinnati convention. This is no spe cial discredit to the third party conclave.

NEW YORK stocks have bobbed up a notch since the European banks have found out that America has enough gold for them as well as for herself.

THE "people's party" is to turn its forces upon Ohio. Maybe they have a grudge against the state for allowing the convention to be held in Cincinnati.

OMAHA with a population of 140,000 is assessed at \$20,000,000. Denver with 103,000 is rated for taxation at \$86,000,-000. Comparisons like these are odious.

A NEW Venezuela steamer was launched at Wilmington, Del. She "draws but little water." This indicates that Venezuela is the Kentucky of South America.

NEBRASKA was not given a representation in the executive committee of the people's party, but the Elks elected an Omaha gentleman grand treasurer, and we are happy yet.

GRAIN dealers are agreeing to pay 85 cents for this year's corn to be delivered at western Nebraska railroad stations this fall. This style of future no reformer will oppose.

OCTOBER is Omaha's most charming month. The Denver gentlemen who come here at that time to participate in the Trans-Mississippi congress will know what a delightful climate is, after their

TECHNICALITIES are not confined to law courts. The rules of the prize ring are decidedly technical, and this explains why the referees of the Corbett-Jackson fight decided after 60 rounds that it was no contest.

THE Vesuvius and her guns have been tested. The boat is too good to be placed in jeopardy by the guns for she is liable to be "hoisted by her own petard." The guns cannot shoot as straight as a woman throws a stone.

A HALF million dollars in cash is to be paid out about June I to the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indians of South Dakota, which means that the whites will soon discover a large increase in the volume of the circulating medium in the vicinity of the reservation.

THE saloonkeepers of Omaha are inviting trouble by their efforts to repeal the midnight closing ordinance. The sentiment of this community is in favor of this reasonable restriction. If the retail liquor dealers are not satisfied with twenty business hours out of the twenty-four they will, by forcing the issue arouse public sentiment which will eventuate in more stringent regulations.

MME. BLAVATSKY may have been illustrious and self-sacrificing, but the common impression is that she was a shrewd and intriguing impostor. The men and women whom she had attached to her were chiefly light-brained fanatics and misguided persons who imagined their erratic musings and reflections were profound. Theosophy, nonsense and mummery are largely synonymous. Blavatsky lived by her wits and her intrigues. She was about as intimately related to the next world as any other clairvoyant.

MINNEAPOLIS is a city; Minn etonka a lake and Minnehaha a waterfall. Both the lake and the waterfall claim to have done a greal deal for the city, and this is what puts the city in a quandary. The lake has become shallow and wants to build a dam to raise the water and keep up the prices at the summer hotels. If this is done the water will cease to flow over the cataract at Minnehaha and the pretty, romantic little spot will be ruined as an attraction for visitors. But if the dam is not constructed Minnetonka must go out of business. Both points are appealing to Minneapolis for protection, and both claim to be essential elements in the Flour city boom. The dilemma is a sharp one and either horn is dangerous.

Omaha sadly needs breathing spots for her large and rapidly increasing population. The founders of the city were very short-sighted in providing no such grounds in the original town site. The owners and platters of additions since have been too greedy for lots, except in two instances, to profit by the evil example of their predecessors. The consequence is that we have but one square in the center of the city where women and children from hot tenements and business men confined between the close walls of brick and stone can look out upon green grass and sit in the shade to breathe fresh air. In the suburbs are three parks, but Omaha is inadequately provided with these rest giving and health restoring resorts which beautify the eastern cities and make life in them tolerable for the poor and the hardworked people.

THE PARKS.

The park commission has been in dead earnest in its efforts to relieve the city in this particular, but has been greatly handicapped during its entire existence by the want of proper legislative authority to carry out the plans proposed and to a certain degree claborated. The last legislature left the commission in a very uncertain position. It is a question whether or not it can condemn property for park purposes though the evident intent of the charter amendments was to give them unusual powers.

The commission having taken counsel from their attorney are encouraged to proceed with the development of their ideas on paper at least, with the hope that they may successfully carry them out before the legislature convenes again. If, however, it shall appear impracticable or illegal to proceed without further legislation, they will at least take the necessary steps preliminary to final action.

The great danger to be avoided is the creation of parks which shall not be convenient to the common people. Wealthy persons with their own carriages may enjoy drives to distant pleasure resorts, but the middle classes and persons of small means should be accommodated within easy reach by cheap conveyances. It is therefore hoped the park commissioners will not conclude it to be their duty to go outside the city limits for all the city parks hereafter to be established.

### TEACHERS CERTIFICATES.

There is no topic upon which practical educators disagree more widely than that of examinations of applicants for positions as teachers in the public schools. At the best the form and extent of the examination must necessarily be arbitrarily fixed by some authority. Unquestionably some very good teachers fail to pass the required test in all public examinations, while some thoroughly inefficient instructors are able to answer a high percentage of the more or less technical questions put to them by the examining officers. The only proper test of qualifications is experience and efficiency for older teachers. Inexperienced applicants are experiments whether they pass a satisfactory exam-

ination or not. Nevertheless some test of qualificaions must be made and the written and oral examination questions are the only means available for determining them. In the hands of a thoroughly competent, practical committee, which is anxious only to secure good teachers and has no axes of its own to grind or hobbies to advance, the present method is quite satisfactory. If the committee has favorites to serve, spite to be vented or is lax in interest and incompetent or pedantic, the examination becomes a farce and is merely the excuse for employing ladies and gentlemen whose friends are influential at the public expense, regardless of the welfare of the schools or of throwing out those who have incurred the enmity of the committee.

The exhibition of itself recently made by an Omaha examining committee has not been forgotten The arbitrary markings which shut out competent applicants and admitted those unfitted for the school exposed the evils to which the system of examination is subject in the hands of persons not conscientiously devoted to duty. The old examining committee was relieved as a result of these revelations and a new one, composed of two excellent teachers and a talented minister, was substituted. In our opinion there should be but one teacher, if any, on this committee, but against the three examiners now passing upon the qualifications of teachers no word of complaint can be made. They are competent, faithful and experienced. Their conclusions should

It appears, however, that some of the applicants fail to pass the not over-rigid test applied. They successfully answer the required proportion of questions upon part of the branches, but fail in others and are refused certificates. To make it possible for these to secure entrance into the school a rule has been adopted by the board whereby those who fail may try again at the next examination, when they are tested only upon the branches on which they failed at the one preceding.

This is wrong. A failure at an examination should bar the applicant entirely for at least six months, and the test should be applied with even more rigor on the second trial because the scope of the examination and general outline of the same is revealed to the applicant on the occasion when he or she failed, and at a second trial the advantage is in his or her favor as against those who entering the contest the first time. 'The examinations in this city are none too searching or hard at present and any steps toward laxity in applying the tests of qualifications are

fraught with danger. Omaha pays excellent salaries and is entitled to the best teachers in the country. The new rule smacks very much of that sort of good nature which leads officials to overlook the failings of their friends. It opens a wide door for abuses and it should be closed at once and forever. Applicants who cannot pass the examinations ought not to be given posi-

tions and examinations should not be arranged merely to enable favorites to pass them readily.

THE WEST FOR PLEASURE SEEKERS. The late visit of Mr. Chuncey M. Depew to the west appears to have given him a most favorable impression of this section. In an address a short time since before the Union Leauge club of New York, Mr. Depew recommended to his fellow-citizens of the metropolis, who were in the habit of making annual pilgrimages to Europe, that they take a trip into their own country and acquaint themselves with its grandeur and greatness. He declared that the mountain scenery of Colorado was far superior to anything to be found in the Alps, and he might have added that for health-promoting purposes the air of these American mountains is unequalled. Mr. Depew did not go as largely into this interesting subject as he might have done, for his travels in both continents would enable him to make extensive comparisons between the natural beauties of Europe and the United States, but the little that he did say in this particular was to the point and timely.

Next to the injunction of the ancient philosopher, "Man, know thyself," should be placed another as only second in importance, citizen, know thy country. To do this is to learn patriotism in its most comprehensive sense, and to acquire that national and Catholic sentiment which is indispensable to the best citizenship. If every intelligent man in this country were to take such a trip as President Harrison made, it would be hardly possible for him to ever again have any sectional feeling, no matter what his previous views or predilections might have been. Extensive travel anywhere is instructive and improving to people of intelligent observation, but the man who knows nothing of his own country beyond his place of residence and its immediate surroundings, although largely familiar with other countries, cannot be so patriotic as the man who knows much of his own country but is entirely ignorant of other lands from personal observation, and this is especially true of Americans. Of all people there are the strongest of reasons why they should make themselves familiar with the vastness, the beauty and the grandeur of their own country. When they have acquired this knowledge they will be equipped to better appreciate at its true value what foreign lands can offer for their instruction and entertainment, and then can go abroad with the ability to impart as well as to acquire knowledge, and without danger of having their affection for their own land impaired.

Unquestionably there is no part of the world, and certainly nowhere in Europe. grander scenery than is to be found in the mountain regions of the western United States, and for persons seeking recuperation and health this section of our country offers favorable conditions that are unsurpassed. There are thousands of eastern people who annually go to Europe who would be vastly better off morally, physically and financially if instead they passed their summer vacation at the lakes and mountains and health resorts of the west. Every year there is a larger number of people learning that this is the case. Some of them, such as have become surfeited with European travel, or have failed to find in it what they expected, and it is doubtless only a question of time when the westward tide of summer pleasure-seekers will rival that to the old world.

## GEOGRAPHY IS WRONG.

Under the title of "Practical Uses of Geography," Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine publishes an article alleging that a knowledge of geography would have saved hundreds of familes in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma from the distress suffered on account of failures of crops.

Geography has always insisted upon a great American desert and thirty years ago it included almost the entire region west of the Missouri river. Year by year it receded farther west until the maps of today confine it to a comparatively restricted region between the Sierra Nevada range and the backbone of the continent in the far southwest. Even there irrigation has shown the soil to be fertile. The rain belt crossed the 100th meridian more than ten years ago and it has gradually extended westward as railways are built, lands cultivated and groves grown. Except a limited territory on the northern border where the Dakota bad lands dip down into the state and an occasional ridge of sand, Nebraska and Kansas are wholly agricultural.

Every old citizen remembers that less than a quarter of a century ago few residents of this state believed agriculture possible more than thirty miles west of the Missouri river. Geography had placed all the remainder of the state within a great rainless region, and early settlers huddled together along the water courses, expecting for a lifetime to graze their herds upon the barren hills. Experience and immigration corrected the geographers and in very few years proved farming a success as far west as

the 100th meridian, but geography warned settlers to go west of that imaginary dead line at their peril. Instead of geography teaching settlers where they may confidently stake out homesteads, the pioneers are showing geography its errors and enlarging the knowledge of its text book writers.

For 20 years Nebraska has had no general drouth. Fifteen years ago the grasshoppers destroyed the crops two years in succession and scientists announced that periodical visits of the destructive pests could be expected without notice so long as the Dakota bad lands afforded them a breeding spot. We have had two years of drouth in succession but it does not follow that the experience will be repeated this year or next or at any definite future time, any more than it followed that grasshoppers would continually devastate the country because for two years they had made life miserable among the settlers of the period mentioned. Western Nebraska is no more arid today west of the 100th

that line and grops at the 102d meridian are no more uncertain now than

they were at the 97th 20 years since. There are sections of Illinois and all the great prairie states which have not raised a good crop in five years. Drouth, wet weather, insects, hail and cyclones have destroyed the farmers' hopes year after year, but this fact would not justify our geographer in warning the people that any such locality is unsuited to farming. Years of adversity are not convincing and conclusive proof that the future will witness their repetition. Meterologists agree and experience proves that climatic conditions are changed with settlement. The comparatively dry sections become more moist and the extremes of heat and cold are less severe and sudden. In all discussions of climate and productions it is safer to speak of the past and present

than to attempt a forecast of the future. A knowledge of the physical features of the states is desirable, but it is not conclusive proof that a region is uninhabitable to read so in a work on physical geography. The text books prepared by geographers are far more changeable than the weather in the 'semi-arid" regions of both Kansas and Nebraska. Geographers are not yet up with the times. They can never keep abreast with the discoverer, the frontiersman or even the old settler. They must inevitably adopt theories to the experience of the men who discover and develop the country,

MR. J. S. CLARKSON, who is journey ing somewhere in Europe, will find on his return that he has not been quite forgotten. Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, of the civil service commission, is doing his best to keep green the memory of the Iowa tourist, and he is having very good success. The explanation is in the fact that a short time ago Mr. Clarkson contributed to an eastern magazine a somewhat trenchant criticism of the civil service commission, saying among other things that it is more unfriendly and more opposed to the republican party under Harrison than it was under Cleveland. Mr. Roosevelt strongly objects to this view, and suggests that Mr. Clarkson is suffering under a confusion of ideas in mixing up himself and his friends with the republican party. He admits that the civil service commission is hostile to Mr. Ciarkson and the idea he represents, and observes that it would fail in its duty if it were not. The commission, however, says Mr. Roosevelt, is not hostile to the republican party, but on the contrary is striving to carry out the pledge made by the party at the last convention. The defender of the commission proves himself to be an uncompromising advocate of civil service reform in its broadest sense and widest application, and it need not be said to those familiar with the controversial ability of Mr. Reosevelt that Mr. Clarkson will find him a foeman worthy of his steel. Thus far the former appears to have very much the advantage in the argument.

THE recent exceptionally heavy immigration from Italy has stimulated that government to take action for checking it. It was found that so many young Italians were leaving, most of them for this country, that it would soon be impossible to meet the demands for the military service. The government, therefore, issued a circular prohibiting all minors over 18 years old from leaving Italy without special authorization by the minister of war, and other minors who desire to leave are required to obtain a certificate that there is no legal impediment to their leaving. Over twenty thousand immigrants to the United States have left Italy during the last four months, and it is said that certain districts are nearly depopulated of men, leaving the work of cultivating the ground to be done by women altogether. It would seem from this that the Italian people have not learned to fear residence in the United States, and prefer taking chances here to enduring the oppressive taxation at home and running the risk of being at any time called into the military service. There will be no objections here to the efforts of the Italian government to keep its people at home.

PENSIONERS will be interested to know that a recent report that certificates were being held back because of a possible deficiency in the treasury was wholly without substantial foundation. The fact is that there were allowed during April 31,545 claims under the old and new laws, carrying a disbursement of \$3,874,815. It is also shown that there has been no discrimination between classes of claims, and that all are being put through as rapidly as the work can be done efficiently. There is nothing whatever, so far as the pension office is informed, in the reported dissatisfaction among the old soldiers, and Commander-in-Chief Veazey of the Grand Army is quoted as saying that the members of that organization have no complaints. It is undoubtedly true that the work of the pension office, very much greater than ever before, has never

been more efficiently performed. IT has been decided that the duchess of Marlborough is an American subject. She is then an American, titled in England, an inheritor, of English landed property, whose descendants are of the nobility, and this all though seemingly contradictory. Such a decision may bring in question the citizenship of many American wonen who have been grafted upon scions of European no-

SHELBY M. CULLOM has a whole hive of presidential bees in his bonnet. More than a year ago his intimate friends were given the tip and now the literary bureaus are quietly passing it around that the man who looks like Abraham Lincoln possesses so happy a combination of good nature and ability as to be available presidential timber.

THERE is much truth in the statement of ex-Commissioner of Pensions Dudley that no man can successfully manage the pension office unless he is freed from the surveillance and intermeddling of interior department officials in authority over the commissioner and the conspiracies meridian than it was 15 years ago east of of old employes in the pension office. A

bureau officer is little better than a clerk. He is really less independent than his own chiefs of divisions. Until the secretary of the interior is given to understand either by the president or the law that the heads of bureaus in the department are exective officers and not merely clerks at high salaries the administration of the bureaus will be handicapped and inefficient. To the bureau officer should be left all matters of detail and all policies incidental to the general course marked out by the administration. He should be empowered to discharge incompetent and insubordinate employes and be helped instead of hindered in conducting his office.

KATE FIELD is endangering her high place in the affections of mankind by urging husbands to put on dress coats with the same frequency that their wives don Worth gowns. She thinks the head of the household should divest himself of his business suit and "dress up" to eat dinner with his family. Kate is very erratic on some things. When a good wife hears the front gate swing shut she knows enough to tell the servant to set the dinner on the table. There is nothing half so unhappy or incorrigible about the house as a hungry husband, and if he had to wait for din ner at home to reorganize his entire toilet he would dine regularly at a hotel.

THE Omaha Real Estate Owners' asso ciation is an organization which will undoubtedly have a large influence upon the immediate future growth of Omaha if it meets with the earnest support which it deserves. An association including great and small property owners, and welcoming to its meetings and its rooms the presence and the suggestions of all men of intelligence having property interests here, ought to become a potent force in our affairs. It will become so if citizens will lend assistance in carrying forward the good work already so well begun.

LORD SALISBURY is credited with saying that the prospects of an European war are receding. Emperor Wilhelm said the peace would continue for at least a year. Germans are strengthening their forts in Alsaco and Lorraine and the canal through Schleswig-Holstein is being pushed rapidly. Russia has ordered 3,000,000 stand of arms from France and Krupp is turning his cannon factory over to the interests of the French. By all this we would conclude a war cloud is liable to rise at almost any time.

## Theological Forecast.

A distinguished eastern divine recently remarked that "the heresy of today may become the orthodoxy of tomorrow." If this is true tomorrow has the promise of more than the usual quantity of orthodoxy.

## Ready for Work.

N w York Herald Washington Letter. President Harrison has a grim sense humor. During his recent five weeks' trip through the south and west he delivered 140 speeches. I sent him a polite note stating that the Herald would like to print a talk with him regarding his recent tour. I received in answer the following laconic reply: "Thanks, but I have stopped talking.

Always Resolving. Indiana polis Journa Democratic party in 1888: Resolved, That we view with alarm the steady accumulation by the republican party of a surplus in the

Democratic party in 1891: Resolved, That we view with alarm the steady reduction of the surplus in the treasury by the republican

Democratic party always: Resolved, That we view with atarm.

## Pulpit and Baseball.

Sermon by Rev. Dudly Rhodes, Cincinnatt "Baseball is the most healthful exercise an can take, provided it is taken normally. "Baseball is the noblest height of gymnastic exercise. "We have been told that there are sermons

n stones and in running brooks; so there is, too, in baseball." "Baseball has within it the best elements

of the old Roman and Greek athletic games." "The Christian church and the pulpit can not afford to ignore this game, which is rising to the dignity of a national sport and drawing all of the young men and children in the land toward it,"

#### Nebraska Shows the Way. New York Tribune.

Not only has the fact been demonstrated that sugar-beets can be profitably grown in the United States, but great progress has been made in increasing the amount of sugar in each ton of beets. A few years ago three or four pounds of sugar to each 100 pounds of beets was considered a fair yield, but careful culture and selection of seed and seed beets in Germany brought the average last year up to nearly fourteen pounds to the hundredweight. The sugar-beets raised in Nebraska were even richer in sugar than that. The amount of land in this country which seems well adapted to the growth of this vegetable is simply enormous. There would seem to be no reason why the farmers of the United States should not produce every pound of sugar used by our people.

## Earned His Citizenship.

Philadelphia Record.

It is contended on behalf of Mr. Boyd, who was elected governor of Nebraska that he was a citizen because his father had taken out naturalization papers, and because he was an inhabitant of Nebraska wher the state was admitted into the Union. This contention is to be examined into by the United States supreme court; and it is possible that the ejected official may yet be re stored to the executive station from which he was deposed with such scant ceremony, It would be strange and unprecedented, indeed, if an individual who has twice been chosen mayor of the chief city in the state and has served in numerous other positious of public trust and honor should be pronced incligible to be governor of the state in which all his years of maturity have been

## SPRING IS HERE.

Irrigation Age. She meanders down the street, Picture sweet from head to feet,
Maiden dear.

On her head sets fortune's hat, Pater's pocket book is flat, What cares she for all of that, Spring is hero.

Now there comes the gladsome cry As Micky swipes a lofty fly, Making the score once more a tie, Thousands cheer.

"Out at first," the game is done See the umpire homeward run, Mobbed by gainins just for fun, Spring is here

## NEBRASKA'S WORK OF RELIEF

Management of the Commission Distinguished for Its Prudence.

CHARITY ON BUSINESS PRINCIPLES

Every Dollar and All Contributions Accounted For-That Elkhorn Construction "Rakeoff"-State House News.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 23 .- [Special to Tun BEE.]-The more one examines into the workings of the relief commission the more clear does it become that its agreement has been distinguished for business foresight and prudence. The commission has made many shrewd bargains in buying its supplies, and the distribution has been hedged in with so many reports and checks as to make it possible to show where almost every article went and by whom it was received. The guards against pilfering, fraud and mis appropriation are elaborate and effective.

When the legislature created the commission and passed the first appropriation. the politicians came to the front and de manded that the supplies be bought of their friends. This was done, The commission discovered that it could do better by giving free competition, and that rule was adopted and adhered to. In one instance the commission bought

5,000 bushels of the fluest potatoes for 90

cents per bushel, when the market price in

Lincoln and Omaha was \$1.34. They were found in the country near North Platte, and were distributed in that section, saving a considerable sam on freight. When the sellers learned the market rate they tried to back down on the deal. As a matter of fact they did on two orders of 200 and 500 bushels. and sold them to other parties at \$1.10. Other lots of potatoes have been bought as low as S5 cents, and the evidence is that they were an extra good article. another case the commission bought 10,000 bushels of corn at 55 cents, and the palance of the crib was sold the next day at 65 cents. These are but sample instances. Many of the supplies were bought in the neighborhood in which they were distributed and several thousand dollars were saved on freight The supplies were shipped generally to county officers. With each shippen went an invoice, and the receiving officer was required to weigh, count or measure his consignment, as the case might be, and report to headquarters. The records show that the county officers have followed instructions conscientiously, some of them reporting dif-ferences as small as a few ounces. It was thus possible to keep a check on the party selling the goods to the commission. In on case a miller who received an order for flour through a Lincoln jobber and shipped it in lots direct to different counties thought be saw a chance to make an extra pront. Within five days the commission had reports from every county showing a shortage of from two

The system of reports is somewhat burden ome, but it will stand the closest scrutiny of a legislative investigating committee. The distributing officers are supplied with printed forms and are required to take a receipt from every person getting supplies. That receipt shows the name and precinct of the signer, with the kind and quality of each article received. In addition to the receipt on arrival of the supplies and the receipts from the beneficiaries, the distributing officer is required to make an inventory every two weeks of the goods on hand and forward it to Lincoln. Knowing the amount sent to him and the total of the amounts distributed by him, the balance on hand is calculated, and

to five pounds in almost every sack. The commission figured up the total, amounting

to several hundred dollars, deducted it from

the account of the Lincoln jobber and let him

fight it out with the miller.

his report must agree with the figures.

To the credit of the county officers of Nebraska be it said that the commission has discovered few shortages and none of large amount. In one county two sacks of flour are unac counted for. The clerk and sheriff acknowledge having had them, but have no record of having given them out. The presumption is that they were stolen. This is said to be the only shortage of any consequence. When the court house of Hayes county was destroyed by fire most of the records were lost. The receipts from individual peneficiaries were burned, but the commission has the receipt of the county officers showing that the supplies were received. With these exceptions the records in Lincoln show what became of

every item of supply.

It will be seen readily that this system of reports, receipts and checks entails a great deal of work, and the commission has seven clerks at work at it. quires that one copy of the individual re-ceipts be kept on flie in the office of the com-mission and another be filed with the secretary of state. The original receipts are also to be deposited with the interminable job of these papers is an interminable job of these papers is an interminable job deposited with the latter. The copying there were over twenty different kinds of supplies distributed, a single receipt might involve from twenty to twenty-five entries. But the commission started out to keep everything in apple pie order, and five clerks

are kept busy making these records alone.

THAT ELKHORN "RAKE OFF."

In their trips about the state the members of the board of transportation are twitted about that rake off on an Elkhorn construction contract until they are sore. One of them suggests that it is hardly fair to put all five under suspicion for an act done by only one, or possibly a member of a former board. The play came up in this manner: Willis T. Richardson and Ira E. Doty of David city were in partnership as railroad contrac-tors. They had several partnership papers, and under the last one Richardson was to re-ceive two-thirds of the profits as his share. Among their contracts was one with the Elk horn for constructing a part of its White-wood line. Richardson and Doty had a fail-ing out, and the former began a suit last February to compel his partner to make an accounting and settlement. Among other things he charges that the firm lost \$4,000 n this Elkhorn contract by reason of the de ndant's neglect and incompetency. Dots filed his answer the other day, entering de nials and counter charges of fraud. He al leges that Richardson secured the Elkhorn contract "with the assistance of a prominent member of the state board of transportation." Doty denies that there was a loss in the con tract, and he says that he was "informed that the said state officer "was interested in said contract to the extent of one-third of the Mr. Doty is an elusive gentleman, and, if

he could be found, would probably decline to

name the state official referred to. The Eikhorn contract in question was let about a year ago, which clears Secretary Allen, Commissioner Humphrey and Attorney Hastings of suspicion. Treasurer Hill and Auditor of suspicion. Treasurer Hill and Auditor Renton, as already noted, say they were not in it with Mr. Richardson.

STATE HOUSE NOTES. The governor has commissioned Rev. Dr. John Askin of Kearney as a delegate to the International Society of Hygiene and Demo-graphy. The prince of Wales is its presi-dent and it will meet in London August 10. Mr. Askin is a Congregational paster and is also a delegate to the International Association of Congregational Churches, which meets in London June 14. He will sail June for anyone who wishes to attend the prince's

According to the records of the commission John Fitzgerald has received relief, but this John lives in Hayes county.

The land department has received a plat of he government survey of the Ponca reserva-ion. Alex Schlagel, chief draughtsman, has scovered errors in it and it will have to go back to Washington.

THE PRELIMINARY POSTPONED. The hearing of E. W. Hutchinson for the shooting of Cella Green, set for 1 o'clock this afternoon, has been put over till 9 o'clock F'ri day morning.

A GIRL MISSING. Mrs. Lindsay, living at Twenty-ninth and U streets, is seeking her daughter Louise, aged sixteen. She went to a circus Thursday evening with Guy Warmer, a cook in the restaurant located among the B. & M. tracks, and has not been seen since. She ran away from home once before.

## PASSING JESTS.

Ram's Horn: The devil is never seared by handsome bible on a parlor table.

New York Press. "Man wants but little here below." As we have heard before; But when he gets that little, lo! He wants a little more

Somerville Journal: It is generally easy to find fault with another's work, but it is not always wise unless you are sure that the other is not quick tempered.

Washington Post: It is only when he orings in his bill that the physician declares simself in favor of high heals.

Fliegende Blatter: The Little Philosopher Hans (who has torn his clothes badly get-ing over a fence)—Oh, dear, what will mamma say now! If I had only cut my head pen she would only say, "Just like you, you

Fliegende Blatter: At a reception—"Oh, Count! delighted! I haven't seen you, I think, since you were four weeks old. But now you have changed?

Atchison Globe: A man never realizes until he has made a fool of himself what laughter-loving world this is.

THE HAMMOCK SEASON. Washington Post.

The hammock's with us once again, The sort that gently swings, and then Down

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

OMARA, May 20 .- To the Editor of THE BEE: case answer in The Bes who the author of he Fool's Revenge' is; the play produced Mr. Booth. Also please state where a copy the same can be procured.—A. S. Answer—The late Tom Taylor wrote "The col's Revenge." You can procure a copy through any reputable bookseller. OMAHA, May 21.—To the Editor of THE BEE: What is the uge of George Francis Train.—C.

Answer-He gives his age as sixty-two. PEABODY, Kan., May 18.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Will you pleaso tell me the address of the Arkansas Traveler, Texas Siftings and Yankee Blade.

Ans. - The Arkansaw Traveler is published in Chicago., Ill., and Little Rock, Ark.; Texas Siftings in New York and Austin, Tox., and Yankee Blade in Boston, Mass.

OMAHA, May 21.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Please tell me through THE BEE the correct birthplace of the late General William Tecum-seh Sherman. Ans.-General Sherman was born in Lan

caster, O. caster, O.

To the Editor of THE BEE: Would like to ask a question through your paper: In case a man cles, having made his will in a way that does not properly provide for his wildow or give her one-third, neither does he divide the parts for the heirs equally, can the part of said will referring to the widow be set aside or broken and the remainder be unchanged? Does it not throw the entire will aside? Please answer in next weekly issue and oblige.—B. R. Ans.—The widow has the right to elect

Ans.-The widow has the right to elect which she will take, the provision made for her in the will or one-third of the estate, and if the widow elects to take one-third of the estate, the remainder will be divided pro-rata, as per will, after paying all indebted-ness. The fact that the widow elects to take one-third of the estate does not invalidate the will as to the rest of the heirs. will as to the rest of the heirs.

will as to the rest of the heirs.

OMAHA, May 20.—To the Editor of THE BEE;
At the close of the late meeting of the Nebraska state medical society at Lincoln a motion was made to adjourn sine die. The laws of this society specify that the meetings shall be held annually at a certain time in the year. This being the case then, would not a motion to adjourn sine die carry with it the meaning of dissolution of the society, as it would practically mean that the society did not wish to meetagaln? I see from the records of the proceedings of the state society in the past that it has been accustomed to adjourning sine die at the end of each annual sossion. Is this not a misapplication of the term "sine die?" Is not this expression rather used in conventions, legislative bodies and organizations which are on the point of dissolving. A new congress may have been elected to meet and continue the work of the old one, but the latter when it adjourns sine die does not expect to meet again in regular session. Please give us your views in next Sunday's BEE.—A Member of the State Medical Society. Ans.-A motion to adjourn sine die would

not carry with it the meaning of dissolution of the society, but would simply mean that the society would reconvene at the regular time specified in the laws. In such cases, however, it would appear to be the bette way to conclude the proceedings of the ses way to conclude the proceedings of the ses-sion by a simple motion to adjourn, the words sine die being really unnecessary. ALLIANCE, Neb., May 19.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Will you please tell me through the columns of your valuable paper if there ex-ists a company who is furnishing free trans-portation to South America? If so, please give me its adddress.—E. T. S. Ans.-We do not know of any such com-

GRAND ISLAND, Net., May 23.—To the Editor of The Bee: Will you kindly name, through the columns of your valuable newspaper, the ten largest cities in Nebraska and give their population?—William Wiese.

Ans.—Omaha, 140,452; Lincoln, 55,155; Beatrico, 13,836; Hastings, 13,584; Nebraska City, 11,472; Plattsmouth, 8,302; Kearney, 8,074; South Omaha, 8,062; Grand Island, 7,682; Fremont, 6,654.

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